

The Reflections of SanMark in Timor-Leste

Session 3b: Sanitation Marketing / WASH Markets

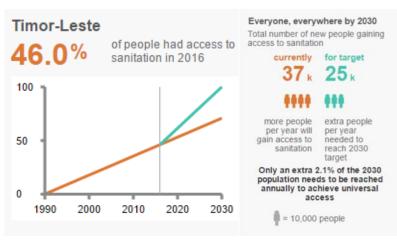
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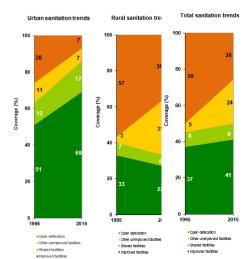






Why we undertook this activity/approach







Source: WASHwatch.org, 2016 and JMP, 2015







What we've achieved to date

Period	Milestone
Before 2007	Subsidy
2007	CLTS is introduced
2007-2012	SanMark concept is introduced (i.e. research, production centre, product development, etc.)
2012	National Policy on Basic Sanitation which includes principle of CLTS+
Beginning of CS WASH project: After 2012 – Phase 1	 SanMark activities based on IDE & BESIK recommendations. Develop product options with local entrepreneurs Inclusive toilets Spare part kiosks & supply chains People are not receiving subsidies, but are sourcing materials from markets etc. where possible to build their toilets, they are not choosing the product options from entrepreneurs Integrated WASH approach that strengthens communities and



2016-2017 -

Phase 2



empowers the most marginalised



WaterAid is responding to context specific lessons and challenges to



What resources were required (financial, human resources/skills)





- Materials sourced outside Timor no production in the country including cement (this just changed!)
- Sanitation Marketing and general marketing skills not easily available in Timor
- WaterAid and partner staff with strong connection to communities and small business
- Time especially important as economic activity was so nascent, as well as building skills (triggering, sales, production) in Timor-Leste

Challenges

Demand creation:

- Quality triggering and follow up
- Reliance on subsidy
- Government desire to help communities with subsidy
- Scepticism about output of CLTS
- Lack of unifying approach on sanitation

Supply related:

- Products still quite expensive (>\$60)
- All cement imported and often all bought for large govt projects
- High transportation cost (>\$200)
- Low purchasing power
- Small market size
- Business model not ideal





What we would do differently next time

- Spend more time adapting the recommended external model to realities of local context
- However, some lessons needed to be learnt, national commerce needed to develop, sector needed time to come together on key positions



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What we are changing now to adapt to new knowledge and context changes:

- Trialling the lighter, plastic, washable, product, American Standard Sato Pan from Bangladesh through an existing supply chain that is being used to distribute high efficiency stove, solar panel and agricultural products to reach rural communities and possibility of involving water user groups on product promotions.
- Piloting the 'smart' subsidy approaches with a sanitation rebates model
- Collaboration with other sector actors and NGOs to build a shared body of evidence and learnings
- Improving on empowerment and inclusion for People with disabilities to lead the development process of appropriate toilet adaptations



Potential wider applicability of this approach by other actors (CSO or other)

- Learnings are applicable across Timor and are being shared with the sector and government.
- New push for decentralisation moves more responsibility to Municipalities
- Emerging research from the project area by BESIK and WaterAid shows greater sustainability of ODF behaviour change if people have purchased/constructed an improved desirable latrine
- Outside of Timor, learnings would be useful for low resource post conflict or post disaster settings
- Approach to develop fully integrated WASH community development process with focus on empowering the most marginalised provides a good model and lessons for others, especially where struggling with sanitation as a stand alone initiative.



