



# SOURCE Bulletin

water and sanitation news review



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For those of you who have recently obtained e-mail access, we invite you to subscribe to our weekly electronic news service Source Weekly. The feature articles of the printed version of Source Bulletin are included in a bi-monthly special edition of the electronic Source Weekly: Special Features Edition. Source Bulletin will continue to be published on paper for those in the developing world without e-mail access.

*If you are interested in subscribing to the electronic news service, please see the colophon on page 8.*

## NGOs in Kinshasa battle against dirt and disease

Sloshing after a heavy rain through Kinshasa's Epolo market, a labyrinth of stands selling everything from live, squirming palm grubs to doorknobs, it is easy to appreciate the enormous environmental health and sanitation challenges faced by the city. Rapid population growth in urban areas of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has made it necessary for the Congolese to inhabit wetlands that are prone to flooding and offer poor drainage.

Wastewater canals, overflow with sludge and human waste from market latrines that have not been emptied in ages, carrying the waste into markets, streets, and roadsides and creating murky cesspools. On a hot day, children carelessly and unknowingly splash around in these ubiquitous puddles. A closer look reveals glistening webs of mosquito larvae, carriers of malaria – the number one killer of children under five years, who are estimated to make up a quarter of the population.

This is a typical urban scene in the DRC. Population boom, rural exodus, ongoing civil strife, and poor public management have created a state of crisis in the cities. Kinshasa, the capital and largest city, was designed for a population of approximately 400,000 inhabitants. Today, the city is home to an estimated 6 million people. These conditions, coupled with the government's inability to provide even the most basic environmental services, are having devastating consequences for the environment and for public health.

The majority of urban dwellers do not have access to safe drinking water, functioning latrines or waste collection services. Throughout the cities, garbage and household waste lie uncollected in markets, roads, surface drains and waterways. This situation, in conjunction with poor knowledge about proper hygiene, creates an anarchic haven for disease carriers. This is evident from the outbreaks of cholera, malaria, and other water-borne diseases.

In 2000, the USAID/DRC Urban Environmental Health Program, with support from the Regional Urban Development Office (RUDO) in Pretoria, South Africa and the Environmental Health Project (EHP) in Washington, began to support local NGOs to address these issues. Three pilot projects are under way, aimed at reducing morbidity and mortality due to water-borne diseases. Two of them focus on increased sanitation facility use, improved hygiene practices, improved wastewater management and drainage and enhanced community capacity to address local sanitation needs.

### *Singing the praises of hygiene education*

Men and women working with Action Contre Faim [Action Against Hunger] (ACF) jostle through the crowded, bustling Gambela market in Kinshasa crooning catchy tunes about hand washing techniques. As they make their way through the maze of stands, singing into megaphones, they attract a good-sized throng of boys and girls who waste no time before chiming in. The singers are hygiene educators from the community, trained by ACF. They work the markets two days per week, promoting a specific hygiene issue to children, vendors, and consumers alike. Hygiene education and community capacity building are pillars of the ACF urban environmental health strategy, along with improving sanitation facilities and the availability of drinkable water.

## ***Saving children's lives through access to drinking water***

Dr. Halfdan Mahler, former Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) recently claimed that the number of water taps is a better indicator of health than the number of hospital beds. This speaks directly to the situation in the city of Kananga, where last year there were fewer than 10 functioning public water taps for 800,000 inhabitants. It is not surprising that a WHO report found that 17 percent of children under five years of age were dying from water-borne diseases. However, by August 2000, the International Rescue Committee (IRC), working with 10 Congolese NGOs had significantly improved these otherwise bleak circumstances.

These teams extended access to drinking water to an estimated 230,000 inhabitants, or almost 30 percent of the population of Kananga, through improving 90 springs and building 4 cisterns. Approximately half of all households have been educated about proper health and hygiene practices. More than 4,500 people attended public meetings about health and hygiene, while thousands more heard or saw one of the 49 radio broadcasts or the 4 television segments that have been aired on these topics.

### ***Refuse dirt, refuse disease***

Political stability in the Congo appears closer than it has in decades. This is opening doors to economic and social development. However, as cities continue the struggle to counter the catastrophic legacies that war and poor public management have bequeathed them, municipalities often find themselves strapped for money and trained staff, and unable to assume the role of service provider on their own. These unique circumstances warrant innovative responses.

The USAID/DRC Urban Environment Health Strategy is using creative methods to address water and sanitation challenges, including alternative delivery mechanisms such as public-private partnerships (PPPs) and community partnerships. Through these types of partnership arrangements, the USAID strategy aims to maximise income-generating potential and to decentralise power to the community and household levels, where water and sanitation projects have most impact. Through the construction of cisterns, taps and latrines, USAID's environmental health projects increase access to potable drinking water and clean sanitation facilities. However, increasing access is insufficient by itself. By emphasising community participation through capacity building, and behaviour change through hygiene education, these projects achieve sustainability and create consumer demand - two key determinants of successful water and sanitation projects.

Since the implementation of the pilot project, conditions have been significantly altered in the Epolo market. In place of the rundown, fetid, non-functioning latrines, stand four newly constructed sanitation units. Adjacent to the units is a pay booth where, for 20 Congolese Francs (the equivalent of a few American cents), one receives access to a latrine and soap to wash one's hands. A Lingala slogan painted on the wall of the new latrine building, as well as on the chariots that carry waste to Jean Nsili's compost centre, reads "toboya bosoto, toboya bokono". In English, this means "refuse dirt, refuse disease". In any language, it means fewer sick children.

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## **Daily realities from community water supply management**



Aguacatan water committee member, Guatemala

*"In this case it was not really the water committee that failed. It was a teacher. He wrote, and wrote because he was the teacher, you know? But we cannot read. Yes, we understand some Spanish, but we cannot read. So the teacher wrote, and wrote and said we have to do this and that .... And the committee said, yes, yes, yes. The yes's ended up becoming 48 articles in our constitution, I think. And I believe we only use four or five of them."*

## Sanitation target in key recommendations for action in Bonn

A target should be set to halve the proportion of people lacking access to improved sanitation by 2015 – to complement the UN Millennium Declaration target on drinking water.

This recommendation for action from the Bonn Freshwater Conference to the Johannesburg Rio + 10 meeting later this year shows the high priority that sanitation and hygiene issues were given in the formal outcome from the Conference. It was part of Recommendation number 2 (Ensure that water infrastructure and services deliver to poor people) which also said: "Water is an integral part of sustainable development. Policies for all aspects of water should be clearly linked to policies for poverty reduction and economic growth. Governments should review the priority given to water and **sanitation** and to productive water infrastructure in national and international programmes to tackle poverty." (*our emphasis*)

Recommendation 8 (Protect water quality and ecosystems) says that treatment of waste water must be intensified and made more affordable for municipalities and industry. Investments in **appropriate sanitation facilities** should protect water bodies from pollution and reduce health hazards (*our emphasis*). Countries should also intensify their efforts to manage diffuse sources of pollution (i.e. causing pollution some distance away).

The full text of the Bonn Freshwater Conference Outcomes can be viewed at: <http://www.water-2001.de/outcome/>

The attention given to sanitation was a result of the WSSCC Panel Discussion - Outcome Statement and launch of the WASH campaign in Bonn: On The Road to Johannesburg: Putting Water and Sanitation on the Political Agenda.

See also WSSCC section page 4.



## News from the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council

### Hygiene education and sanitation "only way to combat diarrhoeal deaths"

Developing countries will only succeed in protecting their children from diarrhoeal death and disease when they pay more attention to hygiene education and sanitation – Gourisankar Ghosh, executive director of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council has warned.

Mr Ghosh welcomed South African efforts to improve sanitation for millions of its citizens and said that it could set an example for many developing countries. But he warned that even in South Africa sanitation had lagged far behind water supply. Increasing funding in this area would not be enough unless the institutional capacity and knowledge base of the sector could also be strengthened.

Mr Ghosh joined Ronnie Kasrils, Minister for Water and Forestry and other government officials in Krugerdorp to inaugurate the South African chapter of the WSSCC on 21 November. In a keynote speech on the eve of the Conference of Appropriate Technologies for Sustainable Water Supply and Sanitation Services, Mr. Ghosh called for the Minister to "lead us and to be a champion, first for sanitation, and second for safe water."

South Africa's Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAF) recently received a mandate to take the lead nationally on sanitation, and produced a highly praised 'White Paper' on the issue, "an example that could serve as a model for many developing countries".

Mr Ghosh said that South Africa, with more than 43 million inhabitants, was no exception to the many countries facing enormous economic and social challenges. In spite of major achievements, progress on sanitation had lagged far behind

water supply. Some seven million South Africans gained access to water during the International Decade in the 1980s, but only 52,000 toilets were built during the same period. Mr. Ghosh congratulated DWAF on its new role, but warned that the Department will face raised expectations and demands for technologies beyond its means. "There is still a common belief that water-borne sewerage is the appropriate means of sanitation, and a wrong perception that Government will bear the cost of all expensive, water-bearing sewerage systems."

The cholera outbreak in Kwa Zulu Natal last year "demonstrated the need for hygiene education, rather than hardware". Local governments had managed to control the spread of cholera in some areas, but it remained difficult to control in other parts of the region.

Media reports and many funding institutions give higher priority to more visible deaths such as those from HIV/AIDS, than to 'silent emergencies' due to diarrhoea, the biggest killer of children under five in the developing world.

Mr Ghosh said: "It is only with improved sanitation and a safe water supply that we can clearly improve the immediate environment of a household, enable countries to climb up the development ladder and save the millions of lives of those dying from water-and sanitation-related diseases in the world."

The WSSCC Executive Director told the conference that there was a worldwide lack of understanding about health and hygiene issues and lack of appreciation amongst local governments for sanitation as a priority. He was concerned

that the decision in South Africa to triple government funds for sanitation could pose serious problems because of lack of knowledge, skills and capacity. "Strengthening of institutional capacity and knowledge working is an absolute must," he said.

Technologies must be appropriate to the local environment, and sanitation had to be considered along with the design of water supply. He warned: "Even in the case of handpumps, if the basic design does not include water disposal pits, it will create an unhealthy environment and certainly 'safe' water supply in that environment will not reduce the incidence of water-borne diseases that lead to high morbidity and mortality."

They must learn from experience the importance of technologies being appropriate to the needs of the people. In Bangladesh people refused to use treatment plants for fluoride removal because they were not involved in selecting the technology and there was no training or education prior to their installation. Arsenic contamination in Bangladesh was another debacle that could have been averted. "Large-scale presence of arsenic in the groundwater brought painful lessons to many communities there as well as in old river basins like Irrawady, Mekong, Indus and other rivers."

As the Johannesburg Summit for Sustainable Development approaches in September 2002, Mr. Ghosh said that the WSSCC would place high priority on advocacy for specific

goals and targets, "to put sanitation and hygiene issues higher up the political agenda at national, regional and global levels." The WSSCC held a high-level roundtable panel and public debate during the International Conference on Freshwater in Bonn, Germany on 3 December, as a precursor to stepping up its global campaign.

The WSSCC is joining forces with the World Bank, the African Development Bank, the Water and Sanitation Programme and the UNCHS/Habitat to launch an African Sanitation 'movement' in 2002, which will include an African Sanitation Conference on the eve of the Johannesburg Summit.

Mr Ghosh concluded: "We need leadership from the Government of South Africa to include sanitation and hygiene as one of the most important goals of sustainable development in the Summit."

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The Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council Secretariat is located at WHO, CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland, tel. + 41 22 791 3517, fax: + 41 22 791 4847, Website: <http://www.wsscc.org>

## WSSCC panel discussion in Bonn

The WSSCC organized a well-attended panel discussion on the first day of the Bonn International Freshwater Conference under the title: "On The Road to Johannesburg: Putting Water and Sanitation on the Political Agenda". It resulted in the following Outcome Statement:

### *Sanitation is not a dirty word*

*Do you think that you can live and work in safety whilst 6000 people die needlessly each day?  
End the apathy and inaction!*

Environmental sanitation, hygiene promotion and safe water supplies are vital for protecting the environment, improving health and alleviating poverty. Disease, drudgery, loss of human dignity and millions of deaths every year are directly attributable to the lack of these basic services. The poor and powerless, especially women and children, are the main victims of this 'silent emergency' that continues unnoticed in the developing world today.

To ensure a safer world we need:

- **A target** and local specific plan of action to reduce the number of those who do not have effective and hygienic sanitation to half the present proportion by 2015 and to ensure that all people have these services by 2025, similar to the targets established for water supply in the UN Millennium Declaration of 2000;
- **Clear government responsibility and political will** to ensure that integrated approaches to sanitation and

hygiene improvement are mainstreamed into government sector policies and programmes and championed by a single responsible line Ministry. Improvements to water supply infrastructure alone are inadequate to meet the goal of achieving sustainable development and improving health.

- **Ordinary people at the centre** with effective, responsible and democratic local government, enabling communities themselves to plan, direct their own sector policies and mobilize their energy and creativity to be part of the solution.
- **Partnerships** involving all institutions - public and private - through appropriate policy and legislative mechanisms that provide for clearly defined mandates, responsibilities, incentives, pricing mechanisms and enforcement;
- **Restructured sector investments.** Maximum benefits can be achieved by re-allocating a higher proportion of

funds to affordable and appropriate projects in rural and low-income urban areas, where needs are greatest.

- **A society informed and** aware of better water and hygiene practices through advocacy, training and capacity building in partnership with media, civic and private sector organizations and using traditional communication channels where applicable.

To solve the global human settlement problem which threatens the well-being and security of rich and poor countries alike we must solve the sanitation and health problem.

### *The sanitation problem is your problem*

The Roundtable panelists included: Mr. Ronnie Kasrils, Minister for Water and Forestry, South Africa; Mr. Macky Sall, Minister for Mines, Energy and Hydrology, Senegal; Mr. Michael Meacher, Minister for the Environment, United Kingdom; Mr. Nitin Desai, Secretary-General, World Summit for Sustainable Development, United Nations, New York; Dr. Klaus Toepfer, Executive Director, UNEP, Nairobi; Ms. Margaret Catley-Carlson, Chair, Global Water Partnership, Stockholm; Mr. Gerard Payen, CEO of ONDEO, Paris; Sir Richard Jolly, Chairperson, Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council, Geneva, Switzerland.



## News from IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre

### Put your voice into the 3rd World Water Forum in 2003

The objective of the 3rd World Water Forum in Japan in March 2003 is to find new solutions for water problems by holding discussions amongst qualified and concerned people such as water experts, decision makers and NGOs from various regions. However, since the Forum is to be held for a limited period of time and only in a certain region, it will not be possible to gather enough direct participation from around the world.

With this in mind, the 3rd World Water Forum is taking a new approach to gathering varied and widespread submissions, making the Forum accessible over a wider time frame. This will be accomplished through a range of activities including regional conferences on individual themes in various regions around the world, with the cooperation of various organisations.

The Virtual Water Forum (VWF) has created a discussion environment involving people around the world beyond time, region and language barriers, using computer technology and the Internet.

The VWF is not only for people who have access to the Internet. There are many people around the world who are

living in an environment where the Internet is not complete or convenient. We will collect those people's opinions and suggestions and information about their situations through "Water Voice" Messengers operating at a grassroots level in many areas around the world. A database prepared from the Messenger input will be used as the basis for discussions on the VWF.

As Editor of Source Bulletin I have offered to collect voices from readers who can't submit them on the web or by e-mail locally. I shall put them up on the Forum web site.

Write to me as concretely as possible answering the following questions:

- what is the water situation in the area where you live?
- what kind of problems and positive aspects can you think of?
- what do you think about these situations. How would you like to see these resolved?

For more information -- *Secretariat of the 3rd World Water Forum*, tel: +81 3 52121645, fax: +81 3 52121649, e-mail: [office@water-forum3.com](mailto:office@water-forum3.com), <http://www.water-forum3.com/>

*Dick de Jong*

### International concerted action launched for community management

Many water professionals have come up against the limitations of further increasing the reach and sustainability of community management in water programmes. To initiate a concerted action to bring together experiences, lessons learnt and success stories in a systematic analysis IRC facilitated an international mini-conference on 12-13 December 2001. The two-day conference brought together 40 senior policy and decision-makers and programme managers from donor organisations, international and national NGOs, External Support Agencies and research institutes. It was a follow up to the eight years of

participatory action learning on community water management by IRC and six local partners.

Case studies brought in by the different participants formed the basis of work during the conference. Four examples of scaling up community management were provided as entry points for the discussion:

- Mariela Garcia from CINARA: Asociaciones (Association of Associations) and circuit riders
- Sanjay Saxena from National Drinking Water Clearing House: American small towns

## News In Brief

### Africa: Ministers Agree to Cut Hygiene-Related Deaths

Participants at the coming World Summit on Sustainable Development should strive to address high death rates due to poor hygiene and disease-contaminated water, ministers from 22 African countries said in a declaration issued at the International Conference on Freshwater in Bonn. Eight key actions need to be carried out by African countries and the international community to deliver sufficient safe and clean water for people and wildlife. Efforts are to be focused on a range of issues including: governance of the water sector; intergovernmental policy dialogue for water security; and financing for the development of the water sector. The ministers also agreed to hold a meeting of the 53 African ministers in charge of water in Nigeria in Mar or Apr 2002.

Contact: Tore J. Brevik, e-mail: [tore.brevik@unep.org](mailto:tore.brevik@unep.org) or Nick Nuttall, e-mail: [nick.nuttall@unep.org](mailto:nick.nuttall@unep.org), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), PO Box 30552, Nairobi, Kenya, fax: +254-2-624489/90 (UNEP, 6 Dec 2001)

### Mexico: Water and Wastewater Market Review

A review\* of Mexico's water and wastewater market, commissioned by the Netherlands embassy, revealed that 13 million Mexicans (pop. 98 million) do not have piped drinking water, and 25% of the population do not have a sewerage connection. Also, 75% of industrial wastewater and 76% of domestic wastewater remains untreated, while in 1998 some 40% of water distributed was unaccounted for. Since the government does not have enough funds to invest in infrastructure, it is stimulating private sector involvement in municipal water supply through its Fund for Infrastructure II (Finfra II) programme. The North American Development Bank and Finfra II are funding 15-20 projects worth US\$ 250 million (EUR 280 million). The review expects a

\* Hanhausen & Doménech Consultores (2001). Mexico's water and wastewater market : strategic review 2001-2003. Price: EUR 50. Available from: EVD, attn: Ms. S.N. Mellegers, fax: +31-70-3858097, e-mail: [mellegers@evd.nl](mailto:mellegers@evd.nl)

*News in Brief continued on page 7*

- Pradeep Patjoshi, UNICEF programme officer in Orissa, India: community managed water and sanitation programme in Gangam – district involvement – sanitation led
- Monika Kunihiro from the NGO, Coordination Network, Uganda: Institutional frameworks to support community management.

Participants drew up a list of the key elements needed to create successful support mechanisms. They also identified ways to improve support mechanisms by stakeholders at international, national and district levels. Key aspects that must be approached in an integrated manner include:

- policies that acknowledge and build upon the key role of communities in water supply management;
- effective legislation, regulation and enforcement;
- support agencies that are responsive to community demand;
- application of new technologies (participatory tools, geographic information systems (GIS), data management, decision support systems) that can underpin such support frameworks;
- cost recovery and financial models that can help pay for and support the necessary backup for community efforts.

An International Steering Committee (IRC, WEDC, SKAT, WSSCC and Water Aid) helped organize the workshop and will remain active in follow-up work.

The conference was a first step. Outcomes will include a synthesis document as well as a work plan for an advocacy campaign and series of regional follow-up conferences and workshops.

The regional workshops and associated activities will allow study in greater depth, the documentation of successful cases and, where appropriate, further action research. This will lead in turn to the development of tools to create and improve support mechanisms, national strategies and core competencies particularly at intermediate levels.

The mini-conference also served as the first step in an intensive advocacy programme for scaling up and institutionalising community management; so that community management becomes part of a toolbox of management approaches for water service delivery rather than a case apart.

The following statement was drafted from the meeting:

"Over a billion people around the world do not have an adequate and safe water supply and over two billion lack access to safe sanitation. We believe that greater use of community management can significantly reduce these numbers. Community management shows promising signs of sustainability. It is also one of the best tools to address poverty, gender and community heterogeneity.

We understand community management to comprise:

- Control over the decision-making process for implementation, operation, maintenance, and financial arrangements.
- Clearly defined ownership.

We believe that community management is the only viable solution in economically marginal areas and where government capacity is limited. However, we also believe it to be applicable in many other institutional and economic environments.

Community management requires a change in the role of government: from implementing to providing strong support. It also requires long term support and commitment from other actors at all levels: local, intermediate, national. Currently this support is often absent.

To allow community management to have the impact on meeting the needs of the unserved we strongly believe that:

- Community management approaches need to be scaled up, in terms of coverage, sustainability and quality.
- In order to be effective, community management cannot be left in isolation. It requires considerable support from intermediary agencies.
- Political leaders need to facilitate an enabling environment which includes appropriate legal frameworks, and the necessary human and financial resources at all levels.
- Within the sector but also in related sectors, governments, donors, NGOs, the private sector and civil society need to collaborate to expand community management and develop long term support mechanisms."

The conference, sponsored by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, set out to help increase the impact of the efforts and funds put into strengthening community management of water supplies.

For further information: Patrick Moriarty, IRC, e-mail: [moriarty@irc.nl](mailto:moriarty@irc.nl)

## New co-publication with WSP

*The best of two worlds?: Methodology for participatory assessment of community water services* is the latest title co-published by IRC and the World Bank Water and Sanitation Program (WSP).

This book deals with the Methodology for Participatory Assessment (MPA), a new, multi-level instrument to combine sustainability analysis of community-managed domestic water services with the analysis of gender and poverty perspectives. It describes the objectives, the history, and the social and scientific background of the development of the methodology, followed by a detailed description and analysis of the methodology itself, with case studies of its use and impacts.

The book presents the results of the global study that took place to validate the method, implemented by the WSP in cooperation with IRC, the implications for policies and programme planning of domestic water supply projects, and the lessons for training in and use of the methodology.

The book is meant for professionals in country-level organizations, regional and global development banks and donor agencies supporting water projects/programmes, and staff in development institutes and universities working on participation, monitoring and evaluation methodologies.

Order details:

Wijk-Sijbesma, C.A. van (2001). *The best of two worlds? : methodology for participatory assessment of community water services* (Technical paper series; no. 38). Delft, The Netherlands, IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre. 266 p. ISBN 9066870311. Price: EUR 25 (30% discount to indigenous individuals and institutions in developing countries).

Order online at <http://www.irc.nl/products/publications/descr/tp38e.html>, or fax: +31-15-2190955, e-mail: [publications@irc.nl](mailto:publications@irc.nl)

## Resources and Events

### Training courses

**Netwas International, Nairobi, Kenya**

In 2002 Netwas is offering the following courses:

- Action Monitoring for Effectiveness, 11-22 Mar 2002 (3 weeks), Nairobi, Kenya

### News in Brief continued

growing market for equipment and services aimed at improving water efficiency (e.g. metering, leak detection). In addition, some US\$ 2 billion (EUR 2.2 billion) in tenders is available for international water and wastewater projects in Baja California, Mexico City and Guadalajara.

(EVD, 19 Dec 2001)

#### Morocco: 25 Years Lease to Vivendi Consortium

On 12 Dec 2001, a consortium led by French utility Vivendi Environnement sealed a US\$ 660 million (EUR 739 million) water and power concession. This consortium, Société des Eaux et d'Electricité du Nord, also includes CGE-Hydro Quebec, Moroccan-Emirates firm Samed and Morocco's own ONA conglomerate. This 25-year contract covers a population of 1.2 million in the northern cities of Tangiers and Tetouan. A total of US\$ 280 million (EUR 314 million) will be devoted to sewerage in the two cities and US\$ 160 million (EUR 179 million) to drinking water. Other countries in the region are also investing in the water and wastewater sectors. In Oct 2001 Algeria earmarked US\$ 3.6 billion (EUR 4.0 billion) for the water sector budget, and in Dec 2001 the European Investment Bank (EIB) gave Tunisia a US\$ 176 million (EUR 197 million) loan to finance an upgrading programme for a water supply scheme.

Contact: Matthew Barker, Frost & Sullivan, e-mail: [water@frost.com](mailto:water@frost.com) (Frost & Sullivan, 3 Jan 2002)

- Gender, Equity & Income Generation In Community WES Programmes, 11-22 Mar 2002 (2 weeks), Kampala, Uganda
- Hygiene Education & Promotion, 8-26 Apr 2002 (3 weeks), Nairobi, Kenya
- Sustaining WES Projects/Programmes: Tools for Managers, 29 Apr - 10 May 2002 (2 weeks), Nairobi, Kenya
- Community Management Promotion, 27 May - 7 Jun 2002 (2 weeks), Nairobi, Kenya

Contact: *NETWAS International, PO Box 15614, Nairobi, Kenya, fax: +254-2-890553/54, e-mail: net-trs@nbnet.co.ke, http://www.netwasgroup.com/*

### **Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Special Program for Urban and Regional Studies of Developing Areas**

Municipal Water and Sanitation Pricing and Tariff Design in Developing Countries, Cambridge, MA, USA, 10-14 Jun 2002 (1 week)

Workshop offered in collaboration with the World Bank and the World Bank Institute. Target Group: Professional planners, planning engineers, government officials, university faculty and other professionals. Topics include: tariff setting and tariff structures (particularly increasing block tariffs); pricing policies in relation to the poor, utility privatization, integrated water resources management, water markets, and transboundary waters; and institutional constraints & reform strategies. Fees: US\$ 2800 (EUR 3,135). Application deadline: 15 Mar 2002.

Contact: *Fernando Quezada, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Building 10-400, 77 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge, MA 02139, USA, fax: +1-617-2580382, e-mail: quezada@mit.edu*

## **New Publications**

Mukherjee, N. (2001). *Achieving sustained sanitation for the poor : policy and strategy lessons from participatory assessments in Cambodia, Indonesia and Vietnam*. Washington, USA, Water and Sanitation Program (WSP) - East Asia and the Pacific. 38 p.

Available from: WSP-EAP, Jakarta Stock Exchange Building, Tower 2, 13th Floor Jl. Jenderal Sudirman, Kav. 52-53, Jakarta 12190, Indonesia, fax: +62 21 52993004, e-mail: [wspcap@worldbank.org](mailto:wspcap@worldbank.org)

This report is based on site reports and country data summaries prepared by field research teams in Cambodia, Indonesia and Viet Nam. The study presents communities where sanitation interventions have been successful and learn from them what contributed to the success. It addresses the following questions: what does work for rural sanitation and why. What makes services sustainable and what leads to their effective use by all?

WHO (2001). *Water, sanitation and health electronic library 1.0 : a compendium of WHO information on water, sanitation and health*. Geneva, Switzerland, World Health Organization. CD-ROM (10,700 p., 161 MB). ISBN 92-4-

154549-6. Price: CHF 250 / US\$ 225 (EUR 169), developing countries: CHF 70 / US\$ 63 (EUR 47.33)

Available through booksellers or direct from WHO, Marketing & Dissemination, CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland, fax: +41 22 791857, e-mail: [bookorders@who.int](mailto:bookorders@who.int)

## **Events**

### **22 Mar 2002 - World Water Day**

Lead UN Agency: International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Theme: Water for Development. The focus will be on the links between freshwater and human, social and economic development, especially as a result of increasing demand in the agriculture, industry and domestic water sectors, pollution, overexploitation, and climate change. URL: <http://waterday2002.iaea.org/>

Contact: IAEA, PO Box 100, A-1400 Vienna, Austria, fax: +43-126007, e-mail: [waterday@iaea.org](mailto:waterday@iaea.org)

### **28-31 May 2002 - International Conference on Water and Sanitation Services in Small Towns and Multi Village Schemes, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

Organized by: Federal Government of Ethiopia, World Bank and Water and Sanitation Program (WSP). The aim is "to continue sector dialogue and assist the countries in implementation of sector reforms in the management of water and sanitation services in small towns and multi village schemes", based on the global World Bank/WSP initiative that studied and documented innovative management models.

Contact: *Annie Manou-Savina, WSP-AF, World Bank, PO Box 30577, Nairobi, Kenya, fax: +254-2-260386, e-mail: [wspaf@worldbank.org](mailto:wspaf@worldbank.org)*

## **Colophon**

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# SOURCE Bulletin

water and sanitation news review



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## News to our subscribers

For those of you who have recently obtained e-mail access, we invite you to subscribe to our weekly electronic news service Source Weekly. The feature articles of the printed version of Source Bulletin are included in a bi-monthly special edition of the electronic Source Weekly: Special Features Edition. Source Bulletin will continue to be published on paper for those in the developing world without e-mail access.

*If you are interested in subscribing to the electronic news service, please see the colophon on page 8.*

## HIV/AIDS has great impact on WSS service delivery

The scourge of HIV/AIDS in Sub Saharan Africa is a human tragedy at the level of individual families and communities, and a regional tragedy in the impact on the hopes of nations.

As well as the huge cost in human lives, suffering and sorrow, HIV/AIDS is having a devastating impact on economic and social development. The water and sanitation sector is not immune to this, and indeed some of its best hopes are now being put at risk.

Eng. Samuel Wambua, the Executive Director of NETWAS International painted a grim 'life and death' scenario in his address to a seminar for the Swiss Development Co-operation in Africa. He said: "Unless mechanisms are put in place to halt the spread of AIDS, a scenario may arise where we will have few customers to provide water to, few effective service providers, few to provide labour, few experts to provide management and technical support in the sector."

Mr. Wambua was giving the keynote address to the 13th Regional Water and Sanitation Seminar in Nairobi, in September 2001.

Sub Saharan Africa accounts for about 60 percent of the total 34 million HIV infections. The spread and effects of HIV/AIDS in Africa will frustrate efforts to transfer the management of public water schemes to communities and the private sector. John Ondari and Rose Lidonde from the Water and Sanitation Program in Africa write in the special issue of Water and Sanitation Update (Jan. - Apr. 2002, Vol. 8, no. 3) <http://www.netwasgroup.com/NetworkingInfo/WSUpdate2.htm>.

This was the first time that a regional African meeting of the water sector discussed at length the implications of the impacts of the spread of HIV/AIDS, which the Kenyan Government in 1999 declared a national disaster. Participants from five other African countries Ethiopia, Lesotho, Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda joined the discussion during the three-day seminar.

In Kenya over 2.2 million people are HIV infected, or about 16 percent of the adult population, with estimated 700 deaths per day through HIV/AIDS (GoK report). The majority of the HIV infections are in young men and women who should provide the cadre needed to reform of the water and sanitation sector.

According to Ondari and Lidonde there is no statistical information that shows the actual impact of HIV/AIDS on water and sanitation services. Yet, it is clear to them that it has impacts on the deliver of social services, including water. Cash income and labour are partly diverted to cope with and/or compensate for the effect of HIV/AIDS, leaving fewer resources for water and sanitation. They urge the WSS sector to carry out studies to quantify the real magnitude of HIV/AIDS.

Amongst the ways that the disease will impact on the sector are the following:

**HIV/AIDS versus budget allocations:** Studies and evaluations carried out in the last few years in Kenya have estimated the investment cost of a fairly sustainable WSS for the next 10 years to approximate US\$ 2.6 billion. However, financial allocations to the development of WSS in Kenya has been declining, while financial allocations towards the fight against HIV/AIDS has been increasing in real terms.

### **Private sector in rural and small towns water supplies:**

Efforts to transfer the management of public water schemes to communities and the private sector will be frustrated by the spread and effects of HIV/AIDS. Most private sector providers (PSPs) in rural areas and small towns are either sole proprietors, or companies whose shareholding is in the hands of spouses or chains of small family businesses. In the case of a sole proprietor or family business, the death of the principle actor means the end of the business. The collective impact summation of many individual tragedies will be devastating, yet many small towns and rural communities are too small to attract the management of large water utility companies.

### **Reduction in community participation in water activities:**

Community time, efforts and other resources that were formerly used to plan and provide water services are now spent on HIV/AIDS related activities.

### **Employees in O&M an example of best practices:**

A look at some indicators on staff requirements in piped water supplies demonstrate that very strong and healthy persons are required to run sustainable water utilities. If a water project in Kenya's urban areas employed 2 persons per 1000 connections, then a meter reader would be expected to walk a daily distance of more than 10 Km in order to reach his monthly target. This distance is much longer in a rural situation. People who have become ill with AIDS are unlikely to reach these targets.

**Credit for water improvement:** The viability of credit schemes are at risk because:

- Increased mortality may raise the number of defaults,
- AIDS affected families may be forced to liquidate their assets to repay the credit, and
- AIDS afflicted families may have to spend part or all the credit to finance medical care for family member suffering from HIV/AIDS.

**Tariff adjustments:** Water utilities face increased labour costs because of low productivity, absenteeism, shortage of labour, shorter working hours, sick leave and other benefits, increased funeral expenses, time-off by healthy workers to visit the sick and attend funerals, early retirement and additional training costs. The overall result is an upward adjustment of water tariffs to meet the increased expenses. Water for use as an economic good becomes unaffordable, leading to increased poverty levels.

The national AIDS control programme in Kenya plans to increase knowledge on HIV/AIDS among WSS workers, making condoms available to sector workers, train volunteers on counselling sector staff and improve access to treatment and care of infected WSS workers.

As reported in Source Weekly ([http://www.wsscc.org/source/weekly/02012.html#south\\_africa](http://www.wsscc.org/source/weekly/02012.html#south_africa)) in South Africa late last year Playpumps (simple merry-go-rounds installed above wells) were installed in 40 villages. Their HIV/AIDS prevention messages aimed especially at young women, who are frequently charged with collecting water for their households, are displayed on the water tanks.

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## **March 22, 2002 is World Water Day: "Water for Development"**

Water is essential for the life of our planet and it is today under pressure as never before.

Water sustains our agriculture and industry. It is vital to growing food, nourishing livestock, processing raw

materials, and developing technology. Water was once viewed as an infinitely renewable and bountiful resource. Today, access to freshwater defines and confines human, social, and economic development aspirations in many parts of the world.

### **Daily realities from community water supply management**



#### **Gilgit – Pakistan: Caretaker selected at village meeting**

*"I will do my best to perform my duty as well as possible. I am very grateful to the villagers for selecting me as the caretaker. I hope that they will pay me on time and that their payments will live up to the promised amount. Last year there were some delays. But I hope that that will not be the case this year."*

In a village auction in Gilgit, Pakistan Mir Wali asked for six bags of grain a year to take care of the tank. The community accepted his offer and appointed him as caretaker of the water tank.

Source: Participatory action research and dissemination project on community management of rural water supplies, <http://www.irc.nl/manage/index.html>

In fact, it has been observed that while the 20th Century was about oil, the 21st Century will be about water.

### ***What are the issues?***

The impact of population growth on water availability is an increasing challenge.

Already, with a world population of 6.1 billion, lack of water is a pressing problem in developing countries. As the population continues to grow — and it is expected to exceed 9 billion by 2050 — the demand for water may become acute. The signs are already evident. In some developed countries, water is often returned to the environment in a polluted state, threatening its source. In some cities, demand for water not only threatens to exceed supply, but the quality of the water itself is also a concern. Improved technology in agriculture has increased food production and demand for water has correspondingly increased. Improper irrigation practices can turn fertile land into deserts.

These and other issues all point to the urgent need to improve management of our water resources. Although two-thirds of the Earth is covered in water, only a small fraction — about 2.5% — is not salty, and much of that is locked up in icecaps and glaciers. The challenge at the local, regional, and global level is to protect the Earth's limited store of freshwater, conserve its use, and improve how it is managed. To do this, management decisions must be based on an understanding of the water cycle.

World Water Day: "Water for Development" is more than just a time to reflect on the importance of water for development. It is also a call for action to sustain this precious resource today and in the future.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is leading the UN system's activities for World Water Day 2002. Its water resource programme focuses on the use of naturally occurring isotopes in water molecules to provide information about the size, age, and flow of water on Earth. Through this support and technical assistance, the IAEA helps 133 Member States improve the understanding of their water resources for sustainable management. The IAEA is building a website for World Water Day 2002 see [www.waterday2002.iaea.org](http://www.waterday2002.iaea.org).

On 21 February 2002 IRC launched its revised World Water Day ([www.worldwaterday.org](http://www.worldwaterday.org) web) site, based on the successful WWD 2001 site it maintained with WHO on Water and Health. The revised site links to the WWD 2002 site of the IAEA. It also contains links to water, sanitation and hygiene campaigns of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council and IRC and partners, and links to other key organisations. The WWD 2002 site provides an updated Water for Development advocacy guide, background information about previous years and a selection of photos. Visitors to the site can add events and comments. The WWD 2001 site contained details of more than 100 events and it scored 223,868 page views in 11 months of last year.

Poverty reduction, economic impact, improved health and reduced drudgery for women are four key goals for water sanitation and hygiene programmes. The WSSCC has launched its Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for all – WASH campaign. Meanwhile IRC and partners have called attention to the need for a sustainable livelihoods approach to water.



## **News from the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council**

### **WSSCC and UN-HABITAT call for urgent action to address water and sanitation crisis**

Hundreds of delegates to the Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD) preparatory meeting in New York were urged to ensure that safe water and adequate sanitation for the world's unserved populations get top billing at the Johannesburg Summit this August.

The Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) joined forces because they were concerned that the delegates at the CSD PrepComII meeting in New York of end January would ignore the outcome of the Bonn Freshwater Conference held last December. They organised a high-level roundtable panel for delegates entitled, From Bonn to Johannesburg: Putting Water and Sanitation on Top of the Political Agenda.

Sir Richard Jolly, Chair WSSCC told the delegates bluntly: "It's time for a change. Sanitation is not a dirty word!" Sir

Richard urged everyone to "end the apathy and inaction and to solve the global human settlement problem which threatens the well-being and security for rich and poor countries alike". He said: "Environmental sanitation, hygiene promotion and safe water supplies are vital for protecting the environment, improving health and alleviating poverty." "Disease, drudgery, loss of human dignity and millions of deaths every year are directly attributable to the lack of these basic services. Often, the poor are desperate to act, but are often powerless. It is unthinkable that the world stands by as 6,000 die every day of preventable diseases whose causes are well known and easily remedied. These killers – water-borne diseases such as diarrhoea – constitute a world-wide "silent emergency."

Mrs. Anna Kajumulo Tibaijuka, the Executive Director of UN-Habitat, said that rapidly rising populations in urban

areas, particularly in developing countries was a cause for alarm. In many cities and towns in the South, 50-70 % of the population lives in slums and squatter settlements without adequate shelter and basic services. Many of the poor end-up paying up to twenty times more than the rich for water, and women and children suffer the most.

“What makes this worse is that in many of these cities up to 50 % of the water is being wasted and is unaccounted for,” said Mrs. Tibaijuka. “The situation is totally unsustainable and unacceptable.”

UN-Habitat prioritises water and sanitation policies in human settlements. It says that access to safe water and adequate sanitation are the key indicators for monitoring the UN Millennium Declaration goal of improving the living conditions of 100 million slum dwellers. UN-Habitat's extensive experience in upgrading slums shows that it is possible to improve the situation through good urban governance and political and social resolve.

Mrs. Tibaijuka warned: “Without safe water and adequate sanitation, there can be no sustainable human settlements, and without sustainable settlements there can be no sustainable development.”

Women and children suffer the most. According to the WSSCC/WHO/UNICEF Global Assessment Report 2000, there are 2.4 billion people around the globe without access to adequate sanitation facilities. Diseases resulting from poor sanitation and hygiene are responsible for the deaths of two million children every year.

The consequences are also devastating in other ways, says the WSSCC. Where there are no latrines many girls avoid school. Without latrines women and girls wait until dark to defecate, exposing themselves to harassment and sexual assault.

Sir Richard Jolly, WSSCC Chair, said: “Only through improved sanitation, in conjunction with a safe water supply and better water resources management can communities, empowered by governments and aided by other stakeholders, improve the environment of impoverished households. Only by improving household

sanitation on a mass scale can a country hope to climb up the development ladder.”

The International Conference on Freshwater in Bonn, Germany (3-7 December 2001) ended with a Declaration signed by 60 Ministers, which identified five keys to sustainable development. Mrs. Margaret Catley-Carlson, Chair of the Global Water Partnership and facilitator of the Bonn Conference highlighted The first key - “to meet the water security needs of the poor – for livelihoods, health and welfare, production and food security and reducing vulnerability to disasters”.

She said: “Pro-poor water policies focus on listening to the poor about their priority water security needs. It is time now to build on the national and international commitment on drinking water with the determination also to halve the number of those who do not have access to sanitation.”

The Declaration signed in Bonn, Germany said it clearly: “We express our deep concern that at the beginning of the 21st century 1.2 billion people live a life in poverty without access to safe drinking water, and that almost 2.4 billion have no access to proper sanitation. Safe and sufficient water and sanitation are basic human needs. The world-wide struggle to alleviate poverty must bring safe and decent living conditions to those who are deprived of these basic requirements.”

The roundtable debate during in New York stepped up the pressure and raised the level of debate in the run-up to the World Summit for Sustainable Development to be held in Johannesburg, from 26 August to 6 September 2002.

Alongside Sir Richard Jolly, Mrs Kajumulo Tibaijuka and Mrs Catley-Carlson, other roundtable panellists included:

- Mr. Christian Olver, Director-General, Department of Environment and Tourism, South Africa
- Mrs. Maria Mutagamba E. Lubega, Minister of State for Water, Uganda
- Mr. Rashid Alimov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations
- Mr. Victor Krishna-Kanu, Director, African Institute of Sathya Sai Education, Zambia

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## WSSCC strategy for World Water Day 2002

The WSSCC is organising a range of activities around World Water Day 2002, which has as theme ‘Water for Development’. Some of them are global in nature, others focus on activities in South Africa.

The Council's Chair, Sir Richard Jolly, will issue a Message on World Water Day.

In fact, the period from 19 to 24 March has been declared as national World Water Week. The WSSCC and the Republic of South Africa will launch the national WASH - Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for all - campaign in Ladyship, which has suffered from a cholera outbreak. This presents an opportunity to draw attention to the importance of

sanitation and hygiene in water resources management. Promotional material will be produced for the public and schools.

On 18 March, the WSSCC will be participating in a journalists' workshop organised by the World Bank Institute and its partners in the Third World Water Forum Water Journalists' Program, funded by The Netherlands, Japan and the World Bank Institute (WBI). Mr. Gourisankar Ghosh, executive director of the WSSCC, is a keynote speaker at this event. A luncheon hosted by the Johannesburg Press Club, will hear a lecture by Mr. Ronnie Kasrils, Minister for Water Affairs and Forestry.

CNN International in cooperation with UN DPI plans to broadcast on UN in Action an interview with Sir Richard Jolly using footage from the WSSCC video news release *The Silent Emergency*, which was premiered at the International Conference on Freshwater roundtable panel organised by the WSSCC.

Other media advocacy activities include:

- an article on the WASII campaign in the March issue of the Sustainable Development Journal;
- a press conference and media interviews during the World Water Day commemoration in South Africa.



## News from IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre

### Evaluation helps IRC focus on two core areas

In response to the evaluation in 2001 by the Directorate General of International Cooperation (DGIS) of the Netherlands, IRC has developed a new business plan addressing the need for a new direction. The Business Plan 2002 – 2006 sets out a major change in the orientation, core activities and institutional structure of IRC. This will place IRC in a strategic position as a knowledge-based organisation, that is responsive to the water and sanitation needs of developing countries and countries in transition.

Knowledge plays a key role in meeting the many and varied challenges facing the contemporary world in enabling the poor and disadvantaged to meet their needs for water and sanitation in a sustainable, efficient and affordable manner. Knowledge is power, and the goal is to empower the poor to find their own solutions and control their own resources. The approach set out in the new business plan reflects the fact that traditional, supply-oriented approaches are increasingly being replaced by approaches that emphasise institutional strengthening and community empowerment. Knowledge-based institutions in the North must adapt to reflect these new realities.

These changes are encapsulated in IRC's mission statement, which is: "To facilitate the sharing, promotion and use of knowledge so that governments, professionals and organisations can better support poor men, women and children in developing countries to obtain water and sanitation services they will use and maintain".

IRC will meet these challenges through re-focusing on two core areas of activity:

- To provide improved access to and promote the use of knowledge among sector institutions and other

stakeholders. This will be achieved through strengthening IRC's knowledge base, actions to make the base easily accessible to a wide range of stakeholders, the synthesis of knowledge on key issues, the dissemination of materials and the promotion of better knowledge use in developing countries.

- To build the capacity of resource centres for the WSS sector in developing countries. A strategy to incrementally increase the number of resource centres is outlined, along with the activities through which their capacities will be strengthened.

These core areas are, of course, linked in many ways, but a distinctive programme of activities is outlined for each that will maximise the comparative advantages that IRC possesses. Taken together, these activities will ensure that the re-orientation of IRC is successful and that the faith placed by the Netherlands Government in IRC as a knowledge-based institution is met with the necessary change of direction. Core funding will mean that IRC can develop long-term strategies and institutional relationships to disseminate knowledge and build capacities amongst development partners.

Being responsive to the needs of different 'clients' for knowledge and working in long-term partnerships with resource centres in a range of countries necessitates a level of flexibility in the plans and the management processes that IRC will adopt. Measures are put in place, through periodic reviews and external guidance structures, to ensure that flexibility is available but the core trajectory of development is maintained.

### Partners and IRC discuss a new five-year support programme

IRC hosted a meeting of partners in Delft from 18 to 22 February to discuss possibilities of joint work to shape a new Resource Centre Development Programme (RCD). The meeting offered a forum for partner organisations to express and exchange thoughts and start planning how best resource centres (a combination of a publishing house and a knowledge broker) can more effectively address sector problems.

Partners at the meeting were the Directors and senior staff of CFPAS from Mozambique, CINARA from Colombia, NETWAS International from Kenya, NEWAH from Nepal and PCWS from the Philippines. They all showed keen commitment towards becoming a stronger resource centre. They are also members of the Streams of Knowledge (SoK) coalition. As this is a gradual process, only a few partners were invited at this stage.

## News In Brief

### Anti-globalisation: Water Activists Meet at World Social Forum

A thousand people attended the conference Water - Common Good on 2 Feb 2002, during the World Social Forum, a meeting of 15,000 anti-globalisation activists in Porto Alegre, Brazil. Among the objectives of the water workshop were to press for a World Water Convention, treating water as a common heritage of humanity, a World Water Parliament and a World Coalition of Citizens fighting against water 'commodification' and Privatisation. It is not only activists who are critical of water privatisation. Especially in developing countries, weak local governments may not be able to get the best possible deal for consumers when negotiating contracts with water multinationals. Related web site: World Social Forum, [www.forumsocialmundial.org.br/eng/index.asp](http://www.forumsocialmundial.org.br/eng/index.asp)

Contact: Riccardo Petrella, International Committee for the Global Water Contract, Rue Monrose 30-B Brussels, Belgium, e-mail: [riccardo.petrella@cec.eu.int](mailto:riccardo.petrella@cec.eu.int)

### Uganda: Minister Highlights Water and Sanitation Problems

Half the population of Uganda lacks access to safe water, and only about 30% has access to adequate sanitation. The Minister of State for Water, Lands and the Environment, Maria Mutagamba, inaugurated an office for the Uganda Water and Sanitation Network (UWASNET) at Bugolobi, Kampala, to strengthen the contribution of NGOs and community-based organisations to achieving water and sanitation sector goals in Uganda. Access to safe drinking water and to a clean healthy environment remain two of the most commonly unfulfilled human rights in Uganda, according to the humanitarian web site Ugandaaid. The poor water and sanitation situation in Uganda disproportionately affects children and women. Related sites: UWASNET, <http://www.ugandaaid.net/Organisations/uwasnetwebpage.htm>; Ugandaaid, <http://www.ugandaaid.net>

Contact: UWASNET, PO Box 33396, Kampala, Uganda fax: 256-41-220194, e-mail: [ngocoord@infocom.co.ug](mailto:ngocoord@infocom.co.ug)

[IRIN, 15 Feb 2002]

News in Brief continued on page 7

The specific objectives of the participatory planning meeting were:

- to agree on the scope and methodology of RCD,
- to do operational planning for sector review and strategic collaboration, and
- to develop a programme for joint activities and budget for 2002.

The discussions helped clarify the links between SoK and RCD, but also between these and WELL, and other programmes. WELL focuses on various activities such as information, and documentation support to DFID and partners (see item below on WELL enquiry services). RCD focuses on information brokerage and knowledge sharing. SoK focuses more on building a coalition for joint fund-raising, on giving support to the implementation of VISION 21 and the Iguazú Action Programme; and on helping applied research and in-country training on selected themes.

The work by partners shows that there are a number of immediate opportunities for advocacy in RCD activities. Advocacy promotes awareness raising leading to commitment to action by decision makers and sector professionals at all levels. IRC will support partners in effective advocacy related to the RCD joint activities, to get key themes higher on the sector agenda. This will include joint articles, paper and presentations in relevant periodicals and conferences. There is also work to produce promotional material and improve skills to strengthen the role resource centres can play at country level.



## Recent WELL enquiries handled

As reported in Source Bulletin 20 (December 2001) the WELL - Resource Centre Network for Water, Sanitation and Environmental Health has started providing services and products. Examples of recent Immediate Technical Response handled by IRC as part of the WELL project include:

- water supply consumer protection for the poor for DFID;
- training materials on action monitoring for the South African government;
- recent decentralisation experiences in WSS for SNV Netherlands Development Organisation in Angola;
- accessing web page files (including PDF files) by mail for Save the Children in Myanmar.

The WELL Enquiry Service is available for DFID staff, NGOs, developing country governments and UN agencies working in development or disaster relief in the water, sanitation and environmental health sectors. Up to one day of free advice can be provided per enquiry. Enquiries can be submitted by e-mail: [well@irc.nl](mailto:well@irc.nl), or via the WELL website [www.lboro.ac.uk/well/services/enquiry-service.htm](http://www.lboro.ac.uk/well/services/enquiry-service.htm)

WELL is a DFID-funded Resource Centre Network provided by a North-South partnership of key organisations: WEDC (Loughborough, UK), LSHTM (London, UK), IRC (Delft, The Netherlands) and eight resource centres in southern and transitional countries: AMREF and NETWAS (Kenya), EHC (Russia), CINARA (Colombia), ICDDR-B (Bangladesh), IWSD (Zimbabwe), SEUF (India) and TREND (Ghana).

The WELL Network provides other services including Publications and a document service for which applications may be made through the WELL website: [www.lboro.ac.uk/well/services/document-service.htm](http://www.lboro.ac.uk/well/services/document-service.htm). The frequently updated web site offers access to an international help desk, downloadable publications, an online catalogue of publications, the document and image library services and useful links. The website is also available on CD Rom.

The postal address is: WELL at WEDC, Loughborough University, Leicestershire LE11 3TU UK (fax: +44 1509 211079), e-mail: [well@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:well@lboro.ac.uk)

## Resources and Events

### Training courses

#### NETWAS International, Kenya

Participatory Monitoring for Effective WES Projects/Programmes, Nairobi, Kenya, 10-21 Jun 2002 (2 weeks). Target group: programme managers and mid-level managers for effective and participatory monitoring.

Promotion of Hygiene and Environmental Sanitation: Optimising Benefits from WES Services, Nairobi, Kenya, 12-23 Aug 2002 (2 weeks). Target group: staff engaged in promoting and sustaining hygiene behaviours.

Contact: NETWAS International, PO Box 15614-00503 Mbagathi, Nairobi, Kenya, fax: +254-2-890553/54, e-mail: [netwas@nbnet.co.ke](mailto:netwas@nbnet.co.ke), <http://www.netwasgroup.com>

#### Staffordshire University, UK

MSc. Water and Environmental Management, Sep 2002 (12-18 months full-time, 2-3 years part time).

Internet-based on-line distance learning course. Fees: GBP 4,200 (EUR 6,820). URL: [http://www.staffs.ac.uk/schools/sciences/geography/dlearn/mscwem/index\\_mscwem.html](http://www.staffs.ac.uk/schools/sciences/geography/dlearn/mscwem/index_mscwem.html)

Contact: Dr. Glynn Skerratt, e-mail: [rgs1@staffs.ac.uk](mailto:rgs1@staffs.ac.uk)

### New Publications

Raschid-Sally, L., Snel, M. and Bastemeijer, T. (2002). *Serving the water and sanitation sector : resource centre experiences, developments and future trends*. (Project and programme paper ; no. 7). Delft, The Netherlands, IRC, International Water and Sanitation Centre. 56 p. Available online: <http://www.irc.nl/products/publications/online/pr7e/index.html>

Price hard copy: EUR 9.00 Available from: IRC, e-mail: [publications@irc.nl](mailto:publications@irc.nl)

Summary of the concepts developed and lessons learnt through the STREAM project in the period from mid 1998 to mid 2001. It describes the basic concepts and highlights the major constraints for generating and sharing knowledge. Attention is given to the patterns of development and characteristics of resource centres and some typical features of resource centres and their role in knowledge generation and sharing are mentioned. The publication concentrates on how resource centres can be strengthened through diagnosing their potential and utilising tools developed for the purpose of strengthening individual centres. Finally it addresses the building of a global coalition of resource centres.

P.B. Moriarty et al. (2002). *Between rural and urban : towards sustainable management of water supply systems in small towns in Africa* (Working paper). Delft, The Netherlands, IRC, International Water and Sanitation Centre. 42 p. Available online: <http://www.irc.nl/pdf/smalltowns.pdf>

Related web site: Subject Guide Small Towns, URL: <http://www.irc.nl/LINKS/small-towns.html>

Available from: IRC, e-mail: [publications@irc.nl](mailto:publications@irc.nl)

Small towns and their water supply need are described. Experiences in small towns and the challenge of providing sustainable services are written down. Including technical aspects of water supply systems, management

#### News in Brief continued

##### India: WSP Support to Sector Reform in Four States

The Government of India has set aside 20% of its funding to State Governments to pilot community-based approaches to water and sanitation in 63 districts - to the potential benefit of 70 million rural people. The Water and Sanitation Program (WSP) completed a rapid review of the programme by assessing progress in five districts. This report will be shared in an internal workshop of the concerned states (Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra and Himachal Pradesh) before being publicly released. The review has made recommendations on specific mid-term corrections needed to ensure the effectiveness of the reforms. To facilitate support to the four state governments in implementation of the program, WSP hired five sector reform co-ordinators as short-term consultants. These co-ordinators will operate as advisors to their respective State Governments and be focal points for WSP's support to the State.

Contact: Vivek Srivastava, Team Leader (India) or Mike Webster, Rural Development Specialist, WSP, World Bank, PO Box 416, New Delhi 110003, India, fax: +91 11 4628250, e-mail: [wspsa@worldbank.org](mailto:wspsa@worldbank.org).

[Access e-newsletter, Feb 2002]

##### Latin America

##### Cholera: On Its Way Out

To increase the knowledge of the causes of cholera and its transmission, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) launched a wide-ranging public awareness campaign that included a publication on the standards to follow to combat and prevent the disease in disasters. Dr. Marlo Libel, adviser to PAHO's Program on Communicable Diseases, explains that treating cholera does not necessarily require a highly sophisticated health system.

Contact: Daniel Betheder, PAHO, 525 Twenty-third street, NW Washington, DC 20037, USA, fax: +1 202 9743663, e-mail: [srbetheder@paho.org](mailto:srbetheder@paho.org)

[PAHO, 14 Feb 2002; UN Wire, 8 Feb 2002]

arrangements, private sector participation and institutional development, hygiene education and sanitation planning. Four case studies are presented: Tanzania, Sudan and Ghana, Senegal, Benin.

#### **School Sanitation and Hygiene Education: Notes and News**

The Jan 2002 SSIIE Notes and News contains the following issues: Progress of UNICEF/IRC Project; From Deworming to Health Promoting Schools; and SSHE in UNICEF programmes. The Country News section describes SSHE conditions in the Northern Province and Western Cape of South Africa and some valuable lessons from India for those preparing SSIIE programmes. It lists new SSHE publications and web sites. Available online in English, French and Spanish at: <http://www.irc.nl/sshe/nn/index.html>, where you can also subscribe to SSHE Notes and News by post or e-mail.

Contact: e-mail: [sshe@irc.nl](mailto:sshe@irc.nl)

## **Events**

#### **29-31 May 2002 - Water Africa 2002 Sub-Sahara: Exhibition & Conference, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**

Organized by: ACE Event Management. Overall topic: Water Security: guarding resources against drought and pollution. Sub-topics include: privatization; regulation of demand; surface and groundwater protection; community involvement; agricultural & industrial pollution control; and development of institutions and human resources.

Contact: ACE Event Management, 37 Upper Duke Street, Liverpool L1 9DY, United Kingdom, fax: +44-151-7097801, e-mail: [info@ace-events.com](mailto:info@ace-events.com), <http://www.ace-events.com>

#### **11-15 Jun 2002 [new date] - International Conference on Water and Sanitation Services in Small Towns and Multi-Village Schemes, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

Organized by: Federal Government of Ethiopia, World Bank and Water and Sanitation Program (WSP).

Contact: Annie Manou-Savina, World Bank, 01 BP 1850, Abidjan 01, Côte d'Ivoire, e-mail: [wspaf@worldbank.org](mailto:wspaf@worldbank.org) or Nicholas Pilgrim, e-mail: [npilgrim@worldbank.org](mailto:npilgrim@worldbank.org), <http://www.wsp.org>

#### **16-19 Sep 2002 - 8th International Conference on Wetland Systems for Water Pollution Control, Arusha, Tanzania**

Organized by: University of Dar es Salaam and International Water Association (IWA). Topics include: hydrology, biogeochemistry, water quality, economics, industrial wastewater treatment, agricultural waste treatment, acid mine treatment, remediation, and modelling.

Contact: Conference Secretariat, Attn: Prof. JHY Katima, PO Box 35131, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. fax: +255-22-2410379, e-mail: [wetconf@cpe.udsm.ac.tz](mailto:wetconf@cpe.udsm.ac.tz), <http://www.udsm.ac.tz/faculty/foe/wetlands/>

#### **23-25 Sep 2002, 5th Specialist Conference on Small Water and Wastewater Treatment Systems, Istanbul, Turkey**

Organized by: Istanbul Technical University and International Water Association (IWA). Focus on fundamentals of water and wastewater treatment systems, wastewater treatment technology, high and low technology systems; design and operation issues; and operation of decentralized systems.

Contact: Prof. Dr. Izzet Ozturk, Istanbul Technical University, Civil Engineering Faculty, Dept. of Environmental Engineering 80626, Maslak, Istanbul, Turkey, fax: +90-212-2853781, e-mail: [small2002@srv.ins.itu.edu.tr](mailto:small2002@srv.ins.itu.edu.tr), <http://www.ins.itu.edu.tr/small2002>.

#### **7-11 Oct 2002 - Water for the Americas in the XXI Century, Mexico City, Mexico**

Organized by: National Water Commission, World Water Council, Global Water Partnership, Inter-American Water Resources Network and Water Consulting Council of Mexico. The meeting aims to contribute to the Regional Vision of the Americas for its presentation at the Third World Water Forum, Japan 2003. Topics: Integrated management of basins and aquifers; Interinstitutional Coordination; Value of water and participation of the private sector; Citizen participation; Training of Human Resources; Efficient Use of Water for Agricultural Purposes; Environmental Management and the Management of Water. URL: [http://sgp.cna.gob.mx/financiamiento/evento\\_2002/index\\_aa.htm](http://sgp.cna.gob.mx/financiamiento/evento_2002/index_aa.htm)

Contact: Lic. Rubén Ramírez Castro (logistics), <mailto:rramirez@sgp.cna.gob.mx>; Lic. Gabriela Rojas Hernández (attendees and exhibitors), <mailto:grojas@sgp.cna.gob.mx>

## **Colophon**

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# SOURCE Bulletin

water and sanitation news review



No 23

June 2002

## **Guinea worm fights back under cover of war, page 1**

Eradication is tantalisingly close – but war and lack of financial backing allow the worm to bite back.

## **European Union makes water issues a priority for Johannesburg, page 2**

Two Commissioners stress the need for meaningful commitments and specific agreements on water and clean affordable energy at the Rio + 10 Earth Summit.

## **WSSCC News**

### **WASH campaign focuses on poor areas of Nairobi, page 3**

The WASH campaign links hygiene education and sanitation to clean water. Now it comes out of the conference hall and into the slums.

### **Calls for Pro-poor Water and Sanitation for Cities, 4**

Five years after the Habitat Agenda was adopted, basic urban services are still a distant reality.

## **IRC News**

### **Sustainability of hygiene behaviour change – first lessons, page 5**

It is easier to improve knowledge than to change behaviour – but some changes seem to last.

### **E-conference on school sanitation and hygiene education, page 6**

The right to quality education implies a right to clean latrines and hygiene training.

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## **News to our subscribers**

For those of you who have recently obtained e-mail access, we invite you to subscribe to our weekly electronic news service Source Weekly. The feature articles of the printed version of Source Bulletin are included in a bi-monthly special edition of the electronic Source Weekly: Special Features Edition. Source Bulletin will continue to be published on paper for those in the developing world without e-mail access.

*If you are interested in subscribing to the electronic news service, please see the colophon on page 8.*

## **Guinea worm fights back under cover of war**

Armed conflict and wavering political commitment are the main barriers preventing eradication of Guinea worm, the cause of one of the world's most devastating diseases. The number of people infected by Guinea worm worldwide has fallen by 98% since 1989, but war and lack of financial backing in countries still plagued with this debilitating disease are allowing the number of cases to increase again.

The World Health Organization and influential campaigners are calling for a final effort to eliminate the disease in countries where cases have fallen to low levels, and for new approaches to create the space to rescue communities still living with the Guinea worm in conflict zones.

These challenges were addressed at a meeting in Khartoum, Sudan, in March 2002 involving former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, two other former heads of state, eight ministers of health and public health leaders from all countries where Guinea worm exists.

In 1989, one million people fell victim to dracunculiasis, caused by Guinea worm, and known as the "empty granary disease". Guinea worms invade the body through water and as they grow they spew a blistering acid from beneath the skin. Victims are often disabled by pain, fever and vomiting for several months which means that their farms go untended

By 1989, an inspirational group of partners had begun battling the disease by providing access to safe drinking water through water filtering, digging wells and other interventions. Hundreds of thousands of people were shown how to break the cycle of infection, by ensuring that drinking water is not contaminated by urine or faeces.

These efforts proved that eradication was possible. In 1991, the World Health Assembly resolved to eradicate Guinea worm as it had done with smallpox. WHO, UNICEF, the Carter Centre and others launched a campaign which enabled public health workers to make enormous progress.

WHO has since then certified Pakistan and India as Guinea worm disease-free and is on the verge of doing the same for other countries, including Yemen, Kenya, Senegal, Chad and Cameroon. Only 13 nations still have the disease, reporting 60,000 cases between them last year.

So much for the good news. Although 98% of Guinea worm cases have now been eradicated these gains are now at risk, unless the final effort is made.

Dr Gro Harlem Brundtland, Director-General of the World Health Organization, says: "We are at a critical and dangerous juncture. Now, just as global eradication of this disease is within reach, we face the most difficult issues of all."

Former U.S. President Carter, who helped to launch the international coalition, agrees that serious challenges remain. "To overcome these obstacles, we need financial support, political will, and diplomatic backing so affected countries can finish the job as quickly as possible."

Dr Maria Neira, Director of the WHO Guinea Worm programme, says that the challenges are no longer biological. "Simple eradication tools have proven effective all over the world. Instead, the remaining obstacles are all man-made.

If we fail to solve these problems, the momentum toward eradication may stall and the disease will rebound."

Armed conflict is the greatest barrier to eradication, as evidenced in Sudan. Of the 60,000 cases of Guinea worm identified in 2001, 80% were from Sudan and 99% of these were from southern Sudan, where civil conflict has raged for 19 years. There, 3,000 of 5,000 Guinea worm endemic villages in the region remain inaccessible to government health workers or to NGO eradication efforts.

War does not have to block eradication. In many parts of the world, fighting factions have negotiated cease-fire days for polio, lymphatic filariasis and other public health campaigns.

And war is not the only barrier. In the 12 countries with fewer than 1,000 cases each, wavering commitment threatens the final push to eradication, as public health officials confront AIDS and other health emergencies.

Donors, who supply funds for eradication, are confronted with competing demands and can become fatigued. Eradication deadlines have been missed repeatedly. The first was set for 1995, then 2000. WHO hopes to certify eradication by 2005, but warns that a critical point has now been reached.

WHO's public health experts believe that the final push will free up resources that can be redirected to other health problems. But if countries fall short of eradication, the disease can rebound. In Togo, cases jumped more than 56% between 2000 and 2001; and in that same period, Guinea worm cases soared by more than 140% in Mali.

*For more information - Dr Maria Neira, Director, WHO Communicable Disease Prevention, Control and Eradication, tel.: +41 22 791 3977, e-mail: [neiram@who.int](mailto:neiram@who.int) or contact Dr Nevio Zagaria, Coordinator, tel.: +41 22 791 2534, e-mail: [zagarian@who.int](mailto:zagarian@who.int).*

## European Union makes water issues a priority for Johannesburg

There are strong indications that the European Union (EU) will make water one of their key priority action points at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in September 2002.

Two Commissioners Margot Wallström (Environment) and Poul Nielsen (Development and Humanitarian Aid) have stressed that the EU will be looking for positive outcomes and meaningful commitments from the Summit, which marks the tenth anniversary of the Rio Earth Summit. The EU is prepared to offer concrete regional partnerships on water issues, sharing EU expertise and providing finance through their development programmes.

Ms Wallström, speaking at a conference in Brussels in April, said: "The question which we must answer in Johannesburg is how to achieve the Summit goals. We believe that by developing comprehensive initiatives on water and energy we can help make a dramatic improvement in health in the developing world, for example by providing clean drinking water and sanitation to the millions who do not have it today. Better health through better water management will also help to alleviate poverty by enabling people to build sustainable economic futures."

### Daily realities from community water supply management



Photo: Esther de Vreede, IRC/NETWAS

**Communities cannot manage complex schemes but will pay the cost**

*"The findings of the study are that communities are not well placed to manage complex technology schemes or schemes with large customer base. However, they are willing to pay cost covering tariffs as demonstrated by various financially sustainable rural schemes run by communities and in some cases by the ministry and National Water Conservation and Pipeline Corporation. Cost recovery is a cornerstone of Private Sector Participation (PSP). Indeed, irrespective of the management structure, cost recovery is a must for sustainability. Communities accept PSP if it addresses the current schemes' operational and management shortcomings, and leads to improved and efficient service delivery."*

Eng. Samuel Wambua --NETWAS International who participated in two studies commissioned by the ministry responsible for water resources in Kenya, one study on financing and institutional mechanism for community based WSS, and the second on Private Sector Participation (PSP) in rural WSS.

She said that water and clean, affordable energy were vital to help developing countries break out of poverty and underdevelopment, and should be effectively addressed in the Johannesburg action plan. "They are very high on the EU's agenda and when we meet in Bali in a few weeks, we will be actively pressing for positive outcomes and meaningful commitments for them. We are prepared to offer concrete regional partnerships in these areas, sharing EU expertise and providing finance through our development programmes.

"At least 1.1 billion people still lack access to safe drinking water and about 2.4 billion have no adequate sanitation. We want to agree in Johannesburg on a strategic partnership to halve the number of people without access to safe drinking water and sanitation by 2015 by promoting sustainable water resource management based on the principle of integrated river basin management."

Her remarks were underpinned by Poul Nielsen, European Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid, who stressed the importance of voluntary initiatives and partnerships involving countries, international organisations and stake holders, alongside the formally agreed Declarations.

Mr Nielsen told the Civil Society Conference in Brussels that the EU would consider initiatives including:

- a strategic partnership for the sustainable management of water resources, based on the principle of integrated river basin management;
- a strategic partnership in the field of energy for sustainable development,
- a specific initiative for Africa, building on existing initiatives like the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

These two European Commissioners (out of the 20) are highly influential. The Commission makes proposals for new legislation, acts as the guardian of the EU treaties to ensure that European legislation is applied correctly and is the executive body of the Union responsible for implementing and managing policy.

The Commission published in mid-March 'Water management in developing countries: Policy and priorities for EU development co-operation'. The document is designed to guide the EU's support for water resources management in developing countries in an attempt to deal with the growing scarcity and decreasing quality of global water resources. The document emphasises the need to see water resource management as part of the overall strategy for poverty reduction, alongside equitable access to social services, food security and sustainable rural development, regional integration and co-operation.

*The EU report is available online at [http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/sector/water\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/sector/water_en.htm)*



## News from the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council

### WASH Campaign focuses on poor areas of Nairobi

A campaign to promote water, sanitation and hygiene moved out of the conference halls and into one of the world's cities where its impact is most needed to save lives.

The WASH campaign is a global advocacy effort launched by the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) at the International Conference on Freshwater in Bonn, Germany last December.

Now UN-HABITAT and the WSSCC have launched WASH in Nairobi, Kenya, amidst calls for pro-poor policies for water and sanitation.

The aim of WASH is to mobilise political support and action around the world to end the suffering of 2.4 billion people without basic sanitation and 1.1 billion without access to safe water. WASH aims to raise public awareness on the need for sanitation, hygiene and safe water, to gain the commitment of political, social and opinion leaders, and ultimately to bring about structural and behavioural changes to provide a permanent solution to this preventable crisis.

As in other developing countries, rapid urban growth in Kenya has outpaced the capacity to provide and maintain basic services. The result is a lowering of the quality of life, reduced urban productivity, increased burden of health care and unmitigated environmental pollution.

According to the UN-HABITAT/Kenya Government Nairobi Situation Analysis Report 2001, roughly 60% of the City's total population - 1.5 million out of 2.5 million people - live in slums and informal settlements where it is said there are sometimes more churches than toilets.

The report says: "When 400 people are confined to share one toilet, basic standards of hygiene fall rapidly, to say nothing of dignity and self-respect."

Urban water is not good either. In Nairobi, only 11.7% of households have water connections. Low-income households are forced to pay exorbitant prices for water to street vendors. Households in Kibera, the largest slum in Nairobi, pay five to twenty times as much for a litre of water than the average American citizen. The quality of vended

water is often poor, posing a health risk to those who drink it. In such conditions, women and children suffer the most.

Kenya is one of 60 countries that signed the Bonn Ministerial Declaration assigning high priority to water and sanitation as vital keys to sustainable development. The Bonn conference placed special emphasis on a global target of halving the numbers without sanitation by the year 2015.

Kenya is also one of 22 African countries whose ministers signed a separate declaration making water, sanitation and hygiene a top priority for action in the continent.

During the launch of WASH in Nairobi in May 2002, school children presented their problems and visions on water, sanitation and hygiene. Community leaders from slums in Asia, Africa and Latin America shared experiences about how they tackled the problems of lack of access to safe drinking water and inadequate sanitation.

The launch ended with a handwashing ceremony by Mrs. Anna Kajumulo Tibaijuka, Executive Director of UN-HABITAT, Sir Richard Jolly, Chairperson of WSSCC, children and officials. The ceremony highlighted the fact that this simple, hygienic act with soap or ash and water after going to the toilet and before handling food can cut diseases by one third and save many lives from diarrhoea and other preventable diseases.

Sir Richard Jolly said: "Clean water alone leads only to minor health improvements. Sound hygiene behaviour must be addressed in its own right with adequate sanitation and clean water as supporting components. While each of the three elements has some health benefits, it is their combined effort that has far greater impact."

South Africa held the first national WASH campaign launch during World Water Week in March 2002, but Nairobi's was the first city campaign anywhere in the world.

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## Calls for Pro-poor Water and Sanitation for Cities

Meanwhile, UN-HABITAT emphasised the need for promoting pro-poor policies for water and sanitation for cities at a Dialogue on Pro-poor Water and Sanitation for Cities held on 2 May 2002 in Nairobi. The key objective was to promote a dialogue among Habitat Agenda partners on the main issues and emerging priorities in the urban water and sanitation sector, and to move towards a consensus on effective ways to meet the Millennium Declaration goal for improving living conditions for slum dwellers.

Urban basic services such as water supply and sanitation are central to promoting environmentally sustainable, healthy and habitable human settlements. Yet, five years after the adoption of the Habitat Agenda, this goal remains a distant reality in almost all the cities in developing country.

Peri-urban settlements, the inner-city slums and squatter settlements outside the regulatory boundaries of the formal city, are growing at nearly double the rate of the city proper. Such settlements accommodate between 30 and 60% of urban populations in developing country cities and 75 - 90% of future urban growth is likely to take place in these areas.

Low-income households inhabiting peri-urban settlements live in the most polluted areas, frequently at risk from flooding and landslides, or in areas contaminated with wastes. With uncertain or illegal land tenure, these low-income, high-density settlements lack the most basic infrastructure and services. Yet it is here that the challenge of attaining the goals of the Habitat Agenda will have to be met.

The Millennium Declaration has set a clear goal of achieving significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020. Providing safe water and effective and hygienic sanitation will be a central challenge to achieve this.

Participants included Sir Richard Jolly, Chair of the WSSCC, Mr. Florian Mully, Ministry of Local Government, Kenya, Mr. Ashok Chatterjee, WSSCC, Pune, India, Mr. Malick Gaye of ENDA Tiers Monde, Dakar, and Ms. Sheela Patel, SPARC, Mumbai, India. The Dialogue focused on action in three areas which are considered central to achieving the Millennium Declaration Goal:

- promoting pro-poor policies for water and sanitation;
- bridging the sanitation gap; and
- promoting community-friendly local authorities.

The Dialogue will contribute to efforts to raise water and sanitation high on the political agenda at the World Summit for Sustainable Development in Johannesburg and its outcomes will also be discussed at the Third World Water Forum in Japan in March 2003.

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## First lessons from study on sustainability of changes in hygiene behaviour

IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre and partners in six developing countries have been carrying out a study on sustaining changes in hygiene behaviour since February 2001 – and interesting lessons are emerging. This study carried out over a period of three years combines Concerted Action (CA) activities financed by the European Commission (EC) and actual field research, financed by the Dutch Government (DGIS) and the CA-members.

Its main objective is to assess the level of sustainability of behavioural change 1 to 3 years after a hygiene promotion intervention. Emerging insights in relationships between project approaches and external conditions and the sustainability of changes in hygiene behaviour will influence policy and increase the effectiveness of water and sanitation programmes.

IRC is the research coordinator. A total of eight partners have been sub-contracted by IRC. These are:

1. Network for Water and Sanitation, Kenya (NETWAS);
2. WaterAid Uganda (WAU), which works in collaboration with Uganda Association for Socio-Economic Progress (USEP);
3. Volta Region Community Water Supply and Sanitation Agency, Ghana (VRCWSA);
4. Nepal Water for Health Organisation (NEWAH);
5. COSI-Foundation for Technical Cooperation, Sri Lanka (COSI);
6. Socio-Economic Units Foundation, Kerala, India (SEUF);
7. London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom (LSHTM);
8. German Agency for Technical Cooperation, Germany (GTZ).

The country teams have finalised survey tools they developed at the first international workshop (reported in Source Bulletin no 16, <http://www.wssc/source/bulletin/sb16.html#sixcount>) and undertook their first survey late last year. IRC staff for support visited all the country teams.

IRC in collaboration with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine analysed the data and drafted a report with preliminary conclusions. Survey outcomes will be discussed during the second international workshop to be held in Kerala, India in June 2002.

In the first round of data collection a representative sample of households, and in some cases school children, was randomly selected and asked to answer questions, demonstrate a practice or show the defecation area. In each

project countries 100-150 households were visited. In some cases schools were also visited and focus group discussions held.

Each of the six countries has already produced interesting lessons. In India, the entire study team (executive director, two programme officers, one research assistant and six local assistants) was in the field for three months to complete the survey in study and control Panchayats (a village council in India). They found that after the project intervention the number of hanging latrines, which pollute ponds and river water, decreased significantly. The change to conventional latrines was much easier, as the people were accustomed to using enclosed structures for defecation. For all religions, proximity to places of worship was found to influence hygiene behaviour.

Lakhmikkutty Mullaasseril of Azheekal in Alappad Panchayat shared with the research team her experiences of acquiring a latrine.

“When my married daughter came home for delivery, she approached our neighbours to use their latrine. They refused. We felt very much insulted by their remarks. Following this incident, I immediately borrowed Rs.500 and approached the convenor of the neighbourhood committee to remit the first instalment of beneficiary contribution. Now I own a latrine and I am proud of it.”

In Sri Lanka one of the hypotheses related to latrine use was: “if water is available throughout the year, then the use of a water sealed latrine is likely to be continued”. During pre-testing the researchers realised that instead of availability of water throughout the year, it was important to change it to “if any means of storing water is adjacent to the latrine...” This gives a sharper view on whether the latrine is in use.

One initial overall finding is that knowledge about handwashing appears not to be related to the ability to demonstrate good hand-washing practice. This seems to indicate that knowledge is far better than practice. This is not surprising, but these findings should convince managers that programmes need to adjust to the fact that improved practice takes longer to occur than change in knowledge and attitudes.

### Networking and dissemination

In Ghana the study team has periodic meetings with staff of Community Water Supply and Sanitation Agency in Accra. These meetings are meant to discuss progress in the study and to relate this to the pilot initiative on global Public-Private partnership to promote handwashing, which is being

## News In Brief

### Switzerland Wants Freshwater High on the WSSD Agenda

Protection and sustainable management of freshwater resources are among Switzerland's priority issues for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg, according to Joseph Deiss, Swiss Federal Councillor of Foreign Affairs.

Mr Deiss was speaking at The Stakeholder Dialogue on Sustainable Water Management - Priorities for Policy Frameworks and Best Practices convened from 25-26 Apr 2002 at the Swiss Re Centre for Global Dialogue in Rüschlikon, Switzerland. Organised by the Swiss Government, which was represented by the interdepartmental working group, IDARio, and the insurance company Swiss Re, the Dialogue brought together over 140 policy makers from government, civil society and business.

Deliberations will feed into a thesis paper, which the Swiss Government plans to use when developing its position for negotiations on freshwater issues at the WSSD. At the meeting, Swiss Re launched the annual US\$ 100,000 (EUR 109,000) "International RE-Source Award for Sustainable Watershed Management" for projects intended to heighten public awareness of the ecological, social and economic significance of clean water and water access. The application deadline is 31 Aug 2002.

Contact: RE-Source Award 2002, Corporate Sponsoring, Swiss Reinsurance Company, Claude R. Etique, e-mail: [Claude\\_Etique@swissre.com](mailto:Claude_Etique@swissre.com) or Barbara Affolter, SDC spokeswoman, e-mail [info@deza.admin.ch](mailto:info@deza.admin.ch)

(SDC, 25 Apr 2002)

### South Africa: Clearing the Sanitation Backlog

In South Africa, decades of neglect by the Apartheid regime created a 20.8 million backlog of people without access to adequate sanitation and 14 million mainly rural South Africans without a supply of safe, clean drinking water. Over the past seven years, at a cost of ZAR 4.5 billion (EUR 471 million), the Department of Water Affairs (DWA) has cut the 1994 backlog in half and delivered safe drinking water to 7 million South Africans. However, it took an increase

undertaken by the office in Accra in collaboration with the World Bank and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Highlights of the study were published in the January-March edition of the WATSAN-News, the quarterly magazine of the Volta Region Community Water Supply and Sanitation Agency and a journalist wrote feature articles for national daily newspapers.

In Uganda the study team uses the WaterAid Exchange to share research information with other WaterAid Country Programmes. This generated a lot of debate about the methodology and the tools used for data collection. This provided useful insights into possible changes that could be made and helped in confirming proper interpretation and understanding of questions by the enumerators and the research team members. The team plans to publish preliminary findings in the Uganda Water and Sanitation NGO Network (UWASNET) newsletter. The team in Nepal is planning a national seminar on the hygiene research.

The IRC web-site has a number of pages on the project and project documents <http://www.irc.nl/projects/susthygb/index.html>, such as the workshop report and the newsletter have been put on the web <http://www.irc.nl/projects/susthygb/nl01.html>

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## E-conference on school sanitation and hygiene education

UNICEF and IRC are engaged in an electronic conference on School Sanitation and Hygiene Education (SSHE) which started on 29 April and lasts until 7 June. The objective is to create a debate between all those involved with school hygiene and sanitation – in particular how we can:

- create conditions on a large scale to enable every child to learn in a healthy and safe school environment; and
- ensure that every child masters and spreads good sanitation and hygiene practices at school and at home.

Education has been acknowledged as a basic human right since 1948. It is confirmed in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which is the most universally accepted human rights treaty in history. Today, the right to education is high on the political agenda. EFA ("education for all") is an official UN goal and access to quality basic education for all children, girls as well as boys, is part of the development agenda of the Millennium Declaration.

"Education for all" means ensuring that all children have access to quality education. This implies creating an environment in schools and in basic education programmes in which children are both able and enabled to learn. Quality education is not possible in schools or informal places of learning such as factories and workshops which lack basic hygiene, because sanitary facilities and water are missing, or because facilities are broken or not properly used. If children do not have the basic knowledge, attitudes and habits of good hygiene or cannot practice them, their education is neither complete nor effective. Even worse, an unsafe school environment may damage their health.

Growing recognition of the importance of quality primary education has inspired UNICEF, WHO, UNESCO and the World Bank to create a partnership to Focus Resources on Effective School Health (FRESH). FRESH campaigns for water and sanitation facilities in all schools, life skills based health and hygiene education, the establishment of school policies for health promotion, and the establishment of school nutrition and health services.

*News in Brief continued on page 7*

Meanwhile Vision 21, which is part of the action plan of the Second World Water Forum, has set specific school hygiene and sanitation goals. These say that by 2015, 80% of primary school children should be educated about hygiene and all schools should be equipped with facilities for sanitation and hand washing. UNICEF and IRC have been working together on SSHE programmes in seven countries since 1996 and have published a joint manual.

Three themes are being discussed in the electronic-conference:

- **Making all SSHE programmes work:** what are the necessary conditions and aspects for effective, successful and sustainable SSHE programmes?
- **Putting the child at the centre:** how can we create the conditions for meaningful participation of children, and how can we create an environment in which they have the right to speak and act in the different stages and aspects of SSHE programmes?
- **Overcoming the hurdles and scaling up:** how can we create the large-scale conditions that will enable every child to learn in a healthy and safe school environment and master and spread good sanitation and hygiene practices in and throughout their local school as well as their home?

The electronic conference has the theme "Every child clean through school hygiene". In the first two weeks the conference had 350 subscribers who shared 43 messages.

See for more information the special web site: <http://www/irc.nl/projects/sshe>, or e-mail to [sshe@irc.nl](mailto:sshe@irc.nl)

## Resources and Events

### Training Courses

#### Institute of Water and Environment, Cranfield University, UK

MSc Water and Society, Oct 2002 – Sep 2003 (12 months), Silsoe, UK

Incorporates the integration of management, policy, economics and social issues. Taught units: water management; water quality and quality testing; water politics & globalisation; catchment management of water quality; water engineering economics of environment and resource management; surface and groundwater hydrology; water law; modelling hydrological systems; and society and water policy evaluation.

URL: <http://www.silsoe.cranfield.ac.uk/iwe/courses/w&s.htm>

Contact: Student Enquiries, Cranfield University, Silsoe, Bedford MK45 4DT, UK, fax: +44-1525-863399; e-mail: [StudentEnquiries.silsoe@cranfield.ac.uk](mailto:StudentEnquiries.silsoe@cranfield.ac.uk)

#### Salzburg Seminar, Austria

The Politics of Water - Addressing Fresh Water Scarcity (Session 404), Salzburg, Austria, 16-23 Oct 2002 (1 week)

This session will bring together leaders from the scientific, environmental, government, academic, security, and business communities to consider ways to elevate the issue of water scarcity to a global priority and to explore possible solutions. They will discuss the diverse causes and impacts of fresh water scarcity at the local, national, and international levels, and seek ways to make water a sustainable resource.

Application deadline: August 16 or until the session is filled. <http://www.salzburgseminar.org/2002online.cfm>

Contact: Salzburg Seminar, Schloss Leopoldskron, Leopoldskronstrasse 56-58, Box 129, A-5010 Salzburg, Austria, fax +43-662-839837, e-mail: [info@salzburgseminar.org](mailto:info@salzburgseminar.org)

#### News in Brief continued

in the incidence of cholera in various parts of the country two years ago to underline the need for a more rapid delivery of basic sanitation services. There are still over 400,000 households in the country using the bucket system, unimproved pit toilets or the veld (open defecation). The Government will spend ZAR 2.9 million (EUR 304,000) in the Northern Cape this financial year in this regard. Nationally, it is aiming to clear the inherited sanitation backlog by 2010.

Contact: Babs Naidoo, DWAF, fax: +27-12-3246592, e-mail: [bda@dwaf.pwv.gov.za](mailto:bda@dwaf.pwv.gov.za)

(South African Press Association, 18 Apr 2002)

#### Palestine: USAID to Restore Water Supply

The United States will provide emergency funding to restore the infrastructure for the supply of water to the West Bank that was destroyed during the Israel Defence Forces' military offensive. The US administration is also funding the purchase of bottled water and water tankers that are being taken to the areas in which the infrastructure has yet to be repaired, particularly the Jenin refugee camp. To this end, the American government fund, USAID, has signed a contract worth "several millions of dollars" with CDM a US company that has been active in the West Bank for several years, carrying out waterworks for the Palestinian Authority. In the last week of Apr 2002, some US\$ 50,000 (EUR 54,500) was spent on the purchase of bottled water and tankers, specifically from a Palestinian rather than an Israeli company. The programme will be implemented in stages. First, drinking water will be supplied to the thousands who are still cut off from the fresh water supply. Then, the damage to the infrastructure in the various towns will be assessed and new emergency equipment will be purchased. A portion of the aid will also go toward acquiring fuel for the generators in areas in which the Israel Defence Forces damaged the electricity supply. Finally, new parts for the water system will be purchased and new construction carried out.

Contact: USAID West Bank and Gaza, e-mail: [wbg@usaid.gov](mailto:wbg@usaid.gov)

(Ha'aretz, 1 May 2002)

## New Publications

Brooks, D.B. (2002). *Water : local-level management*. Ottawa, Ont, Canada, International Development Research Centre (IDRC). 80 p. ISBN 0889369968. Price: US\$ 15 (EUR 17)

Available from: IDRC Books, PO Box 8500, Ottawa, ON, Canada K1G 3H9, fax: +1-613-5632476, e-mail: [pub@idrc.ca](mailto:pub@idrc.ca)

Summary of the results of three decades of IDRC-supported research on water supply which demonstrates that some of the most powerful responses to water scarcities have been mounted at the community or local level. Field research is examined in three approaches to local water management: small-scale water supply; wastewater treatment and reuse; and watershed management and irrigation. Solidly grounded propositions with a focus on research findings, and failures are presented for decision-makers and researchers. Recommendations are given for policy design and future research efforts on local water management. Future directions are plotted where progress can be accelerated in the science and conduct of local water management.

*Drawers of water II : Thirty years of change in domestic water use and environmental health in East Africa*. 4 vol. London, UK, International Institute for Environment and Development.

Contents: Vol 1: Thompson, J. et al. (2001). *Summary*. xi, 116 p. Vol 2: Katui-Katua, M. (2002). *Kenya country study*. Vol 3: Mujwahuzi, M.R. (2002). *Tanzania country study*. Vol 4: Tumwine, J.K. (2002). *Uganda country study*. Price: US\$ 22.50 (EUR 25.60) each

Available from: Earthprint Ltd., PO Box 119, Stevenage, Hertfordshire SG1 4TP, UK, fax: +44-1438-748844, e-mail: [customerservices@earthprint.com](mailto:customerservices@earthprint.com)

Building on the original Drawers of water methodology\* a research study was carried out charting the major trends and changes in the domestic water and environmental health sectors over the past three decades. Findings come from 34 sites in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, and the overview charts the 30 year trends and changes and their implications for water policy and practice. The summary paper provides an overview of the main research results, including changes in per capita water use, cost of water for piped and unpiped households, the range and type of water sources used by unpiped households, the impact of deteriorating piped water services, the effect of water use, sanitation and hygiene behaviour on diarrhoea, and the policy and institutional implications. The three country studies, presenting the findings from Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda provide detailed information about the causes and consequences of long-term changes in domestic water use and environmental health in each country.

See also: [http://www.iied.org/agri/proj\\_dw.html](http://www.iied.org/agri/proj_dw.html)

\* White, G.F., White, A.U. and Bradley, D.J. (1972). *Drawers of water : domestic water use in East Africa*. Chicago, IL, USA, University of Chicago Press.

## Events

29 July - 1 Aug 2002 - **African Sanitation and Hygiene Conference (AFRICASAN)**, Johannesburg, South Africa

Organised by: Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAF) (South Africa), Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) and the Water and Sanitation Program Africa Region (WSP-AF). The overall conference goal is to accelerate sanitation and hygiene work in Africa in accordance with the Millennium Development Goals.

<http://www.wsscc.org/about/ccnews.php?id=37>

Contact: Ms. Eirah Gorre-Dale, WSSCC, c/o WIHO (CCW), 20 Avenue Appia, CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland., fax +41-22-7914847, e-mail: [gorre-dale@un.org](mailto:gorre-dale@un.org) or e-mail: [wsscc@who.ch](mailto:wsscc@who.ch); South Africa, Mr. Babs Naidoo, DWAF, Private Bag X313, Pretoria 0001, South Africa, fax: +27-12-3246592, e-mail: [NaidooB@dwaf.gov.za](mailto:NaidooB@dwaf.gov.za)

28 Aug - 1 Sep 2002 - **World Summit WaterDome**, Johannesburg, South Africa

Organised by: Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, South African RAI, Dutch RaiVision and the South African Department of Water and Forestry under the slogan No Water, No Future. The WaterDome is a related event of the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

URL: <http://www.waterdome.net/>

Contact: International Water management Institute (IWMI) - South Africa / RaiVision, Private Bag X813, Silverton 0127, South Africa, fax: +27-12-845 9110, e-mail: [info@raivision.nl](mailto:info@raivision.nl) or e-mail: [d.merrey@cgiar.org](mailto:d.merrey@cgiar.org)

## Colophon

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# SOURCE Bulletin

water and sanitation news review



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August 2002

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## News to our subscribers

For those of you who have recently obtained e-mail access, we invite you to subscribe to our weekly electronic news service Source Weekly. The feature articles of the printed version of Source Bulletin are included in a bi-monthly special edition of the electronic Source Weekly: Special Features Edition. Source Bulletin will continue to be published on paper for those in the developing world without e-mail access.

*If you are interested in subscribing to the electronic news service, please see the colophon on page 8.*

## South Africa: Free water still a dream

Free water remains only a dream for most rural communities in South Africa eight months after the introduction of a free basic water policy. The policy has only effectively been implemented in a very limited number of places, owing to a range of obstacles from difficulties in metering consumption to lack of sufficient subsidies...

The 6000 litres per person per month free basic water quota represents a consumption level rarely exceeded in rural communities, particularly where the service is provided by community standpipes. In effect, if the free basic water policy were to function, very few rural projects would require a community contribution to cover operation and maintenance (O&M) costs. However, until local government funds free basic water, O&M of rural schemes may be severely jeopardised.

Community contributions in cash for O&M are an integral part of The Mvula Trust's community management approach to water provision. The Trust's experience is that payment by community members substantially increases chances for success; while international experience shows that a sense of ownership and responsibility is an essential influence for sustaining community-managed schemes.

Community members in the bulk of the Trust's projects have so far have displayed a "seeing is believing" attitude towards free basic water, and have continued to pay for O&M. One such project is Nhlungwane in Southern KwaZulu Natal, which won the 2002 KZN WISA CWSS Excellence in Rural Water Supply Award and was recently shortlisted for the 2002 Impumelelo Innovations Awards. Four and a half years after it started operating in November 1997, it is one of two projects in the Province known to collect from the community more than it needs to cover immediate O&M services. Their bank balance currently exceeds R11,000. Neither the Village Water Committee nor the community had any knowledge of the free basic water policy launched in November 2001.

Committee and community members ascribe their success to continued payment by the community, and opportunities to express concerns through regular community meetings. The committee, mainly composed of women, expresses a strong sense of ownership of, and responsibility for, the scheme. Key to their involvement has been their participation in planning and constructing the scheme, as well as operating it.

The free basic water policy, however praiseworthy in its intentions, may be seen as a genuine threat to the success and sustainability of community-managed projects. Since The Mvula Trust believes that community management (particularly in rural areas) is one of the best guarantees for sustainability and success, the challenge is to find ways to marry the community-management approach with the free basic water policy.

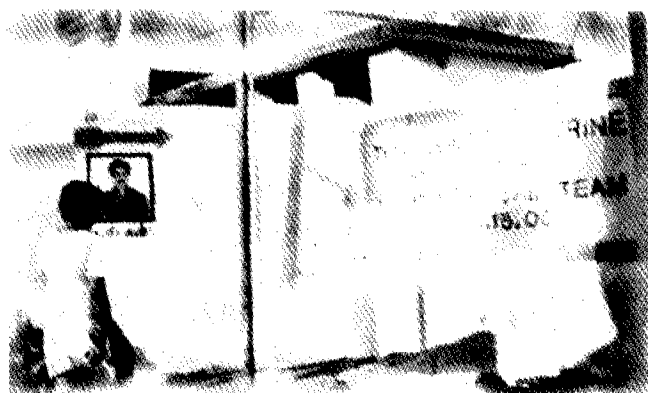
By Carolien van der Voorden from The Mvula Trust  
with inputs from Nomonde Mnukwa and Nqo Dlamini

Contact: Kerry Harris, Communication and Advocacy manager, Mvula Trust,  
P.O. Box 32351, Braamfontein 2017, South Africa, fax: 011 4031260, e-mail:  
Kerry@mvula.co.za, www.mvula.co.za.

## NGO in Tamil Nadu develops Child Friendly Toilet

Children in slum areas of Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu, India, are learning the good habits of a lifetime at child friendly toilets built by an NGO and supported by the local community.

These first child friendly toilets in India are one of the innovations in sanitation pioneered with WaterAid assistance by Gramalaya NGO, which was established in 1987 by a group of committed youths in the field of rural development.



About 235 children up to the age of six use the CFT every morning and evening, enjoying the colourful drawings on the walls and the sense of cleanliness. At first, mothers went with their children and taught them the basic ideas of toilet use and hygiene including washing hands with soap. Children also learn about hygiene by observing each other and now happily use the child friendly toilets and wash their hands.

Until now children in the slums had to defecate in open drains in front of their houses or walk in search of places for open defecation amidst existing faeces. Afterwards the children had to return home without cleaning their bodies or hands because there was no water available. Pigs, mosquitoes, flies and other insects added to their difficulties.

The idea of separate latrines for the children came out of a long discussion with self-help groups of women in the slums. The Child Friendly Toilets (CFT) were constructed under the WaterAid Urban Slums Health and Sanitation Improvement Programme in Tiruchirappalli. As the CFTs are constructed adjacent to the community toilets, maintenance is easy.

A water tub with soap is provided at the corner of the CFT, where the caretaker of the community toilet teaches hand-washing and its importance to the children and also keeps an eye on the hygienic behaviour of the children after defecation.

The community does not charge the children a fee, but pays for soap and other cleaning materials from the income they raise from pay and use toilets managed by the women groups.

SHE-Teams (Sanitation and Hygiene Education) formed by women in self-help group look after the upkeep and maintenance of community toilets constructed under WaterAid-Gramalaya projects in their slums. Users buy 50 paise tokens which allow them to use the toilet. Women from the self-help groups collect the money from users and keep accounts, detailing the number of users and the money collected. The money is banked each week. On average 300-600 people use the community toilets in a 24-hour period and from the money raised, the SHE-Team pays a watchman Rs. 1,200 a month to look after the toilets and issue tokens at night.

At the end of every month, the SHE-Team and Women Self-Help Group convene a meeting and to tell members the income and expenditure for each particular community toilet. The balance - after meeting various expenses such as salaries and cleaning material like bleaching powder, soaps and phenol etc. is kept in the bank. The surplus is put into a common fund towards health and sanitation related activities in the slum, providing such things as street taps, domestic drains, garbage bins and street lights.

Gramalaya has a mission to encourage oppressed people, especially women and children, to achieve justice, equality and participation in education, health, water and sanitation. Its main activities are around health and hygiene education, promotion of self-help groups among rural and urban women and construction of low-cost house and latrines.

Other projects include:

- an integrated watershed development programme;
- vermi-composting (using worms to produce rich compost);
- AIDS prevention;
- micro credit and
- housing infrastructure.

The NGO has established a website to spread its experiences and to attract funders, see <http://gramalaya.org/>.

Contact: GRAMALAYA, Executive Director, 31-A/29, Nesavalur Colony, Salai Road, Woraiur P.O., Tiruchirappalli 620 003, Tamilnadu, India, Fax: 91-431-761263, e-mail: [try\\_gramlaya@sancharnet.in](mailto:try_gramlaya@sancharnet.in), or [gramalaya@hotmail.com](mailto:gramalaya@hotmail.com)





### Ministers at pre-Summit meeting cite WASH as model of multi-stakeholder partnership

Ministers at the High Level Segment of the Commission on Sustainable Development have singled out the WASH Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Campaign as a model of how global initiatives can connect with local, national and regional partnerships. Ministers met during the Fourth Preparatory Committee for the WSSD in Bali, Indonesia from 27 May to 7 June 2002. The UN has issued a summary of the discussion and paragraph 23 reads:

*"Many Ministers referred to NEPAD (New Partnership for African Development) as a good example of a regional initiative, and supported the adoption of decisions to foster partnerships, for better coordination of regional activities and initiatives. Others emphasised South-South cooperation for partnerships and establishment of national and regional centres for sustainable development. Several*

*spoke in favour of actions related to SiDS (Small Island Developing States), supporting implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action. Announcing the goal of halving the number of those with lack of adequate sanitation by 2015, in addition to similar goals for water provision, the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Campaign was presented as a model of a multi-stakeholder partnerships launched in South Africa this year. WASH is a demonstration of how global initiatives can connect with partnerships at local, national and regional levels."*

The full document can be found on the website at [www.johannesburgsummit.org](http://www.johannesburgsummit.org)

*(For criticism of the outcome of the Fourth Preparatory Meeting – see News in Brief).*

### Sulabh to launch WASH in India after World summit

India, the world's second most populous country, has made great progress in ensuring that clean water is available to its population, especially during and since the close of the 1980s, the International Water Supply and Sanitation Decade. Nearly 85 per cent of its one billion plus population have access to clean water.

But the sanitation story is very different. Fully 80 % of the country's population still either defecate in the open or use unsanitary bucket latrines or smelly public toilets. This amounts to 800 million people, or roughly three times the entire population of the United States. The situation is bad in urban areas, where 20 % of people have access to water-flush toilets connected to a sewerage system and 14 % use water-borne toilets connected to septic tanks or leach pits, and worse in rural areas, where 20 % per cent have access to sanitary toilets.

As part of the global WASH campaign, the Sulabh International Social Service Organisation (a WSSCC member NGO) will host the WASH launch in India later this year soon after the World Summit for Sustainable Development ends in September.

The Chairman's draft text for the WSSD in Johannesburg stresses the need to meet the 2015 Millennium Development Goal of halving the proportion of people living in poverty. It also echoes the call made by the International Conference on Freshwater in Bonn, last December to reflect in the Johannesburg Declaration their target to halve the proportion of people who lack access to proper sanitation by 2015.

UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan has identified the top five issues to be addressed by the Summit. Water and sanitation ranks first, followed by energy, health, agriculture and biodiversity. He described this as an ambitious but achievable agenda for the five areas. "Progress would offer all human beings a chance of achieving prosperity that will not only last their own lifetime, but can be enjoyed by their children and their grandchildren too."

Sulabh's experience in building over one million household latrines and 5,500 public latrines in India at crowded places such as bus stops and markets, shows that, even where financial resources are constrained by central administrations, functions can effectively be delegated to grassroots and community level organisations. It also demonstrates how sanitation and health education can be integrated, and how the energies of the poor can be harnessed to reach their full potential. NGOs and governmental organisations can easily replicate the model Sulabh has developed. Many organisations have accepted the design and are advocating its use all over India, as well as in other developing countries in South-East Asia, Latin America and Africa. They include the Government of India, Indian state governments and various national, international agencies and WSSCC members such as UNICEF, the World Bank, UNDP, WHO and UN-Habitat

*Source: Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak, Sulabh International Social Service Organisation; Founder, Sulabh Bhawan, Mahavir Enclave, Palam Dabri Marg, New Delhi - 110045, India.*

# WASH pilot brings hope to squatter community in Manila

Isla Puting Bato is a squatter community around the breakwaters of the North Harbour and the adjacent land owned by the Philippine Ports Authority. Community dwellers have no adequate access to safe water. Water merchants sell what little water that is available at a very high price that many poor people cannot afford. Environmental pollution and the presence of garbage and raw sewage contribute to the deteriorating health and hygiene situation of slum dwellers. People in the community are calling for better living conditions and the basic right to human dignity.

In response to the challenges posed by the impending water and sanitation crisis, and inspired by the launch of the global WASH campaign, the WSSCC South-East Asia Coordinating Office set up a WASH Pilot Project in early 2002 involving a Community Centre in an urban slum area of Isla Puting Bato, in the Tondo District of Manila. The project is addressing the problem of inadequate water supply, lack of hygiene and sanitation facilities through improving infrastructure, informal education, advocacy and community organisation.

The WSSCC Regional Coordinator in South-East Asia, Mrs. Lilia Ramos, set up the WASH Pilot working out of Appro-TECH Asia, the NGO she heads in Manila. Appro-TECH Asia serves as the WASH Coordinating Office for the Region. The NGO has been active in promoting and advocating the principles of Vision 21 'Water for People' and the goals of the Iguacu Action Programme of Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council. Vision 21 pictures a world in 2025 where every man, woman and child on the planet has safe and adequate water and sanitation and lives in a hygienic environment.

The WASH Pilot Project provides appropriate technologies for a safe human waste disposal system that will not harm the environment, and a rainwater catchment tank to help with the Centre's activities. These activities include nutrition programmes, health, hygiene and sanitation education and advocacy, and assistance to improve the livelihoods of community members. Once the water and sanitation technology is in use, the Community Centre will

collect rainwater and so reduce its expenditure by about 40%. Savings will be used to purchase water from vendors. This can also contribute towards lessening future burdens on other water resources. The Pilot Project will become an entry point to address the community's concerns of wastewater and solid waste management.

## *Building strategic partnerships*

Appro-Tech Asia serves as the coordinating body for a strategic partnership between the Kababaihan ng Maynila (a women's cooperative), the Non-Formal Education Services, the Philippine Ports Authority, the City Government of Manila and the people of Isla Puting Bato.

Several objectives have already been achieved. A three-cubic meter reinforced ferro-cement rainwater catchment tank has been constructed, to collect water from the roof of the Centre. Excavations are under way for a septic tank to upgrade existing excreta and wastewater disposal facilities.

As part of the WASH Hand-Washing campaign, a locally-made soap developed by a woman will be packaged by women in the community to be used by school children and sold at affordable prices to the community. The simple act of washing hands with soap or ash and water can reduce diarrhoeal disease by one third, a major benefit, given that some 6,000 children worldwide die needlessly every day from poor sanitation and hygiene.

A WASH Task Force has been set up to oversee the viability and sustainability of the Pilot Project. The Task Force is made up of different organisations with members from media, local government, NGOs, health organisations and the community.

All the stakeholders in this process are confident that their efforts and the goodwill generated by the Pilot will contribute towards improving the health and productivity of poor urban communities in one of the fastest growing cities in Asia. It is their dream to have the Pilot Project copied in every district of Manila with its 5 million population, as well as in other South East Asian countries.

To help make this dream become reality, the WSSCC and its supporters are submitting a Partnerships for WASH Initiative in the expectation that it will be agreed as an outcome of the World Summit for Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg in August/September.

*Source: Dr. Angelo Juan O. Ramos, Asian Alliance of Appropriate Technology Practitioners (APPROTECH ASIA), G/F PSDC Bldg., Real corner Magallanes Streets, Intramuros, Manila 1002, Philippines.*

*Contact: Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council 20, avenue Appia, CH-1211, Geneva 27, Switzerland. Fax: +(41 22) 791 4847, e-mail: wsscc@who.ch; website: www.wssc.org*

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## French newsletter

As a joint endeavour the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC), IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre, H2Onet and CREPA have launched Sources Nouvelles. The first monthly issue was published by e-mail at the end of June 2002. Readers in the developing world who have no e-mail access can subscribe to the quarterly Sources Nouvelles on paper, the first of which will be published in September. Contributions and feedback can be sent to the coordinating editor at IRC: Ewen Leborgne, email:leborgne@irc.nl.

## Information management and web training in South Africa

The National Community Water and Sanitation Training Institute (NCWSTI) in South Africa is working with IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre to become a national resource centre and contribute to mainstreaming gender in water supply and sanitation.

The Building Capacity for Mainstreaming Gender in Water Supply and Sanitation in South Africa (GEMSA) programme is aimed at strengthening and increasing the capacity of NCWSTI. As part of this programme two IRC staff recently provided on-the-job assistance to NCWSTI on information management about gender and water, helping to set up a website and to train documentation staff to maintain it.

Documentation and information specialist Ingeborg Krukkert gave five-days training in April 2002 to two new NCWSTI staff members responsible for information management on GEMSA within NCWSTI. The training programme covered:

- introduction to information management,
- target groups and user needs,
- situation analysis and resource requirements,
- technical operations,
- document collection criteria,
- overview of information products and services, and
- writing a strategy plan.

Participants and the trainer wrote a strategy document for the next three years describing the current situation, the gaps and future activities.

The training received a very positive evaluation from the two participants. Follow-up and the strategy document were discussed with the management of GEMSA programme and NCWSTI.

In June 2002 Harry Oosterveen, electronic information specialist and web master, spent a week training NCWSTI staff members Alida de Jager and Hleki Mabunda to set up a website and in training documentation unit staff to maintain the site. Training followed the lines of the course developed earlier on electronic information. It was specifically adapted to NCWSTI needs, particularly through the hands-on exercises. The design of the NCWSTI web site is kept simple. It is temporarily hosted at the IRC site, at <http://www.irc.nl/newsti/>.

The NCWSTI Documentation Centre is being developed initially to serve the GEMSA project and after that to become self-sustaining, with a focus on gender mainstreaming in water supply and sanitation, as well as on water and sanitation in South Africa.

Over the next three years NCWSTI, in collaboration with IRC, will provide organisations and individuals in the water and sanitation sector with an Internet based information service for international resources, an extensive database of national resources and a small but targeted collection of resource material.

The Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAF) guides this programme in close collaboration with the Department for Provinces and Local Government and the South African Local Government Association. The Netherlands Government provides financial support through the Royal Dutch Embassy in Pretoria. The 3-year programme commenced in October 2000 and will therefore be completed by October 2003.

To guide IRC's activities related to information and to realise its ambitions, IRC is currently seeking an inspiring and innovative

### Section Head Information Brokering

The new Section Head Information Brokering will guide the development of the vision of IRC related to knowledge management, and the collection, (re-)packaging and dissemination of information. S/he will be dynamic, open and a strong communicator. S/he will also be creative and innovative. At the same time s/he will be able to manage all activities of the information brokering section and to coach a team of some 10 sector professionals. S/he will initialise and support improvements in IRC's work, and will develop and maintain an international network of contacts.

#### Requirements:

- Education at masters degree or comparable level in a relevant discipline
- Relevant professional experience of more than 10 years preferably with experience in developing countries
- Fluent in English and preferably command of one more language (French, Portuguese, Spanish)
- Willingness to work and travel overseas regularly
- Preferably in possession of an EU working permit

**IRC's offer:** You will be offered a working week of 36 hours, good employee benefits, including training opportunities and a monthly gross salary of maximum 4,866 (BBRA scale 13) depending on qualifications and experience.

Interested candidates are kindly requested to respond with a letter and curriculum vitae before 5 August to: IRC, Attn. Mr. Michel van Dongen, Controller, PO Box 2869, 2601 CW Delft, The Netherlands. You can also send your letter and CV by e-mail to [dongen@irc.nl](mailto:dongen@irc.nl). For additional information please visit our website at <http://www.irc.nl> or contact Mr. Jan Teun Visscher (Director), tel. 015-2192939.

## News In Brief

### **Summit: USA-led Countries Block Commitments on Water and Sanitation, Say NGOs**

Two UK NGOs have accused the USA, Australia, Canada and Japan of blocking a target to halve the number of people without access to safe drinking water by 2015. WaterAid and Tearfund were reacting to the disappointing outcome of the preparatory meeting (Prep Com IV), held from 27 May - 7 June 2002 in Bali, Indonesia. This was the final preparation meeting for the World Summit for Sustainable Development which opens in Johannesburg, South Africa on 26 August. Some delegates have said success or failure on water programmes could be a key marker for the Summit as a whole. The Summit's proposed water and sanitation targets are being supported by the recent European Union (EU) initiative endorsed by EU Environment Ministers. There is still some hope that the USA will support action for safe water if US Treasury Secretary Paul H. O'Neill succeeds in lobbying for more aid, especially for drinking water. In a highly publicised visit to Africa with rock star Bono, O'Neill repeatedly stated that it would be possible to provide the poor with clean water in "a short period of time" with a "reasonable amount of money". Several development agencies were critical of his "back-of-the-envelope calculations" that only looked at costs for construction, without taking into account allocations for maintenance and training.

*Contact: Sharon Brand-Self, Media Relations Manager, WaterAid, SharonBrandSelf@WaterAid.org.uk [WaterAid, 10 Jun 2002; UN, 29 May 2002; Washington Post, 31 May 2002; NY Times, 29 May 2002]*

### **Water Resources: NGO Critique of World Bank Sector Strategy**

In late April 2002, the World Bank posted its draft Water Resources Sector Strategy (WRSS) on the Web for public comments. The International Rivers Network (IRN) is highly critical of the draft, claiming that it ignores or misrepresents the findings and recommendations of the World Commission on Dams and the four 'Dublin Principles' on water management. The WRSS makes no mention of the Dublin Principle on the

*News in Brief continued on page 7*

## Increased funding for IRC over next 5 years

Core financing agencies in the Netherlands have increased support for IRC's information sharing activities over the next five years. Following earlier evaluation and discussions (see Source Bulletin no 22, March 2002, <http://www.wscc.org/source/bulletin/sb22.html>) the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DGIS) and Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment (VROM) have approved a new funding proposal and Business Plan 2002 - 2006. The support amounts to Euro 14 million over the next five years. This will enable IRC to focus less on generating resources from the market and more on its core ambitions, namely to be:

- a leading WSS knowledge broker, with a responsive multilingual database accessible to its clients;
- a leading low cost publishing and dissemination house for the WSS sector;
- a leading facilitator of resource centres in developing nations.

## IRC and WEDC support district capacity development in India

Decentralisation of water and sanitation services is high on the agenda in many countries.

The government of India legislated for reform of the water and sanitation sectors 2<sup>o</sup> years ago. The reform implies new decentralised roles and responsibilities that have been difficult for a large number of actors from the state to the community level to develop. Support is needed to plan capacity development for reform. For this, a three-part project has been developed by Indian colleagues and is being facilitated by IRC and the Water, Engineering and Development Centre (WEDC) at Loughborough University, in the UK.

From 19 April to 10 May 2002 two IRC and WEDC facilitators helped 15 Government of India and state government officials (the local core team) to develop a methodology for capacity development planning that will be used in 72 districts in India by spring of next year. Each district in India contains two to five million people.

The methodology involves scoping, a process of mapping the actors, obstacles and resources for the sector reform programme at district level, and transforming this information into practical capacity development plans. The focus is on capacity development activities that include training, study visits, joint planning, pilots, experiments and short consultancies. The aim is to develop the enabling environment so that new skills can be used as intended within sector reform.

This programme started with briefings in Delhi and in the districts. This was followed by two 2-week workshops - one in Orissa/Ganjam with field visits to test and refine the scoping methodology in two districts; the other in Andhra Pradesh/Nellore, where participants included representatives from education, health, local government, CBOs, NGOs, and ground water professionals including engineers. After the workshops debriefings were held at district, state and finally national level (with ESAs, UNICEF, GOI and state government officials). Finally, the core team, who will lead the work, came to Delhi to plan the next steps.

### **Lessons Learned**

The lessons learned show how complex the sector reform process is. These lessons include:

- This project has a high degree of commitment and support from Government of India.
- Some government personnel find it difficult to learn to facilitate decentralisation.
- Sector reform has slowed down the construction and repair of water facilities. Local interest groups want faster construction, which can put pressure on the sector reform programme, and in some cases can undermine participatory approaches.
- Scoping has the potential to bring sanitation and hygiene into the district and block level programmes.
- Scoping works and it is possible to simplify the detailed protocols of the environmental planning sector where the scoping methodology has been developed. It still requires skilled facilitation, however, and this is where the core group has a strong role.
- Districts do not know enough about sector reform. Support institutions need to assist many districts in implementing capacity development plans.

The core group recently held scoping workshops in two more districts. This programme will continue with IRC/WEDC support later in the year.

## Resources and Events

### Training Courses

#### PEAK - Praxisorientierte EAWAG-Kurse, Switzerland

Water Treatment at Household Level, Dübendorf, Switzerland, 5-6 Nov 2002 (2 days)

Simple water treatment methods for the improvement of the microbiological and chemical quality of drinking water (e.g. sedimentation, filtration, solar water disinfection, pasteurisation, boiling, chlorination, iron and arsenic removal). Course direction: Martin Wegelin, Karl Wehrle (SKAT).

Contact: EAWAG, Sekretariat PEAK, 8600 Dübendorf, Switzerland, fax: 01-823 53 75, e-mail: heidi.gruber@eawag.ch

### New Publications

Evans, B. (ed.) (2002). *New designs for water and sanitation transactions : making private sector participation work for the poor*. Washington, D.C., USA, Water and Sanitation Program (WSP) and Public-Private Infrastructure Advisory Facility (PPIAF). 80 p.

Available from: PPIAF or WSP, 1818 H Street, NW, Washington, DC, USA, fax: +1-202-5227466 PPIAF or fax: 1-202-5223313 / 5223228 (WSP), e-mail: info@ppiaf.org or info@wsp.org

A synthesis of the work done at the international seminar in Paris in December 2000 that was part of an on-going set of initiatives relating to private sector participation and the poor in the infrastructure sectors. The publication provides some principles and guidelines which could be used as a cross-check to ensure that the transaction designers deal with the poor explicitly and sympathetically in each individual case.

Scott, R. (ed.) (2001). *People and systems for water, sanitation and health : proceedings of the 27th WEDC Conference*. Loughborough, UK, WEDC. 552 p. ISBN 0906055989 Price: GBP: 24.95 (EUR 38.95)

Available from: WEDC, Loughborough University, Leicestershire LE 11 3TU, UK, fax: +44-1509-211079, e-mail: WEDC@lboro.ac.uk

#### News in Brief continued

vital role of women in water management and "fails even to mention the conclusions of important global water events and processes such as the International Conference on Freshwater held in Bonn in December 2001 and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council's (WSSCC) Vision 21". Furthermore, IRN says that low-cost, decentralised and community-led solutions for water and sanitation have been left out. The WSSCC estimates that US\$ 9 billion (EUR 9.4 billion) will be needed annually until 2025 to provide adequate water supply and sanitation for all, - much less than the US\$ 180 billion (EUR 188 billion) annual investment put forward by the Bank. The IRN says that the World Bank is pushing for privatisation and the construction of major dams and other capital-intensive infrastructure.

Contact: Patrick McCully, IRN, patrick@irn.org ; John Briscoe, World Bank Senior Water Advisor, jbriscoe@worldbank.org [IRN, 27 May 2002]

#### Zimbabwe: Importance of Sanitation Courses Highlighted

More institutions of higher learning should offer courses in water supply and sanitation with practical approaches to development, Cde Samuel Mumbengegwi, the Zimbabwe Minister of Higher Education and Technology, said in Harare. Speaking at a graduation ceremony at the Institute of Water and Sanitation Development (IWSD), Mumbengegwi said: "Water and sanitation is seen as an important course. Its strength does not only lie in its inter-disciplinary nature, but also in its practical approach to solving water and sanitation problems through field visits. We would like to see other players joining in the training of this course." At present the course is not offered in most of the country's institutions of higher learning.

Contact: IWSD, fax: +263-4-735017, admin@iwsd.co.zw, : http://www.iwsd.co.zw [Herald, 27 May 2002]

This book comprises the edited Proceedings of the 27th WEDC Conference held in Lusaka, Zambia in August 2001. It presents over a hundred papers relating to subjects including community management, health, water resources, water quality, wastewater treatment, solid waste and sanitation as well as discussion group reports and keynote addresses.

Brikké, F. and Rojas, J. (2002). *Key factors for sustainable cost recovery in the context of community-managed water supply*. Delft, The Netherlands, IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre. 70 p.

Available online at: <http://www.irc.nl/products/publications/online/op32e/index.html> Price: EUR 7.00 Available from: IRC, e-mail: [publications@irc.nl](mailto:publications@irc.nl)

Sustainable cost recovery relies on a series of factors that range from tariff design to the design of an appropriate strategy, the application of sound financial management principles, the optimization of costs and the promotion of willingness to pay. The document reviews all these factors in detail and provides, where feasible, examples and exercises.

Global Water Partnership (2002). *Ideas for water awareness campaigns*. Stockholm, Sweden, Global Water Partnership.

Available from: GWP Secretariat, c/o Sida, Stockholm S-105 25, Sweden, fax: +46-8-6985627, e-mail: [gwp@sida.se](mailto:gwp@sida.se)

The handbook samples suggestions and practical examples from water campaigns, ranging from the promotion of safe drinking water to the preservation of lakes, rivers and wetlands. It provides ideas on how to undertake advocacy, set up educational programmes and youth activities, work with the profit and non profit sector and prepare materials

## Events

27-28 Aug 2002. **World Forum on Sustainable Development (WFS2002): Economy, Environment and Society**, Johannesburg, South Africa

Organized by: International Research Foundation for Development (IRDF). In support of the UN Secretary General Kofi Annan's call for more attention to the following priority areas at the August 2002 World Summit for Sustainable Development: Water and Sanitation, Energy, Agricultural Productivity, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Management, and Health. On Water and Sanitation, IRDF requests scientists to share research findings on: improved access, efficiency of water use, watershed management, reduce leakage, sustainable catchments, mining ground water, tropical land and water management, water needs for food production in developing countries. On Health: research on links between the environment and human health, and tropical diseases such as malaria and African Guinea Worm and its link to polluted water sources and poor sanitation.

Contact: IRFD, 2830 South Holly Street, Cambridge, MN 55008, USA, fax: +1-763-6890560, e-mail: [info@irfd.org](mailto:info@irfd.org)

27 Oct. - 1 Nov. 2002. **XXVIII Congress on Sanitary and Environmental Engineering**, Cancun, Mexico.

Organized by: Inter-American Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering (AIDIS). Themes include: Drinking water treatment & water supply; municipal and industrial wastewater treatment and reuse; sludge; solid wastes; soil & aquifer contamination; water resources management; public health & environmental sanitation; environmental education & training/citizen participation; and environmental legislation.

Contact: e-mail: [aidiscancun2002@iespana.es](mailto:aidiscancun2002@iespana.es)

5-8 Nov. 2002. **Envirowater 2002: 5th Inter Regional Conference on Environment and Water**, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

Organized by: Ecole inter-états d'Ingénieurs de l'Équipement Rural (EIER). Theme: Sustainable Water Resources Management : Health and Productivity in Hot climates. Topics: climatic variability; reservoir/soil conservation; pollution control; water, environment and public health; irrigation; and water shortage.

Contact: EIER, 03 B.P. 7023 Ouagadougou 03, Burkina Faso, fax: +226-212724, e-mail: [envirowater@eier.org](mailto:envirowater@eier.org)

26-29 Nov. 2002. **IWRA Regional Symposium**, New Delhi, India

Organized by: IWRA National Committee of India. Theme: Water for Human Survival. Focus on water scarcity throughout the world, including water for food security, water for health security, water for environment, rain water harvesting and conservation, water administration, and water law.

Contact: Mr. A.R.G. Rao, Director of Water Resources, Central Board of Irrigation and Power, Malcha Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi 110021, India, fax: +91-11-6116347, e-mail: [cbip@nda.vsnl.net.in](mailto:cbip@nda.vsnl.net.in)

## Colophon

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# SOURCE Bulletin

water and sanitation news review



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October 2002

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*If you are interested in subscribing to the electronic news service, please see the colophon on page 8.*

## Agreement on Sanitation "Jewel in the Johannesburg Summit's Crown"

An agreement to halve the number of people without access to improved sanitation by 2015 has been hailed as the 'jewel in the summit's crown', following the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg.

The USA had initially put up stiff opposition and there were suspicions that the renewable energy targets would be sacrificed for a deal on water and sanitation.

But world Governments agreed to commit themselves to halve the proportion of people without access to clean water and to proper sanitation by 2015, and to develop integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans by 2005.

The sanitation target is included in the major outcome document, the Plan of Implementation, which contains targets and timetables to spur action on a wide range of issues, and this prompted Alex Kirby, reporting for the BBC, to call it the jewel in the crown.

### Successful lobby

The British NGOs WaterAid and Tear Fund called the sanitation target "the first milestone in a long fight to half the millions of death by preventable diseases". Their UK Water Matters campaign saw well over 100,000 people sign a petition calling for water to be prioritised at the Summit.

Water and sanitation made up one of the five key themes identified by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan for the Summit (the others being energy, health, agriculture and biodiversity). Other high profile leaders helped to put water at the top of the global agenda. Former President Nelson Mandela opened the WaterDome, the WSSD's platform for water professionals, organised by the Africa Water Task Force with the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) (see photo on p. 5). The WaterDome attracted 12-15 thousand visitors.

Ronnie Kasrills, South African Minister of Water, Agriculture and Forestry, has been instrumental in promoting sanitation, both globally and in his own country, especially through the WASH (Water Sanitation and Hygiene) campaign of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC). His ministry constructed only 10,000 latrines in the first six years, but 50,000 will be constructed this year and next year the target is 140,000.

### Where will the money come from?

To halve the proportion of people without a safe water supply by 2015, an estimated US\$19 billion to US\$ 34 billion per year would be required. The exact amount needed to implement the proposed sanitation target would depend on the approach taken in each particular case. Based on the provision of basic sanitation for the poor, the WSSCC estimated that US\$ 12 billion would be needed per year.

Since it is not likely that all the funds will come from overseas development assistance, which totals around US\$ 53 billion a year, much emphasis during the WSSD was placed on partnership initiatives. For example, The United States expected that their US\$ 970 million "Water for the Poor Initiative" could leverage private resources to generate more than US\$ 1.6 billion water-related activities.

The Hilton Foundation Water Initiative is a public-private partnership that has raised US\$ 41 million for rural water supply and sanitation in West Africa.

At the WSSD the European Union (EU) launched its EUR 1.4 billion 'Global Water for Life' initiative, with Africa signing the agreement first. This initiative promotes co-operation between countries sharing an international river basin in managing their water resources. The EU said it was prepared to increase financial resources over the coming years, in response to the priorities that developing countries themselves set.

## Criticism

Not everyone was happy with the target for sanitation. Mvula Trust, the South African NGO that is implementing many projects for the Department of Water, Agriculture and Forests (DWAFF) is worried that it may create a supply driven system, without stimulating demand. "We have already difficulty with mobilising demand for latrines", said Kathy Eales, Mvula Trust's sanitation co-ordinator.

*Contact: Manuel Dengo, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) 2 UN Plaza, Room DC2-220, New York, NY 10017, USA*

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## Building the capacity of the regulator in Ghana

Ghana is one of the countries where private sector involvement in water services is progressing and is still hotly debated. Ghanaian individuals and organisations have formed the Coalition against the Privatisation of Water in Ghana to oppose the official plan to divide Ghana's urban water systems into two large concessions to be leased to two different foreign companies. They say that this is a bad deal both technically and financially.

"Already, most of my people can't afford the water. What will it be like when they privatise it?" asks Elijah Hamidu, the district assembly member for Nima, in Accra. He says that the poorest slum dwellers in Nima already spend a third of their income purchasing water from local water sellers or richer neighbours who have a water connection.

Meanwhile the existing Ghana Water Company Ltd had to increase its tariffs by 40% to bring in finance to sustain and improve services. Acting Managing Director, Professor Jonathan Nunoo, says the company is putting in place programmes to improve service delivery where water flow is not regular and to extend their coverage to areas without pipelines.

He says the company spends GHC 233 million (EUR 301,000) every day of which GHC 133 million (EUR 172,000) goes on chemicals to treat the water from the headworks. The company has launched an all-out war on illegal connections and has appealed to the public to report leakages.

One generally agreed condition necessary for public private partnerships for urban water and sanitation is a functioning, strong and independent regulating body. Mr. Alan Booker, former deputy director of Ofwat (the regulator in the privatised water industry in the United Kingdom) is currently advising a project by the Adam Smith Institute, supported by UK DFID, towards the introduction of Private Sector Participation to the urban water supply sector in Ghana.

Mr. Booker reported that Ghanaian academics and market researchers have been helping to build the capacity of the regulator in Ghana, the Public Utilities Regulatory Commission (PURC). He told an electronic conference

'Improving Water and Sanitation Services to the Urban Poor' about a socio-economic survey, that was conducted a prelude to firming up regulatory social policy. The results have been published and discussed at an open seminar in Ghana.

Mr. Booker said: "One interesting fact to emerge is that the needs of the poor are identical to the needs of the rest of the population and their willingness to pay for a reliable supply is also the same."

The research focused mainly, but not exclusively, on the urban poor and was structured around five key social issues, which emerged from discussions with representative groups throughout Ghana and were reinforced at the qualitative stage. These key issues are:

- accessibility of water supply,
- affordability of tariffs,
- quality of service and supply,
- sustainability of service through community involvement,
- duty of care of the service provider.

An important outcome for PURC is to be able to identify the urban poor as potential beneficiaries of regulation and of Government of Ghana policies and to be able to construct a demand model related to accessibility.

A second piece of work by PURC has been to examine the potential for improving the effectiveness of the social tariff. At present it benefits richer customers with individual metered connections rather than the poor who have to buy water by the bucket or use a shared connection. "There is no easy solution to this problem, which is not an uncommon one in developing countries", Mr. Booker writes.

See also: Source Bulletin No.7, October 1999: Former Ofwat boss attacks "excess profits" in South, <http://www.irc.nl/source/bulletin/sb07.html#ofwat> and Source Weekly, 22 April 2002, Coalition Contests Bank-backed Water Privatization, <http://www.irc.nl/source/weekly/0216.html#ghana>

*Contact: Alan Booker, e-mail: [abooker@btinternet.com](mailto:abooker@btinternet.com)  
Adam Smith Institute, 23 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BL, England*

### 'WASH - It's The Big Issue'

The Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) launched a new 'tear-out' publication at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) called 'WASH - Water, Sanitation and Hygiene - It's the Big Issue' along with postcards, stickers, streetpole ads and a revamped website to draw urgent attention to what it calls long neglected issues of sustainable development that are the very foundations of public health.

"The most important environmental issue for the poor is being almost totally ignored", according to Gourisankar Ghosh, Executive Director of the Geneva based multi-stakeholder organization. Some 1.1 billion people lack clean water and 2.4 billion are without basic sanitation. "And this is a lack which affects almost every aspect and every moment of their lives - their health, their dignity, their environment, the well-being of their children and the development of nations", he says.

The WSSCC report cites the serious consequences of almost 50 years of neglect by national and international development efforts - some five million premature deaths each year due to diarrhoeal disease, including cholera and dysentery, which kill more than seven million children a year, or 6000 deaths every day, mostly the young. In China, India and Indonesia, twice as many people are dying from diarrhoeal diseases as from HIV/AIDS. "This is inexcusable in this day and age when the simple act of handwashing after going to the toilet, before handling food and after changing babies nappies can cut the death rates by almost half", says Sir Richard Jolly. This finding has been borne out by studies led by the London School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, which, together with other WSSCC members such as UNICEF, USAID's Environmental Health Programme and the World Bank are promoting a public-private partnership called the 'Handwashing Initiative'.

More than three quarters of diseases worldwide are caused by the lack of safe water, adequate sanitation and poor hygiene. Other diseases that can be attributed to the neglect are: trachoma, which has taken the eyesight of six million people and is related to infrequent washing and inadequate water supply; and schistosomiasis, which affects 200 million people and can be easily eliminated by good water, sanitation and hygiene.

Stressing the direct links to poverty reduction and sustainable development, the WSSCC says that the scale of ill health in the developing world also results in huge losses in productivity and reduced returns on both private and public investment and even reduces the potential for tourism. Not only has the 'WASH' issue been given low priority by countries and experts, sanitation and hygiene are also surrounded by taboos, embarrassment and silence, says the WSSCC. For women and girls, especially those

who live in poor, urban neighborhoods, privacy and dignity are serious issues to contend with: millions of them have to wait until dark to defecate to avoid harassment and sexual assault. Where schools have no separate toilets for girls and boys, school attendance has been shown to be lower. In countries like Uganda, for example, experience has shown that as soon as these separate facilities were constructed, school dropout rates fell considerably.

Women bear the burden in other ways too: in arid areas of Asia and Africa, women walk an average of 6 kilometres carrying water jars or pails weighing up to 20 kilos, equivalent to the normal airport baggage allowance. This task, which consumes about three hours of their normal day, saps their energy and affects their physical, emotional and nutritional status.

In many developing countries, less than one per cent of government spending goes to low-cost water and sanitation and only about 5 per cent of foreign aid is allocated to these interventions. Most of the available resources are spent on high-cost water and sanitation for the few rather than for the low cost services for the many, says the WSSCC. Its Vision 21 exercise, which involved consultations with thousands of people at all levels in over 130 countries, showed that current funding on water and sanitation ranged from US\$10 to \$25 million dollars and that an estimated US\$ 19 to \$34 billion would be required to meet the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) to halve the proportion of people without a safe water supply by 2015.

The WSSCC has spearheaded the move to put 'WASH' issues on the political agenda since the International Conference on Freshwater in Bonn last December. Working in partnership with governments, NGOs, the private sector, community groups and UN agencies, the Collaborative Council has been advocating for a sanitation target by 2015, to be added to the MDGs on water, poverty reduction and other MDGs by the same deadline.

As a contribution to the Summit, the WSSCC, the Water and Sanitation Program - Africa and the South African Department of Water Affairs and Forestry held the first Africa Sanitation and Hygiene Conference in August called 'AfricaSan' that called for African leaders to: develop and strengthen clear national policies for sanitation and hygiene, as integral parts of national strategies for sustainable development and poverty reduction; set national sanitation and hygiene goals and targets, including incremental targets and milestones and develop realistic action plans and targets to achieve goals and monitor progress towards them. AfricaSan also called on governments to prioritize sanitation expenditure on areas for which households and others cannot pay, for example, hygiene promotion and awareness creation, sanitation and

hygiene in schools and other public places as well as targeted subsidies for the poorest people.

The WASH Initiative, that has been submitted as a 'Type II' partnership among developing countries, NGOs, bilateral and multi-lateral institutions, civil society and the private sector, seeks to achieve the MDGs. WASH aims to generate political will at all levels to ensure that water, sanitation and hygiene will no longer be neglected issues in the early part of the 21st century.

"Without action, this environmental disaster will rapidly worsen. Another 800 million are expected migrate to urban areas over the next 15 years. And without a successful WASH effort, the numbers without adequate sanitation will double to almost five billion", according to the WSSCC.

*For copies of the new WSSCC publication contact:  
Secretariat for the WSSCC, tel.: +41-22-7913517/3544,  
fax: +41-22-7914847, e-mail: wsscc@who.int*

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## WSSCC & 3rd World Water Forum collaborate

As part of the activities leading up to the 3rd World Water Forum next March, the Water and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) opened a conference room under the theme 'Putting People at the Centre: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All' at the Virtual Water Forum.

We have registered as the "Water Voice" partner organisation to promote the Water Voice Project, whose primary objective is to collect people's grass roots voices from around the world.

You can easily join the discussions. Just access the Virtual Water Forum ([www.worldwaterforum.org/](http://www.worldwaterforum.org/)) website and register as a participant. Then click on the Water Voice button which will take you to [www.worldwaterforum.org/voice/](http://www.worldwaterforum.org/voice/).

The Council is offering this VWF conference room to its members to mirror the discussions from various planned e-conferences. Such a discussion took place about the Hygiene Improvement Framework discussion with the Environmental Health Project (EHP) and Water, Engineering and Development Centre (WEDC). The most recent discussion was about

"The right to be clean through school hygiene" held under the title of School Sanitation and Hygiene Education that ran from April 29 - June 7 (with IRC, UNICEF and WEDC).

*To look at the message archives, access <http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/hygiene-behaviour.html>.*



## News from IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre

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### Rich E-conference on scaling up community management

What long-term, continuous and appropriate support do communities in the rural areas of the developing world need to keep their water supply systems working? What happens when they are left with the full responsibility for managing their systems alone? How can we scale up community management so that we at least aim for 100% coverage, instead of being satisfied with occasional islands of success?

These were the issues under debate at an e-conference, "Beyond the community," run from 3 June - 12 July 2002 which attracted 228 subscribers, of whom 50 contributed a total of 113 messages.

One of the IRC facilitators, Ton Schouten, said: "We were pleasantly surprised about the high quality of the contributions, and the richness contributed in comments, case studies and resources." Subscribers discussed:

- mechanisms and actions needed to scale up community management to increase the sustainability and coverage of rural water supply;
- obstacles to scaling up community management;

- good and bad practices in scaling up community management.

These contributions include resources and a wealth of case studies on scaling up mechanisms and models. They can be read at <http://www.irc.nl/manage/debate/materials.html>.

IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre with other organisations ran the e-conference, to which partners in the field made active contributions. Nepal Water for Health (NEWAH) organised a brainstorming and discussion meeting in their head office in Katmandu on 14 June and consulted colleagues from regional offices with direct contact in the field by e-mail and telephone. After the results had been reviewed and everyone had been given a chance to comment, NEWAH submitted their contribution on 28 June.

From CINARA in Colombia, Mariela Garcia and Stef Smits reported on mechanisms to scale up community management. The association of community based water supply associations, Aquacol, draws together 50 community based water supply associations from across

Colombia. CINARA increases its impact, and spreads skills by offering training to representatives of these associations. Aquacol has also obtained a voice vis-à-vis the government, which is now seeking its advice, and is so able to provide its members with good quality information. Aquacol has also established community-to-community capacity building. Aquacol is still small and the members of the associations differ widely, but it provides a good model for scaling up community management.

Mariela Garcia and Stef Smits also reported from Colombia on Team Learning Projects (TLPs), where communities, local government organisations and other stakeholders join with CINARA in finding ways to improve the management of their water supply services. In this way, local government representatives can spread the lessons that have been learned in other projects throughout their communities. Although there are constraints because of the bureaucratic nature of local government and because officials often change posts, CINARA would encourage other resource centres to facilitate these processes.

### Positive feedback

There was some positive reaction about the exchanges. For example, first time e-conference user Joseph Swai, Public Relations Officer with Moshi Urban Water Supply and Sewerage Authority in Tanzania, said: *"Kindly, I wish to express my appreciation to all contributors and discussants of this important conference. I and my colleagues have learnt a lot from various contributors and discussions during the conference. More ideas will be adopted for a practical application in our work."*

Simon Thuo, a water engineer from Kenya, said: *"I have really appreciated the depth of knowledge and hands-on practical approaches from many of the participants. I will keep as many of the original contributions as possible,*



*Nelson Mandela opens WaterDome at Johannesburg Summit in the presence of HRH the Prince of Orange*

Photo: Darren Sullivan, e-mail: [darren@sullivan.net](mailto:darren@sullivan.net)

*and please do not be surprised if I get back to some of you individually to provide further info or perspective on common or not so common problems of sustainable development in the water sector. For the organisers, I think you have done a wonderful job, and the challenge is on us to leverage the knowledge and contacts hereby gained."*

The e-conference was a joint venture between the IRC, the Water, Engineering and Development Centre (WEDC), the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC), WaterAid, Plan, and the Swiss Centre for Development Cooperation in Technology and Management (SKAT). Catarina Fonseca, Patrick Moriarty and Ton Schouten of IRC were the main e-conference facilitators. An overall synthesis report will be available shortly. WEDC's Julie Woodfield moderated the conference listserver and is preparing an evaluation report on the e-conference.

For more detail consult the website: <http://www.irc.nl/manage/debate/econf.html>

## IRC-NETWAS training course: Community Management in Water Supply and Sanitation

The third annual IRC and NETWAS training course "Community Management in Water Supply and Sanitation" will take place in Nairobi from 18 November to 6 December 2002.

The purpose of the 3-week course is to strengthen the capacity of professionals to support communities in improving their skills to manage their water supply and

sanitation. The course is targeted at sector professionals, managers and planners working in the field of water, health, hygiene education and community development.

The course addresses the key elements to implement sustainable community management such as water committees, cost recovery, rules and regulations, demand, gender, capacity building, monitoring, service levels and

## News In Brief

### Privatization: Negative Impacts on Child Poverty

UK charity Save the Children said that increased involvement by the private sector in supplying basic services such as water would lead to price rises that would harm the world's poorest children. In a new report\*, the charity says that water privatization typically raises domestic rates far higher than poor families can afford, forcing many to collect water from untreated sources and exposing their children to water-borne diseases. Water rates increased substantially in Argentina and the Czech Republic after privatization, for example. The report can be seen as criticism of the British Government's view that privatization is the only way to get investment for services like water supply in developing countries. "Where multinationals are involved, they must be carefully regulated to ensure social and environmental benefits are realized", said John Hilary, the trade policy adviser of Save the Children UK. "There may well also be circumstances in which private-sector engagement is simply not the best option in the first place," he added.

\*Hilary, J. ... [et al.] (2002). *Globalisation and children's rights: what role for the private sector?* Contact: John Hilary, Save the Children, e-mail: [j.hilary@scfuk.org.uk](mailto:j.hilary@scfuk.org.uk)

[Independent, 21 Aug 2002, Save the Children, 21 Aug 2002]

### Afghanistan: UNICEF Launches Health Radio Programme

Afghanistan has one of the world's worst health records. Twenty five percent of all Afghan children under the age of five die from preventable diseases, chiefly diarrhoea and respiratory infections. Every half-hour, an Afghan woman dies in childbirth. In some places, like western Ghor province, there is only one doctor to serve a half a million people. To offer families guidelines on hygiene and how to prevent illness UNICEF and the World Health Organization (WHO) are launching a radio programme, aimed primarily at women and broadcast by Afghan women journalists. The programmes will be broadcast twice a week and will offer basic information that officials at the WHO and UNICEF believe will help save thousands of lives.

*News In Brief continued on page 7*

participatory methods. The course examines the opportunities and limitations of the community management concept and the way ahead to strengthen the sustainability of community managed systems.

The training course is built on the principles of adult learning and so enables participants to work from their own experience, to improve their knowledge and skills and to discuss their experiences with an international group of participants.

IRC and NETWAS have based the training course on their wide international experience of community management in a variety of countries.

*If you are interested in participating, you can obtain more detailed information and a subscription form by sending an e-mail to Ton Schouten of IRC, e-mail: [schouten@irc.nl](mailto:schouten@irc.nl) or Joyce Mbare of NETWAS, P.O. Box 15614, Nairobi, Kenya, e-mail: [netwas@nhnet.co.ke](mailto:netwas@nhnet.co.ke) or [net-csr@nhnet.co.ke](mailto:net-csr@nhnet.co.ke).*

*You can also consult the IRC website: <http://www.irc.nl/products/training/event.php?id=6>*

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## New staff at IRC

Mr Jaap Pels joined IRC on 1 August 2002 as Senior Programme Officer for Knowledge Management. Jaap was Information Manager at the Consumer Association in the Netherlands, where he co-ordinated the improvement of an information, documentation and file management system for internal and external use. The Consumer Association tried the Verity system for storing files and documents, but this system depends on librarians to provide keywords and to make the information retrievable, and the Association did not want that. Since the end of 2000 they have been using Autonomy software where users track digital files starting from a personalised page on the intranet, based on their individual interest profile. Pattern-based packages such as Autonomy are improving knowledge sharing, joint authoring, and networking, internally as well as externally. IRC has been experimenting with Autonomy since 2001, but so far the test has been less successful than expected. Jaap will use his experience to plan the next cause of action for IRC and partners.

Ms. Tunde Adegoke, who worked on assignment for the Resource Centre Development (RCD) project has agreed to join the IRC on a two-year contract as Project Officer in the RCD section. She formally started at IRC on 1 September. Her earlier assignment concerned the development of a conceptual framework and methodology for monitoring progress in the process of building the capacities of resource centres. Key questions answered in the process were: What does a strong resource centre mean in the context of the RCD programme? What are the indicators of a strong RC? and How can you identify the activities necessary to become a strong RC? Ms. Adegoke has been working as a Civil Engineer at the University of Leeds in the UK since 1991. She completed her MSc. in Water and Environmental Management at the Water, Engineering and Development Centre (WEDC) in 2001.

## Resources and Events

### New Publications

Elledge, M.F.; Rosensweig, F. and Warner, D.B. (2002). *Guidelines for the assessment of national sanitation policies* (EHP strategic report; no. 2).

Arlington, VA, USA, EHP, xi, 67 p.: 1 fig.

Available from: EHP, 1611 North Kent Street, Suite 300, Arlington VA 22209, USA, fax: +1-703-2439004, e-mail: info@ehproject.org

A tool to assist in the assessment, promotion and overall improvement of national sanitation policies. Field data were collected in Peru, South Africa and Uganda, examining these countries' recent experiences in promoting and implementing a national policy on sanitation. This data collection informed the process for defining and developing an assessment tool that captures the key elements of national sanitation policies. The guidelines were reviewed and revised for field testing in March 2002. Field tests were planned in a number of countries using a range of approaches.

Hardoy, J.E.; Mitlin, D. and Satterthwaite, D. (2001). *Environmental problems in an urbanizing world: finding solutions in Africa, Asia and Latin America*. Rev. ed. London, UK: Earthscan. xv, 448 p., 58 boxes, 8 fig., 21 tab. Bibliography: p. 407-439. Includes subject index and cities index. ISBN 1853837199 (paperback). ISBN 1853837202 (hardback) Price: GBP 16.95 (EUR 27.02)

Available from: Earthscan Publications Ltd, 120 Pentonville Road, London N1 9JN, UK, fax: +44-20-72781142, e-mail: earthinfo@earthscan.co.uk

A revised and expanded edition of "Environmental problems in Third World cities" published in 1992. It reviews the scale and scope of environmental problems in cities (over 200 are mentioned in the cities index) and their surrounds in Africa, Asia and Latin America, and draws some conclusions on the priorities for action. Throughout the book, problems and solutions are discussed within each different geographic scale: the home and workplace, the neighbourhood, the city, the city-region and the whole planet. The environmental issues discussed include water and air pollution, and resources (such as water) and waste flows (wastewater, solid waste) between the city and its region and the contribution of city-based production and consumption to environmental degradation worldwide and to climate change, especially global warming.

Beumer, R. et al. (eds.) (2002). *Guidelines for prevention of infection and cross infection in the domestic environment: focus on home hygiene issues in developing countries*. 2nd ed. Milano, Italy, Intramed Communications. 46 p.

Available from: IFH, PO Box 1106, 1211 Geneva I, Switzerland, e-mail: secretariat@ifh.homehygiene.org

This second edition is adapted to the situations of developing countries, to include additional issues, concerns and guidelines for promoting hygiene in the homes of low income groups in these countries. The aim of this document is to provide guidelines on the most appropriate procedures to be used in preventing infection and cross infection in the domestic environment with particular reference to developing countries. The guidelines are based on a risk assessment approach which specifies that infection prevention through reduced exposure to pathogens is most effectively achieved by identifying the sites and situations in the home

#### News in Brief continued

WHO spokeswoman Loretta Hieber Girardet says "It is a vicious cycle there. People do not know enough to save their own lives. They do not know enough to save their children's lives and it is very difficult to reach them other than using forms of mass media now. We are lucky because now the media scene is changing and we have opportunities to do that."

[SANA / Frontier Post, 5 September 2002]

#### AfricaSan Conference: Sanitation and Hygiene Work in Africa

The African Sanitation and Hygiene Conference (AfricaSan), outlined the most important lessons learned from past experiences, case studies and successful interventions on sanitation and hygiene work in Africa: strong political leadership, clear policies and clear allocation of responsibilities are essential to enable progress in sanitation; different strategies are needed to involve and to relate to men, women and children in different locations and cultures; creation of awareness and demand leads to success in sanitation; sanitation subsidies should be well-targeted and controlled to reach the poor; the remainder of the population should pay for their own latrines and may be helped by credit or loan schemes; provision of sanitation services to households should be promoted as a sustainable business, to attract small and medium enterprises; sanitation is most effectively managed at the household level; sanitation and hygiene promotion are complementary but different activities, requiring different skills, plans, time-scales and budgets.

Contact: Ms. Eirah Gorre-Dale, WSSCC, United States, fax: +1-917-3273391, e-mail gorre-dale@un.org; Mr. Themba Khumalo, DWAF, Private Bag, x 313, Pretoria 0001, South Africa, fax: +27-12-324-6592

[WSSCC, 1 Aug 2002]

which represent the greatest infection transmission risk and targeting practices at these sites, at the appropriate time.

Moriarty, P.B. ... [et al.] (2002). *Sector wide approaches for water and sanitation development*. The Hague, The Netherlands: Netherlands, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. ix, 110 p. : fig. 24 ref.

Available from: Social and Institutional Development Dept., Social Policy Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, PO Box 20061, 2500 EB The Hague, The Netherlands

Sector wide approaches (SWAp) are long-term programmes meant to coordinate aid in one sector and to replace the conventional project approach. This document includes a literature review on sector wide approaches for water supply and sanitation (WSS) development and the findings of a workshop of Dutch WSS sector specialists held in Geneva in Oct 2000. The workshop concluded that SWAp should strengthen partner capacity building more than be seen as a prerequisite for funding; and that SWAp in the WSS sector needs to be more flexible than those in the health and education sectors. Country papers are presented on Mozambique, Tanzania, Egypt, South Africa, Yemen, Bangladesh and Gujarat (India) where the Netherlands provides bilateral support to the WSS sector. A background paper on sector trends is included in an appendix.

## Events

**20-22 Nov 2002 - Leakage Management: a Practical Approach Lemesos, Cyprus** - Organized by: International Water Association (IWA) and Water Board of Lemesos

Topics: reduction strategy vs outsourcing; pressure management; the Infrastructure Leakage Index; leakage management tools; data collection and management; water loss reduction; and leakage analysis. Includes case studies/ presentations from South Africa, Brazil, Malaysia, and Slovakia.

Contact: Attn: Mr Stephanos Antoniou, Congresswise Ltd, PO Box 57468, 3022 Lemesos Cyprus, fax: +357-25-749744, e-mail: [registrations@leakage2002.com](mailto:registrations@leakage2002.com)

**25-26 Nov 2002 - Sustainability in the Water Sector, Venice, Italy** - Organized by: International Water Association (IWA). The first in the 'Leading Edge' conference series on Sustainability. Topics: Sustainable water communities; Water efficiency and water reuse; Integrated water management; Innovative & alternative technologies; Building community mandates; Sustainable river basin management; Demand management approaches; Sustainable urban form and design; Water allocation approaches; and Economic approaches for sustainability. Financial support for participants from Developing Nations may be available.

Contact: e-mail: [sustainability2002@iwahq.org.uk](mailto:sustainability2002@iwahq.org.uk) or Lara Changizi, Events coordinator, IWA, Alliance House, 12 Caxton Street, London SW1H 0QS, UK, fax: +44-20-76545555, e-mail: [lara.changizi@iwahq.org.uk](mailto:lara.changizi@iwahq.org.uk)

**2-4 Oct 2003 - Aquatech Asia, Bangkok, Thailand** -

Organized by: RAI Exhibitions (Thailand). Exhibition on water and wastewater technology, products and services for Asia, with a focus on Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines and Singapore as well as developing markets such as Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Viet Nam.

Contact: Mr. Sarnit Karunyavanij, Bangkok RAI, 226/36-37 Bond Street, Riviera Tower 1, Muang Thong Thani, Bangpood, Pakkred, Nonthaburi 11120, Thailand, fax: +66-2-9600140, e-mail: [aquatech@bkkrail.com](mailto:aquatech@bkkrail.com)

**5-9 Oct 2003, XI World Water Congress: Water Resources Management in the 21st Century, Madrid, Spain**

Organized by: International Water Resources Association (Iwra). End users will hear about the latest research and the newest technologies in solving the problems related to water resources. The Congress focuses around seven main themes: water planning under uncertainty. Climatic variability and climate change; valuing water; impact of new technologies in water management; relevance and sustainability of intensive groundwater developments; water infrastructure development; the influence of socio-economic, cultural and religious factors in water resources policies; subsidiarity and participation in water management.

Contact: XI World Water Congress, Centro de Estudios Hidrográficos, Paseo Bajo Virgen del Puerto, 3, 28005 Madrid, Spain, fax: +34-91-3357922, e-mail: [wwater2003@cedex.es](mailto:wwater2003@cedex.es)

## Colophon

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A hands-on, demand-responsive and participatory strategy is evolving to improve sanitation, hygiene and water supply in rural schools and communities.

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#### News to our subscribers

For those of you who have recently obtained e-mail access, we invite you to subscribe to our weekly electronic news service Source Weekly. The feature articles of the printed version of Source Bulletin are included in a bi-monthly special edition of the electronic Source Weekly: Special Features Edition. Source Bulletin will continue to be published on paper for those in the developing world without e-mail access.

*If you are interested in subscribing to the electronic news service, please see the colophon on page 8.*

## Low cost improvements to rural water sources can make a big difference

Research from Zambia questions whether too much emphasis is being put on replacing traditional water sources by conventionally protected systems. This is particularly true for smaller communities, which are unlikely to be able to afford to maintain a handpump even if spare parts were available. It is also true for communal systems, which are being promoted even where most family groups already have semi-private supplies (family wells) in which they are much more willing to invest.

The research funded by the British Department for International Development, (DFID) investigated 2,300 traditional sources and undertook over 200 pilot projects with communities, making low-cost improvements to existing sources. The findings included:

- Lining of wells provides water with as low a risk of contamination as a conventionally protected well at a fraction (one-tenth) of the cost. Both methods lead to a vast improvement in quality over traditional unlined wells. Management of the source and the hygiene around it appear to be as important as the physical changes implemented.
- Scoopholes, which are traditionally bailed, generally have water equal in quality to fully lined hand-dug wells with windlasses, drainage, soakaways and a cover (conventionally protected well). Lining them does not usually improve quality greatly, but does make them more reliable, so people do not have to go to more distant sources in the dry season.
- People are prepared to pay a large part of the cost, especially where the source is owned by a single family (although still usually used by many). A small subsidy can lead to enormous changes and encourages others to dig new wells, and deepen existing ones.
- The concept of low-cost improvements is very popular with users. In almost all cases, the number of users increased significantly after improvements were carried out, and the demand for improvements far exceeds supply. As a result, districts are now obtaining funds from government and other sources to take on implementation.
- Many who had previously gone long distances to take drinking water from springs and scoopholes felt comfortable taking it from nearer wells once these were improved, reducing water collection time and effort.
- Low-cost pumps (such as the rope pump) are far more popular, but no more expensive than a windlass.
- Smaller communities often prefer lower technology solutions, and the problems they perceive often do not require the replacement or relocation of the source. The confidence engendered by solving their own problems and instigating their own development is an aspect that conventional source protection, however participatory, rarely achieves, since so much of the motivation, skills and materials come from outside.

The initial response of government to the concept of low-cost improvements was scepticism and a feeling of 'going backwards'. However, government was the key player in the research and, as far as possible, policy makers and planners were involved, helping in designing surveys, identifying key issues, presenting results of piloting and drafting manuals. In this process they helped produce credible data and analysis, which led to their own conversion in a way that simply

presenting them with the findings would not have. It also led to a high level of cooperation among ministries.

The approach is complementary to conventional source protection, offering sustainability and ownership often not achievable in other ways. In some districts over a third of people live in communities of less than 20 households. This approach, now being promoted by government, UNICEF, NGOs (such as WaterAid) and donors within the country, offers an opportunity to make small differences for a large number of people for whom a larger technological leap is at present not sustainable or even attainable in the near future.

Definitions of universal access tend to lead to a drive to provide everyone with access to a handpump, working or not, or even conventionally protected wells. This marginalises and demotivates smaller, more dispersed, communities and needs to be re-evaluated in the light of these findings.



*For further information contact - Sally Sutton, SWL Consultants, 14 Kennedy Road, SY37 AB Shrewsbury, Shropshire, England, e-mail: [sally@ssutton.fsbusines.co.uk](mailto:sally@ssutton.fsbusines.co.uk), and see the Knowledge and Research website [www.hrwallingford.co.uk/projects/dfid-kar-water.html](http://www.hrwallingford.co.uk/projects/dfid-kar-water.html)*

## Water and Poverty Workshop calls for less talk and more action

Addressing the water security needs of the poor is a top priority in water management, and there is an urgent need to focus on actions that put this into practice. This was the main conclusion of a major regional consultation workshop held in Bangladesh at the end of September, which brought together over 250 senior representatives of government, civil society and the private sector.

The meeting was organized by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Bangladesh's Water Resources Planning Organization (WARPO) and BRAC, a leading poverty-focused NGO, and supported by the governments of the Netherlands and Denmark, and the Japan Water Resources Association. It was held just three weeks after delegates at the Earth Summit in Johannesburg reaffirmed their commitment to cut by half the number of people in the world with inadequate clean water and sanitation by the year 2015, and is a milestone event in the run-up to the Third World Water Forum in Kyoto in March 2003.

While different perspectives were expressed at the workshop, there was broad agreement on a series of measures that must be taken to ensure that continual rounds of discussion now be translated into action. These include:

- *Implementation of existing policies.* Making changes to the policy process to ensure the implementation of existing policies is a key to the move to action. New policy initiatives should only be considered where there are clear gaps in existing provisions.
- *Ensuring the most basic needs of the poor, for life and livelihoods, are met.* This is more than just water for health and dignity; it must also include water for food security and adequate nutrition, and water as an input into sustaining livelihoods. The full range of needs and

uses of water, including domestic water supplies used for productive activities and the water needed to sustain ecosystem integrity, must be defined and included in pro-poor water actions.

- *Better targeting of actions to the needs, priorities and capabilities of the poor.* There is a need to demonstrate that the specific measures taken will be targeted to improving the water security of the poor. Approaches should be demand-led, where the poor themselves set the agenda and define the priorities.
- *Focus on the achievable.* Grand master plans to address all the needs of all the poor were felt to be self-defeating, take too long to develop and be agreed, and should be avoided.
- *Partnerships are a key to success.* All stakeholders have a role to play in providing for the water needs of the poor.
- *Focus on opportunities rather than problems created by water.* Water should be seen as a positive contribution to poverty reduction and improving water security rather than a source of ill-health and social alienation that are key parts of poverty. Better access to water will improve the productivity of existing production and make many new livelihood opportunities possible. Improvements to water management can be a ladder out of poverty.
- *Well-planned investments are a core component of required actions.* This should include large infrastructure as well as small, localised investments. The process of investment decision-making must be improved. The key is to consider all options, to plan, implement and operate infrastructure in different ways and to ensure benefit flows reach the poor.

While delegates agreed that there should be a move to action now, they identified a number of factors that are fundamental requirements if these actions are to be effective.

The first essential condition for success is that there has to be a concerted political will to make changes to water management. Improving the access of the poor to water resources may challenge the interests of powerful vested groups who benefit from existing forms of management, and it may require substantial investments of money, institutional capacities and other resources that have to be diverted from other areas. The willingness to tackle powerful interests and to invest will only be available where an extremely strong case is made that these efforts are more important than other priorities.

Transparency of information and shared understanding are essential for creating partnerships and harmonizing the potentials of different stakeholders to the common purpose of improving the water security of the poor. They are also a key to wise decision-making and building capacities. This information should, above all, be available to poor people in a form that they can understand and that is appropriate to their particular situation.

The poor themselves must be key actors in all stages of pro-poor water management processes. Participation is an agreed mechanism and is enshrined in many policies. While not everyone can, or will want to, participate in every decision, representative mechanisms must be available so that the needs, interests and priorities of the poor are clearly and forcefully articulated. Where such representative mechanisms do not exist, measures to create them are themselves a key objective of the process of pro-poor water actions. Equity, with a gender focus, is the core of the approach, both as an objective and as a key element of the methodology. This means that it is not something that

should be an 'add-on' but should rather be mainstreamed into policies, procedures and actions.

There is a need to change attitudes. The poor should not be seen as victims or part of the problem, but recognized as creative adapters and the basis of the solution. At present, the poor are too often patronised, even where they are involved. It needs to be recognized that the poor are often ingenious and creative in making the most of the few resources that they possess. They also have an intimate knowledge of the local problems and opportunities that are the basis for defining locally appropriate interventions. This adaptive creativity has enormous potential, and any actions must be structured to make best use of it.

It was concluded that the approach will be demand-led, with no initial assumptions about what problems and opportunities exist. The goal is to give poor women and men greater choices and the means and capacities to make these choices work. The key to success will be to develop institutional capacities through which different needs and options can be identified and turned into practical steps for implementation. This means that flexibility is a key characteristic of the approaches that should be developed.

Radical innovations are not needed in most cases. The challenge is to scale up what is already known to work at a more local level. This in turn means a strong focus on the institutional processes and capacity building through which scaling up can take place and sustainability be ensured.

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## News from the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council

### Madagascar sets the pace in the WASH campaign

WASH, the campaign for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All, has got off to an early start in Madagascar. Following the launch by the Prime Minister, Jacques Sylla, on September 12th, and barely two weeks after the conclusion of the World Summit in Johannesburg, a network of nongovernmental organisations, with WaterAid as a key partner, put forward an action plan, which they have now started discussing with a wider group of partners, including the government and key donors.

The two-year plan is envisaged as the next step in a programme focused on sanitation and hygiene, which covers all the main areas of action and all the main actors,

from community action, to schools, churches and mosques, as well as government. The action plan identifies the need for a range of interim targets for training and supporting small enterprise technicians in the manufacture of SANPLAT slabs for latrines (costing about \$3 to \$4 each). It also provides for Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) surveys to be undertaken, from which well-targeted messages will be devised for the media and for social mobilization.

The initial focus is on the capital city, Antananarivo, and its immediate surroundings, but it is hoped that the plan will in the future be extended to other areas of the country.

# UN Secretary General highlights the WASH campaign in his report to the General Assembly

In his report to the 57th session of the United Nations General Assembly, the Secretary General, Mr Kofi Annan, presented details of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All (WASH) - a campaign instigated by the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) to mobilise political support for achieving universal sanitation targets. The report describes the current and planned activities, initiatives and networking at local, national and international levels being undertaken by the WSSCC, in cooperation with the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, in preparation for the International Year of Freshwater - 2003.

The text, which appears in chapter V of the report (UN document A/57/132), states as follows:

45. The Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council is a multi-stakeholder initiative dedicated to enhancing collaboration in the water supply and sanitation sector, and is working in close cooperation with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. The Council's thematic networks focus on hygiene promotion, environmental sanitation, institutional and management reform and community-based approaches, including a code of ethics and gender mainstreaming. The Council has recently launched a campaign entitled 'WASH: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for all', aimed at mobilizing political support and action around the world to end the suffering of the more than 2.4 billion people who are without access to adequate sanitation and the 1.1 billion without a safe and affordable water supply. A 'WASH the World' campaign is envisioned for key conferences and events, and some 30 countries are being earmarked for support to implement the proposed WASH initiative.

46. The Council will be undertaking a number of advocacy and communication activities related to the International Year of Freshwater, focusing on the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development. In particular, it will be expanding its outreach to increase public awareness of water, sanitation and hygiene as keys to poverty alleviation and sustainable development. With members in over 140 countries, the Council will continue to play an important role in the promotion of water and sanitation, particularly at the Third World Water Forum, to be held in Japan in March 2003. Throughout the Year, the Council and its partners will be holding dialogues, virtual forums, exhibitions and round tables around WASH-related themes, featuring key personalities, representatives of governments, NGOs and members of civil society, the private sector, men, women and children. The year-long activities will culminate in Dakar, with the holding of the sixth global forum of the Council in December 2003.

The Secretary-General urged Member States to prepare for the International Year of Freshwater by considering setting up national committees or designating focal points to facilitate and promote activities related to the Year. He also raised the possibility with Member States of forming new partnerships.

The WSSCC is part of a communications task force that is making preparations for the Year, in coordination with the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs and UNESCO.

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## Nane Annan: Women are key to achieving the WASH vision

The importance of water, sanitation and hygiene to women and girls was powerfully spelt out by Mrs Nane Annan, wife of UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, in Johannesburg at the World Summit on Sustainable Development. In a speech she argues that they bear the brunt of the burden of lack of safe water and sanitation, and their involvement is key to achieving the aims of the Water Sanitation and Hygiene for All (WASH) campaign. Some highlights follow below.

"We all know about our own needs for water, sanitation and hygiene, and we know our anguish for the few hours we may be without it. So it should not take too much imagination to understand the plight of those whose daily lives are determined by the absence of sanitation or easily accessible water.

"Sanitation is necessary to preserve human dignity and, for girls and women, to protect themselves against assault. As a woman, I know we are much more vulnerable. The lack of

latrines even stops young girls from going to school. It was not by chance that the teacher in the classroom in a camp for displaced persons in Angola mentioned a newly built latrine as one of their achievements. And then to the words we have heard so often: 'wash your hands before you eat'; 'wash your hands after you have been to the toilet'. They become more than formal niceties when you read that the simple act of washing hands at key times with soap and water could reduce the death toll from diarrhoeal disease by more than a third.

The lessons I learned from northern Ghana, in terms of what women stand to gain from provision of safe drinking water, are lessons which I believe have a general application. They are:

- It frees the inhabitants of a community from most water-borne diseases, reduces child mortality and gives the people, especially women, more time to engage in income-generating ventures, thus reducing poverty;

- Girls will be able to go to school;
- It reduces the burden on women, the family water suppliers and managers;
- It reduces conflicts in communities and stabilises marriages. This is because, as my interlocutor explained, if life is too hard, which it is without water, divorce rates go up. Also young men are more eligible for marriage if they live where there is water supply;

- Water enables women to engage in dry-season vegetable farming, which helps to reduce malnutrition in the lean season;
- It increases economic power, making women more confident to take up their political empowerment issues; and
- Water provision in a rural community reduces migration to urban areas.



## News from IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre

### Let water information flow!

The sixth Water Information Summit (WIS 6) will take place in Delft from 9-12 September 2003, under the title "Breaking the barriers: Let water information flow!". For the first time, the Summit will be held in Europe, in order to stress its global importance.

Water and information have a lot in common. Both flow from a source to users. There can be too much of it, or too little, it can be clear or "polluted". Having and using it is essential, and that is why it is so important.

WIS 6 is a joint effort of the IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre and the Water Web Consortium (USA), with assistance from the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education and the International Institute for Communication and Development (IICD).

It will focus on the challenges of using information and communication technologies (ICT) to share and disseminate water and water-related information and knowledge to support the formulation of water and sanitation policy and the management of water resources.

The 2003 Summit will last four days, beginning with special opening day events to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre. Keynote speakers will address the main themes that will be developed by technical papers and working group discussions during the rest of the Summit. Among the opening day events will be the launch of *Water Stories*, a compilation of personal stories, quotes, photos and facts that aims to show what water means to different people all over the world, with the purpose of inspiring readers to contribute to a world where everyone has access to clean and safe water.

Themes to be discussed during the Summit include:

- The use of information by different target groups in the water sector: the poor, resource centres, policy makers, water managers
- Information and knowledge sharing to support safe water and sanitation in the developing world
- The potential of information to contribute to improved health and poverty reduction

- Use of ICT and electronic learning tools to improve management capacity in the water sector
- The impact of water information and how to measure it
- The role of resource centres in the South
- Closing the Digital Divide
- Implications of actions taken at the Third World Water Forum for the future of water information
- Water portals - websites offering Internet links to information, resources and organisations active in the water sector

The sixth Summit will bring together communication specialists, information managers, website managers, academics, scientists, policy makers, and other water information users, to discuss the state of the art and trends in the use of web-based technologies and partnerships, in order to strengthen regional and global water resources communities and information networks.

This event is being organised at the UNESCO-IHE Institute in Delft, a small historical water city that is home to several water and capacity building initiatives. Delft is located within 45 minutes of Amsterdam, and only 15 minutes from the Hague and Rotterdam. Rooms at special Summit rates will be offered in the vicinity. Educational excursions and technical tours will be offered to Amsterdam, Rotterdam and the historical Batavia ship museum, and there will be a visit to the Dutch waterworks.

**International Waters Knowledge Management Workshop:** As part of WIS 6, the IRC and International Waters LEARN will present a 3-5 day workshop for approximately 20-25 participants in association with the Summit. The tuition fee for the workshop is 1000.

**Contact and registration:** The Summit registration fee is 375, and includes the opening reception and Summit materials. Hotel accommodation is not included. Early registration and payment entitles you to a discount of almost 30% (.275). You can register for the conference online at <http://www.irc.nl/news/wis6.html#registra>, or write to IRC, Ms Ingeborg Krukkert, P.O. Box 2869, 2601 CW Delft, The Netherlands, tel: +31 15 219 29 85, fax: +31 15 219 0955.

## News in Brief

### **Financing: UN-HABITAT Launches Water and Sanitation**

The UN Human Settlements Program (UN-HABITAT) has launched a Water and Sanitation Trust Fund dedicated to meeting the specific target of halving, by the year 2015, the proportion of people who do not have access to basic sanitation or clean water. These targets were set at the recent World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD). The UN Housing and Human Settlements Fund has advanced US\$ 1 million (EUR 1 million) as seed financing to start up the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund which will focus on the urban poor as it becomes operational by 1 Jan 2003. The number of urban dwellers not receiving safe water increased from 56 million in 1990 to 118 million in 2000. More than three times as many people are without even minimal sanitation facilities. UN-HABITAT recently upgraded its Water, Sanitation and Infrastructure section to a full branch with additional staff and resources.

*Contact: Mr. Sharad Shankardass, Spokesperson or Ms. Zahra A. Hassan, Media & Press Relations Unit, UN-HABITAT, fax: +254-2-624060*

*(UN Habitat, 7 Oct 2002)*

### **Hygiene Promotion: State-of-the Art in Large Scale Water Programme**

With funds from the Bank Netherlands Water Partnership for Water Supply and Sanitation (BNWP-WSS), the World Bank will administer a study on the "State of the Art" for Hygiene and Sanitation Promotion to be adopted in Large-Scale Water Supply and Sanitation Programs. The initial focus is on Sri Lanka, Uzbekistan, and Ethiopia. Lessons learned from experience in these three countries will be used to determine future assistance under similar World Bank programmes. The study will include [1] country-level appraisals; [2] training of local counterparts; [3] a monitoring and evaluation framework; [4] cross-country knowledge exchange and regional workshops, and [5] a guidance manual and toolkit. The assignment is scheduled to run from Apr 2003 to Apr 2005.

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*(World Bank)*

## Vietnam: School Sanitation and Hygiene Education pilot recommended to be scaled up

A pilot project promoting sanitation and hygiene education in schools in Vietnam will expand significantly over the next two years, to help communities plan and implement their own schemes.

Vietnam is one of six countries involved in a global Schools Sanitation and Hygiene Education (SSHE) programme, in which local partners, UNICEF and IRC work together. The SSHE programme started in 2001/2001 in 20 primary schools in two districts, located in two separate provinces. The following year, it expanded to a further 30 schools in 15 districts in 15 provinces. All are in rural areas - urban schools generally have better infrastructure and greater educational capacities and resources.

The pilot programme was reviewed at the recent Second National SSHE Workshop, held in Hanoi, and it was recommended to extend the programme to 300 schools by 2005, and to include a further 265 "branch" schools. Branch schools are located in smaller villages, taking children from the age of six to nine, and are attached to a main school located in the main village of a commune.

In all, the country has 15,000 primary schools (60,000 when branch schools are included), and almost 10,000 pre-schools, bringing the overall number of schools to be covered to some 70,000 for lower education alone. Many schools lack sanitary facilities and appropriate teaching methods, including teaching on sanitation, hygiene and health.

### **Hygiene Education**

The SSHE programme fits into existing national programmes for primary and lower secondary education and pre-schools, where health education has been part of the school curriculum for over ten years. Since September 2002, hygiene, sanitation and water supply have formed part of the new subject "Socio and Natural Sciences". This covers SSHE under three sub-topics: 1. 'People and Health' covers the human body, personal hygiene and prevention of illness. 2. 'Society' covers hygiene (along with safety) in homes, schools and the community. 3. 'Nature' covers environmental sanitation and protection. Health and hygiene are part of the Science exam at the end of Grade V.

### **Sanitation**

In addition to hygiene education, the SSHE programme has also promoted the introduction of good sanitation facilities in schools. In the last ten years, 11,000 school latrines have been installed using two standard models developed by the WATSAN Reference Centre of Thai Binh Medical University.

However, feedback from each of the 19 provinces represented at the National Workshop indicated that the installation itself has not always followed recommended designs. Installation is by local craftsmen, without training or backstopping from the programme. It was therefore decided that it is better to offer a wider range of models, because ecological conditions, school size, type, and local resources vary. Following this discussion, the National Workshop recommended that a range of models be developed, allowing schools and parents to install the type of facilities and to use materials that they can afford, so long as minimum design criteria are met.

### **The way ahead**

The main strategic recommendations on the development of the SSHE programme that came out of the National Workshop were:

- School Sanitation and Hygiene Education (SSHE) in Vietnam should change from a pilot project to a hands-on, demand-responsive and participatory strategy for improving sanitation, hygiene and water supply conditions and practices in schools and communities, with a special focus on poor areas.
- The strategy should be placed in the context of the goals of sustainable development (education and water supply) and the sound management of water resources as adopted by the global community.
- Donors and the private sector should be invited to contribute to implementing the strategy as part of a rolling programme of the Education sector in cooperation with the Water and Health sectors.

Under the proposed demand-responsive strategy, District Educational Services will organise information workshops for principals, selected teachers, parent representatives, and local authorities at district level or below. Here, they will learn how to access a five-day hands-on training workshop on child-friendly education, which will also cover technologies for hygiene and sanitation in schools as well as homes and the community.

Groups will have to organise the workshop themselves and take care of all requirements and costs for the local logistics, including food and lodging for the trainers for four nights. The programme will provide two trainers and meet their salaries and transport costs, as well as the cost of training materials. During the five-day workshop, the two trainers will provide hands-on training on SSHE, and will introduce a technology choice game to show the local group how to plan locally the most suitable technology options. The team consists of one teacher with experience in training for life skills-based hygiene education and community participation, and one technician trained in low-cost, community-based water supply/water treatment and school and home sanitation technologies. At the suggestion of the National Workshop the team will be supplemented by the local health worker for health aspects.

- The School Sanitation and Hygiene Education (SSHE) programme is characterised by the combined introduction of child-friendly provisions for sanitation, water supply, hand washing and drinking water in class (especially during the hot season), child-friendly educational methods, community participation, and a focus on behavioural change. Key teachers are trained to train other teachers, and educational and locally targeted promotional materials are developed. The programme places great value on listening to children, parents and teachers in designing, planning and evaluating the facilities. School water and sanitation facilities need to be adapted to the needs of children in different age groups and must be appealing to use. This will ensure that engineers and projects install facilities that are locally appropriate, which in turn will contribute to the proper use and operation and maintenance of the facilities.

After the workshop, the schools and community members will plan, implement and finance their own scheme, obtaining assistance from the programme for the following aspects: 1. A format for designing their plan, including technology choice, maintenance, management and financing; 2. Review of, and advice on, the quality of the plan; 3. Technical drawings and specifications for the chosen technology and service levels; 4. A model contract for constructing facilities, ensuring

#### *News in Brief continued*

#### **Zimbabwe, Mozambique: Set to Launch Joint Water Commission**

Zimbabwe and Mozambique will establish a joint water commission to advise the two countries on conservation, development and use of shared water resources. The commission would advise the governments of the two countries on use of shared water sources such as the Pungwe, Buzi and Save rivers. The commission will consist of not more than three members from each country and will meet at least once a year. Among other functions the commission will advise the two governments on measures and arrangements to determine the potential of the water resources available from shared rivers and demand for water from the rivers. It will also help the governments to collect and exchange information on the water resources and advise on the criteria to be used in conservation, allocation and utilisation of water. The two governments will supply the commission with information and plans on how they intend to develop and use water from the rivers.

*(The Herald (Harare), 14 Oct 2002)*

#### **Latin America and the Caribbean: Hygiene Promotion**

In collaboration with PAHO, Ministries of Health, and Private Voluntary Organizations and NGO partners, USAID has launched a behaviour change for hygiene improvement activity in Nicaragua and Peru. Under this activity, the USAID-funded Environmental Health Program (EHP) provides assistance in training and materials development to NGO partners working in high diarrhoeal disease incidence districts. The activity highlights the expanding focus of Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) from a facility-based approach to community-based (C-IMCI), emphasizing community and household practices and preventative behaviours. The strategy is modelled after a successful approach used by EHP in the Dominican Republic to develop and field test a C-IMCI module integrating hygiene behaviour change into existing C-IMCI modules in diarrhoeal disease prevention.

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*(EHP News, Oct 2002)*

quality control by men and women in the community; 5. Seed funds for school sanitation and a school/community water system; 6. Two follow-up visits from the team to review and advise on (a) technical, educational and managerial implementation and (b) operation/maintenance.

These visits will double as monitoring visits for the district level and above. The SSHE programme in Vietnam is one of six similar schemes, the other five being run in Nepal, Zambia, Burkina Faso, Nicaragua and Colombia. A separate SSHE programme is running in India.

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## Resources and Events

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### Training Courses

#### **Building Capacity in Integrated Water Resources**

**Management** 27 Jan - 7 Feb 2003, Nairobi, Kenya.

Organized by: NETWAS International

The course addresses key aspects of sustainability and the need for an integrated approach in the sector. It aims to ensure that projects and programmes use water resources in the most efficient, sustainable and equitable way. The course fee is US\$ 1,480 (EUR 1,480) per participant (without accommodation). This will cover tuition, course file, books and field trip.

*Contact: Course coordinator, NETWAS International, PO Box 15614-00503 Mbagathi, Nairobi, Kenya, fax: +254 2 890552/54, e-mail: [training@netwas.org](mailto:training@netwas.org), website: [www.netwasgroup.com/training\\_courses/](http://www.netwasgroup.com/training_courses/)*

### New Publications

**Video - *A Journey in the History of Water*** Tvedt, T. and Dale, T. (2002). A journey in the history of water. Bergen, Norway: Centre for Development Studies, University of Bergen; Oslo, Norway, Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation. 2 videos (180 min): PAL or NTSC.

'A Journey in the History of Water' is a four-part video series from all over the world that aims to increase water awareness. Based on a critically acclaimed television series in Norway, the series is made for educational purposes and to broaden general information about water. It tells the dramatic story of how the struggle for fresh water has shaped human society to a remarkable extent. The series brings the viewer to more than 20 countries across the world and shows in fascinating variety how people have coped with what is societies' lifeblood - water. It consists of four parts (two tapes, 4 x 45 minutes): 1) The Struggle, 2) The Energy, 3) The Myths, 4) The Conflicts.

This video directed by Terje Dale and produced by the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation and Bergen University is based on the television series 'History of Water,' which won the Grand Prix on 17th International Environment Film Festival in 2001 and has been sold to about 40 TV-stations, including the National Geographic Channel and Discovery Channel. The series is now made available on video by the Centre for Development Studies at the University of Bergen, Norway.

To read more about the series, seeing samples of the series and ordering, please go to <http://watervideo.com>

Cost: US\$ 59 Postage and packing: US\$ 17. To order, visit the series' website with an electronic order form, or write an e-mail or send a fax to: Centre for Development Studies, Nygårdsgaten 5, 5015 Bergen, Norway, e-mail: [post@sfu.uib.no](mailto:post@sfu.uib.no), fax: 47 - 55 58 98 92

Howard, G. ... [et al.] (2002). *Healthy villages: a guide for communities and community health workers*. Geneva, Switzerland. ix, 108 p. Price: US\$ 19.80 (EUR 19.80), for developing countries: US\$ 15.40 (EUR 15.40)

Available from: WHO, Marketing and Dissemination, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland, fax: +41-22-7914857, e-mail: [bookorders@who.int](mailto:bookorders@who.int)

The guide outlines the type of information and approaches that Healthy Villages managers could provide to their communities. It can be used as the basis for developing material that is specific to regions or to entire countries. Healthy Villages deals with achieving good health; water; excreta disposal; drainage; solid waste management; housing quality; hygiene; providing health care; and establishing committees for implementing Healthy Villages Initiatives.

### Colophon

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