Webinar Follow-up to:

The Sanitation Ladder: Next Steps

thematic discussion

Summary of the Thematic Discussion

Presented by: Roslyn Graham

March 26, 2015
The Sanitation Ladder Discussion: What took place?

**When:** February 9-27, 2015

**Where:** SuSanA Discussion Forum

**Who:** led by 3 thematic leads and had over 60 posts from 14 participants (SuSanA members)

Thematic Leads

Patrick Bracken
Elisabeth Kvarnström
Ricard Gine
### Discussion: Sanitation Ladder

#### Table 2 | Suggested function-based sanitation ladder*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Management needs</th>
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<td><strong>Environmental functions</strong></td>
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<td>3 Greywater management</td>
<td>(i) No stagnant water in the compound, (ii) no stagnant water in the street, (iii) no mosquitoes or other vectors</td>
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<td>2 Safe access and availability</td>
<td>(i) 24 hr access to facility year-round, (ii) facility offering privacy, personal safety and shelter, (iii) facility is adapted to needs of the users of the facility</td>
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*Note: that moving up the ladder means that the functions below have also been fulfilled.

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**Proposed functions-based sanitation ladder**

(Kvarnström et al., 2011)

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**Technology-focused sanitation ladder**

(JMP, 2008)
The Sanitation Ladder Discussion: What took place?

Three Themes

**Week 1:** Evolution and Further Development of the Sanitation Ladder

**Week 2:** The post-2015 agenda & emerging monitoring challenges in the sanitation sector

**Week 3:** The way forward...adaptation of the sanitation ladder to the post-2015 period

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The Sanitation Ladder: Next Steps discussion
Proposed SDG Targets

- **Target 6.1** by 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.

- **Target 6.2** by 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all, and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.

- **Target 6.3** by 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and increasing recycling and safe reuse by [x] per cent globally.

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Defining what is “safe”/ adequate

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**SDGs “safely managed sanitation”**

**MDGs “improved sanitation” (handwashing not included)**
Setting system boundaries in areas with varying levels of sanitation service

How to include household vs. non-household, rural vs. urban, low-income vs. developed

Scope of the functional ladder

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Inclusion of advantaged and disadvantaged populations in the ladder: without separate marginalised systems for the poor

Disaggregated analysis needed to measure equity?

What are influencing aspects? Ex. affordability, “for all”, gender, location

Can these concepts explicitly fit in the ladder?

Considerations for including: Equity Equality Human Rights

Including vulnerable populations: should some communities be prioritized?

Universal Declaration of Human Rights: the provision of sanitation is a legally claimable right for ALL

Progressive realisation of Human Rights – measuring rate of change. Includes dimensions of economics, enabling environment and equity

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Complementary Approaches

After discussing some of the limitations of a ladder/functional ladder approach, some of the following complementary approaches were suggested to fill the gaps.

- **Index Approach** (ex. a score card or multi-part indicator) to reduce linearity
- **Service Level Approach** to reflect multiple dimensions
- **Good Practice Database of Case Studies** to support practical implementation
Adaptations of the functional ladder

Service Level Approaches

Source: IRC’s WASHCost Working Paper 3 (Potter, 2011)

Source: Florian Klingel (post on the Forum)
Adaptations of the functional ladder

Source: Orientation Framework: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (Ellert et al., 2013)
Key Issues Discussed

- Why a functional sanitation ladder (FSL)?
- Incorporating human rights, equity and safe sanitation
- Defining new roles for the FSL and adopting the FSL
- Considerations for Integrating Functionality and SDG Indicators
- Complementary frameworks and tools to the functional ladder