

Accessibility and Safety Audit: Market Centre Latrine

Purpose: to examine a market centre latrine, and

- a) Find out if a physically vulnerable person* could access and use the facility independently;
- b) Identify which features make it easy to use, and which features make it difficult to use;
- c) Identify any safety concerns with using the facility, particularly for girls and women;
- d) Identify any changes/improvements that could be made to the facility or its surrounds to improve ease of use and reduce safety risks;
- e) Involve users in the design of the facilities.

Allocation of tasks

Share out the tasks below. Team members may do more than one task.

Names of team members	Additional Equipment
Co-ordinator	Note-book & pen
Interviewer	Note-book & pen
Note-taker:	Note-book & pen
Focus on women and girls' issues (esp. MHM, privacy, safety)	Note-book & pen
Measurer:	Tape measure
Drawer of diagrams:	Plain/squared paper, pencil, eraser
Photographer:	Camera
Other	

A. General details

1. Location /Address
2. Type of latrine
.....
3. Constructed by:
4. General description of latrine, focusing on superstructure, including materials
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

* This could include girls and women who are menstruating, pregnant women, people with difficulty walking, or who use a wheelchair, or who are visually impaired, or have weak or stiff joints, or are injured, or have a limb amputation – the list is endless....

B. Accessibility and safety

Different users now attempt to show how they can/cannot use the toilet. First note down the barriers that make it difficult or unsafe to use. Use the checklists in boxes to remind you what to look for. (Ignore any that are not relevant, and add things that are missing). Secondly write down what improvements/changes could be made.

1. Getting there:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distance from nearest market stall to latrine. • What is the path/ access route made of? • Is the path wide enough for all users (recommended min. width 90 cm) • Is the path level and firm? • Is the surface slippery when either dry or wet? • Are there obstacles that make it difficult to pass, or easy to trip up? eg for visually impaired people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the path clear of tree branches and bushes (up to 2m above floor level)? • Can a blind person follow the path? e.g. feeling surface texture, landmarks or guide rail? • Are slopes too steep? (Recommended max gradient 1 in 12)[†] • Is the surface of the slope slippery or not? • If used at night, is the path lit? • How far is the female latrine located from the male latrine?
---	---

Problems/ Barriers:

.....

.....

.....

Suggested changes:

.....

.....

.....

2. Getting in/on/out

<p><u>Steps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If there are steps, are they too high? (recommended max 15 – 17 cm each step). • Are the steps even or uneven, firm or broken, non-slip or slippery? • Is there a hand-rail for support? <p><u>Entrance:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there a flat platform in front of the door? • Is the entrance wide enough for a wheelchair to enter? (Recommended min. width 80cm) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the difference in height between inside and outside level, or is there a step? <p><u>Door</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the door open inwards or outwards? • Is the door easy to open by someone with weak hands? • Can the user close the door easily from inside? • Is the door easy to lock / unlock?
--	---

Problems/ Barriers:

.....

.....

.....

[†] See 'Compendium of accessible WASH technologies' (p.7) for ramp gradients and lengths.

Suggested changes:

.....

.....

.....

.....

3. Inside (draw a plan on a separate page to show dimensions and layout viewed from above)

<p><u>Internal dimensions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Width, length; distance from door to front of toilet hole or pan; • Width of toilet hole; • Dimensions of footrests if there are any; • Distance from toilet hole/ footrests to each side wall. • Do the layout and dimensions of the toilet allow space for a wheelchair/ crutch user, or a user and helper? <p><u>Floor:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is it made of? Is it even, or uneven, firm or unstable, slippery or non-slip? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the floor easy to clean? • Is drainage good? <p><u>Light:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When the door is closed is there enough light to see the toilet hole and footplates? <p><u>Windows and roof:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do these protect users from rain/ heat? • Do they provide adequate privacy for users? • Could men or boys see inside the female latrines, eg when standing on neighbouring roofs?
--	--

Problems/ Barriers:

.....

.....

Suggested changes:

.....

.....

.....

.....

4. Support structures

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is it a squatting or sitting latrine? • If squatting: is there something to hold onto when squatting? (rails/ rope etc.) • Describe (materials, position, height, etc.) • Draw position and dimensions on your plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If sitting, is the seat easy to use? Why? Why not? • Describe the seat – is it fixed or moveable, materials, dimensions, etc.
---	--

Problems/ Barriers:

.....

.....

Suggested changes:

.....

.....

.....
.....
5. Water/anal cleansing materials:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Are anal cleansing materials easily available?• Are there disposal facilities for anal cleansing materials?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is there an internal water point? Describe. Can it be reached from squatting/sitting?• If not, what is the source and how far is it from the latrine?
--	--

Problems/ Barriers:

.....

.....

Suggested changes:

.....

.....

6. Disposal facilities for sanitary protection materials

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is there a place for menstruating women and girls to wash reusable rags and/or soiled clothing?• Is there a system for discrete disposal of sanitary protection wastes?• Is there a container with a close fitting lid for used materials to be put into?• Are the containers used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Are the containers emptied regularly?• Is someone responsible for emptying and cleaning the containers?• Is there an agreed and safe location for the final disposal of wastes (e.g. incineration, burying or disposal into municipal waste collection systems)?
--	--

Problems/ Barriers:

.....

.....

Suggested changes:

.....

.....

7. Hand-washing:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is water available for hand-washing?• Could all users easily reach the water?• Is soap available and easy to reach - including for small children?• Are male and female hand-washing facilities separate and away from each	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• other (to allow privacy for women and girls managing their menstruation)?• Is the water disposed of in a way that maintains hygiene and prevents from becoming slippery?
--	---

Problems/ Barriers:

Suggested changes:

C. Interviews with local users

1. Persons interviewed:

2. Who uses the latrine?

3. Who can use it easily?

4. Are there people who would like to use it but cannot, or have difficulty?

5. Safety and privacy concerns

<p><u>Feeling safe when using the latrine:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do all users feel safe when using the latrine? Particularly adolescent girls, women and children. • Are there particular times of day or night when they feel less safe? • Are there any parts of the path which make users feel unsafe when using it? If so why? • Have there ever been incidents of harassment or other safety threats when using the facility? • Is there any way that men or boys can easily see inside the women / girls' latrines? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do men hang around outside the women's latrine? • If someone faced harassment or other safety risks when using the facility could they safely get away from there? <p><u>Management and maintenance:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If there is a caretaker or cleaner does their behaviour make girls and women feel safe when using the latrine? <p><u>Improvements:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How would users suggest the facility design or management could be improved to make it feel safer to use, and reduce problems and incidents in the future?
---	---

Barriers:

.....

.....

.....

Suggested changes:

.....

.....

.....

.....

Please add any additional information or comments.

Tool adapted from: Jones, H (2012) *Accessibility Audit: School Latrine*, WaterAid/WEDC, Loughborough University: UK. <https://wedc-knowledge.lboro.ac.uk/collections/equity-inclusion>

House, Sarah, Suzanne Ferron, Marni Sommer and Sue Cavill (2014) *Violence, Gender & WASH: A Practitioner's Toolkit – Making water, sanitation and hygiene safer through improved programming and services*. London, UK: WaterAid/SHARE.

Compendium of accessible WASH technologies (2014) WaterAid/WEDC: www.wateraid.org/accessibleWASHtechnologies