

A tale of clean cities: insights for planning urban sanitation from Ghana, India and the Philippines

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on behalf of

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Outline

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- Case studies
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Introduction

- With uncontrolled urbanisation and proliferation of slums, delivering urban sanitation is a complex task
- Universal access to sanitation by 2030 is one of the most challenging Sustainable Development Goal targets
- The research '*A tale of clean cities*' aims to learn from three cities that are making good progress towards city-wide sanitation
 - ✓ For all
 - ✓ Along the sanitation service chain

Methodology

- Initial desk-based work
 - Review of 64 articles
 - 12 semi-structured interviews with experts
- Three case studies of successful cities
 - San Fernando, the Philippines
 - Visakhapatnam, India
 - Kumasi, Ghana
- Field research
 - Field visits
 - Over 50 key informant interviews
 - Stakeholder feedback meetings
- Regular input from an advisory group



Case studies

City	Awards	Population
Visakhapatnam India	3rd Cleanest City under Swachh Bharat Mission (2016) Top 20 city under Smart Cities Mission (2016)	2,100,000
San Fernando The Philippines	1st runner up Safest, Cleanest and Greenest City Region 1 (2015) Best Zero Waste Management Project Implementer (2010)	115,000
Kumasi Ghana	Cleanest City (2014)	2,400,000

Case studies – San Fernando

- San Fernando, La Union, built a reputation as a dynamic city, putting forward a progressive urban development agenda, with sanitation as a critical pillar.
- The past two decades represent a rich phase of experimentation to deliver sanitation in challenging environments and along the sanitation service chain.
- Building on progress in service levels, legislation and public awareness, a second phase is now starting, aiming to deliver city-wide sanitation services.



Findings

- Substantial but uneven progress along segments of the sanitation chain

Table: Progress across the sanitation service chain in the city

City	Capture	Containment	Transport	Treatment	Reuse	Solid waste
Visakhapatnam	Good	Good	Some	Little – sludge	Little – sludge	Good
				Good – waste water	Good – waste water	
Kumasi	Some	Little	Good	Good	Little	Good
San Fernando	Some	Little	Some	Good	Little	Good



Facility sludge treatment plant for the whole city of San Fernando.

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Findings

- The urban poor and those who live in challenging areas are being left behind

Table: Progress across the sanitation service chain in challenging/poor areas of the city

City	Capture	Containment	Transport	Treatment	Reuse	Solid waste
Visakhapatnam	Poor	Little	Poor	Little	Little	Some
Kumasi	Little	Little	Little	Little	Little	Good
San Fernando	Some	Poor	Some	Some	Little	Good

Findings

- There were common drivers of progress:
 - Sanitation champions at the municipal level
 - National political influence
 - Economic considerations
 - Support from development partners
- Progress resulted from emerging opportunities; city sanitation planning was not a key determinant.



Findings

- However, planning exercises made meaningful contributions
 - Forging an aspirational vision of a clean city
 - Improving collaboration
 - Raising awareness
- These positive contributions were sometimes unintended and varied with the level of development of sanitation in the city
- This development can be structured into 3 phases

Findings

Piloting phase	Initial steps in sanitation development, with discrete pilot projects addressing specific links of the service chain. Learning about the sanitation context, key stakeholders, and possible service models.
Consolidation phase	Initiatives aim at the expansion, management and oversight of services along the sanitation chain, with involvement of the key stakeholders. Institutional bottlenecks are understood and targeted (priority, capacity, coordination, financing).
City-wide expansion phase	A clear vision and aspiration for city-wide sanitation services is pursued. Efforts in place try to close the gaps in coverage and improve service levels.

Recommendations

For city sanitation planning:

- Promote local ownership of city sanitation planning, linking it to funding opportunities and budgeting processes
- Think of city sanitation planning as a process with many functions
- Adapt the approach to planning to the city's phase of sanitation development and to political opportunities for change.

Recommendations

- At piloting stage, for instance, approach city sanitation planning as an iterative learning process, whereby a long-term vision is developed and a short-term actionable strategy is prepared and regularly renewed

Table 6: Tailoring city sanitation planning

Phase	Key functions to pursue	Possible city sanitation planning activities
Piloting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating a vision of a clean city and a broad pathway to get there • Increasing public profile of sanitation • Learning how to expand access to sanitation in different city areas • Exploring how to deliver services along the sanitation chain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of city-wide diagnostic tools to identify needs and critical areas (e.g. Shit Flow Diagram, Sanitation Safety Plan, poverty/disease mapping) • Scenario building/options assessments, workshops with cross-departmental involvement • Exposure visits/exchanges and learning events • Public awareness campaigns

Recommendations

For progress in urban sanitation in general:

- Nurture sanitation champions at the municipal level
- Influence national governments to improve financing and benchmark cities' performances.
- Be prepared to seize opportunities for change as they arise.

Recommendations

For progress in urban sanitation in general:

- Provide financial support that leverages further investments and catalyses change.
- Promote city-wide political narratives that highlight universal access, ensuring inclusion of poor people.



Thank you!

The **synthesis report** “*A tale of clean cities: insights for planning urban sanitation from Ghana, India and the Philippines*” (in English, Spanish, French and Portuguese) and the three **case study reports** are available at:

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