



In cooperation with



A typical Ram pump, see story starting p. 3

Highlights

- Source story contest extended to 2011
- Gender is also about men
- Uganda: A rooster for payment of water fees
- Youths motivate community to change their defecation practices
- Running water uphill

News from WSSCC, p. 6-7

- Scaling out Sanitation in Rawalpindi, Pakistan
- Forum for Equity and Social Inclusion in the WASH sector held in Dar es Salaam
- News from the WSSCC Secretariat

News from IRC, p. 8-11

- IRC assists WASH policy development in Honduras
- Strengthening knowledge management cooperation agreement between IRC and FHIS
- "Stellar examples of media and communications strategies"
- Sources Nouvelles helps French category winner – WASH Media Awards 2010
- IRC and partners show 'Learning for change' in practice
- Nico Terra officially named new Director of IRC
- New programme staff at IRC

Tell us a story - Source contest extended into 2011

The Source story contest of 2010 has been so successful that the contest will continue in 2011. So far in 2010, 25 stories have been submitted and 12 'winners' have been published.

This is an ideal way to tell the world vividly about real lives and changes in communities. Stories can be sent in at any time, but if you want your story to be selected for a specific edition you might consider Source Bulletin copy deadlines and submit by mid-January, mid-April, mid-July and mid-October 2011. You can find the contest guidelines and criteria to assist your contribution online at <http://www.irc.nl/page/51902>.

Gender is also about men

This photo from a slum area in Freetown, Sierra Leone by Sohrab Baghri, WASH coordinator for ACF Sierra Leone & Liberia, was with a short story submitted for our Source story contest 2010 is winner of the popularity prize.

It had an interesting picture of a man who was not only carrying a baby on his back, but was also fetching water from a local well for his family.



Mohammad Turay is 66 years old and he is carrying his youngest (one year old) child on his back. At the moment he is unemployed, but in the past he has worked as a plumber, electrician, carpenter and builder. Which shows that both men and women can multi-task!

Mohammad explained that his actions demonstrate his love for his family and desire for equity in household responsibilities. He has been performing these tasks since he and his wife had their first child. Apart from caring for the baby and fetching water, he also occasionally prepares food for his family. The older people in his community admire his actions and often express the wish that their daughters had such husbands. The younger people only make fun of him. Despite criticisms Mohammad continues to fulfil these tasks and tries to encourage other men, especially younger ones, to help with household chores.

The picture and short text triggered the highest number of page views and some interesting comments since it was posted on line. You can read some of them in the article on story winners at: <http://www.irc.nl/page/56001>.

Sohrab Baghri (sohrabuk2002@yahoo.co.uk)

Uganda: A rooster for payment of water fees

Prize winning story in the Source contest 2010 in this issue

Communities in Uganda are responsible for making cash payments towards the construction of water supply facilities (e.g. boreholes), their operations and maintenance. Water supply facilities are often managed by a Water Source and Sanitation Committee (WSSC), which is a

decision-making body that oversees the proper functioning of facilities. Such is the case at the Ciforo Sub County in Adjumani District, where a 'loa' (or borehole) may be found.

The majority of water users in the village find it hard to pay the monthly user's fee

of one thousand Ugandan shillings (US\$ 0.45 cents) to sustain the operations and maintenance (O&M) of their water source. Challenges to settling fees are most often attributed to low incomes of the community members, poverty and the community's ageing population where, due to old age, some members are no longer able to work for a living.

In order to overcome the problems of sustained water services, a meeting with water users was organised by the Hand Pump Mechanics and members of the WSSC in June 2010. In this meeting, Mr Mamgbwi Zakeo, a handpump mechanic, offered alternatives to the current system of cash payments for operations and maintenance.

Mr. Zakeo proposed a system of 'payment in kind' (with goods ascribed a value) and their subsequent sale – the proceedings of which are then used to settle user fees. Within this system, a policy on how to treat the remaining balance of valued goods was also created. It was agreed that, should a balance be incurred, the owner (or payer) is given the prerogative to either use the balance to pay in advance its equivalent

amount in monthly user fees, or based on an individual's need, s/he receives back the balance.

Innovation

A common example of this scheme is in the payment of a rooster in place of cash. 'Rooster payments' are commonly offered by many households. Each rooster is valued at 10,000 Ugandan shillings (US\$ 5.00) and sold by the committee. The money received is used to pay monthly water user fees for the rooster's owner. This arrangement takes place two to three months in advance, depending on previously agreed terms and capacity of the owner.

Items in kind are not limited to a rooster. Others have contributed sim-sim seeds, beans, maize and other produce, which are measured in kilograms and are valued based on the current market price. Others provide labour as an alternative method of payment.

The community's response to the challenges of collecting user fees has been successful in supporting community members in need. In addition, the availability of diverse methods of payment had also supported

the committee in raising enough funds for O&M and putting an end to user fee defaulters in the village.

Story by Grace Orishaba, Programme Assistant (orishg@gmail.com), NETWAS, Uganda, at netwasuganda@gmail.com.



Peter J. Bury, comment on Uganda: A rooster for payment of water fees

Women in Burkina Faso have a long time experience with this form of contributing to maintenance costs of water supplies. They buy and raise in small saving groups goats or sheep.

The question is, who runs the risk?

What if the value of the contribution in kind devalues rapidly? What if the contribution in kind gets lost (the animal gets sick and dies)? And... who carries the extra burden of managing the assets? Who looks after the animal once it is used as payment? Who spends the time in selling it if cash is needed?

It's not an obvious way of paying one's dues!

Youths motivate community to change their defecation practices

Prize winning story in the Source contest 2010 in this issue

In the small rural village of Leubraudo in Aileu District, Timor-Leste, a group of youth motivated their community to change their defecation practices, become Open Defecation Free (ODF) and stay that way.

Triggering Community-Led Total Sanitation

The 'Grupú Mudansa' (Group of Change) formed in response to a Plan-International supported Community-Led Total Sanitation' (CLTS) triggering exercise in their village.

The triggering exercise was a 'hygiene promotion activity' facilitated by a team from Plan and partner staff, which aimed

to motivate community members to end the practice of open defecation. The Plan supported team coordinated with the village chief to ensure that as many community members as possible could attend the hygiene promotion activity.

The team ran through a series of CLTS triggering activities with the community members, generating some interest. From a total of 29 households, nine people came forward to declare that their household would build a toilet before the end of the month.

These nine community members formed a group to promote change in the community's defecating habits and get all the households to build and use a toilet. The 'Grupú Mudansa' was born! Plan and partners helped the Grupú Mudansa develop simple toilet designs for their households.

Post-Triggering

The Grupú Mudansa organised themselves into a structure including a chairman, vice-chairman, secretary and treasurer, then set about achieving Open Defecation Free (ODF) status. The group vice chairman,



Monitoring ODF progress with Grupú Mudansa

Joaquim Martins, stated: 'After the triggering exercise nine motivated young people emerged and we created the Grupú Mudansa with the aim of stopping open defecation in the community. We created a plan of action and started the construction of simple toilets for our own households, then we shared our experience and gave motivation to other community members to build toilets.'

The group used a community map created during the triggering exercise to monitor progress and provide further motivation. Joana de Araujo, the group secretary, said 'Using the map created by the community at the triggering exercise, each month



Triggering CLTS in Leubraudo Community

we walked to each household to update their status. For the households that had completed toilets we marked this up; if the household had not yet built a toilet we marked this also. The map was displayed to show all community members and children household progress. This monitoring process gave great motivation to the community households.'

The group met with households that were slow to build toilets to discuss what the issues were. Filipe Borges from the group said: 'Three of the households in the community are headed by older widows. These households did not have the resources or strength to build their own toilet. So we got together to support them to build their own toilet.'

Grazilda Pintu stated that: 'For stubborn householders we reminded them that open defecation was effecting the whole community and that we wanted to hold a big ODF celebration where the government and surrounding communities would come visit us.'

Open Defecation Free

According to the group, all the households in the community had built a toilet and were using it by the end of March 2010. Cristovao Leve from the community said: 'It was important to have the support of the village chief for the process. After we had all completed building toilets we wanted to let people know about our commitment and wanted to hold a celebration to show other communities that Leubraudo community is Open Defecation Free.'

Plan and its partner NGO Bia Hula arranged for an official external monitoring visit for verification of the Open Defecation Free Status. An inspection was arranged with the District Health Service. The inspection group

interviewed people from the community, inspected all the toilets, looking for cobwebs over the drop holes and making sure they were being used. Previous favourite open defecation sites were visited to make sure they were not being used. The inspectors were impressed with the latrine construction and sanitation of the community and rewarded the community effort by declaring Leubraudo ODF.

An ODF celebration was then held on 15 April 2010. This was attended by local leaders, national government representatives and neighbouring community members. The celebration included a drama and song by the community children, speeches, singing, a big lunch and climaxed with a community youth-organised disco.

Hermen Gildo, the Grupu Mudansa's leader stated: 'We used to defecate outside, because we didn't have toilets. It caused our community to be affected by diseases but now, since we have toilets, the disease is reduced'.

The Future

The Grupu Mudansa were supported by Plan to make a cross-visit to WaterAid-supported community groups selling toilet accessories in Timor-Leste. The Grupu Mudansa could then see the process of producing concrete pour-flush toilet pans, which are sold on to community members or outsiders who want to upgrade their toilets.

Plan and its partner NGO Bia Hula have supported the Grupu Mudansa to develop their own sanitation accessory production and marketing plan and are assisting them with training in the production of sanitation accessories and business management skills. Considering their limited access to water



Grupu Mudansa installing the ODF sign for the community

the Grupu Mudansa hopes to start selling dry-pit latrine related toilet accessories at affordable prices so community members can upgrade their simple pit latrines and start to improve their toilets incrementally. Plan would also like to engage the Grupu Mudansa for the CLTS triggering of other communities in the future.

Main lessons learned

- It was very effective to use the community developed map as a monitoring and motivating tool.
- It is important to engage societal leaders, in this case the village chief and other community leaders.
- It is important to follow-up with the community group after the Open Defecation Free status has been declared in order for the status to be sustained and households to continue to use and upgrade their toilets.

Plan Timor-Leste's Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Program is supported by Plan Australia and the Australian Government's Overseas Aid Program.

Alex Grumbley & Carlos Da Costa (Alex.Grumbley@plan-international.org), WASH Program, Plan Timor-Leste.



Running water uphill *Prize winning story in the Source contest 2010 in this issue*



Water fetching before the ram pump was installed

Many upland communities in the world have problems in accessing sources of water. However, springs, streams and rivers can often be found below the villages. Elevation differences between source and the village result in small volumes (often only a few gallons) of water available. In the Philippines, where our local NGO called Alternative Indigenous Development Foundation, Inc. (AIDFI) is based, this is not different. In many instances villagers have to go down 100 meters to fetch water. This leads to many problems: time is spent fetching water, kids stay absent

from school, there are many skin diseases and diarrhoea cases, elder people pay for the fetching of water, hardly any livestock, vegetable growing only during rainy season etc. In Caliban, a sitio of Murcia, Merly Alojado, a beneficiary of the ram pump said that water before was like gold for them, very difficult to get.

There are many kinds of pumps: electric, fuel, solar, wind and manually operated. To make the supply of water to the villages or farms sustainable, we have to look at the appropriateness of each pump. All have

advantages or disadvantages. But as long as there is free flowing water, the hydraulic ram pump outdoes all. The ram pump is a device that utilizes the energy contained in a flow of water and that pushes a portion of that water to very high elevations. For every meter of fall, the ram can push the water 30 times higher. The ram operates automatically 24 hours a day and has very simple spare parts. Operation, repair and maintenance can be done locally after training in the technology.

The ram pump is an existing technology and in fact has existed for over two hundred years, but despite the unbelievable principle, it never spread. The reason for that is wrong timing in history: interest was only in big machines made possible because of cheap fuel and electricity. Therefore, there are only antique models available which are hard to find, expensive to buy and the alternative models developed by Universities and Appropriate Technologies, which are prone to high maintenance and repair and limited in capacity.

AIDFI is a local NGO which was founded in 1991 by a group of people who worked in the socio economic programme of a labour union. These people had experience with the new agrarian reform programme. AIDFI realized that there was a lack of most basic needs in the rural communities. Since the author was part of the group and had previous experience with hydraulic ram pumps, this technology was incorporated in the programme together with other pumps, latrines and small hydro power.

In a small rented bodega with a few basic tools and equipments, two technicians from AIDFI started working on a ram model from fittings. Modifications and field experiments were alternated. The guiding principle in developing a working model came from Antione de Sainte: "A designer knows when he has reached perfection not when there is nothing left to add but when there is nothing left to take away." The model went through a few major changes.



Ram pump a wonderful machine

The model now is based on local spare parts and is in several ways unique: the waste valve set-up is without any gasket, the moving part is the door hinge, is fabricated piece by piece and comes in many sizes. In terms of cost, the AIDFI model is in between the expensive imported models and the Appropriate Technology (AT) models. It is durable, easy in operation, repair and maintenance, very efficient and cheap. After having perfected the model, AIDFI staff developed a programme around the ram technology in the communities: social preparation works, involving the villagers in the actual construction, setting up water associations, training local technicians and some watershed activities.

Tremendous benefits

The benefits are tremendous even though how small scale. Kids no longer have to fetch water before school, old people no



longer pay for fetching water, skin diseases are disappearing, diarrhoea cases are becoming less, households have now extra water for vegetable growing, livestock and aquaculture. In the case of agriculture, extra crops are possible and therefore give a higher income. In many cases the water association is the first form of organisation and helps further empowerment of the community. Lina Hilado, a 40-year-old beneficiary of a ram system in Barangay Buenavista described the benefits as follows: "When the water project was put up in our place, our situation started changing. Now we can drink limitless, wash laundry and washes oneself anytime we want.... this reduced my children's skin problems.... For the first time also my heavily darkened cooking pots have been whitened and more important to me is that water has helped in expanding my vegetable gardening and my income."

Interest in the ram technology started increasing and AIDFI set up and trained several installation teams on other islands. These teams acquire the ram pump from AIDFI and fabricate, construct and install the rest themselves.

After having perfected the technology and the approach AIDFI thought that it was high time to help the ram pump spread the world over. It started to participate in awards. In 2007 it got an Ashden Award from the hands of Al Gore, in 2008 it was a finalist in the Energy Globe, won a World Bank contest in the Philippines and in the same year AIDFI was personally invited by President Bill Clinton to Hong Kong. AIDFI is now a finalist in the BBC World Challenge 2010.

The international work of AIDFI on the technology increased. After doing three installations in Afghanistan, it trained three Afghans for 45 days in the Philippines. Back home they now have a special shop for the ram and are manufacturing and installing the AIDFI ram model (so far they have done 13 big systems). Also, AIDFI has done installations in Cambodia where it has an installation team. In Colombia, Nepal and Madagascar AT groups wants to acquire the AIDFI model. However, this kind of South-to-South technology transfer needs bigger funds.

Contact: Auke Idzenga, AID Foundation, e-mail: auke_idzenga@yahoo.com.



Take-away messages from young professionals after one-month training

After a one-month training at IRC the four young professionals from partner organisations in the PSO-supported Youth Zone Programme are now settling in with their receiving organisations in different countries. In their evaluation at the end of the training they gave IRC a few pointers on what they had learned and suggestions for improvements.

Things to remember

Here are things that the young professionals will remember and take away to their new partner organisation:

- Monitoring without any action is only reporting
- The elevator pitch for communication means finding your key message
- Monitoring is for learning
- Plan your articles and reports
- Always keep in mind your audience
- Warm up for a presentation – physically/mentally
- Dick de Jong's interesting stories – and personal dedication to the group
- Check – edit - revise edit.

Messages to IRC

We also asked them what messages they had for IRC. Here are the most important ones:

- I would like to recommend IRC to involve the young professionals in the ongoing activities of IRC (e.g. involve someone in proposal writing)
- Give more detailed sessions on individual areas of interest of young professionals

We are all story winners in this issue!

The Source story contest was launched in February 2010 and for a while – let's be honest – we did not hear much from you. But then the word spread and the idea took off. By 18 October 2010, 26 stories have been written and sent in and of those we have now published 14. Most of the stories complying with the requirements have been posted at the Voice from Community blog on <http://voiceofcommunities.wordpress.com/>. Stories selected by the Source editorial committee have also been published on the Source web site and in the paper versions of Source Bulletin.

Now the stories are coming in from many different countries of the world. You don't do it for the money – writers of the winning stories receive a symbolic reward of 50 Euros. We think that you do it for the same reason we asked for your stories – because this is the way people listen, and this is how people

- Please make the sessions more interactive
- I would recommend extra days – it will help us in the future placement. It could be just one extra week, as some sessions were rushed
- Have the sector learning come back at the end – (we've forgotten what was learned there)
- Give more skills sessions than content sessions (they are more practical – you learn something – you do something) then being lectured
- The programme should start with the process sessions
- Set clear outputs for the content sessions
- Do the writing skills course at the beginning.

Most impact

What had the most impact on the young professionals individually?

- The knowledge management tour through the Netherlands
- The two-day writing skills workshop; the facilitator made it very practical, she was very good and gentle; she used to be a teacher
- The value of good presentation skills; the quote "Kill PowerPoint presentations" mentioned by two facilitators is good food for thought.
- Communicating skills, examples and exercises.

learn. Blogs may be modern technology, but the idea of sharing lessons through stories is as old as time. And your stories are certainly being read – as you can see below from the steep increase in page visits.

Four stories out of 12 sent have been selected as winning stories for the English contest in this last issue of 2010; they are:

- Uganda: A rooster for payment of water fees, by Grace Orishaba, NETWAS, Uganda, (70 page views and 5 votes from readers),
- Running water uphill by Auke Idzenga, AID Foundation, the Philippines (137 page views and 37 votes),
- Youth motivate community to change their defecation practices, Timor (236 page views and 101 votes).
- Gender is also about men, with 475 page views winner of the popularity prize

*Community member in Hosanna with his latrine.
Photo from the story: My "SH" conversion in Ethiopia*

Partners in first Southern Youth Zone Programme

Bimala Khanal, Integrated Development Society Nepal (IDS Nepal), member organisation of Resource Centre Network Nepal is now for nine months at the Water and Sanitation Management Organisation (WASMO) in Gandhinagar, India.

Carlos Humberto Mejía Martínez, Fondo Hondureño de Inversión Social (FHIS), Tegucigalpa, Honduras, member organisation of the Red de Agua y Saneamiento de Honduras (RAS-HON) is now at the Instituto Cinara in Cali, Colombia.

Micheal Jonga, NETWAS Uganda, Luzira, Kampala, Uganda is now at the Resource Centre Network Ghana (RCN Ghana) in Accra, Ghana.

Ida Aba Coleman, Resource Centre Network Ghana (RCN Ghana) is now at NETWAS Uganda.

The partner organisations for the second round of south-south exchange will be selected at a later stage. The Youth Zone Programme builds on IRC's earlier Junior Professional Officer (JPO) exchange programme for young water and sanitation sector professionals from 2004 to 2006. That programme strengthened the capacities of 12 JPOs in generating and sharing knowledge: four from the IRC in the Netherlands and eight from partner resource centres.

Dick de Jong

The stories that won prizes earlier in the year are:

- Miss, may I go to the toilet (Sri Lanka),
- A project that improved my life, on participatory management (Cuba),
- Adapting to climate change by storing rainwater, (Morocco).

Caridad Machin Camacho, e-mail: camacho@irc.nl



Scaling out sanitation in Rawalpindi, Pakistan

Sewage is discharged to open drains in half the streets of Rawalpindi, the fifth largest city of Pakistan. Germs are carried into homes on hands and feet and by flies. Children suffer from at least four episodes of diarrhoea a year.

The black-water overflow in Street 8, Block A, Union Council 81 was typical. Its residents contacted the NGO, PIEDAR for assistance. Several meetings were held at the site office and at the Union Council (UC) and a committee of five was formed. PIEDAR (Pakistan Institute for Environment-Development Action Research) provided drawings and cost estimates, Concern Worldwide provided 80% of the funds for a demonstration project, and households raised the balance. The committee supervised the laying of the sewer and remain responsible for sewer operations.

Haji Gulfaraz, a resident of Street 8 says, "Before the sewer was laid, there were open drains on both sides of the street.

It was difficult to walk on the street. Plastic bags littered and blocked the drains, and wastewater overflowed into houses in the rainy season. We are thankful to PIEDAR for guiding us. Now our street is clean and looks beautiful to us. All people of the street are very happy".

As a result, neighbouring communities realized the importance and affordability of sewers and approached PIEDAR. They facilitated access to the UC. Several sewers have been laid with local government contribution.

One example is Street 10, Dhok Chaudrian, where residents held internal meetings and then met with the UC Mayor and formed a committee. PIEDAR was asked to provide the design and specifications. The cost for laying a sewer was estimated. The Mayor contributed 44% and the residents raised the balance.

Mrs. Jahangir of Street 10 remarks, "Sewerage has changed a miserable old

situation", while Mr. Mehmood Ali, another resident says, "I am living in this street for 25 years. It is the first time that people have participated in a developmental activity. We are thankful to PIEDAR for making it easy for us to work on the front lines with the Union Council".

The replication is a strong demonstration of a rights-based approach that has reduced the gap between communities and local government. The news of affordable sanitation has spread. More communities are demanding it. The experience suggests the need to demonstrate technical choices (sewers or slabs), processes (mobilizing, designing), outcomes (a clean street), and institutional arrangements (an empowered committee) for neighbouring communities. The catalytic agency must also be ready to facilitate citizen access to Union Councils, and seek champions among town and city district Mayors.

For more information, visit www.piedar.org.

Forum for Equity and Social Inclusion in the WASH sector held in Dar es Salaam

With support from WSSCC, a three-day learning forum took place in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, in September with representatives of civil society organisations from across the continent sharing experience on different approaches for equity and social inclusion in the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sector.

The conference was organised by the Nairobi-based African Civil Society Network

on Water and Sanitation (ANEW) and attended by around 80 delegates from African countries. In his opening address, Tanzania's Minister for Water and Irrigation, Prof. Mark Mwandosya, acknowledged the role played by civil society organisations in helping government efforts at ensuring that more people gain access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene.

"The government's role is to provide an enabling environment to different actors in provision of water supply and sanitation services," said the Minister. "This has given us an opportunity to involve all actors including communities, civil society organisations and private sector to supplement government efforts".

ANEW's Executive Secretary, Ms. Jamillah Mwanjisi, said civil society organisations play a pivotal role in finding innovative solutions to water and sanitation problems across Africa.

"We strongly believe that forums like this can be very effective in promoting contemporary and sustainable approaches to increase demand and supply for water and sanitation services," she said. "The learning forum provides an opportunity to explore and document the success stories and key challenges and draw lessons on what we can do better to meet the water and sanitation crisis in Africa."

About 22 case studies were presented and discussed in the forum to enable participants to draw key lessons on what has worked well and identify key challenges in promoting equitable access to water and sanitation. Participants in the forum noted that despite the fact that the United Nations recently declared access to safe water as a human right, many African countries are likely to miss the Millennium Development Goals on water.

For more information, please contact Jamillah Mwanjisi of ANEW at: jamillah@anewafrika.net.



Tanzania's Minister for Water and Irrigation, Prof. Mark Mwandosya.

News from the WSSCC Secretariat

Former Executive Director of UN-HABITAT, Professor Anna Tibaijuka, to Chair WSSCC

Professor Anna Tibaijuka, former Executive Director of UN-HABITAT, has been appointed as the new Chair of the WSSCC. She was elected by the WSSCC Steering Committee in October to succeed Dr Roberto Lenton, whose second and final term of office comes to an end in March 2011.

"We live in a world of unacceptable inequality," said Prof. Tibaijuka. "Two thirds of the world's population takes access to a toilet for granted. Yet a third of the people alive today – 2.6 billion individuals, most of them in Africa and South Asia – do not have access to basic sanitation, and 0.9 billion lack safe drinking water. I want to address this inequality."

In her role as Chair of WSSCC, Prof. Tibaijuka plans to draw on her experience and network of contacts in politics, business, academia and within the UN system, to raise awareness about the need for concerted action. Under her leadership, WSSCC intends to continue its current growth, notably in the Global Sanitation Fund, a programme of WSSCC, which supports sanitation work in many of the world's poorest countries.



Anna Tibaijuka, new chair of the WSSCC.

With "solidarity for sanitation" in mind, Nepal launches its Global Sanitation Fund programme with US\$ 5 million from WSSCC

Seated beneath a banner proclaiming "Solidarity for Sanitation," leading public officials and sanitation experts in Nepal launched the country's national Global Sanitation Fund (GSF) programme in October with a US\$ 5 million commitment from WSSCC.

Over the next five years, UN-HABITAT's Nepal office will manage the fund programme in the country, focusing work on grassroots activities that help large numbers of people get access to improved sanitation and hygiene. The programme concentrates on five districts and three "development regions" of the country. In those areas it has the potential to impact the lives of up to three million Nepalese living mostly or entirely without access to good sanitation, many of whom must resort to "open defecation" on the ground.



"The GSF will be instrumental in helping the government to implement its national Sanitation and Hygiene Master Plan, increase sanitation coverage and establish good governance in the sanitation sector," said Dr. Roshan Raj Shrestha, UN-HABITAT's Chief Technical Advisor for South Asia. "It will strengthen civil society groups, schools and the private sector to promote improved sanitation and hygiene in a sustainable manner."

For WSSCC, Nepal was the third Global Sanitation Fund country programme launch since March.

Umesh Pandey, WSSCC's coordinator in Nepal, was part of the multi-stakeholder effort to prepare the GSF for launch in Nepal.

The New Worldwide Web of WSSCC

WSSCC's website has recently undergone a massive transformation. The new and improved site offers better opportunities for WSSCC members, professionals and interested individuals to learn, network and advocate on behalf of sanitation, hygiene and water supply. Among the highlights are the direct entry into WSSCC's topic areas; a platform for WASH campaigning; enhanced country content; member-contributed success stories; a powerful, contextual search engine for the latest and greatest in sanitation, hygiene and water supply knowledge; and an experts database. Visit the new www.wsscc.org today!

IRC assists WASH policy development in Honduras

Water and sanitation coverage in Honduras has increased in recent decades, but there is evidence of failures in both quality and efficiency of water and sanitation services. Gaps in coverage still remain, particularly in rural areas where over a million people – half of whom are children – still lack access to safe water and sanitation.

The Framework Law on the Water and Sanitation Sector was adopted in 2003 with the aim of encouraging a process of sector reform and expanding water coverage, especially to improve the quality of urban and rural services and to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The Central Government approved a plan setting out the transfer of responsibilities from the national service provider, National Autonomous Service of Aqueducts and Sewerage Service (SANAA)], along with the ongoing decentralisation process, to municipalities.

But the regulations have not yet been fully developed. Decentralisation takes time in Honduras, a country in need

of an effective policy for financing the sector, built through multi-stakeholder consultation.

Luca Renda, deputy representative of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), commented on the need for sector dialogue to include the national policy level, noting that Honduras fully uses the water it has, and often experiences cyclical shortages and rationing.

In October 2010, the management of SANAA, representatives of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Joint Water and Sanitation Programme Council (Programa Conjunto) in Honduras and the IRC International Water and Sanitation together with the National Council on Water and Sanitation (CONASA) – responsible for formulating and adopting water sector policies – signed a 10-month agreement to design the National Policy on Water Supply and Sanitation, scheduled to be ready by the beginning of July 2011.

The Programa Conjunto has contributed nearly six million lempiras (€ 221,537) for the further development of local policy in the 13 Honduran municipalities with the lowest rating in the human development index (HDI).

Danilo Alvarado, managing director of SANAA, described the agreement as aimed at making a reality out of the different organisational and programmatic objectives set out in the Water and Sanitation sector, and asked for participation at all levels in its preparation.

Erma Uytewaal, from the IRC's Director's Office, stated: "The policy needs to be affordable, it should not become just another document, and for further development of the policy, different stakeholders need to be engaged and consulted."

Source: Elaboración estrategia para una Política Nacional de Agua Potable y Saneamiento, Hondudiaro.com, 10 October 2010 (<http://www.hondudiaro.com/1/content/elaboracion-estrategia-para-una-pol%C3%ADtica-nacional-de-agua-potable-y-saneamiento>).

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Strengthening knowledge management – an agreement between IRC and FHIS

IRC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at the end of August 2010 with the Honduran Social Investment Fund FHIS (Fondo Hondureño de Inversión Social). The objective is to strengthen knowledge management within FHIS, and on for FHIS to express its continued commitment to the CHRECIAS resource centre, which is part of RAS-HON (Red de Agua y Saneamiento Honduras), the Honduran water and sanitation network. IRC and FHIS have

developed a joint work plan until August 2011 to work towards these objectives.

Resource centre strengthening

Since its inception, FHIS has been making staff available part time to aid the establishment and development of the CHRECIAS resource centre, which in turn seeks higher levels of efficiency and effectiveness in project implementation, applying lessons from previous projects, avoiding duplication, replicating best practice, and implementing new concepts and knowledge.

As part of the activities for CHRECIAS, FHIS worked on:

- Conceptualisation of the resource centre itself, and the development of its main strategies.
- Systematisation of experiences in transparency, culminating in a set of guidelines that is now applied in projects of FHIS.
- Multiple use of water (MUS) – which FHIS has integrated into a pilot project (PIR) which seeks to include the productive use in the project cycle.

- Facilitating a focus group on sustainability, examining the achievements and challenges in improving the sustainability of water projects.

Make better use of institutional knowledge

The participation of FHIS in these activities led to the idea of applying knowledge management to the internal operations of the institution. As one of the key sector players, FHIS has extensive knowledge on the subject of WASH, and they feel they should make the best use of it.

For some years, IRC has been working in Honduras, as a focal point of IRC activities in Latin America. Since 2007 IRC has had an agreement with RAS-HON to work jointly on sector learning and knowledge management. IRC professionals have been providing methodological and conceptual inputs.

The MoU with FHIS, being one of the key members of RAS-HON, provides the possibility to expand this work.

Dick de Jong



Minister Nasry Asfura signing the MoU with IRC's Stef Smits. Photo: FHIS/Luis Cruz, 2010

"Stellar examples of media and communications strategies"

The side event "Striking WASH Communication" at the 2010 Stockholm World Water Week scored a good turnout, discussion and feedback - with six entertaining speed presentations.

The six were:

1. *Water Mascot in Yemen* (Behaviour change communications) by Michael Klingler, GTZ, Yemen
2. *Injecting glamour into water and sanitation* (Marketing) by Mark Charmer, Akvo, the Netherlands



Mark Chamber of Akvo, presenting the inspirationally-themed posters, two of them shown below.



3. *Total sanitation and sanitation marketing* (Marketing) by Christopher Walsh, WSP, Tanzania
4. *Communications for Transparency and Accountability* by Alexandra Malmqvist & Priya Behrens-Shah, Water Integrity Network WIN, Germany
5. *WASH UNITED* (Advocacy) by Virginia Roaf, WASH United
6. *Towards Effective Communication in the WASH Sector/Learning Alliance Model* (Information & knowledge sharing) by Brecht Mommen, SNV, and Brenda Achiro, NETWAS, Uganda

These and other new communication cases were put up on a WASH Communication blog launched in Stockholm (<http://washcommunication.blogspot.com>).

In the National Geographic blog (<http://blogs.nationalgeographic.com/blogs/news/chiefeditor/2010/09/world-water-week-best-design.html>), Tasha Eichenseher on 9 September said the session provided "stellar examples of media and communications strategies". She described the WaterCube as "Man-on-the-street journalism meets wonky water week".

The session was co-organised by IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre, Pr Audit, Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC).

Highlights from the discussion

From the discussions a number of key points emerged:

- Communicators often feel obliged to prove success of their activities.
- A baseline study would have to be conducted at the beginning of a communications programme, which requires additional funds.
- WSP has done this in Tanzania and could demonstrate success of their activities.
- Indicators for measuring impact need to be defined and agreed at an early stage.
- Communication impact measuring and monitoring was the main question discussed – and clearly remains a challenge.

Lasting impression on participants

We received many comments that it was a very good, lively and entertaining session.

Henk Holtslag said: "It was a great session, with very interesting short and lively cases presented. It also allowed time for discussion. For me it was the best session of the week. Next year the organisers should do more like this one."



This session also made the World Water Week Daily of September 9 on Page 4 with the headline: "Multi media changing the face of WASH. Advancements in communication and information sharing made a lasting impression on participants at the Striking WASH Communication side event", Akvo's Mark Charmer is pictured unveiling an "innovative poster approach".

Follow-up action

It is the organisers' intention to do the event again due to demand and interesting discussion, but make it longer in order to incorporate richer discussions and content. It will remain a presentation of quick and punchy striking stories of communication but perhaps also with a TED (Technology Entertainment and Design) like presentation (see TED - Ideas worth spreading at <http://www.ted.com/>). However, this is primarily meant to be a catalyst for better collaboration between WASH and communication professionals so discussion is central.

As far as immediate follow up goes, Pilar Gonzalez-Meyauvi organised a similar UN Water event (for water operators) at the IWA conference in Montreal and used a summary PowerPoint as background material for that event.

A smaller scale WaterCube and short films will be produced at national sector events in India and Ghana in the next few months.



The WaterCube and editing video's at the centre during the Stockholm Water Week. Photo Akvo.

Nieuws in Brief

Right to water and sanitation: finally declared legally binding in international law

The UN Human Rights Council has finally recognised the right to water and sanitation as legally binding in international law, in a landmark decision adopted on 30 September 2010. The UN affirmed by consensus that the right to water and sanitation is derived from the right to an adequate standard of living, as contained in several international human rights treaties. The Governments of Germany and Spain had tabled the resolution.

"In 160 countries in all regions of the world, governments can no longer deny their legal responsibility to ensure provision of safe water and sanitation services for the billions of poor people lacking access", said the Executive Secretary for Freshwater Action Network (FAN) Danielle Morley.

The affirmation comes after 120 countries voted in favour of a resolution recognising the fundamental right to water and sanitation at the UN General Assembly in New York on 28 July 2010, UN Resolution A/HRC/15/L.14 (<http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/notfound.html>).

Sanitation and Water for All partnership: first Steering Committee elected

Updated - Wednesday 03 November 2010

Eighteen institutions have been chosen to represent Sanitation and Water for All partnership constituencies. The Sanitation and Water for All partnership now has 59 members, drawn from developing countries, civil society organizations, donors, UN agencies and other sector partners. These partners have elected a Steering Committee, the decision-making body that represents the partnership's various constituencies.

The Steering Committee and Sanitation and Water for All's partners will lead the global movement to raise the profile of sanitation and water, increase political prioritisation, promote evidence-based decision-making and support strong national processes.

The Steering Committee includes representatives (serving in an institutional capacity and for inclusive representation of partner interests) from six constituency categories:

- Developing Countries – African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW), Ghana, Kenya, Pakistan, South Africa, and Uganda
- Donors – Netherlands (DGIS), Switzerland (SDC) and United Kingdom (DFID)
- Multilaterals – Center for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE) and Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC)

Continued on page 11

Sources Nouvelles helps French category winner – WASH Media Awards 2010

Koami François Amegnignon, a journalist at Radio Zephyr in Togo, is a winner in the WASH Media Awards 2010 – and the French language Source Nouvelles has helped him on his way.

Mr. Amegnignon won the French category of the WASH Media Awards 2010, organised by the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) and Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) in September.

François Amegnignon, who is also president of the Association of Environmental Journalists in Togo, has used articles from IRC's French newsletter Sources Nouvelles to find story ideas and keep up to date. He has been able to publish a range of articles and broadcast a number of radio programmes focusing on water supply and

sanitation. His award winning work includes a piece on a village suffering from acute water problems and another on a village experiencing sanitation problems and the related diseases.

More information

François features in a WSSCC video overview of all WASH Media Award 2010 prize winners (6.16 minutes) at You Tube (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zjc-a3-aO2M>). He also spoke about his work to Dick de Jong at the WaterCube in Stockholm (<http://watercube.blip.tv/file/4104342>). The Pulitzer Centre's video coverage of the WASH Media Award ceremony (22 minutes) can also be viewed on You Tube (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X-OVmn8EfTE>).

Dick de Jong

IRC and partners show 'Learning for change' in practice

IRC partners from Burkina Faso, Ghana, Uganda and Nepal demonstrated what they mean by learning for change during and after the Stockholm World Water Week in September 2010. Four National Knowledge Management Coordinators from CREPA in Burkina Faso, the Resource Centre Network in Ghana, UWASNET in Uganda, and the Resource Centre Network in Nepal were trained in making short videos and then enthusiastically joined with IRC at the Watercube, which produced daily videos from the conference. Working from the IRC 'learning for change' stand they produced between them 20 video clips – some of which can still be viewed at <http://www.irc.nl/page/54547>.

Resource centre lessons

The four IRC partners also participated in a workshop organised by IRC, SEI and WASTE on 11 and 12 September. The aim was to learn and share lessons from three resource centre support programmes that are coming to an end:

- the SEI managed supported knowledge nodes on ecological sanitation;
- the IRC managed Learning Alliance programme;
- the WASTE managed waste and marketing programme.

The Nepal and Uganda partners are involved in both the IRC and SEI programmes. This participatory workshop turned out to be a great opportunity for them to share lessons between the programmes and with the more general

waste sector, which they did through interview sessions and world café discussions.

Platform for sharing experience

Abu Wambei from RCN Ghana was asked what he considered to be his greatest achievement. "I am proud that we were able to influence water sector people to appreciate the value of our monthly shared experiences from the sector on key issues," he said. RCN Ghana is also co-initiator and contributor to the WASH media association that was launched in 2009. RCN Ghana organised occasional media workshops which enabled journalists to share key messages with the general public on water conservation and the importance of sanitation.

IRC's contribution to learning and sharing in Stockholm was part of a PSO funded programme 'Strengthening national capacities for better learning in the WASH sector'. IRC provides:

- organisation in skills training at IRC,
- support in documenting experiences,
- facilitation of a platform for continuous learning (Community of Practice),
- support to present experiences at international platforms,
- support for regional events for sector learning.

PSO is an association that consists of 60 Dutch development organisations. The association focuses on capacity development at civil society organisations in developing countries.

Dick de Jong

Nico Terra officially named new Director of IRC

The Supervisory Board of IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre has appointed Mr Nico Terra as the organisation's new Director commencing 1 September 2010.

Mr Terra brings a wealth of experience to the organisation having worked with professionals in the area of education and research and practised as a management consultant for more than 20 years. He has held several senior managerial positions during this time, the most recent being at IRC where as Interim Director he successfully led the organisation through a substantial change process during the past year.

Supported by a team of notable WASH sector specialists, Mr Terra will lead IRC as it continues to break new ground in the sector with its portfolio of innovative projects and programmes including: WASHCost, Triple-S and the Source News Service. "IRC has a critical role to play in this rapidly changing sector where knowledge sharing, partnership and relations are essential to helping those most in need of



water and sanitation services." said Mr Terra. He continued: "Together with the team of leading professionals here at IRC, I am confident that we will continue to produce targeted, high quality projects and programmes that will enable us to achieve this."

Mr Terra succeeds Ben Lamoree in the position of Director. Willem Horbach, currently director of finance at IRC will also hold the position of Deputy Director with immediate effect.

New programme staff at IRC

Christophe Nothomb: Triple-S project coordinator and Senior Programme Officer

Christophe Nothomb joined IRC in April 2010. Belgian by nationality, Christophe has been living in Maputo, Mozambique, for 10 years working as a project manager in particular for FIPAG, the institution responsible for asset and investment management of 14 urban water systems in Mozambique. He also worked for MSF Belgium.

Amélie Dubé: project officer for West Africa, Africa team

Amélie Dubé started working for IRC as a project officer for West Africa in March 2010. Amélie is Canadian and a native French speaker, as well as speaking English and Spanish. Amélie has a BSc in Urban Planning and an MSc in Environmental Health from the University of Montreal, Canada, where she was studying project management before accepting this position at IRC. She was also working in Montreal as an Area Coordinator for Water, Soils and Underground Water at RESEAU environnement, the network that brings together environmental scientists, business people, municipalities and industries in Quebec to ensure sustainable development. Amélie also worked at CREPA in Burkina

Faso as a Monitoring and Evaluation Officer from 2008 until 2009.

Valérie Bey: Programme Officer, Africa Team

Valérie Bey started working at IRC at the beginning of June 2010 as Programme Officer for East Africa. She has an MSc in Water Supply, Sanitation and Environmental Engineering, an MSc in Engineering for Development and an MA in Social & Cultural Anthropology. She has worked in Malawi for 3 years and also in Germany as a water and sanitation engineer.

Kristof Bostoan: Programme Officer, South Asia & Latin America Team

Kristof Bostoan has been working already for a while as a Programme Officer (with impact assessment skills) in the WASHCost team. Kristof worked earlier for WASHCost as a consultant. He is working three days a week for IRC. Kristof worked for MSF Belgium, drilling boreholes and commissioning water treatment plants in Southern Sudan and provided water and waste facilities for refugees in Albania and Kosovo. For ICRC he was involved in rehabilitating boreholes in Somalia and the development of cholera activities in major towns like the capital Mogadishu.

Continues from p. 10

- Development Banks – African Development Bank
- Civil Society – African Civil Society Network (ANEW), End Water Poverty (EWP) and Freshwater Action Network South Asia (FANSA);
- Sector Partners – International Water Association (IWA) and WaterAid.

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has been selected to host the Secretariat supporting the partnership, and will hold an ex officio seat on the Steering Committee.

The inaugural meeting of the Steering Committee took place in Stockholm on the 7th of September 2010 during World Water Week, the annual gathering of the global water community. The Partnership also sponsored two events at Water Week: a Sanitation and Water for All Side Event highlighting progress of the partnership, and, jointly with the EU Water Initiative Africa Working Group, a seminar entitled "Aid Effectiveness in the Water and Sanitation Sector."

Uganda: President Museveni warns against high public toilet fees

President Yoweri Museveni has described the practice of overcharging by operators of public toilets and markets as "parasitism". "Instead of developing common facilities in markets, business people make huge money out of people defecating. For somebody to use a toilet in Nakawa market, he must pay sh200 [9 US dollar cents]. This is not acceptable," he stressed. Museveni was speaking at the opening of the second national conference of his National Resistance Movement (NRM) party on 11 September 2010.

Running public toilets in towns has become a gold mine, especially in the capital Kampala. Kampala City Council estimates that there are over 2,550 users of public toilets per day.

According to a recent survey by the Saturday Vision newspaper, public toilet operators in Nakasero market and the Old Taxi Park, for instance, charge sh500 [22 US dollar cents] for bathing, sh200 [9 US dollar cents] for ablution, sh300 [13 US dollar cents] for "long calls" and sh200 [9 US dollar cents] for "short calls". The survey revealed that an operator can make at least sh12,000 per hour [US\$ 5.26] just from one item.

Source: New Vision (<http://www.newvision.co.ug/D/8/13/731972>), 14 September 2010

Smart Hygiene Solutions

Smart Hygiene Solutions is written for those who seek to help break the cycle of disease transmission by improving the hygiene conditions of communities and households in developing countries. This booklet aims to assist them in developing smart hygiene promotion interventions by offering an overview of different approaches and tools that intend to improve hygiene behaviours and environmental conditions.

Like the previous 'smart' booklets – on water, sanitation, water harvesting, finance and disinfection - it is not written as a manual, but aims to provide the reader with useful links for further reading. The first part of the booklet provides an introduction on the importance of hygiene and the concept of hygiene promotion. The next part describes several hygiene promotion methods, and highlights cases in which these methods have been used.

New publications

Moriarty, P. ... et al. (2010). *Ladders for assessing and costing water service delivery*. (WASHCost working paper; no. 2). The Hague, The Netherlands, IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre

This working paper introduces the concept of service levels, grouped as if rungs on a ladder, as a way of differentiating between broad and recognisable types (levels) of service. By developing this metaphor, it provides a structure to analyse the data being collected in different countries and settings, not just in terms of the technologies being used, but in terms of the domestic water services being received.

Free download from <http://www.washcost.info/page/753>. People without access to the web can contact IRC.

WaterAid Australia; International WaterCentre and IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre. (2010). *Sharing experiences : effective hygiene promotion in South-East Asia and the Pacific*. Mitcham, Vic., Australia, Water Aid Australia ; Brisbane, Qld, Australia, International WaterCentre (IWC) and The Hague, The Netherlands, IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre. - ISBN 9781921499036. - 74 p. : boxes, fig. fotogr., tab. - Includes references.

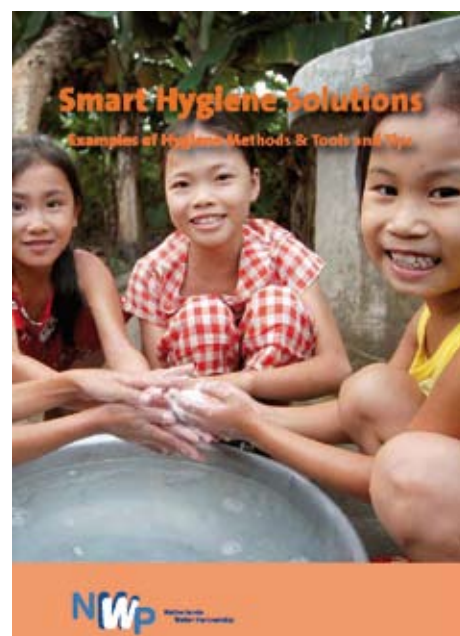
The objective of this publication is to strengthen the capacity of organisations in Australia, South-East Asia and the Pacific to design and deliver effective hygiene promotion programs leading to the improved health of communities. It is being disseminated in conjunction with learning workshops both in Australia and the two target regions, so that the key findings can be shared widely among WASH and public health practitioners. The question is: What makes hygiene promotion work? The search for answers is guided in the following pages by two keynote papers and 11 project case studies, intended to provide

The final section of the booklet describes some smart tools and tips that facilitate good hygiene behaviour.

This publication is the result of a collaborative effort by: Netherlands Water Partnership, Aqua for All, Plan Nederland and IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre with contributions from Simavi, AMREF Flying Doctors, UNICEF and Unilever.

Downloadable free of charge at <http://www.irc.nl/page/55200>

The paper version is available at Euro 15.00, with discounts for larger quantities from: KIT Publishers, P.O. Box 95001, 1090 HA Amsterdam, The Netherlands. For IRC partners special prices apply.



a wide range of information, in some depth, about hygiene promotion. Each of the case studies examines hygiene promotion from its own perspective, ranging from large national campaigns to remote island communities. The majority of case studies describe experiences in the Pacific and South-East Asia, while a few highlight different approaches and issues from other regions. All case studies offer practical learnings and tools. This publication illustrates what has been done, what has worked and what has not, and what we have learnt.

Free Download document or individual chapters from <http://www.wateraidcommunity.org.au/hygienebook>

Mexico: safe use of wastewater in agriculture offers multiple benefits

Recycling urban wastewater and using it to grow food crops can help mitigate water scarcity problems and reduce water pollution, but the practice is not being as widely implemented as it should, according to a new UN food and agriculture organization (FAO) report [1].

FAO has called for governments to increase the amount of treated wastewater being used

for irrigation purposes as this will reduce costs for farmers and cities and improve water quality.

The FAO report used case studies from Spain and Mexico to test methodologies for cost-benefit and cost-effective analyses of wastewater reuse projects.

"The case studies in this report show that safely harnessing wastewater for food production can offer a way to mitigate competition between cities and agriculture for water in regions of growing water scarcity," said Pasquale Steduto, Deputy Director of FAO's Land and Water Division. "In the right settings, it can also help to deal with urban wastewater effluent and downstream pollution."

[1] Winpenny, J. ... [et al.] (2010). The wealth of waste : the economics of wastewater use in agriculture. (FAO water reports ; 35). Rome, Italy, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). xv, 129 p. Download full report from <http://www.fao.org/docrep/012/i1629e/i1629e00.htm>

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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