



COMMUNITY ROADSHOW: BRINGING DIGNITY TO RURAL SANITATION

Demonstration of Pour Flush Latrines in Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality

Date: 05 April 2022

Time: 10:00 to 13:00

Registration link: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_vI3Z4GZ5R_uBViyV9b9kng

This project is a partnership between the Water Research Commission (WRC), PepsiCo Foundation and Tsogang Water and Sanitation. The demonstration project is providing 120 households with off-grid low flush toilets in Makhuduthamaga local municipality. Through the partnership, local communities were trained in sanitation systems planning and building, health and safety aspects, and hygiene practices. The provision of a hygienic toilet can provide numerous public health, environmental and economic benefits. On the 05 April 2022, the project will be launched in Schoonoord and highlight how the partnerships between public, private, NGOs and communities can result in dignified sanitation provision in rural areas.

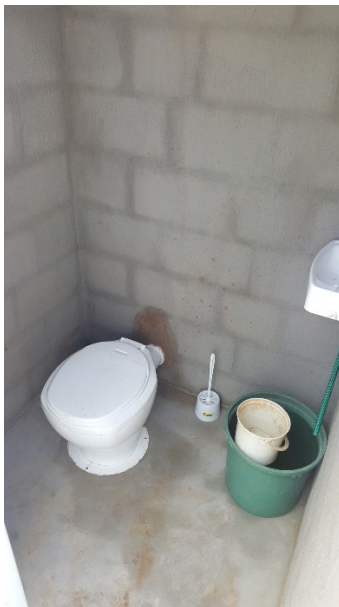
Background

A hygienic toilet can provide numerous public health, environmental and economic benefits. A toilet serves as one of the most important medical devices in a house along with clean water supply by providing a physical barrier between users and human faecal waste which can be the source of many waterborne illnesses, including Cholera and diarrhoea, and soil-transmitted diseases, such as intestinal worms. The lack of hygienic toilet facilities has detrimental consequences to humans. The World Health Organisation estimates that inadequate sanitation causes 432,000 diarrhoeal deaths annually with mainly young children susceptible. The lack of sanitation also contributes to malnutrition, lost educational opportunities and associated with a lack of dignity. The knock-on effects on a country can be significant. It was estimated poor sanitation cost the global economy around R3 trillion (US\$222 billion) mainly through mortality, loss of productivity, burden on healthcare for preventable diseases and the time used for locating access to a toilet.

There are many pockets of areas in South Africa, specifically rural areas that do not have adequate sanitation technologies due to historical apartheid planning. Sewer-based systems are mainly used in urban centres. Outside these urban centres, rural sanitation options, such as latrines, are used. Latrines do offer the benefit of providing sanitation where there are no existing sewer infrastructure, can be implemented faster than sewer systems and do not require an available and / or reliable water supply to function. However, latrines are associated with foul smells, poor user acceptance and require periodic emptying after 5 years; a task made challenging in rural settings. There is a desire for people to have access to water flushing toilets in rural contexts. To bridge this technological gap, the Water Research Commission (WRC) in 2009 had funded the development of Low / Pour Flush toilets that could be used in rural settings. The successful research and piloting of the technology led to its commercialisation and has resulted in implementation in various provinces within South Africa. Catalysed through demonstration

projects to provide confidence in the approach, many municipalities have since replaced dry latrines as a minimum standard of sanitation. There are 16,000 units of the technology applied in South Africa, most built after 2015 and concentrated in KwaZulu-Natal and Eastern Cape Province where the first demonstration sites were established.

Through a partnership with the PepsiCo Foundation and Tsogang Water and Sanitation, low / pour flush toilet technologies are being introduced in the Limpopo Province. The selected site is around Ga-Moela village close to Schoonoord. The demonstration project will provide sanitation services to 120 households housing around 700 people. The selected area site is currently using locally built latrines with some households having no toilet facility at all. Through the demonstration project, local people will be trained in the construction of the units. The community has also recently managed to organise themselves for the construction of communal water supply. It is envisaged that this demonstration project will lead to kick-starting of similar community-driven initiatives in the province and South Africa.



Programme Chair – Dr Sudhir Pillay, WRC

Draft Agenda		
Session 1: Community Roadshow - Bringing Dignity to Rural Sanitation		
10h00 - 10h10	Welcome	Local Authority Representative
10h10 - 10h20	Launch Video: Installation of Pour Flush Latrines in the Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality	Facilitator
10h20 - 10h30	Mayoral Address: Municipal Upliftment Through Partnerships	Local Government Representative
10h30 - 10h45	Partnership in Social Upliftment	PepsiCo Representative
10h45 - 11h00	Building Community Ownership for Sanitation	Tsogang Representative
11h00 - 11h15	Sanitation Innovation Driving Dignity	WRC Representative
11h15 - 11h30	Response: a Better Tomorrow for the Community of Ga-Moela	Local Authority Representative
11h30 - 11h40	Response from DWS	DWS Representative

11h40 - 11h50	Close	WRC Representative
Site Visit		
11h50 - 13h00	Drive to Project Site and Interaction with the Community	WRC, PepsiCo and Tsogang

Target audience

Participation from the following stakeholder groups is highly encouraged and these are National & Provincial Departments of Water and Sanitation, Municipalities.