

Abstract: Third International Conference on Ecological Sanitation

Title	UDS Case Study from Genadendal, Western Cape Province, South Africa.
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The objective of the paper is to share the experiences gained in the application of Urine Diversion Sanitation (UDS) in the Western Cape.

The Western Cape Province in South Africa has a Mediterranean climate characterised with cold wet winters and hot dry summers. Other characteristics of the region are:

- **A massive backlog in the delivery of sanitation services, mainly to residents of informal settlements**
- **A political will to address the sanitation backlog and some willingness to try alternative technologies**
- **Scarcity of water resources and routine implementation of water restrictions.**

The South African Government has adopted a policy of subsidised services to the poor that includes a monthly “free water” allocation of six kilolitres per household. The figure of six kilolitres effectively means that if you have a flush toilet you will pay for water as your household will most probably be using more than free monthly allocation. As a result, there is a direct economic incentive for low income households to have sanitation systems that do not use water.

The challenge for the ecosan community is to demonstrate to communities and municipalities that technologies like UDS can provide people with a service that is easy to use, reliable, has positive health benefits and is cost effective.

This paper describes the lessons learnt in the implementation of a UDS project in Bereaville at Genadendal, about 150km from Cape Town. The area falls within the Theewaterkloof Municipality and is a semi rural community consisting of 386 households. Prior to the project, there was a mixed level of service that included some houses with bucket toilets and some with water borne sanitation and septic tanks.

As part of the project 71 UDS latrines and 71 composters were constructed by builders from Bereaville with training and supervision from the implementing

organisations. A demand responsive approach was used and applications from households with bucket toilets were given preference. The community awareness programme involved the training of community health workers who then conducted house to house visits and interest group workshops covering general topics on health and sanitation as well as the specifics on UDS use, maintenance and composting.

The paper will look at how the project was implemented and document the strengths and weaknesses of the approach used. This will also be compared with the authors experiences of other UDS project initiatives. Evaluations done at project completion will be looked at in conjunction with results of post project monitoring and evaluation to provide a picture of the functioning of the UDS latrines as well as the communities experience of the latrines. The level of acceptance of the technology will be looked at as well as the attitudes and actual levels of use, maintenance and composting activities. These results will also be compared with the authors experiences from other parts of South Africa.

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