Frontiers of CLTS: Support Mechanisms for Rural Sanitation Programmes
Poll #1
Agenda

1. Why support mechanisms?
2. Identification of disadvantaged groups
3. Combinations of support mechanisms
4. Monitoring success and sharing knowledge
5. Takeaway messages for practice
Why are support mechanisms needed?

- SDG6 and the Human Rights to Sanitation call for equitable progress toward sanitation for all
- Groups of people are being left behind, or more likely to revert to open defecation
- However, there is a lack of granular data and evidence for what works

Who might need support?

1. Poverty and lack of physical or economic related assets
2. Physical or mental health related challenges
3. Limited social capital and challenges from beliefs, practices, skills, knowledge and attitudes
4. Geographical challenges and vulnerabilities to risk
5. Marginalisation, discrimination and powerlessness

Clusters of disadvantage

Poll #2
Support mechanisms

- Support mechanisms are financial, in-kind or non-material and work best in combinations.
- Directed at addressing the challenges faced by potentially disadvantaged groups.
- Involve a range of key actors – Government is the duty-bearer.

Institutionalisation of support mechanisms in guidelines, programs and budgets.

- Upfront cash or in-kind transfers
- Evidence-informed advocacy or action
- Formative research with potentially disadvantaged
- Inclusive sanitation technologies meeting diverse needs
- Local leader mobilising resource and labour pooling
- Inclusive business models
- Affordable models and products
- Rebates and discount vouchers
- Subsidised or non-subsidised micro-credit
- Savings groups or revolving loans
- Rights-holder groups advocacy

Local leader mobilising resource and labour pooling

Evidence-informed advocacy or action

Formative research with potentially disadvantaged

Inclusive sanitation technologies meeting diverse needs

Government

Business

Community
Institutionalisation example
There are many methods for identifying disadvantaged groups:

- Existing datasets (e.g. census or DHS data)
- Household-by-household, or community-by-community assessments
- Community- or government-led self-assessment
- Guidance from relevant local organisations (e.g. advocacy organisations)
- Geographical/zonal targeting

Three lessons to bear in mind:

1. Question **assumptions** and draw on evidence where available
2. Acknowledge and balance **trade-offs** between simplicity, transparency, and comprehensiveness
3. Identification should not be a one-off event, but an **ongoing** process
## Case study 1 - CHOBA

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<tr>
<th>Case study</th>
<th>Mechanisms used</th>
<th>Salient lesson</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Hygiene Output-</td>
<td>Rebates for poor households</td>
<td>There is a trade-off between ensuring a high rate of reporting accuracy in</td>
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<td>Based Aid (CHOBA) – Vietnam</td>
<td>Government administered loans to households for latrine construction</td>
<td>verification and cost. For example, training local implementers to reliably and</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Conditional cash transfer to communes</td>
<td>accurately conduct M&amp;E activities took significant time.</td>
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<td>Financial incentive to implementing partners and local government</td>
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<td>Training of local masons to construct latrines</td>
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<td>Engagement of local government agencies</td>
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<td>Promotion of good hygiene and toilet use</td>
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There is a trade-off between ensuring a high rate of reporting accuracy in verification and cost. For example, training local implementers to reliably and accurately conduct M&E activities took significant time.
## Case study 2 - PhATS

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| Phased Approach to Total Sanitation (PhATS) Haiyan Recovery Programme - Philippines | • In-kind hardware subsidies and vouchers to poor and vulnerable households for latrine construction (in emergency situations)  
• Financial rewards for upgrading sanitation services  
• Support to local businesses to create sanitation supply chains  
• Training of local masons to construct latrines  
• Engagement of local government agencies in programme planning, implementation and monitoring  
• Development of WASH plans and sanitation budgets within local government units  
• Sanitation and Hygiene promotion and demand creation | Even in a post-emergency context, support to strengthen the overall WASH enabling environment should be prioritised. Where advocacy with local leaders was incorporated from the start, there was a positive impact on the level of institutionalisation of the programme into local government political priorities, plans and budgets. |
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<td>Sustainable Sanitation and Hygiene for All (SSH4A) – Zambia and Tanzania</td>
<td>In Zambia:&lt;br&gt;• Community champions advised households on latrines that meet government standards during CLTS triggering sessions;&lt;br&gt;• Sanitation marketing groups were developed to pool financial resources at the village level to purchase latrine materials in bulk, thus lowering costs for poorer groups;&lt;br&gt;• Behaviour change messages were customised through formative research and tailored for specific audiences.&lt;br&gt;<strong>In Tanzania:</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Local business entrepreneurs were supported to market and construct low-cost durable latrines and upgrades to basic latrines;&lt;br&gt;• Booklets were distributed to help households make informed decisions about inclusive sanitation designs for people with disabilities</td>
<td>Focused studies on identifying vulnerable groups in collaboration with local government and civil society was key for targeting support and disaggregating data to monitor progress.</td>
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When to apply support mechanisms

- Non-financial mechanisms are often better applied early on in an intervention
- The timing of financial- or hardware-focused support depends on the context

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<th><strong>Advantages</strong></th>
<th><strong>Disadvantages</strong></th>
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<td><strong>Subsidy available near beginning of intervention</strong></td>
<td>• Helps enable targeted households to mobilise immediately</td>
<td>• May undermine behaviour change and locally-driven solutions</td>
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<td>• Allows for bulk transport of materials / products from suppliers</td>
<td>• Potential to distort local markets</td>
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<td><strong>Subsidy available only after certain ODF threshold has been met or after other activities or outcomes have been achieved</strong></td>
<td>• Incentivises demand for sanitation and rewards behaviour change</td>
<td>• Poor households may feel ashamed and make harmful decisions (e.g. selling off assets to pay for latrine)</td>
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<td>• Facilitates continued engagement with communities post-ODF</td>
<td>• Can delay the movement of disadvantaged groups to ODF</td>
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Poll #3
Monitoring success of support mechanisms

1. Everyone, including disadvantaged groups, **gains access** to suitable and acceptable sanitation facilities
   • Disaggregation of data is essential

2. Everyone **consistently uses** sanitation facilities that are sustained over time
   • Ask people about latrine use in the last 48 hours using “balanced” questions.
   • Compare self-reports with observations of latrine conditions

3. Support mechanisms are **institutionalised** in government, private and other sector processes
   • Interview local government authorities or other key informants, and review government documents
Monitoring success of support mechanisms

4. Financial or hardware support mechanisms to increase sanitation access in one area do not inadvertently hinder progress in other areas or undermine WASH markets
   - Interview local government authorities about attitudes in other communities
   - Interview suppliers or other key informants about changes in sanitation product prices and willingness-to-pay

5. The cost of support mechanisms are not be prohibitive to scaling up
   - Work out the total costs of implementing the mechanisms and extrapolate
Knowledge sharing

• Evidence and knowledge sharing is needed. There is much we don’t know enough about:
  • Disaggregated data on progress toward achieving sustained use of hygienic sanitation facilities
  • Common evaluation indicators for measuring equitable progress toward achieving SDG 6.2
  • Evidence of when it is appropriate to introduce support mechanisms to conventional CLTS processes
  • Evidence of which combinations of support mechanisms work for whom and in what contexts
  • Evidence of appropriate timing of introducing support mechanisms

• Budgeting and planning for monitoring and knowledge sharing should be included in programme/service design
Actions for supporting equitable rural sanitation

• Create **specific targets** for programmes and service delivery to achieve open defecation free status area-wide with equitable progress made across all groups. Budget and plan for **disaggregated monitoring**.

• Involve the **local government** and other sector actors in the design, implementation, and monitoring of support mechanisms, making clear plans for how support mechanisms can be **institutionalised**

• In the design of support mechanisms, manage the programme **costs and complexity** of implementation so that they can institutionalised and **taken to scale**

• Form partnerships between implementers and researchers to **create evidence** to determine which mechanisms work in which contexts

• **Document and share findings** on success and challenges associated with supporting equitable outcomes
Thank you

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