



CLTS: The West African Experience

Adaptations, Gaps and
Sustainability

CLTS Constants

- Focus on stopping open defecation (rather than building toilets);
- Need for collective action (to stop open defecation within community);
- No toilet subsidy (households must finance their own toilets); and
- Promotion of low-cost homemade toilets constructed using local materials (rather than standard toilet designs imposed by outsiders)

Adaptations in WA

- Regards for National standards
- Support Mechanisms as Sani Marts
- Credit Programmes
- Theatre used for sensitisation
- Identified other enhancers and barriers
 - pride, dignity, social status etc
 - Social marketing techniques

Benefits

- No open defecation in compound
- General health improvements
 - Reduced incidence of diarrhoea and vomiting
 - Reduced incidence of skin infections especially amongst children
 - Reduced body stench – easier to be next to each other
- Clean and tidy environment
- Girls' and women's dignity has increased
- Reduced risks associated with going out at night , especially for girls and women
- Improved water supply – no more fighting near water point
- Community members feel empowered
- Community members feel it is their own programme
- “We can roll out the mat anywhere and lie down and be happy”
- “Neighbouring communities want to be like us”

Challenges

- Technological
 - Very few options are immediately affordable
 - Safety of facilities constructed (Collapsed Latrine)
 - Sanitary condition of the latrines
 - Constant repair of Latrines may be required
- Environmental
 - Soil formation and conditions
- Seasonality of CLTS; the appropriate time to ‘trigger’
- Policy
 - Existence of National Standards and specifications for Latrine construction. BF.
- Social cultural
 - Exclusion of some groups
 - Traditional belief systems around OD and excreta management.

How we have responded : Tech



Our Responses

- Set up of the regional Learning centre on Sanitation
- Commission studies on Socio Cultural issues
- Working in Partnerships with other organisations and institutions