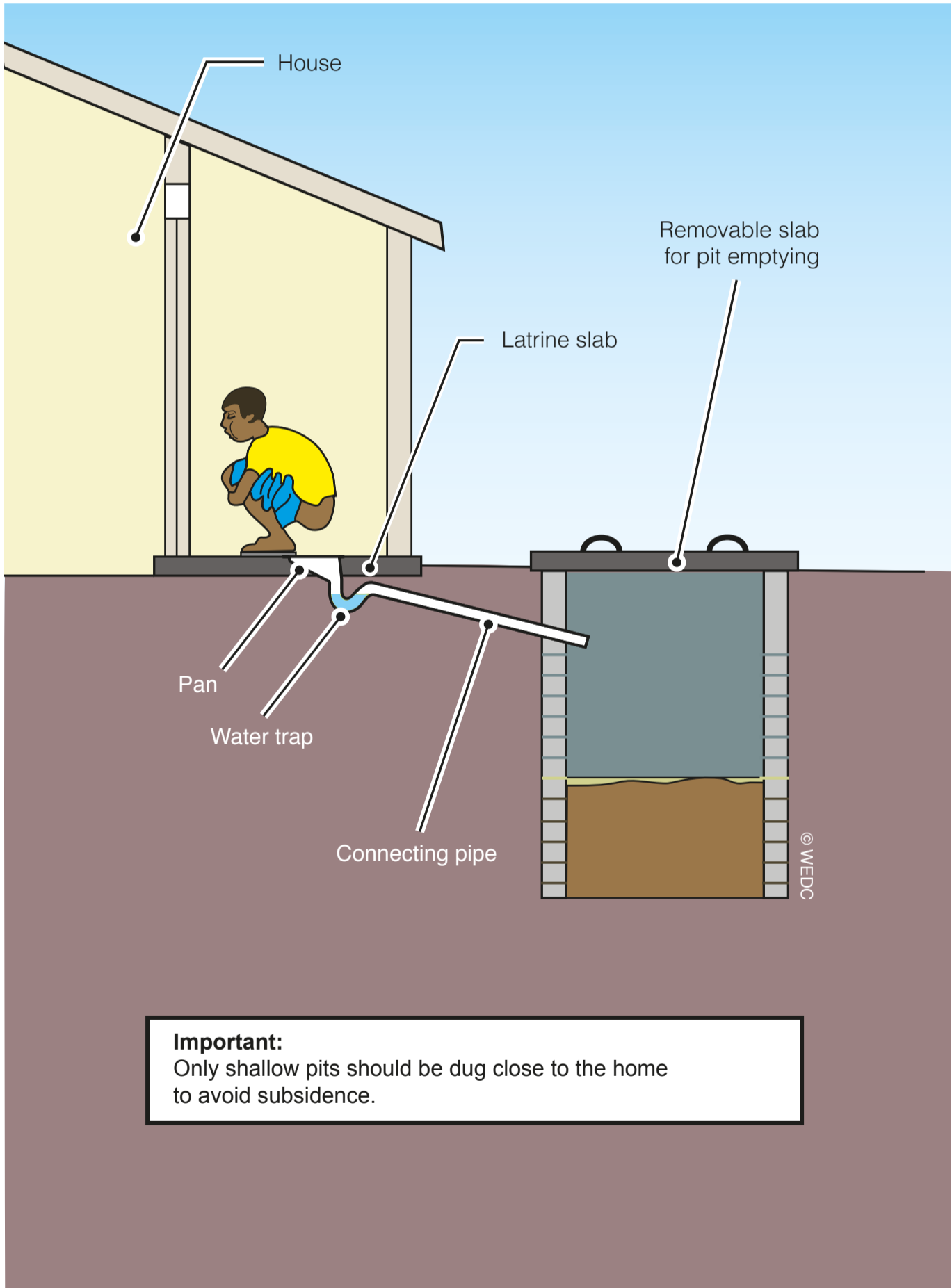


Offset pour-flush latrines

An offset pour-flush latrine is one where the pit is separated from the cubicle. Waste is directed to the pit through an extended pipe. This design has a number of advantages over the direct entry pit:

- The toilet can be located inside the house. Normally pit latrines must be located outside the house because of the smell and difficulty with emptying. In this design the pit is still outside the house but the toilet is inside; the two are connected by a short length of 100 to 150mm diameter pipe.
- The fact that the floor does not have to be broken open periodically for emptying the pit encourages families to use a higher standard of fittings and materials, thus increasing the prestige attached to this type of latrine.
- People can visit the toilet in complete privacy. This is particularly important for women in some communities.
- When the first pit is full, a second pit can be dug nearby and the discharge pipe diverted to it. This removes the need for emptying pits that have recently been in use. The second pit need only be temporary. In time, the first pit can be safely emptied and re-used (see Poster 13).

Offset pour-flush latrines are more expensive to build and require more water to flush than direct entry pour-flush latrines, but they have become very popular in many parts of Asia because of the higher level of privacy and prestige they provide.



Important:
Only shallow pits should be dug close to the home to avoid subsidence.