

CLTS Monthly Coordination Meeting

12 September 2013, 2PM

National Technical Coordinating Unit (NTCU) for CLTS; Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, Old Ministry of Health & Social Welfare (basement), Capitol Bye-Pass, Monrovia, Liberia

Attendance: 10

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Status Updates on Action Points
3. Presentation & Discussion: Overview of CLTS in Liberia
4. Presentation & Discussion: CLTS expansion thru NLN
5. Updates from Partners
6. AOB

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Status Updates on Action Points

- Write and send out an official letter regarding meeting participation, with schedule and application form attached (NTCU)
COMPLETE – MOHSW sent out on 10 Sep 2013
- Announce CLTS meeting schedule at next WASH Coordination meeting (NTCU)
COMPLETE – UNICEF announced on 15 Aug 2013, and will continue to announce at subsequent monthly WASH Coordination meetings
- Prepare overview of NSC meeting (NTCU)
INCOMPLETE – meeting is planned for 28 Sep; invites have gone out for Health & Social Welfare, Public Works, Internal Affairs and Education ministries, but still need focal point for Agriculture and Gender & Development ministries
- Develop CLTS work plan (NTCU/ Jallah)
INCOMPLETE – Process has started but needs more leadership from NTCU; small group to meet
- Finalize national CLTS Survey (CHF)
COMPLETE – at Validation Workshop on 28 Aug 2013

- Share written docs on NL network (CHF)
INCOMPLETE – CHF to create onepager to post online in October (better next month because more information on results will be available)
- Resolve issues in Kamara, Krukai and Menmeh (LICH, UNICEF, NTCU)
COMPLETE – field trip conducted on 22 Aug 2013; Kamara – 8 latrines and doing some cleaning; Krukai – 3 structures, 12 drop holes; Menmeh – still dragging; 2 more communities were triggered with the NTCU – Chase Town & Ziah Town – 4 drop holes and 1 hole, respectively. Need for NTCU, MCHT to meet with LICH to review and modify monitoring plan.
- Share information on CLTS workshop in Benin (UNICEF)
COMPLETE – shared on website and via email on 9 Aug 2013

Presentation & Discussion: Overview of CLTS in Liberia

- Innovative method in which communities take the lead in analysing their own sanitation situation
- Through disgust and shame, communities take corrective action to change situation
- In transition from relief to development, CLTS is seen in Liberia as best way to diverge from handouts in sanitation
- In 2009, Liberia received invitation that took four persons to Nigeria for CLTS training for Anglophone countries
- Workshop was followed by in-country Training of Trainers (ToT) with government and partners which generated lots of excitement with 10 triggerings; however, proper monitoring system was not set up
- Five communities achieved ODF, celebrated three
- 2011 brought re-engineering process which led to formulation of structures – National Steering Committee (NSC) and National Technical Coordinating Unit (NTCU)
- Structures exist now through district level (in some areas), but not yet at clan level
- Key partners so far are CHF and UNICEF with additional partners joining - LICH, Plan, GAA, LivingWater, etc. and PSI is leading on social marketing; about 10 local partners have applied
- NTCU would like to reach at least 100 ODF communities in 2013
- CLTS was recently added on the WASH Liberia website and the NTCU has finalized a standardized application form
- NTCU feels subnational government is capable of large part of implementation, supported by natural leaders (NLs)

- If they join Natural Leader Networks (NLNs) (currently being piloted by CHF in Bong, Lofa and Nimba), NLs get financial incentive to bring other communities to ODF
- Government has embraced CLTS but financial support needs to be increased

Q&A

- Question - How many government focal persons are there now? 7 county-level; no official district-level Focal Persons yet but district Environmental Health Technicians (EHTs) are being put into place
- Comment - Partners need to support Government of Liberia (GOL) to set up structures in counties where they do not exist

Presentation: CLTS expansion thru NLN

- Distinction between 2 types of natural leaders: natural leaders in the traditional CLTS sense – those that play a significant part in bringing their own community to ODF (voluntary, unpaid) and those going beyond their own communities to bring neighbouring communities to ODF (incentivized through new pilot)
- IWASH initiates the process by facilitating a community to go ODF then that community's NLs form the NLN and trigger neighbouring communities
- NLNs reduce cost, mostly in travel; it is direct and localized
- 20 communities were verified ODF last month; target is 105/120 ODF this year and so far, looks promising
- NLs in these NLNs are given additional training and offered oversight and guidance
- 36 new communities (12 per county) will be triggered monthly going forward, 6 per district as a minimum
- Assuming 3 months to get to ODF but likely faster; incentive is bound to ODF (performance-based)
- Additional component: social marketing - at beginning of this month, PSI initiated the social marketing piece with radio dramas; market day events to begin in dry season (street theatre, billboards, NLs talking about program)
- Additional component: wash entrepreneurs – NLs in these NLNs can be trained to repair hand pumps and start their own private business (training includes hand pump repair and business management); they are given contracts to repair hand pumps at institutions (schools, health facilities) to get going, then beyond that, engage with communities
- CHF pays for spare parts in ODF communities but communities must pay hand pump repairman/ woman for service
- IWASH is interested in piloting CLTS in peri-urban areas

- Major challenge in NLN was building capacity of government staff at subnational level, which has been aided by visits from central-level government staff and a policy dissemination workshop
- MOUs will be utilized for support to GOL staff at county and district level
- Financial investment does carry costs, but costs should reduce as the NLN spreads
- PSI and CHF in collaboration with the NTCU created a logo for ODF, to be piloted through IWASH; it has done well in testing so far and final product will not be proprietary

Updates from Partners

- LIWI: triggered 5 communities in Margibi; in the leading community: 12 structures, 11 in use
- UNICEF: need to discuss NL training and ODF celebration planning with NTCU
- WASH Consortium: will roll out longer-term programme by the end of this year; would like to ensure government takes ownership and partners share best practice
- OICI: intends to start CLTS implementation with 10 districts in Grand Gedeh and 10 in River Gee, but needs assistance from county government officials in identifying specific communities

AOB

- Revision of national Guidelines: Participants agreed that a small technical working group should meet weekly to review lessons learned and decide way forward on Guidelines; interested stakeholders can sign up through NTCU
- Clarification around the amount of supervision that is required from NTCU and the counties for NGOs to implement CLTS: NTCU should be included in planning process and training, then quarterly and upon request

Action Points

- Prepare overview of NSC meeting (NTCU)
- Develop CLTS work plan (NTCU/ Jallah) with meeting at 10AM on 13 Sep at CHF Office
- Share written docs on NL network (CHF)
- Invite stakeholders to participate in technical working group on revision of national Guidelines (NTCU)