



Supportive Environments for Healthy Communities

## Issue 82 | December 14, 2012 | Focus on Community-Led Total Sanitation

This issue contains some of the most recent studies and resources on community-led total sanitation (CLTS). Below are also links to two other 2012 Weeklies on CLTS. Resources in this issue include the new CLTS website from the Institute for Development Studies, a USAID-funded project on mapping open defecation in urban Ghana, a useful CLTS checklist by Robert Chambers, and a commentary in the *Journal of Water and Health* on the unethical methods some CLTS programs have used. Also included are reports on schools and CLTS, blog posts from Kenya and India, and other resources.

Please let WASHplus know at any time if you have resources to share for future issues of WASHplus Weekly or if you have suggestions for future topics. An [archive](#) of past Weekly issues is available on the WASHplus website.

### REPORTS/ARTICLES

- **Campaigns for Total Sanitation with CLTS: 66 Practical Things to Do**, 2012. R Chambers. ([Full text](#), [Word document](#))

This note lists approaches and actions that have contributed to success and other practical ideas. The core of CLTS is triggering, post-triggering follow-up, verification, and post-ODF sustainability and progress. This checklist is a practical tool for those who plan and implement campaigns.

- **Commentary on Community-Led Total Sanitation and Human Rights: Should the Right to Community-Wide Health Be Won at the Cost of Individual Rights?** *J Water Health*, Dec 2012. J Bartram. ([Abstract/Author email](#))

The CLTS approach represents a major shift for sanitation projects and programs as it recognizes the value of stopping open defecation across the whole community, even when the individual toilets built are not necessarily wholly hygienic. However, recent publications on CLTS document a number of examples of practices that fail to meet basic ethical criteria and infringe on human rights.

- **The Effect of Improved Rural Sanitation on Diarrhoea and Helminth**

**Infection: Design of a Cluster-Randomized Trial in Orissa, India.** *Emerging Themes in Epidemiology*, Nov 2012. T Clasen, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. ([Full text, pdf](#))

The authors describe the design of a village-level cluster-randomized trial in the state of Orissa, India, to evaluate impact of an ongoing rural sanitation campaign conducted under the umbrella of India's Total Sanitation Campaign.

- **Effects of Rural Sanitation on Infant Mortality and Human Capital: Evidence from India's Total Sanitation Campaign**, 2012. D Spears, Princeton University.

([Full text, pdf](#))

Open defecation without a toilet or latrine is among the leading global threats to health, especially in India. Although it is well-known that modern sewage infrastructure improves health, it is unknown whether a sanitation program feasible for a low capacity and poor country could be effective. This paper contributes the first causally identified estimates of effects of rural sanitation on health and human capital accumulation.

- **Frontiers in Urban Sanitation**, 2012. D Saywell, Plan International USA.

([Presentation, pdf](#))

This presentation to the USAID Sanitation Working Group discusses trends and developments in urban sanitation and shares lessons learned on an urban CLTS program in Nairobi.

- **Involving Schools in Community-Led Total Sanitation in Ethiopia**, 2012. PLAN International. ([Full text, Word document](#))

This paper gives a short overview of steps to take when involving schools in CLTS in Ethiopia.

- **National Guidelines and Protocols on Open Defecation Free (ODF) Verification and Certification of Communities**, 2012. Institute of Development Studies. ([Full text](#))

Verification and certification of communities claiming to be ODF are key stages in CLTS follow up and vital for quality assurance and sustainability of collective behavior change. This study points out that carrying out follow up, verification, and certification at scale is not an easy task.

- **Policy Lessons from Implementing India's Total Sanitation Campaign**, 2012. D Spears, Princeton University. ([Full text, pdf](#))

This paper draws policy lessons from the first 10 years of latrine construction under India's Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC), a flagship program of the Indian government. So far, the TSC has been able to improve average health and human capital among Indian children where it has been implemented, but sanitation coverage remains substantially incomplete. However, the first 10 years of the TSC will have, on average,

prevented an infant death for a few thousand dollars, a comparatively inexpensive average cost. This initial success is in part due to the Clean Village Prize or Nirmal Gram Puraskar, an incentive for village governments.

- **Social Network Predictors of Latrine Ownership**, 2012. H Shakya, UC San Diego School of Medicine. ([Full text](#))

This study examines the correlates of latrine ownership in rural India with a focus on social network predictors. Participants from 75 villages provided the names of their social contacts as well as their own relevant demographic and household characteristics. Results show that, controlling for the standard predictors of latrine ownership such as caste, education, and income, individuals are more likely to own latrines if their social contacts own latrines.

- **Successes, Challenges and Characteristics of School-Led Total Sanitation (SLTS) in Ghana**, 2012. V Ouden. ([Full text](#))

This report is the result of an explorative study on the role of several actors in promoting in-school and community hygiene and sanitation practices under the banner of SLTS. School and community reports were gathered to define successes, challenges, and characteristics of SLTS in a Ghanaian context.

- **Why Not Basics for All? Scopes and Challenges of Community-Led Total Sanitation**, 2012. K Kar. ([Full text, pdf](#))

The “some for all” dictum may work well for the water sector but is not appropriate and workable for the sanitation sector. The author points out the paradox of concern for water quality for drinking, while less concern is displayed about the haphazard and uncontrolled contamination of the sources of natural water. By contrast, the principle of “at least something for all/why not basics for all?” on which CLTS is based, leads to collective behavior change on a grand scale and empowers communities to completely eliminate open defecation and thus protect water bodies as well as improve health and livelihood outcomes.

## BLOG POSTS/VIDEOS

- **Designing New Tools for Mapping Open Defecation**, 2012. IDEO.org. ([Blog post](#))

In a USAID-funded project, IDEO.org and Water and Sanitation for the Urban Poor (WSUP) are adapting the CLTS approach that has worked effectively in rural environments to an urban setting in Ghana by combining a digital mobile platform with offline community-driven activities.

- **A Hypothesis on the Monitoring System in India’s Total Sanitation Campaign**, 2012. A Hueso. ([Blog post](#))

One of the problems of the Total Sanitation Campaign in India has been its flawed monitoring system. The sanitation sector internationally was shocked when the sanitation coverage data from the Census were published and the rate was half of

what had been previously reported.

- **IDS Community-Led Total Sanitation Program Launches New Website on World Toilet Day, 2012.** ([Website](#))

The Institute of Development Studies' new website shares a wealth of news, blogs, and key resources including: country papers and case studies; handbooks and manuals; and films and audiovisual materials.

- **The Last Taboo, 2012.** T Steyger. ([Video](#))

This documentary is about CLTS in Kenya and tells the stories of two remarkable Kenyan men who are helping their local communities to stop defecating in the open and start building toilets.

- **Rethinking Behavioural Change for "Total Sanitation" in India, 2012.** E Ohri. ([Blog post](#))

Along with designing appropriate strategies to achieve behavioral change, the type of change desired needs to be given equal emphasis for the effectiveness of the campaign. Simply using toilets may not ensure good hygiene. To achieve "total sanitation," the campaign should not only be limited to changing open defecation behaviors and promoting toilet usage, but should also focus on promoting behaviors that emphasize hygiene and health, such as using soap and water.

#### PREVIOUS 2012 WASHPLUS WEEKLY ISSUES ON CLTS ·

- [July 6, 2012](#)
- [January 20, 2012](#)

Each WASHplus Weekly highlights topics such as Urban WASH, Indoor Air Pollution, Innovation, Household Water Treatment and Storage, Hand Washing, Integration, and more. If you would like to feature your organization's materials in upcoming issues, please send them to Dan Campbell, WASHplus knowledge resources specialist, at [dacampbell@fhi360.org](mailto:dacampbell@fhi360.org).



**About WASHplus** - WASHplus, a five-year project funded through USAID's Bureau for Global Health, creates supportive environments for healthy households and communities by delivering high-impact interventions in water, sanitation, hygiene (WASH) and indoor air pollution (IAP). WASHplus uses proven, at-scale interventions to reduce diarrheal diseases and acute respiratory infections, the two top killers of children under five years of age globally. For information, visit [www.washplus.org](http://www.washplus.org) or email: [contact@washplus.org](mailto:contact@washplus.org).

MailChimp

[unsubscribe from this list](#) | [update subscription preferences](#)