

Brief Manifesto of Dr. Kamal Kar

I feel that I am a suitable candidate for the WSSCC Steering Committee Member as I fulfill all the criteria laid down by UNOPS. In the context of my nomination, I would like to highlight that my biggest contribution to the Sanitation and Hygiene sector is the development of Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) approach and its introduction and institutionalization in over 66 countries across Asia, Africa and Latin America. I have had the opportunity of working with major international WASH institutions and organizations in transforming their respective policies towards the principle of Community Led Total Sanitation. As a result, UNICEF, The World Bank, Plan International among many other INGOs/NGOs and National Governments of over 30 countries have officially adopted the CLTS approach in their respective institutional/national sanitation policy. My involvement with WSSCC began from the early days of the Council and I have worked in close association with the Country Programs of GSF in training and capacity building of the staff and providing advocacy and strategic guidance to at least 6 different countries, of which the FAA program of Madagascar has emerged as the brightest example. I had also supported the GSF program of WSSCC as a member of its Advisory committee in 2015. A seminal document authored by me entitled ‘*Facilitating “Hands-on” Training Workshop for CLTS: A Trainer’s Training Guide*’, is a joint publication by WSSCC and CLTS Foundation, which has been translated in many languages including French. This Training Guide along with the „*Handbook on CLTS*” authored by me continue to be a guiding force for organization like WSSCC, which has its core focus on Sanitation and Hygiene.

As a member of the Steering Committee of WSSCC, one of the exclusive actors of Sanitation and Hygiene actors globally, I believe that I will be able to contribute substantially in influencing and supporting the organization towards fast-tracking and achieving the SDG 6.2 target. Based on my experience of helping rural Bangladesh move towards achieving Open Defecation Free status during the MDG period and witnessing the change in the country’s sanitation coverage from 35% in 2000 to over 99% in 2015, I think I would be in a strong position to steer many of the countries under the GSF programs towards becoming ODF nations during the present SDG era. One of the most important needs of the hour for scaling up sanitation efforts is to identify the gaps in implementing CLTS in different country contexts, which can be conducted through the CLTS Rapid Appraisal Protocol (CRAP, created by CLTS Foundation and UNICEF ESARO) under my guidance. These identified gaps can be resolved through triggering of institutional actors across different levels using the Institutional Triggering (IT) methodology. Large scale application, facilitation and capacity building on the IT methodology and CRAP tool can help WSSCC emerge as a new institutional leader in the sector during the SDG era.

In the last 5 years, I have been instrumental in influencing at least 10 National Governments, to make a shift from the traditional sanitation policy and approach to adopting a no-subsidy CLTS approach of local empowerment in order to fast-track their access to sanitation. This has led to remarkable progress in many economically limited countries and emergence of Prime Ministers, Deputy Prime Ministers and Presidents as CLTS Champions where some of the Governments have started investing in scaling up efforts from their own budget rather than depending solely on donor funding. I have also managed to create inter-institutional and inter-ministerial collaborations in various countries, leading to sanitation becoming a national campaign and

benefitting millions. During the last 5 years, new approaches like Institutional Triggering and CRAP tool were developed through my and CLTS Foundation's direct involvement in association with UNICEF among others.

I would like to highlight that the terminology '*ODF world*', coined in the CLTS vocabulary has now been incorporated within the SDG document, which showcases the major global shift in thinking from supporting individual households through hardware subsidy (individual good) to focusing on ODF environment (public good) and leaving no one behind. I was privileged to have been consulted throughout the process of the SDG document development with regards to this significant change.

Additionally, I have also been key note speakers at different important global sanitation, hygiene and public health events and forums including SACOSAN, AFRICAN and EASAN, Global Sanitation Forum, World Water Forum, World Water Week etc. I have also chaired different sessions on crucial sanitation themes. I have also provided training and guidance to regional policy makers, development professionals, donor community members across the world. I am also involved with different academic institutions including Institute of Water Policy at the LKY School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore and Institute of Development Studies, UK and IHE in Delft, Amsterdam in developing course material for sanitation professionals and policy makers.

I think my vision and attributes make me a suitable candidate for the Steering Committee of WSSCC. I would like the opportunity to be considered for the same.