

***Building Local Economies: Strengthening
Rural Sanitation through robust Pro-Poor
Policies***

WaterAid Ghana Side event

**CLTS Stocktaking Forum
9 -14 July, 2017
Noda Hotel, Kumasi**



***Building Local Economies: Strengthening
Rural Sanitation with solidarity oriented
policies and practices***

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Building Local Economies: Strengthening Rural Sanitation through robust Pro-Poor Policies

Theses 1:

Without building robust local economies, characterized by increasing equalities, scaling up rural sanitation to reach everyone in rural areas, especially the most marginalized, will not happen.

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- **The End is more than just toilets**
- **Well being**
- **Growing inequalities**
- **Reducing assets/resources = reduced options**

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Despite the gains made in reducing poverty, all indices show that inequality has increased between 1992 and 2013.

By 2006, the richest 20% = 50% of Ghana's income; poorest group = income share declines from 6.9% of the total in 1992 to 5.2%.

The Northern, Upper West and Upper East regions continue to have the highest rates of poverty depth and severity (UNICEF 2016).

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Build/strengthen local solidarity economies

- Create wealth and assets at the local level
- Through value addition processes that are equitable; based on cooperation
- Enable that wealth to circulate there as long as possible;
- And focused on the collective good

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Theses 2:

The dominant approach(es) to rural sanitation are doomed to fail the people they claim to serve because they inadequately attentive to the political economy of managing shit.

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**subsidy without appropriate software work
to**

zero subsidy with poor software work?

Poorly done subsidies led to

**Non attentiveness to household priorities
and preferences**

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Poorly done subsidies led to:

- **No strong sense of ownership developing**
- **Dependency syndrome created**

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“New” dominant approach:

zero subsidy and poor software work

- household preferences and priorities poorly understood and/or appreciated;
- sense of ownership not developed
- **Most marginalized groups/individuals not reached**

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Theses 3:

The current policy framework for sanitation will fail if it is not strengthened ...by embedding it in a livelihood and asset creation framework that prioritizes the most marginalized and vulnerable

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Start with reaching the most difficult to reach

Financing for sanitation – social markets only?

Cultivate development credit unions and consumer cooperatives

End the policy bias against rural dwellers

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I have made my three arguments.

compelling!

Can we change policy and practice?

Thank You

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