



# Safely managed sanitation services in small towns: an analysis of knowledge and experiences from developing countries

## Aims and objectives

Research Question: 'For developing countries, what key **factors** make the **sanitation chain** work in small towns?'

The five objectives of the project are as follows:

1. **Compile** a broad and diverse **database** of **sanitation experiences** focusing on improving the full sanitation chain in small towns in developing countries, to inform and make it available for further external research.
2. **Analyse** the **database** and use selection criteria to **identify specific and relevant experiences** of the full sanitation chain in small towns.
3. **Identify and synthesise challenges** and **lessons learnt** from experiences in small towns.
4. **Identify** and **critically assess** the **sanitation chain systems** that apply to small towns and the **systemic barriers** that prevent its functioning.
5. **Identify existing tools** and **gaps** in tool availability for managing sanitation in small towns.

The key lessons established will provide pS-Eau with a baseline for analysis of future activities.

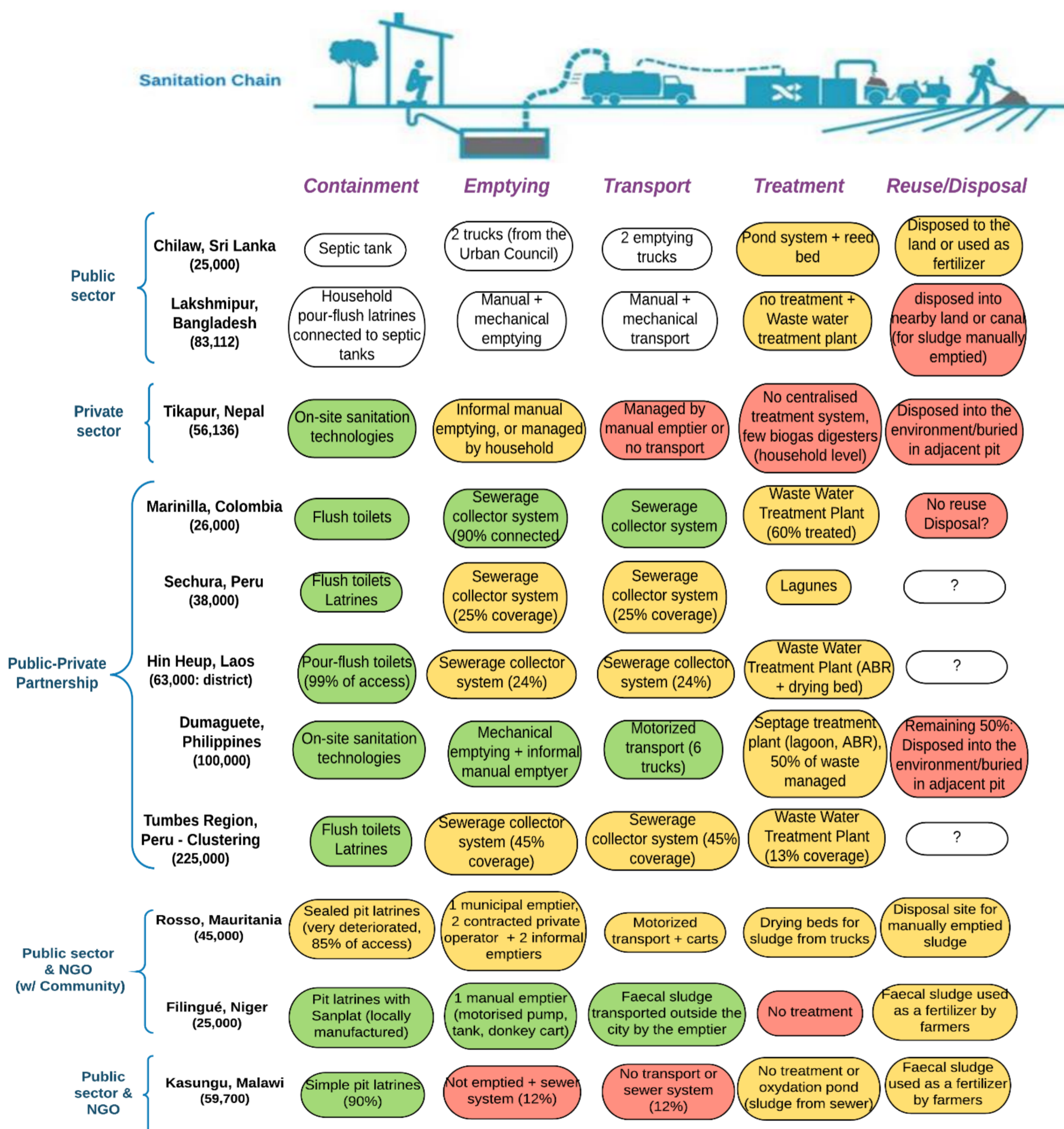


Figure 1 – Final case studies and associated sanitation chain information

## Results

46 case studies showing experiences of sanitation in STL, of which 11 were chosen to be final case studies showing the full sanitation chain, as shown in the figure adjacent.

9 Key Informant interviews were conducted, from a diverse panel of professionals: two university researchers, two consultants, three INGO staff and two from local NGOs.

These results fulfil Objective 1 we set for the project and provide a broad and diverse database of the sanitation chain in STL.

Well managed (green), Improvements required (yellow), Poorly managed Non-functioning (red), ? No information (white)

## Conclusions

- Sanitation in STL is a subject well documented but with few examples of well managed and functioning full sanitation chain.
- The downstream steps of the chain (dispose/reuse) is often where issues exist. On the compiled database, a small number of situations deal with the full sanitation chain.
- All experiences prove that linkages are essential: all components must be fully functional and linked together to get a successful sanitation chain, starting with strong institutional leadership, good financial management and stakeholders involvements.
- Stakeholders should agree on what technology should be used or implemented and on what are the gaps that need to be fulfilled to make the system work.

Laura Bachelier, Annette Butty, James Dornan, Dave Haddock, Serge Neumann, Lise Nousse

Cranfield University, Cranfield, Bedfordshire, MK430AL

[www.cranfield.ac.uk](http://www.cranfield.ac.uk)



**Programme Solidarité Eau**

[www.pseau.org](http://www.pseau.org)

[pseau@pseau.org](mailto:pseau@pseau.org)