



National Standard Definitions for Sanitation, Hygiene, and Water



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MINISTRY OF HEALTH-ETHIOPIA

የዜጎች ጤና ለሃገር ብልጽግና!
HEALTHIER CITIZENS FOR PROSPEROUS NATION!

Acknowledgment

The operational definitions below are based on the sanitation and hygiene service levels recommended by the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Program (JMP). These operational definitions shall be used for national sanitation, hygiene, and water monitoring, and are aligned with the global definitions desirable for global monitoring.

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Sanitation Operational Definitions

Open Defecation

Disposal of human feces or defecation in fields, forests, bushes, open bodies of water, beaches, or other open spaces, or with solid waste.



Open defecation free (ODF)

A state in which all community members in a kebele use latrine at all times and a situation where no open defecation is practiced at all in the kebele.



Unimproved sanitation facilities

Sanitation facilities that do not hygienically separate human excreta from human contact. This includes dry pit latrines without slabs, hanging latrines, bucket latrines, and flush and pour-flush toilets discharging to an open drain.



Improved sanitation facilities

Sanitation facilities that are designed to hygienically separate human excreta from human contact. These include wet sanitation technologies such as flush and pour flush toilets connected to sewers, septic tanks or pit latrines, and dry sanitation technologies such as dry pit latrines with slabs and composting toilets.



Unimproved sanitation services

Use of unimproved sanitation facilities.



Basic sanitation service

Use of improved sanitation facilities that are not shared with other households.

Limited sanitation service

Use of improved sanitation facilities shared between two or more households.

Basic+ sanitation service

Use of improved sanitation facilities that are not shared with other households, and that have a superstructure providing adequate privacy and a drop hole cover or a water seal that prevents the passage of flies and odors.

Safely managed sanitation service

Use of improved sanitation facilities that are not shared with other households and where excreta are safely disposed of in situ or transported and treated off-site.

Safe disposal insitu

Excreta are treated and disposed of in situ in septic tanks with appropriate leach fields, or in latrine pits that are covered and left undisturbed when full.

Safe Off-site transport and treatment

Includes wastewater treated off-site (excreta are conveyed with the wastewater through sewer lines and treated off-site at wastewater treatment plants) and excreta emptied and treated off-site (excreta are emptied from septic tanks and latrine pits, removed and treated offsite at facilities designed for fecal sludge).



Hygiene Operational Definitions

Handwashing facility

It may be fixed or mobile and includes sinks with tap water, buckets with taps, tippy-taps, and jugs or basins designated for handwashing.

Soap includes bar soap, liquid soap, powder detergent, and soapy water but does not include ash, soil, sand, or other traditional handwashing agents



No handwashing facility

No handwashing facility of any kind on-premises

Limited handwashing service

Availability of handwashing facility on-premises but without soap or water.

Basic handwashing service

Availability of a handwashing facility on-premise with soap and water.



Water Operational Definitions

Surface water

Drinking water directly from a river, dam, lake, pond, stream, canal or irrigation canal.



Unimproved water service

Drinking water from unprotected sources including dug well or unprotected springs.



Limited water service

Drinking water from an improved source for which collection time exceeds 30 minutes for the roundtrip, including queuing.



Basic water service

Drinking water from an improved source, provided collection time is not more than 30 minutes for a roundtrip, including queuing.



Safely managed water service

Drinking water from an improved water source that is located on-premises, available when needed, and free from fecal and priority chemical contamination.

Improved drinking water sources

Are those which by nature of their design and construction have the potential to deliver safe water. This includes piped water, boreholes or tube wells, protected dug wells, protected springs, rainwater, and packaged or delivered water.



Safe water handling

Refers to the safe management of drinking water at home including adequate household water treatment, safe storage, and use.

