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VIABILITY OF FAECAL SLUDGE COLLECTION AND TRANSPORT IN OUAGADOUGOU, BURKINA FASO

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Abstract

ONEA (the National Water and Sanitation Utility of Burkina Faso) and Sandec/Eawag have developed an institutional framework for faecal sludge (FS) management in Burkina Faso. Meetings and workshops were held between 2010 and 2012 to build trusting relationships with collection and transport (C&T) companies and other local stakeholders, to assess working conditions, improve management capacities, and strengthen the C&T professional association. Results included capacity strengthening of local stakeholders, and formalizing the relationship between C&T companies and the FS management sector. The financial viability of C&T companies was assessed based on interviews with a government owned and three private companies. Service fee structures were found to be independent of actual operating costs, with a mean service fee of 15000 FCFA (23 Euro) based on different parameters (i.e. difficulty to access the onsite systems, transportation distance, number of trips needed to complete the emptying operation). The smaller companies with one or two trucks were not financially sustainable. A handbook was designed to promote hygiene, safe operating conditions, and financial management for C&T, and was used in a training session. The training and workshops provided an opportunity to optimize financial sustainability of the businesses, and the quality of service that is provided.