

Background

Statement of problem

- Approximately 70% of the world's population will be urbanized by 2050
- This will increase pressure on already poorly resourced sanitation systems
- Solutions must be context appropriate, inclusive and sustainable
- Can be challenging due to different interpretations of these terms

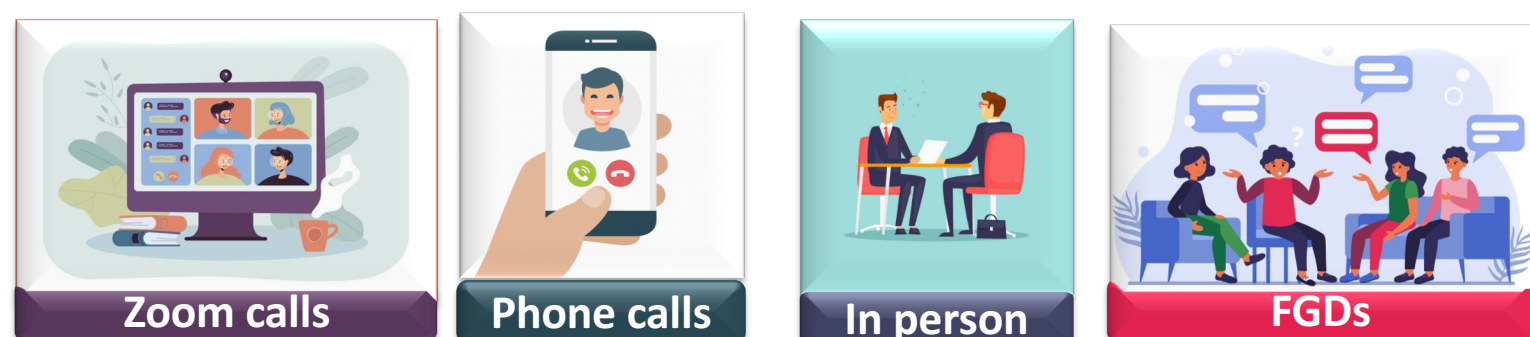
Aim of study

To examine current perceptions of inclusion and sustainability of sanitation stakeholders in sub-Saharan African cities in Malawi (Blantyre), Tanzania (Arusha and Dar es Salaam), Zimbabwe (Plumtree), and South Africa (eThekweni Municipality).

Methodology

In each country, stakeholders were mapped and categorized as: Non governmental organizations(NGO), Civil Society(CS), Donors(DN), Government departments(GO), Private Sector(PS) or Academic Institutions(AC) and Other(OT). Interviews or FGDs were conducted using a standardized tool through different ways (Figure 1) across all four study sites. The tool examined areas of their sanitation goals, SGD6, experience and interaction with other stakeholders and interpretation/consideration of inclusiveness and sustainability in their sanitation projects

Figure 1: Data collection methods



Respondents

A total of 78 interviews with stakeholders across all four sites (Figure 2) were done. Three FGDs (24 participants) and 13 interviews with beneficiaries of projects were conducted in Malawi and Zimbabwe respectively.

Note: Data analysis is still in progress and final report will be ready mid 2021, these are preliminary results

Figure 2: Categorisation of respondents across the four sites

Country	Number of Participants							Total
	GO	NGO	DN	CSO	AC	PS	OT	
Malawi	3	7	-	2	-	6	-	18
Tanzania	9	7	5	1	-	2	4	28
South Africa	7	1	-	-	5	3	1	17
Zimbabwe	8	6	1	-	-	-	-	15
Total	27	21	6	3	5	11	5	78

Interpretations & consideration of inclusion

Stakeholders said inclusion was:

- Holistic approach to sanitation(all types of waste)
- Engagement of all stakeholders(bottom to top)
- Consideration of different Demographic groups(Figure 3)

Figure 3: Interpretation and consideration of inclusion

Interpretation	Number of times mentioned by participants						
	GO	NGO	DN	CSO	AC	PS	OT
	3	11	1	2	3	1	1
	1	6	-	-	-	-	-
	1	1	1	-	3	-	-
	3	2	-	-	2	-	-
	2	3	-	1	1	-	-
	6	10	2	3	-	2	1
	6	3	4	1	-	2	1
	1	1	-	-	-	-	-

“targeting everyone regardless of physical ability, economic status”- Malawi

Interpretations of sustainability

The term sustainability generally revolved around **longevity** and **continuity**, however just like inclusion, different stakeholders emphasized different definitions of sustainability depending on their organizational objectives . The main interpretations were as illustrated in Figure 4.

Figure 4: Interpretation of sustainability

Interpretation	Number of times mentioned by participants						
	GO	NGO	DN	CSO	AC	PS	OT
Economic	17	14	1	1	2	3	1
Social	16	13	4	1	5	8	2
Environment	14	17	4	4	8	8	2

“A steady way of attaining a benefit in a manner that can be repeated again and again without harming the environment or the people”- South Africa

Discussion and conclusion

NGOs, GOs and ACs in that order, seem to be conversant with the terms inclusion and sustainability, revealing a potential gap in the other types of stakeholders, including the community members. Women, the disabled and the poor are emphasized in inclusion. Similar emphasis is seen among the economic, social and environmental interpretations of sustainability. However all stakeholders apply different meaning to these terms. Establishing common understanding among all types of stakeholders in the different countries is crucial in achieving effective interdisciplinary approach in achieving urban sanitation that is both inclusive and sustainable.