

Achieving Universal Access to Urban Sanitation Services Workshop:

What do we know, what works, and what do we need to learn?



Providing sanitation services to the poor in slums and low-income urban areas is one of the key challenges for achieving the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) Sustainable Development Goals, and in particular the targets of sanitation for all and reducing inequality in access to sustainable sanitation services. Currently, there is insufficient attention, data, evidence and knowledge to inform policy, programs and investments to meet the safe sanitation service delivery needs of low-income urban communities. To address this gap, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the World Bank/WSP, Leeds University, and the Center for Global Safe WASH at Emory University are organizing a workshop to bring together experts from the WASH and the Urban Development sectors to explore proven and new, innovative approaches that could change current paradigms for urban sanitation. The focus of the discussions will be to develop a vision for city-wide sanitation that is poor inclusive and urban service delivery that is sanitation inclusive and how to achieve this vision.

The workshop objectives are to: 1) advance sector knowledge for reducing equality gaps in urban sanitation services by capturing current knowledge and global best practices for providing WASH services to poor urban areas; 2) identify future learning needs; and 3) build bridges between the WASH sector and the Urban Development sector.

Objectives:

- Review the current state of knowledge about sanitation infrastructure and services in low-income urban settings,
- Highlight examples of successful sanitation infrastructure or services in these environments,
- Discuss the opportunities for sanitation service delivery provision from technical, legal, financial, economic and social perspectives,
- Chart a way forward for sharing best practices, addressing information gaps, and guiding policy and investments in urban WASH infrastructure and services.

****Formal Invitation to Follow****