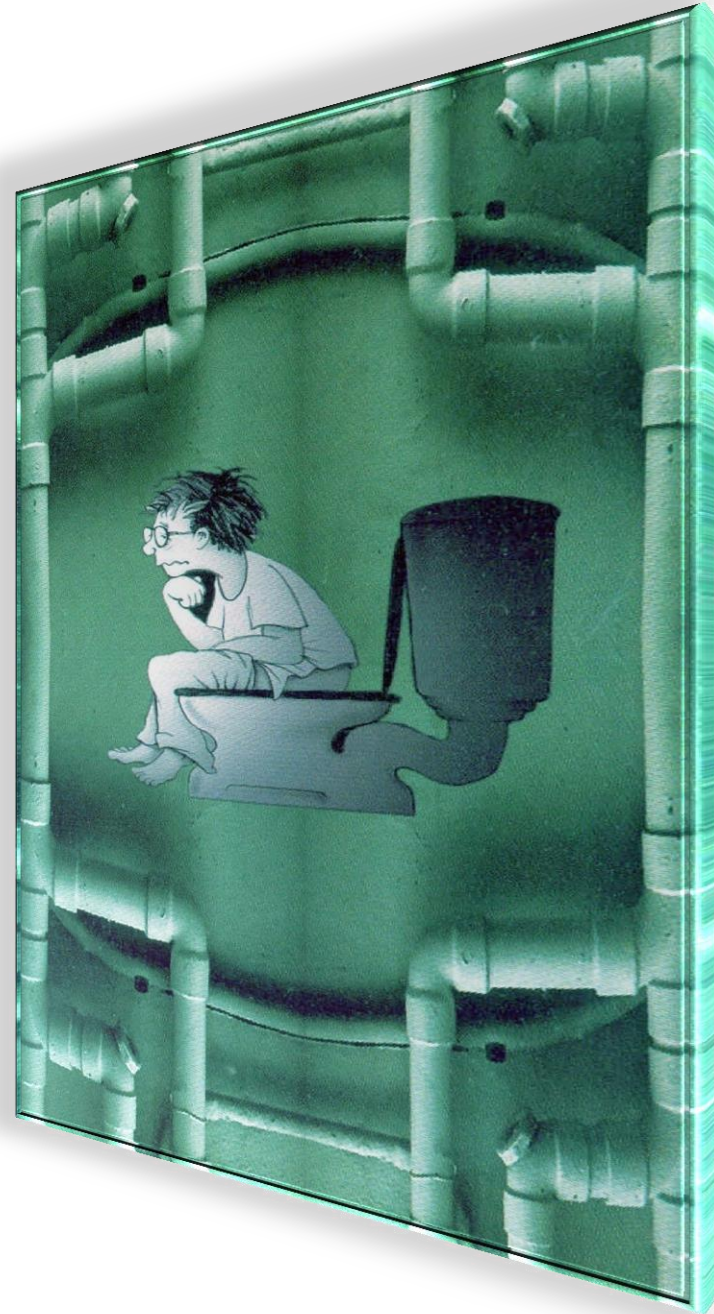


# On-Site Sanitation (Containment) System

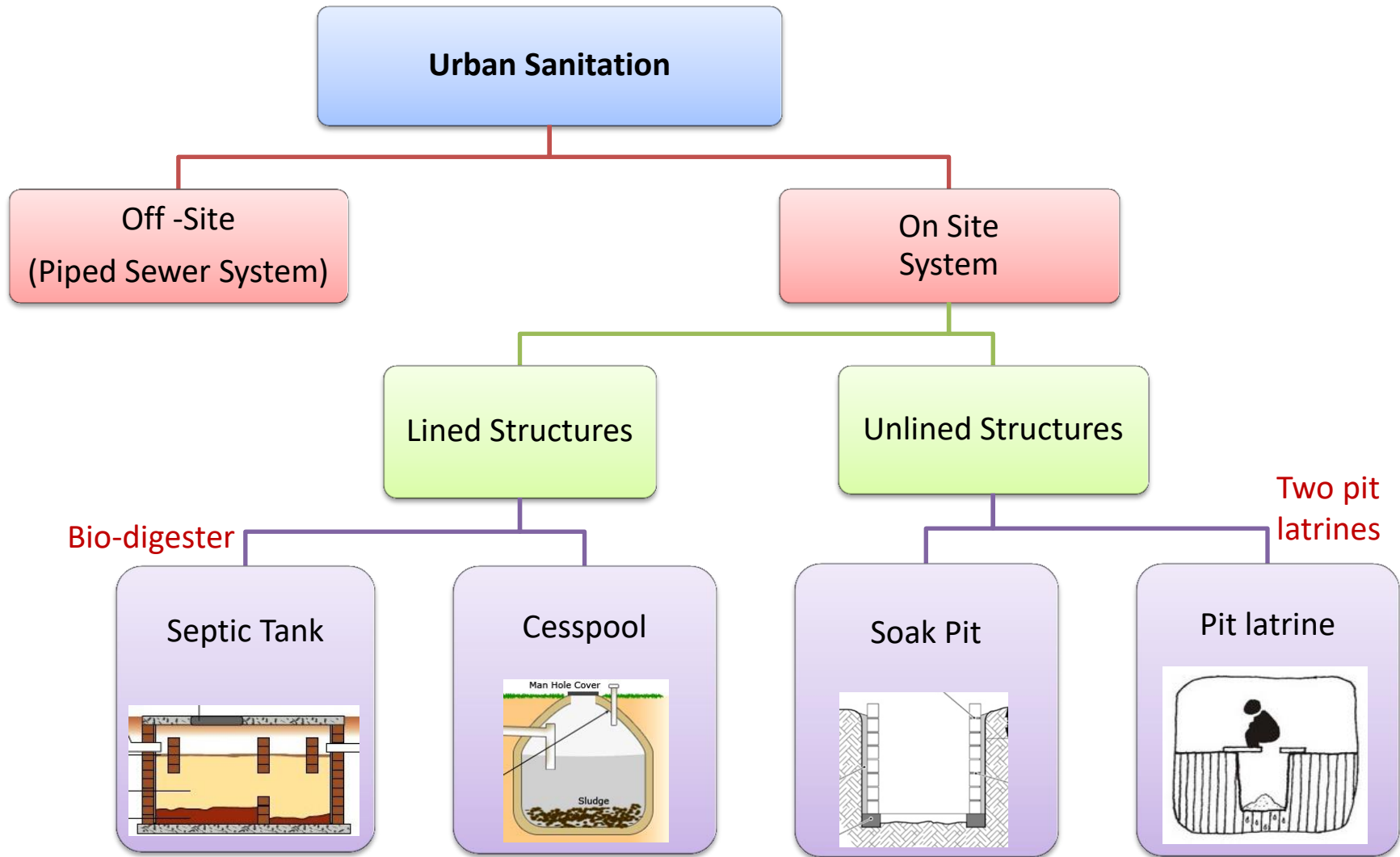
Bhitush Luthra (Email – [bhitush@cseindia.org](mailto:bhitush@cseindia.org))  
Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi



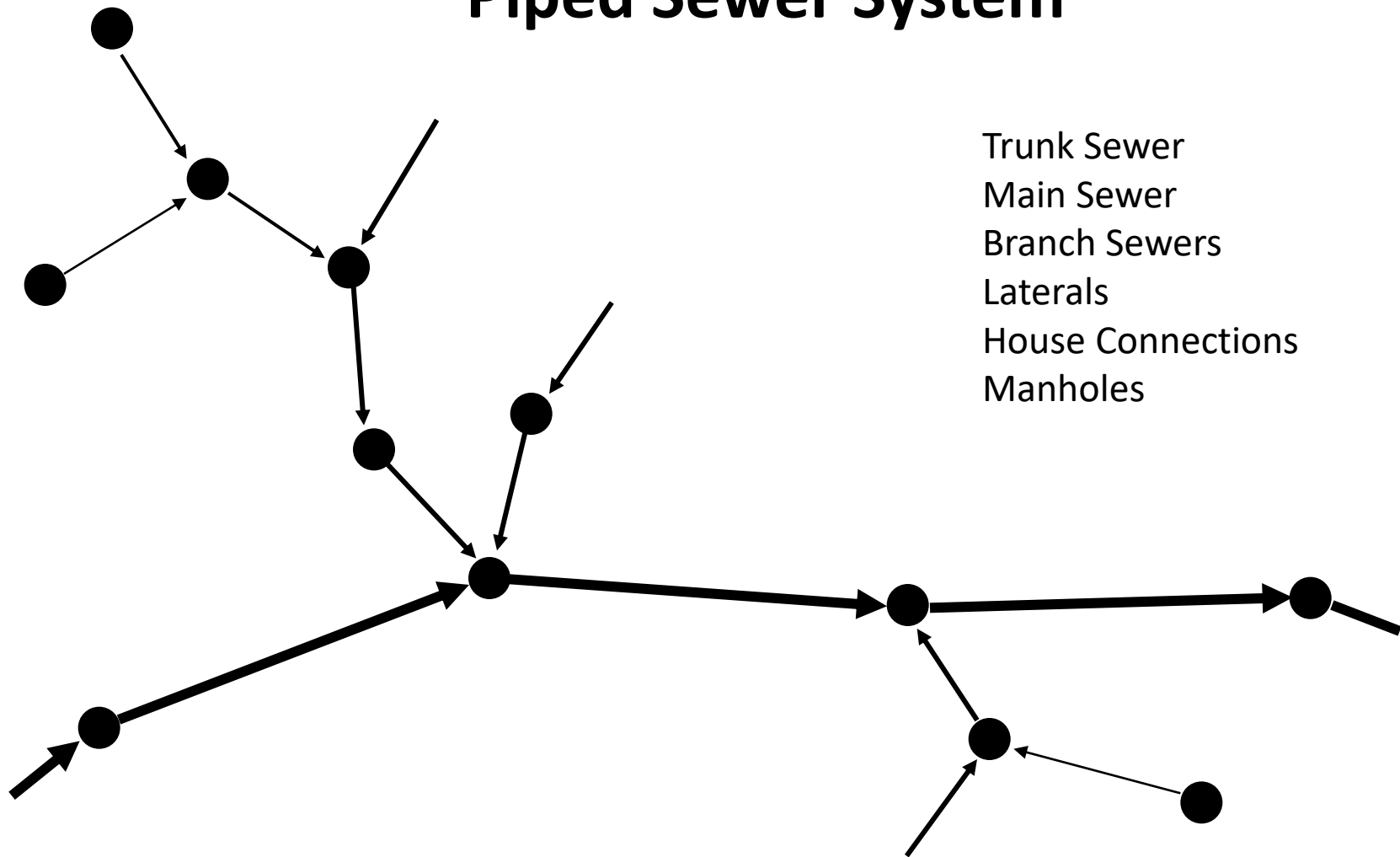
# Presentation covers

- Urban sanitation types
- On Site Sanitation systems
- **Septic Tanks**
  - Details
  - How to design?

# Urban Sanitation



# Piped Sewer System



# Piped Sewer System

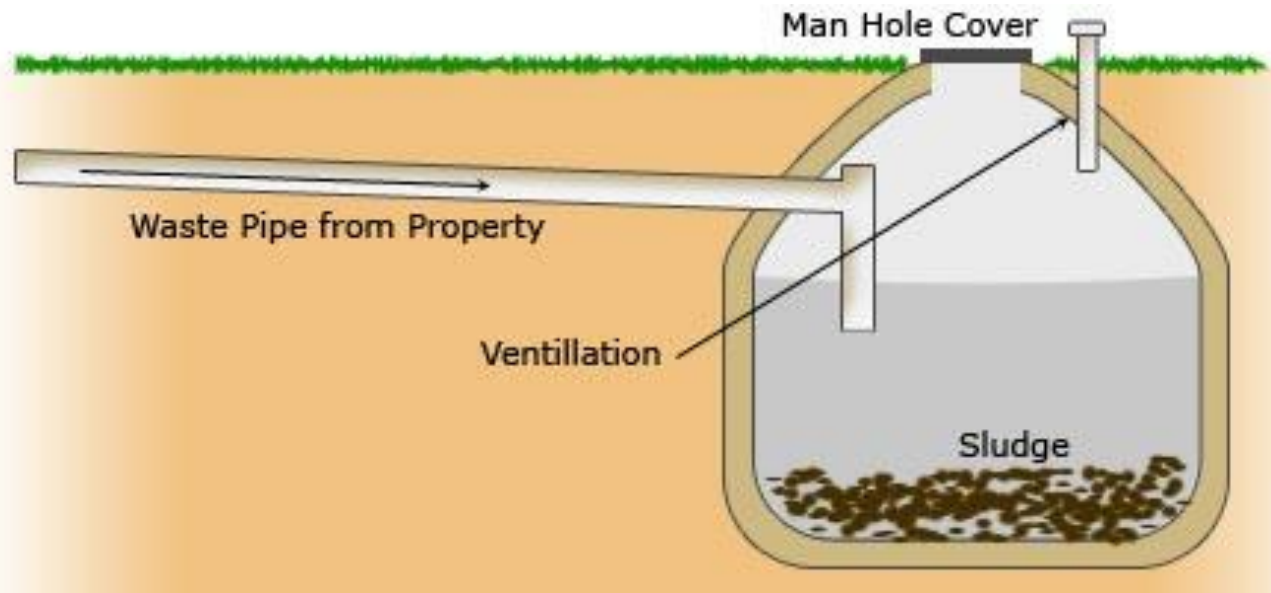
Advantages	Disadvantages
Convenience to the end user	High capital investment
Health risk is reduced	Needs a continuous and reliable supply of piped water
No nuisance from smells, mosquitoes or flies	Difficult to construct and costly to maintain in high-density areas
Moderate operation and maintenance costs	Problems associated with blockages of pipes and breakdown of pumping equipment may occur
	Recycling of nutrients and energy becomes difficult



# Onsite Sanitation in country

- Cesspool
- Pit latrines
- Ventilated Improved Pit latrines (VIP)
- Soak pit
- Small bore sewer system
- Septic tanks

# Cesspool



## Advantages

No contamination of ground water

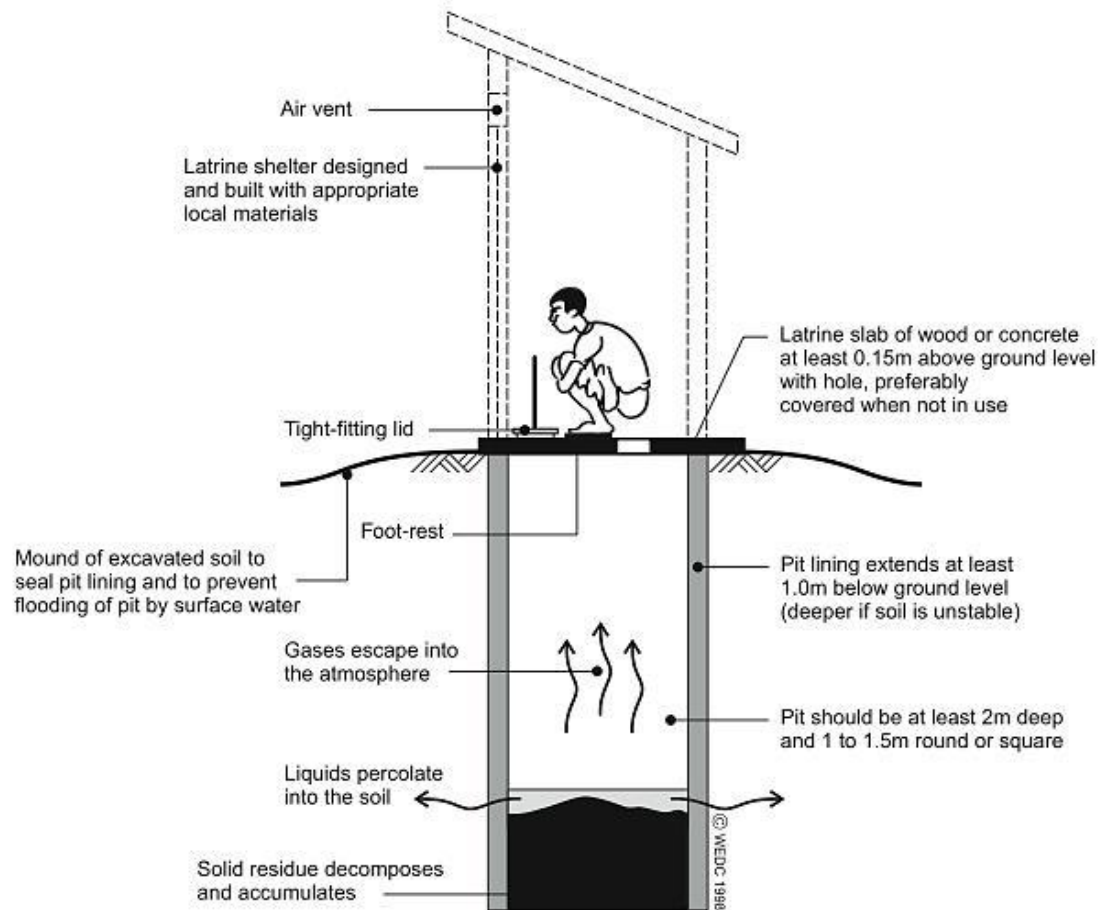
No nuisance from smells, mosquitoes or flies

## Disadvantages

Needs a frequent desludging, hence high operation and maintenance cost

Difficult to maintain in high-density areas

# Pit Latrine



Source: Harvey et al

## Advantages

Does not require constant source of water

Low capital cost

## Disadvantages

Leachate can contaminate ground water

Flies and odor are noticeable

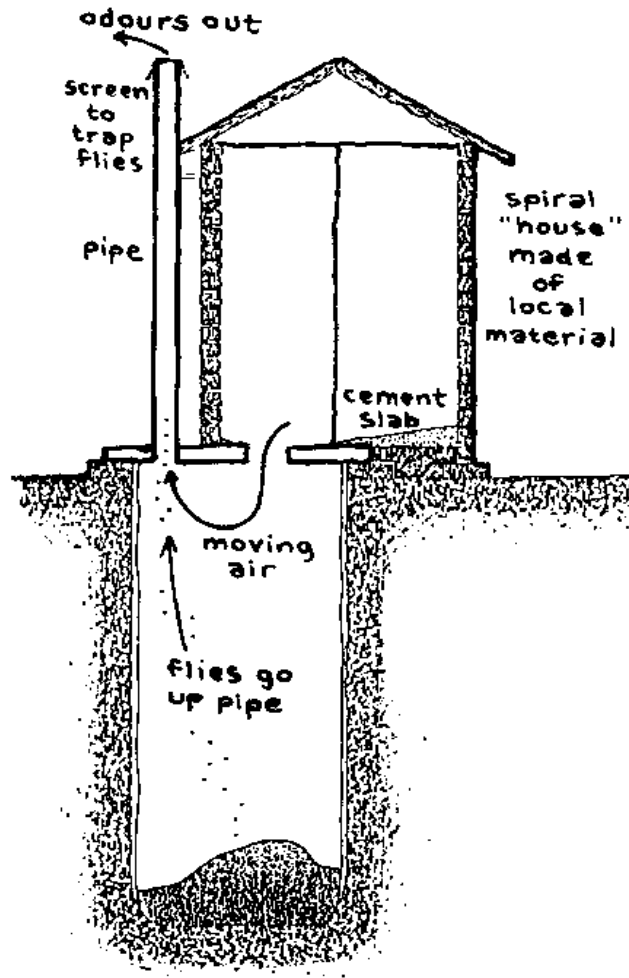
Pits may fail/overflow in case of flood

Stagnant water promotes insect breeding

Cost of emptying is high and may encourage scavenging



# Ventilated Improved Pit Latrine (VIP)



Source <http://www.ugandanetwork.org.uk>

## Advantages

- Flies and odor are significantly reduced
- Does not require constant source of water
- Low capital cost

## Disadvantages

- Leachate can contaminate ground water
- Health risks from flies, if not completely removed by ventilation
- Pits may fail/overflow in case of flood
- Stagnant water promotes insect breeding
- Manual emptying of the pit poses severe health hazard
- Low reduction of pathogens

# Soak Pit



## Advantages

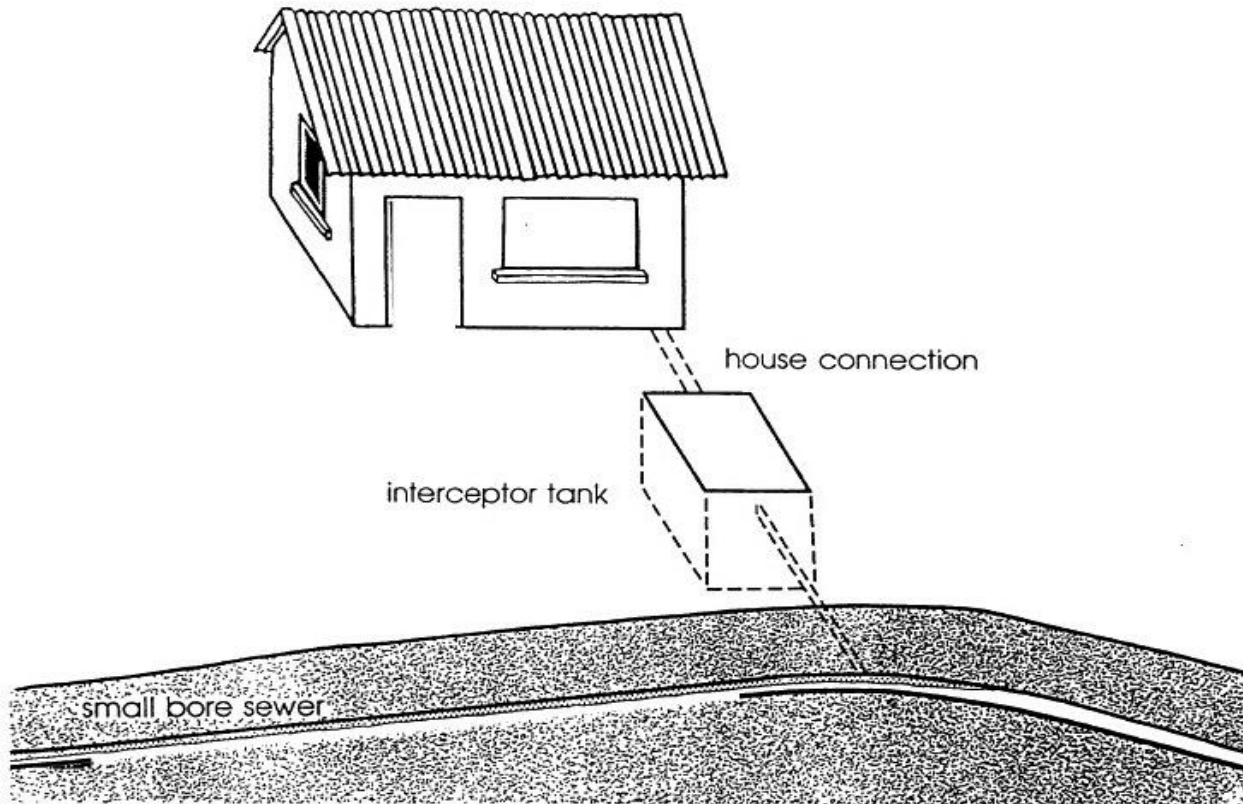
- Low capital cost and requires minimal operation & maintenance
- Small land area required
- Can be built and repaired with locally available materials and by the community

## Disadvantages

- High possibility of contaminating the ground water
- Pre treatment of effluent may be required to avoid clogging
- Should be avoided in places with high population density/ high ground water table/ where soil is majorly clay/ where areas are prone to floods



# Small bore sewer system

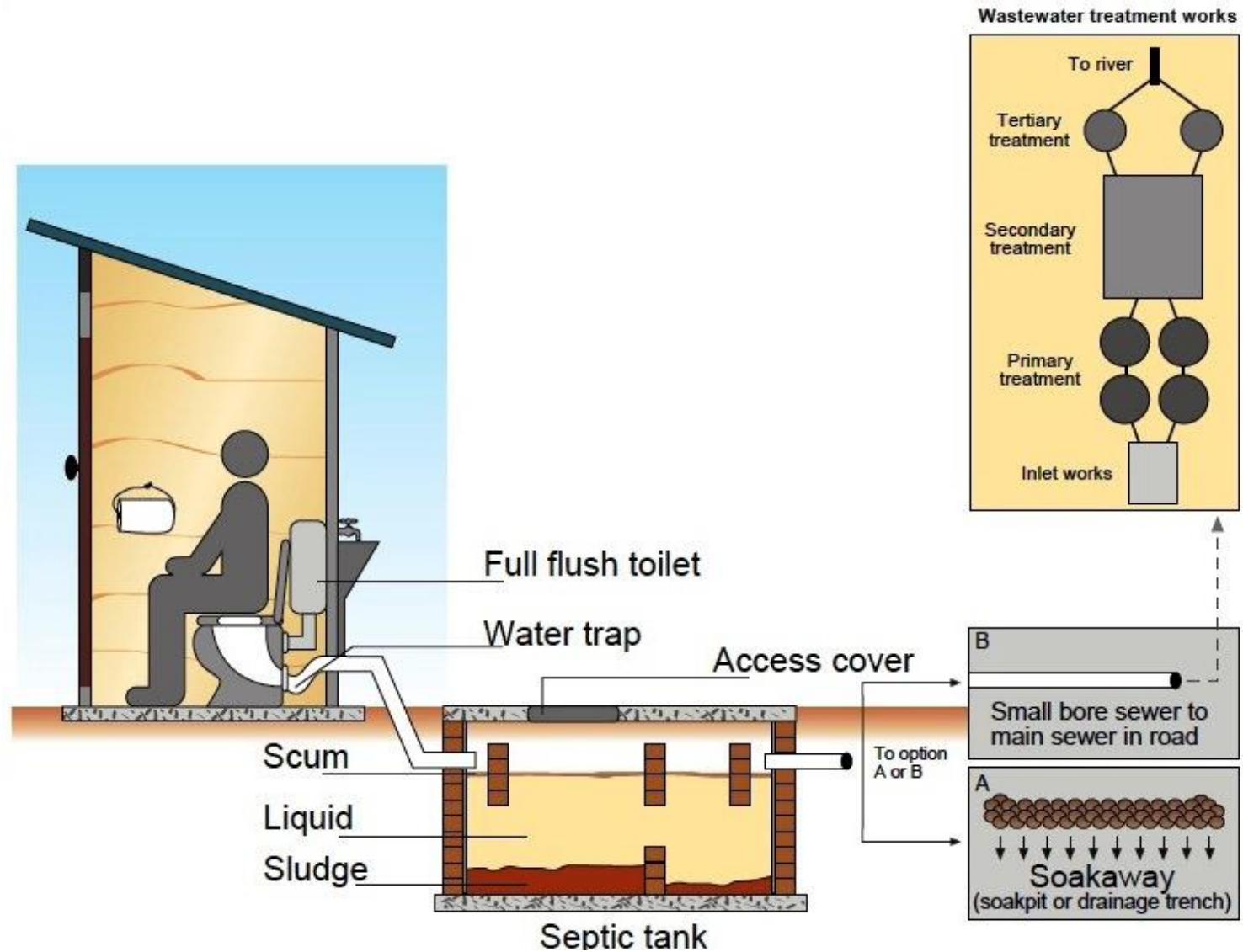


Small bore sewer system, also known as solids free sewer, divides the sewage into two components at the source itself using an interceptor.

Source: Otis & Mara



## Septic tank and soakaway or small bore solid-free sewer

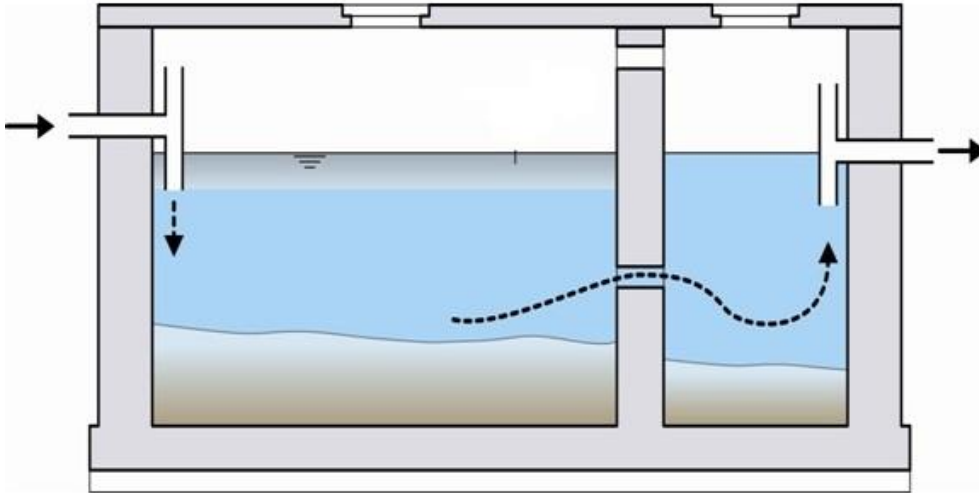


# Small bore sewer system

Advantages	Disadvantages
Reduced Water Requirements, since sewers are not supposed to carry any solids	Needs periodic evacuation and disposal of solids from each interceptor tank in the system.
Reduced excavation costs, since sewers don't require that much slope, as in the conventional sewer lines	Since the bore is small, there is a possibility of pipe getting choked with floating material
Reduced material costs, as pumps and pipes required are economical as dealing with only liquid	Requires expert design and construction supervision
Reduced treatment requirements, as pretreatment occurs at the interceptor itself	



# Septic Tank



- Septic tanks are generally designed only for black water
- Effluent from septic tank further needs secondary treatment

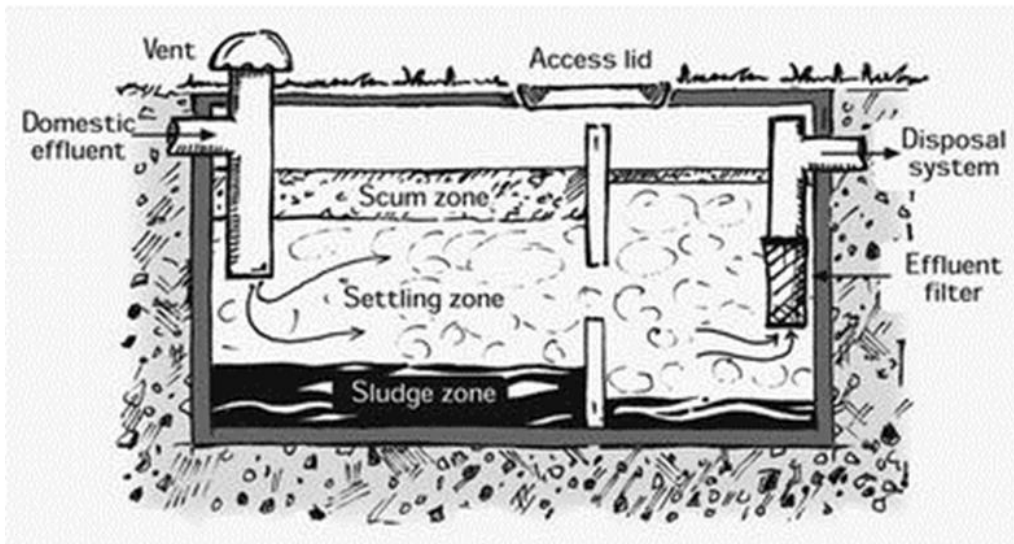
A sedimentation tank in which settled sludge is partially stabilised by anaerobic digestion

- most frequent onsite treatment unit worldwide
- Consists of 2 to 3 compartments

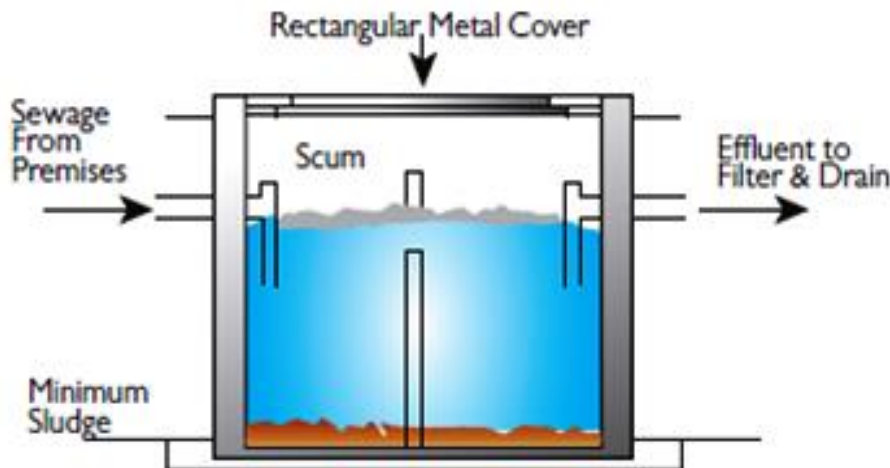
- + simple, little space required because of being underground
- + low O&M cost
- little removal of dissolved and suspended matter (BOD removal approx. 50%)
- high investment cost



# Septic Tank



Source: <http://www.nrc.govt.nz>



Source: AECOM, 2010

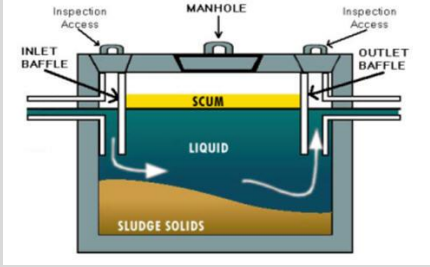
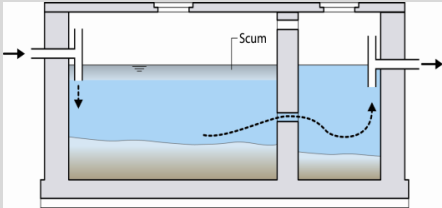
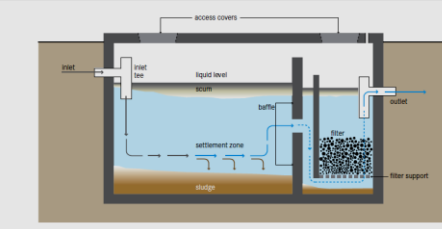
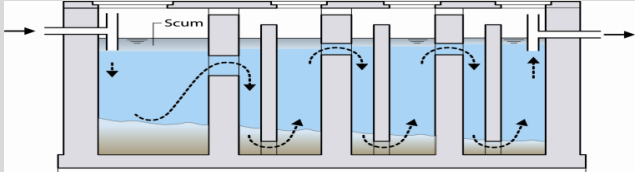
## Advantages

- No energy required, Long life
- Low capital and O&M cost
- Less space required (under ground)
- Biogas can be recovered

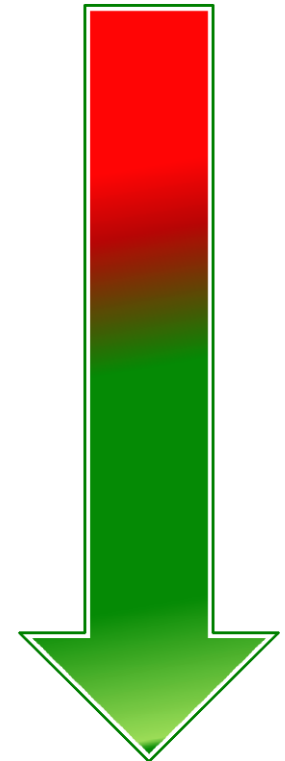
## Disadvantages

- High cost as compared to dry or composting toilet systems
- De-sludging required: Manual de-sludging is hazardous to health and mechanical de-sludging (vacuum trucks) requires the infrastructure

# Septic Tanks – Technical Options

Conventional Systems	Single chambered Septic Tank	
	Two chambered Septic Tank	
Improved Systems	Two chambered Septic Tank with filter	
	Anaerobic Baffled Reactor with Filter	

Less Efficient



More Efficient



# Designing of a Septic tank

- The tank should be large enough to provide space for sedimentation of solids, digestion of settled sludge, and storage of sludge and scum accumulated between successive cleaning.
- Septic tanks are generally designed for 24 hr. liquid retention time at average daily flow
- The flow of sewage is considered to be proportional to the number of fixture units discharging simultaneously.
- One fixture unit is treated as equivalent to the flow of 10l./min.



# Capacity of a Septic tank

Depends on

- **Sedimentation:** An area of  **$0.92 \text{ m}^2$**  is required for every  **$10 \text{ l./min.}$**  peak flow rate to support adequate sedimentation of suspended solids. **Generally depth of sedimentation zone is  $0.3 \text{ m}$ .**
- **Sludge Digestion:** Capacity of digestion zone works out to be  **$0.032 \text{ m}^3/\text{capita}$** .
- **Sludge and Scum Storage:** For interval of 1 year of sludge cleaning, a sludge storage capacity of  **$0.0002 * 365 = 0.073 \text{ m}^3/\text{capita}$**  is required.
- **Free Board:** at least  **$0.3 \text{ m}$**



# Specifications of a Septic Tank

- Rectangular: length to breath ratio: **3 to 1**
- Depth: between **1.0 to 2.5m**
- Two chambered: First chamber  $\frac{2}{3}$  of total length
- Three chambered: First chamber half of total length

Manholes above each chamber

Watertight, durable and stable tank

For more details see IS:2470 (part-ii) -1985

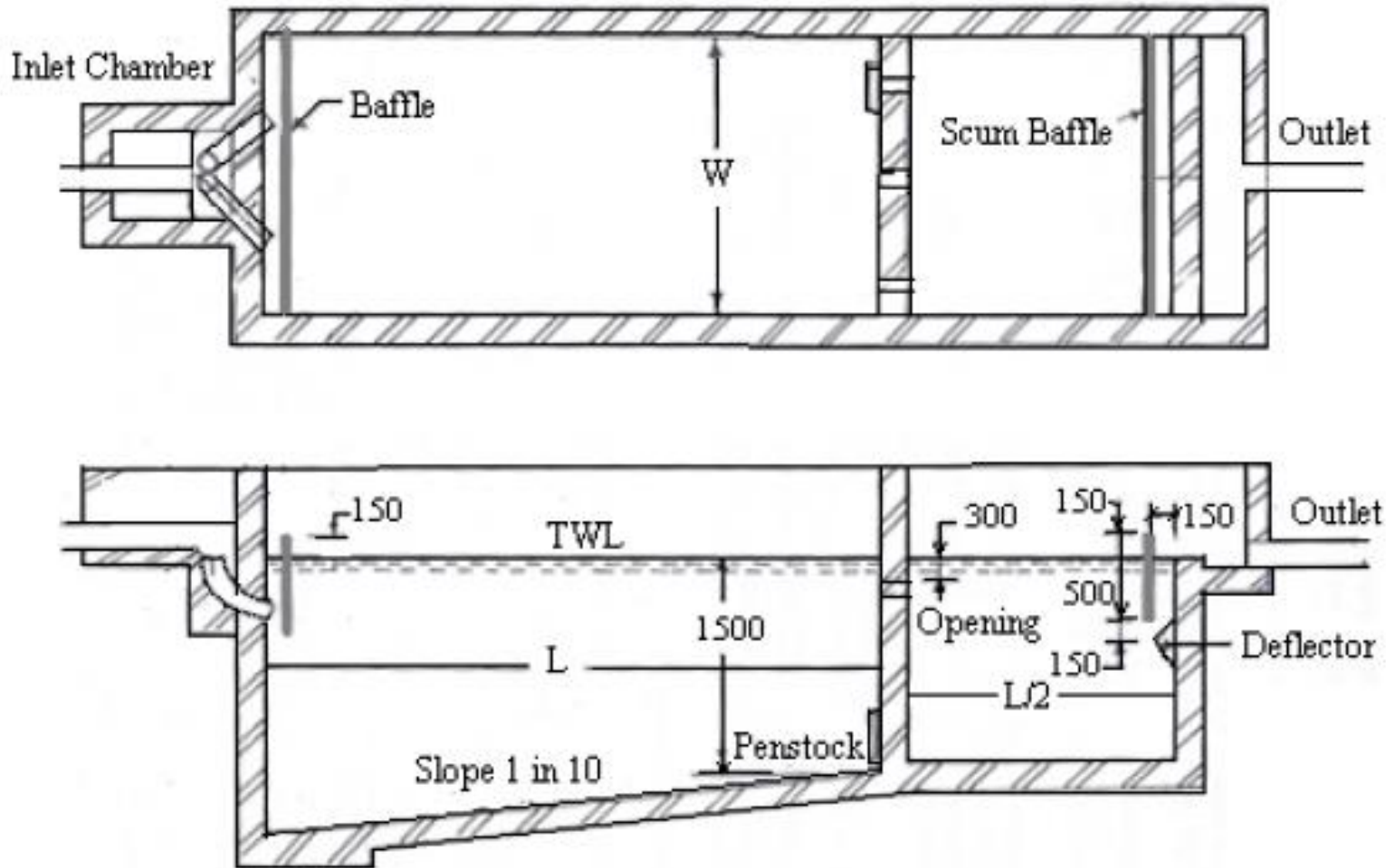


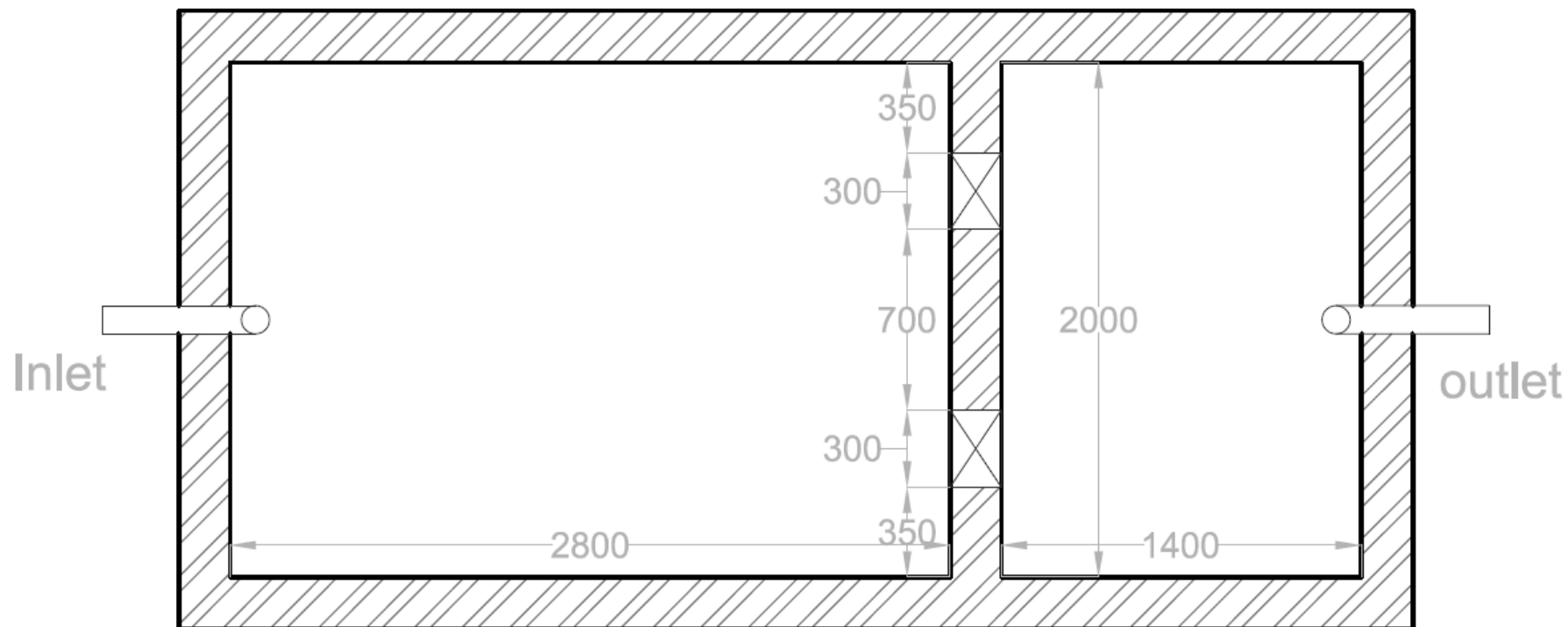
# Characteristics of wastewater to be considered for septic tank design

Average flow per capita	100 - 160 L/day
Peak flow per capita	170 - 270 L/day
BOD per capita	0.045 kg/day
Suspended solids per capita	0.070 – 0.090 kg/day
Soluble solids per capita	0.035 kg/day
Sludge accumulation per capita	0.073 m <sup>3</sup> /year



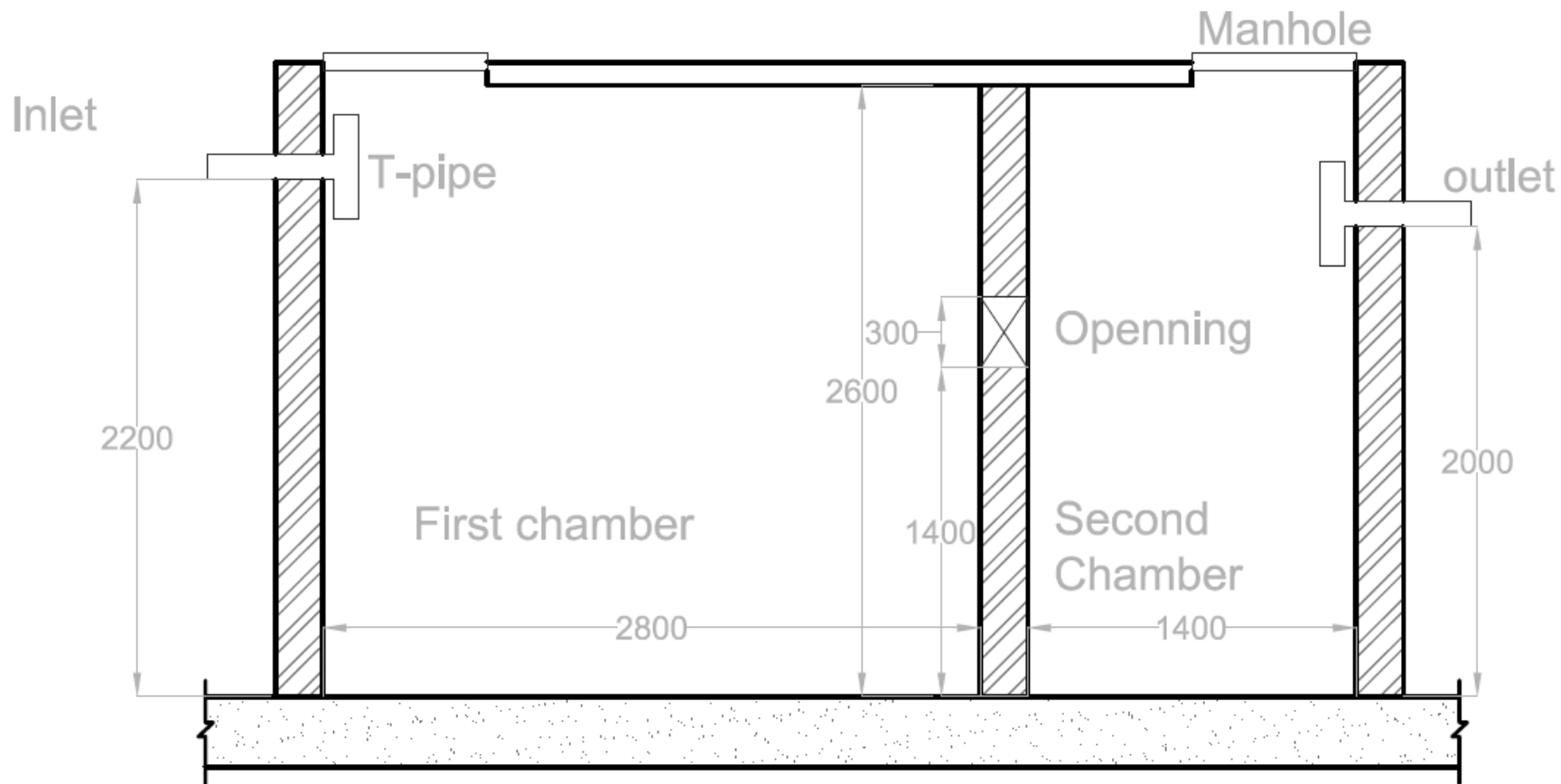
# Construction of a septic tank





Septic Tank Plan





Septic Tank Section



Thank You

