


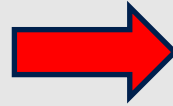
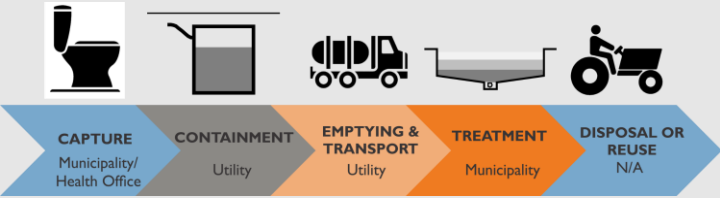


# Applying a Learning Alliance Approach in Small-town Sanitation (Ethiopia)





# Shift focus on solely on service chain to more holistic systems thinking





## Building blocks of the WASH system

- Policy & legislation
- Finance
- Monitoring
- Planning
- Infrastructure
- Water resources management
- Institutions
- Regulation & accountability
- Learning & adaptation



- Government
- Community organisations
- Private suppliers
- Regulators
- Researchers
- Consumers
- Donors
- Development banks
- NGOs
- International
- National
- District
- Community





# Background

- A five-year program (2017-2021), funded by, and in partnership with USAID
- The University of Colorado as prime grantee with eight partners
- Our primary objective is to increase the sustainability of WASH services, through strengthening local systems
- SWS comprises four concept teams of which IRC, Tt and LINC are one. apply and tests a number of systems analysis tools and techniques
- Tetra Tech leads the small-town sanitation work in Woliso (Oromia) and Debre Birhan (Amhara)





# Small-town Sanitation

## Goal

- ❖ Strengthen local systems responsible for sanitation services
- ❖ Strengthen sanitation stakeholders' system thinking through improved partnership

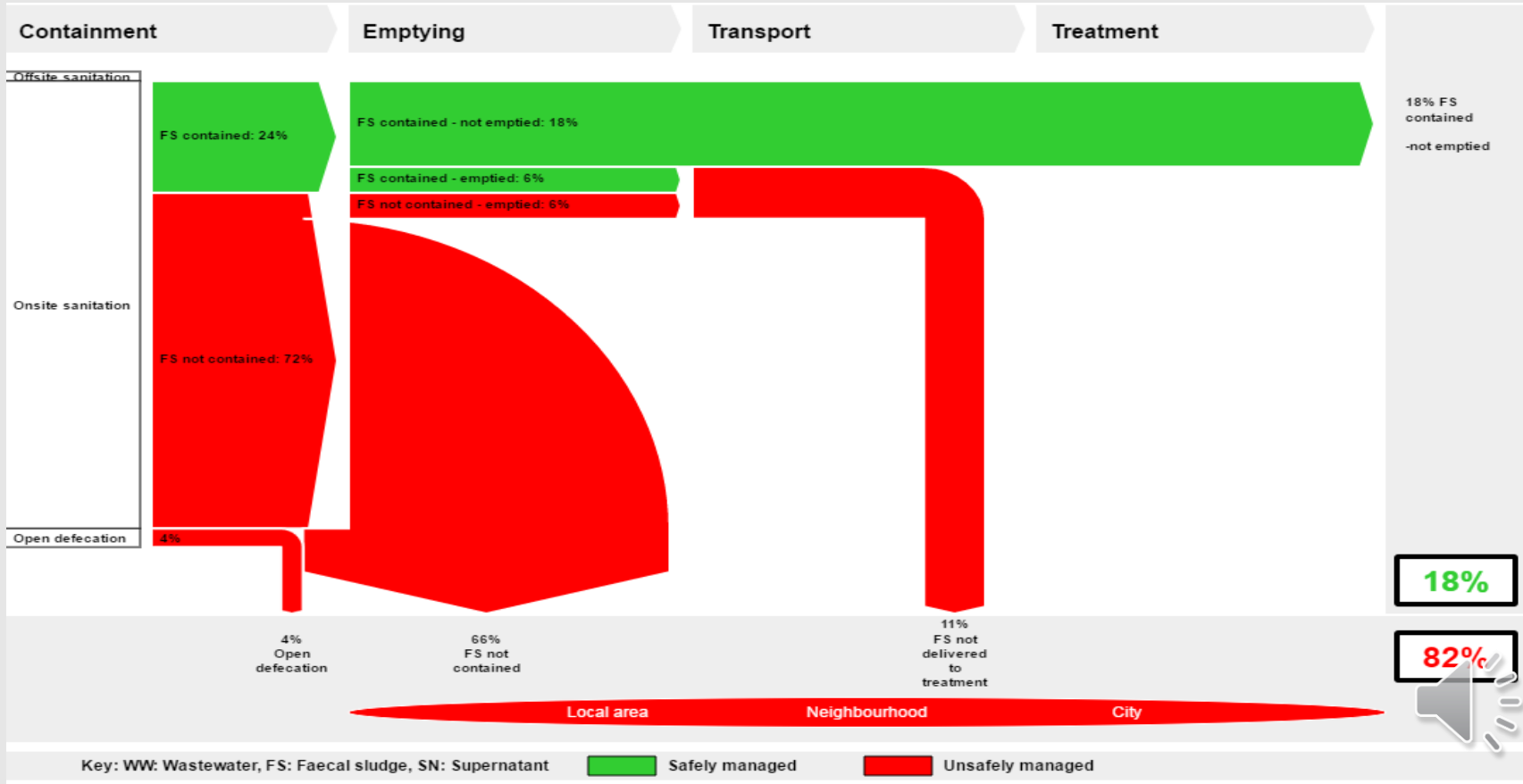
## Approaches

- ❖ Learning Alliance approach (with action research component)





# Woliso





# Debre Birhan

Debre Birhan, Amhara Region, Ethiopia  
Version: Draft  
SFD Level: 1 - Initial SFD

Date prepared: 16 May 2018  
Prepared by: Pippa Scott



The SFD Promotion Initiative recommends preparation of a report on the city context, the analysis carried out and data sources used to produce this graphic. Full details on how to create an SFD Report are available at: [sfd.susana.org](http://sfd.susana.org)





# Innovative elements of the approach (Hub)

- Facilitates the establishment of the coalitions
- Catalyzes the initial drive for activities
- Supports coordination meetings
- Initiates/fosters connections among the different actors within the towns (e.g. decision-makers)
- Provides targeted responses (e.g. training, town-to-town learning) to needs identified by the coalition
- Provides ongoing technical support







## Results (to date)

- Successfully advocated for gaining a political commitment for allocating government budget for sanitation
- Increased the profile of sanitation and hygiene on the town political agenda
- Fostered collaboration among service authority, service providers (public and private) and user communities
- Increased and strengthened interactions and coordination between town and kebele level actors





## Results (to date)

- Developed communal and public latrine management guideline manual
- Established and trained shared latrine facilities management body
- Procured land for FS dumpsite and constructed FSD site facilities (DB)
- Capacity built through targeted training (LA members, & community representatives)





# Challenges

- Low involvement of decision-makers inhibited the coalitions ability to influence uptake of recommendations and activities
- High turnover of essential government representatives has led to (1) losses in institutional memory within the coalitions and (2) disrupted momentum created
- Unclear roles and responsibilities
- Limited financial resource





# Lesson learnt

- Embedding systems thinking takes time – looking software component equally with the infrastructure
- Systems change is an ongoing process
- Systems change may requires multiple levels of action
- Experience sharing and high-level meetings high impact for system thinking





Thank you.

