The incorporation of life cycle approach in WASH policies and programmes: A systematic review







Thillai Rajan A., Professor, Department of Management Studies Indian Institute of Technology, Madras Global Evidence and Implementation Summit 24 October 2018

#### Presentation flow

- 1 Study Background
- 2 Study Methodology
- 3 Study Findings
  - Policies
  - Programmes and Projects
- 4 Implications

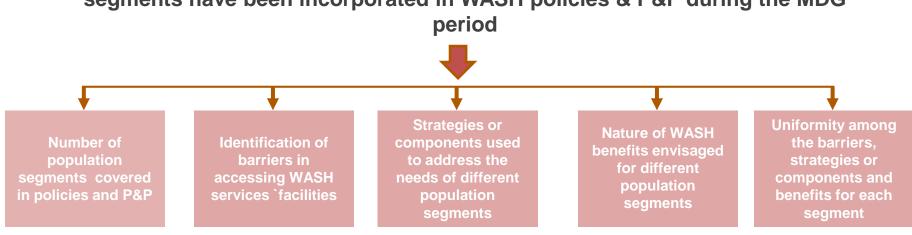
## 1. Study Background

#### Context of the review

- WASH barriers are varied across population segments and a "one-size fits all" approach or universal access may not be suitable to achieve sustainable WASH access for all
- This is because the needs and obstacles faced by human beings in accessing WASH services vary by age, gender, disability and vulnerability
- Current paradigm in WASH service delivery is often focused towards geographical and social segments and not by age, gender and disability

#### Objective of the review

Main outcome of interest was to understand how different population segments have been incorporated in WASH policies & P&P during the MDG period



## 2. Study Methodology

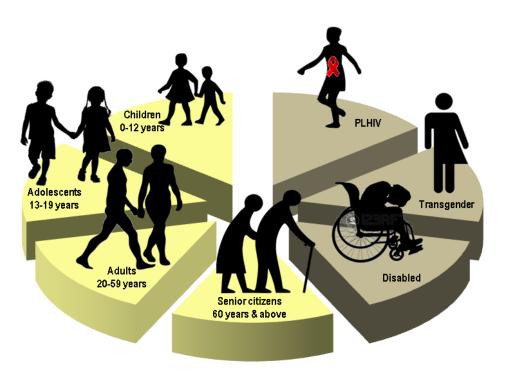
#### Relevant sectors

Interventions that are targeted at improving access to both drinking water as well as water for personal hygiene and sanitation

Interventions that aims to improve access to sanitation – provision of toilets, piped sewers, septic tanks, pit latrines and/or the collection and disposal of excreta

Interventions that aimed hand washing with soap and menstrual hygiene management (MHM)

#### Population segments



Life-Cycle Segments (LCS)

Rural

Urban

Poor and low income

Caste & Ethnicity

Migrants/ Pastoralists

Vulnerable by occupation

Geographical and Social Segments (GSS)

#### Barriers, Strategies and WASH Benefits

#### **Barriers**

- 1. Adequacy
- 2. Attitudinal
- 3. Demand-side
- 4. Environmental
- 5. Inclusion
- 6. Physical
- 7. Policy & institutional

#### Strategies & Components

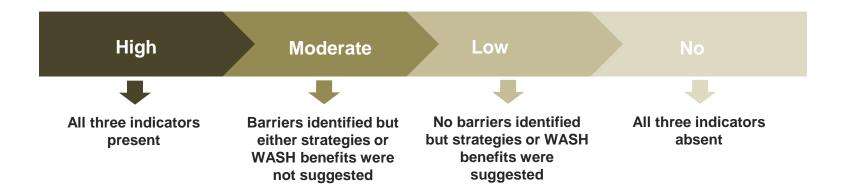
- 1. Beneficiary participation
- 2. Information, education & communication (IEC)
- 3. Project management
- 4. Demand management
- Provision of financial incentives
- Provision of WASH infrastructure
- 7. Equity in WASH provision
- 8. Stakeholder participation
- 9. Legal & regulatory framework
- 10. Decentralisation of service provision/services
- 11. Improving demand
- 12. Institutional strengthening and capacity building
- 13. Provision of financial incentives
- 14. Sanitation marketing
- 15. Skill development for communities

#### **WASH Benefits**

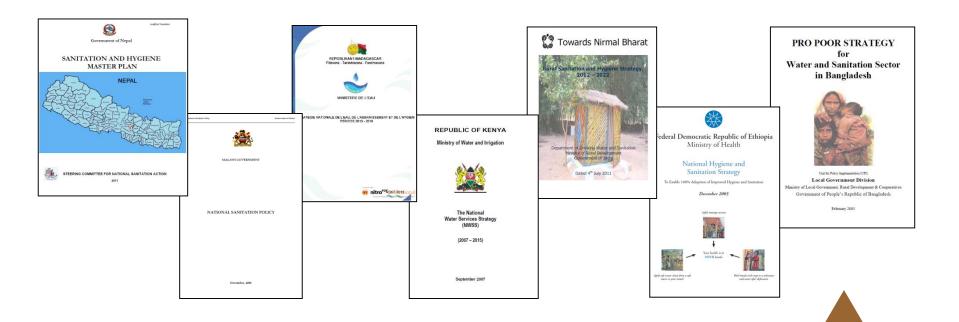
- 1.Affordability
- 2.Availability
- 3. Physical accessibility
- 4. Quality & Safety

#### Policy and P&P Fidelity

## Presence of barriers, strategies or components and WASH benefits for each of the population segments



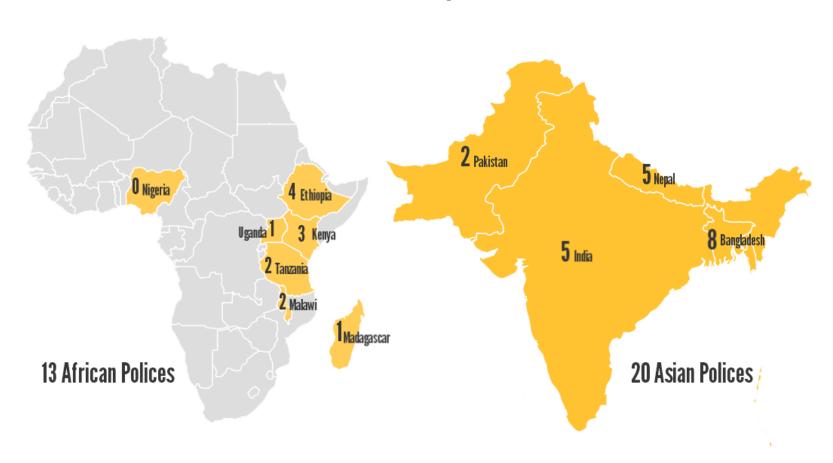
Main assumption was that high fidelity led to improved access to WASH across the population



# 3. Study Findings Policies

## National WASH policies

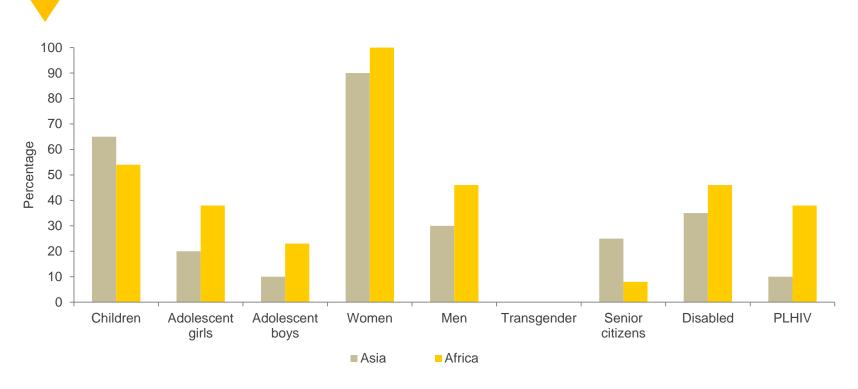
#### 33 National WASH policies



## State WASH policies

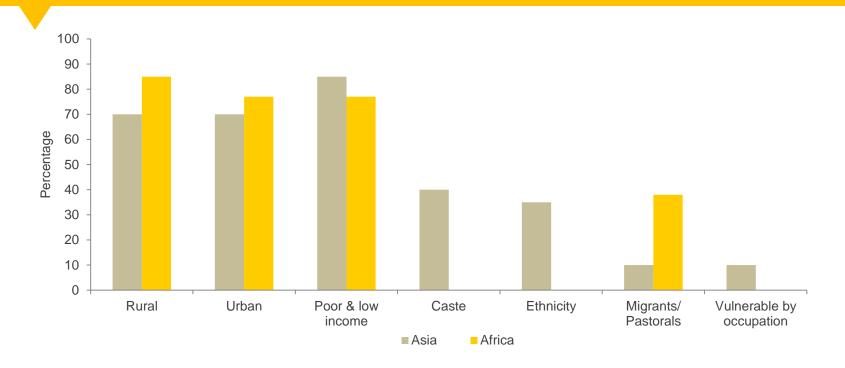


#### LCS identified



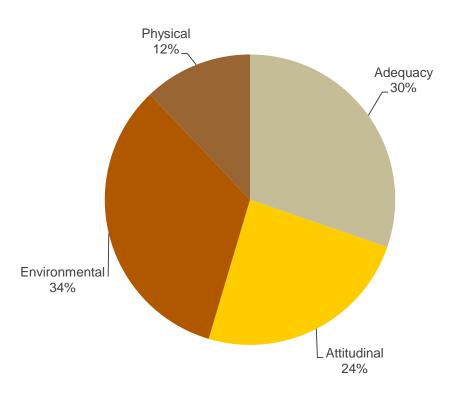
- Policies in Africa identified more LCS
- Representation of LCS higher in sanitation sector

#### **GSS** identified



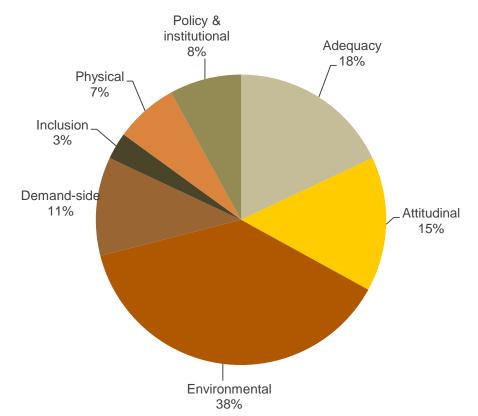
- More number of Asian policies had identified GSS
- Representation of GSS higher in water sector
- Groups marginalised by caste & ethnicity predominant in Asia and in Africa, migrants/pastoralist were evident

#### Barriers identified - LCS



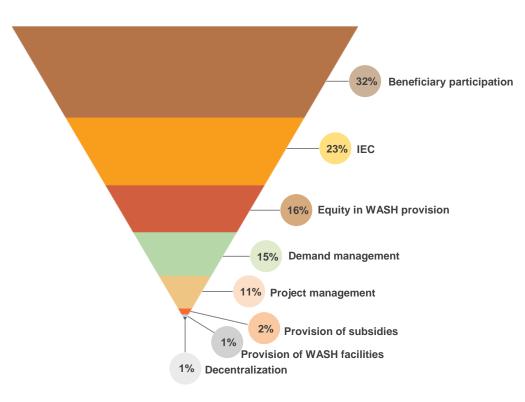
- Top three barriers Environmental, Adequacy and Attitudinal
- Adequacy and environmental barriers frequently mentioned in Asia and in Africa, attitudinal barriers were most common
- Description of barriers mostly pertained to the sanitation sector
- Both children and women mostly faced environmental barriers
- Adolescent girls predominantly faced attitudinal barriers

#### Barriers identified - GSS



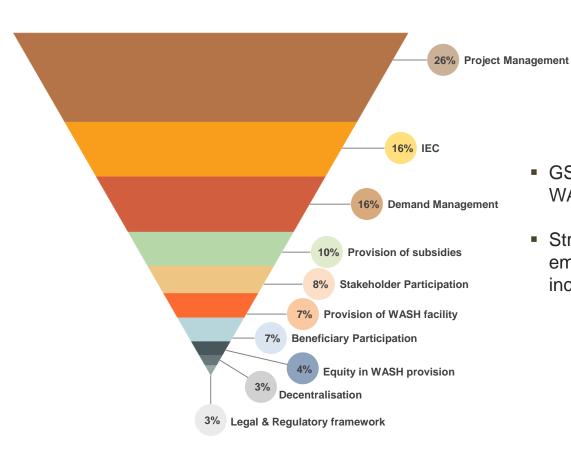
- Top three barriers Environmental, Adequacy and Attitudinal
- Environmental barriers was common across the three GSS
- Urban segments faced adequacy barriers in both Asia and Africa
- In rural areas, attitudinal barriers ranked high
- Lack of proper drainage facilities and communal latrines were commonly identified among urban poor and low income

#### Strategies suggested - LCS



- Asian countries identified more strategies than African countries
- Highest number of strategies were identified for women, children, men and the disabled
- Strategies were proposed mostly for the sanitation and hygiene sectors
- Need for greater involvement of women was stressed in WASH interventions
- Strategies proposed to children and adolescent girls mostly centered around IEC
- Senior citizens and the aged lacked attention

## Strategies suggested - GSS



- GSS received more attention than LCS in WASH strategies
- Strategies for the poor and low income emphasized on provision of financial incentives

#### WASH Benefits proposed - LCS

- Most common WASH benefit proposed was 'improving availability of WASH services'
- Physical accessibility to WASH gained more attention in Africa than in Asia
- Construction of separate toilets for boys and girls in schools was of priority for children
- Physical accessibility and quality and safety was given equal attention for adolescent girls
- Adolescent boys received better attention in sanitation and hygiene sectors
- WASH benefits for women were low





Physical Accessibility



Quality and safety



Affordability

#### WASH Benefits proposed - GSS

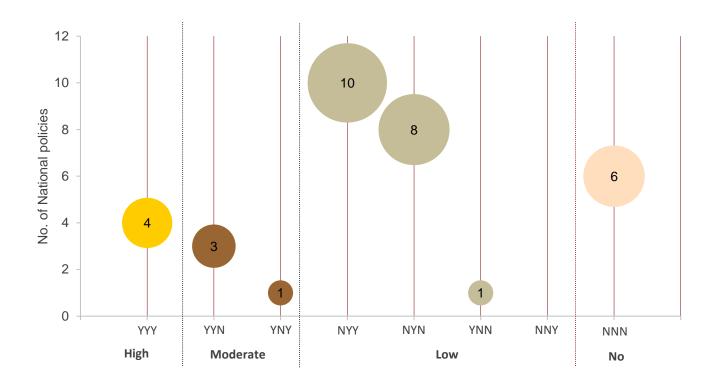
- Availability and physical accessibility were the common WASH benefits proposed in both Asia and Africa
- Policies in Asia focused on WASH in urban areas and in Africa focus was more on rural areas
- Affordability was the main WASH benefit proposed for the poor and low income





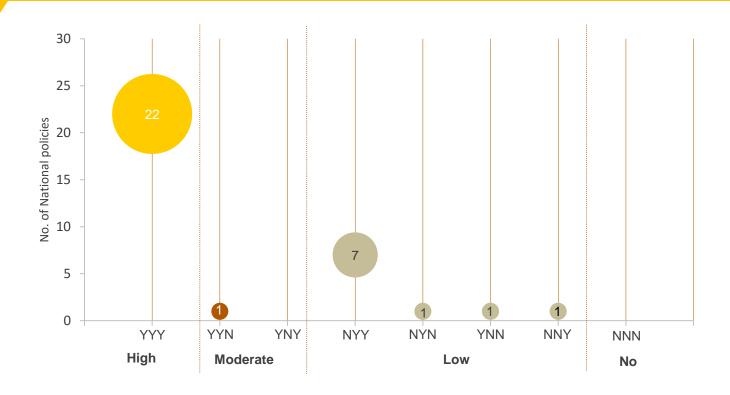
Physical accessibility

#### Policy fidelity - LCS



- Low priority to identify barriers for LCS had majority of the policy documents on the 'low' and 'no' fidelity scale
- Policies were generally strategy-heavy and mostly pivoted around low fidelity
- Policies covering the sanitation sector had better fidelity than those covering water and hygiene sectors

#### Policy fidelity - GSS



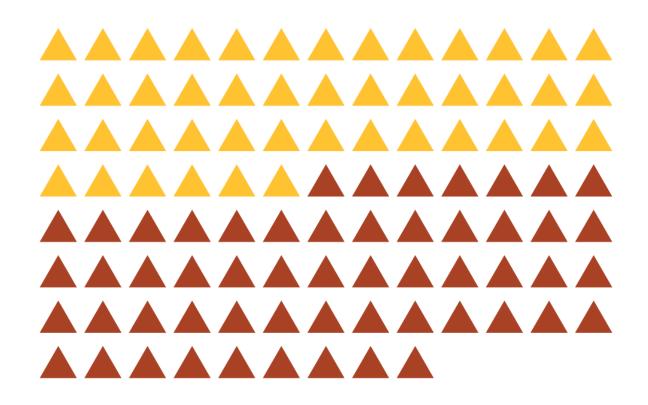
- More African policies than Asian policies exhibited high fidelity
- Urban segments were more inclined to high fidelity than other segments
- High fidelity was observed to be high in policies covering the sanitation sector



# 3. Study Findings P&P

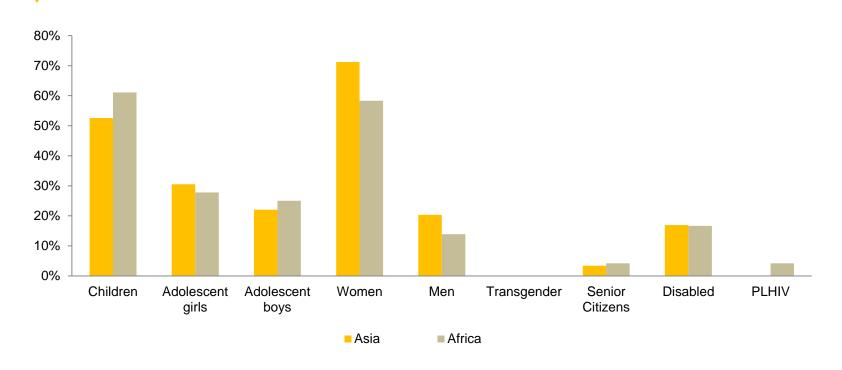
#### WASH P&P

#### **131 WASH P&P**



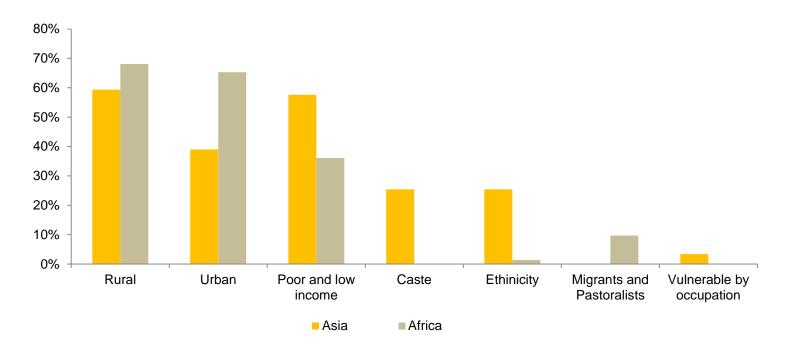
▲ Asia (45%; n=59) ▲ Africa (55%; n=72)

#### LCS covered



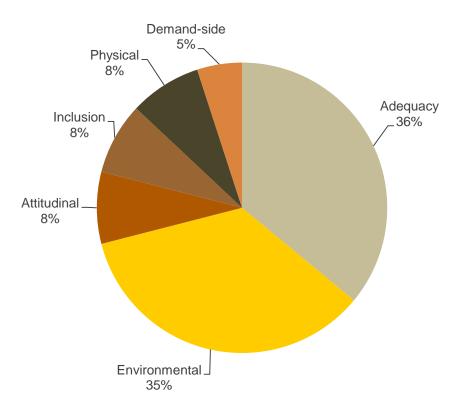
- Africa P&P had included more LCS than Asian P&P
- Men were more frequently identified in Asian P&P
- Senior citizen and PLHIV were least mentioned
- Transgender community were not identified in any P&P

#### **GSS** covered



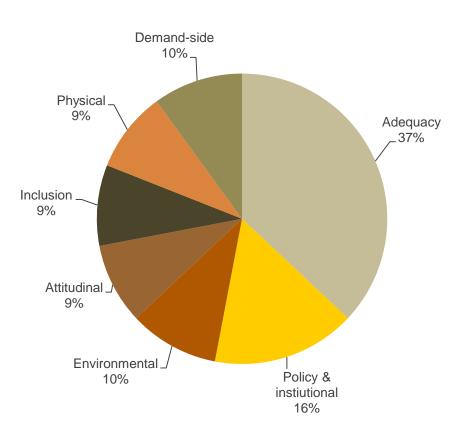
- Predominant segments included rural, urban and the poor
- In Asia, poor and rural segments received equal attention
- In Africa, rural and urban segments received equal attention

#### Barriers identified - LCS



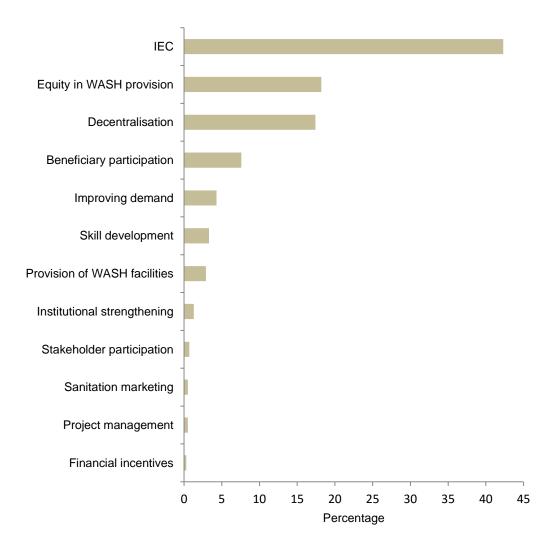
- Overall identification of barriers were limited
- More barriers identified in water sector
- Women and adolescent girls largely faced gender based violence and sexual harassment while accessing facilities
- Problems related to MHM was also evident among adolescent girls
- Children's attendance were affected because of their role in collecting water
- Description of barriers were not available for senior citizens

#### Barriers identified - GSS



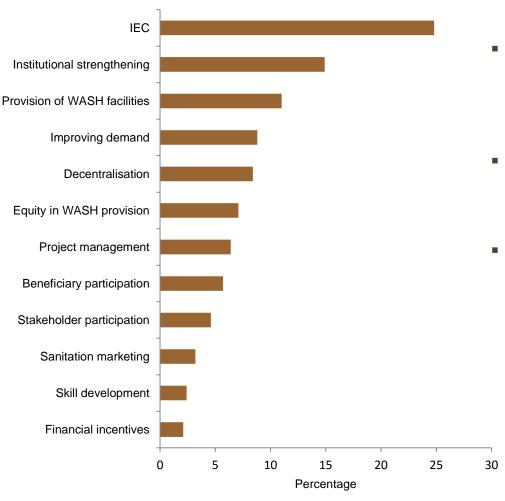
- In Africa, barriers pertained to policy and institutional constraints, physical constraints and exclusion of population segments from provision of WASH facilities
- In Asia, barriers related to attitudinal and demand side

#### Components implemented - LCS



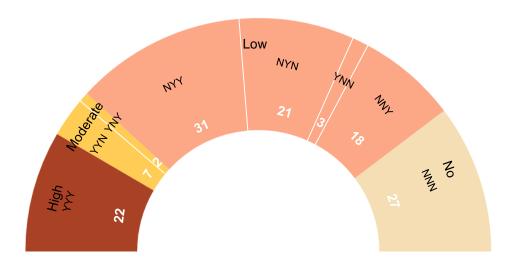
- Greater representation of LCS in rural WASH initiatives
- IEC played an important role in implementation of P&P, especially in the sanitation sector
- Emphasis on decentralization and beneficiary participation for women
- School-level WASH initiatives for children
- Hygiene education, MHM & sanitation promotion for adolescent girls
- Gender sensitivity and training men and adolescent boys on WASH management
- Disabled, aged and PLHIV received limited attention

#### Components implemented - GSS



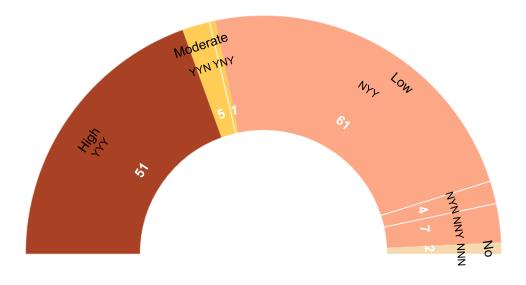
- Strengthening of institutions and decentralisation were prominent components used for rural population
- Provision of water in urban areas especially to urban poor had gained attention
- Equity in WASH provision was commonly mentioned for caste and ethnic groups in Asia and migrants/pastoralists in Africa

## P&P Fidelity - LCS



- LCS were predominantly low in fidelity as the P&P emphasised more on components and benefits than barriers
- High fidelity was more evident among women especially in the water sector
- Fidelity among men was low with high attention towards only providing hygiene related benefits

## P&P Fidelity - GSS



- African P&P had adopted a more holistic approach towards GSS and had resulted in high fidelity
- Moderate fidelity was predominantly observed among urban and caste groups
- Rural population had better fidelity than urban population in the water sector

# 4. Implications

#### Way forward

- Need for providing equal importance to all WASH sectors
- Shift from GSS to LCS in WASH polices
- Greater level of effort required towards understanding barriers faced by LCS and devising strategies to overcome them
- Benefits for LCS should be expanded
- Need for improvement of fidelity among WASH policies and projects

