

Background information to the Regional CLTS Sharing and Learning Workshop in Mali, 29th November to 3rd December 2010

Workshop Focus

The event aims to take stock of, and strengthen, CLTS practice in the Africa Region. It will take stock of the accomplishments of CLTS in the region, as well as examining the many challenges it faces. Participants will have an opportunity to share their experiences implementing CLTS with colleagues from different countries and organisations as well as hear about recent studies of CLTS.

The workshop includes field visits to observe CLTS in Mali which will help ground the workshop discussions in practical realities. The sharing of experiences, input from experts from within the region and from Dr Kamal Kar, the field visits and the ensuing discussions will all help to identify effective ways to strengthen country-level programmes.

It is also hoped that by bringing together practitioners, policymakers and other key players from the region more effective learning and exchange networks and stronger dialogue will be established to help find joint solutions to the region's many sanitation challenges. At the workshop, scaling-up plans will be discussed and potential regional activities for follow up will be identified. The workshops will also look forward to AfricaSan next year and ask how we can best represent CLTS at the conference.

Keeping the fire burning

The workshop is in the tradition of the regular Sharing and Learning workshops on CLTS in Africa that IDS has been co-convening over the past few years, at AfricaSan in Durban in February 2008 and in Mombasa in 2009. Our hope is to keep the momentum of CLTS in Africa alive and contribute to improved practice and policy.