



Master's Programme in Public Health

Leadership and Professional Perspectives on Public Health MPHP28

Case 3

Focus topic: Scaling up Project Malio in Madagascar

Background

Over 2.5 billion people around the world are unable to access improved sanitation. Their defecation habits, together with those of their families and wider communities, impact on every facet of their lives. Very few places around the world suffer from the poor sanitation conditions that are symptomatic of Madagascar, where only 14% of the population have access to a hygienic latrine. Without access to toilets, people practice open defecation which increases the risk of illness, malnutrition, stunting, increased mortality, and loss of education and income opportunities; ultimately, reinforcing the cycle of poverty.

Open defecation means that human waste is left uncontained, free to contaminate food and water sources, and thereby a threat to public health. In Madagascar, efforts are underway to eliminate open defecation, but a lack of material resources and poor infrastructure combined with a complex set of local taboos, or 'fady', surrounding the defecation habits makes this no simple task.

SEED Madagascar is a British registered charity founded in 2000 operating in the south-east of Madagascar. Project Malio is a WASH project implemented by SEED in close collaboration with local residents, organisations, schools and government. The aim was to promote latrine use, educate on better hygiene practices and reduce open defecation in Fort Dauphin. The pilot project was completed in 2017. The Ministry of Health in Madagascar aimed to rollout Project Malio, but before funding was secured the Covid-19 pandemic put the process to a halt. Now, the Ministry of Health has asked SEED Madagascar to propose how a scaleup of Project Malio should be designed in order to cover the entire province of Anosy, which should draw upon the work SEED Madagascar already has been doing recently to improve WASH in the region.

The assignment

The Ministry of Health is looking for a team of public health and program management experts to develop and present a plan on how to scale up and integrate the Malio pilot project into the routine services of the provincial health authorities of the Province of Anosy. The timeframe is 2 years (2024-2025), and the budget should not exceed 1.5 million USD.

The scale up and integration plan should include clear It should provide a detailed plan of action including a situation analysis, an M&E framework with clear objectives, a stakeholder analysis, and it should be based on principles of sustainability, and cost effectiveness.

Expected outcome

A final plan how to scale up and integrate Project Malio to the entire province of Anosy within 2 years, presented to the Minister of Health and the Regional Health Director at the Ministère de la santé publique, Ambohiday Building, Antananarivo, November 24, 2023.

References

<https://madagascar.co.uk/about>

https://madagascar.co.uk/application/files/8515/0461/2575/Project_Malio_Final_Report_July_2017.pdf