Dear friends and colleagues,

This March we have an AfricaSan5 special for you! Following this lively conference in February in Cape Town, South Africa, we present some key reflections, learnings and actions from the event in the form of blogs, a workshop report, publications and the Camissa Multi-Stakeholder Statement. We are also sharing two key resources in (late) celebration of International Women’s Day!

We hope there is something of interest for you and look forward to hearing your news and suggestions for useful resources.

Many good wishes,

The CLTS Knowledge Hub

CLTS Knowledge Hub at AfricaSan5 - Sharing, Learning and Action!

The CLTS Knowledge Hub team had a great time at AfricaSan5! At our promotional stand, it was fantastic to meet so many different people and find out about great work and inspiring stories across the region. It was also an excellent chance to talk to people about who we are, our approach and work, and to share some of our resources. If you were there, we hope you found it useful too!

A key resource that we published especially for AfricaSan5, which was very popular at the conference, was our **Frontiers 12: Rural Sanitation in Africa: Challenges, Good Practices and Ways Forward**. This edition of Frontiers highlights the challenges faced by programme implementers (both government and non-government staff) at different levels in relation to the Ngor Commitments and the achievement of universal access to safely managed sanitation. A range of initiatives are presented that show promise in addressing these challenges, along with recommended priority actions. The learnings in this resource are drawn from two participatory workshops we hosted last year.
in East and Southern Africa and West and Central Africa. **Frontiers 12 is also available online in French.**

We were also kept busy organising and facilitating a daylong **Africa Rural Sanitation Sharing and Learning workshop** on Sunday 17th February just before the conference started. Over seventy practitioners, coming from SNV, UNICEF, WaterAid, the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) and different government levels attended, which was a great turnout. The aim was sharing experiences, challenges and ways forward in regards to financial commitments, equity and inclusion and context-specific programming in Africa’s rural sanitation and hygiene. This **short workshop report** presents main takeaways from the day and future priorities identified by the participants.

![Participants at the Africa Rural Sanitation Sharing and Learning Workshop](image)

**Blogs inspired by AfricaSan5**

We are sharing our third **Market Shaping Blog: Accelerating improved sanitation in Africa through market based approaches**. This is the last in a series of three. Learning gained from the side-session on Market-based Rural Sanitation at AfricaSan5 helped to shape this blog. It looks at the factors that people need to consider when deciding whether, where, when and how best to
set up Market Based Sanitation (MBS) initiatives. It also shares key learnings on MBS from experiences where the poorest and most vulnerable are climbing the sanitation ladder and where the market is creating opportunities for people as consumers, entrepreneurs, and artisans.

Reflections on the AfricaSan5 conference are captured by Florencia Rieiro (Independent WASH consultant) who has written a great blog on the key theme of how the sanitation and hygiene financing sector is transforming in Africa. This provides an easy to read overview of this complex but essential area!

We are also sharing this insightful blog on the value of monitoring and using evidence to improve hygiene and sanitation by John Butterworth and Nick Dickinson from the International Rescue Committee (IRC) who coordinated this theme at the conference. It highlights key learnings drawn from the seven sessions on the theme during the week - including our session on ‘Rapid Action Learning and Research for Rural Sanitation’!

(CLTS Knowledge Hub's Jamie Myers speaking at our Rapid Action Learning and Research for Rural Sanitation session)

Moving forward from AfricaSan5
With regard to actionable steps and moving forward from AfricaSan5, we are sharing the **Camissa Multi-Stakeholder Statement** that came out of the event, which refines and reignites commitment to progress towards achieving the Ngor Vision and Declaration on Sanitation and Hygiene in Africa. Another useful resource is the recent progress review, *Is Africa on Track to Achieve the SDGs on Sanitation? A review of progress on the Ngor Declaration on Sanitation and Hygiene*. It summarises the results of the Ngor Commitment monitoring carried out by 39 countries to provide a baseline three years on from the adoption of the declaration by African Ministers. The monitoring process captures the Ngor Commitments both in terms of whether the building blocks of the enabling environment are in place, and then captures progress against country-specific targets.

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**Figure 6: Summary of the Ngor Commitments on Sanitation and Hygiene baseline (stage 1 enabling environment)**

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**Celebrating Gender Equality in WASH**
To celebrate International Women’s Day this year, we are featuring the innovative Women-Led Output Based Aid (WOBA) programme in Vietnam, which is overcoming gender and WASH barriers by facilitating gender transformative WASH. This approach enables women to not just access appropriate, safe services and facilities but to also be involved in the decision-making and design processes around them. Read the blog here. The blog is centred on a short video interview with Hanh Nguyen Hong (Regional Programme Director Vietnam, Loa and Cambodia, Thrive Networks/East Meets West). Hanh explains how this programme is effectively implemented through partnership with the Vietnam Women’s Union who have 17 million members across the country at all levels making them a fantastic mobilising force for both WASH and gender equality goals.

(Hanh Nguyen Hong (Regional Programme Director Vietnam, Loa and Cambodia, Thrive Networks/East Meets West))

**Water Currents: WASH and Gender.** This timely issue of USAID’s Water Currents thematic newsletter contains studies and reports from 2017 and 2018 on gender issues related to women-friendly design and location of sanitation and hygiene facilities/services, water security and collection, male participation in sanitation, gender inequalities along the sanitation value chain, Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM), and other topics.

We are very pleased to see a number of CLTS Knowledge Hub Frontiers included in the newsletter along with our recent book on Urban CLTS.