



Developed in collaboration with



Pictorial Guidance

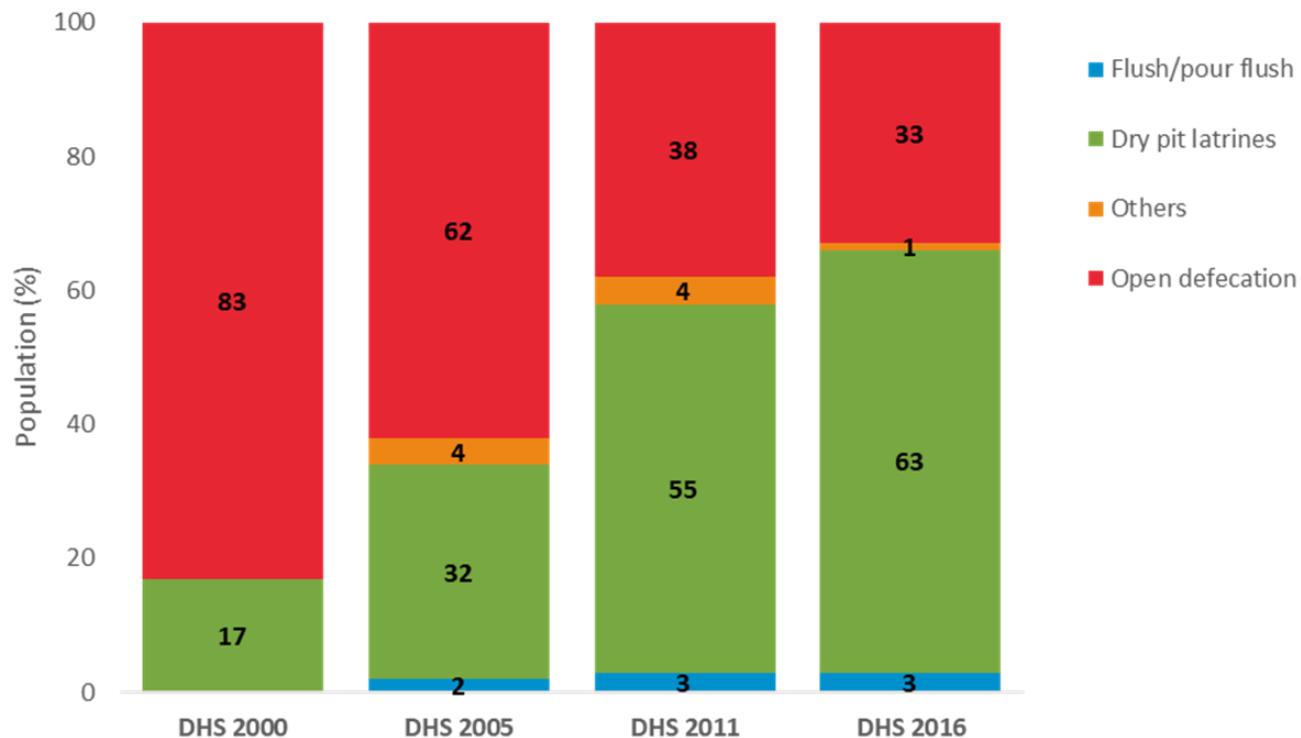
Classification of Pit Latrines in Ethiopia
National MSP Meeting, 26/10/2021

USAID Transform WASH

DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION



In Ethiopia, two in three people use a dry pit latrine



JMP sanitation service ladder

SERVICE LEVEL	DEFINITION
SAFELY MANAGED	Use of improved facilities that are not shared with other households and where excreta are safely disposed of in situ or transported and treated offsite
BASIC	Use of improved facilities that are not shared with other households
LIMITED	Use of improved facilities shared between two or more households
UNIMPROVED	Use of pit latrines without a slab or platform, hanging latrines or bucket latrines
OPEN DEFECACTION	Disposal of human faeces in fields, forests, bushes, open bodies of water, beaches or other open spaces, or with solid waste

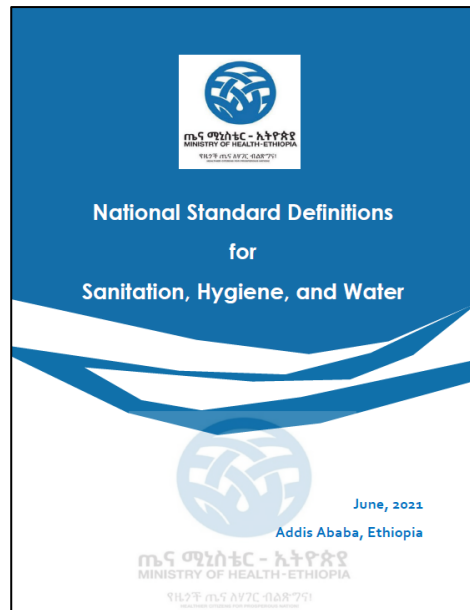
Dry pit latrines can be “improved” or “unimproved”.

JMP standard core question for global monitoring

S1. Sanitation facility	
What kind of toilet facility do members of your household usually use?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flush / pour flush <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flush to piped sewer system 11 Flush to septic tank 12 Flush to pit latrine 13 Flush to open drain 14 Flush to don't know where 18
<i>If 'Flush' or 'Pour flush', probe: Where does it flush to?</i>	
<i>If not possible to determine, ask permission to observe the facility.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dry pit latrines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pit latrine with slab 22 Pit latrine without slab / Open pit 23 Composting toilets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Twin pit with slab 31 Twin pit without slab 32 Other composting toilet 33 Bucket 41 Container based sanitation 42 Hanging toilet / hanging latrine 51 No facility / Bush / Field 95 Other (specify) 96

It is not always easy to distinguish between “pit latrine with slab” and “pit latrine without slab”.

National and Global Definitions for Sanitation



In 2021, the Federal Ministry of Health aligned the national standard definitions with the global definitions proposed by the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme.

Improved vs. unimproved dry pit latrine

Dry pit latrines with slab = improved

Dry pit latrines without slab = unimproved

The principal difference between improved and unimproved pit latrines is the **presence of a 'slab'**.

Definition by WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme

Dry pit latrines with slab (= improved)

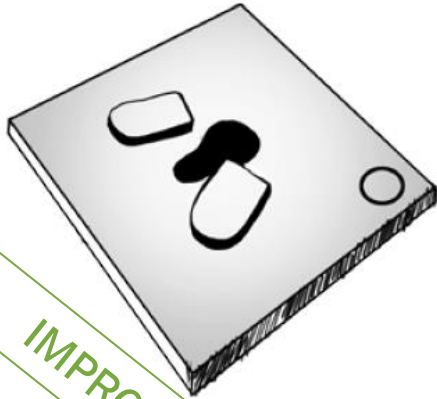
Improved pit latrines are those that **completely cover the pit**, with a **small drop hole**, and are constructed from materials that are **durable and easy to clean** (e.g. concrete, bricks, stone, fiberglass, ceramic, metal, wooden planks or durable plastic). Slabs made of durable materials that are covered with a smooth layer of mortar, clay or mud should also be counted as 'improved'.

Dry pit latrines without slab (= unimproved)

Unimproved pit latrines are those **without a slab or platform**, but also pit latrines with slabs that only **partially cover the pit**, or with slabs constructed from materials that are **not durable and easy to clean** (e.g. sticks, logs or bamboo) should be counted as 'unimproved', even if they are covered with a smooth layer or mortar, clay or mud.

Concrete slabs count as improved...

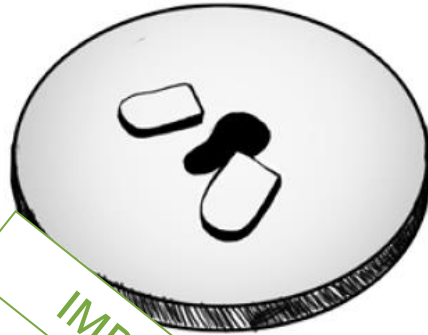
Reinforced square or rectangular concrete slab



IMPROVED

1

Reinforced circular concrete slab



IMPROVED

2

SanPlat concrete slab



IMPROVED

3

Concrete slabs count as improved...



IMPROVED

4



IMPROVED

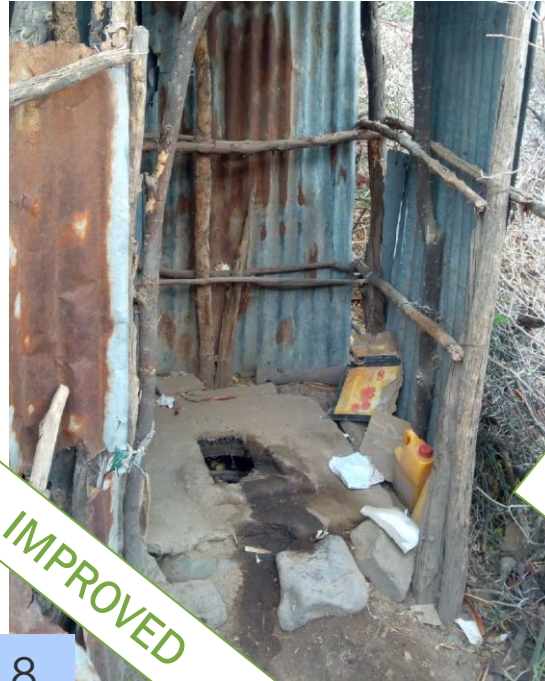
5



IMPROVED

6

...even if there is no drop hole cover



...even if there is no adequate superstructure



10



11

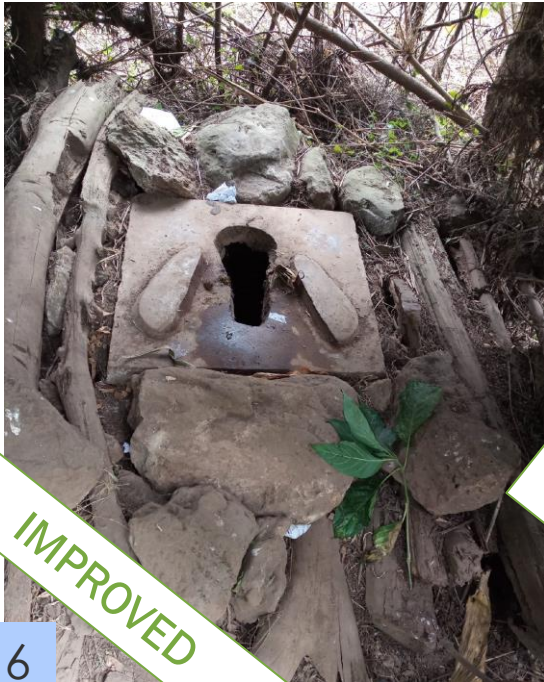


12

...even if the ventilation hole is not covered



...even if the floor material is not perfectly smooth



...even if covered with mud, earth or gravel



19



20



21

...even if the latrine is not clean



22



23



24

...and also if there is a SATO pan



IMPROVED

25



IMPROVED

26



IMPROVED

27

... however, they count as unimproved if they are broken



UNIMPROVED

28



UNIMPROVED

29



UNIMPROVED

30

...or do not fully cover the pit



31

UNIMPROVED



32

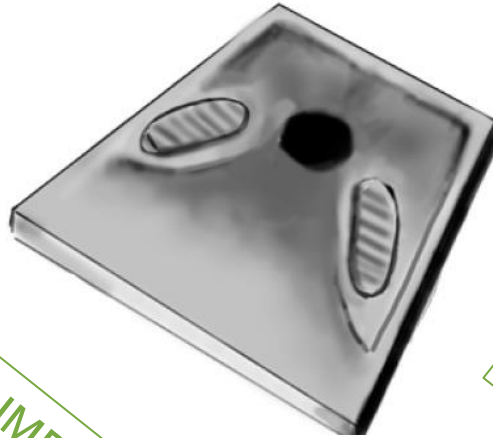
UNIMPROVED



33

UNIMPROVED

Plastic/fiberglass/ceramic slabs count as improved (usually embedded in a concrete slab)



IMPROVED

34



IMPROVED

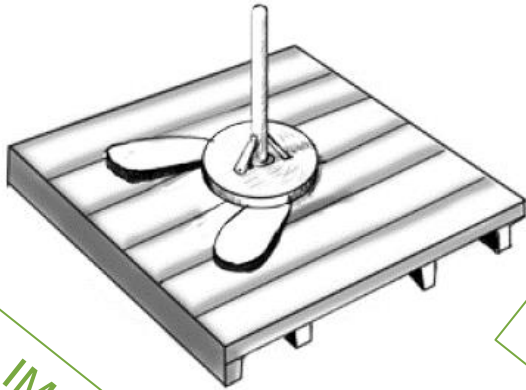
35



IMPROVED

36

Wooden slabs (timber/planks) count as improved



IMPROVED

37



IMPROVED

38



IMPROVED

39

... however, they count as unimproved the pit is not fully covered



40

UNIMPROVED



41

UNIMPROVED



42

UNIMPROVED

Platforms made with sticks, logs or bamboo count as unimproved



UNIMPROVED

43



UNIMPROVED

44



UNIMPROVED

45

...even if covered with a smooth layer or mortar, clay or mud



UNIMPROVED

46



UNIMPROVED

47



UNIMPROVED

48

...because these latrines are unlikely to sustain for a long time



UNIMPROVED

49



UNIMPROVED

50



UNIMPROVED

51

...and will likely not fully cover the pit after a relatively short time



UNIMPROVED

52



UNIMPROVED

53



UNIMPROVED

54

Thank you!

Lars Osterwalder, IRC WASH
osterwalder@ircwash.org

