

When ODF is Not Enough: Using the Small Doable Actions Approach to Complement CLTS in Southwest Bangladesh



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Goal and Objectives

Goal: Improve water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) in the hard-to-reach areas of Southwestern Bangladesh

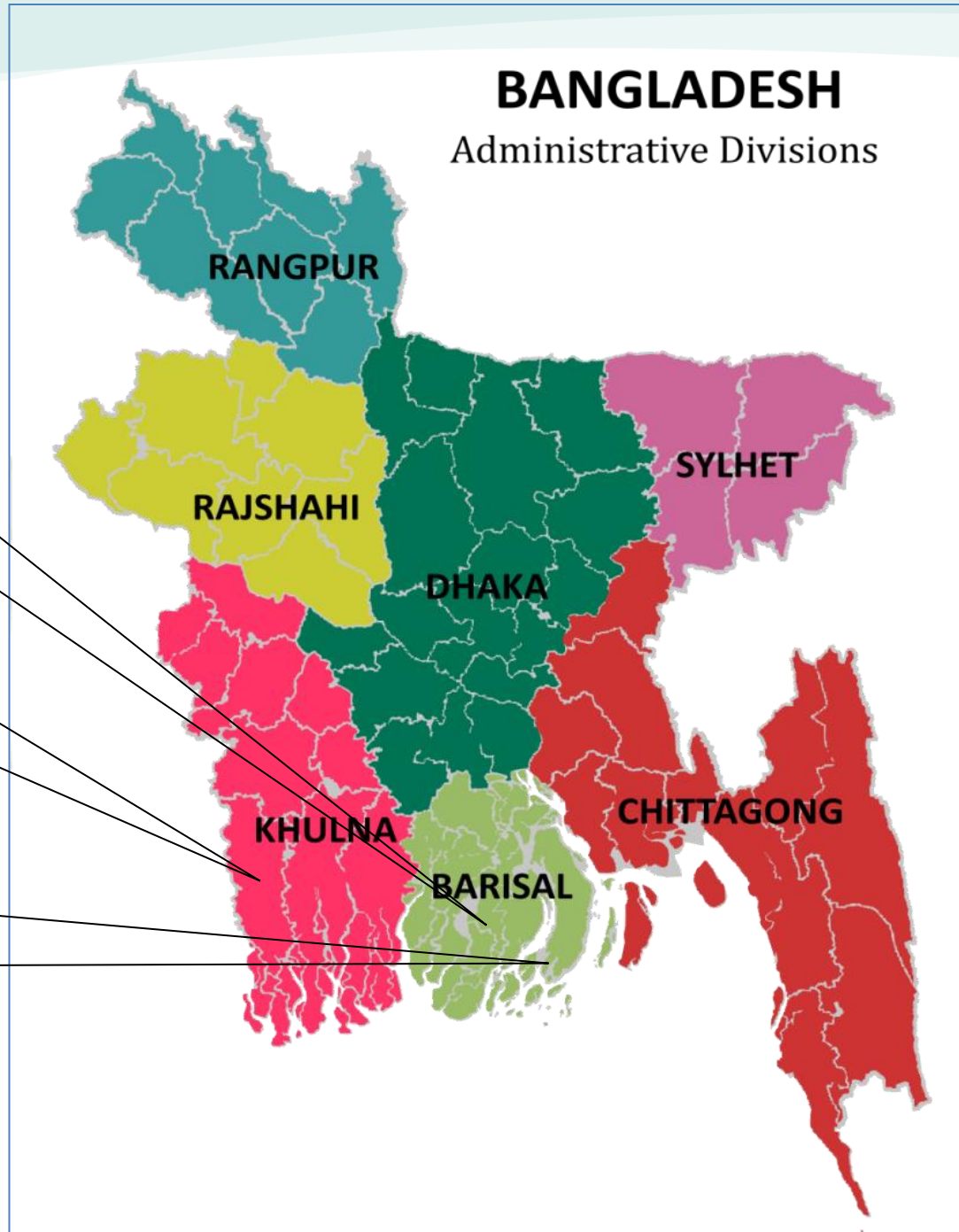
- 1. To Improve access** to safe drinking water, improved sanitation, and hygiene practices of poor and marginalized people in four upazilas
- 2. To build local capacity** to mobilize community to ensure sustained water and sanitation facilities
- 3. To strengthen the evidence and programming guidance** for WASH-nutrition programming in Bangladesh

Contributing to the GoB effort to reach its 2015 MDG target to ensure all people have access to safe water and improved sanitation services

What is WASHplus

- USAID's mechanism for supporting **global and country-level environmental health programming**
- **Safe and sufficient water, hygiene, and sanitation practice** in homes and institutions
- **Plus** – improved **indoor air quality** through use of improved cookstoves and habits
- In Bangladesh, WASHplus is 4 year USAID activity with **WaterAid** as primary implementing partner, working through partner NGOs
- FHI360 leads objective 3, and provides overarching guidance in **behavior change** working with **USAID nutrition partners**

Project Scope



Patuakhali
- Galachipa
- Kalapara

Satkhira
- Shyamnagar

Bhola
- Char Fasson
- Daulatkhan

**Project
Period:
2012-2015**

**Target
population:
270,000**

Sanitation situation

Indicators	WASHplus	National Hyg. Base. Survey
Defecate in open place or bushes	4%	~2%
Households defecate in some kind of latrine	96%	N/A
Households having access to improved* sanitation facilities/latrines	10%	47%
Households experiencing regular flooding and/or tidal surges	35%	N/A
Households defecate in the open when their sanitation facility is flooded (of those experiencing flooding)	38%	N/A

* Improved sanitation facilities are likely to ensure hygienic separation of human excreta from human contact

Sanitation facilities



Do we need anything in these slabs?



Latrine condition



- Lined pit with concrete rings
- Concrete Slab
- Good superstructure
- Water seal

Small Doable Action Approach

Small Doable Action Approach

- Construct a continuum
- Identify feasible incremental steps that move people from a current practice toward the ideal practice
- Identify existing hygiene and sanitation good practices to be reinforced or modified
- Identify practices to be improved and negotiate the options with family member

- **Identify, promote and facilitate improved behaviors that....**
 - Have significant **positive impact** on health
 - Are **feasible** to achieve, (people both willing and able to make changes)
- **Conduct Behavior Analysis**
 - Documents actual
 - Explores the desired
 - Identifies Feasible
- **Use research to identify motivators & barriers**
 - Searches for what's 'fun, easy and popular'





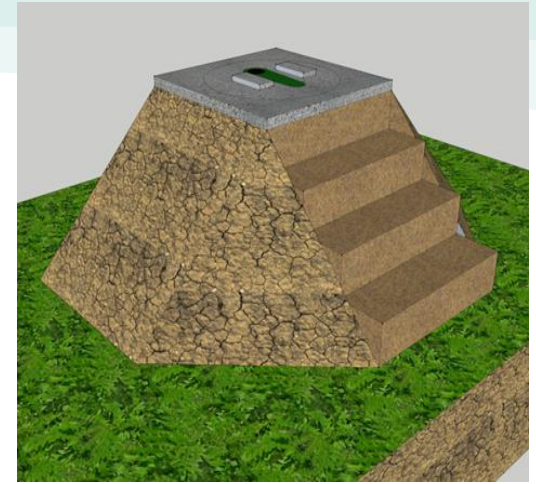
- Use of SaTo pans (built-in water seal)
- Strengthened local entrepreneurs to provide small scale production and SALE of sanitation products
- Coordinate with CLTS triggering and CDF follow up



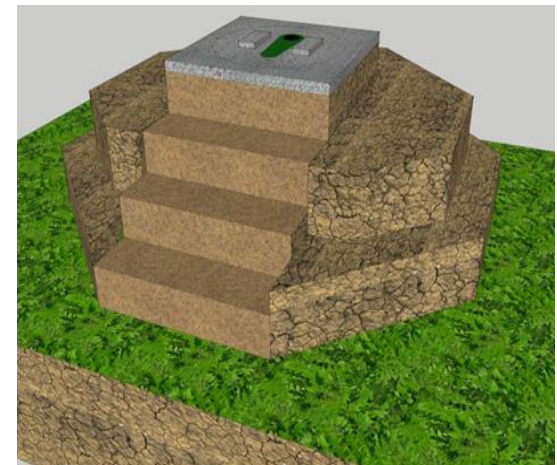
Example of SDA: Sand Envelopment



Raise the plinth putting soil around the pit



Stacking soil around the pit and build up stair cases to ease access



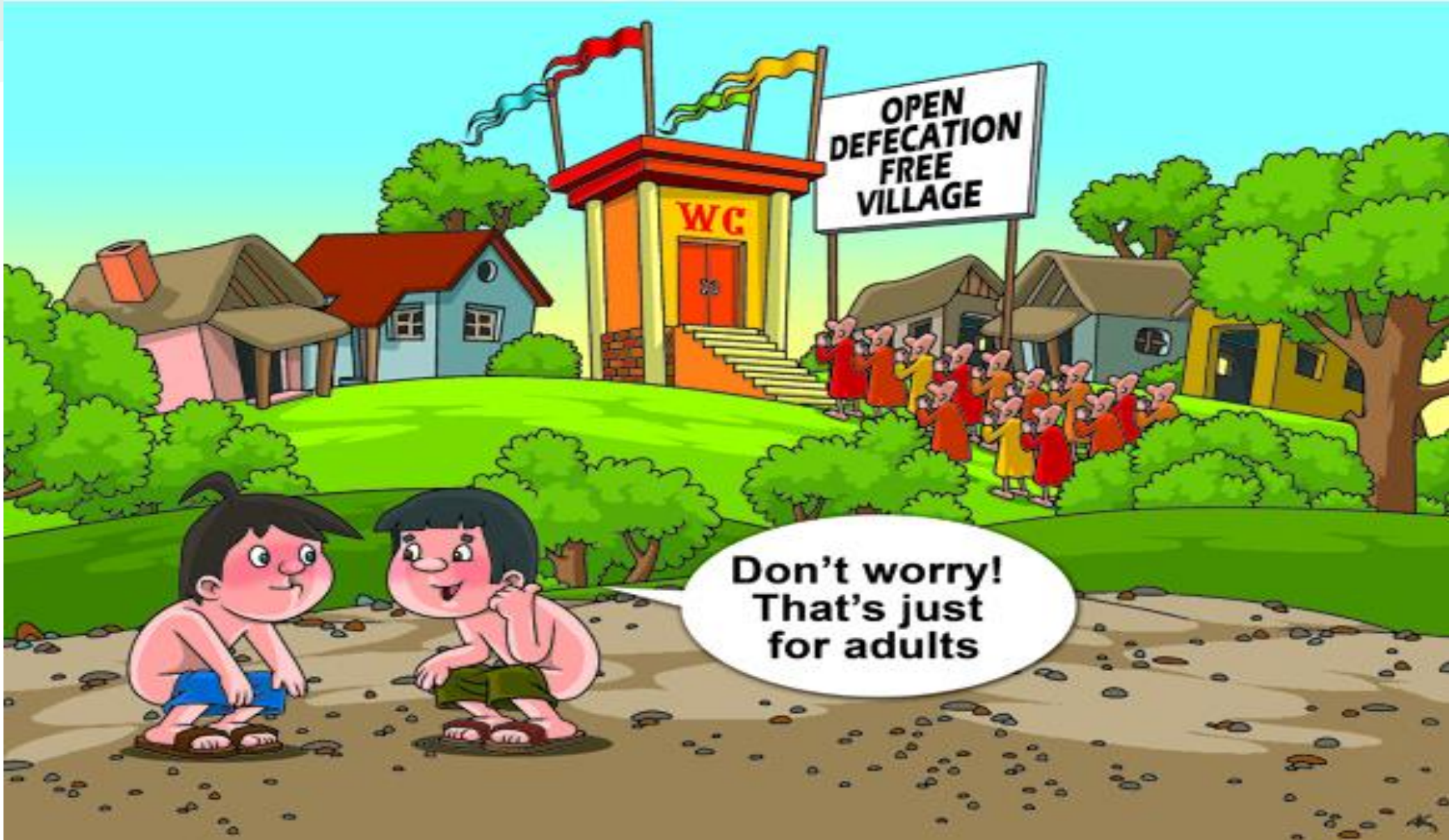
Seal the spaces between rings by cement and sand



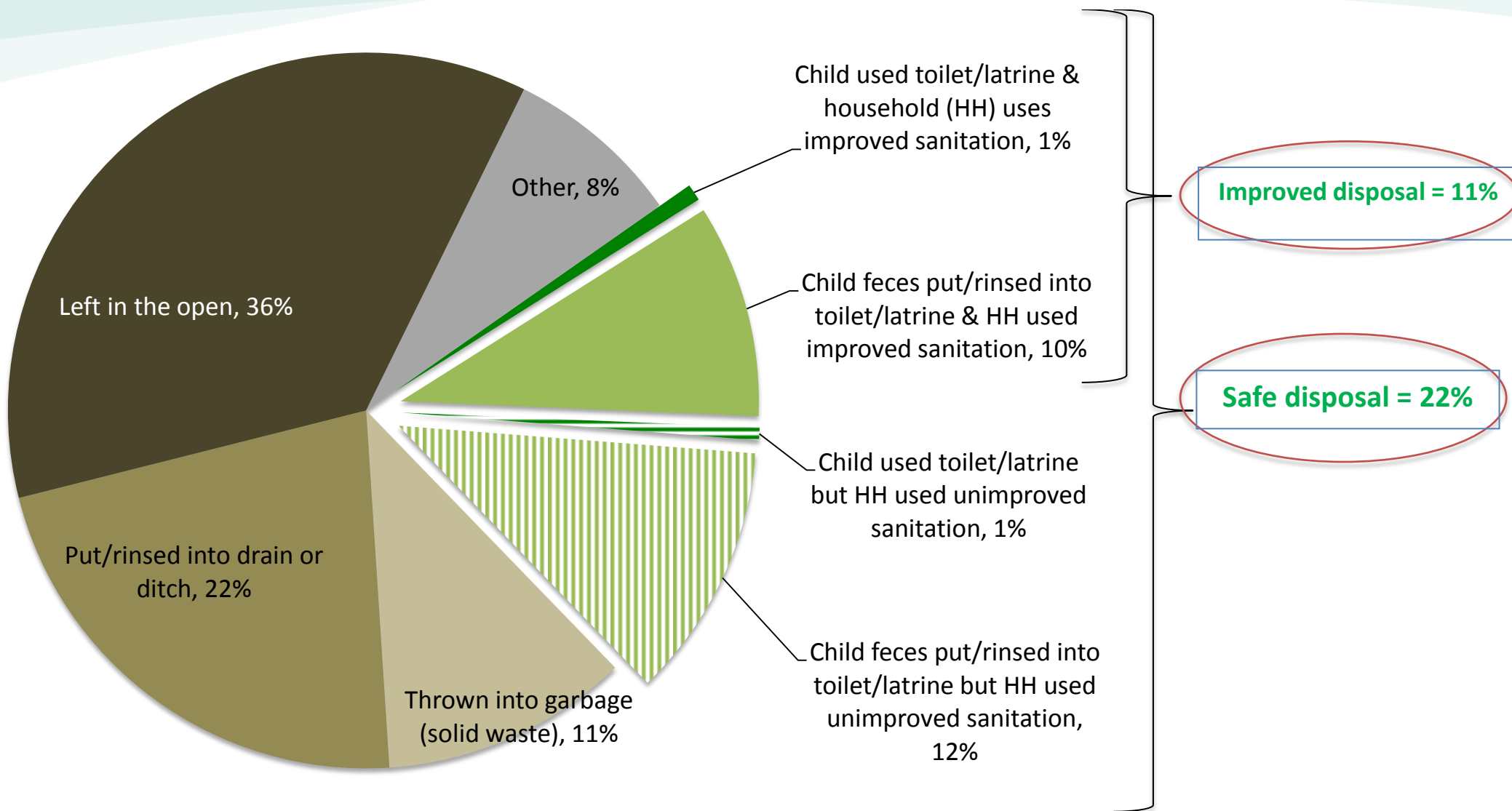
Children's feces



Is ODF enough??



Percentage of children aged under 3 by household's type of sanitation Facility, Bangladesh



MICS 2006

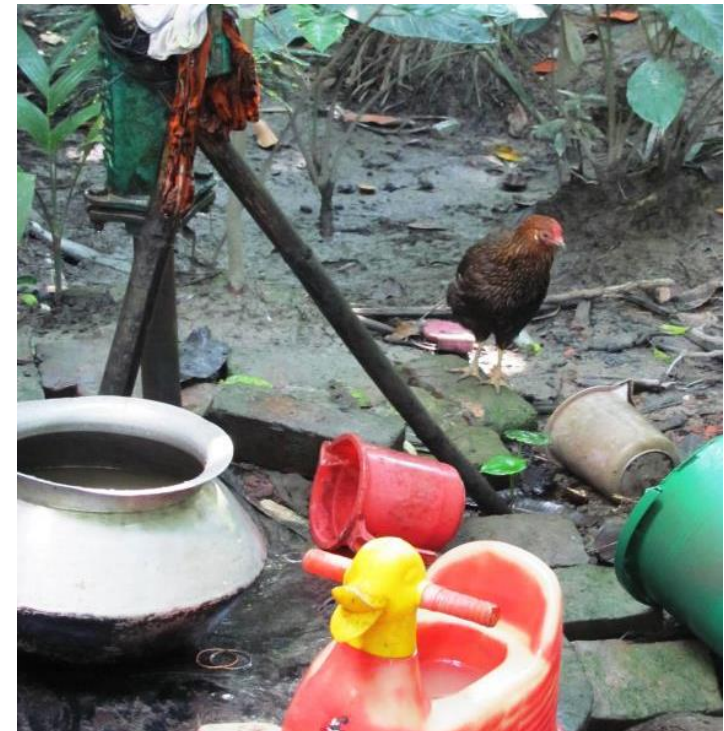
Note: Although it looks like the large bracket should add to 24%, this is due to rounding

- Even among households with improved sanitation, the feces of more than half of children is not safely disposed
- Almost all children living in households practicing open defecation have unsafe feces disposal
- Younger children's feces are more likely to be left in the open
- Poorer children's feces are even more likely to be left in the open than those better off

SDA for safely disposing of child feces

Develop Small Doable Actions for Safely Disposing of Child Feces (*by age cohort- infant, toddler, under 5s*)

Incorporate those into safe feces SDAs in CLTS WASH and nutrition activities



- Document CURRENT household practices for handling child feces by age cohort.
- Prioritize riskiest of practices
- Work with mothers to identify a few ‘small doable actions’ for each of these risky behaviors that will make it easier for mothers to manage child feces, but that still get them out of the environment.
- Test these with mothers, over time, for effectiveness and feasibility

Example of SDA: Safe child feces disposal

Age Cohort	Current Practices	Possible Small Doable Actions to promote
Crawling baby (under 1 year)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ When caretaker knows infant is about to poop, she stands the infant up to poop on ground ▪ Then uses paper or leaves to transfer into ditch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Let child poop where he/she poops ▪ Use the trowel/hoe, take it to the latrine ▪ Socialize child to potty training ▪ Sit the child on the potty (even when not pooping)
Young child 3-6 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Children often with older siblings or on their own ▪ Poops anywhere ▪ Caretaker cleans up when she sees or when cleaning the courtyard ▪ Throw in ditch, anywhere out of sight, or in household garbage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Train child to use latrine ▪ Make latrine more “child-friendly” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Control smell with ash and regular cleaning – Pour sufficient water to flush feces – Clean slab at least weekly or when feces are visible – Arrange doorway or superstructure for light – Install handrails to increase stability/security – Make a seat placed over the hole – Accompany child, keep door open, and communicate with child while pooping (congratulate or reward them) – Install a child-friendly footrest in the latrine – Make a latrine with smaller hole to reduce fear

- **All feces ends up in latrines**
 - Poo's final address
- **Role of**
 - Enabling products and service
 - Social norms
 - Perception of risk
- **Job Aids to promote small doable actions by age cohort**
 - SDAs by age w slogan
 - Essential WASH Actions
 - Handwashing devices



- Small doable actions were effective to change feces disposal behaviors
- The approach can be coupled with ‘triggering’ to end unsafe disposal of human feces
- Small doable actions identifies ‘feasible’ behaviors to be improved, not the ideal one
- Sanitation interventions can use the approach to bring sanitation health benefits of the communities

Acknowledgments



- Community members
- Local government representatives
- School authorities
- Program staff
- USAID - generous funding support

<http://www.washplus.org/bangladesh-behavior-change-training-materials>
<http://www.washplus.org/countries/bangladesh>