

San-Dem: Creating Demand for Sanitation in Peri-Urban Zambia

Progress Report

June 2017

Aim and objectives

Aim: To determine how far a state-of-the-art approach to behaviour change can enhance demand for and acquisition of improved toilets in peri-urban slums of Zambia. The project will demonstrate the potential role for demand creation in accelerating uptake without improving supply.

Objectives:

- Test the hypothesis that demand for and acquisition of improved toilets can be enhanced without intervention on the supply side
- Identify the barriers that prevent acquisition of a toilet when demand is improved
- Provide learnings about what works to enhance demand and a model intervention that can be replicated in informal settlements elsewhere in Africa.

Research Progress

Since last July, progress on the SanDem project includes development of the formative research protocol, submitting and receiving ethical approval, conducting the formative research data collection as well as analysing the data and presenting findings to WASH stakeholders.

In addition, the creative brief was developed which informed the development of the behavioural intervention, and has since been finalised for implementation. The protocol for the randomised controlled trial (RCT) was developed and submitted for ethical approval which has since been granted. Preparations for the RCT baseline and intervention have been completed and the baseline survey is currently underway.

On Capacity Development, one female student from the School of Medicine-Public Health and two male students from School of Engineering were awarded SHARE scholarships worth GBP 2000 each to support their research projects. They have all progressed working on their research projects; the MPH student has finalised her fieldwork and successfully presented her findings to the University of Zambia graduate forum in April. She is currently working on her draft manuscript under CIDRZ supervision and we have continued to offer her further support when needed.

A scientific skills writing workshop was successfully conducted with 15 participants who were selected from 44 applications. Seven manuscripts have been submitted following the completion of the training in November 2016 with two approved for publication. Furthermore, two CIDRZ laboratory staff attended training at Medunsa in South Africa in November 2016, and the CIDRZ Finance and Grants Management team attended training in Uganda in the same month.

Successes

- Receiving ethical approval for the formative research.
- Conducting and completing formative research data collection and analysis.
- Development of the behavioural change intervention.
- Designing and submission of the protocol for the RCT and receiving ethical approval.

Challenges

- Experienced delays in receiving ethical approval for the formative research protocol. The delays slightly pushed activities forward but we managed to complete data collection and analysis in good time to develop the behavioural intervention.
- Delays in drafting manuscripts for the formative research, which are currently being worked on.

RIU successes

There have been many successes in our RIU activities since last July, including:

- Attending four Water and Sanitation (WATSAN) Nights where various WASH stakeholders presented on their work, giving updates and sharing their WASH strategic country plans.
- Hosting a creative brief workshop where formative research findings were presented and WASH stakeholders were engaged in the process of interpreting the findings and generating ideas for the development of the behaviour change intervention.
- Presenting on sanitation demand and health at a sanitation symposium in November 2016.
- Presenting on the San-Dem project and other WASH related works during the VIP visit by UK's MP James Wharton, DFID Zambia's WASH specialist, UNICEF representatives, Ministers of Health and Commerce, and representatives from the new ministry of Water and Sanitation.
- Recognised in the sector and have been invited to sit on the Zambia NGO WASH Forum Board.



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