

EXCRETA DISPOSAL IN FLOODING AND HIGH WATER TABLE ENVIRNOMENTS



Flood response is a major priority

- In the last 10 years some 103,000 people have been killed due to flooding
- Many millions of people have been affected
- All the indications are that destruction and loss of life due to flooding will increase in the future



3 main types of flooding

- **Rapid on set floods.** This includes flash floods, tidal surges, high run off from heavy rainfall, dam bursts & overtopping, canals & rivers bursting their banks. Typically water would rise to dangerous levels in 48 hours.
- **Slow on set floods.** Prolonged rainfall causing low-lying areas to gradually become flooded over a matter of days or weeks.
- **Annual flooding and permanently high water table** areas. Many communities around the world are flooded annually and maybe under water for some considerable time each year



Recent flooding emergencies which Oxfam has responded to

Country	Year	Event	Victims
Mozambique	2000	Fast on set	919
India/Bangladesh	2000	Fast on set	1350
Cambodia/Vietnam	2000	Fast on set	880
Venezuela	1999	Fast on set	36,000
India - Orissa	1999	Slow on set	15,000
Central America	1998	Fast on set	9000
Peru/ Ecuador	1998	Fast on set	12
India/Bangladesh	1998	Slow on set	3000
China	1998	Slow on set	3656



To ensure an environment free from faecal contamination 3 main areas must be addressed

- Promotion of good excreta disposal practices by the affected population by the involvement of the community in the design and siting of the latrines.
- To prevent the overflowing of raw sewage from pits and septic tanks during flooding which results in a very serious environmental health hazard.
- To provide adequate excreta disposal for displaced people during flooding.



Solutions

Preparedness - limit contamination

- Public consultations & awareness programme. What is and isn't possible for the community to do.
- Risk Mapping
- Raised latrines (& house)
- Water seals
- Lids & seals on holes & covers of pits and septic tanks



Methods for Mobilisation
Discussion groups: leaders, elders,
women's groups, youth groups etc



Public Health Promotion
Implementation: First Steps

Gather
baseline data
through group
discussions and
observations









Solutions

1st Phase Rapid On Set

- Public Health Promotion – most important
- Cubicles for river side toilets
- Containing the excreta using barrels, bamboo, concrete rings , clay pots (plastic bags)

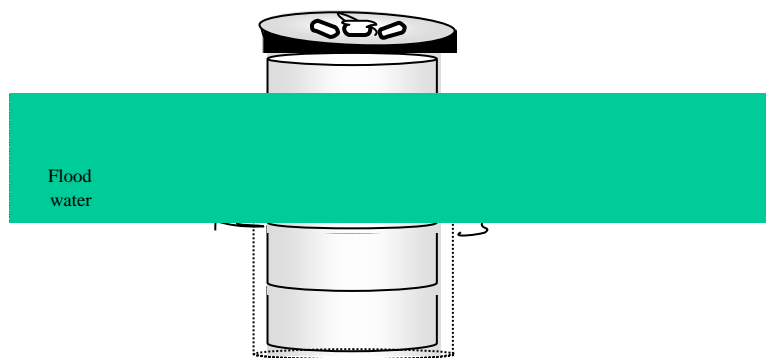


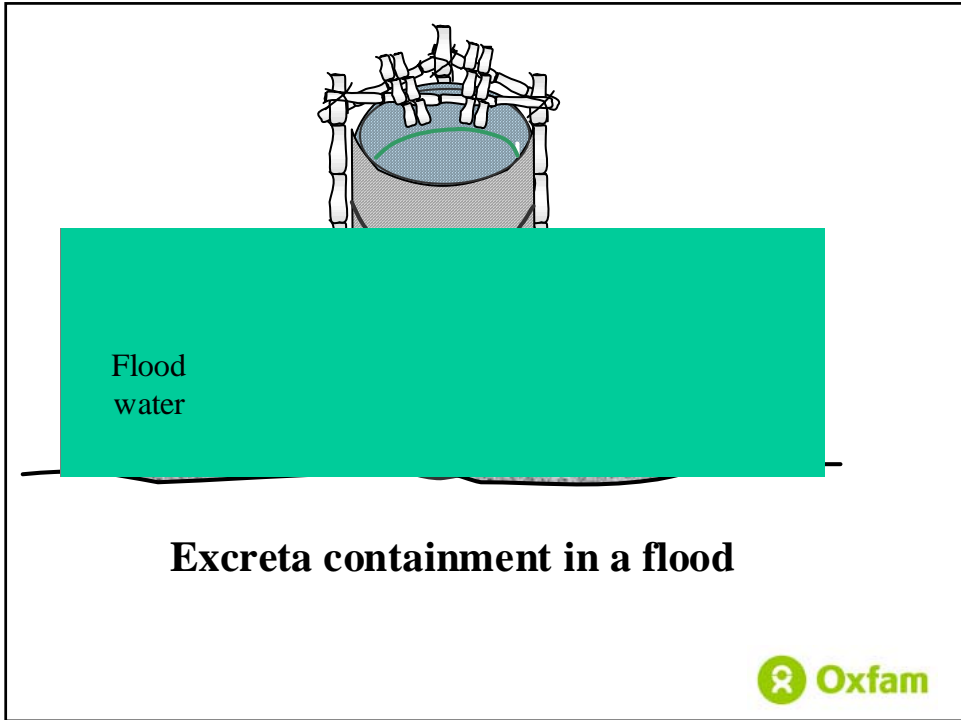
Public Health Promotion Implementation

Organise training for Oxfam staff, volunteers & community groups



Raised latrine during flood





Solutions

2nd Phase Rapid & Slow on set/high water table

- Public Health Promotion campaign
- Raised lined pits
- Raised toilets with septic tanks
- Small bore sewage systems
- Containment in tanks
- Desludging



