



Water Sanitation & Hygiene Partnerships for Learning and Sustainability (WASHPaLS) Project

Global Call for Data and Research Collaboration

The CLTS “Performance Envelope”

Background Community-led Total Sanitation (CLTS) represents a revolution in the fight to end open defecation, with large-scale programs in place and embedded in national policy in dozens of countries.

In their *Handbook on Community-Led Total Sanitation*, Kar and Chambers (2008) identified an array of variables thought to make program success more or less likely. Among these “favorability” factors are small community size, remoteness, social and cultural homogeneity, the presence of young and progressive local leadership, the absence of prior sanitation hardware subsidies, elevated enteric disease, and favorable soil conditions.

More generally, practitioners and researchers agree that the ability of CLTS to bring about significant reductions in open defecation is a function of factors related to the community itself, the quality of program implementation, and the broader operating environment.

Research objective The USAID-supported Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Partnerships and Learning for Sustainability (WASHPaLS) project is asking what existing M&E data can tell us about what drives CLTS success.

Do some factors matter more than others? Are there universal determinants of CLTS program performance? What are the specific contours of a “performance envelope” for CLTS in different settings? Is it possible to derive country-specific proxy indicators that are both reliable and sufficiently simple that implementing organizations can employ them to support program execution, including decisions about where and when to target implementation and how intensively to conduct follow-up activities?

Work with us To attempt to answer these questions, we are seeking as much CLTS program and performance data as we can find from implementing organizations and/or oversight authorities:

Required Parameters

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Georeferenced triggered community locations• Dates of triggering• Current status (OD vs ODF)• Date of ODF declaration | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community size and demographics• Baseline latrine coverage• Post-triggering latrine coverage• Follow-up frequency or other information on implementation intensity |
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Electronic data are preferred, and we commit to maintaining the anonymity of data sources where it would be a condition of information sharing. If your organization can contribute to this research effort or you would like to learn more, please contact us at caroline.delaware@washpals.org.