

Phase II Research in Tanzania

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Achieving universal access to adequate, sustainable and equitable sanitation and hygiene services in the Cities of Tomorrow.

BRIEFING NOTE

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Start-up workshop in Babati Town, Tanzania.

Background

Rapid urbanisation without the corresponding expansion of sanitation and hygiene services is a growing global concern. An estimated 66% of the world's population will live in a town or city by 2050, and the most adverse effects will be felt in Africa and Asia where 90% of population growth will occur (UN, 2014). In Tanzania, cities are growing at nearly twice the rate of the country's annual population growth (UN, 2014). More than half of the urban population in Tanzania do not have access to improved toilets (WHO/UNICEF, 2015) and compliances of good hygiene practices is very much low.

Densely populated, unplanned urban settlements with inadequate sanitation and hygiene services pose a significant health risk and have wider impacts on education, livelihoods and wellbeing (McMichael, 2000) and overall human dignity.

Strategic and integrated urban planning is essential to the success of any sanitation programme (Luthi et al, 2011). However, a recent

study to evaluate sanitation efforts and planning processes found that whilst urban sanitation planning theory has evolved from an engineering focus to being more participatory, multidisciplinary and user focused, ‘urban planning does not feature at all in the literature as a key driver for improving sanitation provision’ (Partnerships in Practice, 2015)

Aims and objectives

Aims: First, to contribute to the sector’s understanding of how to achieve universal access to sanitation and hygiene in urban areas. Second, to demonstrate the conditions under which municipalities and citizens can co-produce and implement a town-wide sanitation and hygiene plan that can deliver inclusive and sustainable sanitation services to all.

Objectives:

1. To understand what motivates and drives people (households) to invest in and improve sanitation and hygiene practices in an urban context;
2. To understand what drives institutions (government, donors, non-governmental organisations, authorities) and the private sector to invest and/or improve sanitation and hygiene practices in an urban context;
3. To understand the main economic, social, political and institutional determinants of success for urban authorities to design and implement an inclusive sanitation and hygiene plan;
4. To understand the risks and potential factors (including public health hazards) that relate to (drive) hygiene and sanitation behaviour change;
5. To develop a Babati town-wide sanitation and hygiene adaptive master plan that promotes inclusive, sustainable and affordable hygiene and sanitation services for all.

Project overview

This multi-phased study will work closely with key stakeholders to produce a town-wide sanitation and hygiene plan. The first phase will involve qualitative and quantitative data collection to better understand economic conditions, hygiene practices, incentives for sanitation investment and risks related to poor sanitation. This involves conducting: a literature review, formative research, a baseline study, social-economic-political analysis, a pilot (demonstration of approaches) and contextual analysis.

The second phase will see a participatory planning process being used to develop a series of modules for scenario building informed by research. These modules will prioritise the town’s sanitation

needs and identify key planning strategies, action and goals related to sanitation and hygiene coverage and services.

During the third phase key stakeholders will interrogate the proposed scenarios and together identify a scenario(s) to be included in the town-wide plan. It is expected that this plan will be signed-off by the Town Council and harmonised with financial resources and investment plans, enabling frameworks, operation plans, as well as monitoring and evaluation processes.



One of the open solid waste collection site in Babati Town, Tanzania.

Relevance and uptake

Rapid urbanisation in Tanzania, coupled with new global targets for universal sanitation access, render this study hugely relevant both to Tanzania and to other countries seeking to find viable ways forward for urban sanitation and hygiene.

During all phases of the research policy briefs and peer-reviewed papers will be produced describing pathways to town-wide sanitation and hygiene, and conditions for scale-up. The research team will be working closely with sector institutions in Tanzania - including key government ministries and departments responsible for health, sanitation, housing and human settlements - to use and apply the findings from the research.

Find out more

Listen to the reflections of co-PI, Timeyin Uwejamomere of WaterAid, on this project: <https://youtu.be/jxXjR28tBCM>

Sign up to the SHARE newsletter to keep up-to-date with this and other interesting projects: <http://bit.ly/1GrEEi8>

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Contributors



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