

# **SUSTAINABILITY OF SANITATION PROGRAMMES IN UGANDA**

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# Outline of Presentation

- Introduction
- Sanitation in Uganda – overview
- The response to the sanitation challenges
- Programme initiation in Uganda
- Sustainability in sanitation
- How can we innovative
- Evaluation of sanitation programmes
- Conclusions

# Introduction

This year 2008 is the international Year for sanitation

Governments, international agencies – the whole world is putting efforts to address sanitation problems

Keynote address presents an overview of the efforts to ensure sustainable sanitation by looking at the Ugandan situation.

# Introduction

- The realisation that poor sanitation is the cause of diseases and loss of lives led to the development of the centralised water borne human waste system.
- Sanitation is one of the most influencing factors of health, productivity, poverty and dignity

# Introduction

- The centralised waste management and sanitation systems were exported to the developing world during the colonization era.
- The system apparently works well in the developed countries.
- In most developing countries - African the systems have not worked well

# Introduction

- The governments have failed to maintain and expand the sanitation systems
- The population have therefore resorted to their own solutions – on-site facilities

# Sanitation in Uganda

- Around 80% of disease burden is related to poor sanitation and hygiene.
- Only about 41% of the population have access to improved or safe sanitation although latrine coverage is estimated at 59% for rural population

# Sanitation in Uganda

- Number of people per stance is high – overuse, not used properly, poorly managed
- Most public and school facilities do not have provision for people with disabilities
- Many facilities are structurally poor, unsafe and expose users to disease risks.



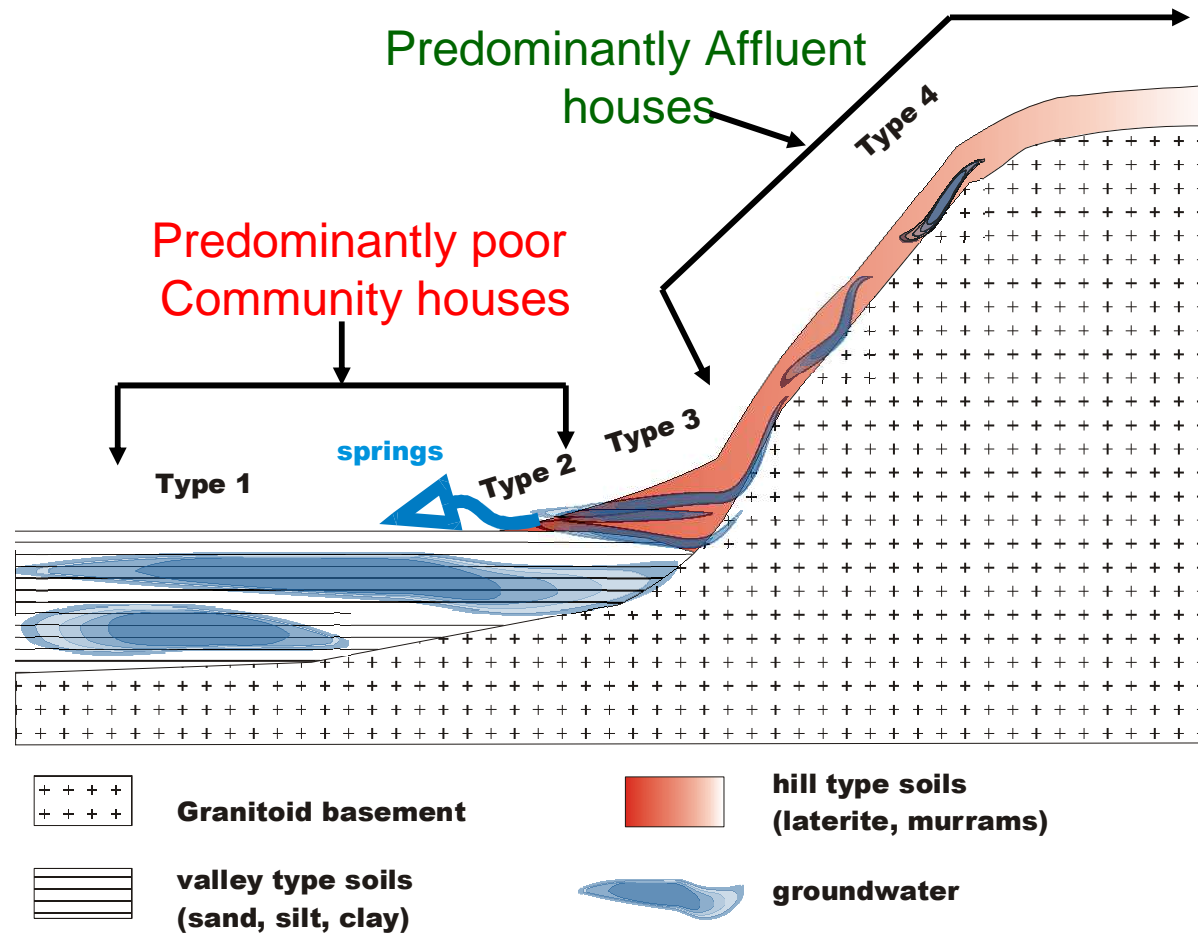
# Sanitation in Uganda

- Most poor are in marginal low lying areas, swampy, high water table – cannot dig pit latrines, use hanging latrines, throw feces in polythene bags, free range.

# Sanitation in Uganda

- Some pit latrines discharged into open drains during rain
- Other wastes are also dumped directly into storm drains

# Social-economic housing zones in most urban areas of Uganda. e.g. Kampala



# Sanitation facilities among the poor are unsafe in many cases







# The response to the sanitation challenges

- Global response – The UN setting of the MDGs (2000)
- MDG 7, the target: to halve the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and sanitation to half

# International Year For Sanitation 2008

- The UN declared 2008 as the **International year for sanitation to mobilise more efforts** to the MDG for sanitation –
- Aims to raise awareness, to encourage governments and associated institutions to implement **policies** and **actions** to **meet targets**.
- It is to involve all stakeholders with **focus on communities** to **cause change** in sanitation practices.



# International Year For Sanitation

- The hope is that since sanitation **is for all, involving all** will **cause all to act** positively towards the goal for **everyone's** sanitation.
- This therefore calls for *innovation in the technical, social and financial means* for addressing sanitation problems.

# African effort in addressing Sanitation

- In Africa most countries have developed plans to meet the MDG on water supply and sanitation.
- These however are usually documents and are not implemented for various reasons such as lack of prioritisation, financing, etc.

# African effort in addressing Sanitation

- An overview of the status of sixteen African countries efforts to meet the MDGs was published in 2006
- The report noted that Africa is lagging behind the rest of the world in achieving the MDGs on water and sanitation.

# Sanitation has a role in all MDG Goals

MDG	Sanitation attribute
Goal 1 Eradicate Poverty	Sanitation is essential for productive life
Goal 2 achieve UPE	sanitation enhances school attendance and retention of pupils
Goal 3 promote gender equality and power to lead:	Sanitation enhances female dignity and abilities
Goal 4 reduce child mortality:	Sanitation reduces morbidity and mortality
Goal 5 improve maternal health:	Sanitation reduces infection risks to mothers
Goal 6 combat HIV/AIDS, malaria etc:	Sanitation prevents vector and waterborne disease transmission
<b>Goal 7 Ensure Environmental Sustainability:</b>	<b>sanitation ensures a clean and healthy environment</b>
Goal 8 Develop global partnership:	sanitation call for multisector partnership

# Programme initiation in Uganda

- **Response** - core strategies have been refined, inspired by **the Kampala Declaration on Sanitation** (1997).
- **MoU** - Ministry of Water and Environment, Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education and Sports
- The Sector Wide Approach (**SWAp**)
- Establishment of Sanitation Sector Working Group and District Water and **Sanitation Coordination Committees**

# Programme initiation in Uganda

- Regular **Sector Reports**
- **Coordinated funding**
- RWSP and UWSP
- Sanitation Master Plan - Kampala
- Comprehensive list of initiatives in **(NETWAS 2007)**

# The challenge

- Failure of the centralised system
- Lack of capacity to manage the system
- Inequity and gender issue
- Inadequate data and poor information dissemination

# The challenge

- Poor of networking
- Failure of most introduce new systems (innovations)
- Gaps in the legal framework
- Research funding internally is almost nonexistent



# Sanitation: Sustainability

- The term **'sustainability'** is used invariably and the concept of sustainability interpreted in many different ways
- Some people think it **is success** – not always true
- However what is known is that sustainability **has time dimension**

# Sustainability

- It is also clear that the concept of sustainable development interventions has
  - human,
  - psychological,
  - social,
  - cultural,
  - financial,
  - institutional,
  - environmental, and
  - technical dimensions

# Sustainability

- It is therefore apparent that the factors listed in the previous slide have to be considered to a **satisfactory** degree for the **target community** programs

# Sustainable interventions

- Sustainable intervention ‘*continues to work over time*’
- This implies that the facility
  - is used,
  - is maintained,
  - is ‘*paid*’ for and
  - serves or its evolution is ‘*permanently*’ *perpetuated*.
- In other words there is *functional sustainability*.

# How can we be innovative

- The main objective would be to produce sanitation facilities that can cope with community demands and satisfy sustainability.
- The question would then be - **how is it done? Do we already know all or not yet?**

# How

- Looking back at slide 26 – we know that the **interests of the community** must be **reviewed** and **balanced**.
- The process should be a **continuous** one that improves in every cycle.

# How

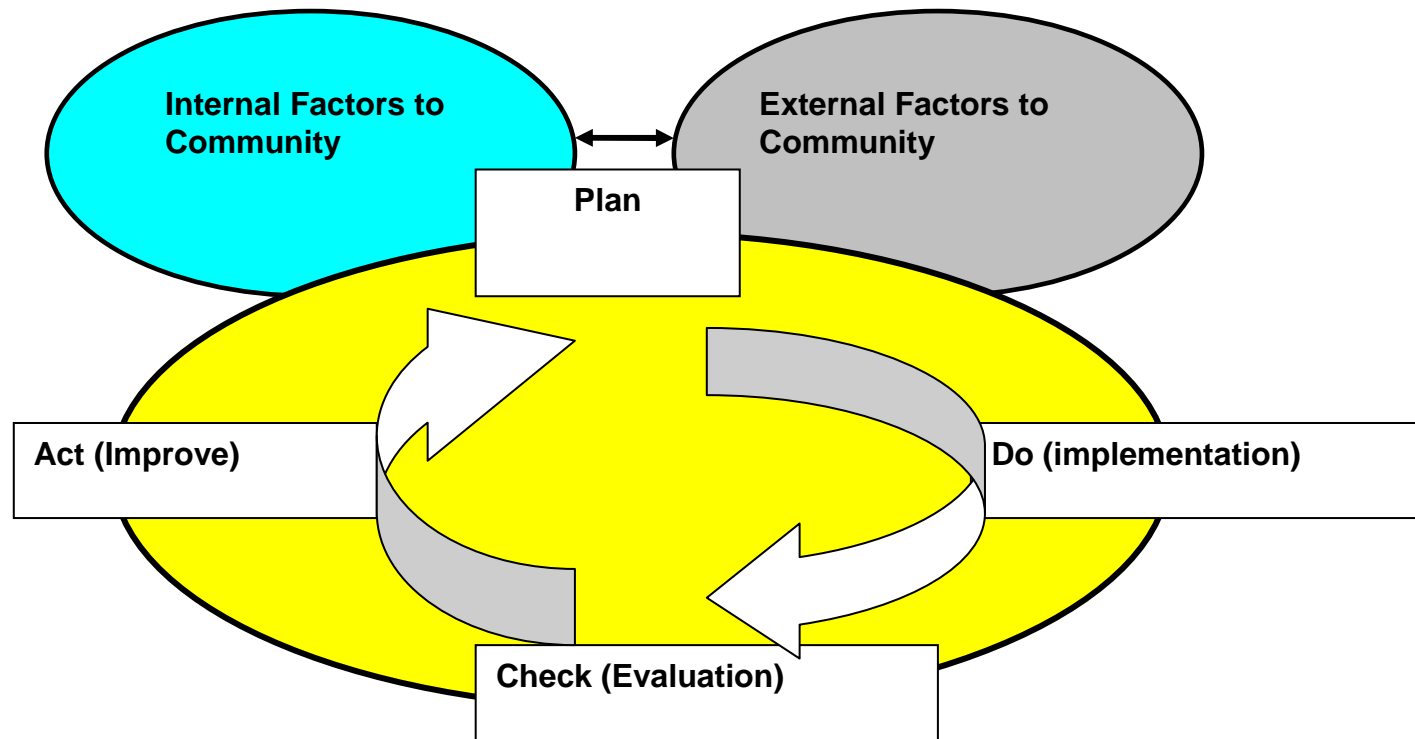
- This means - **the innovation** is a process and not a **one off event**.
- I believe the basic concept of management planning illustrated by the **Deming Cycle** can be applied.
- Plan, Do 😊, Check, Correct/Improve.

# The planning and management cycle

- The simple thinking here - recognises that goals are never **fully achieved** and process **improvement is never ending**
- Community internal and external factors may have changed or will change influencing operation and management cycle continuously (Figure next slide)



# *Consideration of community factors in the planning and management of sanitation programmes*



# Evaluation of programmes in Uganda

- Evaluation of sanitation is weak and emphasis is “Golden Indicators” (MWE 2007), coverage.
- Access to ‘improved’ sanitation. ‘Improved’ is **not defined** to indicate **functionality**.
- No criteria used that clearly evaluates sanitation **functional sustainability** in the country.

# Suggested Evaluation Criteria

- The level of community involvement,
- Availability of sanitation committees
- The condition of facility (structural, hygiene, safety, functional, etc)
- The use of facility (as planned, overuse, underused)
- Cost including for operation and management
- Replication
- Community acceptance or pride of the project

# Conclusions

- We are **lagging behind** in efforts to meet MDG on sanitation
- Efforts must therefore **be focused**
- Strategic sanitation approach - demand **responsive**, flexible and involve all stakeholders, **integrated**
- **Institutional strengthening** especially at the LGs, NGOs.

**END OF  
PRESENTATION**

**THANK YOU**