

## INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION WORKSHOP

**LENGTH:** 2–2.5 days

### WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

Environmental sanitation aims to protect and promote human health and well-being by providing a clean environment and breaking the cycle of disease. Environmental sanitation is more than just building latrines. It takes a broader look at the community and addresses different, but interconnected, aspects, including human and animal excreta management, solid waste management, vector control and domestic wastewater management.

In this introductory level workshop, participants will gain an overall understanding of the issues and best practices for on-site environmental sanitation management in low-income communities.

The workshop explores the relationship between environmental sanitation, disease transmission and health. It addresses technical topics such as human excreta management including different latrine designs; animal excreta management; solid waste management; vector control for mosquitos and rodents; and domestic wastewater management. Aspects of hygiene, such as handwashing and menstrual hygiene are also discussed as they relate to sanitation.

The workshop also introduces a framework for implementing a sustainable and successful project, and participants discuss behaviour change and sanitation promotion to create demand for environmental sanitation. Finally, participants will learn to perform an environmental sanitation inspection and/or an environmental sanitation walk.

### OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of the workshop, participants will be able to:

- Discuss local and global issues and how environmental sanitation is connected to the poverty cycle
- Identify diseases related to environmental sanitation and explain how to prevent disease transmission
- Discuss the five components of a sanitation system to properly manage human excreta
- Identify different latrine technologies and describe their basic design, advantages, and limitations
- Discuss the importance of animal excreta management and identify some good practices
- Describe safe and proper solid waste management practices including, recycling, composting, burning and final disposal
- Discuss the importance of domestic wastewater management and identify different treatment, use and disposal options for greywater and overflow water
- Identify different types of vectors and discuss control methods for mosquitos and rodents

- Discuss the importance of handwashing with soap, describe the critical times and procedure for proper handwashing, and discuss the need for handwashing hardware and software
- Discuss the purpose of the project framework and describe the five components needed for a successful and sustainable environmental sanitation project
- Discuss how understanding behaviour change and sanitation promotion will shape their approach to implementing a project
- Identify factors that contribute to poor environmental sanitation
- Use environmental sanitation inspection forms to evaluate communities and identify environmental sanitation challenges
- Establish a network of contacts with other project implementers

## **METHODS OF INSTRUCTION**

The participatory workshop includes theory, activities, demonstrations, open discussion, case studies, and a field visit to identify and discuss local environmental sanitation practices. Active participant engagement in all learning activities is encouraged.

## **CONTENT**

The following is a tentative list of the topics covered in the workshop material. A specific agenda will be developed for the training based on consultations with the organizer and participants.

### Theory

- Local and global environmental sanitation issues
- Pathogens and transmission of environmental sanitation related diseases
- Sanitation system to manage human excreta
- Sanitation ladder and different latrine technologies
- Animal excreta management
- Solid waste management including recycling, composting, burning and final disposal
- Domestic wastewater treatment, use and disposal
- Vector control for mosquitos and rodents
- Handwashing with soap
- Project framework
- Behaviour change and sanitation promotion

Note: Stormwater management is outside the scope of this workshop.

### Practical (Optional)

- Field trip to identify and discuss environmental sanitation challenges

## **PARTICIPANTS**

Participants may be individuals or groups who are:

- Working in water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), community development or health projects seeking solutions for environmental sanitation
- Program organizers or project managers with the responsibility for organizing projects and making decisions
- Motivated to start or strengthen projects for improving environmental sanitation

It is an advantage if participants have the following:

- Source of funding in place to begin implementation (as this will allow for immediate application of the knowledge and skills gained in the workshop)
- Support of their organization which recognizes that environmental sanitation may be beneficial for the communities where they work

Participation by women is encouraged. Preferably, two or three people from each organization would attend to ensure that they learn together and benefit most from the workshop.

This is an introductory level workshop. It is NOT intended for people already trained in environmental sanitation.

## **TRAINING MATERIALS**

The following materials will be provided:

- Participant resources including Technical Briefs and Fact Sheets
- CD containing all material presented in the workshop and related resources