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Pathway to inclusive sanitation. Assessment of community sanitary complexes in three states of India

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PATHWAY TO INCLUSIVE SANITATION

Assessment of community sanitary complexes in three states of India

BACKGROUND

To provide universal sustainable and inclusive sanitation and "leave no one behind", the Government of India in 2020 initiated construction of community sanitary complexes (CSCs), facilitating access to marginalized and left-out populations as part of Sustainable Development Goal 6.

In July-October 2020 at the early stage of CSC programming, UNICEF India assessed a sample of 315 CSCs built across three states (Bihar, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh [UP]), providing insights to the state governments on system strengthening and supporting the overall implementation.

METHODOLOGY

Location and sample size (no. of CSCs)

74



197





Cross-sectional study



Sample selection from the government's database of completed CSCs, selected purposively, due to COVID-19 travel limitations

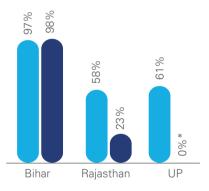
Physical verification of CSCs

By data collectors in all 3 states



FINDINGS

Handover and usage



Handed-over CSCs to GP

Usage of handed-over CSC by community

Inclusiveness and privacy

Lack of:

- Electricity in 2/3rd CSCs, making it unsafe for females to use at night
- Menstrual product disposal arrangements inside CSCs
- Completely Divyang-friendly toilets*

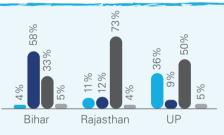


18%



Rajasthan 5%





- No water sources within premises
- Handpump and only tap water
- Tap water/ piped water supply and overhead tank
- Direct piped water supply/ any other

*with Divyang toilet seats, including ramp and railing facilities



Availability of gender-segregated toilet with privacy measures, such as entrances for men and women on different sides, toilets with roof and door and urinal blocks

Low piped water supply

Reported from all three states leading to difficulty in operation and maintenance of CSCs



Toilet status

Highest estimated usage, causing overburdening of facilities

• 42 users per toilet seat in Uttar Pradesh

Widespread installation of single leach pit, which will cause rapid filling and overflow



RECOMMENDATIONS





Mandate and ensure 24x7 water supply, electrification and menstrual hygiene product disposal mechanisms

Improve excreta management by converting single pit systems into twin pits

Delve deeper into qualitative aspects of CSCs through 2nd round of assessment

Poster prepared by: UNICEF, India



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^{*}pending inauguration