

Siddhipur community constructs eco-friendly future

Siddhipur, a sleepy town outside the bustling city of Kathmandu is full of excitement. People are digging drains, laying down pipes, building ecological toilets and -most important- crafting their own future. This peri-urban settlement, with just over 6,000 people in 1,308 households, is converting itself into a model eco-community that demonstrates a sustainable and eco-friendly water supply and sanitation system.

The old water system was able to meet less than half the total demand for water and, because of the poor quality, many people, especially children, suffered from water-borne diseases. For ten years, Siddhipur residents knocked on many doors at the Department of Water Supply and Sewerage (DWSS) and District Development Committee to get their system fixed. Now, they have decided to do it on their own, with a little help. The help comes from UN HABITAT Water for Asian Cities Programme (WAC), a local NGO Environment and Public Health Organization (ENPHO), and Water Aid Nepal.

Fast-track approach

The Siddhipur Integrated Water and Sanitation Programme was launched in

September 2005 with support from WAC to demonstrate a fast track approach to community-based water and sanitation. The programme includes a water supply with treatment, improved sanitation, solid waste management and capacity building.

In order to ensure that the system is pro-poor and sustainable, a tariff system has been designed with different rates for private and community taps. The project was prepared with a detailed analysis of the current situation, including gender assessment and poverty mapping, and preparation of technical designs. The local Water and Sanitation User Committee led the project implementation and the community has been actively involved throughout and will be fully responsible for operation and maintenance.

So far, local people have completed construction of the new intake at the Godavari river, laid down the pipe network for transmission and distribution of water, and started constructing the treatment system consisting of tube settlers, slow sand filters and a chlorination unit. Siddhipur residents are also building ecosan toilets that collect faeces and urine separately and starting to recycle them as organic fertilizer. Siddhipur



One of the 100 ecosan toilets, Photo: Dick de Jong, IRC

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New partners, new lay out

This issue brings exciting new content and a smart new design. Cap-Net reports on how its network builds capacity for IWRM internationally, while the Gender and Water Alliance continues to raise gender awareness in the sector. As a result, Source Bulletin has expanded to 12 pages. We have also introduced a more modern, cleaner layout.

These improvements were suggested in our 2006 survey of Source Bulletin and other publications. In response, we are also teaming up with partners to deliver focused newsletters in particular sub regions.

Now you know we are listening, your reaction to the new layout and improved content are especially welcome.

Dick de Jong, Editor



now has more than 100 ecosan toilets, including a few indoor ones, about 150 home composting systems and a plastic waste collection system. Work is under way to construct community toilets and communal septic tanks for people who do not have enough space in their houses or who cannot afford a private toilet. The community also plans to purchase a septic tank sludge cleaning unit to provide a local faecal sludge management service at an affordable price. The sludge will be taken to a treatment facility in Kathmandu for treatment.

Local commitment

When WAC expressed its intention to offer support, Siddhipur residents demonstrated their commitment to

public participation, local ownership and environment quality. They formed a User Group, wrote to DWSS to hand back the old system and purchased a piece of land on which to establish a water treatment facility.

The 11 members of the Siddhipur Water and Sanitation User Committee include three women, one of whom is vice chairperson, and representatives from all major political parties, traditional *guthis* (socio-religious associations) and the Village Development Committee (VDC). For the past year, the group has been meeting twice a week to discuss progress and plan future activities. Members keep local communities informed about progress and address concerns. Within a

week of being offered the opportunity, more than 900 people submitted applications for private water connections, a clear indication of the popularity and reach of the programme. The Committee is raising funds locally for the water supply system (about US\$ 75 per household) and encouraging people to construct toilets.

School children are also involved. Nature clubs have been formed in the local schools and the students spread messages on hygiene and sanitation through street plays, rallies and competitions. UN-HABITAT is now joining hands with Water Aid Nepal and other partners, including local government, to replicate this model in other communities in Nepal.

UN-HABITAT/ Dick de Jong

Water wins the celebrity Oscar – sanitation stuck on the B-list

Celebrities and international companies have been giving their time and money for clean water, reflecting a growing understanding of its importance in alleviating ill health, early death and poverty.

However, while water is winning the Oscars and being invited to A-list parties, sanitation retains its strictly B-list status.

The latest big name into the field is something of an exception because the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in 2006 gave US\$ 48 million worth in grants which include sanitation and hygiene as well as water. This sector could become a regular part of the Gates' long-term programme. "We are making limited and focused grants to help us understand if there are effective, sustainable, and practical

opportunities for a longer term initiative in this area," says the foundation.

The four programmes Gates funded in 2006 are:

- US\$ 17 million (EUR 13.1 million) for PATH to identify low-cost consumer products that can treat and store water in the home and to develop a commercial market.
- US\$ 16.65 million (EUR 12.9 million) over 40 months to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to improve and protect the health of poor rural and urban families living in developing countries by promoting handwashing.
- US\$ 9.5 million (EUR 7.3 million) to fund a five-year CARE programme in Kenya's Nyanza Province to improve access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene for school children.
- US\$ 1.85 million (EUR 1.4 million) to the University of California at Berkeley for a three year programme to generate and disseminate rigorous evidence from randomised evaluations on what works in rural water in developing countries.

Water rocks... sanitation stumbles

Over the past 18 months, our electronic Source Weekly newsletter has published 13 news items about celebrities, philanthropists and companies campaigning and raising money for water programmes. Sanitation and hygiene have a much lower profile. Here are a few examples of celebrity involvement:

- One Drop, the philanthropic foundation of Guy Laliberté, owner of the Cirque du Soleil launched a

campaign to accumulate 100 million dollars in two years to improve drinking water in selected communities in the developing world and to create gardens, sources of food and income.

- Billionaire financier and global philanthropist George Soros dedicated US\$ 50 million (EUR 39.7 million) over five years to the Millennium Villages project in Africa. His donation is being matched by other donors to bring in US\$ 100 million (EUR 79.4 million).
- Rock star Jay-Z launched a diary with three Water for Life videos on MTV, as part of Break the Addiction, MTV's year-long campaign to engage young people to help reduce global warming, which has exacerbated the world's water crisis.
- Andrew Liveris, chairman and CEO of The Dow Chemical Company announced at the UN a commitment to develop new technologies and solutions for safe and sustainable water supplies for communities around the world.
- The Coca-Cola Company joined in partnership with the UN Foundation on post-tsunami water and sanitation reconstruction – and has been selected as a finalist for the US Chamber of Commerce's Partnership Award. The partnership has a focus on community-based water and sanitation needs and is making progress in Indonesia, the Maldives, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.
- During the 2006 Wimbledon tennis championships, veteran South African tennis player, Johan Kriek, launched the Global Water Foundation (GWF). Tennis legends John McEnroe, Martina



One of the ads from UNDP Water Alert Campaign, see page 3

Navratilova and Jim Courier, and Olympic swimmers Aaron Peirsol, Janet Evans, Kate Ziegler and Tara Kirk have pledged to act as Clean Water Ambassadors for GWF.

- Starbucks and PepsiCo signed a distribution agreement to increase distribution of its 'social brand' Ethos water to retail stores in the U.S. and Canada, making a US\$ 0.05 (EUR 0.04) donation for each bottle sold. Starbucks has set a goal of raising at least US\$ 10 million (EUR 8 million) by the end of 2010 to help children and their communities around the world get clean drinking water.
- With blessing from Kofi Annan, former US President Bill Clinton secured a pledge from charity World Vision to spend US\$ 20 million (EUR 16.7 million) over five years to bring clean

water to half a million people in Ghana, Mali, Niger and Ethiopia.

- Hollywood Actress and UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador, Angelina Jolie, joined Dr. Jeffrey Sachs, Director of The Earth Institute, for a MTV special on a trip to Kenya to deal with issues of poverty and to inspire young people to take action.
- Simavi Netherlands ambassador, TV star Sylvana Simons, promotes health, water and women in Africa and Asia. Another Simavi ambassador, violinist Janine Jansen, gave a fund-raising concert in Amsterdam, to improve health in rural villages in Bihar, India.

Although some of these initiatives have an environmental element, sanitation is the forgotten orphan from most benefactors. Celebrities, philanthropists and companies

must do better this year if they want to stay on the red carpet for 2008, which the UN General Assembly has declared to be International Year of Sanitation.

They could note the approach of young Ugandan singer Bobi Wine who has penned a song identifying poor hygiene as a social vice. He appeals to his fellow Ugandans: "Do not litter the roads with *buveera* (polythene bags); please construct a pit latrine; do not dump human waste in drainage channels..."

From Bollywood to Hollywood, it's time to give hygiene and sanitation star billing with water.

Ads multiply impact on water divide – minus the bill

If a picture is worth a thousand words, then the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) hopes these four pictures will have a great deal to say to tens of thousands of people worldwide. In this edition we publish three ads designed without charge by the Milan-based agency Publicis in support of the UNDP Water Alert Campaign promoting universal access to safe drinking water and sanitation.

UNDP and Publicis launched the campaign in conjunction with the 2006 Human Development Report. The ads consist of punchy and provocative statements which convey some of the hard truths about people's lack of access to water.

Newspapers and magazines in "rich" countries are invited to join the water challenge by publishing the four ads free of charge. That way the water message will get across without a water bill being presented.

To download the ads from UNDP in English, French, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese or German, go to <http://www.undp.org/wateralert/ads>

For more information on the Water Alert Campaign, please contact:

Aziyadé Poltier-Mutal, UNDP, Geneva, e-mail: aziyade.poltier@undp.org

Rositsa Todorova, UNDP Communications Office, New York, e-mail: rositsa.todorova@undp.org



Water Demand Management means greater use efficiency

David B. Brooks, of Friends of the Earth Canada proposes an operational definition of water demand management, to draw out the possible methods of saving water. His definition presents five water saving components, which are complementary, rather than alternatives:

1. reducing the quantity or quality of water required to accomplish a specific task;
2. adjusting the nature of the task so it can be accomplished with less water or lower quality water;
3. reducing losses in movement from source through use to disposal;
4. shifting time of use to off-peak periods; and

5. increasing the ability of the system to operate during droughts.

By detailing the options, this definition permits the source of the saving to be tracked. Brooks says that it is applicable to nations at different stages of economic development, and shows how greater water use efficiency is linked to the goals of equity, environmental protection and public participation. Taken together, these approaches make water demand management less a set of techniques and more like a concept of governance.

Source: *International Journal of Water Resources Development*, Publisher: Routledge, part of the Taylor & Francis Group, Issue: Volume 22, Number 4, December 2006, pages: 521 - 528



Source Bulletin by e-mail

If you have e-mail access we invite you to subscribe to our electronic by-weekly Source news service. This will also bring you each quarter the features of this Bulletin.

To subscribe: see colophon on page 12.

Maharashtra: Women's water project transforms village (and may be a cure for baldness!)

The bald spot on the heads of many men and women in Nagdarwadi was a kind of identification mark caused by carrying water pots on their heads.

Rukminibai, one of the women from this village in the Nanded district of Maharashtra state, India, recalls: "Before the completion of the water supply scheme, we had to fetch water on our heads from a distance of over three kilometres." Daily baths were a luxury and many people lost wages because of the time they needed to collect water.

Now the situation in Nagdarwadi, a typical Indian village with 45 families and about 600 residents, has been transformed, as a result of a drinking water scheme, planned, supervised and run by the women of this village.

They did this with the support of Sanskriti Samvardhan Mandal (SSM), a voluntary organisation that works to empower the rural community and women in particular. It has a watershed development programme aimed at conserving and developing natural resources in a sustainable way. The technology used is simple and sustainable and follows a 'ridge to valley approach'. Specific goals are to:

- reduce the rate at which rainwater flows away from the area;
- raise the groundwater levels (and recharge defunct wells); and
- reforest the area.

In consultation with Nagdarwadi village, a watershed development plan was made and priorities were identified, putting drinking water on top of the list. In 2000 a watershed project began, aiming to provide Nagdarwadi with a reliable supply of water, and by June 2002 the village had a year round supply of clean drinking water.

Enthusiastic women self-help groups

Before the project could begin, the community had to demonstrate that they could work together, plan, implement and sustain the watershed programme. SSM established a village watershed committee and women self-help groups of 10-15 women to monitor and sustain the programme in Nagdarwadi. SSM provided training programmes on technical and social issues for the self-help groups and village watershed committee. Today, the self-help groups meet every month to discuss social issues and problems. They maintain accounts, minutes and other documents.

The village was clearly cohesive and the village watershed committee took up its role with enthusiasm. The women play an active, leadership role, in itself a great achievement for a rural community. The villagers belong to the low-cast Banjara ethnic group, who have traditionally been

migrant agricultural labourers with women occupying a rather subservient role.

The programme has developed solidarity and leadership qualities, leading to considerable changes in behaviour and mindset, and resulting in the women's groups taking up the challenge of

achieving a drinking water supply for the village.

Bank loan

The women conducted a Gram Sabha (Village Assembly), suggesting the construction of a community well. After a technical survey, the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) granted the women a loan of Rs. 500,000 (approx € 8,700) to cover digging the well, a motor pump set, an electric connection, pipelines, valves, distribution tanks and internal pipes. The women started the construction of the well, laid main and internal distribution pipelines, storage tanks, home connections, etc., and at the same time asked for an electric connection. They formed sub-groups to accelerate the project.

The water supply scheme was inaugurated officially in a village assembly, where the women assured villagers that the self-help group would maintain the scheme as they have sufficient technical know-how to run and sustain it. They have appointed an operator and are able to resolve social or technical problems which occur occasionally. The assembly also decided to collect Rs. 15 (EUR 0.25) per household per month towards maintenance.

The project has built confidence and understanding and has developed a vision among the women. There is enough safe drinking water, and people have become aware of links between health, sanitation and water-borne diseases. As water is abundant, the male villagers started an irrigation project, considerably increasing village income. This has led to higher spending on health and education for the children. Only time will tell if it is also a cure for baldness!

Pramod Deshmukh, Director, Sanskriti Samvardhan Mandal, Sharadanagar, SAGROLI- 431 731, Dist. Nanded, India, e-mail : deshpramod@gmail.com, cell : + 91 (0)9823989997, website : www.ssmandal.net, See also: www.equitablewater.com.



Photo: Mr. Ramesh Fonseca, President of Equitable Water, London

Gender and water: how to engineer a common language ? Partnership between Both ENDS, Comprehensive Assessment and GWA

"You gender people talk among yourselves in a language that is mutually acceptable but extremely difficult for 'outsiders' to cope with. "

"A huge attitudinal shift is called for – so that it becomes integral for the various water and agricultural specialists to understand that their work will and can affect gender-inequality. "

These are some quotes from an email discussion on gender mainstreaming in water management, facilitated by the Comprehensive Assessment of Water Management in Agriculture (CA)¹. The discussion, in which we set out to analyse why it proves so difficult to mainstream gender in water management, was part of a joint project by GWA, CA and Both ENDS, funded by OXFAM Novib. In addition, they developed a 'minimum agenda' that provides practical and realistic recommendations to practitioners, policy makers, researchers and gender specialists working in water and agriculture, to address gender differences and inequities genuinely and effectively in policy, research and in the field.

In addition to the e-discussion, a survey was held with water-engineers and water-managers on the use and practicality of gender manuals and guidelines, a workshop with gender and water specialists was held, the CA chapters were scrutinised from a gender perspective, and a draft minimum agenda was presented during the 4th World Water Forum. The final results have recently been summarised (with the help of Dr Margreet Zwarteveen) and published in the Both ENDS Working Paper Series: Effective gender mainstreaming in water management for sustainable livelihoods: From guidelines to practice (December 2006).

One of the conclusions is that although there are many guidelines and manuals on how to mainstream gender in the water sector, they are not often easily accessible or applicable to the specific context, since

they are often written in general terms or not available in local languages.

However, many water professionals and policy makers still believe that gender has little to do with their work, or see it as a separate concern which is the responsibility of gender experts. Interestingly, those working closest to water users generally have practical and hands-on gender awareness, while water professionals working in national and international research institutes and government bureaucracies often find it more difficult to understand the linkages between gender and water.

Another important conclusion is well reflected by the "you talk among yourselves" quote, above. There are many communication barriers still to overcome, not only between practitioners in the field and those at higher policy levels, but also between water and gender specialists.

Gender experts sometimes feel that water experts do not invest time to understand how social relations and gender inequalities impact on their work, and vice versa. Water experts, on the other hand, feel that gender specialists do not provide them with the concrete steps they need to mainstream gender issues. Others find the language and format used by gender experts difficult to work with. Clearly, continuous dialogue is needed to come to a more 'common language' and learn from and support each other.

To ensure that gender is effectively addressed in the water sector, researchers, policy makers, practitioners and gender specialists each have to take their own

From the GWA Secretariat

Get ready to vote

We have received positive responses to the previous Source Bulletin – and we are pleased to see that Cap-Net has also joined the newsletter.

The time has come again to elect four new Steering Committee members. GWA members who do not receive an e-mail about the election by the beginning of April calling on you to vote, please send us your current e-mail address.

In the meantime, we have held three regional Planning Workshops, one each for the Arab region, for South Asia and for Francophone West and Central Africa. Soon the Lusophone workshop will take place in Brazil, and we plan a Training of Trainers workshop in Gujarat in April.

For more recent news and details see our website www.genderandwater.org.

Please do send us your feedback!

Joke Muylwijk, Executive Director GWA

responsibility – and make serious attempts to address and make use of differences between men and women of various backgrounds. The minimum agenda presented by this project provides some first concrete steps for each of us to take.

For free copies of the working paper 'Effective gender mainstreaming in water management for sustainable livelihoods: From guidelines to practice' please contact Annelieke Douma (ad@bothends.org) or Joke Muylwijk (jokemuylwijk@chello.nl) or refer to: www.bothends.org, www.genderandwater.org, or www.iwmi.cgiar.org/assessment. It is also possible to request a CD-ROM with background material as well as the report in five languages (English, French, Spanish, Arabic, and Portuguese).

¹ The Comprehensive Assessment of Water Management in Agriculture (CA) is a five year process, run by IWMI, aimed at identifying existing knowledge and stimulating thought on ways to manage water resources over the next 50 years. The final synthesis report (300-pages) is entitled *Water for Food, Water for Life: the Comprehensive Assessment of Water Management in Agriculture*. More information from <http://www.iwmi.org/assessment/index.htm>

Sri Lanka: NGOs improve collaboration on water

Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in Sri Lanka have gained credibility through interventions in the water sector to reduce poverty and to raise the standard of living of marginalised rural communities.

Interventions have been target oriented, and the outputs, effects and impacts have been monitored and documented. However, findings and lessons have not been documented or disseminated in a systematic manner.

In collaboration with the Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture (PGIA) and coordinated by the University of Peradenia, Cap-Net Lanka recently organised a symposium to provide a forum for NGOs to

share these lessons. This was the first time that NGOs had come together at national level to discuss these issues. Speakers warned that lack of coordination and information sharing increased the risks of reinventing the wheel.

The main conclusions were:

1. WATSAN is important to poverty alleviation
2. Successful WATSAN programmes include human development in parallel with technological intervention
3. Backup is necessary to support technological adaptation
4. Contributions by beneficiaries are a key to success and sustainability

5. Guidelines developed for water resource development can be used by Government and NGOs
6. NGOs can implement short term projects more successfully if they draw on experiences from similar projects
7. Dissemination programmes are required to share information
8. A coordinating body is needed for NGO water activities

For further details, contact Dr. M.I.M. Mowjood, country coordinator Cap-Net Lanka: e-mail: mmowjood@pdn.ac.lk, or visit the Cap-Net Lanka web site: www.capnetlanka.org

From the Cap-Net Secretariat

Welcome

A sincere welcome from the Cap-Net partners to Source readers. Cap-Net is an international network for capacity building in sustainable water management, a project of UNDP and associated programme of the Global Water Partnership. It is funded by the governments of The Netherlands, Sweden and Norway and the EU Water Facility. You can read more about Cap-Net on our web site www.cap-net.org

This section of Source aims to improve the connection between water and sanitation and water resources management. Hundreds of partners at country and regional levels are working on the ground delivering capacity building services to improve water management. They share experiences, materials and tools and face a daily challenge to bring greater sustainability to our use of water.

We will report on the activities of regional and country networks as well as on the global network and give a flavour of the practical and relevant problems being addressed.

Paul Taylor, Director Cap-Net

Cooperation in Brazil on water supply and sanitation capacity building

Cap-Net Brazil is collaborating with a national network to build capacity in environmental sanitation. The ReCESA network was set up in May 2006, comprising 14 Brazilian universities and a number of governmental institutions and local agencies and working with the Brazilian Ministry of Cities.

During 2007, the network will put on around 150 courses to develop capacity of 5,000 practitioners working on water supply, sanitation, urban flood management, and urban solid waste management.

Cap-Net Brazil is agreeing common grounds for cooperation with ReCESA, especially to strengthen the capacity of the water and sanitation community to implement the National Water Resources Plan.

Efforts will also be made to mainstream IWRM principles into water supply and sanitation practices. The Brazilian Ministry of Cities has expressed an interest in strengthening cooperation.

Contact Cap-Net Brazil by e-mail: capnet@capnet-brasil.org, or visit the web site www.capnet-brasil.org



Cap-Net's secretariat recently moved from Delft in the Netherlands to Pretoria in South Africa, and is now hosted by the Water Research Commission. Contact details can be found on our web site: www.cap-net.org

Building capacity on the Nile

The Nile IWRM Net is the first locally owned network for capacity building for IWRM in the region. Since September 2004, the network has organised regional and national training of trainers and workshops for water managers on the principles of IWRM, planning and implementation. Activities are led by country teams,

supported by experts and with local case studies illustrating regional challenges.

Over the past two years, more than 100 trainers and senior water managers from 37 institutions have been trained by the network. Following a recent conflict resolution course, participants wrote

reports examining the causes of local conflicts and how they could have been prevented or resolved – a valuable resource for future training and practice.

For further information on Nile IWRM Net and its work in 2007, contact Muna Mirghani, coordinator (munamirghani@yahoo.de) or visit the web site: www.nileiwrn.org

Traditional conflict resolution approaches need to be valued

by Osman Abdel Rahman Alfadni, Sudan

Kordofan State in west Sudan covers about 24 percent of the country with a diverse population with different livelihoods. Precipitation is low but the Abu Habil stream runs through the region. A series of severe droughts has threatened the population. There have been conflicts, most of them related to grazing agricultural land or to water. The Native Authority had played an important role in resolving issues, but when it was disbanded conflicts between groups surfaced.

The local administration established a water distribution project without proper consultation with the local population. The project secured water for upstream areas but deprived those living downstream from their share. Inevitably, this led to the destruction of part of the system by local people. Only then did the Local Administration resolve the conflict by constructing water gates that would release water downstream.

The conflict could have been prevented if the Administration had conducted technical and socio-economic evaluation to reach a consensus through negotiation. The local population have traditional conflict resolution approaches, such as *Gudia*, which means mediation. Ethnic group chiefs also play a big role in resolving conflicts.

Conclusions:

- Resolution should be based on traditional conflict resolution methods.
- Local leaders should be key players in resolving conflict.
- Technical and socio-economic studies should be complemented with traditional approaches and knowledge.
- It is essential to consider different interests.



*Water gates in a dam allow water to be discharged downstream in Kordofan State. For people living downstream, the dam had become a barrier to equal access to water and the gates were constructed by the Local Administration after discontent turned into conflict.
Photo: Osman Abdel Rahman Alfadni, Sudan*

WASH capacity development partnership strengthened

A partnership to strengthen capacity development in water supply, sanitation and hygiene in integrated water resources management (IWRM) brings together the Streams of Knowledge global coalition of resource centres, the Cap-Net affiliated capacity building networks in IWRM, IRC and other partners.

Our combined knowledge of water supply, sanitation and IWRM, and our potential to scale up capacity building through networks and resource centres makes the partnership

a powerful mechanism toward achieving the MDGs.

Many countries, especially in Africa, are far from meeting the water and sanitation targets which are prerequisites for meeting the other MDG goals. Our partnership builds on the capacities of sector institutions that are usually scattered and uncoordinated. It will enhance approaches towards efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability of water supply and sanitation

programmes by making them more coherent, synergistic and complementary.

STREAMS and Cap-Net have agreed to analyse capacity development priorities in some African countries. This includes collecting and updating WASH training materials, providing technical and advisory support to capacity building networks and developing a monitoring and evaluation scheme to track progress.

Local governments taking forward the multiple use services approach in South Africa

The multiple use services approach has been gaining recognition in South Africa over the last few years, expressed in a range of policy, research, implementation and advocacy initiatives. In 2005 a national seminar was held on the theme. One of the concerns raised was that local government is the key to implementation, but they had so far been rather absent from the discussions.

In a follow-up to the 2005 seminar, a second seminar was convened by the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAF) and the MUS (Multiple Use Systems) project in partnership with WIN-SA (the Water Information Network of South Africa) and SALGA (the South African Local Government Association) on 25 October 2006. The objective of the seminar was to look at the implications for local government implementation of the MUS approach.

This focused on the guidelines for local government implementation of multiple use water services that DWAF is developing. Participants came from a cross-section of institutions: national

government departments, provincial DWAF offices, local government, research institutions, NGOs and consultancies.

The importance of MUS to realising goals of addressing poverty through water was emphasised. However, there are still no coherent, agreed upon, national definitions of multiple uses of water, that give clarity while leaving room for flexibility.

It is agreed that livelihoods and Local Economic Development (LED) are at the heart of MUS, and that the boundaries of that cannot be tightly set. Definitions can become an academic discussion, but are important as they have implications for mandates and for accounting and funding. Mapping of the different funding streams need to be combined to implement MUS. This is complicated, as the agencies who administer them operate at different levels and with different procedures.

Integrated Development Plans (IDPs), in theory, provide a mechanism for alignment between various agencies and plans, but in practice IDP processes are

sometimes weak. IDPs could be the basis for assessing demand and needs for MUS, considering supply issues, and enabling cooperative governance. Combining piped water supply with alternative water sources, especially rainwater harvesting, seems to provide the most practical way forward in the South African context. The lack of capacity at municipal level and how this may limit the implementation of MUS which is a new and more demanding approach was raised as a concern. On the other hand, the integrated approach required for MUS may also be an opportunity to achieve more impact and reduce poverty.

A range of activities were proposed including strengthened communication and advocacy and continuing the work on the guidelines for local government, especially in the area of financing mechanisms. This should be accompanied by the piloting multiple use initiatives in the context of municipal service delivery plans.

Read more and find links to a full report at www.musgroup.net/page/674.

IRC helps to keep soap opera grounded in reality of kids' lives

IRC has been helping one of the world's giant soap companies understand the reality of kids in developing countries – especially in relation to school sanitation and hygiene education.

Unilever – manufacturers of Lifebuoy, Dove, Lux and other soaps – invited IRC to add its expertise on school sanitation and hygiene education to a Lifebuoy & Kids Day, in London, and to guide participants in understanding young people's realities in developing countries. Unilever aims to create a body of learning to share across the company, to fuel the work Lifebuoy and its partners are doing to reduce child morbidity and mortality in the developing world.

Lifebuoy – the number one market share soap in India and in many other countries – is working with UNICEF, the

Global Public Private Partnerships for Handwashing and with other partners to make handwashing with soap an everyday reality in Asia and Africa.

On 6 December 2006, experts from the public and private sectors shared insights and strategies on communicating with children aged 5-14. This expertise will be a key input in developing interventions aimed at changing children's handwashing behaviour. While the focus is on Lifebuoy and its partners, tools developed will be applicable to any brand or agency wishing to optimise communication with children.

Four areas

Participants focused on four areas in the discussion how to get children to hand wash with soap:

1. Kids development. What are the fundamental stages children go

through from a cognitive, social, physical and emotional perspective?

- 2. Enduring emotional drivers.** What are the fundamental and unchanging drivers that motivate kids as they move through life toward adulthood? Bravery, Morality, Belonging, Up-ageing (wanting to be older) and Mastery (wanting to do things yourself).
- 3. Understanding children.** Understanding children requires a different approach. How do you step into their lives and understand how they see the world, rather than viewing things from an adult perspective?
- 4. Case studies.** What could Unilever take from success stories inside and outside their business to translate into successful approaches to shifting children's hygiene behaviour?

Unilever has launched large scale hygiene education/handwashing campaigns and developed a communication training programme for policy makers for national handwashing campaigns in South Asia, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Ethiopia. Unilever also provides technical support and marketing expertise to PPP projects in Ghana, Nepal, Peru, Senegal, and Madagascar. In Uganda, they work with the Discovery Channel, the Girl Education Project (GEP), and UNICEF to reach schoolchildren.

Lifebuoy says its approach is not philanthropy, but a marketing programme

Cholera Prevention and Control forum in May 2007

Cholera prevention and control is the topic of the Third Emergency Environmental Health Forum (EEHF) co-organised by IRC on 3-4 May 2007 in Delft, The Netherlands. The aim of the Emergency Environmental Health Forum is to share field experiences and new research focusing mainly on decreasing the disease burden in emergencies. Rather than focusing on water and sanitation equipment the focus is on diarrhoea reduction and what combined methods can be used to fulfil that objective. The theme of the 2007 forum is **Cholera** so any presentations dealing with prevention or controlling the spread of cholera are very welcome.

Other sponsors are: Oxfam, IFRC, ICRC, UNICEF, ACF, and MSF. The Emergency Environmental Health Forum (EEHF) is to focus on a better representation of the health/hygiene promotion and community mobilisation aspects of water and sanitation programmes, by bringing together a wider circle of agencies and participants to reflect the integral health component.

with social benefits. In India, for example, where Lifebuoy developed the rural health and hygiene education programme, Swasthya Chetna (Health Awakening), the company says: "For Unilever to build its business in India over the long term ... it must attract new consumers, including the estimated 70 million people who never use soap."

What Lifebuoy knows about Kids will be posted on a new Lifebuoy.com website due to be launched in the first quarter of 2007.

Objectives

Objectives of the forum are:

- For practitioners of water, sanitation and hygiene promotion emergency programmes to share their learning and experience by means of presentations, discussions and workshops.
- Academics and agency staff to present new research and development projects within this sector in a view to better understand evidence based programming.

The format will include sessions, workshops and panel discussions. Presentations will last no longer than 15 minutes - followed by 15 minutes of questions.

Participating organisations will have an opportunity to display information materials in a mini exhibition a poster (1m by 1.22m) and a table (1.10 m x 60 cm) for publications, brochures etc. Please include a request for exhibition space on the registration form.

A registration form can be found on the IRC web site: <http://www.irc.nl/eehf2007>

News in Brief

Governance: private versus public supply controversies are misleading

Controversies over private versus public provision of water and sanitation are misleading, says the International Institution for Environment and Development (IIED). The principles and governance tools required to get private providers to improve provision to the urban poor are very similar to those needed to improve public provision. While there is no single model of good water and sanitation governance, and no reason to favour private providers, good local governance is critical to getting the best out of private as well as public providers. These are the main conclusions from a recent paper¹ by the Human Settlements Programme of IIED. There is an important role for international support in improving water and sanitation provision for low-income urban residents. However, from a governance perspective one of the major challenges is to prevent vested interests (many of which are international) from dominating local water sectors.

1. McGranahan, G.; Satterthwaite, D. (2006), *Strengthening local capacity for improving service provision*. London, UK, International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED). 39 p.

Capacity building: lessons from ADB water resources project in Indonesia

Experience from a seven-year ADB-supported capacity-building project¹ in Indonesia highlights lessons that may be relevant to future projects and projects in the water sector:

- i. Capacity-building projects should be demand-driven, and considered only where the demand from senior management is clear and unequivocal.
- ii Institutional development projects are difficult and long-term in nature. The Capacity Building Project in the Water Resources Sector (the Project) was executed by the Directorate General of Water Resources (DGWR)

News in brief continued on page 11

IRC signed MoU with the Ethiopian Ministry of Water Resources



Ato Asfaw Dingamo and Ton Schouten shake hands after signing the MoU

The Ethiopian Minister of Water Resources, Ato Asfaw Dingamo, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with IRC in the presence of Catarina Fonseca, Patrick Moriarty, Jo Smet and Ton Schouten. The main focus of the MoU will be on research.

The research department of the Ethiopian Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR) and IRC will cooperate in research projects,

identify opportunities for building the capacities of staff of the Ministry, help the Ministry to design a long term strategy for research in water resources and water services and jointly carry out (action) research projects in Ethiopia. At the start of each year IRC and the Ministry will make a concrete plan of activities. For the coming year IRC will help draft a long term strategy for the research department of the Ministry. Currently a concept note is being prepared showing the different models they could use.

New 2007-2011 IRC funding

IRC has welcomed a decision by the Dutch government to back its new Business Plan 2007-2011 with about EUR 12.5 million of funding. The Business Plan sets a new direction for the next five years, structuring IRC activities into two core programmes, global and regional. The global programme focuses on accessibility of information, global learning and the development of knowledge. The regional programme aims to improve decentralised local governance in WASH and IWRM, integrating capacity building, knowledge development and sharing, and information services.

Strategy

IRC will sustain its contribution to reaching the Millennium Development Goals for water supply, sanitation and hygiene, strengthening its role as a unique information broker, innovator and capacity builder for the WASH sector. By increasing the leverage of programmes and activities, IRC aims to raise outcomes and impact.

The IRC strategy to reach these goals has the following main components:

- A stronger focus on integrating activities by adopting a country and regional focus to programmatic and capacity-development in core programmes;
- Reinforcing and strengthening IRC core competences by making a clear separation between its roles as a global information broker and as a development partner in a reduced number of carefully chosen countries and regions;

- The flexible application of a variety of programmatic and organisational modalities adapted to the roles and different countries or regions in which IRC works;
- Active exploration of different types of partnerships at global, regional and national level to create maximum leverage and impact for different target audiences.

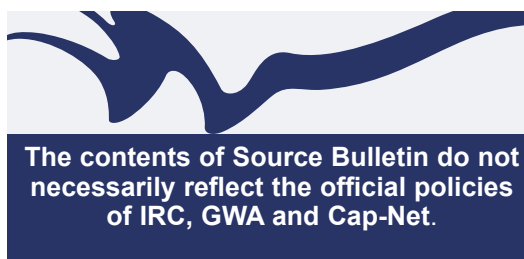
By shaping and managing programmes as integrated activities, IRC will generate a greater synthesis of core strengths and competences. The inception phase during the first half of 2007 will be dedicated to finalising and fine-tuning the planning set out in the Business Plan.

Organisational challenges

The Business Plan is particularly important, coming as it does at a time of transition for IRC, which has a new legal structure and is moving towards greater financial autonomy from the Dutch government. As funding from DGIS (Dutch Directorate General of International Co-operation) and VROM (Dutch Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment) is set to reduce in future, so the Business Plan allows for the flexible and effective use of core funding over the next five years, in order to optimise leverage and

to support new business acquisition. The Director will continue to take responsibility for securing new sources of external funding but the drive for new business will increasingly come from opportunities and contacts at regional and country levels. The long-term aim of IRC by the end of the Business Plan period is to secure approximately 50% of funding from non-core sources (i.e. other than Dutch governmental ministries).

The new Business Plan reflects changes in the governance of IRC and in its programmatic organisation with an emphasis on the two main programmes (global and regional). The plan provides for a period of transition to a more integrated matrix of work, in which teams will be drawn from existing sections to work on programme-related projects and tasks. While the current sections will remain, a new management structure will be introduced during the inception period to delegate more responsibility to senior staff who will manage the different programmes. Management Team operations and regulations will also be adjusted to reflect these changes and to provide greater transparency and accountability.



Resources and Events

Training

Linking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene to HIV/AIDS: effective home-based care approaches. Nairobi, Kenya, 18 June - 29 June 2007. Organised by: NETWAS International

Home-based care (looking after people living with HIV/AIDS at home and within communities) is now regarded as an essential element in the continuum of care, whether hospital admission is feasible or not. This course has been developed to improve participants' knowledge, skills and attitudes on the role of water, sanitation and hygiene in effective home-based care. Diarrhoea, intestinal parasites and skin diseases are some of the most common opportunistic infections among people infected with HIV/AIDS. But improved water supply, sanitation and hygiene can reduce the incidence of these infections.

Target group: Senior and middle level staff working in HIV/AIDS related programmes; staff from public health institutions; staff working in integrated programmes where HIV/AIDS is a cross-cutting issue; staff of funding agencies; government social service providers. *Costs:* US\$ 1480 (EUR 1144) per participant. This will cover tuition, course file, books and field trip. Full board accommodation is available at the venue of the course at an additional cost of US\$ 560 (EUR 433). *Application deadline:* Applications should reach NETWAS International not later than 18 May 2007.

Contact: Course Coordinator, NETWAS International, P.O. Box 15614-00503 Mbagathi Nairobi, Kenya, e-mail: training@netwas.org

Publications

Valfrey-Visser, B., Schaub-Jones, D., Collignon, B. and Chaponnière, E. (2006). *Access through innovation: expanding water service delivery through independent network providers.* London, United Kingdom, BPD Water and Sanitation. ISBN 0-9551073-4-2. 48 p.

This publication is based on action research carried out in Ghana, Mauritania, Mali and Mozambique. The work sheds light on independent network providers, the scope of their operations and the constraints they face. Although there are fewer independent providers than expected, Mauritania and Maputo highlight the potential of their role

in providing water to the otherwise unserved. Their operations compare well with those of formal utilities, even without much support and subsidy. Users are broadly satisfied and appreciate their services.

Available from the BPD website, download from http://www.bpdws.org/web/d/doc_133.pdf [942 KB] or contact BPD Water and Sanitation, 2nd floor, 47-49 Durban Street, London SE11

Costa, S.S. da ... [et.al]. (2006). *Successful experiences in municipal public water and sanitation services from Brazil.* Brazil, ASSEMAE.

The book, which was first published in Portuguese¹, presents twenty examples of successful public water delivery in large and small, wealthy and poor municipalities across Brazil. The city of Porto Alegre is already known around the world for its use of participatory budgeting and other democratic reforms to achieve universal access to clean water. The book shows that similar approaches are used in many other cities in Brazil and in many cases have led to rapid expansion of access to water and sanitation for the poorest communities.

1. *Experiências de Êxito em Serviços Públicos Municipais de Saneamento*, first published in June 2006 by ASSEMAE. The translated edition of the book is a joint effort by Corporate Europe Observatory (CEO), Transnational Institute (TNI) and the World Development Movement (WDM). Download from <http://www.tni.org/books/brazilwater.htm>

Shordt, K., Stravato, L. and Dietvorst, C. (2006). *About corruption and transparency in the water and sanitation sector.* Delft, The Netherlands, IRC. Thematic Overview Paper; no. 16

Corruption undermines water and sanitation services. Those without a voice, the poor, are systematically deprived by corrupt systems. This paper is a brief overview of issues, approaches and information. The second half of the paper provides entry to the rapidly growing literature on corruption, transparency and honesty in the WASH sector. It is hoped that the reader will find this a useful resource which will lead to further reading, learning about experiences and research and, finally, to action promoting transparency, honesty and preventing corruption in the sector.

Download from http://www.irc.nl/redirect/content/download/28609/300008/file/TOP16_Transparency_06.pdf [145 KB]

New in brief continued

of the Ministry of Public Works (MPW) from 1995 to 2002. It was intended to strengthen national and provincial institutional capacity for sustainable, multisectoral, and economic management and use of water resources on a river basin basis.

Other lessons include:

- iii training programmes should be timed to meet the work cycles of participants, and not scheduled at busy periods;
- iv activities that are in strong demand (such as the master's degree programme in Bandung) are far more likely to succeed than those which are merely accepted by management.

1. ADB (2006). *Indonesia : Capacity Building Project in the Water Resources Sector: performance evaluation report*

Oman: water desalination privatisation by 2009

All power generation and water desalination companies in Oman are set to be privatised by 2009. This is the result of an agreement that includes the first privatisation in Oman's electricity and water sector under a Share Purchase Agreement. Oman's Minister of National Economy and Deputy Chairman of Energy Resource Council, Ahmad Bin Abdulnabi Macki, and other officials signed the Al Rusail/Birka II project on 11 December with the preferred bidder, the Suez Tractebel, Abu Dhabi-based Mubadala, Development and National Trading Company consortium.

Source: *Gulf News*

China: national centre of rural water safety launched

The Ministry of Water Resources has launched a national centre to promote drinking water safety in rural areas of China. "Drinking water safety in rural areas should be a top priority of the country's water resources management in the future years," said Zhai Haohui, vice minister of water resources, at the launch ceremony. The centre is based on a former organisation engaged in developing rural drainage and irrigation, and one important task is to help carry out plans and projects on rural water resources. It is also taking responsibility for developing and promoting new technologies in drinking water supply for rural areas, says the ministry website.

Source: *Xinhua / People's Daily Online*

IWRM: cook-book approach leaves a sour taste

Developing countries must match water management policies to local conditions rather than implementing off-the-peg solutions from other countries, says a new water policy briefing 1.

The briefing, published by the Sri Lanka based International Water Management Institute, says that policies must fit their context and governments must understand how this differs from developed formal economies. A cook-book approach to Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) is likely to fail and divert policy attention and scarce public resources.

Developing countries are encouraged to move from the traditional supply-side orientation towards proactive demand management under the broad framework of IWRM. However, this usually amounts to adopting laws that are not enforced and complex pricing mechanisms that prove ineffective.

The briefing says that low income countries should focus on areas where they can produce significant impacts, such as improving the performance of public systems, institutional reform to focus on incentives and introducing full cost recovery in better off parts of cities and the industrial sector.

Contact: Dr. Tushaar Shah, IWMI-TATA Water Policy Program, India, e-mail: t.shah@cgjar.org, <http://www.iwmi.cgiar.org/iwmi%2Ddata/index.asp>

1. Verma, S. (2007). IWRM challenges in developing countries : lessons from India and elsewhere. (Water policy briefing ; 24). Colombo, Sri Lanka, International Water Management Institute.

AMCOW ... [et al.]. (2006). *Getting Africa on track to meet the MDGS on water and sanitation : a status review of sixteen African countries*. Nairobi, Kenya, WSP-Africa. - viii, 107 p.

This country sector overview provides a four page summary of the water supply and sanitation sector in sixteen African countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, DRC, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

The first page contains a 'snapshot' of progress toward the MDG Roadmap. It looks at past performance in extending access to water supply and sanitation matched against the MDG targets. The

issue of capacity to achieve the goals is presented graphically as well. It also looks at the financial capacity and projected investment needs.

The next three pages address sector preparedness, which is considered from the following areas: National strategies; Institutional arrangements; Sector financing; Sector monitoring and evaluation; and Sector capacity.

Available from the Water and Sanitation (WSP) website: www.wsp.org, or contact: WSP, 1818 H.Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20433, USA, e-mail: info@wsp.org

Events

International Conference on Water, Environment, Energy and Society (WEES). Roorkee, India, 18 - 21 December 2007. Organised by: National Institute of Hydrology (India) and Texas A & M University (USA)

Themes: - Water and environment (incl. water resources development, management and conservation; water resources management under uncertainty; climate change; integrated watershed management; pollution of water bodies and sanitation), * Water hazards (incl. floods, droughts, pollution), * Water for energy, * Water for other uses (irrigation, industry, rural development, ecosystems and forestry), * Water for society (incl. water demand management; municipal water supply systems; social health; environmental health; privatisation, conflict resolution; capacity building; policy analysis; water politics, law, and public apathy; economics)

Contact: National Institute of Hydrology, National Institute of Hydrology, Roorkee, 247667, Uttaranchal, India, fax: +91-1332-277281, wees2007@gmail.com



One of the ads from UNDP Water Alert Campaign, see page 3

33rd WEDC International Conference, Accra, Ghana, 7 - 11 April 2008, Organised by: Water Engineering Development Centre (WEDC), Loughborough University

WEDC has been organising international conferences on the provision of infrastructure services for low- and middle-income countries since 1973. The conferences are held alternately in Africa and Asia each year. The conference lasts five days, with a number of parallel sessions of formal presentations, discussion groups and workshops. One day is reserved for field trips.

The Call for Papers will go out in April 2007.

Contact: Mrs Gill Evans, Conference Administrator, WEDC, Loughborough University, Leicestershire LE11 3TU, UK, e-mail: wedc.conf@lboro.ac.uk

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