

CSE-WRC Online Orientation Workshop on SFD and City-Wide Sanitation Planning

July 8, 2022 | 11 AM – 1 PM (SAST) / 2:30 – 4:30 PM (IST)

Proceedings

Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), India conducted an '*Online Orientation Workshop on Shit Flow Diagram (SFD) and City-Wide Sanitation Planning*' in partnership with Water Research Commission (WRC), South Africa on 8th July, 2022 from 11 AM – 1 PM SAST. The workshop was aimed at providing context on SFDs, how they are developed, and their applicability in sanitation master-planning for South African practitioners. The workshop is precursor to an advanced onsite training on Preparation of SFD and its applicability in FSSM and City-Wide Sanitation. The workshop was attended by a total of 30 participants, which included officials from the Dept. of Water and Sanitation, Govt. of South Africa and consultants, academicians and researchers engaged in the sanitation sector. The speakers for the workshop were:

- Depinder Singh Kapur, Director, Water Programme, CSE
- Arne Panesar, Component Lead – Resilient WASH, GIZ
- Andre van der Walt, Chief Director: Sanitation Services Support, DWS Govt. of RSA
- Dr Sudhir Pillay, Research Manager – Sanitation, WRC
- Dhruv Pasricha, Dy. Programme Manager, Urban Water, CSE
- Harsh Yadava, Sr. Research Associate, Urban Water, CSE

Dr Sudhir Pillay, WRC and Dhruv Pasricha, CSE welcomed the participants for the workshop, and set the agenda for the workshop. Andre van der Walt, DWS provided the South African context for sanitation, stating the access to safe sanitation is a right of all citizens as per the Constitution of South Africa, and the Water Services Act talks about access to water supply and sanitation services, with the objective of improved health and safety of citizens. Further, he mentioned the aim to achieve the SDG 6.2, focussing on safely managed sanitation, and the need to address the entire sanitation value chain. Mr van der Walt stressed on the need for capacity building to achieve the local, national and international targets for sanitation. He mentioned the importance of the SFD tool as a baseline to plan for sanitation services, and how it can be used for planning, monitoring and implementation.

Depinder Kapur, CSE built upon the context and need assessment set forth by Mr van der Walt, and talked about the journey of safely managed sanitation from MDGs to SDGs, and how the SFD tool had brought focus on Onsite Sanitation Systems (OSS), which further built the case for Faecal Sludge and Septage Management (FSSM), in cities, as a way to address sanitation access and pollution of water bodies. He further advocated the use of SFDs in planning for, and implementing City-Wide Inclusive Sanitation (CWIS), and how the tool allowed for practitioners, regulators, planners, etc. to provide services by design, and not services by default.

Arne Panesar, GIZ introduced the SFD tool to the participants, and showcased the journey of the tool and SuSanA from 2013 onwards. He briefly explained the SFD approach, its purpose, methodology, scale of application and outputs. Further, he illustrated what the SFD graphic conveys, limitations of the tool and showcased the SFD portal, which has 222 SFD reports. Mr Panesar discussed the role of SFDs in City Sanitation Planning, and how the tool can be used to identify priorities, however, it needs to be augmented by the City Service Delivery Assessment (CSDA) Tool to inform about the enabling environment for sanitation services. Furthermore, he talked about how SFD is used as a monitoring tool, in addition to its use in advocacy. He showcased various examples of SFDs from Kenya, Uganda, Afghanistan, India, China, Indonesia, etc. and how these have been useful for various contexts – establishing baselines, gaining political support, and being used for monitoring.

Dr Sudhir Pillay, WRC provided a brief summary of South Africa's sanitation landscape and WRC's Brown Drop Initiative. He shared experiences from the existing eight SFDs for South Africa. He further provided insight into the requirements from participants to institutionalise SFDs – making data available and role of different practitioners in preparation of SFDs. Dr Pillay informed that as many as 36 SFDs are to be prepared over the course of the year under the Brown Drop Initiative.

Dhruv Pasricha, CSE showcased India's SFD journey, on how the SFD tool has been utilised in India for excreta management in urban areas. He showcased how SFD has been used as an advocacy tool to mainstream FSSM in the Ganga Basin and the state of Uttar Pradesh, and how cities of different populations benefit from the SFD analysis. He further showcased the use of SFDs for city sanitation planning, as an important baseline and monitoring tool in Bijnor, Uttar Pradesh. Mr Pasricha further discussed the role of SFDs in mapping inequity across the sanitation value chain, thereby providing opportunity to implement decentralised solutions and identification of priorities. He concluded with CSE's journey of SFDs: developing SFDs for 130+ cities across India, Bangladesh and South Africa.

Harsh Yadava, CSE presented on the data requirements for preparation of the SFD, and the various data sources for the same. Further, he discussed the mixed method approach to prepare the SFD, and the methodology tested and customised by CSE to prepare SFDs. He supported this with various examples from the field on primary surveys: observations of various OSS, Focussed-Group Discussions (FGDs) and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs). Mr Yadava also discussed the methodology for triangulation of data, and concluded with the different levels of SFD reports.

The presentations were followed by an interactive Q/A session, moderated by Mr Kapur and Dr Pillay, with discussion around the type of SFDs which are to be developed, the process of data collection, timeline for preparation and publishing of reports, and the scale of SFDs to be prepared: low-income settlement, city, county. The workshop was concluded with the way forward, and vote of thanks.