Sustainable urban sanitation and hygiene
In Indonesia’s small cities progress in sanitation is limited. Fecal sludge management, where there is safe emptying and collection of human waste, is estimated to be only 3% in Pringsewu, 2% in Lampung Selatan and 2% in Padang Pariaman. In addition, in 2014, an estimated 9.7% of residents in Pringsewu, 10.5% of residents in Lampung Selatan, 19.6% of residents in Sijunjung and 29.1% of residents in Padang Pariaman had no toilet or the toilet was not in use.

The primary challenge is the behaviour change of individual households and the informal private sector to adopt good practices in sanitation, hygiene and wastewater management. Local line-agencies often feel powerless to bring stakeholders into compliance and often do not have effective means for enforcement. While leadership and the setting of laws and regulations is an important first step, it alone will not result in changed behaviour.

Improving urban sanitation in Indonesia requires a comprehensive integrated approach which can effectively address a diversity of issues including infrastructure, health, informal settlements, behaviour change, financial sustainability and governance.

The challenge (and opportunity) for Indonesia, therefore, lies in developing wastewater management business models that can generate jobs and income, improve services, ensure occupational health and safety, and facilitate the safe disposal and re-use of effluent.

The SNV solution

To help drive improvements in sanitation and hygiene SNV has established the Sustainable Sanitation and Hygiene for All Urban programme (SSH4A) of which Indonesia is one of four pilot countries worldwide. The goal of the programme is improved health and quality of life of men and women through access to sustainable and environmentally safe sanitation and improved hygiene practices.

The programme is working with local governments and other stakeholders in the small cities of Pringsewu and Lampung Selatan in Lampung province and Padang Pariaman and Sijunjung in West Sumatra to improve town-wide service delivery, with special attention paid to populations in high-risk areas. At a national level SNV is collaborating with relevant agencies including Public Works, the Ministry of Health, Home Affairs and BAPPENAS, the national planning agency. It is anticipated that SNV will have a total outreach of some 200,000 people.

Key outcomes from the initial phase of the programme are expected to include:
- Improved hygiene behaviour and demand for regular emptying
- Improved construction and maintenance of facilities from users
- Development of financially viable and environmentally safe solutions for sanitation services
- Strengthened municipal level WASH governance and regulations, and greater compliance by public and private stakeholders
- Improved local wastewater treatment, disposal and reuse that are environmentally safe, socially acceptable and financially sustainable
- Enhanced learning, documenting and sharing of best practices within existing national and regional platforms

Imagine if every house had access to a working toilet
1. Sanitation demand creation and hygiene behaviour change
SNV will raise awareness and raise the priority given to sanitation, and create a sense of urgency in addressing public health risks that result from badly constructed, poorly maintained and overflowing septic tanks. Based on formative research, local government-led demand creation will involve mass communication and interpersonal /group communication, and target households, businesses, institutions and schools in urban areas.

2. Strengthening on-site sanitation services and business development
Business models for different scenarios of faecal sludge management will be examined and tested in conjunction with the private sector. Business models will consider the diversity of consumer preferences and needs, and, if successful, additional support will be provided by SNV for implementation.

3. Improving WASH governance, regulating and bringing stakeholders into compliance
SNV will support further mainstreaming of the City Sanitation Strategy (SSK) in the local government planning system, and develop regulations and standards for both users and providers. The capacity of municipal departments will be strengthened to bring different stakeholders into compliance with regulations through self and peer-monitoring mechanisms, participatory benchmarking among neighbourhoods, joint planning and targeting, transparency, and communication with the general public.

4. Improve faecal sludge treatment, disposal and reuse
SNV will support local government to find, test and develop the most suitable options for treatment, disposal, and potentially re-use of waste, taking into account financial, environmental and technical perspectives, as well as social preferences and acceptability.

5. Improving learning, documentation and sharing of best practices
SNV will share learning and documentation of best practices both within SNV, with clients, regionally, and through networks not only to improve our own practice, but also that of others and to influence the wide enabling environment for urban sanitation in Indonesia.

SNV Indonesia
SNV is an international not-for-profit development organisation. Founded in the Netherlands nearly 50 years ago, we have built a long-term, local presence in 39 of the poorest countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Our global team of local and international advisors work with local partners to equip communities, businesses and organisations with the tools, knowledge and connections they need to increase their incomes and gain access to basic services – empowering them to break the cycle of poverty and guide their own development.

SNV officially opened its office doors in Indonesia in 2013. We work in close partnership with the Ministry of Home Affairs across three main sectors in Indonesia, water and sanitation, renewable energy and agriculture as well as the crosscutting issue of climate change. Our philosophy is to partner with local organisations and employ local people, believing that lasting change to the lives of the poor has to start with the people who live and work here.
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