Dear friends and colleagues,

In this November newsletter, we are pleased to share updates on our recent Rapid Action Learning (RAL) workshops in India – featuring reports back from Bihar and Jharkhand. We also have an informative blog capturing highlights from the recent UNC Water and Health conference 2018.

A number of diverse resources have caught our attention on a mix of themes including: handwashing innovations in emergencies; WASH access affecting birth outcomes; female-friendly toilets; South Asian regional conference; transgender-inclusive sanitation; podcast on WASH in schools across Africa; post-ODF discussions on India; and the toilet revolution in China.

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

**Promoting Rapid Action Learning in India**

This year the CLTS Knowledge Hub have continued to collaborate with WSSCC and India state governments facilitating Rapid Action Learning (RAL) workshops. These events enable districts to come together to share, learn and plan for the implementation of the Swachh Bharat Mission – Gramin. One workshop took place in Ranchi, Jharkhand, 18-19 September and another in Patna, Bihar, 29-31 October 2018. [Read more and download reports.](#)

**Blog: Sustainability and WASH: reflections from the UNC Water and Health Conference 2018**

By Florencia Rieiro
The University of North Carolina (UNC), Water and Health Conference 2018, provided researchers, implementers and donors the opportunity to reflect and discuss how the WASH sector is achieving sustainability, the biggest challenges to progress and possible ways forward to make sanitation outcomes equitable, accessible and affordable to everyone at all times. In her blog post, Florencia looks at key highlights to emerge from the event. Read blog.

South Asian Regional Conference on Sustainable Sanitation Solutions

This regional SACOSAN conference aims to provide a platform to learn about scalable sanitation solutions and best practices from the South Asian national governments and water and sanitation experts and practitioners from the region. The Regional Sanitation Centre (RSC) in collaboration with regional partners is organising this conference from 25-27 January 2019 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Read conference brochure.

ODF+, ODF++ and Sustainability of Sanitation: Thematic Discussion Series Synthesis

The purpose of this SuSanA organised and hosted discussion was to unpack certain aspects of the post-ODF situation in India that are common to rural and urban areas in order to develop a common understanding of these concepts. Issues considered in the discussion include: how to deal with defunct toilets, linking WASH with health and education, sustaining behaviour change in villages and strengthening systems. Download discussion synthesis.

Handwashing innovations in emergency settings

Two resources on this theme caught our attention:

Oxfam, Unilever's Lifebuoy soap and Unilever's Chief Sustainability Office have developed Mum's Magic Hands, an interactive approach based on storytelling, which uses field tested, emotional and health
motivators to promote effective handwashing in communities affected by emergencies. Read more.

This engaging blog post on Elhra, ‘Using innovation to break down barriers to handwashing in emergency settings’ also looks at new approaches and technologies to support handwashing in emergency settings. Read more.

Water access and sanitation shape birth outcomes and earning potential

This blog post provides an accessible overview of the recently published study, ‘Impact of social capital, harassment of women and girls, and water and sanitation access on premature birth and low infant birth weight in India.’ It draws on the report along with interviews with the authors.

Female-friendly public and community toilets: a guide for planners and decision makers

The 'Female-friendly guide', published in October 2018 and written by WaterAid, UNICEF and WSUP, is designed primarily for use by local authorities in towns and cities who are in charge of public and community toilets. It's also useful for national governments, public and private service providers, NGOs, donors and civil society organisations who play a role in delivering these services. Download here.

Toilet Revolution in China
The widespread prevalence of unimproved sanitation technologies has been a major cause of concern for the environment and public health, and China is no exception to this. Towards the sanitation issue, toilet revolution has become a buzzword in China recently. This paper elaborates the backgrounds, connotations, and actions of the toilet revolution in China. The toilet revolution aims to create sanitation infrastructure and public services that work for everyone and that turn waste into value. Read more.

**Podcast: Involving local communities for sustainable WASH in Schools**

In this episode of WASH Talks podcast series, host Andy Narracott talks about WASH in schools with Linda Lilian, who is involved in the WASH and Learn! programme which Simavi is leading with six local partners in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. Machtelt Oudenhuijzen, as lead of Football for Water, a unique programme in Ghana, Kenya and Mozambique, talks about approaches for behaviour change and motivating local stakeholders. Listen to podcast.

**Poster: Transgender-inclusive sanitation: Insights from South Asia**

The WASH sector is focused on achieving universal access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all by 2030, however the needs of transgender people have so far been neglected. ‘The use of public bathrooms, which are often sex-segregated, has been associated with exclusion, denial of access, verbal harassment, physical abuse and sometimes even the arrest of transgender and intersex individuals’ - Catarina de Albuquerque. Three case studies (from India and Nepal) have been analysed and presented in this poster and a related paper, along with key recommendations to guide future practice. Download poster.

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