

Using the Technology Applicability Framework (TAF) to improve sustainability of rural WASH supplies in Nicaragua

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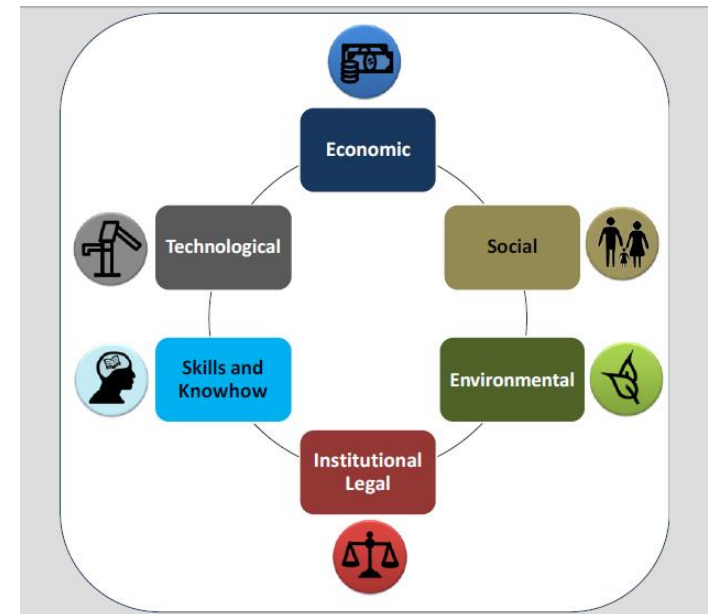
1. Introduction - context

- Remote, difficult access
- Indigenous / multi-ethnic (multi-lingual)
- Rural and peri urban
- “Cemetery of failed projects” (technologies?)



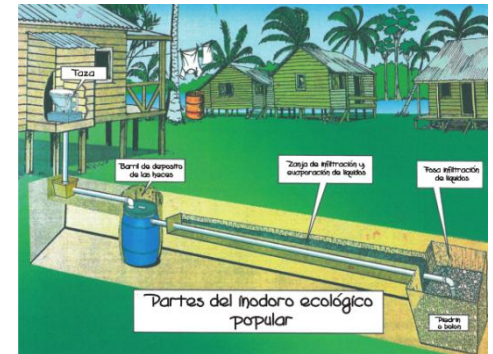
2. Objectives

- Identify the barriers to **sustainability** and **scalability** of existing technologies – identify opportunities to improve performance
- Revive previously discarded options
- Trigger dialogue between users, government, private sector, NGOs
- Standardise as planning tool
- Applying TAF since 2012



3. Focus technologies

- Introduction of TAF as an evaluation tool for:
 - Nationally “discarded” technologies (pour flush toilet / low cost eco-toilet (*inodoro ecológico popular*))
 - Locally manufactured bio-sand filters
 - Nationally lauded technologies (rope pump)

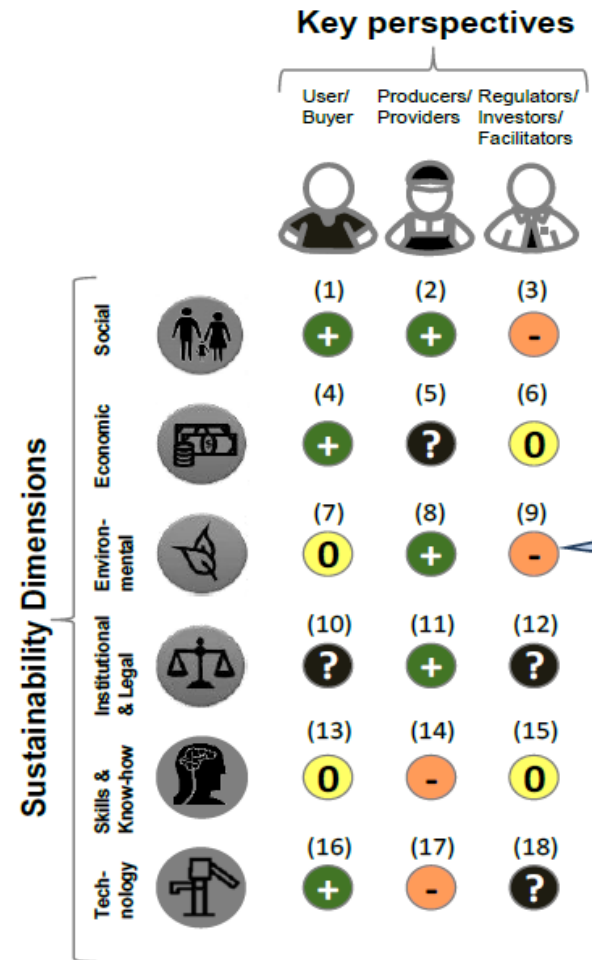


4. Methods

- Three groups set up:
users, manufacturers/suppliers, regulators (government).
- User group sub divided into men, women, youth
- Half day discussions in groups – all come together to talk through findings and recommendations

5. Results

- Increased **awareness** of legal frameworks and standards
- **Adoption** of faecal sludge extraction and final disposal
- **Market initiatives** adopted for broad range of Household Water Treatment and Storage options



6. Experiences

- When dealing with larger, complex, multi-component systems (eg sanitation options) it is more difficult to identify who the supplier is
- More difficult to find private suppliers for sanitation options and HHWT but not for rope pump
- Cost of TAF limited to focus group sessions so very cost effective



7. Lessons Learned

- Other sustainability / scalability tools largely desk or workshop based
- Creates space for different actors to listen, be heard and to recognise roles- both theirs and others
- Helps bring regulatory standards to light
- Suppliers don't receive feedback on quality or satisfaction
- Helps draw attention to aspects of design that would remain unapparent



8. Conclusion

- The TAF methodology, when systematically incorporated in planning, monitoring and evaluation processes, contributes directly and efficiently to identifying, prioritizing and addressing critical barriers to sustainability and scalability including identifying opportunities for accelerating self-supply



Thank You

With thanks to

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