



ISO 9001:2008 CERTIFIED

Upscaling Basic Sanitation for the Urban Poor

Programme for Public Meetings (Barazas)

Topic: *Contributions of the Area Chief within the SafiSan Programme*

1. How the Provincial Administration can contribute to supporting the important SafiSan Programme

The Area Chief could have a significant positive impact upon this important sanitation programme by assisting the Project Task Team in a number of key SafiSan activities.

The Area Chief can:

- ⇒ Assist with the coordination and organisation of area-level activities of the Project Task Team.
- ⇒ Mobilise the community in order to ensure that public meetings (*barazas*) are well attended.
- ⇒ Play a key role during the dissemination of information regarding sanitation and the SafiSan Project
- ⇒ Promote the SafiSan toilets by allowing for the construction of demonstration toilets (at his/her office or elsewhere within the area).
- ⇒ Promote, during *barazas*, improved hygienic practices (importance of hand-washing and keeping toilets clean).
- ⇒ Educate the community on the dangers of poor sanitation. Dirty and poorly constructed toilets can make people sick. SafiSan Toilets, provided they are well maintained and kept clean can help us to prevent such diseases as cholera, typhoid fever and diarrhoea.
- ⇒ Good sanitation also means **dignity**.

- ⇒ Pointing out that, according to the Constitution, adequate sanitation is a **Human Right!**
- ⇒ The **Public Health Act** obliges all households, landlords and landladies to ensure that everybody (household members, tenants) have access to good sanitation.
- ⇒ Issue orders aimed at preventing the pollution of the water in any stream, watercourse or water hole and at preventing the obstruction of any stream or watercourse.
- ⇒ Maintain law and order within his/her area of jurisdiction.

2. Key Messages: The main benefits of SafiSan Toilets

The main benefits of the SafiSan toilets for the population of the Chief's area of jurisdiction can be summed up as follows:

The SafiSan toilet:

1. Can be assembled quickly (or) It is very easy to construct.
2. Does not require a lot of space.
3. Looks beautiful and "cool".
4. Is user-friendly, easy to use and safe.
5. Is not an environmental hazard. Ground water contamination is minimal and, therefore, a SafiSan toilet can be placed near your water source.
6. Is a good solution for areas with collapsible soils, high water tables and hard (rocky) soils.
7. There is no need to dig a (new) pit.
8. Is strong, durable and termite proof.
9. Does not smell and is well lit.
10. Is easy to keep clean and maintain.
11. Is equipped with a hand-washing facility.
12. Is affordable and incentivised.

The waste from a SafiSan toilet:

- a) Is safe disposable waste.
- b) Can be used as compost.

3. Ensuring community participation

The Area Chief can play an important role in involving the various groups that exist within the area (women, youths).

The contribution made by the Area Chief should be directed towards ensuring the participation of the entire community, which can also help to prevent vandalism and theft.

The Area Chief can:

- Ensure that the youths are represented in the Project Task Team.
 - Involve the youth in the implementation of the project, for example, by using their skilled or unskilled labour during the construction/assembly of the SafiSan toilets.
 - Assist in creating feelings of ownership within the community by making residents understand that the project will benefit each individual and the entire community.
 - Offer security to sub-areas with high levels of vandalism, for instance by offering the services of security personnel.
 - Initiate community policing which will help to prevent or reduce the theft of construction materials (used to build toilets and decentralised treatment facilities).
 - Ensure that the Public Health Act is implemented.
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