

Container-based sanitation

STATE OF THE SECTOR

September 2025



cbsa.global/sector

Report by the Container Based Sanitation Alliance highlights the sector's current global footprint, growth, trends and opportunities.

At a glance

18 countries

with active CBS enterprises.

>432,000

users served regularly through 19,000+ toilets operated by CBS providers - a sixfold increase since 2019.

US\$4.5 million

in outcomes-based funding mobilised so far in Haiti and Kenya.

1st carbon credits

for sanitation services generated and sold in 2024, with much more to come.

Sector trends

- A maturing sector, expanding in diversity and impact
- Enhancing inclusion
- Deepening engagement with government
- Providing pathways for climate action and adaptation
- Narrowing the funding gap with innovative finance



Opportunities

CBS has significant potential to help leave no one behind in sanitation. Unlocking this potential requires our collective work to:

Encourage public adoption

Government leadership is essential for CBS to scale. Public adoption requires clearer regulation, supportive incentives, and continued innovation to address challenges like greywater and urine management – ensuring CBS is seen as safe, viable, and distinct from outdated practices.

Mobilise better finance

As traditional aid declines, transitional finance must incentivise efficient, high-quality sanitation services. Promising avenues include carbon credits, climate funds like the Green Climate Fund and outcome-based financing. Realising their potential requires strong public-private partnerships and targeted support for smaller providers.



Help new operators to emerge

Expanding access to capital and scaling quality products are essential to unlock growth and innovation in the sector. New ready-to-deploy models are emerging, but more is needed to help new operators emerge.

Support current operators to grow

CBS providers still face financial and institutional barriers. Unlocking further scale requires faster funding mechanisms, operational efficiencies, and public tenders or standards.

Find out more at cbsa.global/sector or contact us at: contact@cbsa.global.

What is container-based sanitation?

Container-based sanitation (CBS) is a sustained sanitation service, featuring toilets with containers that are frequently sealed and collected, so that the waste can be safely treated, reused or disposed of.



CBS provides a practical, flexible, and climate-smart solution that can be rapidly deployed, adapted to various contexts, and scaled to meet the needs of diverse populations.



Photos: Kaloola, Sanima, SOIL, Sanergy Collaborative