

# Equality and non-discrimination in sanitation at scale

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Collaboration for Universal WASH

 #WASHFutures18

# INTRODUCTION

**SDG 6. Target 6.2:** By 2030, achieve access to **adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all** and end open defecation, paying special attention to the **needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations**

- WSSCC Vision & TOC integrate 6.2 (Leaving No-one Behind - LNOB)
- WSSCC has been working on the issue of increasing voice and consideration of people who may be disadvantaged from a number of perspectives.
- This presentation highlights two of the activities that WSSCC has engaged in that have offered lessons enabling the organisation to continue to modify its approaches including when working on sanitation programmes at scale

# Equality?

- **Formal equality** does not recognize difference, whereas **Substantive equality** takes sex, race, ethnicity etc. all into account.
- **Substantive equality** gives opportunity of outcome and may recognize different situations or circumstances, whereas **Formal equality** applies one rule to fit all people so that does not allow for any diversity.
- In practice **equality of opportunity** allows for individuals from traditionally disadvantaged groups to receive special allocations. **Equality of opportunity** recognises the shallow nature of formal equality and injects a substantive element into its framework.
- **Populations that are potentially disadvantaged** includes individuals and groups who may be vulnerable, marginalized, excluded or actively discriminated against, or experiencing inequities, inequalities or stigma\*

\* Adapted from the UN Special Rapporteur for Human Rights to Water and Sanitation

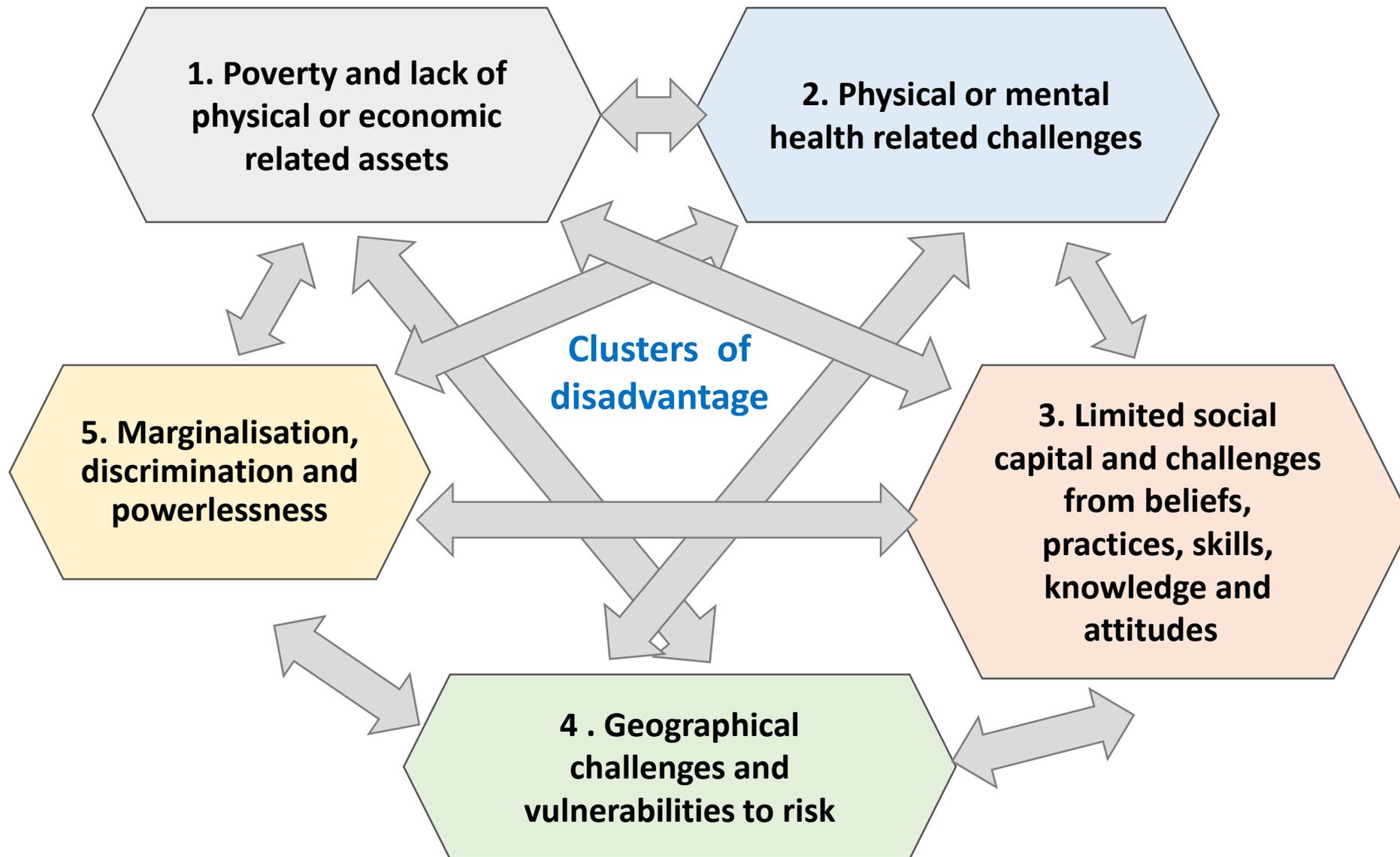
# Business as usual?

- WASH work may employ purely instrumentalist approaches i.e **distribution of services** . If so they are unlikely to **transform lived realities of stigma and discrimination**.
- The WASH sector may in fact perpetuate inequalities while ensuring services – cases of transgender/populations living with disabilities
- WASH as a daily, non controversial human demand is a very powerful entry point for dignity, respect, equality
- The way we engage in WASH offers the potential to support the people who are currently unheard, unseen, visibly stigmatized in the their transformation to leaders of change



# WSSCC EQND in sanitation at scale scoping study

- **Global Sanitation Fund** - Pooled funding mechanism (2008)
- Sanitation and hygiene at scale – collective behaviour change (13 countries)
- 2016 initiated **learning process to identify key factors impacting on EQND** within the country programmes + identify good practices and challenges
- Learning remotely (mainly qualitative) in 13 countries and visits to 6 – Nepal, Malawi, Ethiopia, Senegal, Nigeria and Togo
- > 1,600 contributors across all levels (45% female; 55% male)
- **Prioritised meeting and hearing the opinions from people who may be considered disadvantaged**
- Considered range of EQND related factors in relation to sanitation programmes at scale



**Notes:** a) The arrows indicate the interconnectedness of each factor to the other factors; b) An individual or group affected by more than one factor is likely to be more disadvantaged than an individual or group affected by just one; c) This figure has been adapted from Chambers, R (1983) analysis of the deprivation trap related to rural communities.

# All who may be considered potentially disadvantaged (vulnerable, marginalised, excluded or actively discriminated against, experiencing inequities, inequalities, or stigma)

## Category A

Likely to be able to construct, access and maintain a latrine themselves

## Category B

Not likely to be able to construct, access and maintain a latrine themselves - but either:

1. Have extended family members who can support them
2. Can afford to pay for the materials and someone to do the work

## Category C

Not able to construct, access and maintain a latrine themselves – and they:

1. Do not have extended family members who can support them
2. Very difficult to pay for materials and someone to do the work – and are at risk of selling some of their few assets if they do, potentially making them more vulnerable

# EQND in sanitation at scale scoping study

## Key learning:

- Range of ways that people who may be disadvantaged are accessing, using and maintaining sanitation
- Some have built their own, are helping others and taken on leadership roles
- Some have done piece work, or taken out loans
- Support given by family members, neighbours, youth, village development committees etc
- Multiple benefits expressed
- **Good practice:**
  - Nepal Master Plan for Sanitation
  - Cambodia programme - EQND Framework
  - Follow-up Mandona (FUM) approach developed in Madagascar



# The Study: Challenges

## People who may be disadvantaged may...

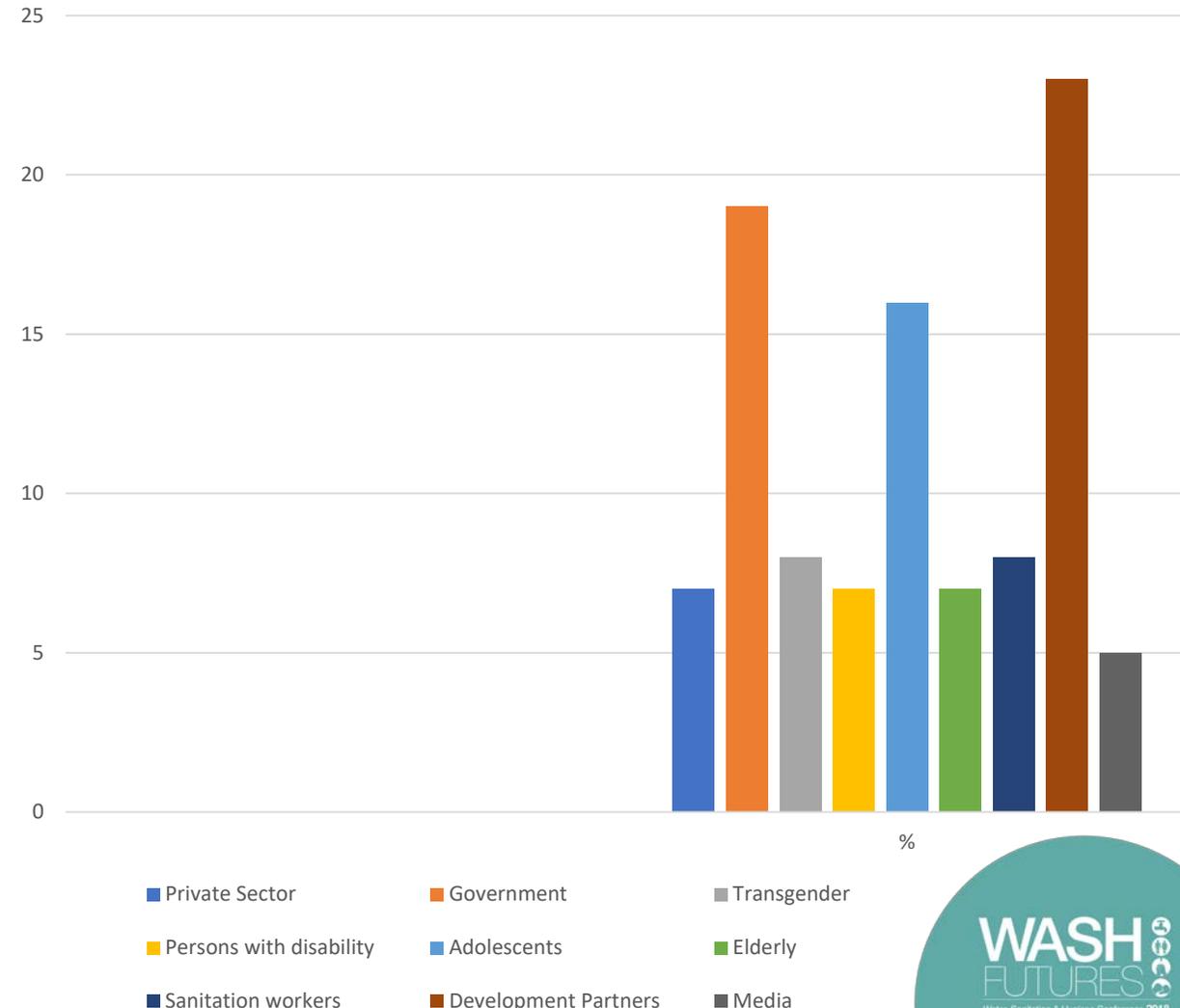
- Be excluded from community processes
- Be overlooked and not have access to a latrine
- Sell or lose valuable assets
- Be put under high levels of stress
- Face challenges from sharing
- Face risks of abuses to other human rights (for example people with mental health conditions)
- Have to use inappropriately designed toilets
- Have to wait for others to help them rebuild their latrine
- Face increased stigmatisation



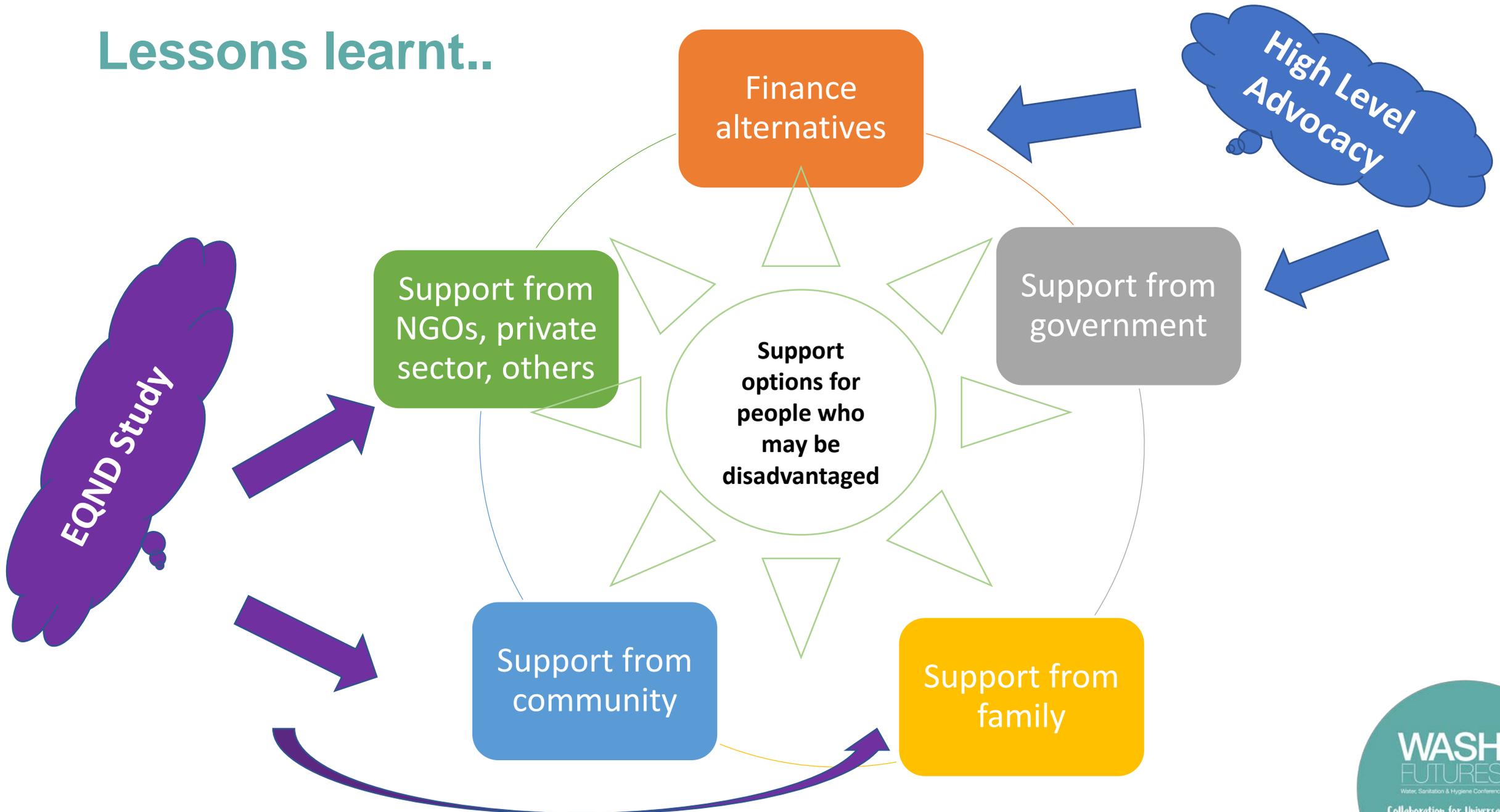
# EQND in high level advocacy

- **India Summit:** Listening to the voices of the unheard & unseen (elderly, adolescents, people with disability, transgender, sanitation workers)
  - **SACOSAN:** 2016: Consultations with 70+ organizations >2700 people
- 2018: EQND focus – Sri Lanka and one other country's minister
- **CSW:** Lead Advocacy work to ensure integration of MHM national status language into Minister's interventions

## India Summit 2016

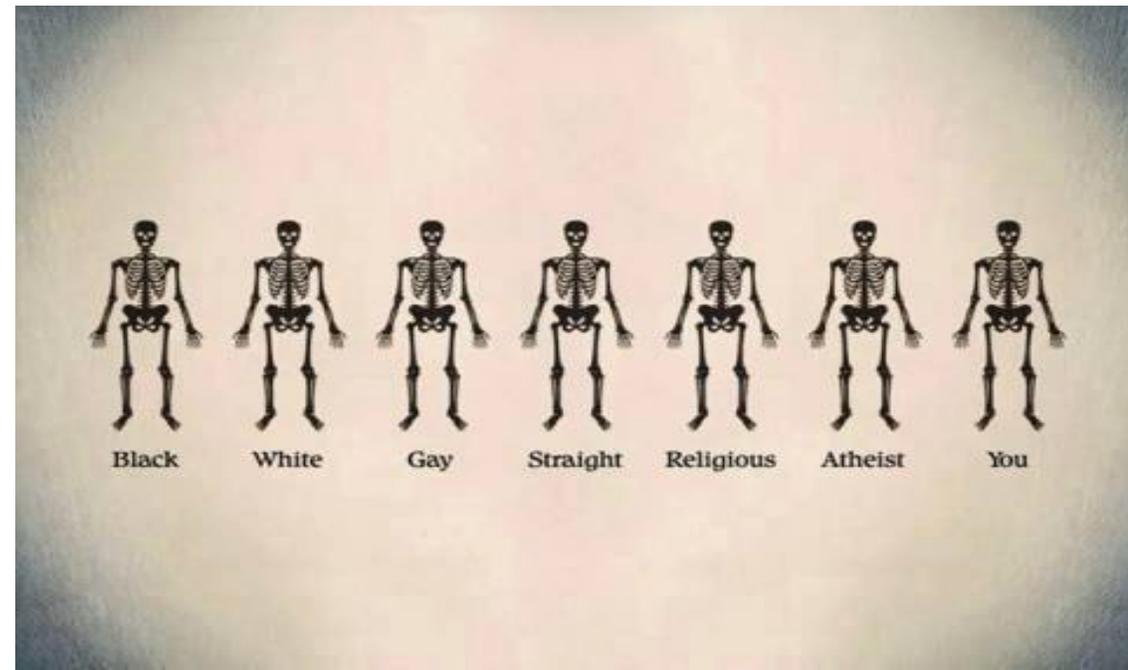


# Lessons learnt..



# Lessons learnt on how to integrate EQND

- **Create awareness on EQND** (unheard)
- **Facilitate demand** for voice & agency
- **Collective Behavior Change** (Partnerships)
- **Representation** (Systems for voice & coordination)
- **Policy Advocacy** (Roundtable/dialogue)
- **Training** (Capacity resources and champions)
- **Policy Transformation** (Reviews/Institutional mechanisms)
- **Standards & Regulation** (Resources with users/enforcers)



# Planned next steps from WSSCC's learning on EQND

- Developing guidance materials and training on EQND – including opportunities to learn about the challenges, examples of good practice, checklists and a code of conduct
- Revise institutional and programme processes to strengthen EQND - including in M&E and human resources
- Supporting learning and exchanges for innovations to increase access
- Facilitating the voice of the unheard/ populations potentially disadvantaged in both programme and policy – **“Nothing about us is without us!”**
- Identifying what to measure in reducing inequalities in WASH service provision
- Facilitating a rooted global advocacy – in Commission on Status of Women meeting, High Level Political Forum (resolution on disabilities and MHM)

Proactive steps to respect difference, give voice, listen, make heard in order to correct historic injustice. This does more than distribute benefits – it transforms lives.

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