



Dipak Das delivers water by bike to 45 families earning Euro 45 per month, Picture: John Kayser, Water for People

India: Arsenic removal in West Bengal: clean water pays its way

Dipak Das churns the pedals of his three-wheeled bike earnestly, eyes straight ahead, focused on safely navigating the maze of bumps, holes, traffic, pedestrians, and dust. Behind him, on a flat platform wedged between the two rear wheels, are 20 tightly-packed jiggling jugs of his most precious cargo-safe, filtered arsenic-free drinking water.

Dipak delivers filtered water to families around his West Bengal village from a community wellhead where a locally designed and manufactured arsenic removal filter has been installed.

Water specialists at Bengal Engineering and Science University developed the simple arsenic-removal filters for use at community wellheads throughout West Bengal, and they now provide safe, arsenic-free water for more than 33,000 people.

In these villages, incidence of arsenic poisoning has dropped dramatically. People are reporting living healthier and more productive lives. One woman describes the changes. "I used to have indigestion and chronic dysentery. Now all these problems are gone, and I have an appetite. I used to spend 150 rupees (EUR 2.40) each month on medicine, and now I save this money."

The US-based Water For People financed the installation of 110 of the filters. It started working in India in 1996 with a small pilot programme to help eliminate the health threats of arsenic in rural water supplies, and soon partnered with Bengal Engineering & Science University to develop a local, sustainable solution. After pursuing a number of options, the university developed a simple arsenic-removal filter for use at community

wellheads, incorporating activated alumina.

The wellhead unit consists of a stainless steel column more than seven feet tall with a 12-inch diameter. Water flows through 51 inches of activated alumina and then through an eight-inch layer of gravel. Every eight to 12 months the filter media is regenerated and the waste safely contained. One wellhead unit can serve up to 300 families and is expected to last for 10 to 15 years, with little maintenance required.

The filter incorporates a simple, highly effective technology, is locally manufactured, easy to operate (no electricity required), easy to maintain, and relatively inexpensive, approximately EUR 1,300 for each wellhead unit. Most important, the technology is sustainable, offering effective protection for years to come.

Water committees were formed in the villages to help implement installation to encourage local input and control.

Safe water and economic opportunity

Dipak Das delivers filtered water to 45 families earning 2,800 rupees (EUR 45) each month, a good living by local standards. He used to run a roadside tea shop, but worked longer hours and made less money. Now, his deliveries take him only four hours a day leaving time to pursue other opportunities.

In Daharhuba village, Nirmal De and his family also rely on income from work related to the arsenic filter. Nirmal used to work in a plastic toy factory that has since closed. He started by delivering water to just three families. Now his round has

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grown to 50, and on every round he adds other families along his route.

Sumitra, his wife, is the paid caretaker for the filter. She spends four hours every morning and three hours every evening operating the pump. She keeps the platform clean throughout the day and must periodically backwash the filter to ensure its effectiveness. The pump station has become the centre of the community and even has a television to entertain women as they wait. Sumitra's son, Sudip, helps out at the filtration station and with deliveries.

A variety of other business enterprises also emerge around arsenic filters. Vendors sell jerry cans for carrying water; others

sell food and snacks at the wellhead. At every station, an individual -like Sumitra- earns a salary to collect and record water payments from villagers.

In 2006, Water for People opened an office in Kolkata with a full-time country coordinator, Rajashi Mukherjee, to facilitate work in the region.

By David Stevenson

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See also IRC Thematic Overview Paper (TOP) (2007) Arsenic in Drinking Water by Branislav Petrusevski, Saroj Sharma, Jan C. Schippers (UNESCO-IHE), and Kathleen Shardt (IRC) at <http://www.irc.nl/page/33113>.

Nirmal De and his family rely on income from work related to the arsenic filter, Picture: John Kayser, Water for People

Sanitation is the theme for first relaunched Waterlines

Waterlines, the journal that aims to bridge the gap between research and practice, was relaunched in 2008 in a refereed format, with each issue focusing on a key theme. To mark the International Year of Sanitation, the inaugural edition is devoted to the theme 'Where are we with Sanitation?'

Each edition of Waterlines consists of at least 80 pages of 4-5 full-length peer reviewed articles, with shorter articles and features, the 'Crossfire' debate, 'From our water correspondent' and reviews.

Themes planned for the rest of 2008 include knowledge sharing, and South Asian sanitation. The first of these will include articles from IRC and partners describing lessons from IRC's resource centre development programme with 18 country partners. The second will include material from the selected case studies from the IRC/WaterAid South Asia Sanitation and Hygiene practitioners' workshop in Bangladesh. The theme for the last Waterlines of 2008 will be 'private sector participation at the local level'.

Subscriptions

Waterlines is published by Practical Action Publishing and edited by Richard Carter, Professor of International Water Development at Cranfield University, in the UK. IRC information and communication officer, Dick de Jong, is on the 14-member Editorial Advisory Board, along with (among others) water and sanitation experts from WaterAid, Oxfam,

WEDC, Unicef India, the WSSCC, the World Bank, and DFID.

First launched in 1982, for many years Waterlines has been sold at a low, subsidised price that has not changed since January 2001. It has now raised prices to reflect the journal's increased size, quality and enhanced electronic access.

Annual subscription rates for 2008 are:

- Institutional subscription (online and print): £100.00, €150.00, \$200.00
- Personal subscription (online and print): £50.00, €75.00, \$100.00
- A single copy costs £12.50 or \$25.

The combined subscription includes online access to all past issues of the journal in electronic form for the duration of the subscription. Information on bulk and reduced rate subscriptions for institutions in selected developing countries is available from: publishinginfo@practicalaction.org.uk.

Waterlines is published in January, April, July and October by: Practical Action Publishing, The Schumacher Centre for Technology and Development, Bourton on Dunsmore, Rugby CV23 9QZ, UK

January 2008: Where are we with Sanitation?

Below is the annotated contents list of the January edition Vol. 27, no. 1, January 2008: **Where are we with Sanitation?**

Editorial "...It is common knowledge that, despite our awareness of the scale of the problem, sanitation has been the poor relation to water supply, when it comes to resource allocations. Sadly, sanitation simply does not

command the same political interest, and therefore spending priority, as water supply". Richard Carter, p.4

Crossfire: 'Measures of sanitation coverage for the MDGs are unreliable, only raising a false sense of achievement'. Kristof Bostoen and Barbara Evans. : ... *sanitation is not where it should be in the list of international targets: near the top of the development agenda. In terms of public interest it lags behind education, health and HIV/AIDS. There seem to be two reasons for this: 1. lack of adequate sanitation is an experience that is hard for the privileged to engage with; and 2. even when our sector gets the attention it needs we tend to present a complex picture of what is needed (we get hung up on technologies and 'approaches' instead of focusing on outcomes)*". Barbara Evans, p 8

Sanitation: on- or off-track? Issues of monitoring sanitation and the role of the Joint Monitoring Programme. Andrew Cotton and Jamie Bartam

Urban sanitation: Lessons from experience. Kevin Taylor

A literature review of the non-health impacts of sanitation. Joanna Pearson and Kate McPhedran

The experience of the first sanitary revolution: Are there lessons for today's global sanitation crisis? Maggie Black

The use of transfer stations for faecal sludge management in Accra, Ghana. Niall L.D. Boot

Comparison with sanitation theme issue 1996

Bringing it home – taking sanitation seriously was the title of the January 1996 edition of Waterlines that IRC's Dick de Jong helped coordinate. Comparing the

key messages in this one with the January 2008 one illustrates the limited uptake of lessons from the past.

First a quote from Mayling Simpson-Hébert who wrote in 1996 in her contribution **Sanitation and the seven Ps - problems, promise, principles, people, politics, professionalism - and potties:**

"For too long sanitation has been 'the step-child of water supply', say the experts. So, over two years, an international working group diagnosed the problems, and dissected the successes. What does it propose for the future?"

WHO published the resulting Sanitation Promotion Kit in 1998, it is still available

Revisiting multiple uses of water 5 years on

"Multiple-use services are all about changing perspectives. First, we would see someone irrigating some tomatoes, and we would say that he is wasting water. Now, we see the same situation, but from the perspective of the user, and we say that he is making a good and economic use of water". (Johny Hernández, water technician, Honduras).

Five years ago, in January 2003 an international symposium held in Johannesburg, South Africa (see www.musgroup.net/page/425) led to the formation of the MUS Group on multiple uses of water, and a number of research

Short field story: the secret of cleanliness

Juliette Kanini from Mathabithi settlement, Isiolo District, attended training on sanitation and hygiene together with her husband. "Actually the training was meant for the women, but the men got curious and they wondered what we were being taught so they joined as well." "Since we have settled into this place, life has become easier. Water is sold for 2 Ksh per 20 litres at the water kiosk is nearby, only 1.5 km away," she says. During the training she learnt about keeping the house and the surroundings clean. Juliette keeps her goats away from her house using a fence of thorny bushes and her puppy dogs are kept in a separate place underground during the day. This way animal waste will not contaminate the family compound. A dish rack is used to prevent dirt getting on clean plates and utensils, and they wash their hands. Her husband even dug a hole for the latrine, there is a floor made of sandbags and logs, and an iron sheet for a roof.

online at http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/hygiene/envsan/sanprom/en/index.html.

Other articles in the Waterlines January 1996 issue included six practical stories from the field:

People are at the heart of sanitation, pp. 2-4. Author: Dick de Jong.

Operational lessons from a sanitation programme in Kerala, pp. 5-8. Authors: Kathleen Shordt; Balachandra Kurup.

A sanitation success story — the effects of demand creation in Bangladesh, pp. 9-11. Author: Derrick O. Ikin.

Schoolchildren help solve sanitation problems in Tanzania, p. 21. Author: Eben Mwasha.

and pilot project initiatives. Practitioners, researchers and policy makers from 14 countries shared papers and experiences about the positive and negative aspects of multiple uses of water systems.

Five years on, it is time to revisit these issues and discuss progress in influencing policies, promoting implementation, testing technologies and evaluating the impacts. This will be the main event of the MUS Group in 2008, and the next item discusses the preparations for this symposium to be held later this year in Ethiopia.

Although the wall is not yet finished – you can see right through the branches from which it is made – the latrine is used. "This all pays off," she says. "I don't have to pay for medicine anymore because my children are much healthier now. I could even buy some chickens. I call it the Secret of Cleanliness." While she is telling this story, her husband fetches the water.

This field story by IRC is based on field visits undertaken for UNICEF Kenya to study and analyze the hygiene and sanitation knowledge, attitudes and practices in three targeted districts, namely: Isiolo in Eastern Province, Garissa in North Eastern Province and Tana River in the Coastal Province.

Who has nice field stories like this?

Who has produced recent field stories around the importance of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)? WASH is important for women, men and children, not only for

Out of the mouths of babes: an honest evaluation of water and sanitation in Ecuador, pp. 19-22. Authors: Jan Teun Visscher; Mariella Garcia; Carlos Madera, Benavides, Alberto; Quiroga, Edgar.

Innovative emptying – improving slum sanitation in Kibera, p. 26. Authors: Madeleen Wegelin-Schuringa; J. Gitonga and T. Kodo, T.

Another interesting comparison between the two Waterlines on sanitation is that in 1996 there were eight (co-) authors from the developing world, versus zero in the 2008 issue. The new Waterlines journal must redress this problem in the next issues of 2008.

Dick de Jong

The symposium will also be a preparatory event for the 5th World Water Forum to be held in March 2009 in Istanbul, where multiple use services have been identified as a main topic. We look forward to your participation in these events and to discussing your experiences in supporting the provision of better water services. Do you agree with Johny from Honduras?

Stef Smits and John Butterworth, IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre (smits@irc.nl, butterworth@irc.nl)



Juliette Kanini and NGO fieldworker. Photo: Elisabeth Wamera, Maji Ufanisi, Nairobi, Kenya

improving their lives, but also for poverty reduction and economic development.

If you are willing to share human stories and clear pictures with readers of the Source Bulletin on paper, by e-mail, or on our web site please submit them to me.

Dick de Jong, Editor, Source Bulletin, use the address or e-mail from the colophon on the back page.

Making water quality visible: for women as well as for men

Generally water quality testing is done to monitor the maintenance and operation of drinking water systems. In Yemen CARE uses the Delagua water testing kit (developed by OXFAM, reproduced by the Robens Centre for Public and Environmental Health, Surrey University) as an awareness tool to improve the understanding of 'clean and safe water' in village communities.

"We have learned to live with it and it does not affect us", said women and men in remote villages of Yemen when explained that their drinking water was infested with bacteria. They did not make the connection between water quality and their children having diarrhoea once a fortnight, resulting in many children being underweight.

With the women fetching and storing water for their households, the health of the family depends on their decisions to improve daily routines. However, women in Yemen have often no say in such issues.

CARE is working with rural women's associations in improving water quantity and quality in their village. After the construction of water storage tanks from which women carry water home, each family received a silver colloidal filter to further purify the water.

Testing the water

However, when CARE tested the water quality, nearly all water used at household level was still contaminated with *E. coli* bacteria, the main cause of diarrhoea. Although women and men attended hygiene and sanitation training, little behavioural change has been observed



Taking a filtered water sample, Photo: CARE Yemen

so far. Broken filters are not replaced; punctured pipes are not repaired.

Most water used in households is clear and looks clean to people using it. To understand that it could be far from clean, contamination needs to become visible and so that they could see this, the women were asked to do the water testing themselves. They had never been involved in 'laboratory' work and without having seen the women do it, men were quick to remark: *"we can do it much better"*. Having been to school and travelled outside their village, they feel better equipped to do these things.

A number of women have basic literacy skills. CARE assisted the women, via their village association, with literacy classes and the testing manual was adapted to simple Arabic with pictures and drawings, so the women could read what they were doing.

Once they had seen the testing procedure they took full charge and divided the tasks without hesitation. Project staff explained the relationship between testing, water quality and health. The Yemeni-WHO water standards were explained to demonstrate that water quality is a Yemeni and global issue and they are part of it.

The morning after the testing, the women counted the *E. coli* bacteria, which show up as yellow dots in the samples. They compared this to the filtered water where there were no such dots. Despite both samples of water looking visibly 'clean' before testing, the women could now see with their own eyes the bacterial presence in their drinking water. They were impressed. However, they have not yet made up their minds as to its significance and they have not resolved what to do about it. The connection between their newly gained knowledge on hygiene and sanitation and the test results has still to be translated into action.

The next step

The next step is to do the same testing with men, who are central to decision making in communities. If men



The result: Bacteria show yellow, pads without bacteria stay red in the Petri dish. Photo: CARE Yemen

understand the concept of clean and safe water and encourage and support women, the women will have more power to improve the water situation in the household.

Water quality aspects and consequences will be discussed again with the women and men, including how they can improve the situation *"Seeing is not yet doing"*.

Conclusions

The village women were almost illiterate in the beginning. However, they demonstrated themselves to be very capable of testing water quality and understanding the results. Water testing shows them that clean-looking water does not always mean safe water. In tribal Yemen, men also need to be convinced that something needs to be done to get better water quality. They need to undertake the same water testing as this will have a positive effect on the empowerment of women. Women should have time and space to improve the water quality, which in combination with hygiene and sanitation knowledge is expected to boost the family health situation.

For more information contact the authors: Stephany Kersten, Ammatilla Ahmed from CARE International Yemen & Kaid Al Sidrayh from Water and Environment Centre, Sana'a University, Yemen at stephany.kersten@careyemen.org

Gender roles are critical to success of Water for African Cities programme

In 1999, UN-HABITAT initiated the Water for African Cities (WAC) Programme, to support 17 cities to tackle the urban water crisis and improve the water and sanitation management. During the last 50 years cities in Africa have seen explosive population growth, with water and sanitation infrastructure lagging behind. Millions of people suffer from seriously unhygienic conditions, while trying to survive with unreliable water supply and sometimes no toilets at all.

It was agreed that only by including gender and involving all stakeholders, would poor people have a chance of getting access to WATSAN facilities and would environmentally sustainable solutions be possible. With the launch of phase II in 2003, the Gender and Water Alliance started activities to mainstream gender into the WAC programme by conducting participatory Rapid Gender Assessments (RGAs) in all 17 pilot cities. In every city the GWA recruited a local facilitator who worked in partnership with municipalities, UN-HABITAT staff, and local water and sewage authorities to shed light on the needs and interests of poor and vulnerable people, women, men, youth and the physically impaired. Groups would walk through cities and slums, asking people's opinions, visit utilities, and collect gender disaggregated data.

As well as reporting on the status of gender aspects of access water and sanitation facilities, and the (lack of) gender balance in institutions, the RGAs revealed the need in all cities for improved and gender-appropriate water and sanitation facilities at home and in schools. RGAs also paid attention to locally specific gender issues and power relationships. *"The municipality in Harar (Ethiopia) employs 150 street cleaners, most of them female. Being informal settlers living in slums, they do not have the right to use the formal sanitation services. They are left to find their own places for defecation and to search for their daily water needs."*

Another interesting conclusion noted that: *"illustration and messages found in textbooks focus on the traditional roles of boys, girls, men and women perpetuating the gender roles that have kept women in*

poverty and relegated women and girls to the background."

The assessments resulted in local actors becoming aware of gender issues, participatory approaches and the need for collective action in mainstreaming of gender in water and sanitation delivery services.

Expert group devises strategy and action plans

In 2005, GWA facilitators and over 50 urban water and sanitation functionaries from the 17 cities discussed the RGA findings at an expert group meeting on gender mainstreaming, and devised ways to integrate recommendations into Gender Mainstreaming Strategy Frameworks and Action Plans.

After the workshop, two GWA consultants analysed the frameworks and plans in a number of cities. Mainstreaming gender, they concluded, should not be an exercise of adding 'correct' language to documents, but a real process of capacity building of women and men involved in implementation. One of the main recommendations stressed the need for specific gender training for UN-Habitat and water professionals on how to 'engender' programmes and projects as well as to understand the importance of sex-disaggregated data collection and gender-sensitive monitoring.

Gender training workshops

In 2007, GWA with UN-HABITAT, Ministries for Water and other stakeholders, organised gender training workshops in most WAC cities for people involved in decision-making processes in water and sanitation management, those in charge of gender integration in national Water Ministries and people locally employed in the WAC programme. Participants recognised that changes were required in Cooperative Agreements (CAs) between Municipalities and UN-Habitat to include the different interests of women and men and especially to take into account the needs of vulnerable groups. GWA facilitators were asked to review and revise CAs in their respective cities and to design a gender sensitive monitoring

Cities involved

Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire; Accra, Ghana; Addis Ababa, Dire Dawa and Harar, Ethiopia; Bamako, Mali; Dakar, Senegal; Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania; Douala and Yaoundé in Cameroon; Jos, Nigeria; Kampala, Uganda; Kigali, Rwanda; Lusaka, Zambia; Maputo, Mozambique; Nairobi, Kenya and Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

and evaluation system for the WAC programme.

The current situation differs from city to city. Some are seriously implementing gender issues, while others still have to sign CAs or to conduct their first gender training for stakeholders. In general, the GWA contribution was appreciated and stakeholders in the WAC cities are keen to participate in more gender and water training to strengthen their expertise in this field.

Ms. Jeanne Bushayija, jbushayija@yahoo.com, GWA-UNHabitat Francophone Programme Coordinator

From the GWA Secretariat

As a contribution to the International Year of Sanitation, GWA is developing, with the Netherlands-based WASTE, a training module on gender and sanitation to be made available for other organisations to include in training manuals related to e.g. education, health or IWRM. At the same time, the Secretariat is working collaboratively on a number of other topics. One is on gender, water and conflict management, looking with the UK based-SaferWorld for examples of gender and water activities that have helped resolve conflicts. The gender, water and integrity work also continues and we will be organising a workshop towards the end of 2008 with the objective of writing a policy brief describing the major gender implications of corruption at different levels. Another current activity is a lexicon of sanitation in various languages, which includes all the words needed to openly discuss sensitive subjects. We have started with Arabic. If any one of you feels you have important cases and information to contribute to one of these themes, please let us know. Other organisations and people can benefit from your experience. That is at the heart of networking: sharing positive and negative examples.

Joke Muylwijk, Executive Director

Building River Basin Organisation capacity - learning how to take action

Sustainable management of water resources is an important goal adopted at international level by many countries to deal with water shortages, inequity, pollution and many other water problems. This follows from the recognition that upstream/ downstream effects of water use and pollution require a basin approach to management. A number of nations are introducing new institutional arrangements for water resources management, including new organisations to manage water at the basin level.

Recognising these challenges and its own capacity building mandate, in 2007 Cap-Net supported case studies on implementing IWRM through River Basin Organisations (RBOs). These focused on organisations tasked with the management of water at national or sub-national river basin level as part of water sector reform towards the sustainable management of water resources (the IWRM approach). The case studies were carried out in Mexico, Kenya, Sri Lanka and Malaysia, following which UNESCO-IHE compiled a draft consolidated report.

Building on these studies, Cap-Net developed draft RBO capacity building materials. Participants from Brazil, Egypt,

Ethiopia, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Mozambique, the Netherlands, Rwanda, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Uganda and Zimbabwe joined a course to test the materials in Pretoria, South Africa, from 14-18 April 2008. The materials will be used in a number of other courses planned for 2008/9.

The training course provided a platform to exchange experience and improve their knowledge on river basin management and participants were asked to focus on the critical water resources management functions within an IWRM framework at river basin level. These include water allocation, pollution control, information management, monitoring and evaluation, as well as stakeholder participation.

One institution is not enough

Carlos Diaz Delgado from the Centro Interamericano de Recursos del Agua, who was involved in developing the Mexican case study, responded positively. "The course was interesting. I now understand what is happening in southern Africa. We have more developed water institutions (in Mexico) even if they are not working as well as they should. At least we have them and they have to do something by law. I understand that RBO should be a set of

institutions or a set of stakeholders because one institution or organisation alone is not enough for these tasks."

Coletta Ruhanya from Rwanda also found the course very useful. "I learnt a lot of things I did not know. Currently we do not have RBOs in our country, so I found there is much to borrow from this meeting and to contribute back into my country".

She was one of only four women on the course and she said that more women should play a role in RBOs. "The representation of women is lagging behind. We have to find ways to increase women's participation in these programmes by encouraging women to apply and give priority to (them) as well as motivate and include women in our discussions in the sector".

Tommy Rosen, from the well established Bulawayo Catchment Council that has been operation in Zimbabwe for a number of years, said, "The course has made me think about our allocation and the financial side. The biggest thing I will be taking back is the monitoring." If he had an opportunity to do capacity building in his country, the priority would be to strengthen stakeholder participation processes.

Argentina: They don't laugh about the rivers

Espacio Agua (Water Space) is an initiative formed in Argentina by civil society organisations, local government, networks, universities, companies, and professionals with the mission to contribute to integrated water resources management through communication and capacity building and

to promote recognition of access to safe water and sanitation as a human right.

Espacio Agua was formed in 2005, when the AVINA Foundation called on individuals and organisations to build an open space to treat water related subjects and LA-WETnet became a founding member.

On March 27th 2008, Espacio Agua launched the campaign "Del Río no me Río", a word play in Spanish meaning "I don't laugh about the river". The campaign seeks to alert people to the state and need for recovery of the Reconquista river basin in the Province of Buenos Aires, Argentina.

The river basin extends over 18 municipalities of the Broad Buenos Aires, affecting 4.2 million people, some 13% of the total country population. It covers an area of 1.600 km² and includes 134 water courses. Of the population living

in the basin, 60% (almost 2.5 millions) lack sanitation, and 90% of the sanitation facilities that do exist discharge waste into the river without any treatment. Approximately 12,000 industrial firms are established within the basin and many also discharge untreated industrial waste into the rivers, a major cause of pollution.

A typical river boat serves as the "Del Río no me Río" flagship, and it includes tools such as documentation, training material, technical reports. The boat and tools will be freely accessible for users wanting to learn more about sustainable water management. The campaign will hold meetings, participate in the Basin Committee, and carry out capacity building.

For more information and to see the river Reconquista presentation at www.espacioagua.org.ar.

Source: Damian Indij, LA-WETnet e-mail: indij@fibertel.com.ar.



Don't laugh about water, Photo : Cap-Net

Climate change increases need for adaptable IWRM strategies

Every year, millions of people in Asia, Africa and Latin America are temporarily or permanently displaced by untimely floods and extensive droughts, a tragedy that is increasing with climate change.

Cap-Net and the Associated Programme on Flood Management (APFM) of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) are developing a Climate Change Adaptation capacity building programme with courses in the context of sustainable water management. In March 2008 a small team of participants from Africa, South East Asia, and Central America visited the WMO, in Geneva, Switzerland to discuss the challenges and to plan this critical intervention.

A key focus will be the use of sustainable water management practices to deal with extreme climate variations in vulnerable areas, as it is predicted that extreme climate variability will have substantial impacts on water resources and water availability.

Significant impacts

Work done by the WMO and others, using climate modelling techniques, shows that carbon emissions already generates

significant variations in global climate systems and in particular in the water cycle. Other impacts are changes in temperature, rainfall, salinity levels at the oceans, and increasing episodes of severe weather conditions.

There is a gradual acceptance that central governments and local communities need to be able to understand these emerging extreme weather events and be able to be better prepared for it ensuing ravages.

Through this programme, WMO and Cap-Net will provide technical and some financial support to build resilience to mitigate climate change impact. Participation by policy and decision-makers and those who are often harshly affected in urban slums, rural areas and coastal settlements, will be encouraged.

Course topics

The courses will focus on:

- understanding causes and effects of climate change, with special emphasis on consequences for uses and management of water resources;
- identifying opportunities for vulnerable communities to adapt to climate change
- building resilience to extreme climate variability

In memory of Mariana Sell

Cap-Net was recently moved by the global solidarity expressed between capacity building networks in the water sector in memory of the late Mariana Sell. The Friends of Maji na Ufanisi in Kenya rehabilitated this water fountain in her name. Mariana worked tirelessly in gender and water capacity building with the Gender and Water Alliance and Cap-Net Brazil. She is remembered and missed by colleagues and friends.



Picture: IRC/ Ingeborg Krukkert

- developing coping strategies
- adapting management systems to new conditions

A training package is being developed and will be used at the first training of trainers workshop scheduled for August 2008.

For more information contact liliarrieta@hotmail.com or kees.leendertse@cap-net.org.

Southern Africa: Water integrity, accountability and transparency

Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) takes water resources management to the lowest level possible without running the risk of losing transparency and increase opportunities for corruption and bad water resources management practices. In the context of the wider water governance debate, The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Water Governance Facility at the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), WaterNet and Cap-Net commissioned Mapping of Integrity and Accountability in Water Activities and Relevant Capacities in the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Region during 2007. Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Zambia were the countries covered in the study.

In the context of this wider water governance debate, The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Water Governance Facility at the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), WaterNet and Cap-Net commissioned

'Mapping of Integrity and Accountability in Water Activities and Relevant Capacities in the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Region during 2007. Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Zambia were the countries covered in the study.

The report proposed a number of recommendations summarised as follows:

1. Develop political support – at SADC level, within member states and at local level.
2. Capacity building – of staff of government entities responsible for water management at national as well as local level.
3. Integration of water-sector initiatives (such as reforms under IWRM approaches and decentralisation) with broader non-water sector anti-corruption initiatives (such as industry codes of conduct, citizen pacts and consumer awareness campaigns) through an appropriate forum or platform.

The partners invited key stakeholders from the global networks to participate in a workshop on this critical governance issue, in Cape Town, South Africa, 29 – 30 April this year.

Research results were presented to participants from Africa, Latin America and South Asia. It is expected that their discussions will guide the development of a network-wide capacity development strategy to support building improved integrity, accountability and transparency in the sector. It is anticipated that more training and capacity building activities will be stimulated in this process and greater accountability will be sought as integral to future water resources management regimes.

For more information, please contact: Håkan Tropp of SIWI at: hakan.tropp@siwi.org, Themba Gumbo, WaterNet at: bgumbo@waternetonline.org or Kees Leendertse, Cap-Net, kees.leendertse@cap-net.org. The report is available at www.cap-net.org or info@cap-net.org.

IRC contributions to the International Year of Sanitation

By the end of the first quarter of 2008, IRC had already contributed in several ways to the International Year of Sanitation.

Contributions to Dutch Sanitation Solutions publication

IRC staff members contributed to the Dutch Sanitation Solutions, the March 2008 edition of the Made in Holland magazine that will be used in some 60 major international promotional events, at trade missions and by Dutch embassies and consulates all over the world. http://www.hollandtrade.com/vko/MIH/pdf/2008_03_Sanitation_Solutions_EN.pdf. For this issue the publisher, Agency for International Business and Cooperation (EVD) of the Ministry of Economic Affairs, teamed up with Partners for Water and the Netherlands Water Partnership (NWP), of which IRC is member.

"Sanitation isn't sexy"

"Sanitation isn't sexy", says Dick de Jong of the IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre, quoted in the main story *Appropriate and affordable solutions* by Arjan Veering.

The IRC focuses exclusively on garnering knowledge and sharing it with developing nations. "Sanitation can be seen as the Cinderella of the MDGs despite the crucial role it plays. After all, it makes a direct contribution to achieving five other MDGs, including a reduction in child mortality." De Jong hopes that the International Year of Sanitation will help change this, but emphasises that not everything requires a large-scale solution. "We need to avoid focusing too heavily on numbers, toilets and pipelines. It all boils down to appropriate and affordable solutions."

"Low-tech solutions are often a perfectly good option. IRC, with a number of other Dutch organisations, compiled a booklet called 'Smart Sanitation Solutions'. This booklet presents clear examples of affordable technology for toilets, collection, transportation, treatment and use of sanitation products," writes Veering.

Go to the *Smart Sanitation Solutions* booklet page: <http://www.irc.nl/page/28448>.

Women build their own latrines

"Rural experiences from women in Kerala building their own latrines" is one of four short articles under *What's New*.

In the Indian state of Kerala, the toilet facilities project of IRC and SEUF has proven so successful that it will be followed up by a subsequent project. A Dutch knowledge NGO in the field of sanitation, IRC works together with its Indian counterpart SEUF. The Women, Wellbeing, Work, Waste and Sanitation (4WS) project in Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka focuses on single women from poor households in and around urban centres. Training the women to build and maintain sanitary facilities and encouraging them to take responsibility for this not only improves the quality of the sanitary facilities, but also helps improve their position in society.

The women build sanitary facilities, separate and compost the solid waste, and see to the facilities' management, gaining respect and a source of income along the way. These facilities help to reduce health problems, as women no longer have to go outside for their sanitary needs, helping the women to, for instance, to avoid urinary tract infections. The intention is for the women themselves to disseminate this concept and the resulting hygiene-related benefits. In addition, men also receive information about hygiene and help to pay for the facilities. Documenting the results and sharing the information at the local and regional level is thought to give rise to a 'snowball effect'. One of the major advantages of this projects is that it costs much less – 45% on average – than comparable government projects.

See the project page <http://www.irc.nl/page/227>.

World Water Day 2008 site on sanitation

As part of its global advocacy work, IRC maintained the www.worldwaterday.org with the 2008 theme on sanitation, supporting the International Year of Sanitation.

Although Sanitation Matters! was the theme for 2008, walking and talking for water were the most popular among the events registered online by people from around 40 countries. Interestingly, organisations from the developing world adhere better to the sanitation theme than the developed world.

Special Source Weekly on WWD and sanitation

IRC published a special issue of its Source Weekly <http://www.irc.nl/page/168> on World Water Day 2008 and sanitation, highlighting some activities from various countries.

IYS special Notes and News WASH in Schools

The March 2008 edition focuses on WASH in Schools in the International Year of Sanitation. It highlights two non-traditional approaches:

- **School Sanitation Fund:** Training youths to take advantage of that sanitation market in Tanzania, involving up to EUR 15,000 for rural school sanitation projects to partners of the Dutch NGO Simavi in Africa and Asia.
- **Giving children a voice:** advocacy and awareness raising tools for IYS, including a poster contest by school children in developing countries, by the German Toilet Organization.

Download: <http://www.irc.nl/page/39859>.

South Asia workshop: Sanitation and hygiene programmes must reach the poor

Participants at the South Asia Sanitation and Hygiene practitioners' workshop in Bangladesh from 29 to 31 January 2008 identified five priority messages to push during the International Year of Sanitation:

- Sanitation and hygiene programmes must reach the poor and this is what should guide partnerships;
- More policy focus and funds are needed for urban sanitation for the poor;
- Local government and communities are in highest need for capacity building to sustain sanitation services;
- Needs of disabled people must be incorporated to achieve sanitation for all;

- The issue of manual scavenging must be recognised and addressed.

The group have started to push for change and will raise these issues at the third South Asia Conference on Sanitation (SACOSAN), scheduled from 16 to 21 November 2008 in New Delhi, India.

IRC contributes to open source water and sanitation internet venture

A group of eight investors led by the Netherlands Water Partnership (NWP), Partners for Water and UN-HABITAT has agreed to finance €535,000 for the next phase of Akvo ("water" in Esperanto). Open source internet tools, methods and working practices are the core of this new water venture, to reduce the cost and complexity of providing clean water and basic sanitation to the world's poor. The pledges were made at a signing ceremony during UNICEF's World Water Day matchmaking event in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre as one of the founding members of Akvo, is also providing in-kind contributions to the second phase.

The investment, comprising €425,000 of cash grants and €110,000 of in-kind support, will enable Akvo to develop its core product, extend its global network and complete arrangements for a further €1 million loan. This is the second funding round for Akvo, which was created in autumn 2006 and grew with €212,000 of seed investment from NWP and Partners for Water. New investors include Aqua 4 All, ASN Bank, NEDAP, Union of Water Boards and Simavi.

Three core components

Akvo is developing three core components:

The workshop jointly organised by IRC, WaterAid and BRAC with support from WSSCC brought together 53 practitioners working in South Asia, including those with specific experience in Nepal, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Bhutan and Vietnam. They work for a wide range of organisations, including partner NGOs

- a knowledge-sharing tool for the sector, called the Akvopedia;
- a matchmaking tool system to screen and fund projects more easily and cheaply; and
- Really Simple Reporting platform to track projects in the field and share results.

The site www.akvo.org will gradually add content on the last two components. The Akvo team has forged relations with leading Indian NGOs, Microfinance Institutes and the IT community in Bangalore and is in the process of securing funds from the Dutch development bank FMO to implement a pilot project in India.

Akvo has in March 2008 signed agreements with implementation partners in the developing world to support over 75 projects this year. These NGO partners are Women in Europe for a Common Future, Rain Foundation, NWP NGO Platform, International Institute for Communication and Development (IICD), WASTE, Simavi, Practica Foundation, AquaEst and FODRA. Other strategic partners include Acacia Institute, AT@Work, WESNET India, Arghyam, Rural Water Supply Network, Micro Water Facility and the Informal World Water Forum 4 Appropriate Technology Network. Akvo is in the process of establishing itself in the Hague as a non-profit Foundation under Dutch law.

of IRC, WaterAid and BRAC as well as WaterAid country staff.

The participants agreed to work together to inject lessons from the workshop into sector debates and publications during IYS 2008, and to create a platform for community and civil society perspectives to be heard at SACOSAN 2008.

IRC support

IRC staff provided important inputs into the first phase of the Akvo development process. In the second phase IRC involvement is likely to include high level support and advice on the micro-finance aspects of Akvo, and to the knowledge base and its management. Ben Lamoree, Director of IRC, said: "We decided to put our signature next to that of the other contributors on the World Water Day matchmaking event. We hope that Akvo will become another channel, another partnership, through which we work on the realisation of our objectives as laid down in our business plan."

Akvo was founded by Thomas Bjelkeman-Petterson, internationally renowned developer of ground breaking web collaboration products. The Akvo team is an experienced and entrepreneurial team combining expertise from the IT/Internet, and water and sanitation sectors. It is inspired by such projects as Wikipedia, E-Bay and YouTube. Akvo is run by a small core team and will be accountable to a board drawn from IT and development organisations. Founding partners are Netherlands Water Partnership (NWP), GreenOcean and Movement Design Bureau.

Seven new IRC staff members

To accommodate the expansion of contracted work seven new staff members joined IRC in recent months.

Russell Kerkhoven joined IRC on 1 May 2008 as Head Information and Communication. He takes over from Rutger Verkerk, who moved within IRC to take up the position of Project Coordinator in the new WASHCost project 2008-2012.

Russell has a BA Social Anthropology (Honours), State University Utrecht (1984), The Netherlands, major subjects: Adult Education and Rural Development, Economic Anthropology and from the same university a 1988 MA Sociology (Planning and Policy Formulation), major subjects: Development Planning; Extension Science.

In the last year Russell ran Blue Leaf - advisory and facilitation practice. As social entrepreneur he focused on learning from international experience and quality of participation. This included use of interactive methods, development of internal and inter-organisational learning. From 2004 to 2007 he was Head Knowledge and Learning Centre with PSO Capacity building in developing countries,

News in Brief

The Lancet: "Sanitation has languished at the bottom of the international agenda for far too long"

Sanitation has languished at the bottom of the international agenda for far too long and the global health community has been complicit in letting it stay there. This unacceptable situation must change now, said the renowned magazine *The Lancet* in its 29 March 2008 editorial Keeping sanitation in the international spotlight on the International Year of Sanitation (2008) and this year's World Water Day. "Children who benefit from the huge international effort and financial and human resources spent on immunisation and bednet distribution still have a strong chance of dying from diarrhoeal illnesses—the second biggest killer of children under 5 years."

Source: *The Lancet*, 29 Mar 2008

Right to water: UN Human Rights Council adopts watered-down resolution

"Once again, the UN Human Rights Council missed a critical opportunity to recognize the human right to water", said Wenonah Hauter, Executive Director of the US-based Food & Water Watch, in reaction to the "watered-down" resolution adopted by the Council on 28 March 2008. The Council decided to appoint an Independent Expert who would be given 3 years to prepare a report on the "issue of human rights obligations related to access to safe drinking water and sanitation".

The "watering-down" of the resolution was exemplified by the replacement of all references to the 'right to water and sanitation' by 'human rights and access to safe drinking water and sanitation'. "The perceived need to adopt the resolution by consensus dictated that the adopted measure was significantly weaker than it might otherwise have been, particularly in the area of the normative description of the rights at issue", writes Claude Cahn (COHRE).

Contact: *Right to Water Programme, Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions (COHRE), Switzerland, water@cohre.org, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Switzerland, water@ohchr.org*

Source: *UN Human Rights Council, 28 Mar 2008; Food & Water Watch, 28 Mar 2008*

Africa: First African Water Week concludes with Ministerial Declaration

The First African Water Week (AWW-1), hosted by the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW) and the African Development Bank (AfDB) under the theme of 'Accelerating Water Security for the Socio Economic Development of Africa', took place from 26-28 March 2008 in Tunis, Tunisia. During the AWW-1 the media reported that the AfDB "intends to raise about US\$ 4.5 billion (EUR 2.85 billion) to take the number of Africans having access to drinking water from the current 46 per cent to 66 per cent in 2010", and that the "African Water Facility (AWF) needs US\$ 200 million (EUR 127 million) to finance its activities for the period 2008-2010".

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an umbrella association of 40 Dutch civil society organisations.

Peter Ryan joined IRC in April 2008 as Programme Officer, KDA. Previously, he had been a member of WaterAid's Policy and Advocacy Team and also worked as a freelance researcher and analyst. He has an MSc in Community Water Supply and Sanitation from Cranfield University.

He specializes in accountability and governance, in scaling up and in sanitation. He is a very experienced project manager, especially of complex, multi-country -, multi-agency assignments, for example of a large scale local accountability programme entitled Citizens Action, and of WaterAid's initiative to research and enhance its sanitation best practice.

He worked for the WHO on its new Global Analysis and Assessment (GLAAS) and was a member of DFID's Sanitation Policy Team. Previously, he was an urban and transport planner, managing and directing integrated urban assessments and major rail infrastructure development projects in Europe and Asia.

Five publications with stories, concepts and tools on water governance

Five publications cast new light on what happens when water governance changes at intermediate level and in the community.

The publications in English and Arabic tell stories, outline concepts and detail tools for improving water governance, based on experience in Egypt, Jordan, and West Bank/Gaza. The books, available free of charge from IRC, document the results of the Euro-Med Participatory Water Resources Scenarios (EMPOWERS) research and development project (2003-2007) led by Care International UK. EMPOWERS was co-funded by the European Union MEDA Water Programme. The other sponsors were IRC, PSO and Human Relief Foundation.

Together these books provide the most authoritative and practical information for planners and implementers of local water governance programmes, based on four years of learning. Four full time information and communication specialists helped facilitate and document the whole process.

For four years the EMPOWERS Partnership tested and implemented

Nick Dickinson started on 1 April as Programme Officer for INCO. He has a BSc in Chemistry/Biology and a BA in Political Geography both Cum Laude at University College Utrecht. After that he studied at Oxford University in England, got his MSc in Water Science, Policy and Management and he worked as a consultant.

Angela Broek joined IRC starting 1 March 2008 taking up the position of Human Resources Manager. She has a BSc in HRM from the Haagse Hogeschool and has since 2000 worked in various HRM positions in the Ministry of Economic Affairs, the Dutch Consumentenautoriteit and Nederlandse Mededingingsautoriteit (two public regulatory bodies in the Netherlands).

Daniela Peis joined as Assistant Project Coordination Officer, Directors Office. She has a background of several years, in O.I.C.S., which is an agency in Italy that promotes cooperation to the development in foreign countries.

Rinske Koop started in March as for Programme Assistant for the KDA section.

Sharon de Haan joined as Programme Assistant of the INCO section.

methods and tools to improve local water governance in Egypt, Jordan and Palestine. That was quite a challenge and a shift from how things are usually done, since all three countries traditionally manage water resources from the top.

The five titles are:

Doing things differently: Stories about Local Water Governance in Egypt, Jordan and Palestine

This story book documents the success stories, the challenges faced by people challenging the traditional way of how things 'ought to be'. It is the real life stories of change in communities and individuals.

Read more about the book and download it from the EMPOWERS website: <http://www.project.empowers.info/page/3286>.

The EMPOWERS Approach to Water Governance

This book contains guidelines, methods and tools for use in processes of planning and dialogue within and between local and intermediate levels. It describes a practical and logical framework of

activities based on the involvement of those who use and manage water. The guidelines advocate a process of collaboration through dialogue, to bring about a change in the way water sector professionals and water users work with each other.

Read more about the book and download it from the EMPOWERS website: <http://www.project.empowers.info/page/2850>.

Background to Guidelines and Key Concepts

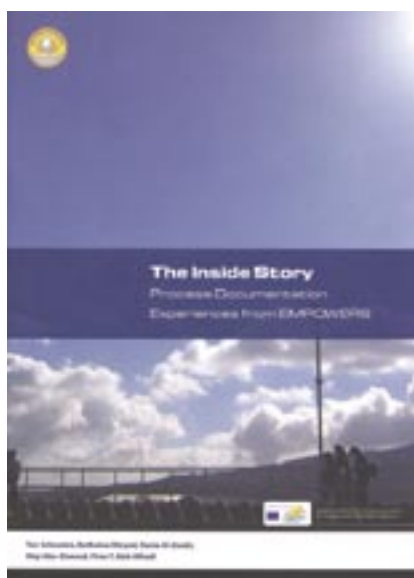
This booklet provides an explanation of the conceptual background to the EMPOWERS approach to water governance and is a companion volume to The EMPOWERS Approach to Water Governance: Guidelines, Methods and Tools. While it is not essential to read this booklet before using the methods and tools, it will help to develop a deeper understanding of the approach and of the issues and problems that those working to improve water governance need to address.

This background booklet looks at the nature of water governance and its role in IWRM. It examines how stakeholder dialogue can improve the nature of multi-stakeholder platforms. It outlines how the role of the expert is changing from someone who provides solutions to someone who helps stakeholders to address their problems and to develop their own solutions.

Read more and download: <http://www.project.empowers.info/page/3337>.

The Inside Story: Process documentation

This booklet answers the questions, what is process documentation and why,



how, with whom and when should it be conducted? It is not a manual but it does provide guidance for those who think that tracking the obstacles and opportunities for change is important.

Read more about the book and download it from the EMPOWERS website: <http://www.project.empowers.info/page/3333>.

EMPOWERS at a glance

EMPOWERS was a four-year regional project from 2003 to 2007 in which IRC was involved. It was piloted in Egypt, Jordan and the West Bank. The aim was to improve long-term access and rights to water for underprivileged populations in local communities, with a context of improved local water governance. This booklet gives an overview of the approach developed and the pilots that have taken place in this project.

Go to the EMPOWERS website: <http://www.project.empowers.info/page/2945>.

Get your free copies from Rinske Koop, e-mail koop@irc.nl

Resources and Events

International Symposium on Multiple-Use Water Services. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 4-6 November 2008. Organised by: the MUS (Multiple Use Services) Group and the RiPPLE (Research-inspired Policy and Practice Learning in Ethiopia and the Nile Region) research consortium.

Multiple-use water services (MUS) is a consumer-oriented approach to water service delivery that takes people's multiple water needs as a starting point and involves planning, finance and management of integrated water services for multiple domestic and productive uses.

Target audience: professionals from the water sector (irrigation, water supply,

water resources), particularly researchers, policy makers, practitioners and donors.

Symposium objectives:

- provide a platform for sharing and consolidating experiences and lessons learnt on different aspects of providing multiple-use water services, including technologies, financial models, institutional arrangements, support mechanisms, and impacts, and;
- discuss implications for taking the MUS approach forward, in different areas such as implementation, research, capacity development and policy.

More: <http://www.musgroup.net/page/746>,
Contact: symposium@musgroup.net

News in Brief continued

Source: WASH News Africa, 22 Apr 2008; PANA / Afriquenligne, 28 Mar 2008; PANA / Afriquenligne, 27 Mar 2008

India: USAID and UNICEF disseminate best practices from successful school sanitation programme

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) celebrated the success of their five-year partnership to enhance environment safety and hygiene conditions in thousands of schools across Jharkhand and Karnataka. Over the period from September 2003 - February 2008, the School Water and Sanitation Towards Hygiene and Health - Putting Lessons Learned to use SWASTHH-PLUS programme, worked in partnership with the Government of India and state governments to improve school facilities, providing sanitary school conditions and hygiene lessons for almost a million children in more than 5500 public schools.

Source: USAID, 8 Apr 2008

El Salvador: sanitation is a national priority in 2008

El Salvador's government is making sanitation a national priority and increasing coverage throughout the country, says national aqueduct and sewerage authority Anda sanitation department director Rubén Alemán. The country committed itself to improve sanitation when it signed the Cali declaration at the 2007 Latinosan.

Source: BNamericas, 3 April 2008

Water treatment: potential of new technologies for developing countries

The special issue of Nature on water, which was published to coincide with World Water Day 2008, includes a review [1] of "some of the science and technology being developed to improve the disinfection and decontamination of water, as well as efforts to increase water supplies through the safe re-use of wastewater (e.g. with membrane bioreactors) and efficient desalination of sea and brackish water". It looks at solutions being developed in the industrialised world, which also have potential for developing countries "where less chemical- and energy-intensive technologies are greatly needed".

[1] Shannon. M.A. ... [et al.] (2008). Science and technology for water purification in the coming decades. Nature ; no. 452 ; p. 301-310. doi: 10.1038/nature06599

Contact: Prof. Mark A. Shannon, US National Science Foundation Science and Technology Center, WaterCAMPWS, Center for Advanced Materials for the Purification of Water with Systems, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA, mshannon@uiuc.edu

Third South Asian Conference on Sanitation (SACOSAN-III). New Delhi, India, 16-21 November 2008. Organized by: Department of Drinking Water Supply, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India.

Part of a series of regional conferences in support of the 2008 International Year of Sanitation.

Conference Programme: For the first two days (16-17 Nov. 2008), field visits have been planned followed by the main conference from 18-21 November 2008.

Previous Conferences:

- SACOSAN-I at Dhaka, Bangladesh 21-23 Oct. 2003 (The Dhaka Declaration on Sanitation)
- SACOSAN-II at Islamabad, Pakistan 20-21 Sept. 2006 (Islamabad Declaration)

Contact: Conference Secretariat, SACOSAN-III, India, tel.: +91-11-24363152, fax: +91-11-24362106,

Publications

Deak, A. (2008). *Taking community-led total sanitation to scale : movement, spread and adaptation.* (IDS working papers; no. 298). Brighton, UK, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex. 45 p. : 1 fig., 2 tab. Bibliography: p. 42-45, ISBN 9781858646774

This paper focuses on community-led total sanitation (CLTS), an innovation in participatory methodology, as well as a unique approach to sanitation. It proposes that going to scale is multi-dimensional and complex and describes how CLTS offers important lessons to understand spread which is critical for scaling up in an effective way. After a brief overview of CLTS, the paper reviews the literature on scaling-up and extracts the useful points relevant to CLTS, and highlights the gaps in the literature around self-spreading movements. A number of case studies of innovative methods or approaches that have been successfully scaled-up are then considered: PRA, Reflect, Community Integrated Pest Management and System of Rice Intensification. The author then maps out CLTS experience, outlining the various ways in which CLTS has spread. After considering the various forms of spread, the 'spatial strategy' employed by CARE Bangladesh is given specific attention. The paper then discusses how CLTS and other participatory approaches challenge dominant thinking around community developing by critically

examining the World Bank's discourse around Community-based/driven development. The final section offers concluding remarks regarding how to better understand scaling-up and spread.

Mairena, R. (2008). *Poverty and sanitation: an analysis of the linkage between poverty and access to basic sanitation in Honduras.* Tegucigalpa, Honduras, Water and Sanitation Program, Latin America and the Caribbean Region, Sub-Regional Office for Central America. 32 p. : 11 fig., 13 tab. 14 ref.

This document shows that the poorest Hondurans, those living in dispersed rural communities and peri-urban slums, have the least access to appropriate sanitation technologies and coverage. The resulting high risks to the environment and family health are identified. An analysis of poverty levels among rural and urban households and their access to sanitation solutions is elaborated and key aspects for improving services and contributing to sector policies, strategies and investment plans that target the poor are identified. The analysis is based on a broad review of available documentation and data, and identifies the need to: a) prioritize pro-poor policies designed to facilitate access to improved and sustainable sanitation services; b) adopt innovative, appropriate technologies and technical support; c) recognize the capacity of communities to organize and to contribute to their own development, by nurturing the participation of civil society organizations and strengthening them to fulfil their roles; d) create a system to monitor programmes' performance; and e) involve the coordinated participation of NGOs and international agencies in developing sanitation programmes. Different scenarios to improve access to sanitation are presented for urban areas, concentrated rural communities and dispersed rural villages.

DIEDE and AIDIS (2008). *Integrated risk management to protect drinking water and sanitation services facing natural disasters.* (Thematic overview paper; no. 21). Delft, The Netherlands, IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre. 54 p. : fig., tab. Includes references, ISBN 9789066870659

This TOP explains the concept of integrated risk management, a strategic and proactive approach to anticipating, assessing and managing natural events. By analyzing the main risks and investing in prevention and mitigation, societies become less vulnerable. Financial, social and environmental damage and rehabilitation and reconstruction costs are reduced. This approach is already having an important effect in a number of countries of Latin America. The TOP shows what can be learned from these experiences, and why prevention is better, more effective and as much as twenty times cheaper than cure. Although the document brings together the thoughts, experiences and comments of various Latin American experts to indicate the best route to break the vicious circle of vulnerability, disasters and increased poverty in Latin American and Caribbean countries, it is also valuable for professionals working in other parts of the world. The document was prepared as a guide for professionals, agencies, and authorities in the health, drinking water and sanitation sectors, to enrich perspectives and to provide updated information on alternatives for strategic interventions to combat risks inherent in drinking water and sanitation services.

SOURCE Bulletin is published quarterly by IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre in cooperation with the Water Supply & Sanitation Collaborative Council.

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ISSN 1389-3157