



6th International Symposium on

Knowledge and Capacity for the Water Sector
**FROM CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT
TO IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE**

27-29 May 2020 | Delft, the Netherlands

Faith and Water

**Accelerating WASH knowledge sharing and
capacity building through the use of Faith groups**

Reinier Veldman

May-2020



**BILL & MELINDA
GATES foundation**



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the
Netherlands



Ministry of Infrastructure
and Water Management





Content

1. Introduction
2. Why Faith and Water?
3. Set-up of Trainings
4. Results
5. Conclusion, Suggestions



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Challenges

1. Reach SDG6

In remote, small rural communities where machine drilled wells, imported pumps are too expensive

2. Reach water related SDGs

SDG1 (Poverty), SDG2 (Food), SDG8 (Employment)



SMART Centres

Training the local private sector in:
Simple, **M**arket based, **A**ffordable, **R**epairable Technologies



Focus on

1 Reducing cost

Innovative technologies, local production

2 Building supply chains, business development

Training private sector in technical & business skills

3 Innovative approaches

Household water treatment, Self-supply,
Farm wells, Family Based Management,
Well clubs, ***Faith & Water***





Why Faith and Water?

- Faith leaders are trusted
- Reach into most remote areas, local presence
- Faith leaders can be powerful messengers
- Faiths give practical guidelines related to Hygiene
- Local language

Deuteronomy 23:12-13

You shall have a place outside the camp, and you shall go out to it. And you shall have a trowel* with your tools, and when you sit down outside, you shall dig a hole with it and turn back and cover up your excrement.





Set-up of trainings

Goal & objective of the training:

To improve the health in the villages through improved water, sanitation and hygiene

To train the local faith leaders in water, hygiene and sanitation to become trainers themselves.

Target group for the training:

Faith leaders and community leaders, with gender balance!

Actions during training:

- Awareness health & hygiene
- Train practical in solutions





Out-line of training as used in Malawi

- Welcome and Prayer
- Bible teaching on water, hygiene and sanitation
- Information on WASH using posters + exercises
 - Discuss customs & habits, spread of diseases, f-diagram, etc.
- Example of affordable WASH solutions
 - Water Filters, simple latrines, hand pumps, hand washing, etc.
- Actions for better Future,
 - Together with leaders design their community
Make an action plan



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WASH Training in Churches



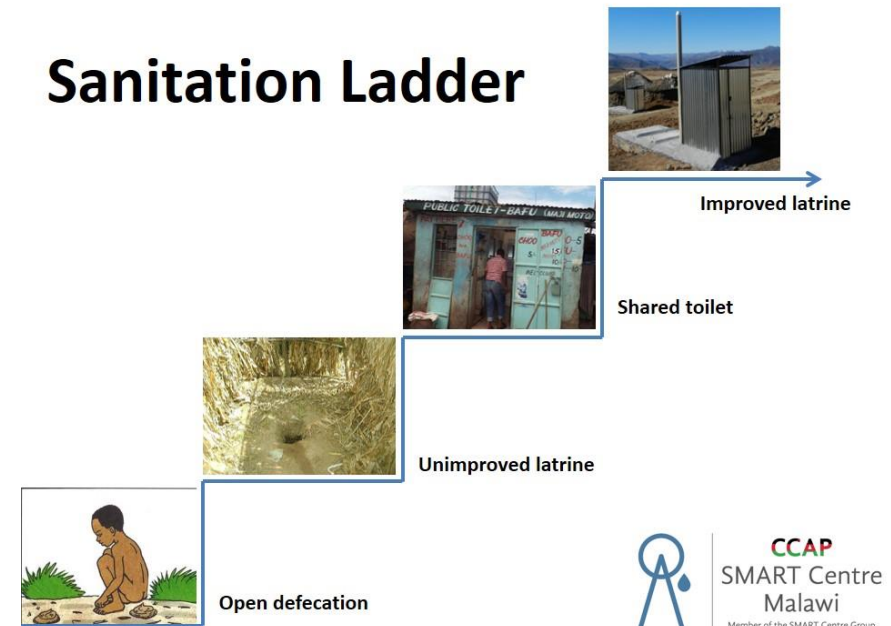
Examples of Training Materials

Technologies that are affordable and locally produced

Water Ladder



Sanitation Ladder

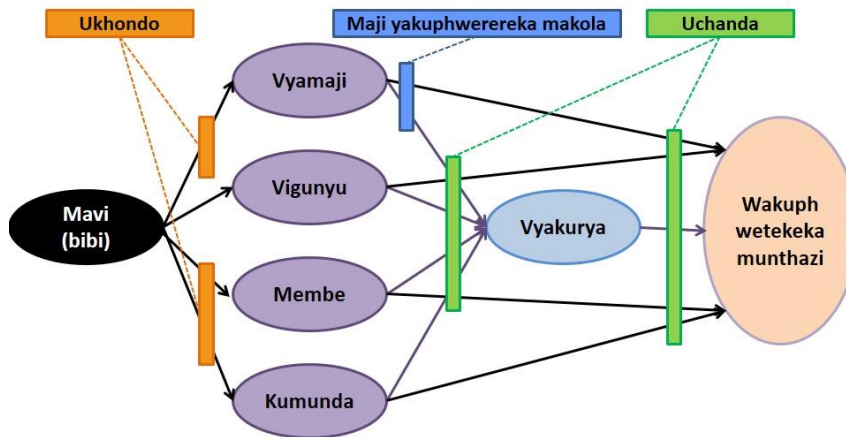




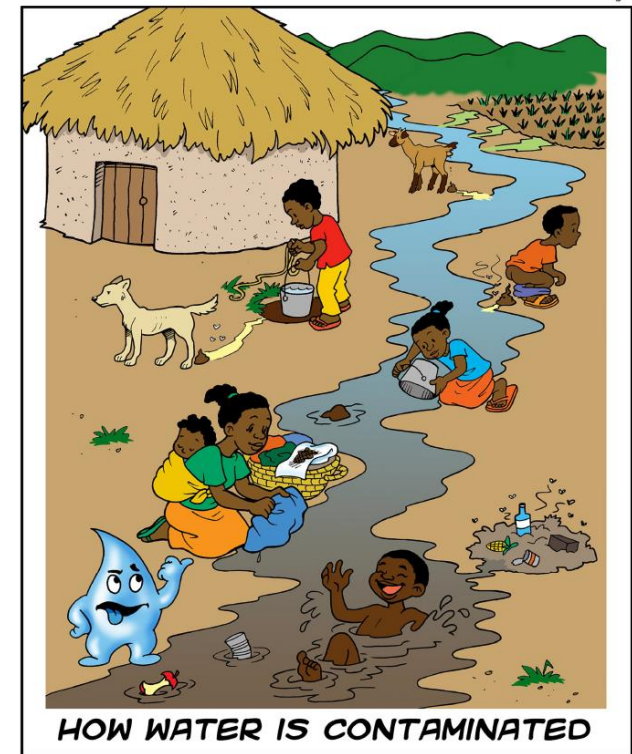
Examples of Training Materials

F-diagram in local language

Nthowa za umo matenda yakwiza chifukwa talya mavi (bibi)
yangatandazgikira na kapewero kake



Posters of CAWST





Example from Niger



Using demonstrations of different options of dip / tippy taps



Reverend Ousiman sharing Covid-19 precautions in training



Results in Malawi

- Increased focus on WASH practices within communities
- Household investment in improving WASH
- Trigger to take action
 - Maintaining broken well, buy water filter, construct latrine, etc.
 - Attend training for practical skills (drilling, mason)
- Lesson: need to include (female) natural leaders besides (male) church leaders and local govt. staff
- 250 leaders reached → 3500+ members
- Cost of program \$3.500 → cost-effective





Quotes from participants

“The lessons are real helping the community to change their mindset. For example, it was a taboo at the funeral to cover the food. But now people understand that if we don’t cover the food, flies can easily transmit bacteria.”

“I only taught members of our village. I am a village headman, so it was easy to speak during village meetings.”

“I personally bought the filter and flapper. I also emphasize the use of those to fellow church men and community members”



Conclusions

The Faith and Water approach has a huge potential to contribute to reaching water related SGDs for the last mile!

- Involvement of natural leaders and females is essential.
- It is a cost-effective approach (the trigger to come is not allowances/hand outs)
- The motivation to change behavior more intrinsic





Suggestions & Question

Suggestions

- Acknowledge the power and potential of Faith Based Groups
- Provide local faith leaders with knowledge and funds to adopt the approach
- Adopt a flexible approach to fit with what is locally present

Question

- Do you agree this approach has potential to reach SDG6
- If yes, what are your ideas to scale-up this approach?



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Thank you for your attention

Reinier Veldman
Program Manager + Coördinator
SMART Centre Group / MetaMeta
rveldman@metameta.nl

Booklet; *Smart Hygiene Solutions in times of Corona*
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