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[Membership](#)
[Standards Activities](#)
[Accreditation Services](#)
[Consumer Affairs](#)
[Government Affairs](#)
[News and Publications](#)
[Meetings and Events](#)
[Events Calendar](#)
[Upcoming ANSI Events](#)
[World Standards Week](#)
[U.S. Celebration of World](#)
[Standards Day](#)
[World Accreditation Day](#)
[National Nanotechnology Day](#)
[ANSI Leadership and Service](#)
[Awards](#)
[Past ANSI Events and](#)
[Proceedings](#)
[Conferences and Trade Shows](#)
[ANSI Training Schedule](#)
[Education and Training](#)
[Other Services](#)
[Library](#)
[Internet Resources](#)
[Career Opportunities](#)
[Contact Us](#)
[Help](#)

ISO International Workshop Meeting on Community-Scale Resource-Oriented Sanitation Treatment Systems



January 16 – 18, 2018

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Dakar, Senegal

- ▶ [Overview](#)
- ▶ [Venue and Accommodations](#)
- ▶ [Registration](#)
- ▶ [Contact Information](#)



International Workshop Meeting on Community-Scale Resource-Oriented Sanitation Treatment Systems Overview

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), an estimated 2.5 billion people have no access to safe, clean toilets and 1 billion are forced to defecate in the open. The devastating consequences of these practices include an estimated 1 million preventable deaths per year, primarily from dysentery-like diarrheal diseases.

In March 2013 the UN issued a global call to action for the comprehensive elimination of the practice of open defecation by 2025. According to the UN, countries where open defecation is most common have the highest levels of child death and disease, as a result of ingesting human fecal matter that has entered the food or water supply. A lack of safe, private toilets is also associated with the highest overall levels of malnutrition, poverty, and disparity between rich and poor, and makes women and girls vulnerable to violence.

Universal toilet access is the only acceptable goal, and it is achievable. Part of the solution is to reinvent the toilet, and promote an international performance standard for the reinvented toilet, an effort well underway in International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Project Committee 305.

As part of a multi-phased initiative to facilitate the development of a globally recognized consensus standard for safer, sustainable sanitation treatment, ANSI – with support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation – will hold a series of workshops to develop an ISO International Workshop Agreement (IWA) on Community-Scale Resource-Oriented Sanitation Systems.

The IWA will serve as the first step toward the goal of developing an international standard that will contain the commonly accepted criteria by which to measure the performance of community scaled resource oriented sanitation treatment systems in total. Such an international standard would enhance efforts to widely manufacture, market and deploy the technology where it is needed most.

The first and second IWA meetings focused on initial discussions on the contents of the draft document. The third meeting will take place January 16-18, 2018, in Dakar, Senegal. This meeting will serve as the final opportunity to craft and develop the text of the IWA document. The document will be submitted for publication following the meeting. There will be an optional field trip held on January 15, 2018, to visit a sanitation treatment system in Dakar, Senegal.

Venue and Accommodations



Radisson Blu Hotel, Dakar Sea Plaza

Route de la Corniche O
Dakar 16868, Senegal

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