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Abbreviations

CDC	Centres for Disease Control
DFID	Department for International Development (UK)
DROP	Development for Resource Organisation and Planning
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
LSHTM	London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
M&E	Monitoring and evaluation
MSF	Médecins Sans Frontières
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
O&M	Operation and maintenance
PAHO	Pan American Health Organisation
PHAST	Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation
PRA	Participatory rural appraisal
RRA	Rapid rural appraisal
SWOT	Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats
TRCS	Tanzania Red Cross Society
TSS	Total suspended solids
UNCHS	United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
uPVC	unplasticised polyvinyl chloride
VIP	Ventilated improved pit (latrine)
WEDC	Water, Engineering and Development Centre
WHO	World Health Organisation

Glossary of terms

Desludge:	to empty the contents of a latrine pit or septic tank
Closed setting:	affected site has clear boundaries and population figures are known (e.g. refugee camp)
Epidemic:	the appearance of a particular disease in a large number of people in the same period of time
Faecal–oral:	disease transmission from faeces to the human digestive system via the mouth
Gender:	the physical and/or social condition of being male or female
Infiltration:	the absorption of liquid by material, for example when water is absorbed by the ground
Landfilling:	the disposal of solid waste by excavating a hole in the ground, filling this with waste and then covering with soil to fill the hole
Latrine:	a toilet, especially a simple one such as a hole in the ground
Logistics:	the careful organisation of procurement, transportation, storage and distribution of materials and equipment
Morbidity:	the number of cases of a particular disease reported within a particular society and within a particular period of time
Mortality:	the number of deaths within a particular society and within a particular period of time
Open defecation:	to defecate outside a latrine, normally in a natural environment
Open setting:	affected site has no clear boundaries such as a normal urban or rural area
Sludge accumulation:	the build up in volume of excreta, normally within a latrine pit or septic tank
Socio-cultural:	relating to the social and cultural practices, beliefs and traditions within a particular society
Stakeholder:	a person or group of people who have a share or a personal or financial involvement in a programme
Superstructure:	the part of a building which is above the ground
Sustainability:	the ability of something (e.g. activity, facility or system) to keep operating effectively without negative impact
Vector:	an insect or animal which carries a disease from one animal or plant to another (particularly humans)
Wastewater:	‘dirty’ water arising from laundry areas, kitchens, bathrooms, etc.

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