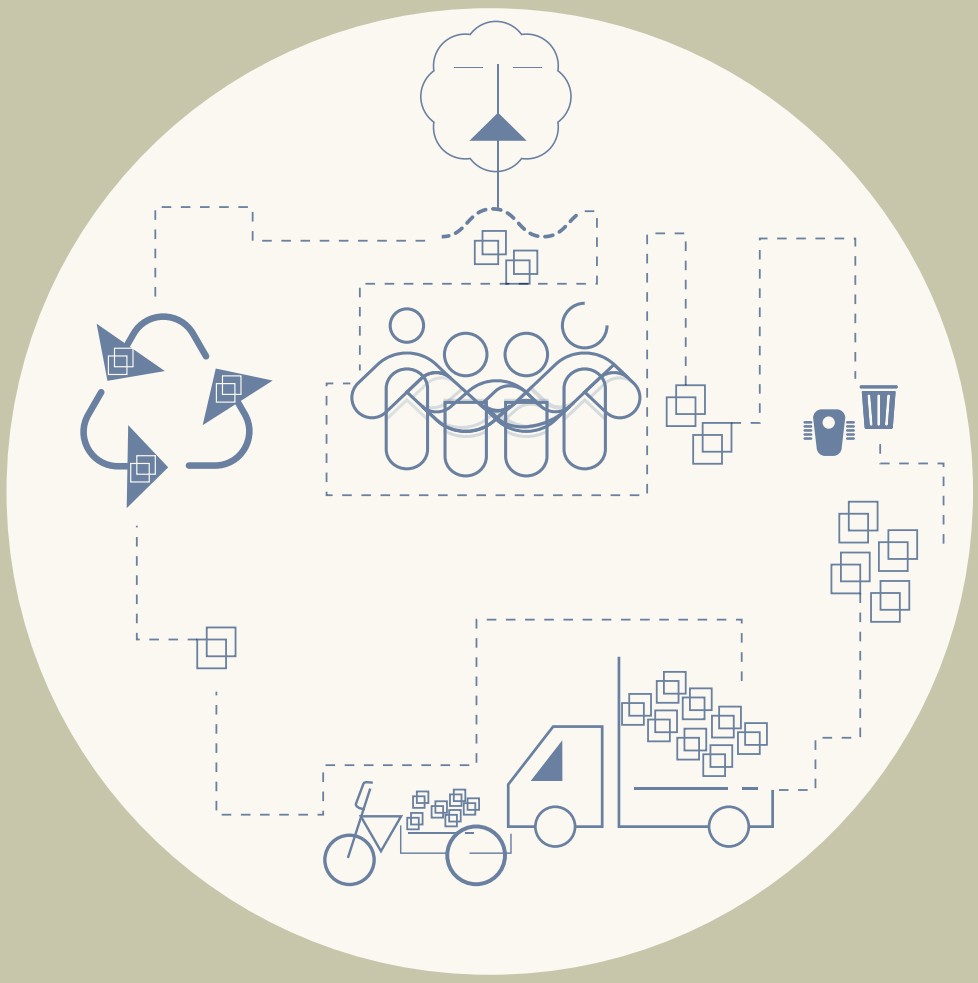
Panchayati Raj and
Drinking Water Department
Government of Odisha

ODISHA RURAL SANITATION POLICY



2020

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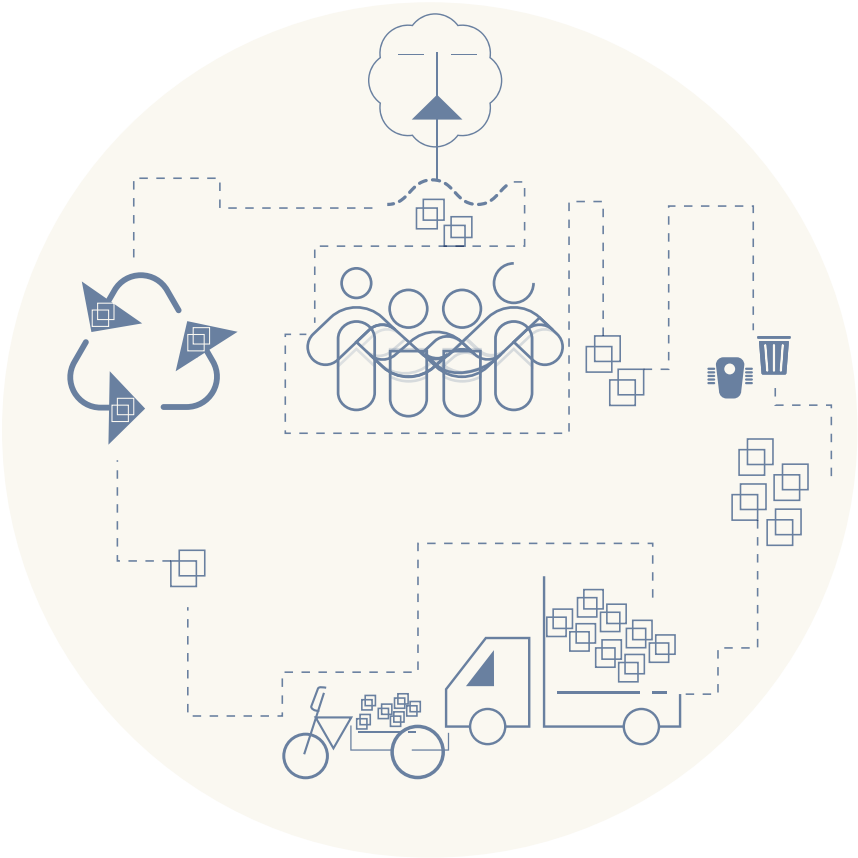

2020

Panchayati Raj and
Drinking Water Department
Government of Odisha

NAVEEN PATNAIK
CHIEF MINISTER, ODISHA

LOKASEVA BHAVAN
BHUBANESWAR

MESSAGE

Over past few years, Odisha has seen significant progress across all areas of development and well being. Through numerous programmes on disaster management, food security, social security, housing security and universal health coverage, the state has set a benchmark of excellence in governance. Women's empowerment programmes like MAMATA or Mission Shakti, farmer assistance programmes like KALIA, industrial transformation through Make in Odisha conclaves and transforming slum to liveable habitat through JAGA Mission, have been some of our programmes with far-reaching outcomes being implemented in the State.

In Odisha, we take pride in equitable progress with transparent and dynamic governance.

The State has also make synergistic progress under the ambit of national programmes and remains committed to the cause of ensuring safe, healthy and sanitised villages in the state. Accordingly, the state has proclaimed 'Swachha Odisha, Sustha Odisha' in 2018 to ensure sustainable management of water and sanitation. In the urban areas of Odisha, too, advanced waste management through a community-led approach has shown success. All villages have achieved significant progress on sanitation coverage and we are committed to moving forward by ensuring its sustainability.

The Odisha Rural Sanitation Policy, 2020 is a milestone in the State's endeavour to improve sanitation for all. The policy focuses on sustaining toilet usage and practices, and on ensuring effective solid and liquid waste management in all rural areas. Alongside, it also promotes decentralised governance, diversity among settlements, social inclusion and equity, and climate-resilience. I sincerely hope that implementation across the spectrum will work collaboratively to help the state attain the vision of a 'Swachh Odisha, Sustha Odisha'.

(NAVEEN PATNAIK)

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ନବୀନ ପଟ୍ଟନାୟକ
ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

ଲୋକସେବା ଭବନ
ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱର

ବାର୍ତ୍ତା

ଓଡିଶା ଆଜି ବିକାଶର ବିଭିନ୍ନ କ୍ଷେତ୍ରରେ ନୂଆ ପରିଚୟ ସୃଷ୍ଟି କରିଛି । ବିପର୍ଯ୍ୟୟ ପରିଚାଳନା ଠାରୁ ଆରମ୍ଭ କରି ଖାଦ୍ୟ ନିରାପତ୍ତା, ସାମାଜିକ ନିରାପତ୍ତା, ଆଶ୍ରୟ ନିରାପତ୍ତା ଏବଂ ସାର୍ବଜନୀନ ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟରକ୍ଷା ଆଦି କ୍ଷେତ୍ରରେ ଓଡିଶା ଦକ୍ଷତାର ନୂଆ କୀର୍ତ୍ତିମାନ ସ୍ଥାପନ କରିଛି । ଚାଷୀମାନଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ କାଳିଆ ଯୋଜନା, ମିଶନ ଶକ୍ତି, ମମତା, ବସ୍ତିବାସିନ୍ଦାଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ ଜାଗା ମିଶନ ଆଦି କଲ୍ୟାଣ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ସହ ରାଜ୍ୟର ଶିଳ୍ପ ବିକାଶ ପାଇଁ ମେକ୍-ଇନ୍-ଓଡିଶା କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଓଡିଶାର ବିକାଶ ଇତିହାସରେ ନୂଆ ଧାରା ସୃଷ୍ଟି କରିଛି ।

ସ୍ୱଚ୍ଛ ପରିବେଶ ସହିତ ସୁସ୍ଥ ସମାଜର ସମ୍ପର୍କ ଯେପରି ନିବିଡ ସେହିପରି ଅର୍ଥନୀତି ସହିତ ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟର ସମ୍ପର୍କ ମଧ୍ୟ ସୁଦୂରପ୍ରସାରୀ ଅଟେ । ଜନସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟରେ ଜଳ ଓ ପରିମଳର ଗୁରୁତ୍ୱପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଭୂମିକା ରହିଛି । ପରିମଳ ବ୍ୟବସ୍ଥାର ଉନ୍ନତି ସହ ବିଶୁଦ୍ଧ ପାନୀୟ ଜଳ ଯୋଗାଣ କେବଳ ଏକ ସାମାଜିକ ଦାୟିତ୍ୱ ନୁହେଁ, ଏକ ନୈତିକ କର୍ତ୍ତବ୍ୟ ମଧ୍ୟ ଅଟେ ।

ଜାତୀୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆଧାରରେ ଗ୍ରାମଗୁଡିକୁ ସୁସ୍ଥ, ନିରାପଦ ରଖିବା ଦିଗରେ ରାଜ୍ୟ ସରକାର ପ୍ରତିବଦ୍ଧତାର ସହ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ କରିଚାଲିଛନ୍ତି । ୨୦୧୮ରୁ ଆରମ୍ଭ ହୋଇଥିବା 'ସ୍ୱଚ୍ଛ ଓଡିଶା, ସୁସ୍ଥ ଓଡିଶା' କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଦ୍ୱାରା ଜଳ ଓ ପରିମଳ ବ୍ୟବସ୍ଥାର ଉତ୍ତମ ପରିଚାଳନା ଉପରେ ଗୁରୁତ୍ୱ ଦିଆଯାଇଛି । ଓଡିଶାର ସହରାଞ୍ଚଳ ମାନଙ୍କରେ ବର୍ଜ୍ୟବସ୍ତୁ ପରିଚାଳନା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଭିତ୍ତିକ ଆଭିମୁଖ୍ୟ ସଫଳ ହୋଇଛି । ଆନନ୍ଦର କଥା, ରାଜ୍ୟର ସବୁ ଗାଁ ଉତ୍ତମ ପରିମଳ ରକ୍ଷା କ୍ଷେତ୍ରରେ ଉଲ୍ଲେଖନୀୟ ଅଗ୍ରଗତି ହାସଲ କରିଛି ଏବଂ ଆଗକୁ ମଧ୍ୟ ଏହା ଜାରି ରଖିବାକୁ ରାଜ୍ୟ ସରକାର ପ୍ରତିଶ୍ରୁତିବଦ୍ଧ ।

ପରିମଳ ବ୍ୟବସ୍ଥାର ଉନ୍ନତି ଦିଗରେ ରାଜ୍ୟ ସରକାରଙ୍କ ନିଷ୍ଠାପର ଉଦ୍ୟମର ଫଳଶ୍ରୁତ ହେଉଛି ଓଡିଶା ଗ୍ରାମ୍ୟ ପରିମଳ ନୀତି ୨୦୨୦ । ଏଥିରେ ଗ୍ରାମାଞ୍ଚଳରେ ପାଇଖାନାର ବ୍ୟବହାର ତଥା ଉତ୍ତମ ପରିଚ୍ଛନ୍ନତା-ସଂପନ୍ନ ବ୍ୟବହାରର ବିକାଶ ସହିତ ଉଭୟ ତରଳ ଓ କଠିନ ବର୍ଜ୍ୟବସ୍ତୁର ପରିଚାଳନା ଉପରେ ଗୁରୁତ୍ୱ ଦିଆଯାଇଛି । ଏହାସହିତ ଏଥିରେ ବିକେନ୍ଦ୍ରୀକୃତ ପରିଚାଳନା, ସାମାଜିକ ଅନ୍ତର୍ଭୁକ୍ତିକରଣ, ସାମ୍ୟତା ଏବଂ ପରିବେଶ ଅନୁକୂଳ ପଦ୍ଧତିର ବିକାଶ ଉପରେ ମଧ୍ୟ ଗୁରୁତ୍ୱ ଆରୋପ କରାଯାଇଛି । ମୋର ବିଶ୍ୱାସ ଏହି ନୀତିର କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାନ୍ୱୟନରେ ସବୁ ଭାଗୀଦାରଙ୍କ ସହଯୋଗ ଆମର 'ସ୍ୱଚ୍ଛ ଓଡିଶା, ସୁସ୍ଥ ଓଡିଶା' କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମକୁ ସଫଳ କରିବାରେ ସହାୟକ ହେବ ।

ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କୁ ଧନ୍ୟବାଦ, ନମସ୍କାର ।

(ନବୀନ ପଟ୍ଟନାୟକ)

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BHUBANESWAR

Date 20

MESSAGE

'Swachha Odisha, Sushtha Odisha' is a commitment the Government of Odisha has made under the leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister to the people of Odisha. Significant progress has been made in the state and by October 2019, access to in-house toilets increased in all villages thereby achieving the status of Open Defecation Free (ODF).

Concerted efforts now need to be made to sustain these advancements and to ensure that more than 80 percent inhabitants who live in rural areas in Odisha have universal and inclusive access to sanitation to make this a reality, PR & DW under the Government of Odisha has prepared the Odisha Rural Sanitation Policy, 2020. The Policy provides a framework to realise the vision of achieving universal rural sanitation in the state over the next ten years guided by the principles of Teamwork, Technology, Transparency and Time leading to Transformation (5T).

The Policy provides clear and comprehensive guidance to the state and all its districts, blocks, and Gram Panchayats to focus on achieving six primary goals which include, ensuring sustained universal toilet coverage and usage through the adoption of resilient sanitation technologies and hygiene practice, providing of safe and scientific management of solid waste, including plastic waste, ensuring open discharge free villages by making provision of faecal sludge and grey water management, mainstreaming inclusive sanitation, strengthening institutions for sustainable sanitation, and incorporating climate-resilience and disaster-preparedness as fundamental principles in planning processes.

I hope that the policy will enable all stakeholders to bring about lasting change in sanitation in rural Odisha and help us achieve the vision of 'Swachha Odisha, Sustha Odisha'.

Pratap Jena

(Pratap Jena)

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GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

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FOREWORD

Sanitation, as a basic service, holds the potential to unlock the interrelated outcomes of health, nutrition, education, productivity and ultimately, an enhanced quality of life. The state of Odisha has made unprecedented progress in furthering the goals of sanitation under the Swachh Bharat Mission – Gramin (SBM-G) during 2014-19. Under the Mission, all villages in the state attained of Open Defecation Free (ODF) status which is a big achievement for Odisha. There is now a need to ensure that the gains made over the last five years are sustained through safe and scientific management of solid and liquid waste leading to visible cleanliness in all rural areas.

The Odisha Rural Sanitation Policy, 2020, is a significant first step towards achieving these goals for a 'Swachh Odisha, Sushtha Odisha', as articulated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister. . The framework for interventions targeting ODF Sustainability and Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) provided by the Policy is well aligned with the recently launched national SBM-G Phase II, as well as, the state's own '5T' (Teamwork, Technology, Transparency and Time leading to Transformation) framework. With its focus on the broader principles of Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) sanitation, climate resilience, and decentralized governance, the Policy aims to enable the achievement of equitable and sustainable sanitation.

I commend the efforts of all the officials and development sector partners who have contributed to the development of the Policy. I wish all the Gram Panchayats success in their endeavours as the designated lead agencies for the implementation of the Policy. I hope that the concerned departments and stakeholders at all tiers of rural governance will work in coordination and with enthusiasm to accomplish the goals of the Policy.

(Asit Kumar Tripathy)

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FOREWORD

Access to sanitation is not only a vital determinant of improved quality of life, but also inarguably fundamental to the achievement of positive outcomes of public health, environmental safety, and productivity. As a first step to achieve total sanitation and visibly clean villages, the state has made substantial progress in eliminating open defecation through ensuring access to a toilet facility among its rural populace. These efforts from the last five years under the Swachh Bharat Mission must now be leveraged to secure the sustainability of the Open Defecation Free (ODF) status and institute systems for Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM). Odisha is home to 6,798 Gram Panchayats across 30 districts which cumulatively account for 80 per cent of the state's population. Therefore, enhancing the living conditions in rural areas is of utmost importance to accelerate regional development. The Odisha Rural Sanitation Policy, 2020, prepared under the Government of Odisha's Panchayati Raj & Drinking Water Department (PR&DWD) is a major step towards this.

The Policy provides a framework to help attain the vision of a 'Swachh Odisha, Sustha Odisha' guided by the principle of Teamwork, Technology, Transparency, Time leading to Transformation (5T) laid out by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha. Bolstered by principles of 'Leave No One Behind', decentralisation, and environmental and financial sustainability, the Policy outlines six primary goals 1) adopting safe and scientific management of solid waste, including plastic waste; 2) sustaining universal toilet coverage and usage by adopting resilient sanitation technologies and the practice of hygiene; 3) ensuring open discharge free villages through faecal sludge and greywater management; 4) mainstreaming inclusive sanitation; 5) strengthening institutions for sustainable sanitation; and 6) incorporating climate-resilience and disaster-preparedness as key principles in planning processes.

The Policy brings together these goals, guiding principles, and targets through an enabling framework and provides a holistic roadmap for the state and all its districts, blocks, and Gram Panchayats. I acknowledge the partnership between PR&DWD and UNICEF for the formulation of this comprehensive Policy and sincerely hope that the Policy will catalyse positive change, led by Gram Panchayats, in the creation of totally sanitised and visibly clean rural habitations.

(Deoranjan Kumar Singh)

Principal Secretary, PR&DW

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FOREWORD

UNICEF believes in equitable development that is also inclusive and sustainable. Working in collaboration with governments, partners, NGOs and community-based organisations, UNICEF supports a wide range of initiatives to strengthen programmes and ensure an improved reach of services.

In Odisha, UNICEF is proud to be a closely working with Government of Odisha on a range of initiatives for children, adolescents and vulnerable communities. One of UNICEF's key focus area in the state is to contribute on improvement in water and sanitation outcomes for all.

Towards this end, UNICEF is supporting both the urban and rural departments of the state government in their long-term goal of providing sustainable sanitation, safe drinking-water, – Mission Drink from Tap – under the Government of Odisha's 5T reforms programme and its efforts to achieve ODF plus status laid out by the SBM II programme. Formulation of an Odisha Rural Sanitation Policy is a critical step towards achieving the overarching goals of clean and healthy villages in the state.

We would like to thank the Government of Odisha for providing us the opportunity to collaborate in the formulation of the Odisha Rural Sanitation Policy, 2020. I would like to mention our knowledge partner The Scaling City Institution for India (SCI FI) initiative at the Centre Policy Research for providing their support in this regard. As part of the preparatory process a number of consultations were organised which were informed by rapid assessments of sanitation situation in rural Odisha.

We owe our gratitude to the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), Ernst & Young (E&Y), Consortium for DEWATS dissemination society (CDD) and other development partners for being a part of this journey. This Policy is a comprehensive effort to ensure safe and sustainable sanitation services in the state, steer behaviour change within the rural community, and sustain the ODF status of Odisha's villages. We hope that this Policy fosters our joint endeavours towards achieving a sustainably clean and hygienic rural Odisha.

(Monika Nielsen)

Chief UNICEF Odisha

unicef | for every child

PREAMBLE

Safe sanitation and clean surroundings have an immense impact on health, productivity, safety and dignity, and are vital for an enhanced quality of life. In response to the national and international commitments toward the Sustainable Development Goals, the Swachh Bharat Mission, and the National Rural Sanitation Strategy 2019, the State Government of Odisha, its various departments and the rural residents of the State shall institute systems and behaviours to enable availability and sustainable management of safe Sanitation including Solid and Liquid Waste Management for all. With the State being declared as Open Defecation Free in 2019, the focus must now shift towards leveraging the momentum for creating and sustaining clean and sanitized villages through the delivery of adequate SLWM services and amenities to all the residents of rural areas.

The Odisha Rural Sanitation Policy 2020 provides a framework aligned to the 5T guiding principles (Teamwork, Technology, Transparency, Time leading to Transformation), as laid out by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha, with an overarching vision of achieving Swachha Odisha, Sustha Odisha. Accordingly, it sets out a course of action towards (i) sustaining toilet access, usage and hygiene practices, and (ii) safe management of solid and liquid wastes. Central to this approach is 'people's participation' for creating, managing and maintaining sanitation related assets and services.

Guided by the 73rdConstitutional Amendment and the Odisha Gram Panchayat Act, 1964, Gram Panchayats (GPs) are the designated lead agencies for implementation of the Odisha Rural Sanitation Policy 2020. GPs, in partnership with the local communities, shall strive to achieve the desired outcomes within an equitable and inclusive framework, founded on the principle of decentralized governance. The Policy envisions sanitation secure villages, created through locally managed and owned interventions that shall provide an improved quality of life to its residents and drive development.


ଦୁଇ ଓଡ଼ଣା,
ମୁଁ ଓଡ଼ଣା
ପାଚିଯାନା ଥଲେ
ଘରେ ଘରେ,
ଶୌଚାଳୟ ହୁଅନ୍ତୁ
ହୁଅନ୍ତୁ ।।

CONTENTS

ABBREVIATIONS

BCC	Behaviour Change Communication
CBO	Community Based Organization
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
CSC	Community Sanitary Complex
CT	Census Town
DAY-NRLM	Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission
FSSM	Faecal Sludge and Septage Management
GP	Gram Panchayat
GPWSC	Gram Panchayat Water Sanitation Committee
GPDP	Gram Panchayat Development Plan
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
IGTC	Indira Gandhi Training Centre
LDV	Large and Dense Village
MGNREGS	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
MHM	Menstrual Hygiene Management
O&M	Operation & Maintenance
ODF	Open Defecation Free
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PRI	Panchayati Raj Institutions
PwD	Person with Disability
PWMU	Plastic Waste Management Unit
SBM-G	Swachh Bharat Mission - Gramin
SHG	Self Help Group
SLWM	Solid and Liquid Waste Management
SIRD&PR	State Institute for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj
R&D	Research and Development
RRC	Resource Recovery Centre

DEFINITIONS

- **Blackwater:** Blackwater is the mixture of urine, faeces and flush water along with faecal cleansing water (if any water is used for cleansing) and any dry cleansing materials. Blackwater is highly pathogenic, yet nutrient-rich in nature.
- **Biosolids:** Biosolids are a by-product of faecal sludge and septage treatment. They are rich in organic matter and nutrients making them suitable for use as a soil conditioner.
- **Collection and storage/treatment:** Collection and storage/treatment describes the ways of collecting, storing and sometimes treating the products that are generated at the user interface. Treatment that is provided by these technologies is often a function of storage and usually passive (e.g. no energy inputs). Thus, products that are 'treated' by these technologies often require subsequent treatment before further use or disposal.
- **Conveyance:** Conveyance describes the transport of products from one functional group of a sanitation system to another (user interface to treatment systems).
- **Domestic wastewater:** Domestic wastewater refers to used water and includes both blackwater and greywater originating from domestic sources.
- **Excreta:** Excreta consist of urine and faeces that are not mixed with any flush water. Excreta are small in volume but concentrated in both nutrients and pathogens.
- **Faecal sludge:** Faecal sludge is a by-product of wastewater treatment in an on-site sanitation system. It can be raw or partially digested in slurry or semisolid form. The physical, chemical and biological qualities of faecal sludge are influenced by a variety of factors such as the duration of storage, temperature, soil condition, the groundwater table, the design and performance of the on-site system, the frequency of system emptying, among others.
- **Faecal Sludge Management (FSM):** Faecal sludge management refers to the safe storage, collection, transportation, treatment and end-use or disposal of faecal sludge.
- **Faeces:** Faeces refer to (semisolid) excrement that is not mixed with urine or water. Fresh faeces contain about 80% water. Of the total nutrients excreted, faeces contain about 12% Nitrogen, 39% Phosphorus and 26% Potassium, and have 107 to 109 faecal coliforms in every 100 ml.
- **Greywater:** Greywater is wastewater that is generated from washing food, clothes and dishware, as well as from bathing, but not from toilets. It may contain traces of excreta due to activities such as washing diapers and therefore, may also contain pathogens.
- **Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM):** Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) includes access to safe menstrual hygiene products, awareness about hygiene practices, usage of soap and water for washing the body as required, and access to facilities to dispose the used materials.
- **On-Site Sanitation (OSS) System:** A sanitation system in which excreta and wastewater are collected, stored and treated at the site at which where they are generated. There are two main categories of on-site sanitation technologies: 'wet' which requires water for flushing; and 'dry' which doesn't require any water for flushing.
- **Operation and Maintenance (O&M):** Routine or periodic tasks required to keep a process or system functioning according to performance requirements and to prevent delays, repairs or downtime.
- **Sanitation technology:** Sanitation technologies are defined as the specific infrastructure, methods or services that are designed to contain and transform sanitation products or to transport them to another functional groups (i.e. user interface, conveyance, storage, treatment and final disposal or reuse).
- **Septage:** Septage is a mixture of liquid and solid material that is pumped out from a septic tank, cesspool or such an on-site treatment facility.
- **Septic tank:** Septic tank is a primary treatment unit that effects the settling and anaerobic digestion of solids in the wastewater. The effluent from such a tank can be managed

through discharge into soak pits or small-bore sewers, while the accumulated sludge is pumped out periodically and treated off-site.

- **Sewage:** Sewage is defined as the wastewater containing human waste matter discharged from toilets and other receptacles intended to receive or retain such human wastes.
- **Sewer:** An open channel or closed pipe used to convey sewage.
- **Sewerage:** The physical sewer infrastructure (sometimes used interchangeably with sewer). A sewerage system includes all the components of a system used for collection and transportation (including pipes, pumps, tanks, etc.).
- **Sludge:** Sludge is a mixture of solids and liquids, containing mostly excreta and water, in combination with sand, grit, metals, trash or any other such material.
- **Waste Hierarchy:** The Waste Hierarchy is a principle for prioritizing among solid waste management interventions based on sustainability. It emphasises source reduction and reuse of waste as the most preferred management option followed by recycling, recovery and ultimately treatment and disposal.

1. SETTING THE CONTEXT

Sanitation, defined as the safe management of solid and liquid wastes, is vital to the health of communities and their surrounding environment. As per the World Health Organization (WHO), the absence of safe sanitation leads to a heightened risk of diseases such as diarrhoea, typhoid and soil transmitted helminth infections, as well as, broader adverse outcomes like undernutrition, stunting, and loss of productivity[1]. Together with the practice of hygiene, including menstrual hygiene, sanitation contributes to decreased infant and maternal mortality rates, improved nutrition and education outcomes, increased productivity, and an enhanced quality of life.

Given the criticality of sanitation to the physical and mental wellbeing of an individual, as well as, the environment, the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 impels nations to strive for clean water and sanitation for all. Nationally, the Swachh Bharat Mission, since its inception in 2014, has mainstreamed this vision and set out the sanitation agenda across the country. Responding to this national and international thrust, the state of Odisha has been one of the first states in India to come out with a comprehensive state level Odisha Urban Sanitation Policy, accompanied by the Odisha Urban Sanitation Strategy, 2017, for its 114 urban local bodies.

Guided by the policy, facilities and services for safely managed faecal waste have been established in some cities of the state. As the state endeavours to achieve universal sanitation, it envisions that the Odisha Rural Sanitation Policy, 2020, shall create an enabling environment for scaling up these sanitation services to all its rural residents.

The 6,798 Gram Panchayats[2], housing over 80 per cent of the state's population, have been growing at a decadal rate of about 14 per cent and exhibit great demographic diversity. The nature of settlements ranges from remote tribal villages, Rurban clusters, Census Towns, etc. Gradual shifting of the rural areas to peri-urban characteristics presents unique opportunities for integrated planning, in line with the SDG 11 that calls for 'supporting positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning'. The state has also identified 14 Rurban clusters, classified as either 'Tribal' or 'Non-Tribal', that comprise closely located

[1] World Health Organization. (2018). Guidelines on sanitation and health. Geneva: World Health Organization.

[2] As of January 2020

Gram Panchayats that could serve as catalysts for urban-like regional development.

The diversity in its socio-economic profile and settlement typology combines with the state's susceptibility to natural disasters, like cyclones and floods, to pose critical challenges in ensuring continued access and usage of toilets, availability of solid and liquid waste management services, and social and gender equality.

Over the past five years, in tandem with the Government of India's Swachh Bharat Mission – Gramin (SBM-G), the state of Odisha augmented access to in house toilets from a markedly low 15 per cent[3] to 100 per cent, thereby declaring all its villages Open Defecation Free (ODF) enabled by the strong on-ground network of more than 600,000 Self Help Groups (SHGs) and active community cadres.

The elimination of open defecation has resulted in significant benefits by averting the incidence of sanitation related deaths and diseases[4]. The reduction in these diseases, especially among children, enables a transformational impact on their nutrition and health[5]. However, harnessing the full potential of the ODF status is contingent upon sustained access to and usage of toilet facilities and concurrent safe and scientific management of solid and liquid waste. The vision of 'Swachha Odisha, Sustha Odisha' proclaimed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister in 2018, further reinforces the need to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation, echoing SDG 6.

Guided by this overarching proclamation, the state is issuing the 'Odisha Rural Sanitation Policy, 2020' to provide a holistic framework for structured sanitation interventions in rural areas accounting for

i. Decentralised governance,

ii. Diversity among settlements,

iii. Social inclusion and equity, and

iv. Climate resilience.

The thrust areas that the policy addresses are, i. sustaining ODF, ii. safe management of solid waste encompassing both biodegradable and non-biodegradable wastes, including plastic wastes, from households, places of pilgrimage/religious importance, institutions, commercial areas, etc. iii. Grey water management and iv. Faecal sludge management in rural Odisha.

2. VISION

The vision of this policy is to achieve a 'Swachha Odisha, Sustha Odisha' where all rural habitations are free from open defecation, have universal and inclusive access to sanitation facilities, safely manage solid and liquid wastes, and practice hygiene as a norm, thereby leading to improved health and general well being.

[3] Census of India 2011

[4] From ODF to ODF Plus – Rural Sanitation Strategy (2019-2029), issued by Department of Drinking Water Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti

[5] World Health Organization, USAID & United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). (2015). Improving nutrition outcomes with better water, sanitation and hygiene: practical solutions for policies and programmes. World Health Organization.

3.
GOAL

The Odisha Rural Sanitation Policy, 2020, aims to translate the vision of 'Swachha Odisha Sustha Odisha', into reality by 2030 by ensuring:

i. Universal access to improved sanitation facilities at household, community and institutional levels;

ii. Safe conveyance and disposal of waste;

iii. Promotion of recycling;

iv. Increased awareness about public health and the environment;

v. Practice of hygiene;

vi. Climate resilience and disaster preparedness with respect to sanitation infrastructure and services; and

vii. Institutionalization of core capacities to ensure effective management along the entire sanitation value chain.

These broader goals shall be achieved through the following sub-goals.

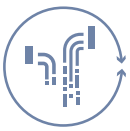
VISION

SWACHH ODISHA SUSTHA ODISHA

GOALS

Universal toilet coverage and usage

Safe and scientific management of solid waste



Open discharge free villages

Inclusive sanitation

Climate resilience

Strengthening institutions

DECENTRALIZED GOVERNANCE

3.1 ADOPTING SAFE AND SCIENTIFIC MANAGEMENT OF SOLID WASTE, WITH A SPECIAL FOCUS ON PLASTIC WASTE

The composition of solid waste generated in remote/agrarian/tribal villages often differs from that produced by the more 'urbanized' rural settlements. The latter are increasingly producing a significant amount of non-biodegradable waste, especially plastic waste, in response to changes in lifestyle and consumption patterns. While biodegradable waste has traditionally been recycled productively, communities usually resort to dumping and burning any unrecycled waste indiscriminately. This necessitates mainstreaming and institutionalizing safe and sustainable solid waste management, founded on the principle of the Waste Hierarchy and decentralized governance, in rural areas.

i. Prohibit indiscriminate disposal, burning and littering of solid waste in open drains, water bodies, or any other public spaces.

ii. Ensure enforcement of the Solid Management Rules, 2016, the Bye-laws for Solid Waste Management in Gram Panchayats of Odisha, 2019, and any other related rules that may be notified/adopted by the state from time to time for the safe management of solid waste.

iii. Mainstream the identification and safe management of non-traditional rural waste such as domestic hazardous waste, e-waste, among others.

iv. Encourage source segregation of solid waste by all generators into the categories of biodegradable, non-biodegradable, and domestic hazardous wastes, and extensively promote household level reduction, reuse, and recycling of the various waste streams.

v. Encourage maximum adoption of household and institutional level biodegradable waste (including cattle waste, agricultural waste and kitchen waste) management within the premises through composting, bio-methanation, and other feasible avenues. Where household-level management is not feasible and for biodegradable waste from markets, mandis, etc. adopt community level compost pits, as appropriate.

vi. Facilitate collection and transportation of segregated solid waste from all households, marketplaces, institutions, public spaces, and other areas to a Plastic Waste Management Unit (PWMU) or Resource Recovery Centres (RRCs). Ensure that all the segregated waste streams from the PWMU or the RRCs are further safely processed or recycled.

vii. Wherever new infrastructure is created for the management of waste, mandate GPs to ensure continued operation and maintenance through their own financial allocations, mobilization of resources from the private sector and the institution of user charges.

viii. Discourage plastic usage in all rural areas through mass mobilization and enabling availability of alternative products like cloth and jute bags, among others.

ix. Ensure that all government offices and buildings at all levels minimize the use of plastic products, including disposable water bottles, plastic stationary, etc.

x. Enable visible cleanliness of all rural areas by ensuring regular street sweeping, drain cleaning, and availability of an appropriate quantity of garbage bins in public spaces supported by user charges, business models or convergence mechanisms under the aforementioned Bye-laws.

xi. Build capacity of SHGs and local entrepreneurs to manage solid waste in rural Odisha.

xii. Formally engage and improve livelihood opportunities for erstwhile informal waste pickers by their integration into solid waste management systems and services.

3.2 SUSTAINING UNIVERSAL TOILET COVERAGE AND USAGE BY ADOPTING RESILIENT SANITATION TECHNOLOGIES AND THE PRACTICE OF HYGIENE

While gains in toilet coverage over the last decade have been significant, their potential to effect positive health outcomes can only be realized through sustained and universal toilet usage. Furthermore, continuous efforts are needed to ensure universal toilet access for new households and those in disaster-affected regions. Alongside access, the usage of a toilet facility is also contingent upon factors like behavioural preferences and availability of water for sanitation within the premises. This necessitates both continued behaviour change communication with the community and increased access to an in-house water supply for sustaining toilet usage.

i. Sustain and improve upon the gains in access to in-house toilet facilities made under SBM-G

across rural Odisha. Facilitate the provision of new in-house toilets to additional households on account of population growth in the rural areas and as part of post-disaster restoration and recovery. In doing so, especially redress the needs of households below the poverty line, SC and ST households, households that have person(s) with disabilities, those that fall under the category of landless labourer with homestead/ small farmers/marginal farmers, and women-headed households.

ii. Facilitate beneficiary-led retrofitting of all dysfunctional or ill-constructed toilets and on-site sanitation systems to ensure their continued functionality and usage through market linkages, creating awareness among communities, building capacities of masons and other key stakeholders, etc.

iii. Ensure continued usage of toilets by all rural residents through an enhanced services ecosystem, including in-house water availability and maintenance of on-site sanitation systems at the household level.

iv. All institutions/commercial complexes/schools/ Anganwadis/health centres/residential educational institutions, etc. shall ensure access to toilet facilities accompanied by an appropriate containment system and adequate hand-washing facilities. These facilities should specifically address the need of adolescent girls, children, transgender people, women, old age, persons with disabilities (PwDs), and other vulnerable groups through an inclusive design in accordance with the relevant guidelines[6] as may be notified/adopted by the state government from time to time

v. Ensure provision of locally-managed, inclusively-designed, and PwD-friendly[6] Community Sanitary Complexes (CSCs) with adequate number of seats, an appropriate containment system, and adequate hand-washing facilities in villages having high floating population owing to any religious, economic, recreational or similar activities, including the presence of transportation junctions like bus stands, railway stations, etc. and b) for households or SC/ ST habitations facing space constraints for construction of individual toilet facilities. Ensure that within the villages, these facilities are situated in easily accessible and socially acceptable locations.

vi. Encourage community-led management of all public sanitation facilities such that they remain continually functional through initiatives like the collection of user fees, the involvement of SHGs, among others. The management protocols for these facilities may be issued in accordance with the relevant guidelines adopted/ notified by the state government from time to time[7].

vii. Create awareness to encourage households to adopt hygienic behaviour, especially the practice of handwashing at critical times and the safe disposal of child faeces.

viii. Ensure behavioural shifts for continued toilet usage and the practice of hygiene, including hand-washing, by awareness building of and sustained engagement with communities through innovative campaigns and positive reinforcements.

3.3 ENSURING OPEN DISCHARGE FREE VILLAGES THROUGH FAECAL SLUDGE AND GREYWATER MANAGEMENT

Sanitation systems, like twin pits, septic tanks, and single pits, are the predominant technology for on-site faecal waste containment in rural areas. However, deviations from established design practices can limit the effectiveness of these systems. For instance, while well-constructed twin pits do not require external intervention for their O&M, a missing/inaccessible junction chamber or inadequate distance between the two pits can defeat their objective of being self-sustaining.

Unlike twin pits, single pits and septic tanks must be

[6] Order by the Department of PR&DW, Government of Odisha vide PR-RS- Policy-0025-2019 dated 19/12/2019 with subject, 'Regarding enhancing access to toilets through Community Sanitary Complexes'; Guidelines on gender issues in sanitation, dated 03/04/2017, No. S-11018/2/2017-SBM; Handbook on Accessible Household Sanitation for Persons with Disabilities, Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin), December 2015

[7] Order by the Department of PR&DW, Government of Odisha vide PR-RS- Policy-0025-2019 dated 19/12/2019 with subject, 'Regarding enhancing access to toilets through Community Sanitary Complexes'; Advisory on Public and Community Toilets, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, 2018; Handbook on Establishment and Management of Community Sanitary Complexes in Rural Areas. Ministry of Rural Development, 2011

timely emptied through mechanized or semi-mechanized means. The evacuated septage and faecal sludge, along with tank effluent and greywater, etc. must be safely managed to avoid adverse public health outcomes and environmental pollution. Therefore, creating open discharge free villages entails retrofitting toilets with an environmentally suited containment system that also minimizes off-site treatment requirement, faecal sludge management, and greywater management at the household and community-level.

i. Ensure that all residential and non-residential toilets are accompanied by environmentally-appropriate containment systems (twin pits/single pit/septic tank systems/EcoSan or any other appropriate system) that are suited to local hydrogeology and topology, and lead to the minimization of maintenance and off-site treatment costs.

ii. Promote twin pit technology as far as possible, subject to environmental suitability. Facilitate beneficiary-led retrofitting of all ill-constructed twin pits and single pits to environmentally-suited twin pits accounting for a functioning Y-junction, the appropriate distance between the pits, and contamination risk mitigation in regions with high water table, clayey soils, etc.

iii. Encourage timely evacuation of the waste containment units in toilets, to avoid contamination risks.

iv. All retrofitting interventions shall be guided by the maximization of public health impacts and their techno-economic feasibility as gauged and stated through an appropriate guidance note issued by the state.

v. Facilitate timely emptying of faecal sludge from all septic tanks and single pits through fully mechanized or semi-mechanized means. Ensure that the emptied septage and faecal sludge are safely conveyed and treated.

vi. Ensure proper functioning of network-based sewerage systems, if available, and encourage household connections to the system, wherever possible.

vii. Promote safe management of greywater at the household-level through the construction of soak pits/magic pits, recycling in the kitchen garden, or any other suitable methods. Where household level solutions are infeasible, make arrangements for conveyance of greywater from the households through covered drains/small bore sewers/etc. to a community-level greywater management system like soak pit, waste stabilization pond, etc., as suitable.

viii. Ensure the safe management of greywater and excess flow from public hand pump/bore well and at the settlement-level through the construction of soak pits/magic pits, drains leading to an appropriate decentralized treatment facility, or any other suitable methods, as may be feasible.

ix. Issue/enforce appropriate standards, wherever required, for the safe management of liquid waste, including faecal waste.

3.4 MAINSTREAMING INCLUSIVE SANITATION

It is essential to focus on inclusive sanitation based on the principle of 'Leaving No One Behind (LNOB)'. Given various socio-economic factors, it should be ensured that those living in acute poverty, marginalized groups, PwDs elderly, transgender people, women, adolescent girls, etc. also have access to safe sanitation facility.

i. Institutionalize mechanisms to achieve and sustain behavioural changes aimed at Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) by women and adolescent girls, who in turn shall act as change agents.

ii. Ensure adequate representation of women, transgender people, PwDs and other vulnerable groups in all decision-making bodies and institutions related to sanitation at the GP level, to increase their involvement as decision-makers.

iii. Encourage participation of women, transgender people, and other vulnerable groups in the sanitation value chain and procurement cycles – as entrepreneurs, processing and treatment plant operators, plumbers, masons, etc. – capitalizing on the pivotal role played by women and transgender persons led SHGs formed under Mission Shakti and other such programmes.

iv. Integrate gender and social equity into planning, budgeting, implementation, and monitoring of Gram Panchayat level sanitation programs and schemes.

v. Ensure community participation in design, operation and maintenance of public sanitation

infrastructure through Self Help Groups (SHGs), community-based organizations (CBOs), etc.

vi. Sanitation workers' health and rights shall be protected while managing human waste along the sanitation value chain.

3.5 STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE SANITATION

Adequate institutional mechanisms for planning, implementation and monitoring of rural sanitation programs across institutions, agencies and various levels of government assist in achieving sustainable sanitation outcomes. Local governments and key stakeholders are better equipped to face challenges in delivering services adequately if they are exposed to contemporary best-practices, knowledge, skills and outlook. Therefore, strengthening the capacities of individuals and institutions is pivotal to the achievement of a well-functioning sanitation service chain.

i. Ensure the availability of trained human resources for implementing and managing the sanitation interventions at all tiers, including management of sanitation services, capacity building, training, etc.

ii. Encourage decentralized service delivery by augmenting the capacities and competencies of Gram Panchayats to provide safely managed sanitation across the entire service chain.

iii. Empower Gram Panchayats to develop institutional mechanisms and business models for achieving recovery of O&M expenses of all sanitation facilities, including but not limited to the institution of user charges.

iv. Develop a sustainable O&M model for SLWM services and facilities through the formulation of a detailed strategy, continued resource allocation, and sustained community and private sector engagement.

v. Mandate and prescribe clear specifications for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and operating procedures to ensure the safety and dignity of all sanitation workers.

vi. Adopt communication mechanisms, through both interpersonal communication and social media, to create awareness about public health, hygiene, and SLWM among the communities. Create commitment and capacity among decision makers and service providers at all levels for planning and delivery of sanitation services through mass mobilization.

vii. Mandate school curriculums to promote toilet usage, hygiene behaviour, the 3R principle of waste management, the minimization of plastic usage, etc. thereby moulding children into change agents.

viii. Promote Waste to Wealth initiatives. Facilitate market transactions for reuse and recycle of processing/treatment end-products like plastics, manure, etc. through partnerships with industries, farmers, bulk users, and others.

3.6 INCORPORATING CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AS KEY PRINCIPLES IN PLANNING PROCESSES

The state of Odisha is prone to natural calamities like cyclones, droughts, floods, etc., and has adopted a proactive approach to disaster management in the last few years. It can further integrate principles of climate and disaster resilience in sanitation planning for ensuring continued and inclusive access to sanitation and hygiene for all even during disasters and post-disaster recovery.

i. Strengthen the district-level planning for disaster management (mandated under the Odisha State Disaster Management Policy) with a specific focus on sanitation through the incorporation of measures such as access to mobile/container-based toilets, menstrual hygiene provisions, and enabling SLWM, in line with relevant international/national guidelines[8]. Such measures should especially address the sanitary needs of adolescent girls, women, transgender people, PwDs, and other vulnerable stakeholders.

ii. Mainstream and mandate climate and disaster-sensitive planning for all sanitation-related interventions, including in the selection of locations for SLWM facilities and associated contingency and recovery protocols, issuing guidelines and executive orders as may be needed.

iii. Ensure the capacity building of all key stakeholders, including government officials and Gram Panchayat-level functionaries to effectively manage sanitation services during disaster situations.

8 Updated WHO/WEDC Technical Notes on WASH in Emergencies. 2013. World Health Organization and Water Engineering Development Centre.

4.
PRINCIPLES

The Odisha Rural Sanitation Policy 2020 shall be guided by the following principles-

i. Sanitation shall be treated as a basic service.

ii. All citizens and institutions shall recognize sanitation as a civic responsibility through the adoption of safe and hygienic behaviours and systems toward solid and liquid waste management.

iii. All residents, irrespective of their socio-economic status, caste, geographical remoteness, gender and vulnerabilities shall have equity and safety of access and use of sanitation facilities, even during post-disaster restoration and recovery.

iv. All institutional stakeholders shall ensure adequate and equitable access to inclusively and safely designed sanitation facilities for all.

v. Gram Panchayats shall be the principal agency for sanitation service delivery through provisions enshrined in the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1993, and the Orissa Gram Panchayat Act, 1964.

vi. Gram Panchayat shall actively and equitably involve SHGs, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), CBOs, youth groups, Gram Panchayat Water and Sanitation Committees (GPWSCs), Gaon Kalyan Samiti, informal waste pickers, etc. in sanitation-related decision making.

vii. Communities shall be the principal collaborators for instituting and managing sanitation service delivery systems and facilities.

viii. The 'waste hierarchy' shall form the basis for prioritizing solid and liquid waste management interventions.

ix. Different government departments and agencies shall build partnerships and ensure convergence with appropriate schemes toward sustainable sanitation service delivery.

x. Governmental stakeholders, departments, and agencies shall provide enabling market ecosystems to mobilize capital and enhance service delivery efficiency.

xi. The planning processes for sanitation systems and services shall prioritize operation and maintenance (O&M) and climate-resilience needs.

xii. Communities shall be encouraged to adopt desirable sanitation and hygiene-related practices through awareness-building and behaviour change.

xiii. Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs) shall be utilized for effective implementation and monitoring of sanitation-related interventions.

xiv. The state shall encourage research and development for continual innovation in the development of low-cost local solid and liquid waste management technologies.

5. OUTCOMES

The policy envisions the achievement of the following outcomes by 2030:

5.1 'SAFELY MANAGED SANITATION', IS EMBEDDED AS A SOCIETAL NORM, REFLECTED IN CHANGES IN THE BEHAVIOUR OF PUBLIC, PRIVATE AND COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS

All public, private and community institutions make safe sanitation a key priority. Sanitation, embedded as a norm, is reflected through the provision of sustained access to toilets facilities with appropriate containment, and segregated collection of solid waste by all stakeholders. Gram Panchayats earmark budget in a proportion as specified by the state from time to time for O&M and improving the efficiency of sanitation infrastructure and service delivery.

5.2 ALL VILLAGES IN ODISHA SAFELY AND SCIENTIFICALLY MANAGE SOLID WASTE

All Gram Panchayats institutionalize solid waste management through setting up GPWSCs and adoption of related Bye-laws, including that for Plastic Waste Management, by 2020. All households participate in the management of biodegradable waste through composting or other local avenues either individually or as part of community-led initiatives in all Gram Panchayats. All Gram Panchayats institute systems for safe treatment of solid waste by 2022.

5.3 USE OF PLASTICS IS MINIMIZED ACROSS ALL RURAL AREAS IN THE STATE

All rural communities, institutions and private stakeholders are continually sensitized towards minimizing plastic use. All government offices functioning in rural areas ensure a ban on single-use plastic products in all governmental offices and events by 2020. All residential, institutional and commercial stakeholders encouraged to reduce single use plastic waste through the adoption of bio-friendly alternatives such as jute and cloth based products, among others by 2022. To facilitate this, SHGs and local entrepreneurs are actively encouraged in the production of alternatives to plastic across rural Odisha by 2022.

5.4 ALL VILLAGES ARE FREE FROM OPEN-DEFECATION AND PRACTICE HYGIENE AS A NORM

The timely emptying/maintenance of containment systems is facilitated by Gram Panchayats/private

service providers in all Gram Panchayats by 2022. Sustainable usage of toilet facilities is further enabled by enhanced access to in-house water supply to all households in all the Gram Panchayats by 2024. Community Sanitary Complexes (CSCs), constructed as needed and driven by demand, are sustainably managed by Gram Panchayats across all rural areas. Any dysfunctional/environmentally unsuited facilities or those in disaster affected regions are facilitated for rehabilitation, as required, from time to time. Communities are continually sensitized towards sustained toilet usage and the adoption of hygienic practices, viz. handwashing at critical times, safe disposal of child faeces, and menstrual hygiene management.

5.5 GREYWATER IS SAFELY TREATED AND PRODUCTIVELY RECYCLED

Greywater is safely managed through appropriate means in 50% of the Gram Panchayats by 2025 and in all the Gram Panchayats by 2030. Soak pits are constructed alongside all public handpumps/borewells in all Gram Panchayats by 2022. Access to in-house water supply is enhanced such that the pollution of ponds and other water bodies is minimized.

5.6 NON-GOVERNMENTAL/PRIVATE STAKEHOLDERS ARE MAJOR PARTICIPANTS AND COLLABORATORS FOR SUSTAINABLE SANITATION SERVICE DELIVERY

Private sector, CSR, and market-driven infrastructure creation and service delivery for sanitation are encouraged. Local entrepreneurship is fostered through SHGs, producer groups, and federations under various livelihood missions for ventures like rural sanitary marts, production of eco-friendly MHM products, alternatives to plastics, community owned composting initiatives, etc.

At the same time, strong demand for SLW treatment/processing by-products is generated among industries, farmers and bulk users. Banks and other financial institutions support SHGs and local entrepreneurs in accessing credit for setting up enterprises related to the provision of sanitation services and infrastructure.

5.7 SAFETY STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES ARE FOLLOWED IN THE PHYSICAL HANDLING AND MANAGEMENT OF WASTE

All levels of governance are sensitized to the needs of sanitation workers and other socioeconomically vulnerable groups through sensitization workshops and training for all institutional stakeholders. Districts, with the support of the state, positively transform occupational and social aspects of sanitation workers through social mobilization and institutional development, skill training, etc.

Standard operating protocols and guidelines are developed, wherever needed, and enforced to ensure the safety of all stakeholders involved across the sanitation value chain. Access to PPEs is ensured and mechanized or semi-mechanized equipment, along with mandatory use of PPEs, are widely adopted for emptying pits and tanks in all the Gram Panchayats by 2024.

5.8 PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT PROCESSES ACCOUNT FOR INCLUSIVITY, GENDER AND SOCIAL EQUALITY AS A CORE PRINCIPLE

Sanitation-related institutions at the GP-level like GPWSC, Gaon Kalyan Samiti, etc. have representation of women and other vulnerable social groups for sanitation-related decision-making, as far as possible, in all Gram Panchayats by 2021. Gender and social equality-based sensitization and training are conducted periodically and mandated for all elected representatives and officials. All plans for the development of sanitation infrastructure incorporate inclusivity through addressing the needs of vulnerable groups. Further, the BCC strategy has a special focus and continued resource commitments for gender sensitization and social inclusion.

5.9 WOMEN AND ADOLESCENT GIRLS HAVE ACCESS TO SAFE MENSTRUAL HYGIENE MANAGEMENT (MHM)

All women and adolescent girls have access to and use clean menstrual management material, soap and water for washing body, and safe and convenient facilities for disposal of used menstrual hygiene products.

Adolescent girls, female staff, and any other women have a safe and private place at schools/institutions/CSCs for changing, washing and storing menstrual products, hygienically and with dignity in all Gram Panchayats by 2024. Such interventions also address the concerns of differently-abled females.

6. ENABLING FRAMEWORK

Gram Panchayats shall be responsible for the implementation of the policy. GPs shall be guided by the Department of Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water (PR&DW) for developing a strategy, along with necessary institutional, planning, monitoring, evaluation, capacity building and funding frameworks toward sanitation service delivery. The state shall continue to issue specific guidance to ensure effective and timely implementation of the Odisha Rural Sanitation Policy, 2020 through executive orders issued from time to time.

6.1 LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

Existing legal and regulatory frameworks shall be leveraged for sustaining toilet access, usage and hygiene practices, as well as, the safe management of solid and liquid waste. Gram Panchayats in the state have adopted the Bye-laws for Solid Waste Management in Gram Panchayats of Odisha, 2019, to address solid waste management concerns in the villages. The abolition of manual emptying practices of on-site sanitation systems shall be prioritized in accordance with the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 along with the allied rules. Additional rules and legal frame works shall be developed and adopted by concerned authorities/departments for enabling sanitation outcomes, as needed.

Gram Panchayats shall play the pivotal role in provisioning, managing, and monitoring sanitation services and infrastructure through their committees, viz., GPWSC, Gaon Kalyan Samiti, etc. Thereby, Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) shall be empowered to determine and collect user charges, contractually engage with private players, among others, for sanitation service delivery. The district, and state-level Water and Sanitation Mission(s) or Committee(s) shall support and provide guidance to Gram Panchayats in undertaking all related initiatives.

The institutional framework laid out under the Bye-laws for Solid Waste Management in Gram Panchayats of Odisha, 2019, comprised of multi-tier committees at the district, block and Gram Panchayat level shall be adopted for effective planning, implementation, management and monitoring of Solid Waste Management interventions in the state. The state government shall strive for instituting a State level High Powered Committee to ensure intra- and inter-departmental convergence.

6.2 FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK

Earmarked financial allocation at the state and GP level shall be crucial for sustainable and equitable service delivery across the sanitation service chain, including the provision of new/retrofitted in-house/community/public toilets with appropriate containment, transportation/conveyance of solid and liquid waste to processing/treatment facilities, treatment and safe disposal of wastes, among others. Financial resources at the state-level shall be mobilized through the Central Finance Commission (CFC), the State Finance Commission (SFC), and in convergence with the District Mineral Fund (DMF), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Generation Scheme (MGNREGS), Odisha Mineral Bearing Area Development Corporation (OMBADC), SBM-G, and any other relevant flexi funds available through schemes or programmes.

With GPs as the lead agencies for the delivery of safe and sustainable sanitation services, they shall be required to ensure earmarking of funds toward sanitation through entry of plans in respective GPDPs, at a proportion that may be specified by the state government from time to time. GPs may channel this funding towards creating facilities and services for sanitation either on its own or by engaging SHGs, NGOs, or any other entity as may be deemed appropriate. GPs shall ensure the institution of appropriate O&M mechanisms for sustained service delivery through adequate financial allocation and forging partnerships with SHGs, private players, etc. Outcome-based procurement processes shall be adopted for effective SLWM implementation. The state shall institute a set of incentives for the GPs, including awards and recognition, to encourage effective decentralized service delivery.

To ensure optimal utilization of resources, operational requirements for IEC, BCC, capacity building, skilling, among others shall be fulfilled through ongoing programmes, e.g. DAY-NRLM, Mission Shakti, and in convergence with relevant state departments such as Women and Child Development Department, Odisha State Disaster Management Authority, etc. Institutions like State Institute for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (SIRD&PR), Indira Gandhi Training Centre (IGTC), etc. shall act as the nodal agencies for capacity building and skilling.

Greywater management at community-level, including management of excess flow from hand pump/bore well, and provision of in-house water supply shall be undertaken in convergence with ongoing and upcoming national and state programmes on drinking water, the National Rurban Mission (NRUM), and other relevant schemes. Retrofitting of toilet facilities at schools and Anganwadi Centres shall be undertaken in convergence with the Women and Child Development Department. Development of GOBAR-Dhan facilities may be taken up by facilitating the New National Bio-gas and Organic Manure Programme (NNBOMP) of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and the Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) scheme of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. Overall, the creation of new public infrastructure, viz. CSCs, community-level soak pits, garbage pits, SLW processing and treatment facilities, etc., shall be undertaken in convergence with MGNREGS or any other programme as may be appropriate. Urban SLWM facilities shall be leveraged for rural areas in convergence with the Housing and Urban Development Department.

This policy also encourages developing a market ecosystem for creating and maintaining Sanitation and SLWM infrastructure, and associated services, through promoting private sector participation. Innovative funding approaches may be adopted for generating resources through both public and private financing, including the collection of user charges. Local youth groups, SHGs, and others shall be encouraged for innovative entrepreneurship ventures across the sanitation value chain, e.g., production of alternatives to plastic, affordable and eco-friendly menstrual hygiene products, etc., in convergence with the rural livelihood missions.

6.3 PLANNING AND M&E FRAMEWORK

The Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) shall continue to be used as the instrument for bottom-up, community-driven, equity-based, and inclusive planning for water and sanitation infrastructure. Village-level action plans shall be developed in line with the principles of GPDP development and act as an input to it. The action plan shall especially identify the gaps in and plan solutions for solid waste management, including collection and transportation of plastic waste, at the village-level. The GPDP shall enable the allocation of both financial and human resources towards sanitation interventions. GPDPs shall get aggregated as the block, district and state-level action plan at the relevant levels. At the state level, such an action plan shall outline en-

hanced coordination and convergence between programs and departments. The state action plan shall especially focus on ensuring inclusion, the safety and skill-building of sanitation workers, and the capacity building of stakeholders at all levels. All districts shall separately develop a Faecal Sludge Management Plan identifying and planning for FSM interventions needed in the district. The action plan for SWM and the FSM Plan may prioritize villages or Gram Panchayats in environmentally-sensitive regions for implementation of interventions.

The present development paradigm is slowly blurring the rural-urban divide, and the provision of adequate services in response to the varying needs across the continuum is a crucial need. The intervention mechanisms shall be graded according to priority for not only planning of common or standalone infrastructural facilities, but also other management interventions based on settlement typology. Overall, maximization of the on-site management of both liquid and solid wastes shall be prioritized as per the principle of Waste Hierarchy. Accordingly, scientifically-constructed twin pits shall be the preferred technological option subject to local suitability followed by the institution of faecal sludge management systems. A strategy discussing the optimal approach for different settlement typologies and regions across the state shall be issued by the state to guide retrofitting planning.

For SLW treatment, utilization of existing urban or rural facilities shall be prioritized over greenfield development of infrastructure, especially for villages situated near ULBs. Decentralised solutions at the settlement or cluster level, optimized for transportation costs, shall be preferred for creation of new facilities, wherever techno-economically feasible. Plastic waste may be recycled through its utilization in cement plants and road construction in convergence with the Transport and Commerce Department of Government of Odisha.

Given the limitations in local technical and financial capacities, facile technological systems with low lifetime costs shall be adopted. Factors like resource recovery potential, pathogen control, risk and impact of failure, emissions control, footprint, among others, shall be examined during the selection of the appropriate technology. Availability of land for the installation of sanitation infrastructure, e.g. SLW treatment facilities, waste segregation facility, etc. shall be prioritised in consultation with all key stakeholders, including communities, and to ensure environmental safety. The state shall collaborate with national/ regional academic and research institutions such as IITs, NITs, IIMs, among others to develop innovative solutions, the models for their operation, and appropriate PPE through continued Research and Development (R&D).

All SLWM facilities may be made climate-resilient through the selection of low-risk sites for construction of treatment facilities. The design of these facilities shall also consider factors such as appropriate elevation of infrastructure, creation of dykes (to safeguard against hazards from flooding) and reliable back-up power sources among others to ensure disaster-preparedness, wherever needed.

In keeping with the principles of subsidiarity, community-led management of SLWM facilities shall be encouraged. Informal waste pickers and sanitation service providers shall be formally integrated into the SLWM service chain. The state shall ensure decentralized governance as a key strategy for enhancing efficiency, equity and justice in the sanitation service delivery.

The monitoring and evaluation framework laid out under the Bye-laws for Solid Waste Management in Gram Panchayats of Odisha, 2019, comprised of multi-tier assessment at the district, block and Gram Panchayat level shall be adopted for monitoring of sanitation interventions under this policy.

The evaluation shall be carried out through a statewide real-time equity dashboard, continued ranking of Gram Panchayats against the targets laid out in the policy, a gender equity and inclusion audit of sanitation interventions, and community monitoring processes, among others. The state shall also institute appropriate multi-tier grievance redressal mechanisms at the village, Gram Panchayat, block, district and state level in line with the 5T Framework.

6.4 CAPACITY BUILDING FRAMEWORK

Capacity building of both individuals and institutions toward the various processes, systems, and vulnerabilities along the sanitation service chain is pivotal to ensuring safe, sustainable, and equitable sanitation in rural Odisha. It must also be recognized that capacity building itself requires sustained efforts and needs to be undertaken continually for reinforcement as well as upgradation of skills and knowledge.

Accordingly, the state shall develop a Rural Sanitation Capacity Building Plan informed by capacity

needs assessment of government officials, PRIs, SHGs, masons, sanitary workers, and all other relevant stakeholders. Such a plan shall ensure that the varying capacity needs of all the key stakeholders are adequately and consistently addressed through situationally appropriate mechanisms like awareness-building, skilling and training.

Capacity building for government officials at all levels shall entail participation in trainings and exposure visits with the goal of enabling them to emerge as sanitation champions and leaders. These efforts shall focus on building their capacities towards devising internal policies/procedures/frameworks, planning, implementation, and monitoring for the sustainable delivery of sanitation services within an inclusive and equitable framework. Capacity building should also include sensitization towards gender and social equity, as well as, climate-resilience.

The field-level functionaries shall be equipped with the knowledge and training to undertake O&M of SLWM facilities successfully and ensure disaster-preparedness along the sanitation service chain. For service providers like masons, sanitary workers, entrepreneurs, and others, capacity building shall focus on skill-based training and certification through vocational/adult education centres and aim to enhance employment opportunities.

To facilitate and streamline capacity building exercises at each level, the state shall create relevant training manuals, guidelines for training of trainers, learning modules, IEC materials, etc., in consultation with sector experts.

6.5 COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY FRAMEWORK

The state shall ensure increased community awareness on issues of sanitation and hygiene. The various stakeholders shall use advocacy as an effective tool to mobilize government, media, civil society, implementing agencies and other stakeholders for strengthening related policies, programmes and implementation.

The state shall support a comprehensive BCC strategy covering all rural areas, utilising innovative channels like social media and converging with activities undertaken by the Odisha Livelihood Mission (OLM), Mission Shakti, etc. through their community cadres and SHGs. The campaign shall focus on encouraging the sustained toilet usage by all individuals at all times, retrofitting of dysfunctional toilets, household-level waste management in accordance with the Waste Hierarchy (including domestic hazardous wastes), source segregation of waste, plastic waste management, the adoption of hygienic practices like handwashing at critical times, safe disposal of child faeces, menstrual hygiene management, among others. Rural communities shall also be sensitized towards gender equity, socio-cultural biases against sanitation and sanitary work, the environmental importance of sanitation, among others. Periodic impact assessments of such BCC campaigns shall be undertaken to account for evolving needs.

Additionally, the state shall undertake appropriate revisions to the curriculum of educational institutions to not only mainstream sanitation and hygiene but to also develop and disseminate sanitation-related approaches and knowledge to make children change agents.