Issues and Solutions around Sanitation in East Africa
- Key issues, institutional support structures & technological options

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Background

• East Africa, like much of sub-Saharan Africa is rapidly urbanizing
• Many towns are moving toward city status, this puts pressure on water and sanitation services
• Sanitation services in informal settlements are particularly challenging
• More efforts are required to be in place to address sanitation challenges in East Africa to meet SDG 6 and Ngor Declaration on Sanitation and Hygiene
3 main issues facing EA in sanitation:

- Elimination of Open Defecation
- Implementation of sustainable and inclusive FSM services
- Maintenance of sanitation facilities
Some key Challenges of Sanitation in East Africa

- Lack of city-wide inclusive sanitation approach and fully costed plans for universal access
- Limited understanding on how sustainable sanitation services can be provided in small towns or urban growing centers
- Context specific sanitation options for small and growing towns
- Operation and maintenance of water and sanitation infrastructure
- Minimal private sector involvement
- Overwhelmed WASH services in HCFs during COVID-19
- HR gaps in times of pandemics have tested capacities of government’s oversight function with quality of service dropping
- Challenges in identifying & targeting the poor and most excluded
- Adequate data utilisation to inform policy and planning including emergency response remains an issue.
Delivering sustainable and inclusive services along the whole sanitation chain is important to fulfill the **rights** to people to sanitation access and for universal coverage.

WASH services are an essential part of **preventing and protecting** human health during disease outbreaks like the current COVID-19 pandemic.

WaterAid understands that an enabling environment within current complex systems like behaviour, policies, processes, resources, interactions and institutions are necessary for delivery of inclusive, lasting, universal access to WASH.

Resource allocation by the public sector on sanitation and hygiene programmes according to NGOR commitments.
WaterAid initiative in East Africa: Examples from Tanzania

- Testing and scaling up technologies and sanitation business models that address operations and maintenance.

- WaterAid Tanzania has modelled the Decentralized Waste Water Treatment Systems (DEWATS), an innovation that is serving the densely populated areas and creating employment for young people & women.

- This model has been adopted by the World Bank and is being scaled up in other locations in Tanzania mainland and recently in Zanzibar & also being considered for implementing our small towns projects in Ethiopia by WaterAid.
• In Pursuit of the NGOR commitment on Private sector engagement and Financing – WaterAid Tanzania has supported the Govt of Tanzania (Ministry of Water) to organize a first WASH private sector forum. Resulting in the establishment of a fully fledged WASH PPP taskforce and special desk for private sector within the ministry of Water.

• To operationalise the WASH PPP Microfinance Institutions in Tanzania have developed new financial products to support Sanitation, Creating opportunities for Households, Water & Sanitation entrepreneurs access to funds for investing in Sanitation services. WAT is working closely with Unit Trust of Tanzania (UTT) & Tujijenge Microfinance Institutions. There are on going discussions & plans with the Ministry of Water to extend loans to Water utilities in Tanzania.
Piloting innovations for sustainable rural water supply:

- The sustainability of rural water systems remains a huge challenge in Tanzania. Data shows that 40% of the water points in rural areas are non-functional.

- WAT is working in partnership with the eWater Company in piloting eWATERpay technology in Arusha and Manyara regions of Tanzania.

- The technology guarantees 100% collection of user fees and makes money available for O&M, guarantee 24/7 access to water supply and therefore communities, especially women and girls can use their time well in other activities. Additionally, the system allows remote monitoring of the water points functionality and therefore guaranteeing timely and reliable repair maintenance of water systems, it reduces re-investment cost of the Government especially when the system breaks up.

- Collected money can repair and allow the Government funds to be channeled to new projects

- It Provides real time data which is useful for the water point mapping updating system of the Government.
WaterAid initiative in East Africa: Examples from Tanzania

Piloting innovations for sustainable rural water supply:
• WAT is scaling up the use of solar pumping Technology in its water supply schemes in Arusha, Manyara & in the WASH in Health care facility project in Geita region of Tanzania.

• The solar pumping systems, among others have the following advantages;

  It lowers life cycle cost compared to diesel,

  O&M cost is much lower compared to diesel powered systems

  It is appropriate for the rural settings because it is easier to maintain and repair

  the technology is environmentally friendly; no carbon emission and can be upgraded to match water system needs.
Development of full SFD report for six urban towns available online. This has helped the small towns to plan and adopt appropriate technologies such as the DEWATS.

Two towns have been supported with 3 wheeler fecal waster collection trucks. These are cheaper to hire and can access narrow roads in densely populated areas.

EM5

Open defecation free campaign... supported the Government
Elizabeth Mwambulukutu, 26-06-2020
WaterAid initiative in East Africa: Examples from Ethiopia

20 towns capacity development project (phase I)

- Development of full SFD report for six urban towns (Hawassa, Bishoftu, Holleta, Bure, Axum, Bahirdar and Axum) available online [www.sfd.susana.org](http://www.sfd.susana.org)

- Support of **3-wheel fecal waste collection trucks** for MSEs organized in two selected project towns (Bishoftu and Finote Selam)

- National advocacy and influencing on sanitation
WaterAid initiative in East Africa: Examples from Ethiopia

- Lessons learnt from WA Bangladesh on FS treatment & co-compost plant led to the piloting of FS treatment plant.
- In 2019/20, WaterAid started the first in its kind FS treatment and co-compost plant project in Ethiopia (Finote Selam Town) which is under construction and to be operational in 2021. This will be extended to other towns.
In Rwanda and Uganda, WaterAid has collaborated with the Government to develop guidelines for sanitation facilities in schools.

Inclusion of Menstrual Hygiene Management Facilities through the guidelines, resulting in reductions in girls absenteeism in schools.
Thank you!