

OPEN DEFECCATION



+ Impact goal

Elimination as a public health problem

+ Elimination target

95% reduction in the number of people practicing open defecation (2030 vs. 2020)

+ Programmatic targets

≥95% households with access to improved sanitation facilities

≥90% households with available handwashing facilities (with soap and water) at latrines

Action steps to achieve elimination

Best buys

① Choice of cost-efficient technology:

–Encourage the implementation of cost-effective sanitation technologies appropriate for each location to prevent infectious intestinal diseases, including diarrheal diseases, helminthiasis, anemia, and giardiasis, among others, as well as long-term growth retardation and cognitive decline.

② Health education and promotion:

–Provide dissemination and technical support for health education aligned with health promotion, so that communities accept behavioral change, e.g., hygiene promotion is a complementary action after the construction of latrines in rural areas.

③ Political influence to close the sanitation gap:

–Use political influence from the national government to subnational governments to ensure that their workplans are aligned with closing gaps and expanding services.

④ Using the tool WASH Financial Accounts – TrackFin:

–Improve monitoring and advocacy of sanitation spending to ensure that it is targeted to areas with the least access to this service.

⑤ Stakeholder engagement with partners:

–Align efforts with government, non-governmental, and international partners working towards the elimination of open defecation.

More information

· Wolf J, Johnston RB, Ambelu A, Arnold BF, Bain R, Brauer M et al. Burden of disease attributable to unsafe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene in domestic settings: A global analysis for selected adverse health outcomes. *Lancet*. 2023;401(10393): 2060–2071. Available from: [https://doi.org/10.1016/s0140-6736\(23\)00458-0](https://doi.org/10.1016/s0140-6736(23)00458-0)

· Kouassi HAA, Andrianisa HA, Traoré MB, Sossou SK, Momo Nguematio R, Ymélé SSS, Ahossouhe MS. Review of the slippage factors from open defecation-free (ODF) status towards open defecation (OD) after the Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) approach implementation. *Int J Hyg Environ Health*. 2023;250 (114160):1438–4639. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijheh.2023.114160>

· Clasen TF, Bostoen K, Schmidt WP, Boisson S, Fung IC, Jenkins MW, et al. Interventions to improve disposal of human excreta for preventing diarrhoea. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev*. 2010; 6:1–32. Available from: https://researchonline.lshtm.ac.uk/id/eprint/3420/1/Clasen_et_al-2010-The_Cochrane_library.pdf



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