



SFD Lite Report

Kushtia Municipality Bangladesh

This SFD Lite Report was prepared by
CWIS-FSM Support Cell, DPHE

Date of production: 05/09/2023
Last update: 19/03/2024

1 The SFD Graphic

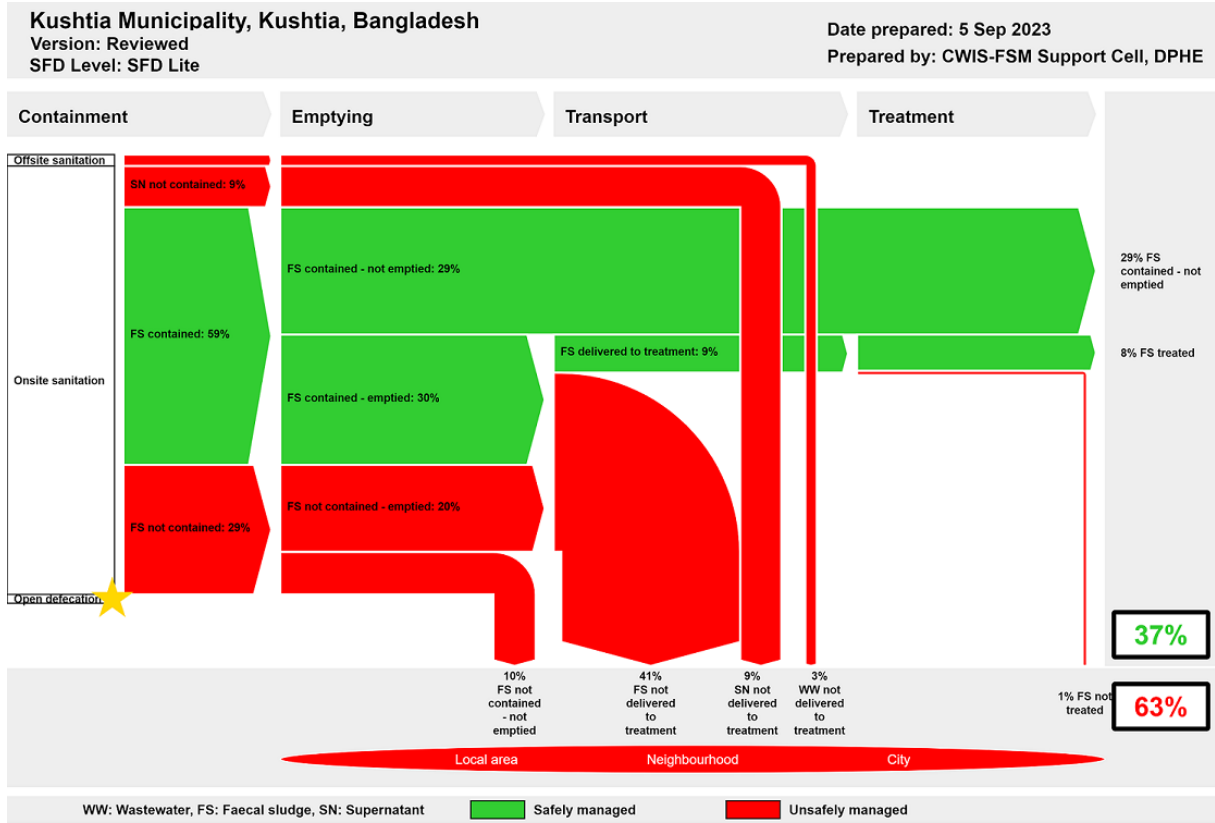


Figure 1: SFD Graphic for Kushtia Municipality.

2 SFD Lite information

Produced by:

- Dr. Abdullah Al-Muyeed, Chief Operating Officer, CWIS-FSM Support Cell, Shishir Kumar Biswas, Project Director, 'Feasibility for Implementing of Solid Waste and Faecal Sludge Management System in 53 District Level Municipalities and 8 City Corporations', Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE) and Md. Tawhidur Rahaman, Technical Expert, CWIS-FSM Support Cell, Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE), Bangladesh.

Collaborating partners:

- DevCon, Tiller and Kushtia Municipality played vital roles in collecting and sharing data, and producing this SFD graphic and SFD lite report.

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3 General city information

Kushtia is a fast-growing city located along the Dhaka- N1 and Rajshahi-Kushtia highway and 171 km West of Dhaka. It is beside the Madhumati River and is well connected with road, water, and railways. It is one of the oldest towns in the sub-continent and was declared a municipality in 1869. Kushtia is one of the 53 district level municipalities in the country (Figure 2). The geographical coordinates of Kushtia are in between 23°42' and 24°12' north latitudes and in between 88°42' and 89°22' east longitudes.¹



Figure 2: Kushtia Municipality Location Map (BBS, 2017).

According to the population census in 2011 by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), the Kushtia Municipality was 102,988. The urban population growth in Bangladesh is 2% per year. Considering 10% floating population, such as farmers and traders, comes to the city every day, the present (2020) population is estimated to be around 135,300 (Table 1).

¹ https://en.banglapedia.org/index.php/Kushtia_District

Table 1: City profile (Source: KII with the Executive Engineer, Kushtia Municipality).

Population parameters	Value
Estimated population, 2020	135,300
Households, 2020	30,390
Area, sq.km	13.32
Total roads, km	435.75
Total drains, km	341

The municipality covers an area of 13.32 square kilometres. At present Kushtia Municipality has 435.75 km of road of which 240 km is bituminous road, 29 km Reinforce Cement Concrete (RCC) road, 2.75 km Herring-Bone-Bond (HBB) road, 12 km Water Bound Macadam (WBM) road and 151.5 km earthen road. The municipality has about 341 km drain which includes 85 brick drain, 27 km RCC drain, 210 km earthen road and 18.5 km natural drain.

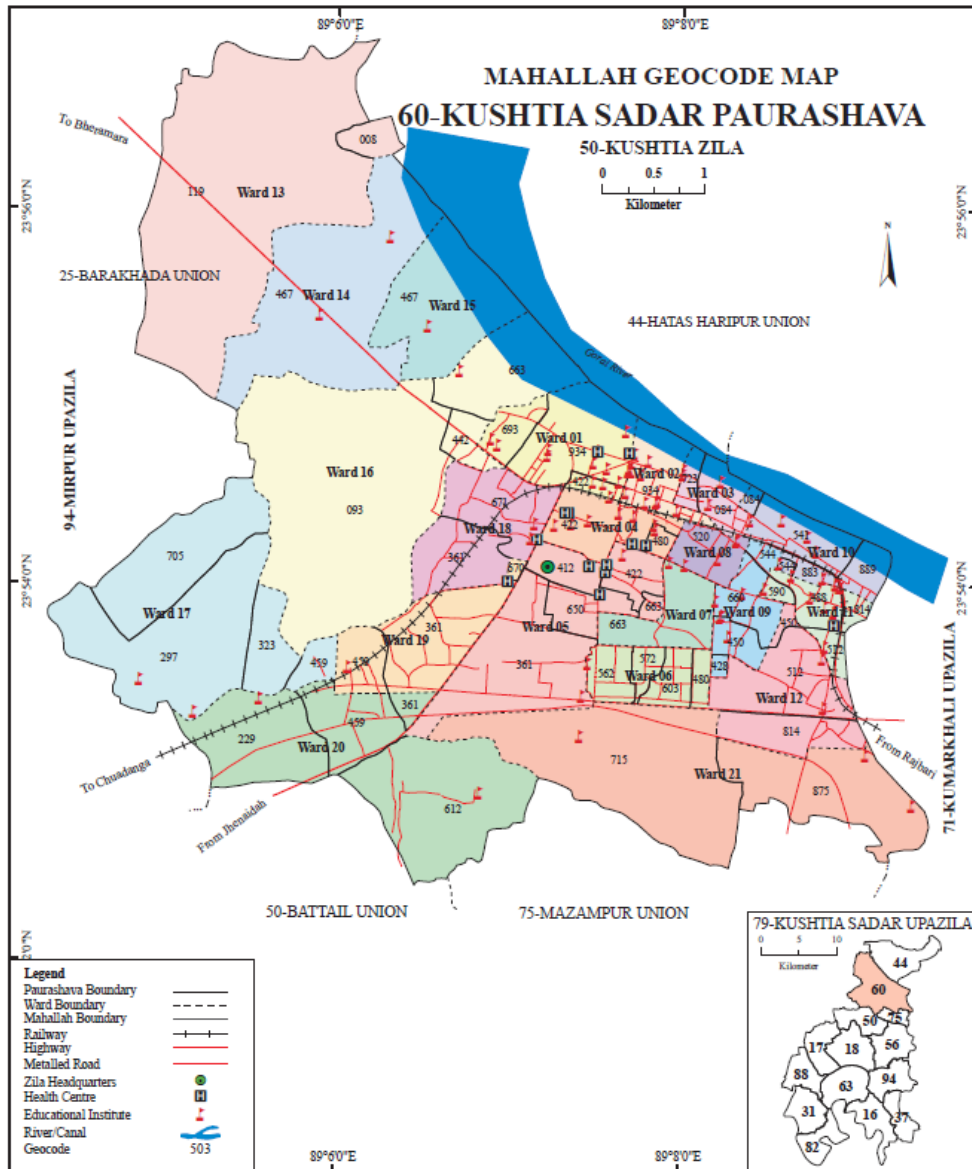


Figure 3: Kushtia Municipality Ward Boundary Map (BBS, 2017).

According to the Bangladesh Meteorological Department, the city area and surrounding area experience a tropical monsoon climate. It is characterized by warm, humid summers and cool, and dry winters. There is no climatological station within the municipality. The closest meteorological station of Bangladesh Meteorological Department is located in Ishwardi which is about 37km away from the scheme area. Weather data from these two stations is collected from 1981 to 2017. About 90% of the total annual rainfall occurs in the period from May through October and the driest months of the years are November to March. The maximum mean temperature observed is 32.1-35.8°C between April-August, with the minimum mean temperatures of between 10.3-12°C in January. The annual average rainfall is about 1,656 mm, according to BMD (1981-2017).²

Madhumati River passes by the norther-eastern boundary of the municipality. Gorai canal flows north-east the municipality and another canal also flows south-west of the municipality. According to the flood zoning map of Bangladesh, the municipality is in a flood-prone zone (flooding event happened in the last 12 years) but the municipality is situated in Riverbank Erosion Prone area. However, the drainage network of the city is not adequate. Every year, municipality areas face water logging during monsoon for drainage congestion. There are some secondary drains carrying stormwater and domestic wastewater to the outfalls the rivers and canals.³

The household survey results show that less than one-third of the occupation is business (32%) followed by labourer (21%) and private service (16%). The survey assessed the different types of building structure in the city which are pucca (houses single or multi-storied built with substantial materials such as brick, cement, and concrete), semi pucca houses (either the roof or the walls, but not both, are not made of pucca materials), tin-shed (roof of the house mad of corrugated iron sheets) and thatched (roof and walls made of temporary materials like bamboo, paper boards, polyethylene sheets, etc.⁴

² <http://bmd.gov.bd/p/Rainfall-Situation-202>

³ KII and field visit during Baseline survey 2020

⁴ KII and field visit during Baseline survey 2020

4 Service outcomes

The city does not have a dedicated sewerage system and most sanitation systems available in the town are classified as onsite systems (97.4%). The main types of toilet facilities are septic tanks connected to a soak pit, to an open drain, to a water body, or to open ground, lined tanks or lined pits, with no outlet or overflow and unlined pits.

Table 2 summarizes the sanitation systems in use, as well as estimates of the population connected to each system. For the onsite sanitation systems, it shows the proportions of each from which faecal sludge is then emptied, transported to treatment and treated.

Kushtia Municipality, Kushtia, Bangladesh, 5 Sep 2023. SFD Level: SFD Lite								
Population: 135300								
Proportion of tanks: septic tanks: 67%, fully lined tanks: 0%, lined, open bottom tanks: 100%								
Containment								
System type	Population	WW transport	WW treatment	FS emptying	FS transport	FS treatment	SN transport	SN treatment
	Pop	W4c	W5c	F3	F4	F5	S4e	S5e
System label and description	Proportion of population using this type of system (p)	Proportion of wastewater in open sewer or storm drain system, which is delivered to treatment plants	Proportion of wastewater delivered to treatment plants, which is treated	Proportion of this type of system from which faecal sludge is emptied	Proportion of faecal sludge emptied, which is delivered to treatment plants	Proportion of faecal sludge delivered to treatment plants, which is treated	Proportion of supernatant in open drain or storm sewer system, which is delivered to treatment plants	Proportion of supernatant in open drain or storm sewer system that is delivered to treatment plants, which is treated
T1A1C6 Toilet discharges directly to open drain or storm sewer	2.6	0.0	0.0					
T1A2C5 Septic tank connected to soak pit	4.1			70.0	52.0	95.0		
T1A2C6 Septic tank connected to open drain or storm sewer	28.4			76.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
T1A2C7 Septic tank connected to open water body	3.2			76.0	0.0	0.0		
T1A2C8 Septic tank connected to open ground	7.2			76.0	0.0	0.0		
T1A4C10 Lined tank with impermeable walls and open bottom, no outlet or overflow	20.0			54.0	38.0	95.0		
T1A5C10 Lined pit with semi-permeable walls and open bottom, no outlet or overflow	33.2			51.0	21.0	95.0		
T1A6C10 Unlined pit, no outlet or overflow	1.3			0.0	0.0	0.0		

Table 2: SFD Matrix for Kushtia Municipality.

The figures shown in Table 2 and elaborated in the following section are derived from information obtained through Household (HH) survey, Key Informant Interviews (KIIs), and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) (as shown in Figure 4).

Overview on technologies and methods used for different sanitation systems through the sanitation service chain is as follows.

4.1 Offsite Systems

The city does not have a dedicated sewerage system. However, during field observation and HH survey, it was found that there is a certain area where toilets are directly connected to open drains or storm sewer. Similarly, a portion of septic tanks is directly connected to open drains or storm sewer. Therefore, T1A1C6 system is considered as 2.6% of the total population of the city to generate the SFD graphic. Similarly, the T1A2C6 system is considered as 28.4% of the total population of the city to generate the SFD graphic. In the absence of a sewerage system, the faecal sludge and the supernatant in T1A2C6 are directly discharged into the river or the environment untreated.

4.2 On-site Sanitation Systems



Figure 4: Household survey and consultations. (Source: *Feasibility study 2020-21/DPHE*).

Containment: Almost all the households (97.4%) in the city have their latrine which is connected to single pits, twin pits, septic tanks, or discharged directly into the environment (e.g., open-drain or storm sewer). From a household survey, it is found that 42.9% of the city population uses septic tanks as the containment system, 33.2% of the toilets have single pit systems, and 20.0% of people use double pits in the city, and 1.3% people use dug holes. About 2.6% do not have any type of containment and discharges directly to the environment (KII, FGDs, HH survey, 2020).

According to the type of connectivity and features of containment technologies, the discharging points of the toilets are categorized as: 4.1% of the population uses septic tanks connected to soak pits (T1A2C5), 28.4% of the population uses septic tanks connected to open drain (T1A2C6), 3.2% of the population uses septic tanks connected to water bodies (T1A2C7), 7.2% of the population uses septic tanks connected to open ground (T1A2C8), 20.0% of the population uses lined tanks with impermeable walls and open bottom no outlet or overflow (T1A4C10), 33.2% of the population relies on lined pits with semi-permeable walls and open bottom with no outlet or overflow (T1A5C10) and 1.3% of the population uses unlined pit, no outlet (T1A6C10) (KII, FGDs, HH survey, 2020). Thus, at the containment stage, the city's excreta of only 59% of the population are contained. Figure 6 shows pictures of these technologies in operation.

Groundwater Pollution: The depth to groundwater in the city ranges from 1-3 m. The most common drinking water production technology is a borehole with a hand pump or motorized pump. Among them, 43% of the households use piped water, 24% use own hand pump tubewell and about 11% of the households use their own tubewell fitted with electric motor.

Lateral separation between sanitation facilities and water sources varies from one area to another. Tubewells of different sizes and depths are generally used to pump water from the subsurface confined aquifers.

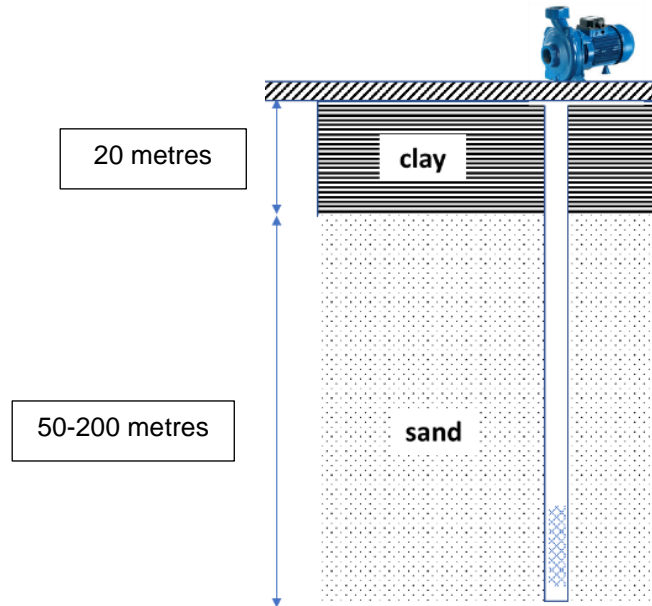


Figure 5: Soil profile in Kushtia district and location of tubewell screen.

During the household visit and FGDs, it was found that less than 25% of sanitation facilities are located within 10 metres from the groundwater source. Besides, due to the geographical situation, sanitation facilities are not located uphill of the groundwater sources. According to a survey report on 'Hydrogeological screening, slug test and geophysical logging on observation well units', conducted by the Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE) on March 2017, drinking water is collected from the confined aquifer (25m – 200m) through pumps. Hence, considering all these factors, it is considered that there is not any significant risk of groundwater contamination in the city. Therefore, a low risk of groundwater contamination is considered in the city.



Figure 6: Containment technologies and their connections in Kushtia. Left: Toilet Pit open to a nearby water body, Right: Toilet pipe connected to open environment. (Source: *Feasibility study 2020-21/DPHE*).

Emptying: Households relying on septic tanks have to arrange themselves for emptying of the septic tank. It is observed from the baseline survey that most of the septic tanks have been constructed in the

last 4-5 years. According to the survey from 2020, the frequency of emptying of septic tanks or covered pits varies from 1 to 10 years depending upon the size, uses, etc.

However, about 70% of the septic tanks, connected to the soak pit are emptied within 2-5 years. About 76% of the septic tanks connected to open drains, open ground or water bodies are emptied within 4-5 years. Almost 51% of single pit latrines are emptied within 1-2 years. Besides the above information, it is also revealed during the discussion in FGDs and household visits, the demand for desludging septic tanks would increase shortly. Desludging of the septic tanks or pit is mostly (97%) done by private sweepers. Only in a few households, desludging is done by municipal sweepers (1.42%), family members (1.08%), and private agencies less than one percent (0.5%). Around 94 % of this withdrawal is done manually using a bucket and rope. This method highly risks the health and safety of the workers. A few numbers (4%) use electric pumps and some use manual pump (2%) – these reflect the use of the higher level of technologies by some of the workers. The municipality has one vacutug available⁵.

Transportation: The sludge withdrawn from the septic tanks and latrine pits by the cleaners is disposed of in various places. Based on the survey from 2020, it is observed that about 81.9% of the respondents who use any kind of containment system informed that faecal sludge (sludge from the septic tank or covered pit latrines) is disposed of in a dug hole covered with soil away from the house. Besides, 18.1% of the faecal sludge is disposed of in the open environment like a drain, open ground, and water bodies.

Treatment/Disposal: There is one Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant (FSTP) in Kushtia Municipality at Kanabill road. The design treatment capacity of the plant is 18 m³/day. This treatment plant follows gravitational flow system with unplanted drying bed, Cocopeat filter and polishing pond (Figure 7).



Figure 7: Operational FSTP plant at Kushtia Municipality (Photo Credit: CWIS FSM Support Cell, DPHE).

4.3 Open Defecation

⁵ In the last few years, mechanical vacuum trucks have been provided to several municipal authorities from different government and non-government sources. But municipal authorities have shortage of expert manpower and service delivery mechanism to operate the vehicles. Recent years, the situation is improving. Institutional Regulatory Framework (IRF) and National Action Plan (NAP) have been approved by government. Different service delivery and business models have been developed in few cities. Capacity building program of local government institutions are conducting by govt. institutions and development partners. A significant improvement in FSM will be found within few years.

From HH surveys, KIIs and FGDs, it was found that 100% of citizens use some kind of toilet in the Municipality. Thus, from the sanitation point of view, the town is considered an open defecation-free town.

4.4 SFD Graphic

The outcome of the SFD graphic shows that only thirty seven percent (37%) of the excreta flow is classified as safely managed, and the remaining sixty three percent (63%) is classified as unsafely managed (Figure 8).

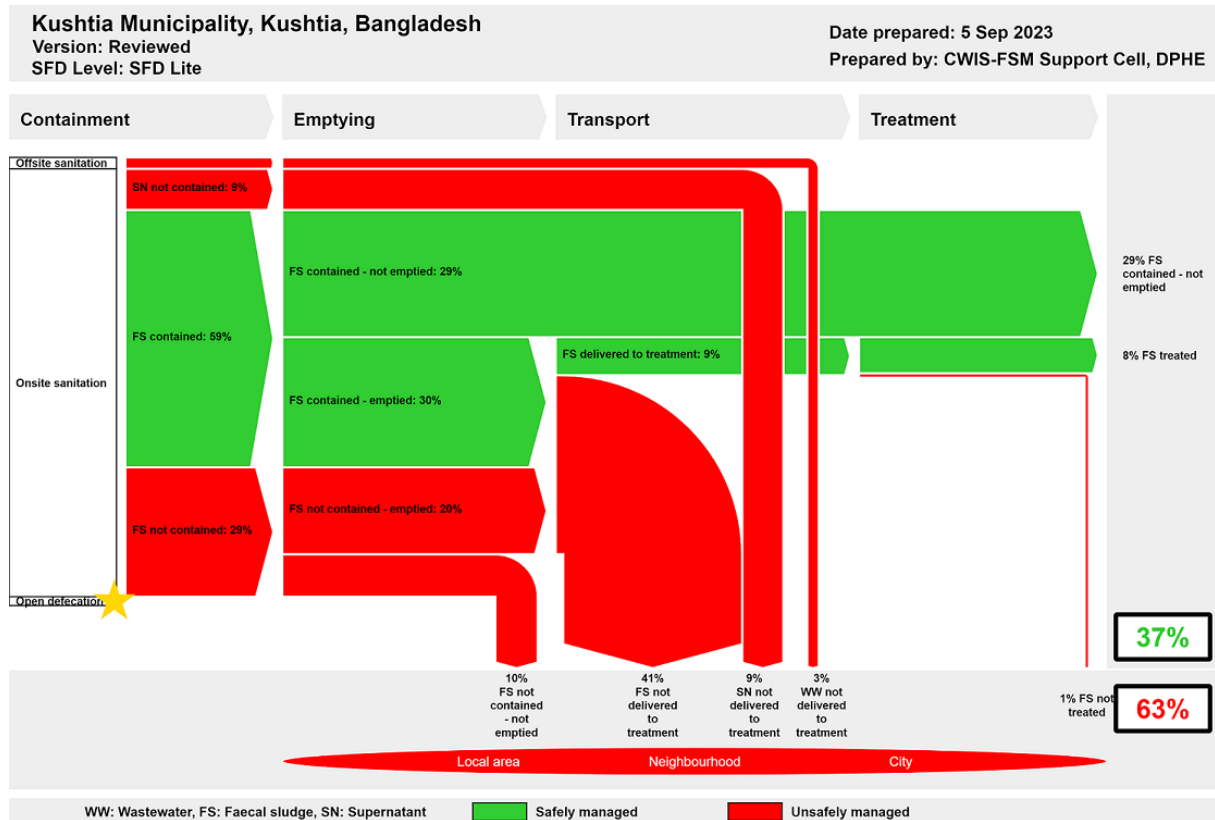


Figure 8: SFD Graphic for Kushtia Municipality.

The unsafely managed excreta originated from wastewater not delivered to treatment (3%), Faecal Sludge (FS) both contained and not contained - not delivered to treatment (41%), FS not contained - not emptied (10%) and 9% of supernatant not delivered to treatment.

The safely managed excreta originate from FS contained - not emptied (29%) and FS delivered to treatment and treated in the FSTP (8%). The 29% resembles the FS stored in containments without significant risk to groundwater pollution. Thus, the safely managed percentage of FS generated by this 29% of the population is temporary until the FS from the containments is emptied. Therefore, these systems will require emptying services in the short and medium term as they fill up.

5 Data and assumptions

The baseline survey conducted in September 2020 contains detailed data on different stages of the sanitation value chain. The SFD matrix is generated from these data, collected during sample household surveys, along with informal interviews, open-ended consultations, key informant interviews and focus group discussions with the Municipality officials, town level coordination committee, households, social workers, business persons, pit emptiers and the citizens including women in all the wards of the Municipality. The SFD matrix was generated from these data. Finally, data from all these sources were triangulated to produce the SFD matrix, the SFD graphic and the SFD lite report.

The last census was carried out about 10 years ago. So, the actual population, household, and sanitation data are not updated yet. Most of the households with septic tanks do not know the actual type, size, and design desludging periods. Also, a large number of pit users are unaware of the emptying events and frequency of their pits or not. Due to all these data gaps, some assumptions have been made to produce the SFD graphic. These assumptions were shared with key informants at the Municipality and accepted by them.

Following assumptions were made for developing the SFD graphic for Kushtia Municipality:

- ✓ The proportion of FS in septic tanks, fully lined tanks, and lined, open bottom tanks are considered 67%, 0%, and 100% respectively as per the guidance given in the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) in the Sustainable Sanitation Alliance (SuSanA) website.
- ✓ According to the population census in 2011 by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), the Kushtia Municipality was 102,988. The urban population growth in Bangladesh is 2% per year. Considering 10% floating population, such as farmers and traders, comes to the city every day, the present (2020) population is estimated to be around 135,300 (Table 1).
- ✓ There are around 20.0% of twin pit latrines in the containment system. So, it is assumed that all these twin pit containment technologies are defined as a lined tank with impermeable walls and open bottom (system T1A4C10, 20.0%). Based on the household survey, variable F3 for system T1A4C10 is set to 54%. After emptying, 38% of the faecal sludge is delivered to the treatment plant (F4 is set to 38%).
- ✓ There are around 33.2% of single pit latrines in the containment systems. So, it is assumed that all these single pit containment technologies are defined as lined pits with semi-permeable walls and open bottom, no outlet or overflow, where there is no 'significant risk' of groundwater pollution (system T1A5C10, 33.2%). Most of the single pit latrines are found to be emptied within 1-2 years. Based on the household survey, variable F3 for system T1A5C10 was set to 51%. After emptying, 21% of the faecal sludge is delivered to the treatment plant (F4 is set to 21%).
- ✓ 4.1% of septic tanks are connected to soak pits (system T1A2C5). They are well-constructed as per the field visit observation. The risk of groundwater contamination was deemed low, therefore that option was selected in the SFD Matrix.
- ✓ Around 70.0% of HHs have emptied their septic tank with a soak pit with a desludging frequency of 2-5 years. Based on the household survey, variable F3 for system T1A2C5 is set to 70%. After emptying, 52% of the faecal sludge is delivered to the treatment plant (F4 is set to 52%).

- ✓ There are 38.8% of septic tanks connected to the open drain, water bodies and open ground which are emptied within 2-5 years. Based on the household survey, variable F3 for systems T1A2C6, T1A2C7 and T1A2C8 is set to 76%.
- ✓ Wastewater in T1A1C6 and supernatant in T1A2C6 are directly discharged into the river or the environment untreated. Therefore, variables W4c, W5c, S4e and S5e were set to 0%.
- ✓ After being delivered to the treatment plant, 95% of the faecal sludge is treated. Thus, variables F5 for T1A2C5, T1A4C10 and T1A5C10 are considered to be 95%.

6 List of Sources

Reports, literature and website

- Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), 2011.
- Population and Housing Census, 2011.
- Baseline Survey of the project “Feasibility for Implementing of Solid Waste and Faecal Sludge Management System in 53 District Level Municipalities and 8 Municipalities”, Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE), Dhaka, Bangladesh (December 2020).
- Report on ‘Hydrogeological Screening, Slug Test and Geophysical Logging on Observation Well Units’ under *Bangladesh Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project (BRWSSP)*, Arsenic Management Division, Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE) (March 2017)
- The revised ‘National Strategy for Water Supply and Sanitation, 2021’
- ‘At a Glance: Kushtia Municipality’, by Municipality office
- <https://www.gps-latitude-longitude.com/gps-coordinateshttp://bmd.gov.bd/p/Rainfall-Situation-202>
- https://en.banglapedia.org/index.php/Kushtia_District

Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) (September 2020 to December 2020)

- KII with Mayor, Kushtia Municipality.
- KII with Conservancy Inspector, Kushtia Municipality.
- KII with Sanitary inspector, Kushtia Municipality.
- KII with Engineer, Kushtia Municipality.
- Facilitators: Md. Mynul Islam Hemel, Field Coordinator, Tillers



Figure 9: FSTP in Kushtia Municipality (left) and KII in Kushtia Municipality (Right). (Source: *Feasibility study 2020-21/DPHE*).

Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) (September 2020 to December 2021)

- FSM Sweepers and Service Providers.
- First Stage Solid Waste Collector.
- Slum Dwellers.



Figure 10: Focus Group Discussions in Kushtia. (Source: *Feasibility study 2020-21/DPHE*).

Additional information

- This report was compiled as part of the Baseline Survey of the project, ***“Feasibility for Implementing of Solid Waste and Faecal Sludge Management System in 53 District Level Municipalities and 8 City Corporation”***, (December 2020).
- The project was implemented under the supervision of the Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE). In-depth information and data were collected for the towns which included project documents, master plans and baseline reports from the Municipality and national levels, statistical data like population and household income expenditure, GIS data and other geospatial data and satellite images, and open street maps (OSM). The Field Survey of the project was conducted from 01 January 2020 to 24 March 2020 and from 04 July 2020 to 30 November 2020. The field survey includes household surveys, key informant interviews, focus group discussions, and physical feature surveys. A central server has been established to monitor FSM and SWM databases under the project. The results of the study are shared with the municipal authority and are considered as a basis for preparing investment projects by the government and development partners, and sustainable plans for operating and maintaining the systems by the municipal authorities.
- We would like to thank Mr. Anwar Ali, Mayor, Kushtia Municipality, Mr. Robiul Islam, Executive Engineer, KushtiaMunicipality, for providing all the required primary and secondary data and

cooperating for Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) & Focused Group Discussions (FGDs). This report would not have been possible to produce without the constant support of Mr. Anwar Ali, Mayor, Kushtia Municipality, who helped in conducting sample surveys and FGDs in the field.

- We also acknowledge the support of the Centre for Science and Environment, India for the promotion of SFD in Bangladesh.

Kushtia Municipality, Bangladesh, 2024

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