

Safely managed sanitation in small towns

Challenges for the environment and the development

World Water Week, 28th August 2018, 11-12:30am

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Programme

11:00-11:10	Introduction – Colette Génevaux (pS-Eau)
11:10-11:15	Flash presentations
11:15-11:40	World café [two rounds of discussion] <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Table 1: Financial viability of sanitation services - Martin Gambrill (World Bank), Rémi Kaupp (WaterAid)• Table 2: Capacity building - Christoph Lüthi (Eawag-Sandec)
11:40-12:05	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Table 3: Incentives for small towns - Joseph Banzi (WaterAid), Rebecca Gilsdorf (World Bank)• Table 4: Sustainability of service: monitoring and evaluation - Christophe Le Jallé (pS-Eau), Stefan Reuter (Borda)• Table 5: Equity aspects in small towns -, Zachary Burt (Columbia University), Colette Génevaux (pS-Eau), Anna Kristina Kanathigoda (GIZ)
12:05-12:25	Wrap-up of the world café
12:25-12:30	Final words – Rebecca Gilsdorf (World Bank)

Introduction

Colette Génevaux, pS-Eau



Not rural, but not urban. What are we talking about?



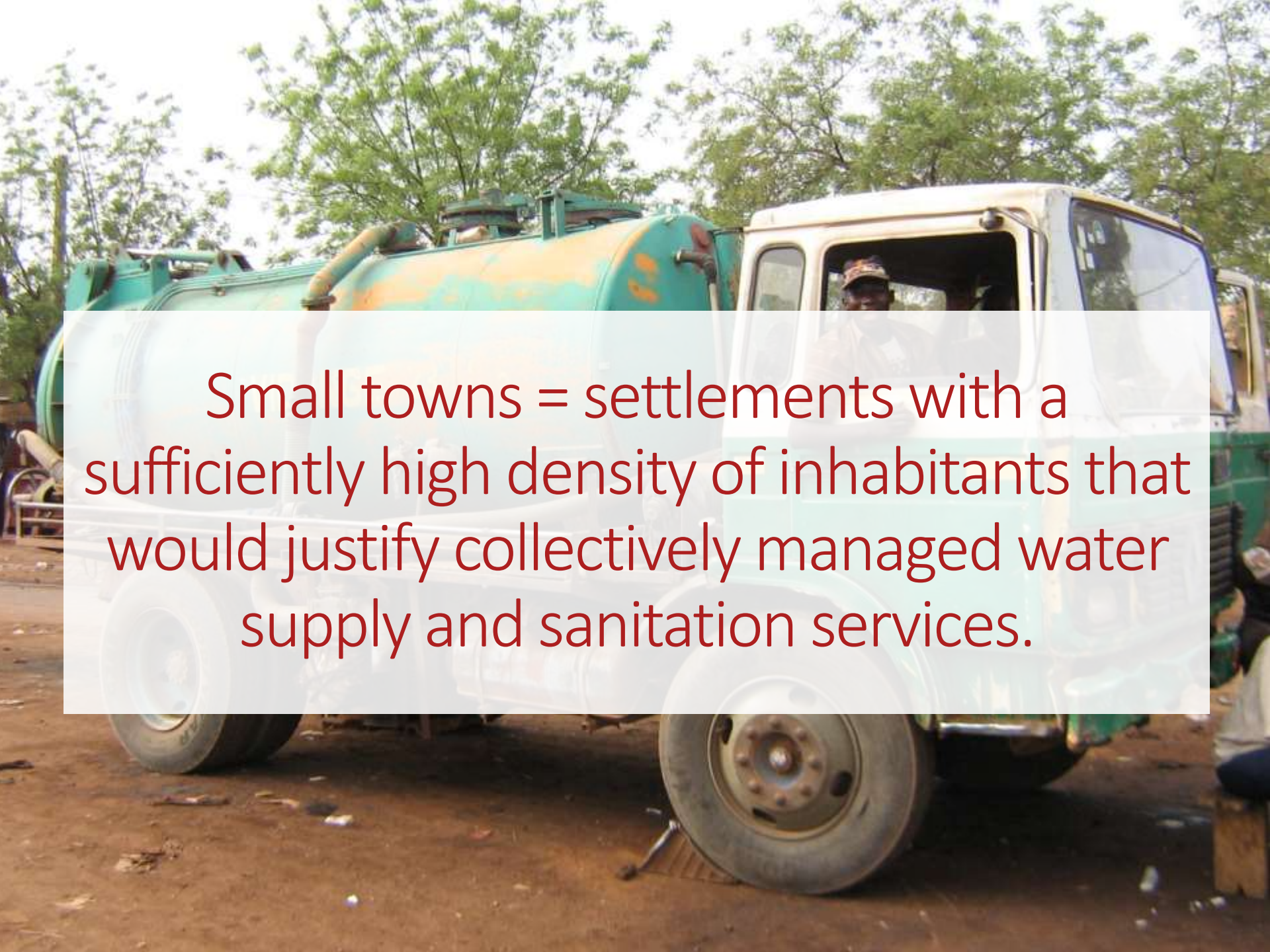
Not rural, but not urban. What are we talking about?

Why do we talk about small towns

- “Close to half of the world’s urban dwellers reside in settlements with fewer than 500,000 inhabitants” in World Urbanization Prospects: The 2018 Revision, Key facts (UN DESA)
- “In the least developed countries (LDCs), over half of the urban population (51 per cent) lives in urban areas of less than 300,000 inhabitants” in World Urbanization Prospects: The 2014 Revision (UN DESA)
- Small towns usually have the biggest growing rate

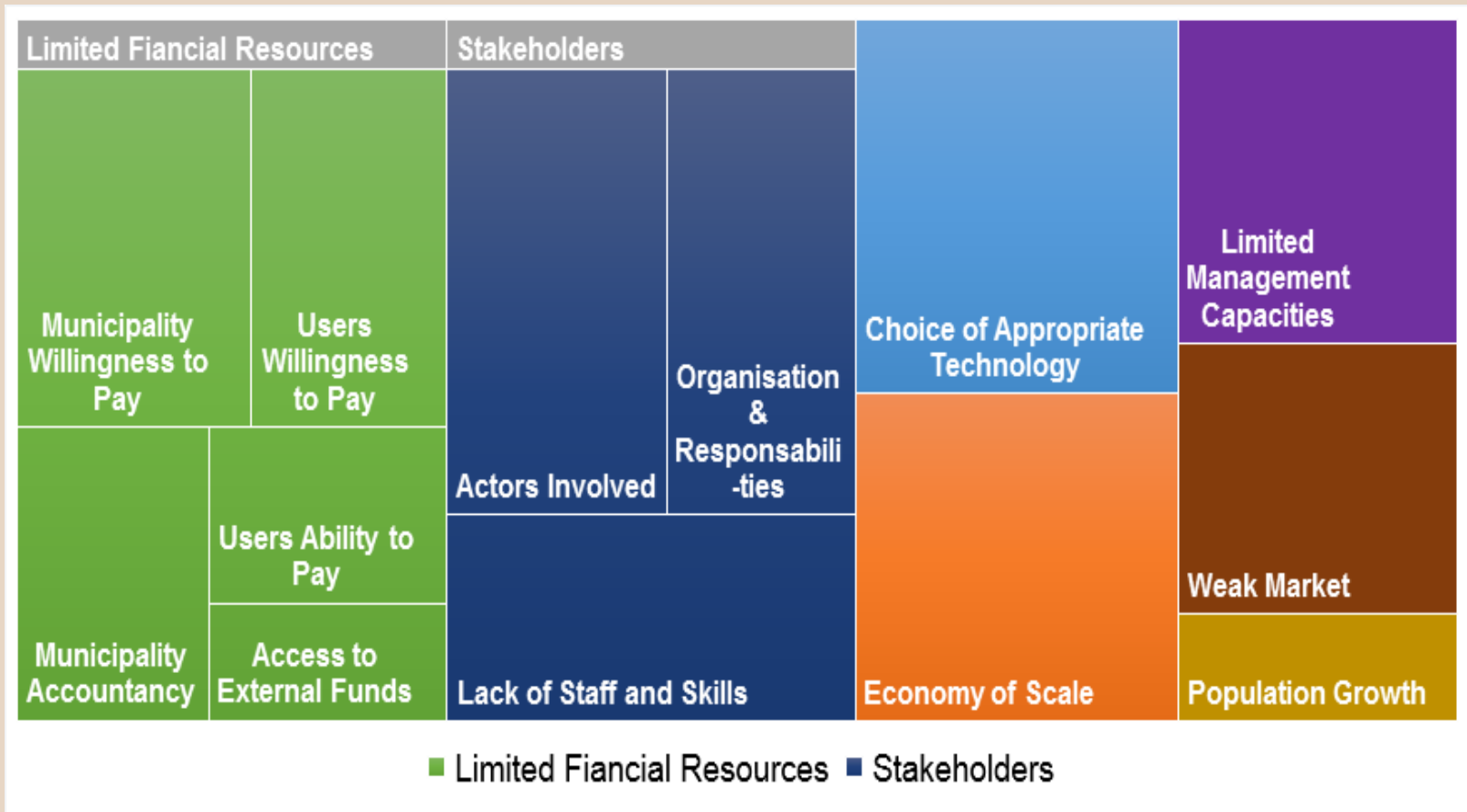
Is there a definition of a « small town »?

- Mainly : a grey area, in between urban cities and rural settlements.
- The definition varies from one country to another (different criteria : population size, administrative status of the towns (chief town?), economy (market town/transport hub/ ?), regional influence, etc.).
- In this session, we consider small towns to be settlements with a sufficiently high density of inhabitants that would justify collectively managed water supply and sanitation services.

A green and yellow water tanker truck is parked on a dirt road. The truck has a large cylindrical tank on its back. A person is visible in the driver's seat. The background shows green trees under a bright sky. A semi-transparent white box with red text is overlaid on the center of the image.

Small towns = settlements with a sufficiently high density of inhabitants that would justify collectively managed water supply and sanitation services.

Small towns face unique challenges regarding sanitation services



Challenges mentioned by interviewed experts, sized in proportions to mention. *Source : Bachelier A. et al. (2018) Safely managed sanitation services in small towns: an analysis of knowledge and experiences from developing countries*

Small towns face unique challenges regarding sanitation services

Small towns face unique challenges regarding sanitation services, including:

- Outside the administrative perimeters of national strategies for urban areas or rural areas (Senegal : between 5,000-30,000 inhabitants)
- Lack of financial resources, human resources (trained staff) and management capacities of the local authorities
- Fast-changing communities: rapid population growth driven by rural exodus, and « brain drain » of people leaving for bigger cities
- Low attractiveness for utility providers (too small for being viable for operators)

Lessons from previous sessions:

Sanitation in small towns: Lessons from recent experiences (Session 1) // Sanitation in small towns: Key challenges under scrutiny (Session 2)

Experiences from : Brazil, Ethiopia, Mauritania, Morocco, Nepal, Senegal, Uganda, Zambia

Discussion groups:

- Capacity building
- Financial viability
- Incentives



Lessons from previous sessions:

Capacity building

- Weak framework: brain drain of trained people, lack of incentives, weak local politics
- Solutions discussed: mapping of actors, economies of scale (multi-town), self-learning and collaboration between towns

Financial viability

- Solutions discussed: clustering or scheduled sanitation, develop small-scale treatment to avoid trucks driving long distances, promote standard design of latrines to facilitate desludging, , subsidize sanitation service on the water bill

Incentives

- Financial incentives: subsidies (sanitation marketing, targeting the municipality, etc.)
- Other types of incentives. Eg: tourism, competitions, aspiration, etc.

World Café

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- **Table 5: Equity aspects in small towns** - Zachary Burt (Columbia University), Colette Génévaux (pS-Eau), Anna Kristina Kanathigoda (GIZ)

Interested by the summary report of the session? Any questions? Please get in touch!

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More information : www.pseau.org/fr/services-dassainissement-dans-petits-centres