

# Sanitation system classification tool



Interactive tool for selecting appropriate sanitation systems from  
the SFD Selection Grid

# Sanitation system classification tool

The purpose of this classification tool is to help SFD producers select the most appropriate sanitation systems from the SFD Selection Grid.

By answering a series of questions on the types of sanitation technologies (toilets, sewers, septic tanks, pits, open drains etc) in use in their city and how they function, the tool will help identify which sanitation system to select from the selection grid.

## Now select the sanitation systems in use in your city or urban area

Use the cursor to hover-over the selection grid and then click on the selected systems.

RISK OF GROUNDWATER POLLUTION 

List A: Where does the toilet discharge to? (i.e. what type of containment technology, if any?)	List B: What is the containment technology connected to? (i.e. where does the outlet or overflow discharge to, if anything?)										
	to centralised combined sewer	to centralised foul/separate sewer	to decentralised combined sewer	to decentralised foul/separate sewer	to soakpit	to open drain or storm sewer	to water body	to open ground	to 'don't know where'	no outlet or overflow	
No onsite container. Toilet discharges directly to destination given in List B					Significant risk of GW pollution						Not Applicable
Septic tank					Low risk of GW pollution						
Fully lined tank (sealed)					Significant risk of GW pollution						
					Low risk of GW pollution						
Lined tank with impermeable walls and open bottom	High risk of GW pollution	High risk of GW pollution	High risk of GW pollution	High risk of GW pollution	High risk of GW pollution						High risk of GW pollution
Lined pit with semi-permeable walls and open bottom	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution						Low risk of GW pollution
Unlined pit	Not Applicable										High risk of GW pollution
Pit (all types), never emptied but abandoned when full and covered with soil											High risk of GW pollution
Pit (all types), never emptied, abandoned when full but NOT adequately covered with soil											Low risk of GW pollution
Toilet failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded											
Containment (septic tank or tank or pit latrine) failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded											
No toilet. Open defecation	Not Applicable										Not Applicable

**START CLASSIFICATION TOOL**

# Are toilets available and used or is open defecation practiced?

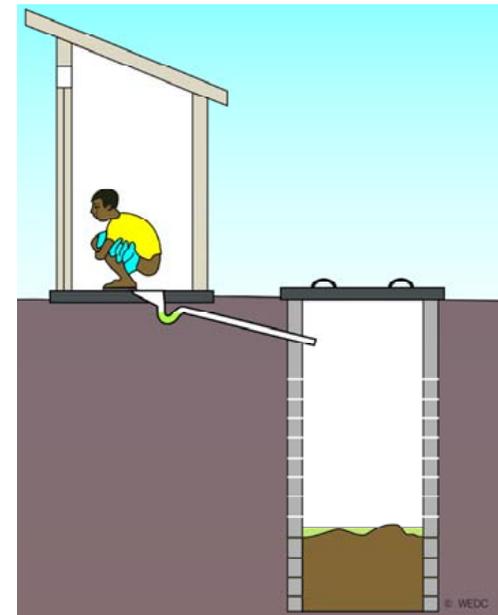
In order to correctly classify any sanitation system, the first question that needs to be answered concerns the availability of some form of toilet or latrine. If there are no facilities available or if the available facilities are not used, then open defecation could be practiced for example, where people defecate in fields, forests, bushes, bodies of water or other open spaces or use practices such as flying toilets. Please choose from the options below:

No toilet



No – there are no toilets or latrines available

Toilet available



Yes – toilets or latrines are available and are used

# Identifying the correct sanitation system

There are no toilets or latrines available, so open defecation is being practiced. By identifying where this practice is taking place, the correct cell(s) from the SFD selection grid should be selected from those highlighted below.

## Now select the sanitation systems in use in your city or urban area

Use the cursor to hover-over the selection grid and then click on the selected systems.

RISK OF GROUNDWATER POLLUTION 



List A: Where does the toilet discharge to? (i.e. what type of containment technology, if any?)	List B: What is the containment technology connected to? (i.e. where does the outlet or overflow discharge to, if any?)										
	to centralised combined sewer	to centralised foul/separate sewer	to decentralised combined sewer	to decentralised foul/separate sewer	to soakpit	to open drain or storm sewer	to water body	to open ground	to 'don't know where'	no outlet or overflow	
No onsite container. Toilet discharges directly to destination given in List B					Significant risk of GW pollution					Not Applicable	
Septic tank					Low risk of GW pollution						
Fully lined tank (sealed)					Significant risk of GW pollution						
					Low risk of GW pollution						
Lined tank with impermeable walls and open bottom	High risk of GW pollution	High risk of GW pollution	High risk of GW pollution	High risk of GW pollution	High risk of GW pollution					High risk of GW pollution	
Lined pit with semi-permeable walls and open bottom	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution					Low risk of GW pollution	
Unlined pit	Not Applicable										High risk of GW pollution
Pit (all types), never emptied but abandoned when full and covered with soil											High risk of GW pollution
Pit (all types), never emptied, abandoned when full but NOT adequately covered with soil											Low risk of GW pollution
Toilet failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded											
Containment (septic tank or tank or pit latrine) failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded											
No toilet. Open defecation	Not Applicable									Not Applicable	



Return to Start Screen

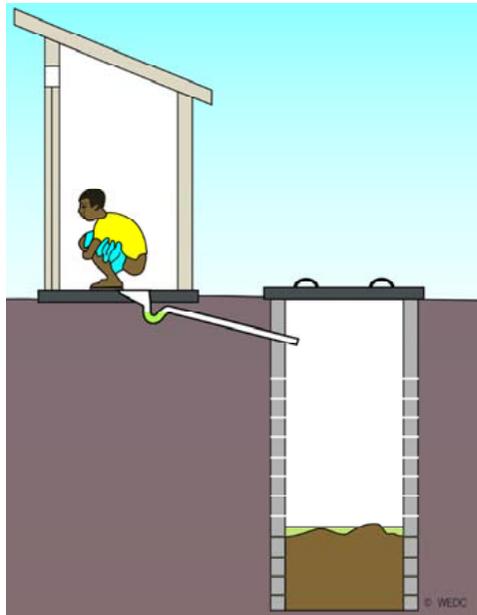
Back to previous step



# Is the toilet or latrine failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded?

If the toilet or latrine has become damaged, collapsed or failed in such a way that excreta is not contained, it could present a significant public health risk. Similarly, if the toilet has become flooded, excreta will not be contained and could present a significant public health risk, regardless of whether the toilet is still in use or not. Please choose from the options below:

Toilet is functioning correctly



Back to previous step

No – the toilet is neither damaged nor flooded and is functioning correctly

Toilet is failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded



Back to previous step

Yes – the toilet is failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded

# Identifying the correct sanitation system

If the toilet or latrine has either failed, been damaged, collapsed or become flooded, this option should be selected from the SFD selection grid. The correct cell to choose from the SFD selection grid should be based upon what the outlet from the containment technology is connected to (e.g. to a sewer, soakpit, open drain, storm sewer, water body open ground or an unknown destination) if an outlet is present, as shown below. If no outlet or overflow exists the right hand cell of the row should be selected.



## Now select the sanitation systems in use in your city or urban area

Use the cursor to hover-over the selection grid and then click on the selected systems.

RISK OF GROUNDWATER POLLUTION



List A: Where does the toilet discharge to? (i.e. what type of containment technology, if any?)	List B: What is the containment technology connected to? (i.e. where does the outlet or overflow discharge to, if anything?)										
	to centralised combined sewer	to centralised foul/separate sewer	to decentralised combined sewer	decentralised foul/separate sewer	to soakpit	to open drain or storm sewer	to water body	to open ground	to 'don't know where'	no outlet or overflow	
No onsite container. Toilet discharges directly to destination given in List B					Significant risk of GW pollution						Not Applicable
Septic tank					Low risk of GW pollution						
Fully lined tank (sealed)					Significant risk of GW pollution						
Lined tank with impermeable walls and open bottom	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution						Low risk of GW pollution
Lined pit with semi-permeable walls and open bottom											Low risk of GW pollution
Unlined pit											Low risk of GW pollution
Pit (all types), never emptied but abandoned when full and covered with soil											Low risk of GW pollution
Pit (all types), never emptied, abandoned when full but NOT adequately covered with soil											Low risk of GW pollution
Toilet failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded											
Containment (septic tank or tank or pit latrine) failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded											
No toilet. Open defecation	Not Applicable										Not Applicable

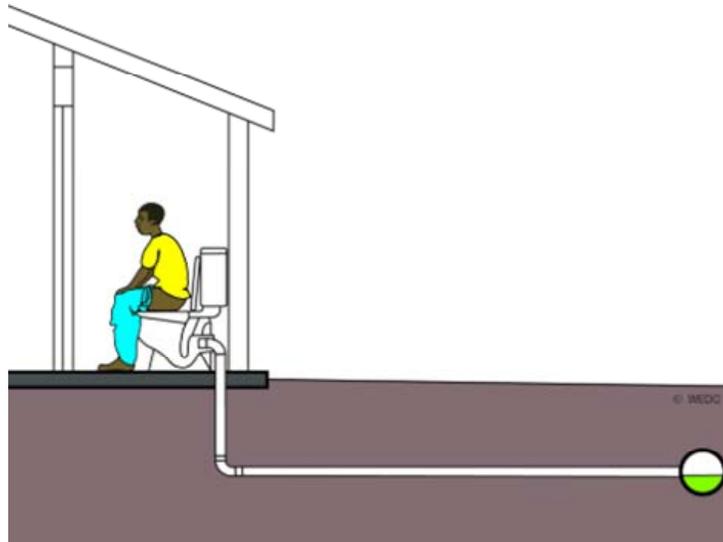
Return to Start Screen

Back to previous step

# Does the toilet or latrine discharge to an onsite container?

The toilet or latrine may discharge to an onsite container, such as a septic tank, a fully lined and sealed tank, a lined tank with impermeable walls and an open bottom, or some form of pit. Alternatively, the toilet may discharge directly to a sewer, soakpit, open drain, storm sewer, water body, open ground or even an unknown location. Please choose from the options below:

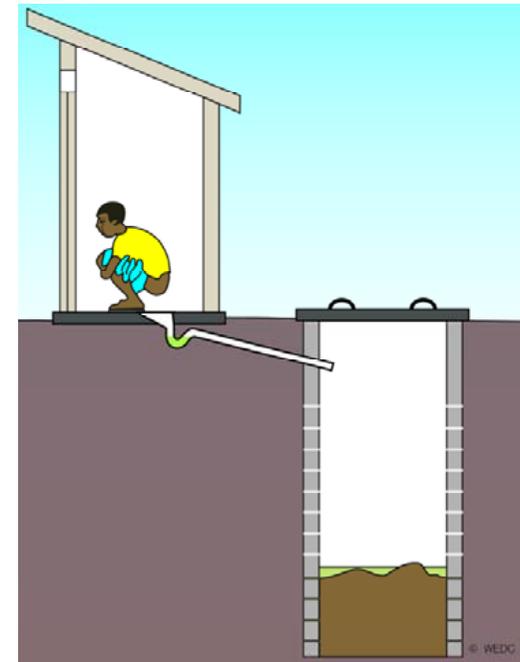
Toilet is not connected to an onsite container



Back to previous step

No – the toilet discharges directly to a destination in List B of the SFD selection grid

Toilet is connected to an onsite container

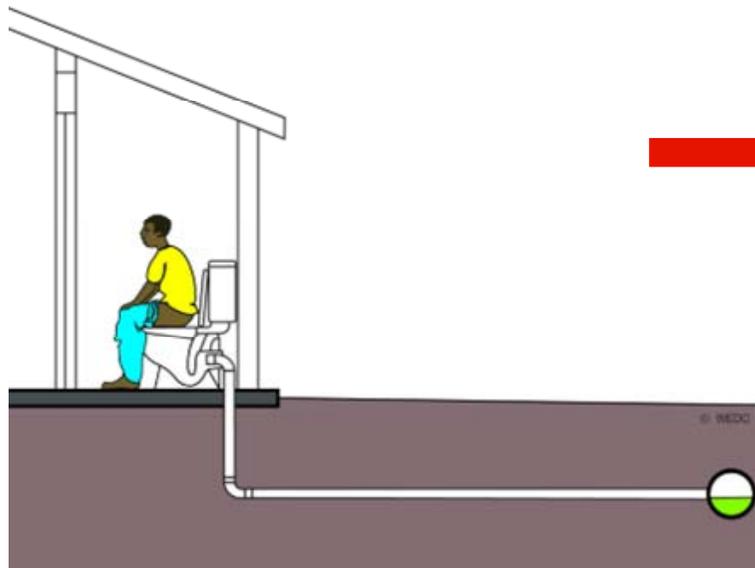


Back to previous step

Yes – the toilet discharges to an onsite container

# Identifying the correct sanitation system

The sanitation system identified is a fully functioning toilet discharging directly to a destination in List B of the SFD selection grid. The appropriate cell should be selected from the SFD selection grid as shown below. The correct cell to choose from the SFD selection grid should be based upon what the toilet is connected to (e.g. to a sewer, soakpit, open drain, storm sewer, water body, open ground or an unknown destination). If the toilet is connected to a soakpit, you will also need to estimate the risk of groundwater pollution.



## Now select the sanitation systems in use in your city or urban area

Use the cursor to hover-over the selection grid and then click on the selected systems.

RISK OF GROUNDWATER POLLUTION

List A: Where does the toilet discharge to? (i.e. what type of containment technology, if any?)	List B: What is the containment technology connected to? (i.e. where does the outlet/overflow discharge to, if anything?)									
	to centralised combined sewer	to centralised foul/separate sewer	decentralised combined sewer	decentralised foul/separate sewer	to soakpit	to open drain or storm sewer	to water body	to open ground	to 'don't know where'	no outlet or overflow
No onsite container. Toilet discharges directly to destination given in List B					High risk of GWP pollution					Not Applicable
Septic tank					Low risk of GWP pollution					
Fully lined tank (sealed)					Significant risk of GWP pollution					
Lined tank with impermeable walls and open bottom	Low risk of GWP pollution	Low risk of GWP pollution	Low risk of GWP pollution	Low risk of GWP pollution	Low risk of GWP pollution					
Lined pit with semi-permeable walls and open bottom	Not Applicable									Low risk of GWP pollution
Unlined pit										Low risk of GWP pollution
Pit (all types), never emptied but abandoned when full and covered with soil	Not Applicable									Low risk of GWP pollution
Pit (all types), never emptied, abandoned when full but NOT adequately covered with soil										Low risk of GWP pollution
Toilet failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded										
Containment (septic tank or tank or pit latrine) failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded										
No toilet. Open defecation	Not Applicable									Not Applicable

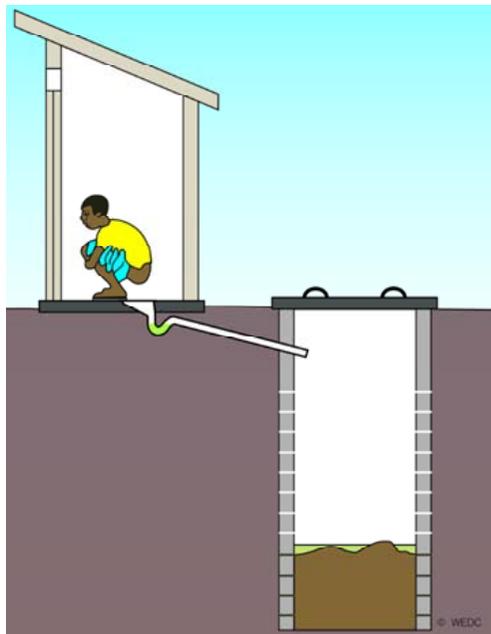
Return to Start Screen

Back to previous step

# Is the onsite container failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded?

If the onsite container has become damaged, collapsed or failed in such a way that excreta is not contained, it could present a significant public health risk. Similarly, if the onsite container has become flooded, excreta will not be contained and could present a significant public health risk, regardless of whether the toilet is still in use or not. Please choose from the options below:

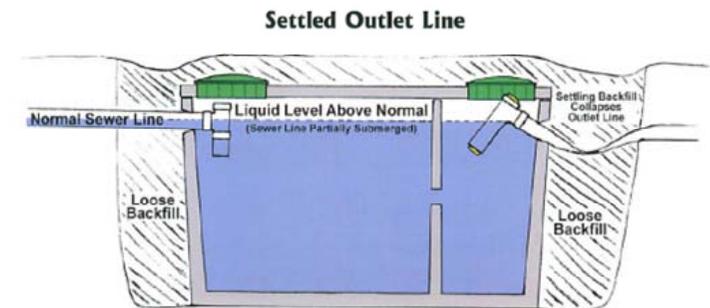
Onsite container is functioning correctly



Back to previous step

No – the onsite container is not failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded and is functioning correctly

Onsite container is failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded



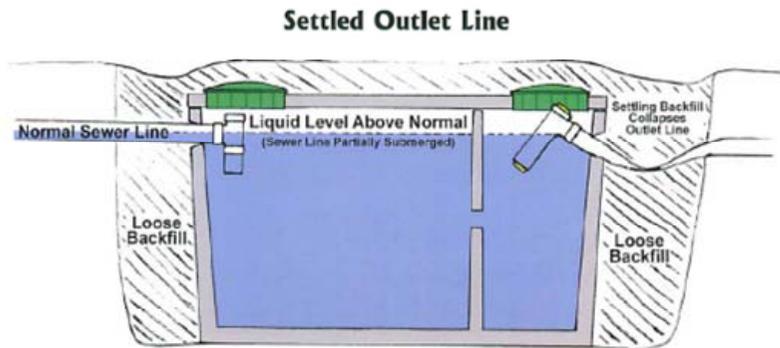
The practice of "flooding out" as a method of emptying pits or tanks is considered as failed containment as excreta is no longer contained following such activities (See FAQ on SFD website).

Back to previous step

Yes – the onsite container is failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded

# Identifying the correct sanitation system

If the tank or pit has either failed, been damaged, collapsed or become flooded, this option should be selected from the SFD selection grid. The correct cell to choose from the SFD selection grid should be based upon what the outlet or overflow from the tank or pit is connected to (e.g. to a sewer, soakpit, open drain, storm sewer, water body open ground or an unknown destination) if an outlet is present, as shown below. If no outlet or overflow exists the right hand cell of the row should be selected.



## Now select the sanitation systems in use in your city or urban area

Use the cursor to hover-over the selection grid and then click on the selected systems.

RISK OF GROUNDWATER POLLUTION

List A: Where does the toilet discharge to? (i.e. what type of containment technology, if any?)	List B: What is the containment technology connected to? (i.e. where does the outlet/overflow discharge to, if any?)									
	to centralised combined sewer	to centralised foul/separate sewer	decentralised combined sewer	decentralised foul/separate sewer	to soakpit	to open drain or storm sewer	to water body	to open ground	to 'don't know where'	no outlet or overflow
No onsite container. Toilet discharges directly to destination given in List B					Significant risk of GW pollution					Not Applicable
Septic tank					Low risk of GW pollution					
Fully lined tank (sealed)					Significant risk of GW pollution					
Lined tank with impermeable walls and open bottom	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution					Significant risk of GW pollution
Lined pit with semi-permeable walls and open bottom										Low risk of GW pollution
Unlined pit										Low risk of GW pollution
Pit (all types), never emptied but abandoned when full and covered with soil										Significant risk of GW pollution
Pit (all types), never emptied, abandoned when full but NOT adequately covered with soil										Low risk of GW pollution
Toilet failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded										
Containment (septic tank or tank or pit latrine) failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded										
No toilet. Open defecation	Not Applicable									Not Applicable

Return to Start Screen

Back to previous step

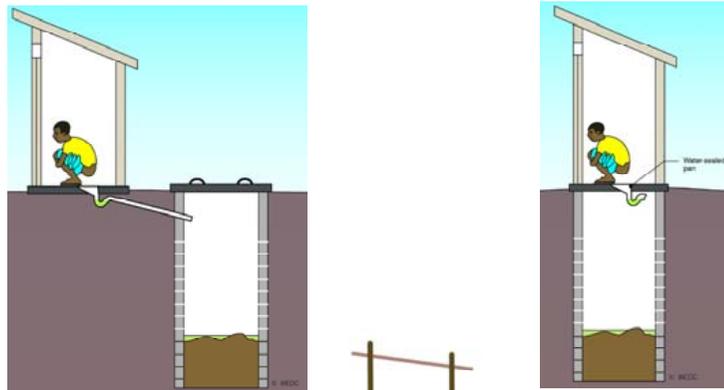


# Determining which type of tank or pit to select

The terms used to describe the different types of tanks and pits found in sanitation systems are often used interchangeably. For the purposes of creating an SFD, it is important that these are classified accurately. The first question that needs to be considered is whether the onsite container is fully sealed or fully lined and therefore not leaching or leaking into the surrounding sub-soil. These types of systems include fully lined tanks and septic tanks. Any type of containment that has permeable walls, or an open bottom is not fully sealed and can therefore potentially allow its contents to leak or leach into the surrounding sub-soil. Please choose from the options below:

## Permeable or semi-permeable

Permeable or semi-permeable containment technologies include any type of containment with an open bottom, semi-permeable lining, or even unlined. These can include all types of pit latrines or unsealed tanks. Beware of local terminology as sometimes containers that are not sealed are incorrectly referred to as septic tanks or lined tanks.

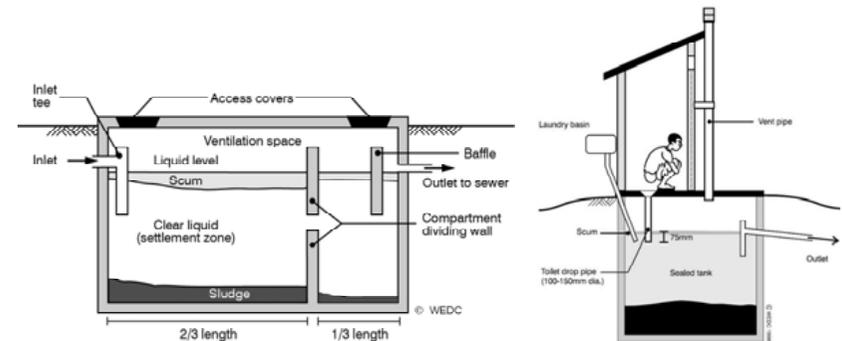


Back to previous step

No – the tank or pit is not fully sealed

## Fully sealed

Impermeable containment includes technologies such as septic tanks, fully lined tanks or fully sealed tanks. These technologies may have an outlet or overflow that discharges to a sewer, soakpit, open drain, storm sewer, water body, open ground or to an unknown destination.



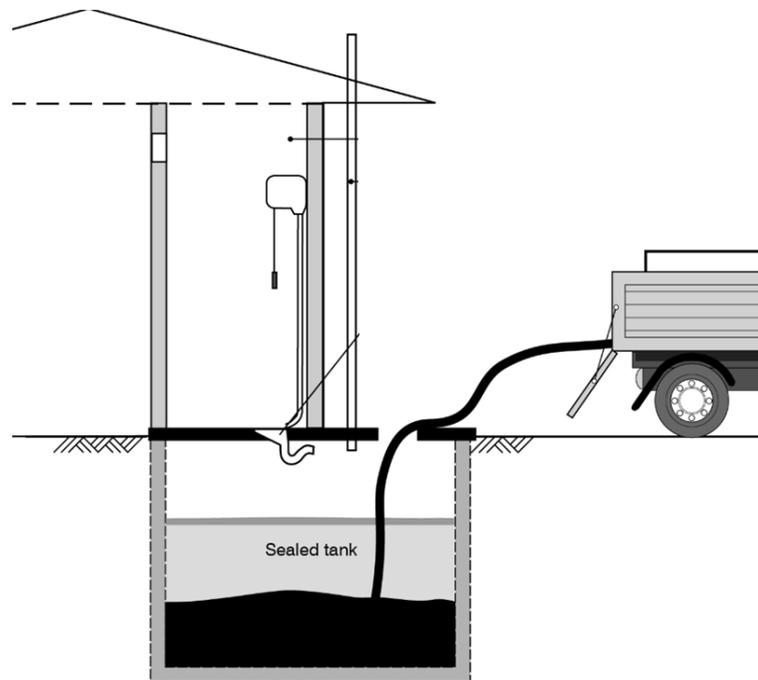
Back to previous step

Yes – the tank or pit is fully sealed, lined or impermeable

# Does the tank have an outlet or overflow?

Fully sealed tanks may or may not have an outlet or overflow. If fitted, the outlet or overflow may discharge to a sewer, soakpit, open drain, storm sewer, water body, open ground or to an unknown destination. Please choose from the options below:

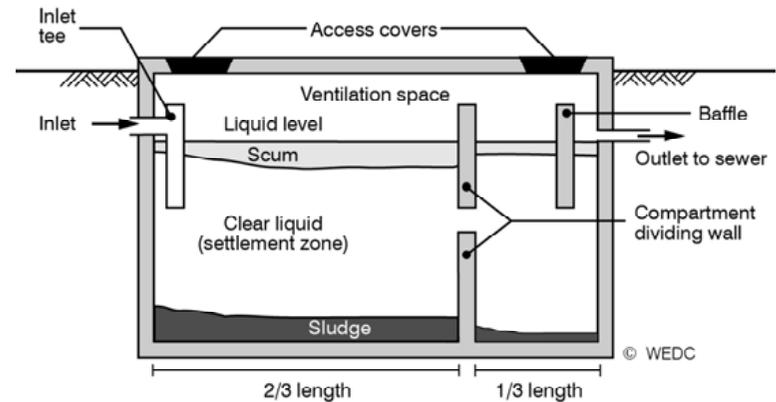
No outlet



Back to previous step

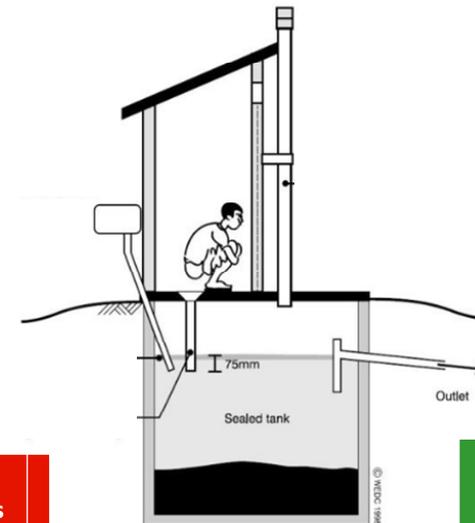
No – the tank has no outlet or overflow

Has an outlet



Back to previous step

Yes – the tank has an outlet or overflow



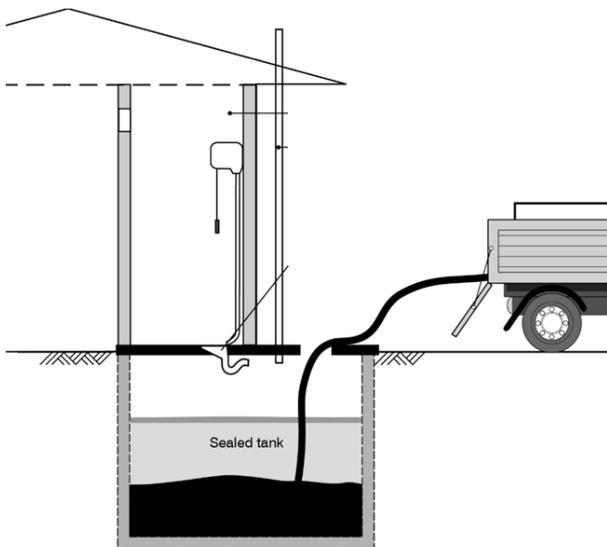
# Identifying the correct sanitation system

The sanitation system identified is a fully lined tank (sealed) with no outlet or overflow. This can be selected from the SFD selection grid as shown below.

## Now select the sanitation systems in use in your city or urban area

Use the cursor to hover-over the selection grid and then click on the selected systems.

RISK OF GROUNDWATER POLLUTION 



List A: Where does the toilet discharge to? (i.e. what type of containment technology, if any?)	List B: What is the containment technology connected to? (i.e. where does the outlet or overflow discharge to, if anything?)										
	to centralised combined sewer	to centralised foul/separate sewer	to decentralised combined sewer	to decentralised foul/separate sewer	to soakpit	to open drain or storm sewer	to water body	to open ground	to 'don't know where'	no outlet or overflow	
No onsite container. Toilet discharges directly to destination given in List B					Significant risk of GW pollution						Not Applicable
Septic tank					Low risk of GW pollution						
<b>Fully lined tank (sealed)</b>					Significant risk of GW pollution						
Lined tank with impermeable walls and open bottom					Low risk of GW pollution						
Lined pit with semi-permeable walls and open bottom	Not Applicable										High risk of GW pollution
Unlined pit											Low risk of GW pollution
Pit (all types), never emptied but abandoned when full and covered with soil											Low risk of GW pollution
Pit (all types), never emptied, abandoned when full but NOT adequately covered with soil	Not Applicable										High risk of GW pollution
Toilet failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded											Low risk of GW pollution
Containment (septic tank or tank or pit latrine) failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded											Low risk of GW pollution
No toilet. Open defecation	Not Applicable										Not Applicable

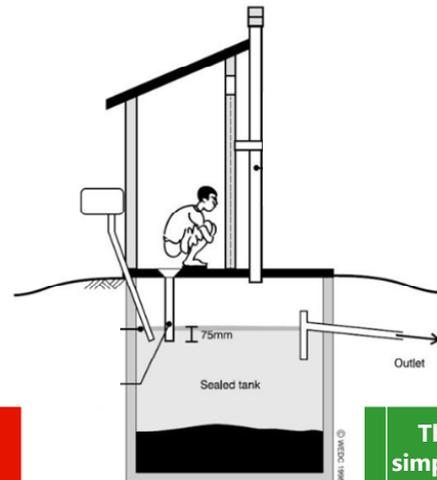
Return to Start Screen

Back to previous step

# Is the tank a 'septic tank' or just fully lined tank?

There is often confusion as to what constitutes a septic tank compared to a simple fully lined and sealed tank. A septic tank always has an outlet, whereas a simple sealed tank may or may not. However, a correctly functioning septic tank should also have a minimum of two separate chamber separated by baffle walls, with inlet and outlet 'T'-shaped pipes to prevent scum and solids escaping with the effluent. These features allow increased settlement to occur and to enable a moderate amount of treatment to take place through anaerobic processes, which reduces the quantity of solids and organics present in the effluent. A septic tank will also be fitted with access covers to enable all the chambers to be periodically emptied. Septic tanks should be sized appropriately, and to a sufficient depth to allow for sufficient retention time; due to their multiple chambered nature, septic tanks are generally rectangular on plan. Fully lined tanks are far less complex, consisting primarily of a simple sealed container with an pipe inlet and possibly an outlet pipe. Therefore, the levels of settlement and treatment reached in a simple lined tank are lower than that achieved through the use of a conventional septic tank. Please choose from the options below:

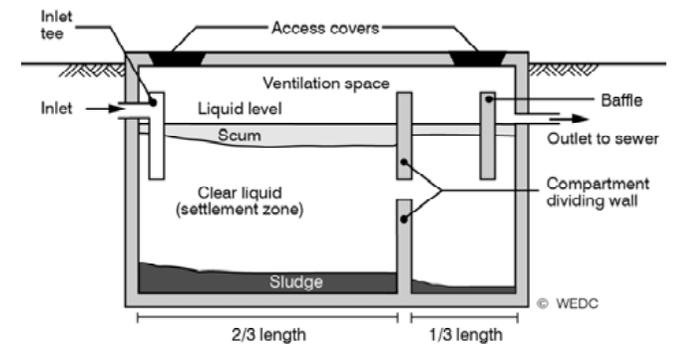
Fully lined and sealed tank



Back to previous step

The tank is a simple fully lined and sealed tank

Septic tank

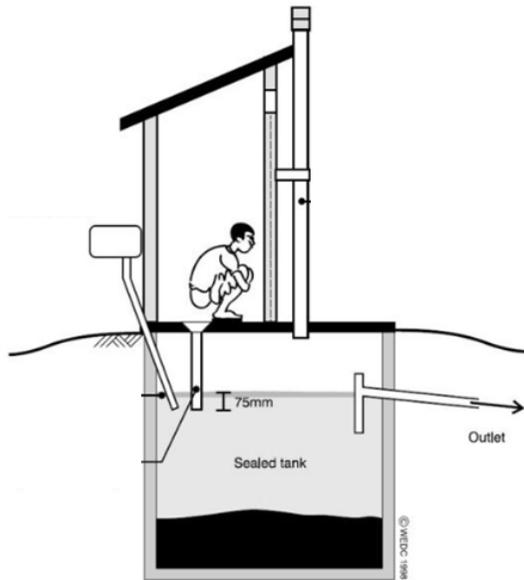


Back to previous step

The tank is a correctly constructed and functioning septic tank

# Identifying the correct sanitation system

The sanitation system identified is a correctly designed, properly constructed and well maintained fully lined tank (sealed), with impermeable walls and base. This includes poorly designed and/or constructed and/or maintained septic tanks that, because of these faults or deficiencies, are not performing as septic tanks, but instead are acting as sealed vaults. The correct cell to choose from the SFD selection grid should be based upon what the outlet or overflow from the sealed tank is connected to (e.g. to a sewer, soakpit, open drain, storm sewer, water body open ground or an unknown destination, as shown below. If the sealed tank is connected to a soakpit, you will also need to estimate the risk of groundwater pollution.



## Now select the sanitation systems in use in your city or urban area

Use the cursor to hover-over the selection grid and then click on the selected systems.

RISK OF GROUNDWATER POLLUTION



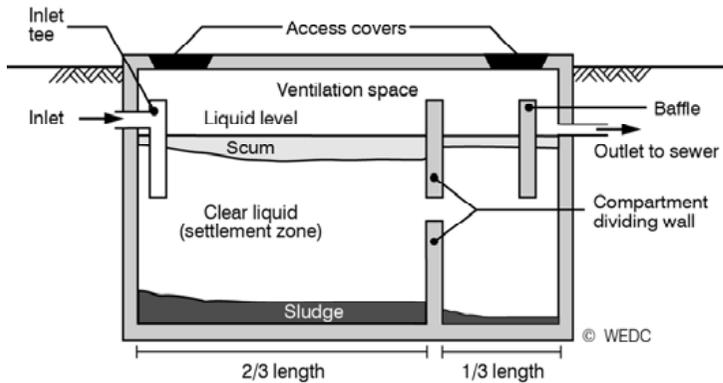
List A: Where does the toilet discharge to? (i.e. what type of containment technology, if any?)	List B: What is the containment technology connected to? (i.e. where does the outlet or overflow discharge to, if anything?)									RISK OF GROUNDWATER POLLUTION	
	to centralised combined sewer	to centralised foul/separate sewer	to decentralised combined sewer	to decentralised foul/separate sewer	to soakpit	to open drain or storm sewer	to water body	to open ground	to 'don't know where'		no outlet or overflow
No onsite container. Toilet discharges directly to destination given in List B					Significant risk of GW pollution						Not Applicable
Septic tank					Significant risk of GW pollution						Not Applicable
Fully lined tank (sealed)					Significant risk of GW pollution						
Lined tank with impermeable walls and open bottom	High risk of GW pollution	High risk of GW pollution	High risk of GW pollution	High risk of GW pollution	High risk of GW pollution						High risk of GW pollution
Lined pit with semi-permeable walls and open bottom	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution						Low risk of GW pollution
Unlined pit											High risk of GW pollution
Pit (all types), never emptied but abandoned when full and covered with soil											High risk of GW pollution
Pit (all types), never emptied, abandoned when full but NOT adequately covered with soil											Low risk of GW pollution
Toilet failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded											
Containment (septic tank or tank or pit latrine) failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded											
No toilet. Open defecation	Not Applicable									Not Applicable	

Return to Start Screen

Back to previous step

# Identifying the correct sanitation system

The sanitation system identified is a correctly designed and constructed septic tank. The correct cell to choose from the SFD selection grid should be based upon what the outlet or overflow from the septic tank is connected to (e.g. to a sewer, soakpit, open drain, storm sewer, water body open ground or an unknown destination, as shown below. If the septic tank is connected to a soakpit, you will also need to estimate the risk of groundwater pollution.



## Now select the sanitation systems in use in your city or urban area

Use the cursor to hover-over the selection grid and then click on the selected systems.

RISK OF GROUNDWATER POLLUTION ⓘ

List A: Where does the toilet discharge to? (i.e. what type of containment technology, if any?)	List B: What is the containment technology connected to? (i.e. where does the outlet or overflow discharge to, if anything?)										
	to centralised combined sewer	to centralised foul/separate sewer	to decentralised combined sewer	decentralised foul/separate sewer	to soakpit	to open drain or storm sewer	to water body	to open ground	to 'don't know where'	no outlet or overflow	
No onsite container. Toilet discharges directly to destination given in List B					Significant risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution						Not Applicable
Septic tank					High risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution						
Fully lined tank (sealed)					Significant risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution						
Lined tank with impermeable walls and open bottom	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution						Low risk of GW pollution
Lined pit with semi-permeable walls and open bottom											Low risk of GW pollution
Unlined pit											Low risk of GW pollution
Pit (all types), never emptied but abandoned when full and covered with soil											Low risk of GW pollution
Pit (all types), never emptied, abandoned when full but NOT adequately covered with soil											Low risk of GW pollution
Toilet failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded											
Containment (septic tank or tank or pit latrine) failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded											
No toilet. Open defecation	Not Applicable										Not Applicable

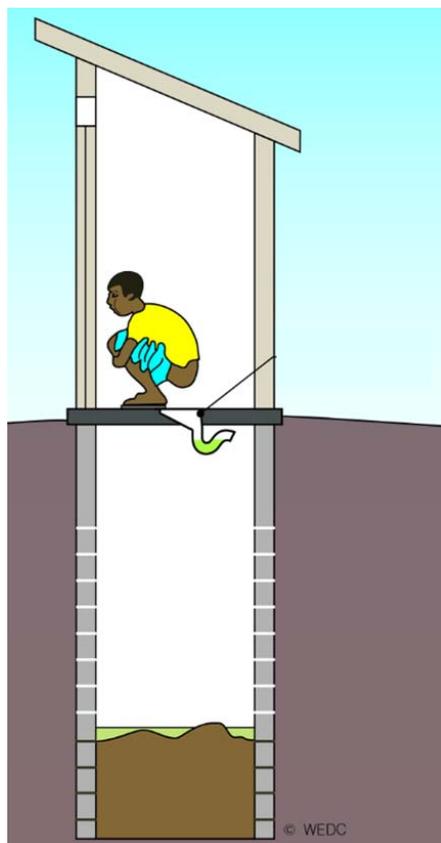
Return to Start Screen

Back to previous step

# Does the tank or pit have an outlet or overflow? ●

Some tanks or pits which are not fully sealed may have an outlet or overflow, such as lined tanks with impermeable walls and an open bottom. The outlet or overflow may discharge to a sewer, soakpit, open drain, storm sewer, water body, open ground or to an unknown destination. Please choose from the options below:

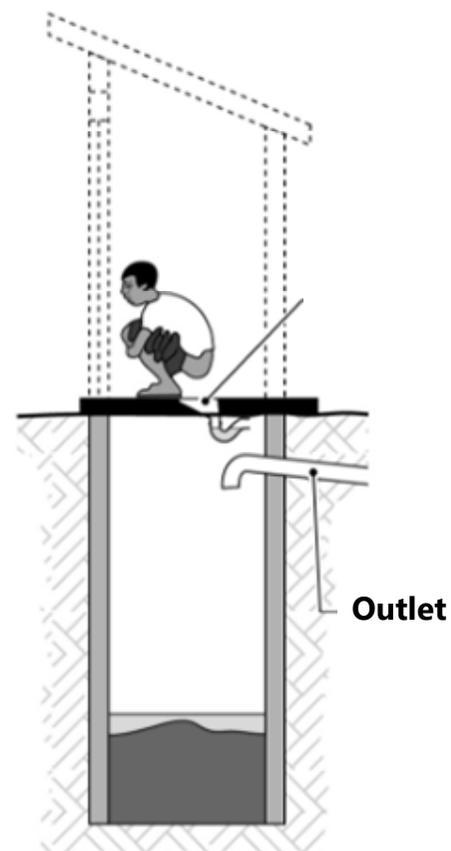
No outlet



Back to previous step

No – the tank or pit has no outlet or overflow

Has an outlet

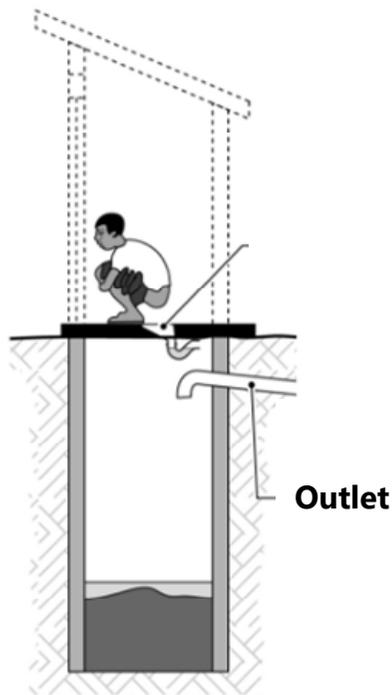


Back to previous step

Yes – the tank or pit has an outlet or overflow

# Identifying the correct sanitation system

The sanitation system identified is a lined tank with impermeable walls, an open bottom and with an outlet or overflow. This can be selected from the SFD selection grid as shown below. The correct cell to choose from the SFD selection grid should be based upon what the outlet or overflow from the tank is connected to (e.g. to a sewer, soakpit, open drain, storm sewer, water body open ground or an unknown destination). If the tank is connected to a soakpit, a combined sewer or a foul/separate sewer, you will also need to estimate the risk of groundwater pollution.



## Now select the sanitation systems in use in your city or urban area

Use the cursor to hover-over the selection grid and then click on the selected systems.

RISK OF GROUNDWATER POLLUTION

List A: Where does the toilet discharge to? (i.e. what type of containment technology, if any?)	List B: What is the containment technology connected to? (i.e. where does the outlet/overflow discharge to, if anything?)									
	to centralised combined sewer	to centralised foul/separate sewer	decentralised combined sewer	decentralised foul/separate sewer	to soakpit	to open drain or storm sewer	to water body	to open ground	to 'don't know where'	no outlet or overflow
No onsite container. Toilet discharges directly to destination given in List B					Significant risk of GW pollution					
Septic tank					Low risk of GW pollution					Not Applicable
Fully lined tank (sealed)					Significant risk of GW pollution					
Lined tank with impermeable walls and open bottom	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution					Significant risk of GW pollution
Lined pit with semi-permeable walls and open bottom	Not Applicable									
Unlined pit										
Pit (all types), never emptied but abandoned when full and covered with soil										
Pit (all types), never emptied, abandoned when full but NOT adequately covered with soil	Not Applicable									
Toilet failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded										
Containment (septic tank or tank or pit latrine) failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded										
No toilet. Open defecation	Not Applicable									Not Applicable

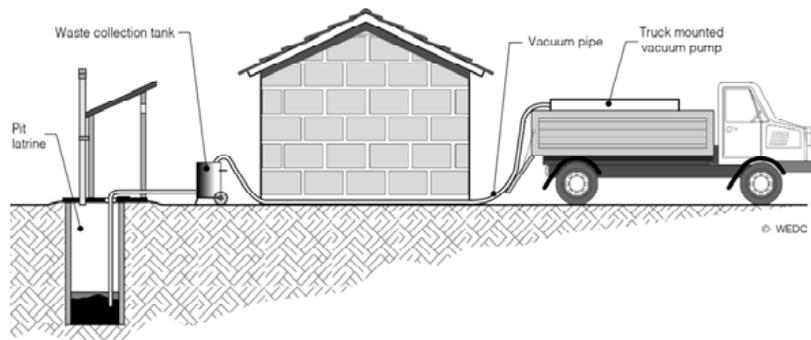
Return to Start Screen

Back to previous step

# Does the pit or tank get abandoned when full? ●

Some types of pit (and occasionally tanks) are abandoned once full. Others are emptied as they become full, although the length of time it takes for different types and sizes of pits and tanks to fill varies greatly. Please choose from the options below:

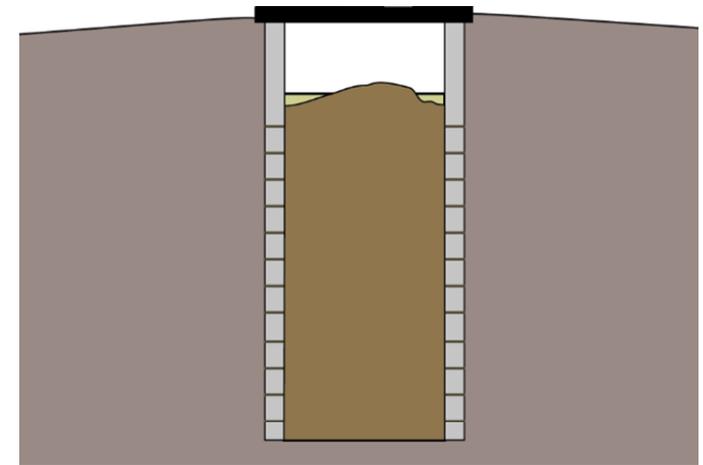
Not abandoned. Pit or tank can, has been or will be emptied when full



Back to previous step

No – the pit or tank is emptied when full or has never filled

Abandoned when full



The practice of "pit diversion" as a method of emptying is considered as the pit being abandoned as the contents are not actually removed from the site (See FAQ on SFD website).

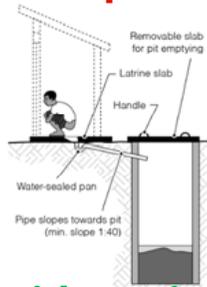
Back to previous step

Yes – the pit or tank is abandoned when full and never emptied

# Identifying the correct sanitation system

The sanitation system identified is either a lined tank with impermeable walls and an open bottom, a lined pit with semi-permeable walls and an open bottom or an unlined pit. There is no effluent outlet present. The correct cell should be chosen from the SFD selection grid, as shown below. Note that you will also need to estimate the risk of groundwater pollution.

## Lined tank with impermeable walls and open bottom



## Lined pit with semi-permeable walls and open bottom



## Unlined pit



## Now select the sanitation systems in use in your city or urban area

Use the cursor to hover-over the selection grid and then click on the selected systems.

RISK OF GROUNDWATER POLLUTION



List A: Where does the toilet discharge to? (i.e. what type of containment technology, if any?)	List B: What is the containment technology connected to? (i.e. where does the outlet or overflow discharge to, if anything?)										
	to centralised combined sewer	to centralised foul/separate sewer	to decentralised combined sewer	to decentralised foul/separate sewer	to soakpit	to open drain or storm sewer	to water body	to open ground	to 'don't know where'	no outlet or overflow	
No onsite container. Toilet discharges directly to destination given in List B					Significant risk of GW pollution						Not Applicable
septic tank					Low risk of GW pollution						
fully lined tank (sealed)					Significant risk of GW pollution						Not Applicable
Lined tank with impermeable walls and open bottom	High risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution	High risk of GW pollution	High risk of GW pollution	Low risk of GW pollution						
Lined pit with semi-permeable walls and open bottom	Not Applicable										High risk of GW pollution
Unlined pit											High risk of GW pollution
Unlined pit (all types), never emptied but abandoned when full and covered with soil											Low risk of GW pollution
Pit (all types), never emptied, abandoned when full but NOT adequately covered with soil	Not Applicable										High risk of GW pollution
Toilet failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded											Low risk of GW pollution
Containment (septic tank or tank or pit latrine) failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded											Low risk of GW pollution
No toilet. Open defecation	Not Applicable										Not Applicable

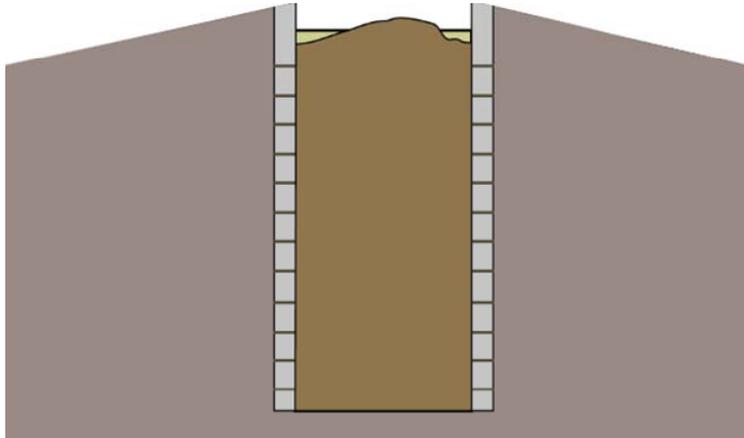
Return to Start Screen

Back to previous step

# Does the pit get covered after abandonment? ●

Following abandonment, pits should be adequately covered with soil to reduce the risk of humans coming into contact with excreta. Please choose from the options below:

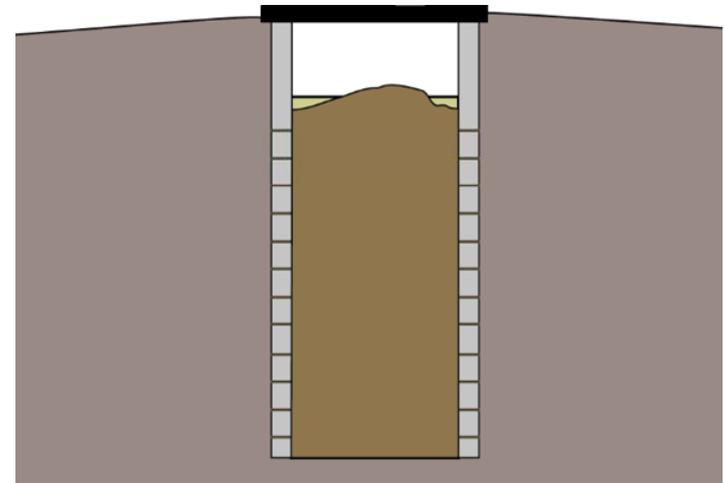
Not adequately covered



Back to previous step

No – the pit is NOT adequately covered when full

Adequately covered when full

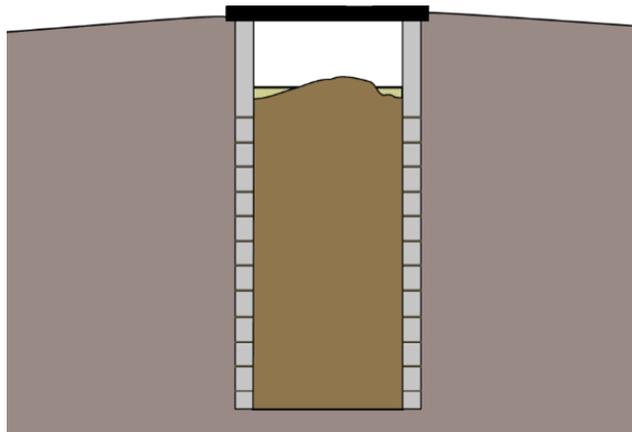


Back to previous step

Yes – the pit is covered with soil when full

# Identifying the correct sanitation system

The sanitation system identified is a pit (any type), which is never emptied but abandoned when full and covered with soil, with no outlet or overflow. This can be selected from the SFD selection grid as shown below. Note that you will also need to estimate the risk of groundwater pollution.



## Now select the sanitation systems in use in your city or urban area

Use the cursor to hover-over the selection grid and then click on the selected systems.

RISK OF GROUNDWATER POLLUTION

List A: Where does the toilet discharge to? (i.e. what type of containment technology, if any?)	List B: What is the containment technology connected to? (i.e. where does the outlet or overflow discharge to, if anything?)										
	to centralised combined sewer	to centralised foul/separate sewer	to decentralised combined sewer	to decentralised foul/separate sewer	to soakpit	to open drain or storm sewer	to water body	to open ground	to 'don't know where'	no outlet or overflow	
No onsite container. Toilet discharges directly to destination given in List B					Significant risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution						Not Applicable
Septic tank					Low risk of GW pollution						
Fully lined tank (sealed)					Significant risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution						
Lined tank with impermeable walls and open bottom	High risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution	High risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution	High risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution	High risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution	High risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution						High risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution
Lined pit with semi-permeable walls and open bottom	Not Applicable										High risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution
Unlined pit											High risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution
Pit (all types), never emptied but abandoned when full and covered with soil											High risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution
Pit (all types), never emptied, abandoned when full but NOT adequately covered with soil	Not Applicable										High risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution
Toilet failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded											High risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution
Containment (septic tank or tank or pit latrine) failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded											High risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution
No toilet. Open defecation	Not Applicable										Not Applicable

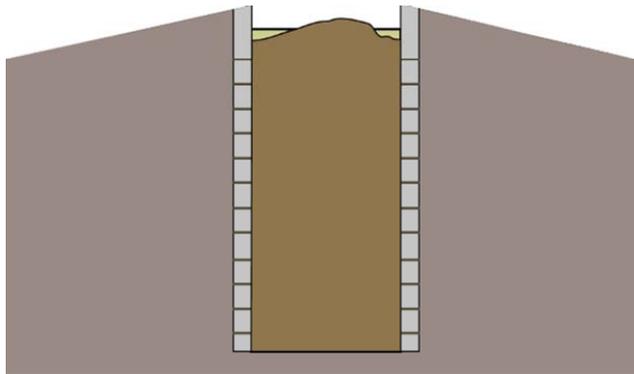


Return to Start Screen

Back to previous step

# Identifying the correct sanitation system

The sanitation system identified is a pit (any type), which is never emptied, abandoned when full but **NOT** adequately covered with soil, and with no outlet or overflow. This can be selected from the SFD selection grid as shown below.



## Now select the sanitation systems in use in your city or urban area

Use the cursor to hover-over the selection grid and then click on the selected systems.

RISK OF GROUNDWATER POLLUTION

List A: Where does the toilet discharge to? (i.e. what type of containment technology, if any?)	List B: What is the containment technology connected to? (i.e. where does the outlet or overflow discharge to, if anything?)										
	to centralised combined sewer	to centralised foul/separate sewer	to decentralised combined sewer	to decentralised foul/separate sewer	to soakpit	to open drain or storm sewer	to water body	to open ground	to 'don't know where'	no outlet or overflow	
No onsite container. Toilet discharges directly to destination given in List B					Significant risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution						Not Applicable
Septic tank					High risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution						
Fully lined tank (sealed)					Significant risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution						
Lined tank with impermeable walls and open bottom	High risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution	High risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution	High risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution	High risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution	High risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution						High risk of GW pollution Low risk of GW pollution
Lined pit with semi-permeable walls and open bottom	Not Applicable										High risk of GW pollution
Unlined pit											High risk of GW pollution
Pit (all types), never emptied but abandoned when full and covered with soil											High risk of GW pollution
Pit (all types), never emptied, abandoned when full but NOT adequately covered with soil	Not Applicable										High risk of GW pollution
Toilet failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded											High risk of GW pollution
Containment (septic tank or tank or pit latrine) failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded											High risk of GW pollution
No toilet. Open defecation	Not Applicable										Not Applicable



Return to Start Screen

Back to previous step

Thank you!

Please visit  
[www.sfd.susana.org](http://www.sfd.susana.org)

SFD Promotion Initiative

sustainable  
sanitation  
alliance

**giz** Deutsche Gesellschaft  
für Internationale  
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

On behalf of



Federal Ministry  
for Economic Cooperation  
and Development

  
UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

 **WORLD BANK GROUP**  
Water

 **GWSP**  
GLOBAL WATER  
SECURITY & SANITATION  
PARTNERSHIP

**WEDC**

 Loughborough  
University

**CSE**  


**eawag**  
aquatic research

**BILL & MELINDA  
GATES foundation**