What is CLTS today?

Genesis, adoption, spread, rejection and contamination of CLTS in Asia

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Genesis

- Innovated in 2000 in Mosmoil village of Rajshahi district of Bangladesh while evaluating a traditionally subsidised sanitation work of an NGO.
- Initial struggle was to convince the local NGO to stop subsidy and prescription and change institutional attitude for local empowerment (luckily first struggle was own otherwise no CLTS today).
- Spread fast within Bangladesh where informal institutions and groups played a key role.
- A few Bangladeshi and international NGOs adopted it (Large NGOs still don’t use but promote subsidised sanitation).
- Attracted attention of DFID and WSP South Asia.
- Heavy funding came to WA Bangladesh to scale up CLTS.
What is Community – Led Total Sanitation?

- They are total (meaning involve/affect everyone in the community e.g. total elimination of open defecation, total freedom from hunger)
- Collective Community decision and collective local action are the keys
- Social Solidarity and cooperation are seen in abundance
- They are often locally decided and are not dependent or external subsidies and prescriptions or pressures
- Natural Leaders emerge from the collective local actions and they lead future collective initiatives
- They often don’t follow externally determined mode of development and blue print
Diagrammatic presentation of the process of igniting Community- Led Total Sanitation (CLTS)

Entry/ Ignition
PRA

Self Empowered Committee formed

Identification of right person in the community
Registration daily monitoring on map
Spreading messages from the mosque
Each of us cover 10 families

We do it first and stop open defecation

Start pit latrine from tomorrow

How to get a latrine slab

Community realization of terrible impact of faecal-oral contamination

Community

10 H/H

Diagrammatic presentation of the process of igniting Community- Led Total Sanitation (CLTS)
Landless don’t have place for defecation in open. Landless poor (women specially) are the worst victims who want to come out of that humiliation. Will form positive pressure groups from within to convince others for having latrine.

Poor

Better

Medium

Very poor

Moving towards 100% sanitised village

Participatory Planning

P.R.A.

Land owners often blame them for defecating in open. Land less poor (women specially) are the worst victims who want to come out of that humiliation. Will form positive pressure groups from within to convince others for having latrine.

Latrine owners can get rid of negative impacts by open defecation.

Spoiling environment not by open defecation.

Better

Medium

Very poor

Poor

Would form positive pressure groups from within to convince others for having latrine.
Natural Leaders from one colony triggering CLTS in neighbouring colony as community consultant
Community members of Inzar Kali village, of Senbeler Union Council of Mardan district, NWFP describing the process of a Community Led Total Sanitation they have achieved recently
Proud community members of Inzar Kallī village, of Seribehlol Union Council of Mardan district, NWFP describing the process of CLTS they have achieved recently
Global spread

- Brought to India with support from WSP-SA in 2003
- State Government of Maharashtra took lead in piloting in two districts
- Early success of pilot spread it to all 32 districts of the state
- Three years after success of Maharashtra only two more states have introduced CLTS
- Introduced in Cambodia through Concern’s programme
- MRD and UNICEF took lead later
Spread

- Introduced in Sri Lanka but was not institutionalised (huge ongoing programmes with subsidy)
- Introduced in Indonesia with support from WSP-EAP
- Government of Indonesia and WSLIC-II project took lead and spread in all major island of the country simultaneously
- CLTS grew from within a national subsidised programme
- Today CLTS is successfully piloted in NTB, East and West Java, Sumatra and Kalimantan (Possibly in Sulawesi)
Spread

- Introduced in Nepal through Plan Nepal, WA Nepal and NEWAH where CLTS is spreading slowly
- Tried to introduce in China through Plan China but “no subsidy” approach was difficult to institutionalise
- Introduced in Pakistan with support from WSP, SA and IRSP Mardan. Administration of NWFP and TMA took great interest
- Introduced in the Ger areas (urban slums) of Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
- Introduced in Kibale district of Uganda and in Monze district of Zambia
CLTS is spreading to other slums through Natural Leaders.

- CLTS in Vidyasagar Colony H/H 213
- Jogendra Nath Colony 419 H/H
- CLTS initiated in Jhil Par Colony by NLs
Stop Open Defecation All 213 H/H

Repair platform of all 69 hand tube wells

Clean up garbage and Repair Road

Clean up drain
Today CLTS is a tug of war

- It is a tug of war between those wanting to spend huge sums of money on sanitation “activities” and those believe in community empowerment for “outcome”
- Between “Political will & subsidy” and “community led local action & sanitation outcome”
- Between different country programmes of same organisation. Not all agencies who succeeded in CLTS in Bangladesh have introduced the approach in other country programmes
- While CLTS is spreading fast, externally imposed, subsidised sanitation programmes are still the largest and vast
What are the challenges and constraints of becoming self spreading?

- Challenges: Institutions not allowing spontaneous growth and spread of community led process as it developed originally but trying to complicate it in their (outsider’s) own ways and style
- Claiming institutional success at the cost of local communities (not recognizing community’s contribution)
- Problems of institutional/individual/professional attitudes
- Not learning and sharing from emerging experiences and community's innovations
Challenges

- Not adopting/ institutionalising successful experiences/processes from one country programme to the other within same organisation
- Endless rush to achieve targets and pressure of spending budgets
Challenges/dangers

- Agencies trying to blend CLTS with traditional subsidised sanitation programme are creating confusion.
- Levels of convictions and leadership of large programme of government and NGOs.
- Between number of front line sanitation promotion staff with urban background and Natural Leaders/community Consultants emerging from CLTS.
- Between available opportunities for the two groups.
What is our vision of CLTS?

- Great deal of momentum generated in Asia over the last five years
- CLTS is also self spreading and have a great potentiality of growing as a Social Movement
- Huge potentiality of improving lives and livelihoods of millions of people across the globe!
- How can we make it a people’s movement?
- Can we unite to launch a collective institutional action to best utilize this opportunity?
What possibilities exists?

- Developing core team of trainers in each country
- Multiplying good facilitators
- Developing large numbers of Community Consultants, Natural Leaders and catalysts of CLTS
- Carefully choosing areas where chances for CLTS to succeed is high and failures are less
Local Community Innovation in Kalyani
Mr. Sinoeun, Deputy Chief of Commune Council takes the pride of showing locally innovated toilets to outsiders- Kampong Chhnang
Newly constructed toilets in Kampong Svay villages of Kampong Tralach district in Kampong Chhnang province in Cambodia - great sense of ownership and pride. Mr. Hoeun invites his neighbours to use his toilet in order to get more manure at the end.
Community innovated direct pit latrine - Skun village, Banteay Srei, Cambodia
Proud Kepala Desa showing different toilet models to visitors
CLTS embossed caps given to successful village chiefs by the Local Government as recognition and encouraging neighboring villages
Locally innovated toilet model in flood prone areas and in places with high water table. Sambas, West Kalimantan
Community latrine constructed over a defunct ring well –no subsidy- all local innovation. Whose idea?
Using plastic funnel as toilet pan; Immediate measure to declare the village free from Open defecation, South Sumatra
Local Innovations by rural community in Takth Bhai of Mardan district
Fundamental and Non Negotiable Principles of Rural CLTS

- No subsidy for hardware (not for the poorest or anyone else)
- No blueprint design (only people’s designs, not engineers’)
- People first: they can do it
- Facilitate, don’t provide
- Go slow at first for faster later