

Unit 2.1 Faecal Sludge Quantification, Characterisation and Treatment Objectives

1. INTRODUCTION

This Unit corresponds with Chapter 2 of the FSM book. In the Unit, the importance of proper characterisation is discussed, as well as its challenges. Next to being highly diverse from one location to another, faecal sludge can also show a high variability in strength over time for one location. Additionally, analysis standards are still in development. Still, as this is a field of high research interest, there are many interesting innovations and research results to be reported and expected.

The key note speech of this Unit is prepared by Chris Buckley, professor and Head of the Pollution Research Group of the University of KwaZulu Natal, and Linda Strande, who leads the Excreta and Wastewater Management group in SANDEC (the Department of Water and Sanitation in Developing Countries) at EAWAG (the Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology). The Chapter was prepared by Charles B. Niwagaba of Makerere University, Mbaye Mbégueré of ONAS Senegal, and Linda Strande; this team also reviewed the PowerPoint presentation accompanying this Unit.

2. LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The learning objectives for Unit 2.1 Faecal sludge Quantification and Characterisation are to:

- Understand the difficulties in obtaining reliable data on the quality and quantity of faecal sludge production on a citywide scale.
- Know which parameters are important for faecal sludge characterisation, how they are analysed, and which ranges determine high, medium and low strength faecal sludge.
- Be able to describe how operational factors impact the variability of faecal sludge.
- Have an understanding of faecal sludge management and treatment targets and objectives.

3. THINGS TO DO; PLACES TO GO

In order to complete this Unit successfully, please do the following:

- Watch the key note speech of Unit 2.1
- Go through the PowerPoint presentation of Unit 2.1
- Read Chapter 2 of the FSM book
- Watch the Case Study Video
- Check the Course page for any recommended reading materials or web pages
- Take the self assessment questions for Unit 2.1
- Check the assignment list