FAecal Sludge and Septage Management (FSSM)
Case study: Wai city

Location: 95 Km south of the city of Pune in Maharashtra
Population: ~ 43,000 (36,025 in Census 2011)
Area: 3.6 sq. km

Wai has already become ODF+ by implementing Faecal Sludge and Septage Management Plan.

More than 80% of households have individual household toilets. The rest have access to well maintained community toilets.

The city does not have any underground drainage system and toilets in city are connected to septic tanks and pit latrines.

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FSSM Interventions in Wai

1. FSSM Resolution
- Wai Council signed a resolution for FSSM covering these aspects:
  - Citywide FSSM
  - Involving Private sector
  - Scheduled cleaning
  - Land for treatment facility
  - Taxes to be levied
- 1st city to pass such a resolution

2. Scheduled Emptying of Septic Tanks
- Moving from a consumer complaint system of demand based emptying to a regular service oriented emptying system.
- Developed a plan for scheduled septic tank emptying. All tanks to be emptied once every 3 years. 2 trucks to desludge ~2000 septic tanks annually.
- 1st city to start scheduled emptying of septic tanks

3. Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant
- Wai city constructed a Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant for treatment and safe disposal of collected septage.
- Municipal Council allocated land near the solid waste processing site for the construction of a FSTP.
- The construction and subsequent operation was done by Tide Technocrats (Bangalore) and the funding of the project has been done by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.
- The FSTP uses pyrolysis technology.

4. Private Sector Participation
- For scheduled emptying a private operator was engaged
- A tender was floated on MahaTenders website and selection done through a transparent bidding process
- An Escrow account was created for payments to remove late payment risk

5. Financing through Sanitation Tax
- A small Sanitation Tax was levied for financing scheduled emptying operations.
- This amount is less than what citizens were paying as charge for each cleaning.
- Surplus from property tax collection is also used

6. Citizen Awareness
- Awareness activities carried out for ensuring success of operations - Pamphlet distribution, Whatsapp video, Door-to-door visits

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