Welcome everyone to the October – November 2011 edition of the S.S.H.I.T CLTS Newsletter. This month, I would like to take the opportunity to urge participation and co-operation amongst all our Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) partners in Kenya.

Key to meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDG’s) for sanitation is partners combining their efforts to achieve behaviour-change outcomes and focusing on commonalities to ensure systematic collaboration, which include an emphasis on learning, demand creation, and capacity building. I strongly believe that this monthly newsletter can contribute largely to this and help us to scale up CLTS across Kenya.

Many of the tools for change and success are already in place but we must learn from and share with each other systematically. By harnessing our partner’s strengths we can more effectively and efficiently help to create an open defecation free (ODF) Kenya by 2013.

It is my hope that the CLTS Co-ordination unit here at the Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation (MoPHS), will become a vast knowledge and hub where access to information, tools and resources is widely available across Kenya and indeed the world. In order to make this happen we need constant and continuous communication with our partners. We want to hear from you! What efforts has your organisation made this month, was it successful or not? Why? What are your planned operations and tasks for the coming months in CLTS? Is there any areas you would like to learn more about? Case studies, extraordinary stories, research, training etc; we want to hear about it.

It is only with your continued dedicated efforts that Kenya can become ODF free by 2013.

Asante sana and Karibu tena.
Kepha Ombacho, PhD
Chief Public Health Officer, Kenya
Kenya Celebrates World Toilet Day

World Toilet Day (WTD) was celebrated globally this year on Saturday the 19th of November. Founded by the World Toilet Organisation (WTO), the purpose of World Toilet Day is to raise global awareness of the struggle that 2.6 billion people face worldwide every day without access to proper, clean sanitation. By encouraging members, volunteers, the community, media and partners to get behind the cause and support the day, WTO hopes to highlight the health, emotional and psychological consequences of poor sanitation.

In Kenya, celebrations took place in Agulu Primary School, Boro division, Siaya, with the Assistant Minister for Public Health and Sanitation, Dr James Gesami, MP, as the honourable guest. Dr Gesami opened the proceedings with a speech in which he addressed the audience on the background and purpose of WTD. He noted how every year Kenya ‘loses close to 30,000 lives through incidents of diarrhoea’ and that by shifting the emphasis from curative to preventative health care, by promoting the uptake of latrine use would be the first step to preventing diarrhoeal diseases and meeting several of the Millennium Development Goals. In conclusion, Dr Gesami expressed his ‘wish to appeal to all Kenyans to embrace the culture of constructing latrines whenever putting up houses.’ He extended this appeal to all public and private buildings. Finally, Dr Gesami thanked UNICEF for their support in organising the event, and concluded his speech by inviting the audience to take part in the WTD ‘movement by now taking a big squat.’

The KBC drama team covered the event. Road shows and performances, sponsored by PLAN International were held over the 6 days preceding the event. Comedians from the famous Kenyan sitcom Vitimbi took part in the performances. These were audience targeted, with the hope of creating social mobilisation and enabling key messages about the importance of latrine usage to be conveyed. The final show was performed in the market centre near Agulu Primary School on Saturday the 19th, to enhance community awareness and participation in the celebrations. The master of the ceremonies was the Community Public Health Officer, assisted by one KBC drama member.

An exhibition space was also available for the private sector to display their new sanitation technology in exchange for supporting WTD.

Latest ODF Figures from Western Kenya

In the last 14 months (October 2010 to November 2011) the number of ODF villages has been recorded in Busia, Siaya, Bondo, Kisumu West, Nyando and Rachuonyo districts where CLTS has been introduced to show the progress of the initiative. So far a total of 976 claims of ODF villages have been recorded, with a total of 617 currently certified, covering a population of 457,716. The success of CLTS has varied in each region, ranging between 86.42% achievement of targeted populations attaining ODF certification in Nyando, to a low of 59.12% achievement in Bondo (See directly below).

Population in Targeted Cluster Successfully Attaining ODF Status

Number of Villages Certified ODF and Celebrated (October 2010-November 2011)

Included in the data is the number of ODF certified villages that have been celebrated (See figure XX). On average, only 13.94% of certified villages within the last 14 months have been celebrated. This raises concern over the lost opportunities for further triggering of surrounding villages that celebrations often present (see interview with Geoffrey Kotonga). Rachuonyo has had the highest rate, yet this is still only 48.53% of certified villages celebrated, whilst Nyando has only celebrated 8.33%. These results suggest more concerted effort needs to be placed on supporting celebrations to further improve the success and up-take of CLTS.
CLTS training to take place across Kenya

The MoPHS is set to hold 8 Training for Trainers (ToTs) training courses for PHOs, DPHOs and PHT in the coming months across Kenya. The sessions, which are funded by UNICEF, will be led by Master Trainers and will train around 200 people in total. Each training workshop will last around 4 days and upon completion the trainees will go about putting what they learnt into practise as they start to trigger 10 different villages into CLTS. By the end of March, the trainees should have their first ODF villages.

After three months from the start of triggering, all villages are expected to be ODF allowing the trainee to effectively *graduate* as their commitment and passion for the cause is verified. From here, he or she will begin the process of training other people in effectively triggering villages into CLTS.

There will also be a refresher class for CLTS trainers held in Garissa on 29th – 30th November. Please note that at the time of publish all dates are tentative and are yet to be confirmed.

Latrine Coverage on Track

During the period from July 2010 to June 2011, the environmental health department at the MoPHS aimed to improve national latrine coverage by 8%; from 63% to 71%.

Data for the progress of 8 districts was recorded in the Annual Operations Report on sanitation. The report aims to provide field workers with feedback on how they are progressing with enhancing latrine coverage compared to other provinces and the national trend. Overall, the national latrine coverage was increased from 63.00% to 74.24% during the period under contract (See figure 1). This is an increase of 11% which is 3% above the target for the indicator.
Three of the 8 provinces surpassed their targeted latrine coverage scores and 5 of the 8 provinces failed to reach their targets (See figure 2). The success of 3 provinces (namely the Rift Valley, Nyanza and Nairobi provinces) exceeding their targets resulted in the overall average national target score of increased latrine coverage of 8% being surpassed. The Rift Valley was particularly successful, improving on their target of 63.65% (an increase of 8% from their baseline 55.65%) to achieve total latrine coverage of 96.17%. The successful practises adopted in the Rift Valley, Nyanza and Nairobi provinces should be exemplified to help encourage increased latrine coverage in all provinces.

Latrine Coverage Targets and Achievement by Province (After 1 Year)

Kenya loses KES27 billion annually due to poor sanitation

Poor sanitation costs Kenya 27 billion Kenyan Shillings each year, equivalent to US$324 million, according to a desk study carried out by The Water and Sanitation Program (WSP). This sum is the equivalent of US$8 per person in Kenya per year or 0.9% of the national GDP and it is likely to be a significant underestimate according to WSP who had to exclude several impacts due to a lack of data.

The study on the economic impacts of sanitation in Kenya, argues that traditionally, sanitation has not received the priority it deserves and it has not been widely recognized how good sanitation policies and practices can underpin socio-economic development and environmental protection.

Undoubtedly the most eye-catching statistic to CLTS practitioners will be that open defecation costs Kenya US$88 million per year - yet eliminating the practice would require less than 1.2 million latrines to be built and used. With regards to loss of time due to finding a private location to defecate, each person practicing open defecation spends almost 2.5 days a year doing this. This leads to large economic losses US$26 million each year for Kenya. This cost falls disproportionately on women as caregivers who may spend additional time accompanying young children or sick or elderly relatives. This cost is likely to be an underestimation as those without toilets, particularly women, will be obliged to find a private location for urination as well.

Not only can CLTS be used to improve the health and livelihoods of Kenyans, but as this report shows, its value as an economic tool in reducing financial losses incurred by poor sanitation in Kenya, is significant. We at the MoPHS, hope that this report will help to strengthen the belief in preaching and improving the use of good sanitation and hygiene practice across Kenya. The study from WSP can be found here.
In Michura Village, Nyando district, triggering meetings were held in schools to target child participation in CLTS. The school patrons were particularly keen to support the initiative and decided to employ the help of the school pupils.

Children were taught a clear, distinctive, high pitched sound similar to an owl hooting ‘ow, ow.’ It was decided that this sound should be used when any child spotted someone practising ODF to alert community members and draw them in to surround the offender.

The use of school children policing the village was very effective in preventing OD. When one elderly man was spotted squatting in the open, grade two school children surrounded the man and alerted community members with their distinctive noise. The man was surrounded and initially denied practising OD claiming it was only a ‘short-call’. However, one grade two child pointedly asked the question ‘do men squat for a short call?’ The elderly man had not attended triggering, and due to the embarrassment caused by the incident exclaimed ‘never in my life will I ever squat again!’ This event illustrates how the use of school children for policing OD in Michura village has been successful not only in maintaining vigilance but ensuring those who did not attend triggering also feel the same sense of shame and consequent desire to change their behaviour.

The vigilance of the school children has earned the village recognition from the local government, not just for the success of the community members, but ensuring members of surrounding communities also learn. A throughway passes through the village, and is commonly used for defecation by passers-by. The terrain is rough, rocky and hilly and therefore hard to survey and there are many hiding places for people to defecate explains Mrs Amolo. However, the presence of the school children adoption of an alert call has resulted in many passers-by being caught, and consequently made to remove their faeces. This success has led to Michura village filing a claim for ODF status. As of yet, confirmation has not been given.

The MoPHS wishes the school children of this village the best in their continued efforts in promoting ODF and we hope such successful practice will be adopted elsewhere.

Interview with PHO Geoffrey Kotonya

This month Geoffrey Kotonya, a PHO from Siaya, shares his views and experiences on CLTS;
When did you start working on CLTS? October 2010
How many villages have you triggered? 20
How many villages have you helped attain ODF certification? 13
How do you feel people respond in your triggering meetings? It was a new approach which caused the community to take great shock by realising and admitting that they are shit eaters.
What do you perceive as the benefits of CLTS? Reduction of prevalence and incidences of diarrhoeal diseases. Mind-set change by enabling communities to make informed choices about their health. Empower communities to take charge of their own health
What do you perceive as the limitations? Incomplete uptake of CLTS due to cultural practices and follow up due to inadequate resources for movement. Unstable soil in some areas limiting the quality and sustainability of latrine construction
How could these be addressed? Proper triggering of the community. Going out of your way to do follow up. Adopting local technology to ensure proper survival
What do you consider to be your greatest personal achievement in CLTS? Declaring a whole sub-location ODF.
What is the greatest challenge you have faced within CLTS? Some very old widows staying alone who could not construct or use the ordinary pit latrines
How did you overcome this problem? Provincial administration and other
To meet the Millennium Development Goals for sanitation, such programs must combine their efforts to achieve behaviour-change outcomes and focus on commonalities, which include an emphasis on learning, demand creation, and capacity building. The learning note, which also attempts to identify the key components to take CLTS and sanitation marketing to scale, can be found here.

### Study finds phones are full of shit:

There is a good chance that shit is on your phone. That is according to researchers from the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and Queen Mary, University of London. From a sample study in the UK, they found that 16% of both hands and phones were contaminated with *E. coli*, potentially illness-causing bacteria that is faecal in origin. The likely reason: because people don’t wash their hands after using the toilet. Overall, the researchers found that 92% of hands and 82% of phones showed some type of bacterial contamination. About a third of hands and a quarter of phones contained *Staphylococcus aureus*, common bacteria that live on skin but can cause illness if they enter the bloodstream.

When surveyed, however, 95% of people said they washed their hands with soap. "People may claim they wash their hands regularly, but the science shows otherwise," said study co-author Dr. Ron Cutler of Queen Mary, University of London. Article here

### Local and Global News

#### Ministerial Magazine Planned:

An editorial board has been appointed to steer the process of developing a ministerial magazine. The magazine will capture newsworthy events that the ministry undertakes that are in line with helping to achieve the MDGs on Health. To contribute to this magazine or for more details, please contact Mr. Joseph Kamotho at the Public Relations Office; kamothose@yahoo.com

Partnering on the Road Towards Achieving Total Sanitation in East Africa is a learning note newly published by WSP. The note is from a 2010 analysis which showed that most East African countries have national sanitation policies and plans in place, but that the actual programs often lack coordination.

To meet the Millennium Development Goals for sanitation, such programs must combine their efforts to achieve behaviour-change outcomes and focus on commonalities, which include an emphasis on learning, demand creation, and capacity building. The learning note, which also attempts to identify the key components to take CLTS and sanitation marketing to scale, can be found here.

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Plan International USA receives $7 million grant for CLTS research. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation awarded Plan the learning and implementation grant to determine how to best introduce Community-Led Total Sanitation solutions in developing countries. Research and testing will be conducted on new and specifically designed projects in Kenya, Ethiopia, and Ghana and will examine the CLTS approach, ultimately aiming to uncover ways to make it more scalable and cost-effective.

www.cltskenya.org

We are delighted to announce that the cltskenya.org website is set to undergo a major revamp and refurbishment. The new website will have increased user-ability and allow for greater access to material and resources. Unfortunately, this means that the current website will be down whilst maintenance is being carried out. It is our hope that the new-look website will be up and running in the early part of December. Please bare with us as I’m sure it will be worth the wait and be sure to check back soon. Thanks.

The S.S.H.I.T newsletter is compiled every month as part of an ongoing effort from the MoPHS to promote and improve communication and sharing of knowledge and experience amongst all CLTS stakeholders. Although the CLTS Co-ordination Unit at the MoPHS is responsible for its publication, we want to encourage all bodies and individuals taking part in CLTS to contribute. It is our hope that this newsletter can become a joint imitative amongst all our partners. If you would like to contribute, please contact us at cltskenya@gmail.com Asante sana.