



No. 9

March 2000

**Water future decided in the Netherlands, page 1**

The 2nd World Water Forum and Ministerial Conference in the Hague will decide how the world will tackle water problems in the next 25 years.

**Sanitation promotion in Uganda, page 2**

The majority of rural schools in Uganda lack basic sanitary facilities.

**Water security on the ministers' agenda, page 3**

Over 100 delegations will attend the Ministerial Conference, including more than 80 ministers.

**A shining example from Gujarat, page 3**

The NGO movement in Gujarat has started their own water vision process.

**Vacancy Executive Secretary, page 4**

**VISION 21: Say "Yes" Minister, page 5**

Three affirmative decisions by Ministers can make March 22, 2000, a crucial day for three billion of the world's most deprived people.

**Remember gender..., page 6**

Sharing burdens, benefits and responsibilities.

**World Day for Water, page 6**

"... to set in motion a dynamic that will make this the century of world water security".

**Two new UNICEF-IRC school sanitation programmes, page 7**

**News in Brief, page 6/7**

**New Publications, page 8**

**New Courses, page 8**

## Special World Water Forum issue

### Water future decided at Forum

The 2nd World Water Forum and Ministerial Conference, which will bring thousands of participants from all over the world to The Hague from 17-22 March, will decide how the world will tackle the water problems in the next 25 years. The Forum provides a unique opportunity to translate awareness about what can be coined "troubled waters" into commitment to implemented action in each and every river basin of the world.

*"The availability and quality of water is increasingly under strain. Even if conditions were to remain constant for the foreseeable future, much of the world would find itself in a state of water-related crisis. To make matters worse, populations are growing most rapidly in those areas where water is already in scarce supply".* This is how Wim Kok, Prime Minister of the Netherlands, starts his welcome words in the second announcement for the 2nd World Water Forum and Ministerial Conference that will be held in the Netherlands in the week prior to 22 March, World Day for Water.

This event will mark the conclusion of a long series of sessions during which thousands of concerned citizens addressed the water crisis that threatens us all. In The Hague a Vision on Water, Life and the Environment will be unveiled projecting a scenario of how the world could look 25 years from now - if we take action today. A world with enough clean water for everyone. To implement this Vision a plan of action will be announced, the Framework for Action.

#### Key elements

The key elements of the Vision address basic issues such as:

- the right to water and sanitation;
- the challenging concept of more crops and jobs per drop;
- the essential water services provided by natural ecosystems;
- the risk of floods and droughts;
- the need for international cooperation and governance to better address water issues.



Initiated by the World Water Council, the Vision has been prepared under the guidance of the World Water Commission on Water for the 21st Century.

*"Water is Life. Yet this precious resource is widely mismanaged. Unless we change our ways of managing water we will face serious crises in the near future."*

Ismail Serageldin, Chairman of the World Water Commission, Vice President of the World Bank, and Chairman of the Global Water Partnership (GWP).

The GWP is developing the Framework for Action that aims to implement the Vision at regional, national and global levels. A parallel Ministerial Conference on 21 and 22 March will discuss the Vision and Framework to seek political commitment to address the looming water crises through national action. On 22 March in the afternoon participants of the Conference and the Forum will convene for the closing ceremony, which includes the celebration of World Water Day.

His Royal Highness Prince Willem-Alexander will chair the Forum. Dr. Mahmoud A. Abu-Zeid, the Chairman of the World Water Council (WWC) is very pleased that the prince has accepted this function. The Forum is an initiative of the WWC and is organized by the Dutch government. The prince will also present the results of the WWF's Vision process to the Ministerial Conference.

## Sanitation Promotion in Uganda

The majority of rural schools in Uganda lack basic sanitary facilities. The sanitary facilities in the few schools that do have them are mostly inadequate and unsafe. This situation has been further aggravated by the recent implementation of the Universal Primary Education policy, which entitles all school-aged children to free primary education, causing the number of students per latrine stance to fall far below the minimum standard required. Efforts are being made by the government, Ruwasa and UNICEF to meet the high demands of these schools. This includes providing the schools with sanitary facilities and hygiene education components, with an emphasis on participation of the teachers and parents.

A recent study by Myriam Sidibe, who undertook research on school sanitation and hygiene in Uganda as part of her Masters degree at the Water, Engineering and Development Centre (WEDC), Loughbrough University reviewed and highlighted some of the gaps likely to jeopardize the benefits. Some of gaps which she identified include the inappropriateness of the technologies proposed to the schools as well as their level of sustainability, and the extent to which these initiatives foster community initiatives and participation. She also developed some recommendations which were put forward to enhance the benefits of the approaches. Some of the recommendations included a review of the possible technical options to be further developed and implemented and the need to adopt strategies emphasising on reaching out to specific target audiences, e.g. parents and children. Another recommendation was the need to communicate sanitation promotion through e.g. radio and newspapers.

UNICEF Kampala is supporting this communication action. Two of the mainstream Ugandan newspapers, "The Monitor" and "New Vision" now actually have a special *Sanitation News* page dedicated to sanitation promotion. The idea was a result of the realization that unless the movers and shakers of the country are informed and educated about sanitation, especially the fact that it is a responsibility for all and not a private affair, sanitation will continue to lag behind and be marginalised in all aspects including in the allocation of human and financial resources.



Contributions to the page are welcome from all readers, however people working in the area of sanitation and health are encouraged to contribute regularly. There is also a section on the page dedicated to children. This part of the page consists of cartoons, tips and readers' mail.

The circulation rate is estimated at 20,000 copies, reaching about 200,000 people for the Monitor and 35,000 copies reaching about 280,000 people for the New Vision. The total production cost for one year is an average of about US\$ 33,000, which is shared between the Water and Sanitation Section and Communication Section of UNICEF in Kampala. The news agencies have provided the pages at subsidized rates including some free space.

Other activities planned as part of the communication strategy include flyers, posters and children's materials such as puzzles and games.

The focus is on putting sanitation on the agenda and especially improving sanitation in schools; which has really deteriorated with the increased enrolment due to the government's Policy on Universal Primary Education (UPE). Although most schools have some form of latrines, the numbers fall far below the minimum standard required. In a recent mini survey it was found that only 2% of the schools had adequate latrines. Mini manuals on hygiene promotion have been used to inform the communication strategy including a market research.

For further information, please contact Agnes Bitature; E-mail: [abitature@unicef.org](mailto:abitature@unicef.org) or William Fellows, E-mail: [wfellows@unicef.org](mailto:wfellows@unicef.org), UNICEF Uganda.

# Water security on the ministers' agenda

Over 100 delegations have registered to attend the Ministerial Conference, including more than 80 ministers responsible for national water management. They will formulate a ministerial declaration to react to the World Water Vision, initiated by the World Water Council and prepared under the auspices of the World Commission on Water in the 21st Century. The Netherlands Government has prepared a draft declaration, with assistance from the International Preparatory Committee of 26 countries and 8 international organizations.

Water is vital for the life and health of people and ecosystems, but around the world women and men lack access to adequate and safe water to meet their most basic needs. Water resources, and the ecosystems that provide them, are under threat from pollution, overuse, land use changes and many other forces. This leads to one simple conclusion: *business as usual is not an option. There is, of course, a huge diversity of needs and situations around the globe, but together we face one common challenge: to provide water security in the 21st Century. This means water for the thirsty, food for the hungry, protection from hazards, living in a sustainable environment.*

This is how the draft Declaration of The Hague begins. In a unique move the Dutch organizers put the draft declaration on the Internet (<http://www.worldwaterforum.org/>).

To achieve water security, the seven key challenges that will be discussed are:

- **Meeting basic needs:** to recognise that access to water is a basic human need and, thus, to empower women and men to decide on their safe and adequate water and sanitation.
- **Protecting ecosystems:** to ensure the integrity of ecosystems through sustainable management.
- **Securing the food supply:** to enhance food security through increasing water productivity for food production.
- **Sharing water resources:** to develop cooperation at all levels within and - in case of trans-boundary water resources - between states, through river basin management.
- **Managing risks:** to provide security from floods, droughts and other hazards.

- **Valuing water:** to manage water in a way that reflects its economic, social and cultural values, and move towards pricing water services to cover the full cost of their provision. This approach should take account of the need for equity and the basic needs of the poor.
- **Governing water wisely:** to ensure good governance so that the involvement of the public and the interests of all stakeholders are included in the management of water resources.

The actions advocated by the ministers are based on *integrated water resources management (IWRM)*, with planning and management of land and water resources taking account of the inclusion of social, economic and environmental factors and integrating surface water, groundwater and the ecosystems through which they flow. IWRM in turn depends on collaboration and partnerships at all levels (from individual citizens to international organizations), based on a political commitment to and wider societal awareness of the need for water security and the sustainable management of water resources.

The ministers commit to further advance the process of collaboration to turn agreed principles into action, based on partnerships and synergies between stakeholders, governments and the public. To this end they agree to take action in a range of areas. Establishing targets to meet the "formidable challenges" and strategies to achieve them as well as indicators of progress is a major one. National and sub-national water security targets as identified in the Framework for Action will be developed in the context of the Rio+10 conference in 2002. The ministers will also stimulate the UN system in the further development of indicators to monitor targets set by the countries and to report on these indicators in the biannual World Water Development Report as part of the overall monitoring of Agenda 21.

The draft declaration also calls upon the international financial institutions and the Global Environmental Facility to review their policies and programmes in the light of the Vision and Framework for Action and to assist eligible countries in meeting their targets and strategies. The GEF is being asked to expand its activity in the freshwater area by catalysing investments in national water management issues.

---

## A shining example from Gujarat

A shining example of the difference that VISION 21 approaches can make is what happened in the Indian State of Gujarat. There the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council provided less than \$5000 in seed finance to help bring together local NGOs, CBOs and other stakeholders in facilitated discussions to develop a vision

of how their water and sanitation efforts and hygiene services should be in 25 years time. The aim was a contribution to a state-wide vision. The outcome was a practical action plan, which identified eight critical goals with accompanying strategies and actions. By 2010, promotion of lower-cost rural technologies and local

resource mobilisation is expected to reduce per capita investment requirements from Rs2000-2500 to Rs1000-1500, with communities accepting maintenance responsibilities. By that same date, with some donor support that they themselves are mobilising, the NGOs and CBOs are committed to providing separate boys and girls latrines in every school in the state – an activity which is linked to hygiene education and which is expected to have a major impact on the health and hygiene of millions, at a fraction of the cost of previous investments in water and sanitation improvements.

For Richard Jolly, Chair of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council the Gujarat VISION 21 outcome forms an exciting distinction from other development initiatives, showing how much can be achieved through local efforts, using local initiative and local leadership. "Governments – and donors – can accomplish so much more than they have

been able to in the past by directing their water, sanitation and hygiene activities in ways which respond to the energy and initiative of communities. The unprecedented participatory process that has produced VISION 21 has demonstrated how the creativity and commitment of local people can massively multiply the impact of every dollar provided as seed finance."

"VISION 21 makes us all ambassadors for the cause of people-centred development, in which affordable water and sanitation services and the means of personal hygiene are human rights, linked to personal and community responsibilities to help sustain the resources and the services. Let's work together now to see that the Gujarat example and those from the 20 other countries that participated in the VISION 21 exercise are replicated rapidly. Then we really do have a chance to rid the world of the squalid and unhealthy living conditions which currently face so many of its poorest people."

---

## Vacancy Executive Secretary

The Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council invites applications for the post of Executive Secretary. The man or woman appointed will succeed Ranjith Wirasinha on his retirement early in 2001.

Applications are now invited for this post. They should consist of: a) a short letter of not more than 500 words, discussing the applicant's suitability for the post; b) a concise curriculum vitae, not exceeding two pages of A4.

The Executive Secretary will:

- Give clear strategic leadership to the Council: ensuring continuous attention to how the overall objective of universal access is best achieved; overseeing the further implementation of Vision 21; providing advice and support to regional and working groups and all other council activities; recommending new initiatives for the Council's consideration.
- Be a powerful external advocate for the Council's objective: representing the Council in numerous other settings and fora (such as the World Water Council); seeking realistic opportunities to persuade those who shape public opinion or control major resources of the importance of that objective.
- Ensure appropriate consultation with, and information to, all Council members worldwide, helping them to become an effective outreach in their own countries and regions.
- Supervise the efficient management of the Council's ongoing business including: organizing major events such as global fora; ensuring the Council has sufficient resources for its agreed activities and supervising proper use of those resources; managing the Secretariat team; liaising with the host organization (WHO).

Applications should be addressed to The Chairman, Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council, c/o the World Health Organization, 20 Avenue Appia, CH 1211 Geneva 27,

Switzerland. Faxed applications may be sent to +41 22 791 4847. E-mail applications may be sent to [wsscc@who.ch](mailto:wsscc@who.ch). On a confidential basis Ranjith Wirasinha will handle all administration relating to these applications in consultation with the Chairman. Please note that no applicant should attempt to contact the Chairman directly.

The closing date for receipt of applications is 31 March 2000. The Council's Steering Committee has delegated responsibility for making this appointment to a small group of its members, led by the Chairman. In April 2000 this group will review all applications and draw up a short-list for interviews in May 2000.

The Executive Secretary will report through the Chairman to the Council's new Steering Committee. It is not expected that this committee will meet very often and it is not intended that it will actively supervise the Executive Secretary's work other than in terms of overall priorities. The next Executive Secretary must therefore be someone able to give vigorous leadership to the Council and all of its activities, in consultation with the elected honorary Chairman. For the 1997-2002 period the Chairman is Dr Richard Jolly, a Special Adviser to UNDP in New York.

The Secretariat consists of five or six full-time staff, headed by the Executive Secretary and housed within the headquarters of the World Health Organization in Geneva. There is a friendly and informal office environment. The Council believes that its staff team must remain small and unbureaucratic and does not envisage any significant increase in its number. Since the Council is an independent not for profit organization, it must itself raise the resource needed for its Secretariat and various activities, currently about US\$ 2.5 millions a year. The Executive Secretary will be able to draw upon specialist staff assistance in the preparation of funding applications and ongoing reports to donors.

# VISION 21: Say "YES" Minister

Three affirmative decisions by Ministers can make March 22, 2000 (World Water Day), a crucial day for three billion of the world's most deprived people. They are the ones who presently live their lives in squalor and misery, without access to any proper means of hygienic personal sanitation.

On March 22 in The Hague, environment and water ministers from more than 100 countries will be discussing a vision of water resources management in the world in the year 2025. They will have the opportunity to take some key decisions that could help to transform the lives of millions.

Among the dozens of documents the Ministers will have in front of them is VISION 21 – *"A Shared Vision for Hygiene, Sanitation and Water Supply."* VISION 21 (subtitled *"Water for People"*) paints an enticing picture of the world in the year 2025... "A Clean and Healthy World: A world in which every person has safe and adequate water and sanitation and lives in a hygienic environment".

A dream? A fantasy? A mirage? Not according to the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) and the 3,000 people from all parts of the world and all sections of society who helped to put VISION 21 together.

VISION 21 contains a roadmap for replicating the mobilization of local action in any country willing to give the political go-ahead. Three key decisions are needed at the Ministers meeting in The Hague. They may be collective decisions or individual decisions, because the essence of VISION 21 is that, with minimal initial investment, any country, any region, can start the process and expect early benefits.

## Decision 1 — Say "YES" Minister

Confirm that access to affordable water and sanitation services and hygiene awareness is a basic human right.

It is implicit in international conventions that these basic services are human rights. What is needed is for governments to make it explicit in national law and set goals and targets for achieving universal coverage as soon as possible.

## Decision 2 — Say "YES" Minister

Encourage and enable local communities, local NGOs, local community organisations, local entrepreneurs and enlightened local governments to work in partnership to plan, initiate and manage improved water and sanitation systems and hygiene education programmes.

The VISION 21 experience has confirmed that when people's energy and commitment are mobilised through simple empowerment measures, the result is very much more cost-effective and sustainable programmes. It is the dynamism of people-centred action to control their own destiny that is at the heart of VISION 21. Government retains the crucial role of setting standards and protecting public health, but reinforces it by releasing the people's initiatives.

## Decision 3 — Say "YES" Minister

Put water, sanitation and hygiene improvement programmes at the core of human development and poverty alleviation.

At community level, there is no doubt that many people themselves see water, sanitation and hygiene as priorities for improving their lifestyles and livelihoods. There is both an intuitive and a statistical correlation between poverty and lack of sanitation services. The link between human development and basic services exists but it needs strengthening by governments and donors giving the necessary priority in the allocation of budgetary and manpower resources.

## Is that all?

No. Many other changes are needed in thinking, institutions, technology choices, gender perspectives, and management of water resources. But – and it is a fundamental point – these changes will follow once the Yes, Yes, Yes commitment has come from government. The changes needed are wide-ranging – primarily aimed at ensuring that the household- and community-based approaches needed to achieve the goal of water, sanitation and hygiene for all can operate unhindered and with the necessary support in terms of capacity building and investment. They will come with the momentum generated by local ownership and commitment.

The experience to date is that water, sanitation and hygiene programmes based on community-based vision and action are less costly and more sustainable than top-down programmes. The energy and resources, the synergy created through collaboration of local people and simple technologies and service levels all cost less. Today, some 85% of investment in water supply and sanitation in developing countries goes into mega-projects delivering high-tech and usually subsidised services to the better-off city dwellers, at costs ten or twenty times more per capita than the community-based alternatives.

In countries as diverse as Senegal and Togo in West Africa, Jamaica and Haiti in the Caribbean, Bangladesh, Nepal and the Indian State of Gujarat in Asia, and numerous others, the process of formulating VISION 21 is being converted into a formal planning mechanism and implementation programmes are already being developed with the approval of national/state government agencies.

These countries are spearheading a drive to liberate their people from the neglect of sanitation and hygiene. As Ministers grapple with all the problems of droughts, floods, and ecological devastation in The Hague, the WSSCC urges that they give priority to this golden opportunity. *"Water for People"*. The process works. The goals are ambitious. The cost is reasonable! Say "YES" Minister.

## News in Brief

### Meeting Basic Water Needs as a Human Right

In a recent article\*, the US-based Pacific Institute argues that international law and practice support the "legal human right to a basic water requirement and that there is an obligation for States or other parties to provide those resources when they are lacking". The Institute believes that the explicit acknowledgement of a human right to water will help put pressure on international and national organizations to meet basic water needs and that this should "take precedence over other water management and investment decisions". As we enter the new millennium there are still one billion people who "lack a standard of water service enjoyed by ancient Romans".

\*P.H. Gleick, P.H. (1999). A human right to water. *Water policy*, vol. 1, no. 5, p. 487-504. For a copy contact: Lorelei Muenster, <mailto:lmuenster@pacinst.org>

(*Pacific Institute Report, winter 2000*, <http://www.pacinst.org/winter00nl.pdf>)

### International Poll: developing country consumers more environmentally conscious

A survey conducted by Environics International in 27 countries showed that consumers in developing countries have a stronger focus on wanting to find greener products than industrialized countries. According to Environics President Doug Miller: "People in developing countries are very focused on local environmental problems and are very willing to pay for products that will help them lower their impact on those problems, particularly air and water pollution." Miller expects that consumer concerns about the environment will become "in developing countries will become a "dominant" factor in the marketplace and, especially in Latin America, will influence politics.

Contact: Doug Miller, President, Environics International Ltd, [mailto:doug\\_miller@environics.ca](mailto:doug_miller@environics.ca), <http://www.environics.net/eil/>

(*UN Wire, 13 Jan 2000*, <http://www.unfoundation.org/unwire/archives/UNWIRE000113.cfm#16>)

News in Brief continued on page 7

## Remember Gender – it makes a difference!

### Sharing burdens, benefits and responsibilities

Mainstreaming a gender perspective is the process of assessing the complex relationship between productive and domestic uses of water and its implications for women and men. It is a strategy for making women's as well as men's needs and experiences an integral dimension of any planned action, from the design and implementation, to monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres. The objective: increased equity in sharing of burdens, benefits and responsibilities between women and men.

On Friday, March 17 at the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Water Forum, the Gender and Water Major Group session that is coordinated by IRC will answer the questions on what we can do better in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This will be addressed by the organizations involved in "Mainstreaming Gender in the World Water Vision", a crosscutting issue in the development of the World Water Vision.

Applying a gender perspective in water resources management results in greater efficiency, greater effectiveness, improved environmental sustainability and greater equity. What is essential however, is a commitment to the process of gender mainstreaming in the entire system of water resources management. Improvements have been achieved over the years, but many women and men are still a long way from achieving equity.

The aim of this session is threefold: to demonstrate the relevance of addressing gender issues and constraints, defining the gaps in the application of a gender perspective and raising commitment for proposed strategies and activities for the future.

Projects from around the world will share their experiences and successes in applying a gender perspective through face to face dialogue with women and men, theatre, poetry, song and a video conference. Parallel workshops to focus on specific gender issues will be organized. Gender ambassadors will be following other sessions at the forum to relate the messages of the required gender perspective and ensure concerted action for the future.

The session will provide the opportunity for all to experience the value of involving women and men in water programmes and planning ahead for the achievement of our Vision goals. The outcomes of the Gender Day will be finally presented during the Ministerial Conference.

In addition to this special session, there will be a presentation on water and gender in the House of Citizens at the World Water Fair.

---

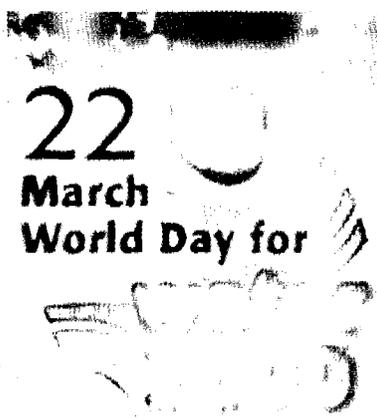
## World Day for Water 22 March 2000; "Water for the 21st Century"

*"The challenge we face, as we mark World Water Day 2000, is to set in motion a dynamic that will make this the century of world water security. Water has long been too low on the public policy agenda or presented only in terms of disasters, scarcity, pollution or as a potential source of conflict. We need to take a constructive approach to water: it is an essential, shared resource; it should be treated as a foremost priority in every community from the local to the global. There is a fundamental truth which I would like to emphasize on this occasion: the water supply does not run dry when it is drawn from the well of human wisdom.*

UNESCO gives priority to water as part of its science programme, but it also promotes reflection on traditional knowledge and water management. Our organization hosted the world-wide consultative process that led to the drawing up of a World Water Vision, yet it also fosters small-scale, local solutions to water problems. All decision makers and officials with responsibilities for water need to pay attention to the role of women as the primary managers of water policy at family level, to the role of education and culture in attitudes to water. Above all, we need to see water issues as a powerful catalyst for collaborative projects involving national research establishments, regional and international research networks, community leaders, educators, young people, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and many other partners.

Water stress creates such vulnerability in communities that the crisis reference will always be there. But let us not lose sight of the fact that water is the source of life: the real problems are usually those of inadequate political, technical and social responses, those of unequal distribution of wealth and knowledge. We do not need to wait for a water crisis to remedy these problems. We can tackle them today."

Message from the Director-General of UNESCO, Koichiro Matsuura



## Two new UNICEF/IRC school sanitation projects

Together with UNICEF, IRC will be involved in two new school sanitation and hygiene education projects. The first will be carried out in six countries: two each in Asia, Africa and South America, while the second focuses on specific states within India. The overall aim of both projects will be to ensure that the present and future health and education of school-aged children improve through better hygiene behaviour and a healthy school environment.

The Global School Sanitation and Hygiene Education project is specifically designed to implement the approach described in *A Manual on School Sanitation and Hygiene* which IRC published together with UNICEF in 1998. The particular activities include the development and testing of country-specific, child-centered teaching programmes and low-cost technology options. The documentation of the pilot countries' experiences will be brought to a larger audience through the World Wide Web <http://www.irc.nl/sshe> and IRC's bulletin (*Notes and News SSHE*). An advocacy package will also be developed to increase the global, regional and national awareness and commitment towards school sanitation and hygiene education.

That school sanitation and hygiene projects have impact is demonstrated in Bangladesh. A programme implemented since 1992 with UNICEF support resulted in:

- 15 percent increase in girls' school attendance;
- more than 80 percent of students are interacting with their family members to discuss hygiene practices.

Source: Project evaluation by UNICEF Bangladesh in 1994 and 1998.

News in Brief continued

### Strategic Sanitation Approaches in Urban Sanitation

An electronic conference on Strategic Approaches to Sanitation Provision in Urban Areas, the second in the Water and Sanitation Think Tank series, was held between October-November 1999. The conference highlighted the importance of demand for improved sanitation to increase coverage, the importance of informing demand and providing appropriate incentives at all levels. The recovery of operation and maintenance costs was seen as an essential requirement for sustainability. Other crucial issues such as health and gender, training and education, and institutional arrangements, deserved more attention, as did local cultural and social issues. A summary report has been posted (24 January 2000) on the conference site: <http://www.oneworld.org/thinktank/water/ssacon.htm>

### Special Interest Group on Water Information to be launched

In follow-up to the earlier call for papers for the special issue of the *FID Review on Water Information in Source Weekly* (see <http://www.irc.nl/products/documentation/call4papers.html>), a launch meeting for the Special Interest Group on Water Information has been planned at the Royal Library, in The Hague, The Netherlands on Monday 20 March, 2000. For further details please see: <http://www.irc.nl/products/documentation/wisig/launch.html>

Contact: Nigel Browne, IRC,  
<mailto:browne@irc.nl>

### Africa: Forum on Land and Water Initiative launched

UNEP has launched the internet-based Interactive Forum on the Africa Land and Water Initiative of the Global Environmental Facility (GEF). The initiative addresses land and water degradation in Africa and will provide a "framework for the coordination of bilateral and multilateral donors". The forum web site address is: <http://gef-forum.unep.org>

Contact: Sean Khan, UNEP,  
INFOTERRA/GEF,  
<mailto:scan.khan@unep.org>

(UNEP News Release 2000/4, <http://www.unep.org/unep/per/ipa/pressrel/r01-2000.001>)

The overall objective of the School Sanitation and Hygiene Education programme in India is to develop, test and successfully demonstrate replicable models for hygiene education, water supply and environmental sanitation in rural primary schools and pre-schools. Currently, India has approximately 600,000 primary schools in the rural area. Only one of ten schools has adequate toilets and urinals, while safe water is available in only one of every two schools. However, there is at present no school sanitation programme in the country, as toilets and urinals are all too often not considered much of a priority. Where these are constructed, it is usually at the initiative of the school

teachers, the block or district administrations, or occasionally, at the behest of the households whose children attend the school. External support projects, such as the Primary Education Project and others, also include school sanitation elements, but none are exclusively dedicated to improve school hygiene practices. Some of the specific activities in this programme will therefore include packaging approaches, methods, techniques and materials to be used by the school, adapting designs for school sanitation facilities and developing other school sanitation communication materials for teachers and students.

---

## Resources and Events

---

### Events

15 March - 30 April 2000 - **Streams of Knowledge E-Conference**

This 4<sup>th</sup> One World Water Think Tank electronic conference will deal with knowledge sharing and resource centres in the water supply and sanitation sector. A parallel e-conference will be run in Spanish (by CINARA). The conference builds on IRC's STREAM project which is developing a Streams of Knowledge coalition of resource centres. To join the conference, send a message to [stream@mailbase.ac.uk](mailto:stream@mailbase.ac.uk). URL: <http://www.oneworld.org/thinktank/water/strcon.htm>

### New Publications

**Towards Better Programming: A Manual on School Sanitation and Hygiene in French and Spanish**

This UNICEF/IRC manual, originally published by UNICEF in 1998, has been translated into French and Spanish. All three language versions can be downloaded as PDF files from the IRC web site <http://www.irc.nl>.

Hard copies in each language are available from UNICEF New York for W&S-interested people from developing countries only, whose downloading/printing capabilities are difficult, and for whom hard copies would be the only way to access the material.

Copies from UNICEF (free of charge, no shipping or handling costs) can be obtained from:

UNICEF, Water, Environment and Sanitation Section, 3 United Nations Plaza, TA 26-A, New York, N.Y. 10017, fax (212) 824-6480, E-mail: [wesinfo@unicef.org](mailto:wesinfo@unicef.org)

### Training Courses

**Gender in Water Supply and Sanitation Programmes**

(1) 5 - 23 June 2000 (3 weeks), IRC, Delft, The Netherlands, US\$ 3000 (EUR 3020)

(2) 3 - 21 July 2000 (3 weeks), KCCT/NETWAS, Nairobi, Kenya, US\$ 3050 (EUR 3070) (incl. food, lodging and medical insurance)

Target group: Programme managers and trainers. The course emphasizes the use of tools and methods to introduce gender considerations in project planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Programme: Problem analysis and gender strategies; Planning, implementation and monitoring gender activities; and Individual assignment. URL: <http://www.irc.nl/products/training/gender.html>

Contact: (1) IRC Training Section, E-mailto: [training@irc.nl](mailto:training@irc.nl); (2) Mr. James Thuku, NETWAS, mailto: [nct-trs@nbnet.co.ke](mailto:nct-trs@nbnet.co.ke)

### Colophon

ISSN 1389-3157

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

Editor: Dick de Jong ([jong@irc.nl](mailto:jong@irc.nl))  
Contributors: Brian Appleton (WSSCC News) ([appletonb@who.ch](mailto:appletonb@who.ch)), Cor Dietvorst (Resources and Events) ([dietvorst@irc.nl](mailto:dietvorst@irc.nl)), Marielle Snel ([snel@irc.nl](mailto:snel@irc.nl)), Eirah Gorre-Dale ([eirah.gorredale2@gte.net](mailto:eirah.gorredale2@gte.net))

IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre  
P.O. Box 2869, 2601 CW Delft, The Netherlands  
Tel. +31-15 2192939, fax +31-15 2190955  
E-mail: [general@irc.nl](mailto:general@irc.nl). Internet: <http://www.irc.nl>

*SOURCE Bulletin* is also available by e-mail. To subscribe, send an e-mail to [majordomo@listserv.antenna.nl](mailto:majordomo@listserv.antenna.nl), with the message 'subscribe source-bulletin' (without quotes), and leave the subject line blank. To subscribe to *SOURCE Weekly*, send an e-mail to [majordomo@listserv.antenna.nl](mailto:majordomo@listserv.antenna.nl), with the message 'subscribe source-weekly' (without quotes).



No 10

May 2000

**2<sup>nd</sup> World Water Forum - Massive public awareness, few commitments, page 1**

**Action on poverty and safe and affordable water no. 1 priority, UN urges in 21<sup>st</sup> century action plan, page 2**

**Drawers of Water II: A generation of experience, page 3**

New research team revisits East African communities

**Double Dutch accolade boosts water for people campaign, page 3**

Tributes by Forum leaders give extra impetus to local action

**Mobilizing action for VISION 21, page 4**

...bottom-up important for efficiency and sustainability

**Global Environmental Sanitation Initiative is relaunched, page 4**

... a major change is essential if there is to be any hope of reaching universal access by 2025

**Gender alliance launched to help implement water visions, page 5**

...this launching is the most practical conference result have ever witnessed

**Global coalition of resource centres launched for improved water and sanitation, page 6**

The mission is to help close the gap on unmet needs

**IHE Delft becomes UNESCO Institute for Water Education, page 7**

..... cooperation will form the main international validating body for education, training and human capacity building

**Community integrated water resources management - OP 31, page 7**

New IRC title available now

**News In Brief, page 6/7**

**Resources and Events, page 8**

## 2<sup>nd</sup> World Water Forum - Massive public awareness, few commitments

The protests of the people against dams and privatization during the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Water Forum triggered massive public awareness about the Forum as well controversial issues that are hampering a new international consensus on water. Political commitments were less prominent in the news, but include commitments of the Netherlands and UK governments to double their investments in water (see box).

Forum Chair His Royal Highness the Prince of Orange said in his concluding speech to the Forum that he in a way was happy that there had been these protests. "I do know that hundreds of organizations and thousands of individuals have actively participated in the Vision and Framework for Action. As a result, now, hundreds of others feel left out - and would have liked to be involved. That is great. Please do join the next steps, because this campaign is far from over".

### Dutch government doubles investment in water

Just before the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Water Forum and the Ministerial Conference the Dutch government was the first to put its money where its mouth is. The cabinet has decided to double its investments for water through international cooperation, with an annual increase of 100 million Dutch guilders (US\$ 45 million). "We increasingly see too much water, or droughts and polluted water resulting in diseases and deaths. Water becomes a priority problem in the next 10 to 15 years for many other governments as well", Prime Minister Wim Kok said.

In her closing speech to the ministers from 130 countries on World Water Day, 22 March, Mrs. Evcline Herfkens, Minister for Development Cooperation of the Netherlands and Chair of the Ministerial Conference announced that the United Kingdom plans to more than double its bilateral contribution to the water sector over the next three years.

Different governments made other pledges in The Hague. Vietnam pledged to improve awareness, political will and capacity, and to implement integrated water resources management. Zambia targeted to achieve 75 percent coverage of water service provision in rural areas and 100 percent in urban areas by 2015. The Philippines will translate agreements into strategic programmes and actions. Macedonia pledged to clean rivers and lakes in the next three years. Bangladesh will formulate a 25-year National Water Management Plan to translate policy into action.

Other commitments mentioned by the Prince include:

- The CEO of the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) announced a doubling of the water-related budget.
- The local governments' session pledged to set-up a water-cities network and report their progress the Third World Water Forum that will take place in Japan in 2003.
- A group of organizations pledged to form a Water and Gender alliance (see story below).

In his report to the minister from 130 countries Prince Willem Alexander highlighted the issues that were raised during the last day of the Forum.

### Action on sanitation

The number one priority action that arises from the discussion on the Framework for Action is a major drive in sanitation and hygiene education. An immediate and revolutionary programme of action is required, say the Forum participants, focusing on environmental sanitation. The old ways leave us struggling to keep up with the growing needs. Women consistently state the importance of sanitation and their views must be acted upon. Sanitation and hygiene education can be an active force in promoting women's influence and involvement in development in general.

### Additional Actions for the Framework

The Global Water Partnership (GWP) will produce a supplement to the Framework for Action. This is intended to reflect the discussions at the Forum and embrace a broader cross-section of stakeholder views, through consultations involving NGOs, trade unions and sector Vision representatives. It will focus on actions required at regional and national levels.

### Globalization and the many private sectors

One issue that came up regularly in the Forum relates to "globalization" and concerns the true nature of private sector involvement. A careful evaluation of all options, ranging from public, public-private partnerships to privatized service provision will determine which option is most attractive given the local circumstances. Considerations will include participatory and transparent management and an appropriate role for the local communities. A factor in this evaluation is also where the

necessary funds for doubling the investment in the water sector will come from.

Development aid will not go up drastically. Government funding is not likely to double either. Additional resources can come from the private sector. The bulk of these private sector activities concern community action and small to medium scale national companies. There is also a role for multinational corporations, specifically for really large projects and investments. In the Vision this last component is estimated to be only a third of the total. The role of governments remains crucial in any case through provision of a regulating and enabling environment.

### Water as a human right

After 30 hours of "interesting and lively debates" Mrs. Herfkens, minister for Development Cooperation of the Netherlands and Chair of the Ministerial Conference made her closing speech to the Ministers from 130 countries on World Water Day 22 March. She presented the adopted Ministerial Declaration of the Hague on Water Security in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. "We have got 12 reports reflecting the views of ministers, not only repeating the problems, but guiding us forward. Our debates were solution-, not resolution oriented". The other major contentious issue, water as a basic human right, was not included in the 3-page declaration. However, the one-page report on the thematic session on meeting basic needs states that: "clean and adequate water supplies are fundamental to the successful exercise of human rights".

The minister and Prince Willem Alexander stressed that the draft Framework for Action is a milestone in an ongoing process that translates the vision of making water everybody's business into action. The outcome of the Conference will be fed through the Commission for Sustainable Development into the Rio + 10 Conference that is due in 2002.

---

## Action on poverty and safe and affordable water no. 1 priority, UN urges in 21<sup>st</sup> century action plan

Cutting in half by 2015 the proportion of people living in extreme poverty, and the proportion lacking safe and affordable water. This is the first item of an ambitious 21<sup>st</sup> Century agenda on which UN Secretary-General Kofi A. Annan urges world leaders to commit themselves to priority action. He does this in a detailed report, "We the Peoples: The Role of the United Nations in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" that sets the agenda for the United Nations Millennium Summit. The Secretary-General's report will be considered by a special Millennium Summit on 6-8 September 2000, scheduled on the eve of the first UN General Assembly of the new millennium.

Perhaps the most alarming chapter of the report deals with the environment. In addition to freedom from want and from

fear, Mr. Annan writes, the world now faces an urgent need to realize a third freedom, which the UN's founders could not have anticipated: "the freedom of future generations to sustain their lives on this planet". "We are failing to provide that freedom," he says. After detailing the multiple threats of climate change, water shortages, soil erosion and the destruction of forests, fisheries and biodiversity, he concludes by calling for a "new ethic of stewardship" and a system of "green accounting" - to ensure that environmental costs and benefits are integrated into economic policies.

<http://www.un.org/millennium/sg/report/full.htm>

## Drawers of Water II: A generation of experience

Learning from three decades of change in domestic water use and environmental health in East Africa a team of local researchers led by Mr. John Thompson of the International Institute for Environment and Development have revisited the communities of the first Drawers of Water study conducted by Gilbert White, David Bradley and Anne White in 1972.

Lessons have been drawn from this extensive study which is valuable as a linkage of Vision 21 with field experience. The team reported preliminary results of this study during the Water for People day at the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Water Forum.

Highlights include:

- A decline in per capita water use of about 50% in households with piped water because of unreliable services;
- A doubling of water use in households with unpiped water although this was still not a high enough consumption;
- Determinants of water use are wealth and water price for both piped and unpiped supplies;
- Deterioration of piped supplies has come about both by lack of maintenance capacity and urban growth;
- Women and children still bear the burden of water

collection aggravated by distance and labour intensive methods of water transport;

- Diarrhoea and other water related infections are still a serious problem and stress the continued importance of hygiene education.

In 1997, unpiped households spent slightly more per capita (1.5 US cents) for water than in 1967 (1.2 US cents). On the other hand, piped households experienced a decrease in per capita water expenditure, from 8.67 US cents in 1967 to 7.71 US cents in 1997.

These are sobering lessons that show that despite the investments of the past years a major change in approach is needed. Big investments have had little sustainability and smaller projects seem to have had the most impact. Continued follow up of this analysis and linkage with VISION 21 development into action is recommended (see below).

For more information on Drawers of Water II, please contact John Thompson at IIED, E-mail [John.Thompson@iied.org](mailto:John.Thompson@iied.org), or visit the IIED website at <http://www.iied.org>. You may also contact Munguti Katui-Katua ([cmnts@net2000ke.com](mailto:cmnts@net2000ke.com)) in Kenya, Mark Mujwahuzi ([majwahuz@udsm.ac.tz](mailto:majwahuz@udsm.ac.tz)) in Tanzania or James Tumwine ([jtumwine@imul/com](mailto:jtumwine@imul/com)) in Uganda.

---

## Double Dutch accolade boosts Water for People campaign

Tributes by HRH the Prince of Orange and Dutch Overseas Development Minister Eveline Herfkens have given extra impetus to VISION 21 "Water for People", one of the documents discussed at the Second World Water Forum and Ministerial Conference.

"The challenge now is to match the expectations and enthusiasm of local people and communities who have participated in VISION 21 with concrete action", says WSSCC Chairman Dr Richard Jolly. WSSCC is mounting global, regional and local campaigns to support VISION 21 activities in the 21 countries where the Vision is already being converted into action, and to spread the approaches into other countries. Donor and NGO support is being sought for the locally-based activities which are at the heart of the process.

Throughout the Forum discussions, Water for People has been singled out as the prime example of the participatory process at work. Its status was bolstered further when, in his address to the Ministerial Conference, the Prince of Orange told the 115 ministers and other officials that the democratic participation of citizens is the way forward in elaborating and implementing water policies and projects.

Later, in a hastily scheduled meeting to respond to NGO concerns about the overall Vision process, Minister Herfkens sympathized with their position and invited them to continue to lobby for greater participation in the drafting

of the Framework for Action. Reminded that Dutch support had helped the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) to bring together local stakeholders in 21 countries to develop VISION 21 Water for People, she promised to share the report with her ministerial colleagues and to provide further Dutch support for NGOs promoting public participation in Vision follow-up. The NGO statement delivered at the Ministerial Conference specifically supports "the process of community-based participation employed for VISION 21 (Vision for Water for People)."

There were other tributes too. Frank Rijsberman, co-author of the World Water Council Vision and rapporteur of the Forum told the press, during a briefing with HRH the Prince of Orange: "We applaud the exemplary efforts of the WSSCC in ensuring that this spirit of collaboration among stakeholders and partners would be upheld throughout the Vision exercise." A statement by NGO WaterAid urged recognition of the process and content of VISION 21 by the 4,500 participants at the Second World Water Forum.

Among the goals in VISION 21 is universal access to water, sanitation and hygiene by the year 2025. There are still three billion people in the world without hygienic sanitation facilities, and this leads to five thousand children dying each day from diarrhoeal disease. Water, sanitation and hygiene are implied to be basic human rights in existing international conventions, according to WSSCC, which urges ministers to make it explicit in national legislation.

## Mobilizing action for VISION 21

During the Water for People Day two sessions discussed how to mobilize action for VISION 21. The thrust of Vision 21, emphasizing bottom-up approaches, is trying to compensate for the existing top down situation. Consensus was reached that bottom-up is not just a smart thing to say but is important both for efficiency and sustainability. Putting the needs of people first, especially women and children, has consequences for the culture of professionals and government systems. "Projects will not be successful; without the full involvement of women they will fail" (H.E. Ms Elisabeth Odio-Benito, Costa Rica). Government departments are often 'manned' by male technocrats with little sensitivity to community issues and a focus on standards and professional control. These require a change in culture of professionals and government. The bottom-up approach has to be made possible by public authorities providing the enabling environment

We all must agree with the objective of VISION 21, but there are differences between the World Water Commission's Vision report and VISION 21, leaving some unresolved problems. The financial requirement of VISION 21 for US\$ \$9 billion per year to provide basic services to the unserved demonstrates how little money is required to address the backlog in relation to sector expenditures and emphasizes the inequity of the present situation.

To go from Vision to Action we need to look at VISION 21 and break it down to practical steps. Motivation to act should be combined with clear goals. The suggestion was made to work with GWP and establish an implementation project in at least two countries, in both urban and rural areas, to demonstrate how VISION 21 can be achieved.

To bring the Vision to reality the Council's immediate priority is feedback and follow-up in the 60 or so communities where the VISION 21 exercise has produced action plans and expectations.

National Coordinators have been asked to submit their follow-up plans and budgets within three weeks. These will be evaluated and combined with proposals for regional and global activities, for discussion at a proposed donor roundtable on VISION 21 in the coming months.

Fruitful discussions were held in The Hague with the Global Water Partnership and with the agencies responsible for the "Water for Food and Rural Development" and "Water and Nature" Visions. These discussions will continue to seek ways of ensuring integration of our activities with theirs and appropriate activities into the Framework for Action of the overall Vision. The Council will also be endeavouring to formalize VISION 21 links with WaterAid, ISW and the NGO community as a whole, to combine forces at the country or local level where this is possible.

Regular news about VISION 21 activities will be disseminated via the VISION 21 E-mail listserver, and we plan to expand the VISION 21 coverage on the Council's web page to include a country-by-country guide to what is going on. Links are being sought with other Networks, to carry the message to a wider audience of decision makers, particularly among local government and professional associations in the developing world.

In the Asia region, a roving seminar has been developed to raise awareness of VISION 21 principles. The concept is an excellent one and can be a model for other regions. Offers to assist in developing proposals for seminars for Africa, Latin America, CEENIS and SIDS will be welcome.

Plans are being formulated now for demonstration projects to show the application of VISION 21 in two or more big cities. More news will be available soon on this important initiative, suggested by former US Secretary of State and World Bank President, Robert McNamara, during the Water for People Roundtable in The Hague. Contacts are also being developed with support agencies at country level to look for opportunities of linking VISION 21 activities into ongoing programmes.

---

## Global Environmental Sanitation Initiative is relaunched

The rate of progress on sanitation is so slow that a major change is essential if there is to be any hope of reaching universal access by 2025. Sanitation itself may not reach high on the political agenda but each country has to look for the related issues that do have impact on the politicians. This may range from negative impacts on tourism, food exports, or episodes of ill health, which have a solution in improved sanitation. WSSCC is relaunching the Global Environmental Sanitation Initiative (GESI) to mobilize concerted action.

The example of the sanitation revolution in India is given in the Vision 21 package and shows how sanitation can be economically, socially and politically successful. To make more progress on sanitation we must be prepared to talk

more openly about sanitation at all levels. Politicians respond to power and the unserved often do not have power. A focus on decentralization takes decisions closer to the community and allows women's issues to be raised on the agenda.

GESI's key messages will include:

- Build on people's own motivation that sanitation is one of the areas to improve the quality of their own lives.
- Integrate organizations and agencies across a wide range of sectors to enhance effectiveness on sanitation.

Targets of the advocacy will include:

- Governments to acknowledge environmental sanitation and hygiene as a priority and establish policies and measures to promote a national drive for sanitation.

- Governments, NGOs, international and local bodies to establish effective public health education campaigns especially in schools.

## Gender alliance launched to help implement water visions

"In 35 years of experiences with conferences, this launching of the Water and Gender alliance is the most practical result I have ever witnessed." This is how Ms Chandni Joshi, Regional Programme Director of UNIFEM (United Nations Development Fund for Women) in South Asia described her feelings to the press on the outcome of the From Vision to Action session on Gender Mainstreaming that took place at the Second World Water Forum on 17 March.

Partners that have been involved in getting gender balance in the Vision consultations and documents have agreed to form an alliance that will continue to assist implementation of the Vision in the field after the ministers have left The Hague. Bill Cosgrove, Director of the World Water Vision Unit in Paris announced that one of the last actions of this unit would be to host a first workshop to map out an action programme with the partners involved from various water use sectors. "This alliance being formed today means a continuing push for the inclusion of gender considerations in water resources management and the equal involvement of women and men in the water sector", Mr. Cosgrove said.

The IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre will act as secretariat for the alliance. This group also coordinated the Water & Gender Major Group session prior to and at the Forum. In the process of getting gender mainstreamed in the water vision 75 organizations were involved. "Through these partners we had gender ambassadors influencing the major Forum sessions. They are going to be our partners putting their water visions into practice," said Jan Teun Visscher, Director of IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre, the Netherlands. The alliance will advocate change in the field in areas such as gender sensitive information sharing, networking and capacity building.

A mixed panel from the Global Water Partnership, ITN Philippines, IIDS/Sussex University, UNIFEM and WaterAid and led by Ismael Serageldin and participants welcomed the alliance as a formal gender (and not: women) lobby. They advised to add the community dimension through organizations and individuals representing community gender issues. Addressing gender further means demystifying gender, addressing value systems and cutting out the stereotyping of women as victims and beneficiaries only.

Using broader tools that are gender sensitive is to be preferred over separate gender tools. Institutional change for operationalising gender in the overall water sector is another crucial aspect to be addressed in a follow-up programme, including the transformation of senior management attitudes and arriving at a better gender balance among professionals in water management. Changing the sector begins with access of girls to basic education, said HRH Prince Willem Alexander. Fragmented

operations in the field should be addressed. Also in other groups it was stressed that the sector does not yet cater for the reality that domestic water supply is also used for small scale production and irrigation water for domestic use.

Mr. Ismael Serageldin said that the Global Water Partnership would welcome a concrete proposal from this alliance.

The partners who have initially started and who have now agreed to further support this alliance include:

IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre

IWMI (International Water Management Institute)

UNIFEM (United Nations Development Fund for Women)

IHAV (International Information Centre and Archives for the Women's Movement)

IUCN (International Union for the Conservation of Nature's Social Policy Group)

Both ENDS (Environment and Development Service for NGOs)

In their call for action that Jennifer Francis and Jon Lane did at the start of the Ministerial Conference they asked the ministers for commitment on three issues:

### Reallocation of budgetary resources

Analyze budgetary allocations to environmental protection and water management, and assess what proportion is currently spent on social aspects and community-related activities. This proportion, which currently averages 7.5% in the more progressive water programmes, should be raised to 15% by 2005, with a view to reaching 20% by 2015.

### Establish an Inter-Ministerial Sub-Committee on Gender

Establish an Inter-Ministerial Sub-Committee on Gender at this conference, whose task will be to review progress in the above areas, and report back to the next Ministerial Conference on Water in 2003. The ministers have accepted to establish this sub-committee and many countries have already pledged their ministers, both women and men, as delegates.

### Achieve 33% women's representation in FFA implementing bodies

Commitment to ensure that all bodies involved in the further development of the Framework for Action, and its practical implementation in the field, have 33% women's representation. Added to this would be to ensure that the gender impacts of the FFA from the community to the basin level are monitored and reported at national and international levels according to criteria agreed by the Inter-Ministerial Sub-Committee on Gender.

## News in brief

### Earth Charter Launched

After an 8-year worldwide consultation process, the Earth Charter Commission has issued the final version of the Earth Charter. It presents "an integrated vision for human rights and sustainable development" that the Commission hopes will be endorsed in 2002 at the UN Rio+10 General Assembly. The Charter makes two specific references to water. Under the heading Ecological Integrity it says it is necessary to "manage the use of renewable resources such as water ... that do not exceed rates of regeneration and that protect the health of ecosystems", and under Social and Economic Justice it is necessary to "guarantee the right to potable water ... and safe sanitation, allocating the national and international resources required."

Contact: <mailto:earthcharter@terra.ecouncil.ac.cr>, <http://www.earthcharter.org/> (UN Wire, 14 Mar 2000, <http://www.unfoundation.org/unwire/archives/UNWIRE000314.cfm#11>)

### Africa, Lake Chad: Nigerian President Appeals for Help

On behalf of President Olusegun Obasanjo, Nigerian Defence Minister Theophilus Danjuma appealed to UNDP and other international agencies to help halt the degradation of Lake Chad. The Minister was speaking at the 47th session of the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC), whose members include Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Niger and Nigeria. Persistent drought has reduced the lake to one-tenth of its size in the 1960s.

Contact: LCBC, <mailto:lcbc@intnt.td>, <http://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/decco/lcbc.htm> (IRIN, 10 Mar 2000, <http://www.reliefweb.int/IRIN/wa/weekly/20000310.htm>)

### Mozambique Floods: Emergency Water and Sanitation

The February floods in Mozambique have left nearly 1 million people homeless, with 250,000 victims seeking shelter in 97 camps. Damage to wells and sanitation facilities has led to an increase in water-related diseases. UNICEF has delivered soap, chlorine, jerrycans, water bladders, water

News in Brief continues on page 7

## Global coalition of resources centres launched for improved water and sanitation

Mr. Ranjith Wiransinha, Executive Secretary of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council has launched *Streams of Knowledge*, a global coalition of nine resources centres that have agreed to work together for improved water and sanitation in the developing world. "This is a subject that needs to be explored in depth with a view to meeting the challenges of realizing the World Water Vision, and more particularly VISION 21 ("Water for People") which concerns the water and sanitation sector," Mr. Wiransinha said at the launching party at the Citizens House on 18 March at the 2nd World Water Forum and Ministerial Conference in The Hague, the Netherlands.

The mission of the global coalition of resource centres in the water and sanitation sector is to help close the gap on unmet needs by:

- achieving equitable access to information
- focusing knowledge where it can help to build capacity, and
- promoting action learning, whereby people benefit from their own experiences

Organizations from the South involved in launching the coalition that works in equal partnership are: CINARA from Colombia, CREPA from Burkina Faso, Institute of Water and Sanitation Development (IWSD) from Zimbabwe, NETWAS International from Kenya, and Philippine Centre for Water and Sanitation from the Philippines (PCWS).

From the North, partners involved are IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre from the Netherlands, Programme Solidarité Eau (pS-Eau) from France, Swiss Centre for Development Cooperation in Technology and Management (SKAT) from Switzerland, and the Tampere University of Technology's Institute of Water and Environmental Engineering (TUT/IWEE) from Finland.

Coalition activities adding value to individual activities include:

- help strengthen other resource centres;
- develop regional activities, networks and alliances reaching grassroots national actors;
- raise funds to facilitate access to Streams of Knowledge information and other services.

Activities by the partners include action research, strategic sector analysis, advocacy, publishing, information support, training, and advisory services.

For more information contact the secretariat: c/o IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre, P.O. Box 2869, 2601 CW Delft, The Netherlands, Tel: +31 (0) 15 219 2942, Fax: +31(0) 15 219 0955. E-mail: [bastemeyer@irc.nl](mailto:bastemeyer@irc.nl), <http://www.irc.nl/projects/stream/>

## IHE Delft becomes UNESCO Institute for Water Education

The Netherlands-based International Institute for Infrastructural, Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering (IHE Delft) will become the IHE-UNESCO Institute for Water Education. This has been agreed upon during the Second World Water Forum in The Hague by the Dutch government, UNESCO and IHE Delft. The IHE-UNESCO cooperation will form the main international validating body for education, training and human capacity building in water issues. UNESCO recognizes IHE Delft as one of the most experienced organizations dedicated to

sustaining and further strengthening the educational and training components of its international water programs. It offers IHE a more prominent role in world-wide knowledge networks.

A document stating IHE's new role has been signed by the Director-General of UNESCO, Mr. K. Matsuura and three Dutch ministries. The Dutch government has made substantial financial contributions to support the initiative.

IHE's current mission will not change. Its basis will remain in Delft, the Netherlands, and it will function as an autonomous organization under the international umbrella of UNESCO. As the UNESCO Institute for Water Education it will create and reinforce networks of water sector professionals and educational institutions to exchange scientific, educational and technical information in all aspects of integrated water resources management.

This development will also be positive for the IRC-IHE collaboration that presently emphasizes:

- Education and training in social, institutional and technical aspects of sustainable community water supply, sanitation and hygiene
- Joint capacity building work in selected countries
- Documentation and information sharing, with IRC and IHE now combining their library collections

---

## Community integrated water resource management – OP 31

In the wake of the World Water Forum, a new IRC publication highlights the gap that continues to exist between on the one hand the aspirations surrounding integrated water resource management (IWRM), and on the other the day-to-day reality of the implementation of water supply and sanitation (WSS) projects for poor communities.

Case studies from eleven projects in Africa, Asia, and South America highlight the failure of the WSS sector as a whole in addressing the challenges presented by the IWRM approach. On a positive note there is increased involvement of people in the management and maintenance of systems, as well as a move towards the development of systems that meet the expressed needs of their recipients, however much remains to be done.

Within the sector more attention needs to be paid to water source and catchment protection; waste needs to be minimized and demand managed; gender must become more fully integrated in the sense of ensuring that projects recognize the unique needs and roles of different groups within the "community"; and tariff structures need to be developed to recognize the economic value of water whilst ensuring the right to an adequate supply.

Moving beyond the traditional boundaries of the WSS sector there is a need to engage more positively with other actors (sectoral, governmental, business, and other communities) in new IWRM fora. The WSS sector has an important role in ensuring that the focus on the economic value of water does not compromise the fundamental right to a minimum level of water supply, in terms of both quantity and quality.

The report highlights worrying gaps between the implementation of IWRM legislation at the national level, and the lack of capacity – technical, institutional, or social – among the lower levels of government agencies. This lack of capacity is particularly alarming given the increasing focus on assigning an economic value to water. Without the backing of strong, confident, and competent support agencies poorer and more marginalized communities and individuals risk having their right to water undermined by more powerful and better organized groups.

*News in Brief continued*

purification tablets, pumps and water tankers. It is also helping to build latrines and repair wells in Gaza Province. WHO and UNICEF are performing major clean-up and disinfection projects for community water systems in 29 towns. To prevent outbreaks of water-borne diseases, UNICEF is also providing support for personal hygiene education campaigns and communication/awareness initiatives.

Contact: <mailto:office@unicef.moz.org> (Mozambique floods situation report 3 Apr 2000, <http://www.unicefusa.org/alert/emergency/mozambique/situation.html>)

### India: Water for All More Important than Biotechnology

In a meeting with Nobel laureate and president of the US National Science Academy Prof. Harold Varmus, Indian Prime Minister Vajpayee told him "that he wanted to ensure drinking water supply to all more than investing in the biotech field". Prof. Varmus was in India lecturing on the benefits of biotechnology.

(Rediff, 8 Mar 2000, <http://www.rediff.com/business/2000/mar/08biotek.htm>)

### Brazil, Rio de Janeiro: Mass Protest Against Water Pollution

More than 10,000 residents of Rio de Janeiro staged a protest against the rising pollution of the city's beaches by oil, sewage and even human body parts. Sources of pollution include an oil spill in January 2000, leaking sewers and disposal of untreated wastewater (44% of inhabitants have no sewage connection). Human legs, arms and feet washed up on the beaches as "souvenirs" of recent gang wars. In 1992 Rio hosted the UN Earth Summit.

(UN Wire, 24 Mar 2000, <http://www.unfoundation.org/unwire/archives/UNWIRE000324.cfm#13>)

The report makes a number of recommendations for further research into the whole area of the practical steps needed to strengthen both communities and support agencies to ensure that poorer sections of society do not lose out through the increased application of IWRM practices.

Jan Teun Visscher et al. (1999) *Integrated water resource management in water and sanitation projects – lessons from projects in Africa, Asia, and South America*. IRC International Water Supply and Sanitation, Delft, the Netherlands

Occasional Paper Series no. 31. 82 pages.  
Price: Euro 9.00. US\$ 9.00 (30 percent discount for indigenous individuals and institutions in developing countries). Add Euro 7.50/US\$ 7.50 to each order for handling and mailing. Order code: OP 31-E

Publications in this OP series will increasingly become available free of charge on IRC's web site: <http://www.irc.nl/products/publications/online/op31e/index.html>

---

## Resources and Events

---

### Conferences

25-29 November 2000 - **Fifth Global Forum of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC)**, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Organized by: WSSCC with support from the Brazilian Association of Sanitary Engineering (ABES) The Forum will be under the umbrella of Vision 21 - Water for People. Sanitation will be the priority area of attention. The theme will be "VISION 21 - Hygiene, Sanitation and Water for All". Besides VISION 21, there will also be a centrepiece presentation on the Assessment of the Water Supply and Sanitation Sub-Sector carried out by WHO and UNICEF. Participation will be by invitation. Some 500 participants are expected, two-thirds coming from developing countries. The Forum will run back to back with the AIDIS Assembly (Inter-American Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering) from 3-8 December 2000. Contact: E-mail: [wsscc@who.ch](mailto:wsscc@who.ch), <http://www.wsscc.org/>

### Publications

Cosgrove, W.J. and Rijsberman, F.R. (2000). **World water vision : making water everybody's business**. London, UK, Earthscan. 136 p. Full text online: <http://watervision.cdinet.com/visioncontents.html>

Hard copy price: GBP 12.95 (includes CD-ROM) (EUR 21.03)

Order through booksellers or direct from: Earthscan Publications Limited | 120 Pentonville Road | London | N1 9JN | UK | Telephone: +44 (0)171 278 0433 | Fax: +44 (0)171 278 1142 | Email: [earthinfo@earthscan.co.uk](mailto:earthinfo@earthscan.co.uk), <http://www.earthscan.co.uk/asp/bookdetails.asp?key=2066>

Global Water Partnership (2000). **Towards water security: a framework for action**. Stockholm, Sweden, Global Water Partnership. 111 p. ISBN91-630-9202-6

Separately available: executive summaries in English, French and Spanish. URL: <http://www.hrwallingford.co.uk/projects/gwp.fau/documents.html>

### Courses

NETWAS International, Nairobi Kenya

- Gender in Water and Environmental Sanitation, 3-28 July 2000 (4 weeks). Co-organized with IRC. Fees: US\$ 3050 / EUR 3200. URL: <http://www.irc.nl/products/training/gender.html>.
- Management for Sustainability in Water Supply and Sanitation Programmes, 18 Sept - 6 Oct 2000 (3 weeks). Co-organized with IRC. Fees: US\$ 3050 / EUR 3200
- Private Sector Involvement in Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation, 23 Oct - 10 Nov 2000 (3 weeks). Fees: US\$ 3050 / EUR 3200
- Community Management of Water and Sanitation Projects, 13 Nov - 1 Dec 2000 (3 weeks). Fees: US\$ 3050 / EUR 3200

### Colophon

ISSN 1389-3157

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

Editor: Dick de Jong ([jong@irc.nl](mailto:jong@irc.nl))  
Contributors: Brian Appleton (WSSCC News) ([appletonb@who.ch](mailto:appletonb@who.ch)), Cor Dietvorst (Resources and Events) ([dietvorst@irc.nl](mailto:dietvorst@irc.nl)), Patrick Moriarty ([moriarty@irc.nl](mailto:moriarty@irc.nl)), Eirah Gorredale ([eirah.gorredale2@gte.net](mailto:eirah.gorredale2@gte.net))

IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre  
P.O. Box 2869, 2601 CW Delft, The Netherlands  
Tel. +31-15 2192939, fax +31-15 2190955  
E-mail: [general@irc.nl](mailto:general@irc.nl). Internet: <http://www.irc.nl>

*SOURCE Bulletin* is also available by e-mail. To subscribe, send an e-mail to [majordomo@listserv.antenna.nl](mailto:majordomo@listserv.antenna.nl), with the message 'subscribe source-bulletin' (without quotes), and leave the subject line blank. To subscribe to *SOURCE Weekly*, send an e-mail to [majordomo@listserv.antenna.nl](mailto:majordomo@listserv.antenna.nl), with the message 'subscribe source-weekly' (without quotes).



No 11

June 2000

## Cost Recovery at All Costs?, page 1

Efforts to solve the cash flow crisis affecting municipalities, by enforcing payment for services, are having negative spin-offs.

## Indian PM urges recycling of rainwater, page 2

... warning that falling water levels led to situations like a severe drought currently affecting several states.

## WSSCC News

### Electronic Live Chat at World Water Forum, page 3

### "Water House" to reinforce networking in CEE and NIS, page 3

### Putting the household at the centre of environmental sanitation improvements, page 3

## IRC News

### UNICEF/IRC develop SSHE action plans, page 4

### Streams of knowledge regionalizes, page 5

### No water? - out goes (private) manager, page 5

### News In Brief, page 6/7

### Resources and Events, page 6, 7, 8

## Cost Recovery at All Costs?

*A remote rural village in Kwa Zulu Natal is recovering some of the costs of their new water scheme. However something strange is happening - the community is using very little water. The average daily consumption per resident is less than 8 litres, and many don't even use their new tap water. On closer analysis it becomes clear that many members have returned to their traditional polluted sources so that they only have to pay for small quantities of the new purified water, because it is too expensive...*

Efforts to solve the cash flow crisis affecting municipalities by enforcing payment for services are having negative spin-offs. Many poor rural people can't afford to use as much water as they used to, which even then was not enough for healthy living. This defeats the main purpose of improving water supply, which is to improve peoples' health. Many municipalities are going bankrupt because consumers, both rich and poor, don't pay for services. National government says there isn't enough money to bail them out. "Cost recovery" has therefore become municipal managers' overwhelming preoccupation.

In rural water supply, the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAFF) since 1995 has been spending over 800m South African Rand (1 Rand - 0.153 Euro) annually keeping former homeland and many new schemes running for consumers who don't pay. In many of the new rural schemes, lack of payment means schemes stop functioning. Local government is now coming under pressure to deal with these problems.

To assist the local governments DWAFF is now funding pilot projects around the country to gain better experience in cost recovery. In financial terms the results have been patchy. In terms of improvements in health, things are even more uneven. The problem is that the predominating approach that is that of applying the "user pays" principle so strictly that the plight of the poor is overlooked.

The effect of enforcing payment indiscriminately, whether through pre-payment systems or not, is a general drop in consumption which threatens the financial viability of schemes. And, just as importantly, it has the effect of forcing the poor

## Field experiences from partners

Readers of Source Bulletin have indicated in surveys in 1999 that they would like to see short, interesting field experiences reported. We will try to do this by regularly publishing interesting case material from our partners in developing countries. In this issue Mvula Trust has contributed the first item from South Africa on a hot issue: cost recovery at all cost? The key message from their field work: *"The effect of enforcing payment indiscriminately ... is forcing the poor to revert to traditional, unprotected sources of water, and using less quality water that is necessary for good health".*

Mvula Trust publishes the *Maru A Pula* ("promise of rain") newsletter. Mvula Trust and IRC are currently collaborating on disseminating lessons of community water management and the development of a resource centre to assist the changes in water and sanitation programming in South Africa.

The Editor

to revert to traditional, unprotected sources of water, and using far less quality water than is necessary for good health.

So what is to be done? Those who believe in the blind "justice" of "the market" argue that water should be treated as a commodity, and that the plight of the poor is the problem of the welfare department. Fortunately such views do not predominate. Most believe some form of subsidy for the poor is justified, and that all citizens are entitled to basic services. DWAF, for example, is working on ideas on how to assist the poor who can't afford the current high tariffs on most schemes.

Where supply is via individual, metered connections, as in urban areas, it is a relatively simple matter to structure the tariff in blocks, providing for a free first block, and cross subsidisation by more wealthy consumers who use more, e.g. the town of Hermanus.

In rural areas, where the potential for cross subsidisation by the higher volume, wealthier consumers, notably commerce and industry, is limited, a different approach must be adopted. Here the need for external subsidies cannot be avoided. The Constitution provides for this through the "Equitable Share", a central government transfer to local government to ensure that the poor have access to basic services. But the basis of any strategy to support the poor should be to make tariffs affordable, not to provide completely free water. This will make controlling demand and wastage impossible, and is not manageable with public standpipe systems.

Local cross subsidisation, to ensure that poor households have access to enough water, can only work if the tariff is generally affordable (around R5/kl). To make this possible, part of the tariff must be subsidised by local authorities. This is best done if they pay for the indirect costs which are

included in the tariff e.g. depreciation, replacement, extensions of the scheme, major repairs etc.

If the consumer is then only responsible for the direct costs, e.g. fuel and salaries, the average tariff becomes affordable (up to R3/kl). The better-off households can then afford to subsidise the very poor. However without individual metered connections, this cross subsidisation cannot be implemented through a block tariff system. One way to implement it is through the use of prepayment systems, which can be mechanical or electronic or through kiosks with human vendors, by providing a limited number of free tokens to all. However the major drawback of such systems is their cost, and in the case of meters, their present unreliability.

Another way, which Mvula is promoting, is through community management and control at standpipe level. Standpipe committees are set up which decide on and manage tariff collection, making allowances for those who can't pay the average tariff. The main stumbling block to making water affordable to the rural poor, however, is the difficulty in ensuring that councils allocate enough of their equitable share to water, and do so on an ongoing basis. It may be necessary for the Department of Finance to use the Division of Revenue Act of 1998, to make part of the transfers conditional on their being spent on water subsidies.

Efficient and practical mechanisms to channel funds to communities are also required. Mvula plans to start piloting just such a mechanism this year. Indirect subsidies will be provided to communities who first have to pay their portion of the cost of their water service.

*Martin Rall, The Mvula Trust, P.O. Box 32351, Braamfontein 2017, South Africa, Fax:+0114031260, E-mail: kates@mvula.co.za, http://www.mvula.co.za.*

---

## Indian PM urges recycling of rainwater

Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee has urged his countrymen to preserve and recycle rainwater, warning that falling water levels led to situations like a severe drought currently affecting several states.

In a message ahead of a national seminar on rainwater harvesting in New Delhi in May, Vajpayee said: "India's population has recently crossed the one-billion mark. With an ever-increasing population, our country faces a serious threat to the management of her water as the gap between demand and supply widens. "In our villages and cities, down the ages, people have developed a wide array of techniques to harvest rainwater which are simple, efficient and cost-effective. We should draw upon the wisdom of our ancient life-sustaining systems and through better management, conserve our precious water resources."

Some 50 million people across five states in India are reeling under a severe drought that has decimated livestock numbers but so far claimed officially no human casualties.

"While it is the responsibility of the government to create a situation where people can develop, it is up to the people themselves to work for achievement of true Gram Swaraj. Village Bhaonta-Kolyala and its surrounding villages have shown how people can do this on their own," said the former President of India, K.R. Narayan at the end of March, after presenting the "Down to Earth-Joseph C. John Award" for India's most outstanding environmental community to Bhaonta-Kolyala village of Thanagazi Block, Alwar District, Rajasthan. The award carries a citation and a cash award of 100,000 rupees (4000 Euro). The community played a pivotal role in reviving the river Arvari, which had been reduced to a seasonal drain, by building traditional rainwater harvesting structures, such as earthen check dams.

The "Down to Earth-Joseph C. John Award" has been instituted by Down to Earth, India's premier science and environment magazine. It is funded by the family of environmentalists Joseph C. John, who is best known for making the first legal move in Kerala High Court against the

Silent Valley hydroelectric project, the first successful environmental campaign in India.

Down to Earth is the flagship of the Centre of Science and Environment (CSE) that is running a Campaign for People's Water Management throughout India. CSE's director is Mr. Anil Agarwal, who is at the forefront of the environmental movement in India. He was also member of the World Water Commission. Back in March

Mr. Agarwal said that if rainwater harvesting is undertaken all across Rajasthan like it has been done in Alwar district, a lot of poverty in the state can be eradicated in the coming 10 years.

### **Groundwater levels falling**

To help fight the current crisis the central Ministry for Water Resources has taken out full-page advertisements in leading national dailies to highlight the crisis. "Groundwater levels in some areas are falling at the rate of one metre every year and rising in some areas at the same time," it said.

"Annually replenishable resources are assessed at 432 billion cubic metres. By adopting water harvesting, an additional 160 billion cubic metres shall be available for use."

The ministry is urging Indians to build rainwater tanks on their roofs to collect the water for storage in underground chambers for future use. It said such a system could also help in preventing falling water levels.

The New Delhi government has launched an advertising campaign in key areas of the city urging citizens to build rooftop rainwater collection tanks. The scheme also aims at buttressing water supplies by building more wells, dykes and dams and "rehabilitating all ancient rainwater harvesting structures."

For more information: CSE (Centre for Science and Environment) 41, Tughlakabad, Institutional Area, New Delhi 110062, India. Tel: +91 11 6081110/6086399/6083394. Fax: +91 11 6085879, E-mail: webadmin@cseindia.org Http://oneworld.org/cse/



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

The Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council's Water for People Day at the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Water Forum had many parallel sessions on which we will report in forthcoming issues of Source Bulletin. Here are a few highlights.

### **Electronic Live Chat at World Water Forum**

Forum Chair HRH Prince Willem-Alexander of Orange participated in an electronic live chat with youth from all over the world, organised by UNICEF-Voices of Youth as part of the Water for People programme. The youth were chatting from Togo, Nigeria, Angola, Thailand, India, Malawi and the Netherlands.

The exchange reflected the children's genuine concerns about the irregular or scarce water supply and the lack of sanitation services in their countries as well as the effects that these have on the health and well-being of their families and communities. In Togo, for example, students walk as far as 10 km to fetch water from rivers and water pumps, particularly in rural areas, where they constantly break down. Together with lack of access to adequate sanitation facilities, this serious situation has led to outbreaks of cholera and other water-related diseases, according to these children.

However, in talking to a child who logged in from Angola, the Prince of Orange offered some words of encouragement: there are signs that the situation is improving and that there is a possibility for children, especially girls, to have an education. This is essential, he said, and the key to development and empowerment.

Voices of Youth is a trilingual website that operates in the framework of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and offers learning activities and materials, including web-based chat discussions, on issues that affect the lives of children and young people worldwide.

The text of the chat can be found on the UNICEF Voices of Youth webpage and excerpts can also be found on the WSSCC site at: [www.wsscc.org/](http://www.wsscc.org/)

### **"Water House" to reinforce networking in CEE and NIS**

The concept of a "Water House" to facilitate networking of water and sanitation stakeholders in Central and Eastern Europe and the New Industrialised States of the former Soviet Union is being proposed by GWP's CETAC and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council's Group 27. The "Water House" (there may in fact be several in different countries) will act as an information centre, data bank, and network focal point for NGOs, CBOs, private sector firms and others seeking information on successful experiences in the water and sanitation field. The stakeholders will be able to obtain information and guidance on such topics as private sector participation models, institutional and legal frameworks, and appropriate wastewater treatment technologies. These are seen as key issues in the CEE and NIS regions, where political systems are still in transition. The role of NGOs and CBOs is being seen as especially important in the achievement of the region's Vision.

### **Putting the household at the centre of environmental sanitation improvements**

Household-centred Environmental Sanitation (HICES) will lead to cost-effective improvements and minimise disposal problems, according to the Environmental Sanitation Working Group of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council. In the HICES model, householders first make optimum use of waste minimisation, recycling and on-site disposal. Responsibilities and interventions pass out progressively to neighbourhoods, districts, regions,

etc., only when they cannot be handled at the level closest to the centre. Four key principles, known as The Bellagio Principles (spelt out in detail on page 11 of the Water for People document, VISION 21) should be at the heart of future environmental sanitation approaches, according to a group of experts who met in the Italian city in February.

1. Human dignity, quality of life and environmental security should be at the centre of the new approach, which should be responsive and accountable to needs and demands in the local setting
2. In line with good governance principles, decision making should involve participation of all stakeholders,

3. especially the consumers and providers of services
3. Waste should be considered as a resource, and its management should be holistic and form part of integrated water resources, nutrient flows and waste management processes
4. The domain in which environmental sanitation problems are resolved should be kept to the minimum practical size (household, community, town, district, catchment, city) and wastes diluted as little as possible.

For more information: Brian Appleton E-mail: [appletonb@who.ch](mailto:appletonb@who.ch)



## News from IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre

### UNICEF/IRC develop SSHE action plans

The UNICEF/IRC Global School Sanitation and Hygiene Education (SSHE) Project is now in full swing, with the approach discussed and draft country action plans developed at the end of the first workshop and with the publishing of the SSHE Notes and News April 2000.

UNICEF staff from 11 countries and resource persons discussed planning action in Delft, the Netherlands from 11 to 18 March 2000. As reported in Source Bulletin no. 9 (p 7) this project, financed by the Dutch government, will be carried out by UNICEF offices in six countries: Nepal and Vietnam in Asia; Burkina Faso and Zambia in Africa; Colombia and Nicaragua in Latin America. UNICEF New York and IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre coordinate the project at global level and give technical support to the country offices and ensure that the countries also feed the experiences into the global track. In addition UNICEF regional offices will be involved. At country level, the UNICEF offices are supported by resource centres from the country or region.

The project is scheduled to last for two and a half years and will test and implement the approach described in the School Sanitation and Hygiene Education Manual developed by UNICEF and IRC in 1998. The overall aim of the project is to ensure that the present and future health and education of school-aged children improves through better hygiene behaviour and a healthy school environment. Focus will be on the development of life skills, a healthy and safe school environment and outreach to families and communities.

In the countries, the focus will be on the development and testing of low cost teaching aids and technical options for the improvement of hygiene practices and environmental conditions within and outside the schools and communities. This will be done in a participatory manner, with a special focus on life skills development using a child centred approach. New in the projects is also the collaboration of the water sector professionals with the education sector

professionals, with the intended result of a tested approach for this collaboration at all levels: it is an educational programme requiring an educational approach to take hold.

The on-going experiences in all aspects of the programmes in the pilot-countries will be brought to a larger audience through the World Wide Web and the Notes and News on School Sanitation, of which the first has been published. In order to increase global, regional and national awareness and commitment towards school sanitation and hygiene education an advocacy package will also be developed. All these materials will be produced in English, Spanish and French.

#### *SSHE Notes and News April 2000 published*

As part of the collaboration the SSHE Notes and news will be published twice a year in three languages. The SSHE Notes and News aims to provide a channel for the dissemination of good practices, current information, knowledge and experiences to all stakeholders that carry out activities in school sanitation or have an interest in the subject. Contributions from readers are also welcome.

Distribution is free of charge. All editions will be made available on the SSHE web site: <http://www.irc.nl/sshe>.

To subscribe send a message in what language and how you want to receive a copy by E-mail to [sshe@irc.nl](mailto:sshe@irc.nl), or to IRC's mail address that you can find in the colophon.

The first workshop was held to discuss the overall programme approach, to establish what activities are already on-going in this field in each of the countries and to assess how in the countries both the education section and the WES section can be optimally involved in the project. UNICEF staff of the six countries already in the project also made plans for country level workshops that will be held to make programme planning country specific and to ensure involvement and ownership of all local stakeholders.

For more information: Leonie Postma, E-mail: [postma@irc.nl](mailto:postma@irc.nl)

## Streams of knowledge regionalizes

The Streams of Knowledge coalition has, back-to-back with the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Water Forum in the Hague, discussed follow-up action in Africa, Asia and Latin America (see also Source Bulletin no 10 page 6). The STREAM partners are jointly developing a "toolbox" for strengthening management and organization of resource centres. Different partners have accepted to take the lead for the development of different tools: Self assessment guidelines, guide for organisational strengthening of potential resource centres, impact assessment methodology, quality assurance guidelines, and web site development/electronic information tools. It was agreed that the Sounding Board Group would in the next months concentrate on discussing objectives, methodology and steps towards testing the tools.

The Sounding Board Group met in Delft. The meeting concentrated on various ongoing activities and on the process of building the global coalition of resource centres "Stream of Knowledge".

The main follow-up actions concern the regional scans and planned regional meetings for potential members of regional resource centre networks and alliances discussed previously. In this issue of Source Bulletin we briefly report on the African partners. Reports from other regions will follow in the next issue.

### *Activities in Eastern Africa*

NETWAS has carried out an initial scan in East Africa and organized a meeting with organizations from Ethiopia, Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya. A two-year action plan was discussed. Actions include a more detailed study of organisations that could connect to the regional network of resource centres and NGOs with a view to capacity building in various countries. Participants also discussed how to

involve organizations from Rwanda and Burundi, countries in East Africa that are more French than English speaking.

### *West and Central Africa, (CREPA)*

In establishing regional alliances of resource centres, CREPA is working in collaboration with TREND (Anglophone countries). A total number of 22 countries were scanned for potential partners. A report on this process and a synthesis of the case studies has been made available.

A regional workshop organised as part of the STREAM process addressed the key issues that affect the development and sustainability of resource centres. A draft action plan for follow-up has been presented. CREPA is in co-operation with the Centre de Formation Continue (CEFOC) developing four research projects and seeking to diversify its areas of specialisation through networking.

### *Southern Africa, (IWSD)*

IWSD started the process of cooperation with STREAM by positioning itself in the national network in Zimbabwe. A next step was to strengthen its information services and dissemination activities. IWSD is cooperating with the Global Water Partnership and will carry out a regional scan of knowledge centres on their behalf with particular focus on urban sanitation. Cooperating with IHE, it is involved in Water Net, a financial provision allowing the strengthening of a network of universities that provide training and professional short courses as well as information dissemination. In that context, IWSD is exploring further who is doing what, and will organise a workshop of different organisations at Victoria Falls.

For more information: Teun Bastemeyer, E-mail: [bastemeyer@irc.nl](mailto:bastemeyer@irc.nl)

---

## No water? – out goes (private) manager

An interesting example of how the effects of private sector involvement in water can contribute to transparency and accountability occurred recently in Maputo, the capital city of Mozambique. An SDC/IRC evaluation team was working in Maputo with its base in an apartment in the best part of the city, when for almost three days last April the water stopped flowing in the town, including in the expensive hotels. This obviously caused an outcry in the media. "The attendant of the apartment we rented was only able to get an occasional bucket of water for us from the nearby presidential palace's garden, where gates were opened to help neighbours", IRC's Maria Lucia Borba says.

The media were complaining, "The water provision was privatized and given to a French/Portuguese company and now this is what we get: total lack of water". When the recently privatised 'Agua de Moçambique' water company was questioned why there was no water, the reply was that this was due to the aftermath of the flooding in the coastal

areas of Mozambique. Chemicals for treatment of water going to these areas had depleted the stock for treating the city water supply. For the first time in the history of Mozambique, the council regulating the water supply in the country gave an immediate response: the general director (a Frenchman) and the technical director (a Portuguese) were suspended from their positions, the local newspaper informed.

Would the same have happened if the water provision would still be in public hands? Would the directors of the public enterprise be dismissed? Probably not. The new regulating body now dismisses those who do not act correctly.

For more information: Maria Lúcia Borba, E-mail: [borba@irc.nl](mailto:borba@irc.nl)

## News in brief

### Annan Endorses World Water Forum Targets in Millennium Report

In a new major report\*, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan urges endorsement of the World Water Forum Ministerial Conference's target of cutting by half the proportion of people without access to safe and affordable water before 2015. This is one of the priority measures to reduce poverty tabled for the coming UN Millennium Assembly and Summit on 6-8 September 2000. The report also calls for a "Blue Revolution" to increase agricultural productivity per unit of water, while improving management of watersheds and flood plains. While reiterating the potential of conflict as a result of resource depletion, especially freshwater scarcities, Annan also supports the proposed Millennium Ecosystem Assessment initiative, a global evaluation of forests, freshwater systems, grasslands, coastal areas and agro-ecosystems.

\*Annan, K.A. (2000). We the peoples: the role of the United Nations in the 21st century. URL: <http://www.un.org/millennium/sg/report/full.htm>

### Albright Proposes Alliance for Global Water Security

US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright has proposed to set up "global alliance for water security in the 21st Century" as a follow-up to the World Water Forum. She was speaking at an event in Fort McNair marking the observance of Earth Day. The goal of the alliance would be to help eliminate regional instability caused by transboundary water problems. The US will be inviting representatives from key donor countries to Washington in early summer of 2000 to discuss regional water problems. The US State Department is contributing US\$ 2 million (EUR 2.2 million) towards a new UNDP fund for the improvement of regional water management.

Contact: [secretary@state.gov](mailto:secretary@state.gov)  
[US State Department Release, 10 Apr]

*News in Brief continues on page 7*

## Resources and Events

### International symposium highlights innovative ways of finding water for cities

*Freshwater supply is the most important prerequisite for sustaining human life and achieving sustainable development. With human populations growing and freshwater demand increasing worldwide, particularly in urban areas, the challenge of supplying adequate water to meet societal needs is one of the most urgent problems facing decision makers. The International Environmental Technology Centre (IETC) of UNEP held a symposium in Kobe, Japan in June last year, to help urban managers understand and prepare for the challenges they face, now and in the future.*

Topics covered at the symposium included rainwater utilisation, water reuse, aquifer recharge, leakage control, and water demand management, as approaches for securing water by efficient use of existing water sources to minimise water shortages in urban areas.

Here follow highlights of the recommendations in five key areas.

#### *Awareness, Education and Training*

- Public awareness and education are essential to improve the acceptance of innovative ways to augment water supply.
- To facilitate the transfer of know-how, guidance documents and training packages must be made available to water authorities and companies.
- Staff training at water authorities and companies and demonstration projects should be undertaken to improve public acceptance and to assist in removing institutional barriers.

#### *Planning and Policy*

- Appropriate water management should be seen as an integral component of all countries' strategies leading toward sustainable development.
- Government must play a leading role to ensure that safe water is made available to the population. In so doing, closer links between water supply, environmental sanitation, and health must be established, taking into account the perspectives of users.
- Involvement of the private sector in the provision of water services is welcome; however, governments must provide good controls and regulations.

#### *Regulatory and Legal Frameworks*

- Water authorities and companies need to be backed by effective laws and regulations. Legal barriers must be overcome to ensure that measures and programs for augmenting water supply are implementable.
- Where innovative approaches are being considered, appropriate regulatory frameworks should be established.

#### *Financing*

- Innovative approaches are needed to finance innovative water supply augmentation.
- Policies should be established for the banking of water to encourage safe and beneficial application of aquifer recharge, water efficiency, and other water supply augmentation initiatives.

## Research and Development

- Research and development related to innovative technologies and approaches for water supply augmentation are key for any sustainable water program.  
<http://www.unep.or.jp/ietc/Publications/INSIGHT/Sept-99/10.html>

The proceedings of this symposium have been published as IETC Report Series No.9. Free of charge copies are available on request for all those in developing countries and countries with economies in transition from:

UNEP-DTIE -- International Environmental Technology Centre, 2-110 Ryokuchi-koen, Tsurumi-ku, Osaka 538-0036 Japan, Fax +81 6 6915 0304, E-mail: [ietc@unep.or.jp](mailto:ietc@unep.or.jp)

## Publications

Kathleen Shordt (2000). **Action Monitoring for Effectiveness (aMe)**  
IRC, Delft, the Netherlands; Technical Paper Series no. 35, Illustrations, Marjan Bloem.

For water and sanitation sector professionals working with users of infrastructure services IRC has published a new two-part handbook to facilitate monitoring for success in service provision. Institutes training present and future professionals will also find this book a useful tool for their capacity building task.

*Action Monitoring for Effectiveness* focuses on practical methods to improve projects and programmes in the short term. It emphasizes use of monitoring information at the lowest level possible, with referral to other levels as needed. Using monitoring information is crucial. Within communities and at intermediate levels, action monitoring for effectiveness helps people analyze, check and improve the situation around them. For leaders in water and sanitation programmes, this book describes how they can organize and facilitate monitoring activities that are built into on-going programmes.

Part I describes the approach, emphasizing participation by those people who have a vested interest in 'getting it right' and solving problems. Part I also describes data collection methods, simple sampling and analysis. Part II contains 30 Fact Sheets, each of which provides practical examples of indicators, methods and tools for monitoring a specific topic. These topics range from concrete issues such as monitoring to ensure construction quality or reduce costs to monitoring more abstract issues such as community participation, management and distribution of benefits.

This book is based on ten years of experience at community, district and national levels in Asia, Africa and Latin America. It has been written especially for senior and supervisory staff involved in water and environmental sanitation programmes, although the methods are relevant to other development sectors as well.

**Price:** Euro 27.00. US\$ 27.00, + Euro/US\$ 7.50 handling and mailing. Indigenous institutions and individuals from developing countries, volunteers and students get a 30 percent discount. Order code: **TP 35-E**.

Brooks, D.B. and Mehmet, O. (2000). **Water balances in the Eastern Mediterranean**. Ottawa, Ont., Canada, International Development Research Centre. 160 p. ISBN 0-88936-907-0. <[http://www.idrc.ca/acb/showdetl.cfm?&DID=6&Product\\_ID=521&CATID=15](http://www.idrc.ca/acb/showdetl.cfm?&DID=6&Product_ID=521&CATID=15)> Hard copy price: CA\$ 25 (EUR 17.70)

This book presents an overview of freshwater resources in the Eastern Mediterranean. Case studies from Lebanon, Israel, Palestine, Jordan, Turkey, and North Cyprus estimate water balances and propose methods for regional cooperation in water management.

*News in Brief continued*

### Malawi: Privatization Update

The water supply authority is one of the 100 state enterprises that Malawi has been identified for privatization. Malawi's four-year old privatization programme is being carried out under the terms of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), who, together with other bilateral donors, provided up to 50% of the country's budgetary support in 1998. An official admitted that there was some resistance to the privatization of "strategic assets" because of fears of price escalation and job losses. To compensate for inevitable job losses, the government has set up "training projects for retrenched workers".  
[IRIN, 19 Apr 2000]

### Morocco: Anti Drought Measures

The government, with support from France, has earmarked MDH 6.5 billion (EUR 669 million) for a 15-month anti-drought programme (April 2000 - June 2001). Morocco is facing its second consecutive year of drought. One of the seven focus areas of the programme will be drinking water supply. MDH 610 million (EUR 62.8 million) will be used to provide drinking water, through trucks or new wells, to 618,000 people living in 2,225 affected settlements. The rest of the programme funds are directed towards support for the agricultural sector.  
[North Africa Journal, 13 Apr 2000]

### Asia's Water and Sanitation Situation "A Human Tragedy"

The water and sanitation situation in Asia and the Pacific is a "a major human tragedy", according to the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in its 1999 Annual Report. Some 830 million people do not have safe drinking water and more than 2 billion lack sanitation facilities. "The acute shortages cause high rates of water-borne disease and death". In 1999 the ADB lent US\$ 1.24 billion (EUR 1.37 billion), a quarter of its lending, for water-related operations in the region. In its water projects, ADB promotes integrated water resource management and private sector initiatives. It is also supports national water resources assessments and water policy reforms in Sri Lanka, Laos, Pakistan, and Viet Nam.  
[ADB News release, 19 Apr 2000]

## Forthcoming Events

3-5 November 2000 - **Third Water Information Summit**, Miami, Florida USA

Organized by: WaterWeb Consortium. Topics: the need for readily available, reliable water information; use of the Internet and other mechanisms to promote and support integrated water resources management; and the development of water information dissemination technologies (including web rings), <http://www.waterweb.org/wis3/>

Contact: Terry Dodge, Florida Center for Environmental Studies, 3932 RCA Blvd., Suite 3210, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410, USA, E-mail: [tdodge@ces.fau.edu](mailto:tdodge@ces.fau.edu), <http://www.waterweb.org/wis3/>

6-9 November 2000, **Technical Expert Consultation on Appropriate and Innovative Wastewater Management for Small Communities in EMR Countries**, Amman, Jordan

Organized by: WHO Regional Centre for Environmental Health Activities (WHO/CEHA). Expected outputs include: a report on wastewater management practices/policies in the Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR); strategy document on sustainable wastewater management; recommendations on best practices; and a plan of action for promotion and implementation of the strategy and principles. Participants: 22 participants from EMR countries + 4 external experts. Deadline for confirmation: 20 June 2000

Contact: Hamed Bakir, CEHA, PO Box 926967, Amman, 11110, Jordan, tel.: +962-6-5524655/531657, fax: +962-6-5516591 WHO, E-mail: [BakirH@who-ceha.org.jo](mailto:BakirH@who-ceha.org.jo), <http://www.who.sci.eg/ceha.htm>

4-8 December 2000, **12th ITN Africa Conference**, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

Organized by: CREPA. Theme: strategies for enhancing the delivery of water and sanitation facilities in low-income areas in the new millennium.

Contact: 12th ITN conference Organising Committee, CREPA, 03 BP 7112, Ouagadougou 03, Burkina Faso, tel.: +226-366210/1, fax: +226-366208, E-mail: [crepa@fasonct.bf](mailto:crepa@fasonct.bf)

## Training Courses

**IRC, Delft, The Netherlands**

**Hygiene Education and Promotion**, 9-27 October 2000

Course fee: US\$ 3,000 (EUR 3,150). Application deadline: 11 September 2000, [http://www.irc.nl/products/training/hyg\\_nl.html](http://www.irc.nl/products/training/hyg_nl.html)

**Community Water Supply Management: the way forward: a workshop for policy makers and managers**, 4-12 December 2000

For the majority of small rural, less affluent and peripheral communities the community management option is the most realistic way forward. The workshop will help participants promote and implement community based water supply management and create local specific arrangements for improved community management and the required enhanced institutional support to achieve this. Course fee: US\$ 500 (EUR 525). Application deadline: 15 October 2000.

Contact: E-mail: [training@irc.nl](mailto:training@irc.nl)

**COSI and IRC, Kandy, Sri Lanka**

**Hygiene Education and Promotion**, Kandy, Sri Lanka, 11 - 29 September 2000

Course fee: US\$ 2,700 (EUR 2,830), 10% reduction for female participants, [http://www.irc.nl/products/training/hyg\\_sl.html](http://www.irc.nl/products/training/hyg_sl.html)

Contact: COSI Foundation for Technical Cooperation, P.O. Box 3, Katugastota 20800, Sri Lanka, fax: +94-70-800844, E-mail: [cosi@sri.lanka.net](mailto:cosi@sri.lanka.net)

**NETWAS and IRC, Nairobi, Kenya**

**Management for Sustainability for Water Supply and Sanitation Programmes**, 18 September - 6 October 2000

Course fee: US\$ 2,175 (EUR 2,280), ([http://www.irc.nl/products/training/mfs\\_ke.html](http://www.irc.nl/products/training/mfs_ke.html))

Contact: NETWAS, PO Box 15614, Nairobi, Kenya, fax: +254-2-890553/4, E-mail: [net-trs@nbnet.co.ke](mailto:net-trs@nbnet.co.ke) or [netwas@nbnet.co.ke](mailto:netwas@nbnet.co.ke), <http://www.nbnet.co.ke/netwas>

## Colophon

ISSN 1389-3157

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

Editor: Dick de Jong ([jong@irc.nl](mailto:jong@irc.nl))  
Contributors: Brian Appleton (WSSCC News) ([appletonb@who.ch](mailto:appletonb@who.ch)), Cor Dietvorst (Resources and Events) ([dietvorst@irc.nl](mailto:dietvorst@irc.nl)), Teun Bastemeyer ([bastemeyer@irc.nl](mailto:bastemeyer@irc.nl)), Maria Lúcia Borba ([borba@irc.nl](mailto:borba@irc.nl)), Leonie Postma ([postma@irc.nl](mailto:postma@irc.nl))

IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre  
P.O. Box 2869, 2601 CW Delft, The Netherlands  
Tel. +31-15 2192939, fax +31-15 2190955  
E-mail: [general@irc.nl](mailto:general@irc.nl). Internet: <http://www.irc.nl>

*SOURCE Bulletin* is also available by e-mail. To subscribe, send an e-mail to [majordomo@listserv.antenna.nl](mailto:majordomo@listserv.antenna.nl), with the message 'subscribe source-bulletin' (without quotes), and leave the subject line blank. To subscribe to *SOURCE Weekly*, send an e-mail to [majordomo@listserv.antenna.nl](mailto:majordomo@listserv.antenna.nl), with the message 'subscribe source-weekly' (without quotes).



No 12

August 2000

## ICLEI Launched International Water Campaign, page 1

... the campaign provides local governments with a framework for addressing local water management concerns.

## Political Leaders Call for Action on Water, page 2

Here are a few more examples of reported speeches on water from top leaders in India, Uganda, Ghana and the USA.

## Correction, page 3

## P-7 Issue Call to End Water Privatization, page 3

...treating water as a merchandise like petrol is unacceptable.

## WSSCC News

### Director Appointed for the Councils Fifth Forum, page 4

### Water for African Cities, page 4

### Sanitation Connection Seeks Contributions, page 5

## IRC News

### New Training Course on Community Management, page 6

### New Catalogue and Online Publications, page 6

### IRCDoc Database on Water and Sanitation in Developing Countries Now Online, page 7

### News in Brief, page 6/7

### Resources and Events, page 7/8

## ICLEI Launched International Water Campaign

The International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) launched an international Water Campaign on 30 June 2000. The Water Campaign provides local governments with a framework for addressing local water management concerns. The mission of the Water Campaign is:

*to build a world-wide movement of local governments and their stakeholders, who are together committed to achieving tangible improvements in the sustainable use of freshwater resources by protecting and enhancing local watersheds, reducing water pollution and improving the availability and efficiency of water and environmental sanitation services.*

### What kind of freshwater issues do local governments face?

- Watersheds typically extend across multiple municipal jurisdictions, yet the watershed is the most logical geographic unit to use in addressing water management issues.
- The local management of freshwater resources is often divided between different departments and institutions, including the public, private and "informal" economic sectors.
- The provision of water services' infrastructure is expensive. Water and sanitation utilities need to be guaranteed enough income to maintain and upgrade their infrastructure.
- The urban poor need to be guaranteed access to an affordable water and sanitation infrastructure.
- The lack of water and sanitation for some residents poses health threats to all of the inhabitants of a city.
- Surface and ground water contamination is rampant.

### How can urban water issues be systematically addressed by local governments?

- know the state of the fresh water system;
- understand the impact of local government processes on the freshwater environment and minimize negative impacts;
- involve the community, including major water users and polluters, in designing and implementing solutions;
- support community actions by the local government with appropriate policy instruments;
- involve the local government in regional watershed management discussions.

One of the most interesting features of urban water management is that the situation facing each individual city, even within the same country and/or province, is unique.

### What is the Water Campaign?

The Water Campaign provides local governments with a framework for addressing their unique local water management concerns while contributing to an international effort to head off the current global water "crisis". It was developed

in response to the mandate that ICLEI was given by its membership (the Council) in 1995 to develop an international campaign focusing on water. The Water Campaign places freshwater management in the context of a **long-term transformation** of urban society from one that exploits freshwater resources, to one that respects these resources and works within natural cycles and limitations. This transformation will require a **series of iterative changes** to current management practices that extend over the long term.

Such factors as the administrative framework, history of infrastructure development, geography, prospects for future growth, and even the legal framework in each city combine to create very different water management scenarios.

There are, however, **processes** (such as Local Agenda 21 planning and environmental management systems) that have proven to be effective. Local governments, working effectively with the members of their watershed areas and higher levels of government, are best equipped to effectively address the water management issues in their vicinity.

ICLEI campaigns apply a tested programme model. Each campaign guides participating local governments through a process of local research, policy making, action planning, implementation and evaluation. At the same time, ICLEI campaigns develop a supportive policy environment for these local actions, at both the national and international levels.

There is, therefore, no single "correct" solution to freshwater management problems.

This campaign model has been successfully applied in the area of urban energy/climate/atmosphere and environmental governance. The **Cities for Climate Protection Campaign** has 353 municipal participants from 43 countries, representing 7% of global greenhouse gas emissions. The **Local Agenda 21 Campaign** has catalyzed Local Agenda 21 planning in more than 2,000 municipalities in over 70 countries.

More detailed information about the Water Campaign is available from the ICLEI World Secretariat office -

Contact: Karen Morrison, Project Officer, Water Campaign, ICLEI World Secretariat, City Hall, West Tower, 16<sup>th</sup> floor, 100 Queen Street West, Toronto, Ontario, M5H 2N2, Canada, tel: +1 416 392 1202, fax: +1 416 392 1478, e-mail: kmorrison@iclei.org

### Milestones

1. Adopt the Local Government Water Code.
2. Establish and implement targets for local water resources improvement through participation in one or more of the Campaign's water management "agendas" (e.g. Municipal Agenda for municipal operations, Community Agenda for the municipal jurisdiction, Watershed Agenda for a watershed area).
3. Monitor and evaluate the achievement of targets.
4. Report achievements using the Water Campaign performance indicators.

---

## Political Leaders Call for Action on Water

The 2<sup>nd</sup> World Water Forum and the Ministerial Declaration of the Hague on Water Security signed by 130 ministers in March 2000 has put water back on the political agenda. Many lobby groups who were among the 4500 participants at the Forum are now keeping the pressure on their politicians and key decision-makers at home to translate words in action for improved water management and supply. India is a good example, where the Centre of Science and Environment spearheaded by Anil Agarwal has effectively lobbied for rainwater and other traditional water harvesting in the country (see Source Bulletin no. 11, p. 2.). Here are a few more examples of reported speeches on water from top leaders in India, Uganda, Ghana and the USA.

### India: PM calls for a people's movement

The recent drought in India has increased the government's urgency to undertake water conservation measures. In his opening speech at a two-day seminar on rainwater harvesting, Prime Minister Vajapayee called for "a nationwide people's movement" to tackle water scarcity. He

recommended rainwater harvesting as a "simple idea" that "can meet the drinking water needs of our urban and rural populations". In the capital, New Delhi, the state government has called for an amendment in building by-laws making rainwater harvesting mandatory for individuals and cooperative housing societies. It has also launched an advertising campaign to promote the construction of rooftop rainwater collection tanks. The Gujarat state government has made it compulsory for new high-rise buildings to install percolating borewell systems to conserve rain water for re-charging the groundwater tables. Furthermore, the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) is considering a ban on extraction of groundwater in affected areas like Gujarat and Rajasthan for purposes other than drinking water.

### Uganda: President promises safe water

President Yoweri Museveni has promised that 65% of rural areas in the country will have access to safe drinking water by July 2000, up from the 10% in 1986. He told the people of

Kisoro district that UGS 1.5 billion (EUR 1.02 million) will be spent on water and sanitation in their district in the next three years. Kisoro town will get water and sewerage facilities while Kyanika and Bunagana towns would be included under the programme to benefit from an Austrian grant.

### **Ghana: water policies harm women, says first lady**

"In many cases water resources policies and programmes have proven detrimental to women's land and water rights and thus to their sustainable management and use," the Ghanaian first lady Nana Konadu Agyeman Rawlings said at the African Women Food Farmer conference.

"Interventions such as irrigation often fail to take into consideration the existing imbalance between men's and women's land ownership rights, division of labour and incomes." Agricultural programmes in Ghana still favoured men despite the fact that women produced 70% of the food.

Contact: Dr. Naana Agyemang-Mensah, African Women Food Farmer Initiative, The Hunger Project, Ghana, e-mail: [thpghana@ncs.com.gh](mailto:thpghana@ncs.com.gh), [http://www.thp.org/awffi\\_brochure/bro\\_contents.html](http://www.thp.org/awffi_brochure/bro_contents.html)

### **Albright proposes alliance for global water security**

US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright has proposed to set up "global alliance for water security in the 21st century" as a follow-up to the World Water Forum. She was speaking at an event in Fort McNair marking the observance of Earth Day. The goal of the alliance would be to help eliminate regional instability caused by transboundary water problems. The US has invited representatives from key donor countries to Washington this summer to discuss regional water problems. The US State Department is contributing US\$ 2 million (EUR 2.2 million) towards a new UNDP fund for the improvement of regional water management.

Contact: e-mail: [secretary@state.gov](mailto:secretary@state.gov)

### **Correction: President of India**

Our news item on page 2 of SOURCE Bulletin no. 11 June, 2000 captioned "Indian PM urges recycling of rainwater" contained a mistake in line 9 of para 3 wherein Mr. K.R.Narayan has been referred to as "former" President of India. Mr. Narayan is present President of India Republic and has few more years to go before his formal term expires.

## **P- 7 Issue Call to End Water Privatization**

European environmentalists and seven of the world's poorest nations called for an end to the privatization of global water resources at a four-day water conference in Brussels in early June. Senegalese, Vietnamese, Ethiopian, Palestinian and Bolivian representatives and delegates from Burkina Faso and Madagascar, considered to be the world's poorest countries and dubbed "P-7," said water should be considered a human right and not a commodity, despite moves toward water privatization. The annual P-7 summit was held in Brussels by the European Parliament's Greens group to highlight development issues as an alternative to the annual Group of Seven (now Eight) summit of the world's most industrialized nations.

At the closing session of the 4th Summit in the European Parliament in Brussels, the Greens/European Free Alliance said that treating water as a commodity like petrol is unacceptable. Paul Lannoye, co-president of the Greens/EFA group said: "*Faced with the tendency to privatize this vital resource, it is necessary to propose alternatives which respect the principle of sustainable and equitable development. We want to promote this idea at the European and international institutions. Free access to*

*clean water is a human right. It is scandalous that 1.6 billion people don't have access to safe drinking water.*"

The conference ended with a call for a global water policy and on the European Parliament to approve a drafting of a report on this subject. Vandana Shiva, Honorary President of the conference, warned about the dangers of a misguided water policy. She said: "*The moment you let the market determine the situation, all that will happen is that the swimming pool of the rich will get a higher priority over the drinking water of the poor. The drought which India has experienced does not stem from a natural phenomenon but is man-made. It's a consequence of the assaults on the environment which are due to policies of water management imposed by the World Bank and the IMF*".

For more information -- contact: Helmut Weixler, Press Officer Green/ EFA group in the European Parliament, tel: +32 2 2844683, e-mail: [hweixler@europarl.eu.int](mailto:hweixler@europarl.eu.int)



### Director Appointed for the Councils Fifth Global Forum

Mr Jon Lane will act as Forum Director for the WSSCC's Fifth Global Forum, which is now confirmed as taking place on 24-29 November 2000 (starting one day earlier than previously announced) in Foz do Iguaçu, Brazil.

The Fifth Global Forum marks the Council's tenth birthday, but is also the opportunity to present and discuss the outcome of the Vision 21 process and to frame proposals for the Council's role in continued support for achievement of the Vision goals. In addition to Vision 21, there will be reports from all components of the Manila Action Plan: five thematic working groups, five regional working groups, four networks, and two task forces, plus the Global Environmental Sanitation Initiative. The Forum also marks the launch of the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme's Decade Assessment Global Assessment 2000: Status of the Water Supply and Sanitation Sector.

Both Vision 21 and the Global Assessment (GA2000) represent crucial new initiatives in the WSS sector, providing substantive new approaches to achieving, monitoring and evaluating progress towards goals of coverage, health improvements, poverty alleviation and basic human well being.

The discussion of so many themes and initiatives among 500 participants over six days demands good documentation, consolidation of themes into manageable packages, and advance discussion to distil the consolidated themes into recommendations and issues which can be handled in the Brazil agenda. The Council therefore saw the need for extra support to the Secretariat in the preparatory process that was provided by DFID.

Jon will be assisting the Secretariat activities in preparation for the Forum, and developing the agenda and structure for the six-day period. The Secretariat is working on the Forum documentation and preparations that are scheduled to include electronic dialogue in September around the themes proposed for the Forum.

A progress report on the preparations for Iguaçu will be discussed at the Forum Planning Meeting in Montreal on 4-6 September.

### Water for African Cities

The Water for African Cities programme is the first comprehensive initiative to support African countries to effectively manage the growing urban water crisis and protect the continent's threatened water resources and aquatic ecosystems from the increasing volume of land-based pollution from the cities. The programme focuses specifically on water demand management in African cities and on mitigating the impact of urbanization on freshwater resources and aquatic ecosystems. The Council, IRC and WEDC are providing support to this initiative through the development of the website and the running of an electronic discussion list.

Managing Water for African Cities (MAWAC) is a joint initiative of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS (Habitat)) which

- builds capacity in seven demonstration cities in the water sector;
- avails information on and best practices in urban water management;

- links sector professionals working in the field of water management with each other and with other networks, institutions, governments, municipalities, NGOs and the private sector.

Water management is the focus of this network and web domain. It aims to help members adopt and adapt water management practices and will enable practitioners, managers and researchers to share data, information and knowledge.

The seven demonstration cities are Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire; Accra, Ghana; Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; Dakar, Senegal; Johannesburg, South Africa; Lusaka, Zambia; and Nairobi, Kenya.

The collaborative programme within the framework of the United Nations system-wide Special Initiative for Africa is a direct follow-up of the Cape Town Declaration of 1997 that was adopted by African ministers to address the urgent need to properly manage water for African cities. The programme is funded by the UN Foundation for International Partnership, better known as the Turner Foundation, established by CNN's Ted Turner.

The Council, IRC and WEDC have been assisting the awareness raising and information sharing activities, such as a website, and an electronic discussion list called WACNET. IRC has developed a website resource that is now accessible at: <http://www.un-urbanwater.net>. In addition to offering comprehensive information on the MAWAC programme and partners, the site focuses on several on-line resources of note. These include:

- A link to the UNCHS (Habitat) Best Practices Database.
- On-line access to the IRC document database (IRCDoc)
- A host of organisational links via INTERWATER
- Searchable news service via IRC SOURCE
- Case studies from the seven demonstration cities involved in MAWAC
- Links to on-line resources valuable to water utilities
- An annotated bibliography of resources organised by four themes (water for low-income communities; pollution mitigation; awareness raising and water demand management)

There is also a facility to ask questions or submit best practices or comments on the site.

Recently IRC produced a paper entitled *Managing Water in African Cities: Developing e-mail and Internet tools* that translates global lessons learned in e-mail and Internet use to the reality of developing the functions and features of electronic mail and a web domain to assist African water managers.

WEDC is running the WACNET electronic discussion list for members. Currently, WACNET is designed as:

“a list for development and discussion of issues relating to the management of water supply in African cities. It aims to help members adopt and adapt water management practices and will enable practitioners, managers and researchers to share data, information and knowledge”.

For more information -- contact: Mr. Kalyan Ray, Room No. M-135, UNCHS Habitat, United Nations Complex, Gigiri, Nairobi, fax: +254 2 623 588, e-mail: [Kalyan.ray@unchs.org](mailto:Kalyan.ray@unchs.org)

---

## Sanitation Connection Seeks Contributions

The Water, Engineering and Development Centre (WEDC) is seeking suggestions from potential users to help set up the Sanitation Connection, an environmental sanitation web-based clearing house or gateway site. This activity is part of the Global Programme of Action (GPA) for the Protection of the Marine Environment for Land-Based Activities (<http://www.gpa.unep.org/>), international action programme coordinated by UNEP. Financial support has been provided by the WSSCC and GWP (through DFID). Sanitation Connection will be jointly implemented by IRC and WEDC on behalf of the World Health Organization (WHO). It is scheduled to be operational by the end of 2000.

An intergovernmental conference held in Washington D.C. in 1995 adopted a Global Programme of Action (GPA) for the Protection of the Marine Environment for Land-Based Activities known as the Washington Declaration. Among the programme's objectives is to develop information clearing houses for identified categories of pollution sources causing marine degradation. In this context WHO has a mandate to develop an environmental sanitation web-based clearing house or gateway site.

The target audience of Sanitation Connection is broad-based, and includes planners, practitioners, local educators, researchers, students and information specialists working in the environmental sanitation sector in both the North and the South. The aim is to create a central access point providing hypertext links to existing information sources in a logically structured framework. In this way, access will be improved to relevant, appropriate and quality networked information resources, including full-text documents, databases, networks and discussion groups.

The site will be thematically structured according to topic and geographical areas. Organizations (both Southern and Northern) with expertise in a particular subject area will agree to act as regional or topic partners in the project, and will be responsible for selecting a limited number of key documents for their area. Suggested issues for coverage include:

- advocacy and communication
- environment
- finance
- hygiene and health
- institutional frameworks
- management (including operation and maintenance)
- monitoring and evaluation
- planning
- socio-cultural factors
- technology

In order for this resource to reflect the needs and demands of its target audience, WEDC would now like to invite potential users to participate in the process of consultation by suggesting features (types of content, searching options, entry points, etc.) for inclusion in the gateway. It would be useful if you could also outline your area of expertise or interest.

Please send comments or contributions by the end of August to -- Dr. Julie Woodfield, Research Associate, Urban Services Unit, Water, Engineering and Development Centre (WEDC), Loughborough University, Leics, LE11 3TU England, UK, tel: +44 (0)1509222393 fax: +44 (0)1509211079, e-mail: [j.woodfield@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:j.woodfield@lboro.ac.uk)

## News in brief

### World Bank Preparing New Environment and Water Resources Strategies

The World Bank is preparing a new environment strategy aimed at integrating environmental concerns into its poverty alleviation and economic development efforts. The draft strategy will be discussed over the next six months with client country governments, NGOs, and other partners. A website on the consultation process has been opened. The three main objectives of the new strategy are to: improve people's health by reducing exposure to air pollution, water-borne and vector-borne diseases, and toxic substances; enhance the livelihoods of the poor by helping them manage natural resources (incl. water) sustainably; and to reduce people's vulnerability to environmental risks. Closely linked with the environment strategy is the Operations Evaluations Department (OED) review of the Bank's 1993 Water Resources Management Policy and preparation of a Water Resources Sector Strategy by late 2000/early 2001. A description of the consultation process and progress in the development of the Water Resources Sector Strategy is available at: [http://wbln0018.worldbank.org/...](http://wbln0018.worldbank.org/)

Contact: *Kristyn Ebro, Kebro@worldbank.org*

### Calls for More Health Funding for the Poor

Leading economist Jeffrey Sachs has urged that debt relief be used to finance the control of epidemics such as AIDS and malaria in the world's poorest nations. He added that the supervision of such programmes should be transferred from the World Bank and IMF to more appropriate agencies such as WHO and UNICEF. According to the Global Forum for Health Research (<http://www.globalforumhealth.org/>) only 10% of global spending on health research goes to problems facing 90% of the world's people. While pneumonia and diarrhoeal diseases are the predominant killers, only 0.2% of research funding is spent on them. One of the Forum's

*News in Brief continues on page 7*



## New Training Course on Community Management

From 20 November to 8 December NETWAS, in cooperation with IRC, will organise its first training course on Community Management of Rural Water Supply Systems in Nairobi, Kenya. The training course is based on the lessons learned during a four-year research project on community management executed by NETWAS and IRC. It will address the main principles and key requirements for the successful implementation of community management of rural water supply systems, such as:

- strengthening community management tools (water committees, rules and regulations, improved communication, transparency in decision making, etc.);
- training and capacity building at community level;
- the use of participatory tools to identify the structure of the management system and improve the management capacities of the community;
- appropriate service levels and cost recovery;
- technological design and basic requirements for maintenance and operation.

An important objective in cooperating of the course is to improve the personal skills of the participants to cooperate with communities on improved management of water supplies. This part is called the Art of Facilitation. Participants will have one week of fieldwork to practice and experiment with their newly acquired knowledge and skills.

The course will draw from the experiences of the participants, but will also present the rich and extensive knowledge and experience that NETWAS and IRC have in community management, also in the form of case studies from all over the world. In this way the understanding and implementation capacities of the participants in the field of community management will be increased.

The course is targeted at sector professionals, managers and planners working in the field of water, health, hygiene education and community development. All participants will receive a "community management kit" with manuals, a video and basic reference materials on community management.

For more information -- contact: *Pauline Ikumi at NETWAS. E-mail: net-trs@nbnet.co.ke or Ton Schouten at IRC. E-mail: schouten@irc.nl*

## New Catalogue and Online Publications

IRC has published a new publications catalogue and is at the same time expanding its dissemination policy by making publications available online, free of charge. The new publications list can be found at: <http://www.irc.nl/products/publications/index.html>

Four publications have recently been made available online as Adobe Acrobat PDF files:

*Integrated Water Resource Management in Water and Sanitation Projects - lessons from projects in Africa, Asia and South America* at: <http://www.irc.nl/products/publications/descr/op31e.html>

*Drinking Water Source Protection: a review of environmental factors affecting community water supplies* (1991). OP 15-E. <http://www.irc.nl/products/publications/online/op15e/index.html>. M.D. Lee and T.F. Bastemeijer

*Making Your Water Supply Work: operation and maintenance of small water supplies* (1995) OP 29 -E. <http://www.irc.nl/products/publications/online/op29e/index.html>. Jan Davis and François Brikké

*Technology Transfer in the Water Supply and Sanitation Sector: a learning experience from Colombia* (1997) TP 32-E <http://www.irc.nl/products/publications/online/tp32e/index.html>. Edited by Jan Teun Visscher

More titles will be made available in future.

For those without access to Internet a printed version of the publications catalogue can be ordered from IRC, Publications Department at the address in the colophon.

---

## IRCDoc Database on Water and Sanitation in Developing Countries Now Online

Researchers, students, and information gatekeepers can now freely access a unique bibliographic database on water supply and sanitation in developing countries, IRCDoc, on the Internet at: <http://www.irc.nl/ircdoc>.

IRCDoc includes nearly 13,000 references to documents collected by IRC's Documentation Unit since 1984 and a growing number of documents available on the Web. The majority of the collection consists of (unpublished) grey literature and includes 2,000 books, 5,400 reports, 2,750 journal articles and conference papers, 650 training manuals, 350 reference works and 170 videos and slide series. IRCDoc is updated monthly while about 1,000 new references are added to the database each year.

Information can be retrieved by title, author, subject, series and publisher. The results can also be filtered by language, media type and year of publication. About 20 per cent of the database records have an abstract.

Photocopies of limited numbers of non-copyright documents, which are not available on the Internet, can be provided at cost: <<http://www.irc.nl/products/documentation/delivery.html>>.

By the end of the year records that have full text scans of selected grey literature documents should be available at cost on CD-ROM.

For more information -- see the IRCDoc web page at <http://www.irc.nl/ircdoc> or contact Cor Dietvorst, e-mail: [dietvorst@irc.nl](mailto:dietvorst@irc.nl)

---

## Resources and Events

---

### New Publications

*Independent water and sanitation providers in African cities: full report of a ten-country study*. Collignon, B. and Vézina, M. (2000). URL: <http://www.wsp.org/English/pdf/providers.pdf> (PDF file, 417 KB)

The case studies of the east African cities Dar es Salaam (Tanzania), Kampala (Uganda) and Mombassa (Kenya) were done by IRC and NETWAS. Highlights include: 1) in the cities studied, small-scale independent providers (SSIPs) cover

### News in Brief continued

activities, the Initiative on Health and Societies, aims to identify and study the key determinants of health outside the health sector, such as poverty, education, water and sanitation, and culture.

Contact: Dr Ilona Kickbusch, Initiative on Health and Societies, c/o Yale University School of Medicine, [ilona.kickbusch@yale.edu](mailto:ilona.kickbusch@yale.edu), [http://info.med.yale.edu/eph/himl/faculty\\_members/kickbusch.html](http://info.med.yale.edu/eph/himl/faculty_members/kickbusch.html)

### Japan Sets Up ADB Poverty Reduction Fund

Japan has agreed to set up a JPY 10 billion (EUR 98.3 million) Poverty Reduction Fund, which will be administered by the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The Fund will supplement the ADB's existing efforts to "provide basic social services such as clean water and modern sewerage systems". The ADB has declared poverty reduction (<http://www.adb.org/Poverty/default.htm>) its "number one priority". This projected new image may explain why the ADB gave in to protests by declaring that poor farmers in Thailand will be exempted from planned charges on the use of irrigation water.

[Singapore Strait Times, 9 May 2000; ADB News Release, 23 May 2000]

### China: Falling Water Table Threatens World Food Prices

Water shortages could make China the world's leading grain importer and raise worldwide food prices, according to the Worldwatch Institute. In the North China Plain, a region that produces 40% of the country's grain, the water table is dropping by 1.5 m per year. In addition a 60% increase in both urban domestic and industrial water demand will divert irrigation water from agriculture. Fears of future shortages have led Hong Kong officials to study importing water from sources other than neighboring Guangdong province. In China 70% of the grain harvest comes from irrigated land, compared to less 15% in the USA.

Contact: Reah Janise Kauffman, Worldwatch Institute, [rjkauffman@worldwatch.org](mailto:rjkauffman@worldwatch.org)

the water supply needs of the majority of people living in the poorer areas, 2) they offer a service that is more flexible and responsive to local needs, 3) they tend to mobilize capital on the informal market, recover 100 percent of their operating costs, and reinvest profits locally to improve services and operate other businesses, and 40 SSIPs could perform better if local authorities recognized them as valuable partners in providing services in low-income areas. To request hard copy send your request and your mailing address to the Water Help Desk of the Water and Sanitation Program, The World Bank, 1818 H Street, NW, Room F4K – 172, Washington, DC, USA, Fax 202 522 3313, E-mail [info@wsp.org](mailto:info@wsp.org)

*Methodology for Participatory Assessments With Communities, Institutions and Policy Makers.* (2000). Dayal, Rekha; Christine van Wijk; and Nilanjana Mukherjee.

The Methodology for Participatory Assessments (MPA) presented in the Metguide is a product of the World Bank's Water and Sanitation Program's (WSP) Participatory Learning and Action (PLA) initiative undertaken in partnership with IRC, which investigated the links between demand-responsive, gender-sensitive approaches and sustainability in 18 large projects in 15 countries. IRC together with WSP and the SEU Foundation in Kerala, India first tested the approach. IRC organized the applied research process together with Cinara in Latin America and with PAID in West Africa. The new methodology contains 28 key indicators and uses gender- and poverty-sensitive participatory tools at community, agency and policy levels.

Available from WSP South Asia Office, 55 Lodi Estate, New Delhi 110003, India, fax: 91 11469 0488, e-mail: [wspa@worldbank.org](mailto:wspa@worldbank.org)

Wishart, G. (2000). *Government and Civil Society Partnerships : HTN International Workshop, 6-10 March 2000 : proceedings.* St. Gallen, Switzerland, SKAT. 51 p. (PDF : 860kB). <http://www.skat.ch/htn/Publications/download/proceedings1.pdf>

## Forthcoming Events

11-13 December 2000 - **2nd African Regional Conference on the Reform of the Water Supply and Sanitation Sector**, Kampala, Uganda

Organized by: Water Utility Partnership (WUP), Union of African Water Suppliers (UAWS) and Department of Water Development of Uganda. Theme: Enhancing public private partnerships in the context of the Africa Water Vision.

Contact: *The Managing Director, WUP, 05 BP 2642, Abidjan 05, Côte d'Ivoire, tel.: +225-21240828, fax: +225-21240063, E-mail: [wup@africaonline.co.ci](mailto:wup@africaonline.co.ci)*

29-31 January, 2001 - **International Conference on Water Development for Poverty Alleviation**, Ahmedabad, India

Organized by: Sandar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Ltd, Third World Water Management IWRA, WWC, GWP and ICIE, Topics include: water for agriculture/industry & flood control; drinking water & wastewater; regional issues; gender; public/private roles; water pricing/rights; legislation/policy; capacity building; knowledge/technology transfer. URL: <http://www.wdpa.org/>

Contact: *WPDA Conference Secretariat, fax: +91-2712-44503, E-mail: [secretariat@wdpa.org](mailto:secretariat@wdpa.org)*

15-20 July 2001 - **2nd International Conference on Fog and Fog Collection**, St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada

Contact: *Dr. Robert Schemenauer, Conference Chair, PO Box 81541, 1057 Steeles Avenue West, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M2R 2X1, fax: +1-416-7394211, e-mail: [Robert.Schemenauer@ec.gc.ca](mailto:Robert.Schemenauer@ec.gc.ca), <http://www.tor.ec.gc.ca/armp/FogWater.html>*

10-12 Aug 2001 - **The Role of Water in History and Development**, Bergen, Norway

Organized by: International Water History Association (IWhA) and UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme. Proposed topics include: The political economy of water (ownership/control); Images of water (in religion, myths, literature and art); History of hydrology and water control; Narratives on the river and the dam; The engineering of water systems - engineers, entrepreneurs & bureaucrats; "Water and man" relations in science; History of water, sanitation and health; Water, poverty and social development; Freshwater and the coastal zone - integrated & ecological management; and Regional waters in a historical perspective. URL: <http://www.iwha.net/events/call4papers.htm>

Contact: *Alv Terje Fotland, Centre for Development Studies, University of Bergen, Strømgaten 54, N-5007 Bergen, Norway, fax: + 47-55589892, e-mail: [Alv.Fotland@sfu.uib.no](mailto:Alv.Fotland@sfu.uib.no)*

## Colophon

ISSN 1389-3157

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

Editor: Dick de Jong ([jong@irc.nl](mailto:jong@irc.nl))  
Contributors: Brian Appleton (WSSCC News) ([appletonb@who.ch](mailto:appletonb@who.ch)), Cor Dietvorst (Resources and Events) ([dietvorst@irc.nl](mailto:dietvorst@irc.nl)), Ton Schouten ([schouten@irc.nl](mailto:schouten@irc.nl))

IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre  
P.O. Box 2869, 2601 CW Delft, The Netherlands  
Tel. +31-15 2192939, fax +31-15 2190955  
E-mail: [general@irc.nl](mailto:general@irc.nl). Internet: <http://www.irc.nl>

*SOURCE Bulletin* is also available by e-mail. To subscribe, send an e-mail to [majordomo@listserv.antenna.nl](mailto:majordomo@listserv.antenna.nl), with the message 'subscribe source-bulletin' (without quotes), and leave the subject line blank. To subscribe to *SOURCE Weekly*, send an e-mail to [majordomo@listserv.antenna.nl](mailto:majordomo@listserv.antenna.nl), with the message 'subscribe source-weekly' (without quotes).



No 13

September 2000

**Nepal launches national sanitation campaign, page 1**

"It is estimated that the country loses 10 billion rupees per year as a result of poor sanitation."

**Water exhibit for children in Mexico, page 2**

Mexico City has opened a 7000 sq.ft. highly interactive exhibit, designed to promote public awareness

**Payment for water: priority no 4, page 2**

South Africa: water is fourth on the list after electricity, housing and food

**WSSCC News**

**Preparations for Brazil in full swing, page 3**

Montreal meeting and seven e-conferences

**Council web sites: 12,500 page views per month, page 4**

Significant increases for WSSCC, GESI, Source and InterWATER pages

**IRC News**

**Sustaining changes in hygiene behaviour - A concerted action, page 5**

Three European partners and six NGOs from developing countries embark on a three-year action research programme

**Electronic Conference on Knowledge Sharing and Resource Centres, page 5**

Resource centres can be catalysts for change, centres of excellence, and focal points for capacity building

**News in Brief, page 6/7**

**Resources and Events, page 7/8**



**News to our subscribers**

For those of you who have recently obtained e-mail access, we would like to inform you that you can subscribe to our weekly electronic news service, Source Weekly. The in-depth 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.

The Source Bulletin will continue to be published on paper for those in the developing world who have no e-mail access.

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

## Nepal launches national sanitation campaign

*"Inadequate sanitation facilities and poor hygiene are major causes of the spread of preventable diseases in Nepal. Some 75 % of child mortality and over 50 % of child morbidity are estimated to be caused by inadequate sanitation. Diarrhoea, a disease that spreads most readily in environments of poor sanitation, claims the lives of 28,000 Nepalese children every year. Further, poor sanitation and hygiene has a negative economic impact on Nepalese society. It is estimated that the country loses 10 billion rupees per year as a result of poor sanitation."*

This is how the Chief of the Environmental Sanitation Section of the Department of Water Supply and Sewage (DWSS-ESS), Mr. Nawal Kishwor Mishra explained why the Government of Nepal has launched the first National Sanitation Campaign. The country spends US\$ 140 million annually to cure water and sanitation-related diseases. Nepal follows the example of Bangladesh, which launched a national social mobilization campaign in 1993.

The campaign in Nepal was officially launched during the World Water Day in March this year and will take a number of years, involving a series of sanitation improvement activities. The campaign advocates that simple tasks - such as regular hand washing and safe disposal of faeces in simple pits and toilets - will be significant in improving sanitation and hygiene practices.

The campaign is organized by the Steering Committee on National Sanitation Action. The Committee is composed of various stakeholders, government departments, NGOs and INGOs. The NSASC is chaired by the Department of Water Supply and Sewage under the Ministry of Physical Planning and Works with the support of UNICEF. The government estimates that the insufficient sanitation practices are costing the economy between 2 - 4 percent of the GDP, according to the Nepal State of Sanitation report 1999/2000. This is not including costs of productivity loss and environmental costs.

UNICEF Nepal replied by e-mail to a number of questions from the editor:

**Q. Have there been public reactions on the launch of the campaign?**

A. "Yes, the public has reacted positively to the campaign. As a part of campaign activities, the National Sanitation Action Steering Committee launched a week-long nation-wide programme called "the National Sanitation Awareness and Commitment Week" from June 18-24. The aim of the week was to call for commitments to improve sanitation and hygiene status in Nepal by various sectors of society, from high-ranking political leaders to community members. The week was marked by various awareness activities at both national and district levels, such as mass rallies, talk programmes by religious leaders and experts, song and essay competition, street theatre, and screening and discussion of "Meena's Three Wishes" video.

The campaign was a huge success throughout the country, raising awareness on sanitation and hygiene at all levels. Half of the country's 75 districts organized intensive sanitation awareness activities. Monitoring took place in 30 districts by

central level teams. The Environmental Sanitation Section and UNICEF are compiling reports on this, under the auspices of the National Steering Committee. The event was widely covered by both print and media (about 100 national and local newspapers and weekly and bi-monthly magazines, national TV and radio and many local radio stations), resulting in greater public attention to issues of sanitation.

Following the success of the Commitment Week, a National Sanitation Action Week is planned for December 2000. During the Action Week, focus will be placed on "action" such as latrine construction and improved personal hygiene practices. It is expected that at least 50,000 new latrines will be constructed for use through intensive community efforts."

**Q. What has been and will be the role of the National Sanitation Action Steering Committee?**

A. "The National Sanitation Action Steering Committee (NSASC) has been and will be the leading body for the

campaign. The committee consists of representatives from different line agencies (GOs, NGOs, INGOs, local elected bodies, and media) that are involved in sanitation and hygiene activities. The committee is fully responsible for planning, implementing and monitoring of campaign activities. The committee also facilitates networking among implementing agencies."

**Q. How much money is involved in the sanitation promotion campaign?**

A. "The campaign is a joint effort by NSASC members. It intends to mobilize available resources of implementing agencies. For this, much effort has been made to identify available resources (technical, financial and human) and to link up such resources. It is also expected that communities will contribute their available resources for sanitation and hygiene promotion."

For additional information -- Dept. of Water Supply and Sewerage, e-mail: [cpmo@dwss.mos.com.np](mailto:cpmo@dwss.mos.com.np), Hans Spruijt, UNICEF, P.O. Box 1187, Pulchowk, Kathmandu, Nepal, e-mail: [hspuijt@unicef.org.np](mailto:hspuijt@unicef.org.np) or [unicef@unicef.org.np](mailto:unicef@unicef.org.np)

---

## Water exhibit for children in Mexico

Concerned with the serious water issues facing humanity in the very near future, the museum Papalote, Museo del Niño (Children's Museum), located in Mexico City, has opened a 7000 sq.ft. highly interactive exhibit, designed to promote public awareness in children, their families and their teachers. Going beyond just the chemistry and physics of water, themes address basic issues, with great emphasis on the importance of water management and distribution; problems of sanitation, pollution, human rights; sharing of burdens, benefits and responsibilities, amongst others. It will remain in Mexico City until the end of 2000, expecting around 250,000 visitors. Beginning 2001 it will tour the Mexican states, in an effort to reach as many visitors as possible.

This project was a collaborative effort made possible with the funding of the public sector (Mexico's National Water Commission), the private transnational sector (Ford Motor Co. Mexico), and scientific support from various R&D institutes and the commitment and enthusiasm of museum supporters.

"This might seem like a grain of sand, lost in the challenge we face, but added to so many other international and national projects, we truly believe there is hope in our future", says Berta MacGregor, Director of International Projects about the exhibit.

For more information -- Berta MacGregor, Director of International Projects, Papalote-Museo del Niño, Mexico, fax: 52-5 237 1770, e-mail: [bmacgregor@papalote.org.mx](mailto:bmacgregor@papalote.org.mx)

---

## Payment for water: priority no. 4

Studies in South Africa have shown that the priority for payment of water is fourth on the list after electricity, housing, and food. Hannes Buckle, Water Management Strategist of Rand Water, reported this recently to the Managing Water for African Cities' electronic discussion list. Rand Water is a water board and supplies 3000 megalitres of water per day to the Gauteng Province (9 million people) in South Africa.

"We have a massive water loss problem as about 27% of the water supplied daily is wasted, either running back into the sewer system or onto the ground. We also have an approximate 25% ineffective use of water due to washing down of paved areas, overwatering of gardens, etc.

There is also massive non-payment for water, where the perception is that water should be free as it falls from the sky."

At present the company has a Water Cycle Management initiative going. There is a steering committee and this body has prioritized certain projects to address this issue. Amongst others it is:

1. A market segmentation study to ascertain why people do not pay for water services so as to be able to do an effective marketing campaign.
2. A study to find out the extent of water loss and where it happens.

These are to be done as a matter of urgency.

The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements UNCHS (Habitat) and United Nations Environment Programme UNEP jointly implement the Managing Water for African Cities programme. The Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council, IRC and WEDC have contributed to

the web site and other interactive electronic communication as part of its support to the public awareness component of the programme. It is funded by the United Nations Foundation (UNF) that was initiated by a donation from CNN's Ted Turner.

For additional information -- *Hannes Buckle, e-mail: jbu@randwater.com or the Managing Water for African Cities web site at: <http://www.un-urbanwater.net>*



## News from the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council

### Preparations for Brazil in full swing

Discussions at the Council's Fifth Global Forum in Iguacu Falls, Brazil, on 24-29 November 2000 will be divided into seven theme areas. The themes have been chosen to reflect the essential elements of VISION 21, the work undertaken by the Council's working groups, networks and task forces since the Fourth Global Forum in Manila, and the launch of the WHO/UNICEF Global Assessment 2000 on Water Supply and Sanitation. Actions so far have included the Montreal preparatory meeting with theme coordinators in Montreal and the start of electronic conferences on four themes.

Forty world experts on water and sanitation met in Montreal from 4-6 September under the auspices of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) to discuss the preparatory process for the Fifth Global Forum.

On the Montreal agenda were discussions on "people-centred approaches" in which local community action, based on people's own energy and initiative, becomes the spearhead for development progress in water supply, sanitation and hygiene. The experts also initiated a series of worldwide discussions on innovative sanitation ideas, on ways of delivering basic services to squatter communities in Third World cities, and on a string of other critical issues aimed at improving the health and well-being of the world's poorest people.

CIDA supported the meeting, which was called by the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC), a key advocate in a global alliance to improve the health and well-being of the poor and underserved in the developing world. The outcome of the Brazil Forum is expected to influence future forms of international support for water supply and sanitation programmes in developing countries, and that has close links with the poverty reduction and social development goals that are prime objectives of Canadian international development support. CIDA sees the Montreal meeting as a key initiative to ensure the success of the Brazil Forum.

The first four e-conferences started on 11 September and run until 13 October. They deal with the following themes:

#### **People-centred approaches** (led by ISW, IRC and WaterAid)

This theme will include discussions on different aspects of community involvement; involving all sectors of society in decision-making; implications of water, sanitation and hygiene (WSH) as basic human rights; and links between WSH and poverty alleviation.

##### *Subscription address:*

e-mail: [wsscc-request@mailbase.ac.uk](mailto:wsscc-request@mailbase.ac.uk).

Web page of this list <http://www.mailbase.ac.uk/lists/wsscc/>

#### **Sanitation and hygiene promotion** (led by SANDEC and EHP)

Discussions will focus on household-centred environmental sanitation, ecological sanitation, waste as a resource, school sanitation, social marketing, risk assessment, and campaigning for sanitation priorities. GESI and the Sanitation Connection will also be on the agenda.

##### *Subscription address:*

e-mail: [envsan-request@mailbase.ac.uk](mailto:envsan-request@mailbase.ac.uk).

Web page of this list <http://www.mailbase.ac.uk/lists/envsan/>

#### **Serving the urban poor** (led by WSP and CERFE)

Issues to be discussed include community management of secondary/tertiary services, roles of small-scale providers, appropriate sanitation solutions, land tenure and water rights, regulatory protection for the poor, and how different utility management systems serve the poor.

##### *Subscription address:*

e-mail: [sup-request@mailbase.ac.uk](mailto:sup-request@mailbase.ac.uk).

Web page of this list <http://www.mailbase.ac.uk/lists/sup/>

#### **WSS in a broader context** (led by ISW and WaterAid)

The aim here is to look at WSS in an integrated water resources management framework, to link VISION 21 into national development planning, to improve cross sectoral networking, and to improve understanding with health and environment sectors, among others.

##### *Subscription address:*

e-mail: [wsspartnerships-request@mailbase.ac.uk](mailto:wsspartnerships-request@mailbase.ac.uk).

Web page of this list <http://www.mailbase.ac.uk/lists/wsspartnerships/>

The remaining three e-conferences run from 29 September - 3 November.

**Institutional frameworks** (led by IHE)

Governance in the WSS sector is a key issue here, along with privatization, private sector participation, contracts and regulation, increasing the priority for sanitation, and frameworks for conflict resolution.

*Subscription address:*

e-mail:imo-request@mailbase.ac.uk.

Web page of this list <http://www.mailbase.ac.uk/lists/imo/>

**Resource mobilization and sustainability** (led by WSP and Jon Lane)

This theme includes economic valuation and pricing of water, realistic costing of investment needs, subsidies, cost recovery and willingness to pay, local resource mobilization,

and micro-credit. It includes also discussion of sustainability and operation and maintenance of services.

*Subscription address:*

e-mail:serm-request@mailbase.ac.uk.

Web page of this list <http://www.mailbase.ac.uk/lists/serm/>

**Targets, indicators and monitoring** (led by WELL, EHP and WHO)

Relating the imminent publication of the UNICEF/WHO Global Assessment 2000 to VISION 21, this conference will look at ways of relating national goals to local targets, the choice of indicators, and monitoring and evaluation methodologies.

*Subscription address:*

e-mail:wss2020-request@mailbase.ac.uk.

Web page of this list <http://www.mailbase.ac.uk/lists/wss2020/>

## Council web sites: 12,500 page views per month

Advocacy and documentation/communication support for the sector are cross cutting issues for the WSSCC activities. The need for improved communication was recognized by the WSSCC meeting in Manila in 1997, where the prototype of a WSSCC web site, jointly developed by IRC and WEDC, was demonstrated at the INTERWATER information booth. Since then the WSSCC web sites have been further developed by IRC. The number of page views by visitors on the various sites has increased from just 7300 per month in May 1999 to nearly 12,500 in May 2000. This is reported by IRC in the Executive Summary on Council Web Sites, as one of the Council's network activities.

This information will be used as an input in the discussions during the Fifth Global Forum in Brazil at the end of November. Since the Manila prototype the following outputs were achieved:

1. Creation of the Council web site August 5, 1998; in October 1998 it got its own domain, see: <http://www.wsscc.org>.
2. Further development and frequent maintenance by adding new information to the Council web site.
3. Creation of the GESI website in October 1998, see: <http://www.wsscc.org/gesi/>
4. Further development and frequent maintenance by adding new information, documents and hyperlinks to the GESI web site.
5. On the GESI list server WEDC ran the second electronic conference of the World Bank/One World Think Tank on Strategic Sanitation Approaches (SSA) at the end of 1999, <http://www.oneworld.net/thinktank/water/index.html>.

6. Announcements and summary news items on GESI and the SSA electronic conference in *Source Weekly* and *Source Bulletin*.
7. Further development, updating and maintenance of the InterWATER Guide to Information Sources (part of the Council web site), see <http://www.wsscc.org/interwater/>
8. Production of SOURCE Water and Sanitation News Services (in partnership with IRC since October 1998), see: <http://www.wsscc.org/source/>
9. Support to the development of the VISION 21 through the creation and maintenance of a comprehensive web site on VISION 21, see: <http://www.wsscc.org/vision21/>

Although the number of page views fluctuates, all the sites show a significant increase in the average number of page views per month. The table below shows the number of page views per month in May and November in 1999 and 2000. The figures in brackets indicate the change since May 1999.

**Page views per month**

	May 1999	Nov 1999	May 2000
WSSCC	2427	3129 (+29%)	5018 (+107%)
GESI	802	1025 (+28%)	1455 (+81%)
Source	2834	3254 (+15%)	4145 (+46%)
interWATER	1254	1699 (+35%)	1875 (+50%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>7317</b>	<b>9107 (+24%)</b>	<b>12493 (+71%)</b>

The page views tracking system shows two distinctive peaks. There was one in July/August 1999 that was caused by the availability and the publicity about the VISION 21 draft documents. Another peak in March 2000 is obviously the result of the increased interest in water during the World Water Forum, and the launch of VISION 21.



## Sustaining changes in hygiene behaviour - A concerted action

Changing hygiene behaviour such as washing hands after use of a toilet or latrine is increasingly being recognized as crucial for achieving health improvements from water and sanitation facilities in the developing world. However, research into what makes these behaviours sustainable after project intervention is receiving less attention. To fill this gap IRC, two European partners and NGOs from six developing countries are involved in a three-year action research programme. Field studies will be documented and results shared in-country as well as internationally. In July 2000, the European Commission DG XII approved a financial contribution in the context of its INCODEV programme (confirming the international role of community research).

This Concerted Action (CA) combines field research in six African and Asian countries with networking and dissemination activities. Its specific objectives are to:

- 1) Develop an active network in the field of hygiene promotion;

- 2) Assess the level of sustainability of behavioural change one to two years after hygiene promotion interventions;
- 3) Develop a methodology for simple, cost-effective longitudinal monitoring of behavioural changes;
- 4) Find causal relationships between project approaches and external conditions and sustainability of changes in hygiene behaviour;
- 5) Determine policy and programming implications and influence policy to increase the effectiveness of water and sanitation programmes.

The EU funding covers costs for the coordinator's salary, workshops, seminars, travel and DSA. Additional resources are being sought for the salary costs of the members of the Concerted Action, incurred for their research, taking part in workshops, reporting and organizing national level dissemination activities. etc. .

For additional information -- *Eveline Bolt, e-mail: bolt@irc.nl*

### The partners involved in this research from 1 September 2000 to July 2003

Community Water and Sanitation Agency	Ghana
Foundation for Technical Cooperation	Sri Lanka
Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ)	Germany
IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre	Netherlands (co-ordinator)
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine	UK
Nepal Water for Health Organization	Nepal
NETWAS International	Kenya
Socio-Economic Unit Foundation	India.
WaterAid	Uganda

## Electronic conference on knowledge sharing and resource centres

In order to increase the potential of resource centres in meeting the global challenge of providing for water and sanitation needs, an electronic conference on knowledge sharing and resource centres took place from March 16 to May 3, 2000. Some 50 participants contributed to the conference, which was hosted on the OneWorld web site. It was the last of four electronic discussions called for by the World Bank in 1999. They were co-facilitated by OneWorld, IRC, GARNET, WaterAid and the World Bank's Water and Sanitation Programme.

The conference resulted in a common understanding about resource centres and capacity building, as well as ideas on

how to make resource centres more effective and some proposed strategies and directions for doing so. Ideas for improving the Streams of Knowledge initiative were also provided.

Resource centres can be catalysts for change, centres of excellence, and focal points for capacity building through training, research and knowledge management and sharing. Moreover, through their unique position in the sector, they can provide a bridge between research, knowledge and practice. A core strategy for these centres is to use knowledge and information to build capacity in the water and sanitation sector.

## News in Brief

### Millennium Summit Endorses World Water Forum Target

At the UN Millennium Assembly held from 6-8 September, some 150 heads of state and government resolved in their Declaration to "halve, by the year 2015 ... the proportion of people who are unable to reach, or to afford, safe drinking water", so endorsing the target set at the March 2000 World Water Forum. The Declaration also resolved "to stop the unsustainable exploitation of water resources, by developing water management strategies at the regional, national and local levels, which promote both equitable access and adequate supplies".

*[United Nations Millennium Declaration ; UN Press Release GA/9753, 7 Sep 2000 ; Edie, 8 Sept. 2000]*

### UN Committee Says Rural Water and Sanitation Remain Major Concern

The UN Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development has drawn the attention of the Economic and Social Council to "the fact that rural water supply and rural sanitation remained a subject of major concern" and calls for "protection of water sources and watersheds". The Committee, which was holding its 2nd session, also tabled priorities for action and assessment in water and related areas of Agenda 21 and "Rio +10".

*Contact: Secretariat of the UN Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development, fax: + 1-212-9634340, <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/enrcom.htm>; [UN Press Release ENR/9, 25 August 2000]*

### Jordan: Urban Agriculture - More Food Despite Water Scarcity

"Urban agriculture, combined with safe, treated wastewater reuse, will be a key element ... to maintain food production despite growing water scarcity in the Middle East", is the view of IDRC Senior Program Specialist Naser Faruqui. Mr. Faruqui oversees an IDRC-supported project that surveyed 1350 Amman.

*News in Brief continues on page 7*

To be effective and respond to sector needs, resource centres should

- focus on collecting and analyzing data and disseminating information to strengthen capacity in the water and sanitation sector
- conduct applied research to better understand sector problems, generate new knowledge, influence policy, and develop strategies for interventions
- package information in user-friendly ways for the range of users serviced by the RC
- help organizations and individuals access the information they need
- join global networks in order to access a range of specialized information and data

Resource centres have a potential role in a wide range of issues related to the water and sanitation sector depending upon their specific circumstances, resources and demands. These include social, institutional, financial and technical issues. Moreover, it was clear that these issues require addressing at a number of levels, i.e. central, local government and community level. Particular issues that emerged include, among others, the role of the private sector in water and sanitation provision; cost sharing; and improving participation.

A clear message emerging from the conference is that placing too much emphasis on Internet and electronic communication in sharing resources and networking results in the marginalization of many potential information users. The inequity of the Internet was clearly demonstrated by the fact that almost all of the e-conference participants were employees of international organizations or university researchers. No community level potential beneficiaries actively participated.

The conference provided some new ideas that may be used to improve the Streams of Knowledge initiative that was reported on in earlier SOURCE Bulletins. Some of the most important are:

- Two-way information flow and adopting pro-poor strategies when sharing information.
- Thinking integrated and acting sectoral to be effective as one way of applying an integrated water resources management approach to the water and sanitation sector.
- A networking model for enhancing accessibility to knowledge through "levels or orders of resource centres". First order resource centres are the highest levels and these are linked to lower order resource centres.
- Promoting research that is market-based as a means of achieving solvency. This means providing real services to real clients, which is the key to successfully attracting financing.
- "Circles and cycles" of learning should be identified. This expression tries to better capture the idea of exchange and mutual learning between different levels.
- Resource centres should develop "antennas or feelers" for assessing demand (scanning globally and re-inventing locally).
- The concept of resource centres as "bridging the gap" between research, knowledge and practice should be fully explored.

The Streams of Knowledge initiative has recently established a global coalition of resource centres. Operating guidelines have been prepared, which establish a series of objectives incorporating many of the ideas listed above. Streams of Knowledge itself is being established as a new foundation under Dutch law.

## Resources and Events

### IRC titles in Portuguese

For several years now SDC in Mozambique has been translating IRC titles into Portuguese. Three new titles are now available.

Smet, J.E.M. ... [et al.] (1997). *Linking Technology Choice with Operation and Maintenance for Low-Cost Water Supply and Sanitation (Ligando a escolha da tecnologia com a operação e manutenção para o abastecimento de água e saneamento a baixo custo)*. vii, 166 p. Price: EUR 27.00 / US\$ 27.00. Online order form: <http://www.irc.nl/lgpt/publications/ltp.html>

Visscher, J.T. and Lee, M.D. (1990). *Water Harvesting in Five African Countries (Recolha de água em cinco países Africanos)*. xiii, 108 p. Price: EUR 12.00 / US\$ 12.00. Online order form: <http://www.irc.nl/lgpt/publications/op14p.html>

IRC (1988). *Community Self-Improvement in Water Supply and Sanitation (Auto-melhoramento comunitário no abastecimento de água e saneamento)*. viii, 246 p. Price: EUR 18.00 / US\$ 18.00. Online order form: <http://www.irc.nl/lgpt/publications/ts5p.html>

The earlier titles translated by SDC are:

Wijk Sijbesma, C. van, (1995). *Gender in Community Water Supply, Sanitation and Water Resource Protection: a guide to methods and techniques. (Género no Abastecimento de Água, Saneamento e Protecção dos Recursos Hídricos da Comunidades: Guia de métodos e técnicas)*. v, 76 p. Price: EUR 9.00 / US\$ 9.00.

Bently, M.E. ... [et al.] 1994. *The Use of Structured Observations in the Study of Health Behaviour. (Uso de Observações Estruturadas no Estudo do Comportamento Sanitário)*. v, 58 p. Price: EURO 9.00 / US\$ 9.00.

Espejo, N. (1993). *Action-Learning: building on experience. (Aprendizagem através da Acção: Partindo da Experiência)*. iv, 30 p. Price: EURO 6.00 / US\$ 6.00.

IRC. (1994). *Working with Women and Men on Water and Sanitation: an African field guide (Trabalho com Mulheres e Homens na Área de Águas e Saneamento: um guia para África)*. iv, 105 p. Price: EURO 12.00 / US\$ 12.00.

Lee, M.D. ... [et al.] (1996). *Drinking Water Source Protection: a review of environmental factors affecting community water supplies. ( Protecção de fontes de água potável: uma análise dos factores ambientais que afectam o abastecimento de água às comunidades)*. xiii, 75 p. Price: EURO 9.00 / US\$ 9.00.

Hofkes, E.J. ... [et al.] (1986). *Artificial Groundwater Recharge for Water Supply of Medium-Size Communities in Developing Countries. (Recarga Artificial de Água Subterrânea para o Abastecimento de Água a Comunidades de Tamanho Médio nos Países em Desenvolvimento)*. iv, 41 p. Price: EURO 9.00 / US\$ 9.00.

Boot, M.T. (1984). *Making the Links: guidelines for hygiene education in community water supply and sanitation, with particular emphasis on public standpost water supplies. (Criando o Elo de Ligação: Orientações para a Educação Sanitária no Abastecimento de Água e Saneamento da Comunidade)*. iii, 82 p. Price: EURO 9.00 / US\$ 9.00.

All of the titles can be ordered online or by contacting the Publications Department, e-mail: [publications@irc.nl](mailto:publications@irc.nl)

### News in Brief continued

households to determine how prevalent farming is within the city. The survey showed that 50,000 households practice urban agriculture in an effort to offset rising food prices caused by Jordan's chronic water shortages. Nevertheless, urban gardeners often lack knowledge about the environmental and health risks associated with the heavy use of pesticides, fertilizers, and discarded household water, and about ways to increase productivity. For more information see IDRC's Cities Feeding People page.

Contact: Naser Faruqi,  
[nfaruqi@idrc.ca](mailto:nfaruqi@idrc.ca)  
[Doug Alexander, IDRC Reports, 8 Sept. 2000]

### Thailand: Privatization of Rural Water Services Halted

The State Enterprises Policy Committee has rejected a direct supplies concession for UK-based Thames Water and prohibited the Provincial Waterworks Authority (PWA) from offering any new private deals until the completion of a World Bank-sponsored review early in 2001. It ordered PWA to change its service concessions into turnkey construction contracts. The Committee is said to be unsure whether private operators can meet their distribution obligations. Factories were not linked up to the privatized systems because they continued to use cheaper water from artesian wells. The PWA had already been forced to pay a private operator THB 118 million (EUR 3.3 million) compensation because of the resulting under-utilization of the available capacity.

[Jane's Asia/Pacific News, 26 July 2000]

### Netherlands: Minister Blocks Water Privatization

Environment Minister Jan Pronk has introduced a bill that will prevent public water companies in the Netherlands from handing over shares or control to non-public bodies as of 1 September 2000. Public water companies will retain exclusive rights to the production and distribution of drinking water in their distribution area.

[WaterForum Online, 7 Sept. 2000 (in Dutch)]

# Training Courses

## American Water Works Association (AWWA) Online Institute, USA

### On-Line Learning Programme for Plant Operators

Includes beginning-level courses on: coagulation, flocculation & sedimentation (3 hours, course fee US\$ 65 = EUR 72); filtration; and disinfection. Further courses are available on occupational safety and human resources development. URL: <http://awwa.advanceonline.com/>

Contact: AWWA Online Institute, AWWA, 6666 West Quincy Ave, Denver, Colorado 80235, USA, fax: +1-303-7948915, e-mail: [online@awwa.org](mailto:online@awwa.org)

## IHE Delft and TSM Business School, The Netherlands

Water MBA Programme, February 2001 - July 2002 (18 months), Delft and Enschede, The Netherlands

Programme: Block I (IHE) with special branches on (1) water sector & utility management, and (2) irrigation management - project management, operations management, marketing & financial management; strategic management and PPPs; change management; group project; field trip; technical modules (per branch). Block II (TSM) - technology & organization; managerial economics; marketing; human resource management; essential disciplines. Block III - MBA Thesis/Practical Assignment. Course fees: EUR 20,000. URL: <http://www.water-mba.com>

Contact: Richard Franceys, IHE Water MBA Programme Director, IHE, PO Box 3015, 2601 DA Delft, The Netherlands, tel.: +31-15-2151783, fax: +31-15-2122921, e-mail: [rwf@ihe.nl](mailto:rwf@ihe.nl) or Anita Steenstra, TSM Water MBA Programme Director, TSM Business School, PO Box 217, 7500 AE Enschede, The Netherlands, tel.: +31-53-4898009, fax: +31-53-4894848, e-mail: [tsm@tsm.nl](mailto:tsm@tsm.nl)

## SEU-Foundation, India and IRC

Environmental Sanitation: Solutions and Management (2 weeks), 15-26 January 2001, Thiruvananthapuram (Trivandrum), India

The course focuses on the achievement of high coverage and effective use of sanitation facilities, particularly among low-income families. There is a major concentration on latrine programmes. Course fee: US\$ 1900 (EUR 2229). URL: [http://www.irc.nl/products/training/env\\_in.html](http://www.irc.nl/products/training/env_in.html)

Contact: SEU-Foundation, Post Box 507, Thycaud PO, Trivandrum, Kerala 695014, India, tel.: +91-471-325907, fax: +91-471-325914, e-mail: [seuf@md2.vsnl.net.in](mailto:seuf@md2.vsnl.net.in); IRC, e-mail: [training@irc.nl](mailto:training@irc.nl)

## Forthcoming Events

30-31 October 2000 - Ecological Sanitation - Closing the Loop in Wastewater Management and Sanitation, Bonn, Germany

Organized by: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ). This international technical symposium will launch GTZ's multi-year, supranational research and development project on ecological sanitation, which is being funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). URL: <http://www.gtz.de/ecosan/english/index.html>

Contact: Christine Werner, e-mail: [christine.werner@gtz.de](mailto:christine.werner@gtz.de) or Jana Schlick, e-mail: [janschlick.gtz@gmx.de](mailto:janschlick.gtz@gmx.de), GTZ, Dag-Hammarskjöld-Weg 1-5, Postfach 5180, 65726 Eschborn, Germany, tel.: +49-6196-79-1261, fax +49-6196-79-6105

## 23-26 November 2000 - Water Supply and Sanitation in Provincial Towns of Vietnam, Hanoi, Vietnam

Organized by: Vietnam Water Supply and Sewerage Association (VWSA). This seminar aims to attract domestic and international investment to help achieve the government's aim to provide water supply services to all 61 provincial towns by 2005 and to initiate sanitation projects. URL: <http://www.nwp.nl/>

Contact: Mr. Vu Kim Quyen, General Secretary, VWSA, 52 Quoc Tu Giam Street, Dong Da District, Hanoi, Vietnam, tel.: +84-4-7335047, fax: +84-4-7335048, e-mail: [vkquyen@hn.vnn.vn](mailto:vkquyen@hn.vnn.vn)

## 22-24 January 2001 - International Workshop on Fluoride in Drinking Water: Strategies, Management & Mitigation, Bhopal, India

Organized by: Madhya Pradesh Public Health Engineering Department. Co-sponsors include the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission, WHO and UNICEF.

Contact: Mr. A. K. Dwivedi, Superintending Engineer, Public Health Engineering Department, Satpura Bhjavan, Ground Floor, Bhopal - 462 004, India, fax: +91-(0)755-551582, e-mail: [cebhopal@vsnl.com](mailto:cebhopal@vsnl.com)

## Colophon

ISSN 1389-3157

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

Editor: Dick de Jong ([jong@irc.nl](mailto:jong@irc.nl))  
Contributors: Brian Appleton (WSSCC News) ([appletonb@who.ch](mailto:appletonb@who.ch)), Cor Dietvorst (Resources and Events) ([dietvorst@irc.nl](mailto:dietvorst@irc.nl)), Eveline Bolt ([bolt@irc.nl](mailto:bolt@irc.nl)), Nicolette Wildeboer ([wildeboer@irc.nl](mailto:wildeboer@irc.nl))

IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre  
P.O. Box 2869, 2601 CW Delft, The Netherlands  
Tel. +31-15 2192939, fax +31-15 2190955  
E-mail: [general@irc.nl](mailto:general@irc.nl). Internet: <http://www.irc.nl>

You can subscribe to Source Weekly and the bi-monthly Special Features Edition via the Source web page at: <http://www.wsscc.org/source> or by sending a two-line message:  
subscribe source-weekly  
end  
to: [majordomo@listserv.antenna.nl](mailto:majordomo@listserv.antenna.nl) (leave the subject line blank)



# SOURCE Bulletin

water and sanitation news review



No 14

November 2000

**Water and politics in India**, page 1  
Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh launched crash programmes to encourage water harvesting in response to minimal rains in 1990-2000.

**Ghana: guineaworm menace persists**, page 2

Despite ten years of vigorous and successful campaigning by the Guineaworm Eradication Programme, guineaworm is again on the rise.

**IUCN launches \$ 30 million initiative for fresh water and healthy ecosystems**, page 3

The 'Water and Nature Initiative' is a response to the growing international concerns on freshwater resources.

## WSSCC News

**Global Water Supply and Sanitation Assessment 2000**, page 3

While an enormous number of people gained access to services over the last 10 years, increases in percentage coverage appear modest due to huge population growth.

**New Executive Secretary: Gouri Ghosh**, page 5

Ranjith Wirasinha will hand over his post to Gourisankar Ghosh in January 2001.

## IRC News

**Gender and Water Alliance to launch programme**, page 5

The GWAlliance aims to contribute to enabling governments to incorporate gender and equity practices into design and management of water resources systems.

**Successful sanitation programme in Guinée**, page 6

UNICEF and households contribute to construction of Sanplat latrines

**News in Brief**, page 6/7

**New Publications**, page 6

**Resources and Events**, page 7/8

**Training Courses**, page 8



## News to our subscribers

For those of you who have recently obtained e-mail access, we would like to inform you that you can subscribe to our weekly electronic news service, Source Weekly. The in-depth 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 p. 8.*

## Water and politics in India

Following the failure of the monsoon to come in 1999-2000, two states in India — Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh — launched crash programmes to encourage water harvesting. *"An appreciable shift, because governments in India have always gone in for high-cost, high-technology solutions to the water crisis, ignoring the fact that rainwater has helped India survive through millennia,"* wrote the New Delhi-based Centre for Science and Environment in *Down to Earth* and on their web site. CSE sent two researchers from its Campaign to Make Water Everybody's Business to assess the programmes. While the projects suffer from typical governmental functioning in several areas, the success stories cannot be ignored.

The two states came up with crash programmes that encouraged rural communities to build new water harvesting structures and revive old ones. The reason for these responses remains unclear, writes CSE. Some say it is political, some say it is motivation from civil society, some say it was the need of the hour. But the fact remains that the Gujarat government launched the Sardar Patel Participatory Water Conservation Programme (SPPWCP) in January 2000; and the AP government launched the Neeru Meeru (Water and You) programme in May 2000.

*"No matter what their motive, the two state governments have to be congratulated for venturing into uncharted territory, into something essential that governments in independent India have consistently ignored. It becomes essential to assess the performance of these schemes. While it is certain that community-based water management, based on water harvesting, is essential to deal with drought, the future of this potential depends on how the Indian takes to it. If water harvesting falls victim to corruption and bureaucratic incompetence, India's future would be so much poorer."*

## Gujarat: significant difference

The two CSE researchers travelled to several parts of Gujarat and AP, visiting villages, panchayats (village councils), government departments, civil society groups, technical experts, research institutions, religious outfits, and what have you. Their experiences led to some conclusions. In Gujarat's drought-prone Saurashtra and Kachchh regions, there were clear indicators that the government programme has made a significant difference. Despite the fact that the rains were very poor in the year 2000 monsoon, there are claims that water overflowed in more than three-fourths of the 10,500 check dams built under the government programme over the last few months. In several villages which have built check dams, the groundwater table has improved and dug wells have water.

The Indian media — at the regional as well as the national level — reported quite a few success stories of villages which are confident about facing drought in the future. The fact that the media took note of these stories is itself a good indicator, because the Indian media, biased as it is towards urban centres, regularly ignores the problems and successes of our villages. Not only did the Gujarat government learn from its past mistakes in water management, but it also learned from the successes of villages led by civil society groups. The SPPWCP was formulated in such a way that bureaucratic wrangling would be sidelined. The people responded with enthusiasm, submitting proposals for more than 25,000 check dams.

Another factor worth noting is that the success rate of the programme was seen to be better where civil society groups were involved. This gave fewer opportunities for siphoning funds to corrupt government engineers and contractors. It also helped in mobilization of villagers. But, apart from some cases of exceptional effort by villages on their own accord, the programme actually led to corruption in several places where civil society groups were not involved. So much so that the government resorted to withholding of funds in some cases, again revealing a willingness to learn from mistakes and rectify them.

### Disappointment in AP

Results in AP were more of a disappointment. Although the Neeru Meeru programme was initiated only a few months ago and it is still too early to judge its impact, the initial indicators do not bode well. While the programme covers several aspects of water harvesting, one of the major thrusts in the initial stages has been to desilt old tanks, which has been carried out in 3,348 villages. The way the programme has been planned, however, has left contractors and engineers plenty of opportunity to exploit poor villagers. The programme does not encourage employment of the rural poor in desilting operations, relying on the machines and corruption of contractors.

Some exceptional success stories notwithstanding, there are numerous allegations of corruption and nepotism. Opposition political parties aside, even neutral groups and technical experts are critical of the ruling Telugu Desam Party for using the community-based programme to build up its own cadres and political base, rather than finding a lasting solution to the water crisis. Several villagers complained to CSE of exploitation at the hands of local politicians, bureaucrats, government engineers and contractors.

*"The lesson is clear. While harvesting rainwater is the right direction, the bureaucracy and petty politicking will ensure that instead of solving the water crisis, it becomes another excuse for mismanagement and corruption. This would be a real shame, because it might close the last door for a developing country like India to sustainably manage its water needs. It would be an even greater shame if it were to prove that Indians have little to hope for a better tomorrow."*

(Down to Earth, vol. 9, no. 11, 31 Oct 2000, p. 32-47)  
[http://www.cseindia.org/html/dte/dte20001031/dte\\_analy.htm](http://www.cseindia.org/html/dte/dte20001031/dte_analy.htm)

## Ghana: guineaworm menace persists

After ten years of vigorous campaigning to rid Ghana of the guineaworm disease the menace of new cases persists. At the start of the campaign in 1989 41,265 cases were detected in 220 endemic villages in the Volta region. This was reduced to 418 cases in 1996. *"Unfortunately, the number shot up to 2,323 in 1999"*, writes Sophia Kudjordji, editor of Watsan News, the newsletter of the DANIDA-supported Community Water and Sanitation Agency that is active in the Volta region.

The international Guineaworm Eradication Programme started in 1989 as a result of an effective international lobby spearheaded by the Carter Centre, WHO, and UNICEF. It stressed the need to focus on the endemic areas, and the need to repair wells and to encourage villagers to protect their water supplies from contamination. Hygiene education was tackled on a wide front through radio jingles, in schools, and through village level meetings.

The experience in Ghana shows that mobilizing the community at village level, and mobilizing government and local government departments in a campaign approach has worked for the past ten years. The efforts must now be sustained, and the Volta CWSA programme is calling on all stakeholders to increase efforts and to play complimentary roles to ensure a complete success of the programme.

The following actions are necessary:

1. More collaboration between the Ministry of Health and NGOs and better analysis of achievements;



*The Community Water and Sanitation Agency urges increased commitment in fighting guineaworm*

2. Assistance from district assembly representatives in identifying endemic communities who are to receive preferential treatment by the Volta CWSA programme;
3. District assemblies must prioritize endemic communities for water supply in their development programmes and budgets;
4. Sons and daughters from these communities living outside their villages should try to get commitments from their parents and compatriots to respond to the programme and also help in contributing to the capital costs (5 percent).

It is only with the commitment of the above stakeholders that the Volta CWSA programme can search for funds from NGOs and donors to help in the fight. *"For, until we are ready to stop paying lip service and be more committed in the eradication, another millennium will come and guineaworm will continue to be a menace. Let us therefore pool our resources – community members, health workers,*

*district assemblies, MPs, NGOs and donors alike to combat this elusive but preventable disease."*

In the annual stakeholders' meeting in Ho earlier in the year on the topic of sustaining investment in water and sanitation concerns were raised about the embezzlement of funds on some of the water systems (borehole and handpump), the unwillingness of some communities to pay tariffs at source points, coupled with the poor quality of work being executed by some contractors.

The 48 stakeholders made an SOS call for an urgent intervention in two communities in the Kete-Krachi district where guineaworm was rampant.

The Volta regional director of CWSA announced at the meeting that funds for the construction of institutional latrines have been transferred to district assemblies to be supervised by district engineers.

For additional information -- Volta region Community Water and Sanitation Agency Sophia Kudjordji, P.O. Box 508, Ho, Ghana, fax: +233 91 28266, e-mail: [cwsdvr@africaonline.gh.co](mailto:cwsdvr@africaonline.gh.co)

---

## IUCN launches \$ 30 million initiative for fresh water and healthy ecosystems

IUCN launched an ambitious five-year freshwater programme at the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Conservation Congress in Amman last October. The initiative, comprising 24 projects worldwide, has a total budget of US\$ 30 million.

The 'Water and Nature Initiative' is a response to the growing international concerns on freshwater resources, as expressed at the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Water Forum last March. Forum participants and ministers from 132 countries called for actions to avert the world water crisis. Communities around the world already face serious shortages of fresh water, and the number is expected to rise to 30% of the world's population by 2025.

The initiative also comes at a time when IUCN's 2000 Red List of Threatened Species signals an extremely serious deterioration in river-dwelling species. For instance, 30% of freshwater fish species are currently threatened and estimates also indicate that over 800 other freshwater species are at risk of extinction. Further research is likely to reveal an even deeper worldwide crisis in freshwater biodiversity.

The initiative will demonstrate how catchments and our water resources can be managed in a sustainable way through an integrated approach. Projects will focus on protecting, restoring, and managing ecosystems that provide clean water and numerous other valuable services to communities. The initiative recognizes that the sustainable management of catchments and their water resources forms the basis of economic, social, and environmental security of individuals and societies.

Besides field level demonstrations, the initiative will develop the knowledge for sustainable water use; empower communities to participate in decision making; and work on the governance of river basins, by examining and developing legal and financial tools. Learning from its experiences, the initiative will develop lessons that can be applied in other cases.

For further information -- IUCN, Elroy Bos, Communication Assistant, Wetlands and Water Resources Programme, <http://www.iucn.org>, e-mail: [elroy.bos@iucn.org](mailto:elroy.bos@iucn.org)



## News from the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council

---

### Global Water Supply and Sanitation Assessment 2000

*"It is shameful, a scandal that almost half of the world's population does not have access to adequate sanitation," said Dr Richard Jolly, Chair of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC).*

Access to safe water and sanitary means of excreta disposal are universal needs and basic human rights. They are vital for the dignity and health of all people. Yet, despite tremendous efforts in the last two decades to provide improved water and sanitation services for the poor in the

developing world, today 2.4 billion people worldwide still do not have any acceptable means of sanitation, while 1.1 billion people do not have an improved water supply.

On 22 November WHO/UNICEF launched the *Global Water Supply and Sanitation Assessment 2000* as 500 public health, water, and sanitation experts met in Brazil to call on the world to roll-out a major effort – VISION 21 – to correct the "shameful" water and sanitation situation that plagues millions of people in developing countries.

The report attempts to provide a comprehensive assessment of the water supply and sanitation sector. At the same time, it aims to serve as a source of data on the current coverage status of water supply and sanitation worldwide.

### Improved methodology

The Assessment 2000 is the result of an improved methodology for the collection and analysis of national water supply and sanitation coverage data, moving away from from purely *provider-based* data and focussing on *consumer-based* coverage information. This allows for better data on service functioning, as consumer-based data refer to *use* of services rather than solely their *construction*.

The detailed national data will soon be made available on the WHO and UNICEF websites so that users can make their own analysis according to their specific needs. To provide a truly global assessment, data from industrialized countries is presented alongside that of developing countries.

An enormous number of people gained access to services between 1990 and 2000, but increases in percentage covered appear modest because of the huge global population growth during that time.

The numbers of unserved with both water supply and sanitation services remained practically the same throughout the decade. The increase in coverage was just enough to keep pace with population growth.

Africa and Asia have the lowest levels of service coverage and the greatest number of people without access. Two-thirds of people without access to improved water supply and more than three-quarters of those without access to improved sanitation in the world are in Asia. African countries have the lowest overall percentage coverage levels. One-third of all African countries have less than 50% water supply coverage and half of all African countries have less than 50% sanitation coverage.

### Meeting future needs

The *Global Water Supply and Sanitation Assessment 2000* report uses the international development targets proposed by Vision 21 of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council to highlight the challenges faced by the sector in reducing the coverage gap. The targets are:

- Halving the proportion of the population without access to water supply, sanitation and hygiene by 2015;
- Access to water supply, sanitation and hygiene for all by the year 2025.

In order to achieve the 2015 target in Africa, Asia and Latin America alone, this means providing water supply services to 300,000 more people and providing sanitation facilities to 400,000 more people *every day* for the next 15 years.

This Global Assessment is an important step in refining our knowledge of the sector, but much still needs to be done to improve our understanding of why the current situation exists and what can be done to improve water supply, sanitation and hygiene.

### Findings

- ◆ Around a quarter of the 4.8 billion people in developing countries are without access to improved sources of water, while half of them are without access to improved sanitation services.
- ◆ Of the 4.9 billion people worldwide who have access to water supply services, around 3 billion have the convenience of access through house connections or yard taps.
- ◆ There are 4 billion cases of diarrhoea in the world every year, with 2.2 million deaths, mostly among children under five. Safe water, adequate sanitation and hygiene can reduce diarrhoeal disease by between one-quarter and one-third of these cases.
- ◆ Rural services still lag far behind urban ones, but delivering affordable services to the rapidly growing numbers of urban poor remains a formidable challenge.
- ◆ Investments for providing basic services for the unserved poor lag far behind those for improving services to the better-off in urban society. Tariffs charged by water agencies in developing countries far from cover the costs of producing and distributing water. In Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean the ratio between the unit average tariff and the unit production cost is respectively 0.8, 0.7 and 0.9.
- ◆ In Africa, 30% of the rural water supplies are not functioning at any one time. In Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean, the numbers are, respectively, 17% and 4%.
- ◆ In the developing regions of the world, wastewater is treated in only a small number of systems. In Asia the figure lies around 35%, in Latin America 14%, and in Africa, treatment is negligible. Even in industrialized countries, sewage is not universally treated.
- ◆ In large cities of developing countries, the percentage of unaccounted-for water is very high, around 40%. Most of this water is simply lost before reaching the potential user. The consequences are particularly serious for the poor living in marginal areas.
- ◆ Not all the water distributed in large cities is safe. A number of cities reported that most samples violated water quality standards.

## New Executive Secretary: Gouri Ghosh

In January 2001, Ranjith Wirasinha, Executive Secretary of the Council will hand over to Gourisankar Ghosh, whose commitment and leadership qualities will ensure that the work in Foz do Iguacu is carried forward in the best possible way. Ranjith has served the WSSCC since its first Global Forum in Oslo, Norway, in 1991.

*"It has been a marvellous experience to see the WSSCC grow steadily in impact and influence, and, most of all, in friendliness and comradeship. I have drawn great satisfaction from the way that the voluntary contributions of many dedicated individuals has added so much value to*

*the support provided by our core of committed donors. VISION 21 is the outstanding example of that "people power". It will inspire me long after I hand over the secretarial reins. I am confident that in Foz do Iguacu, we can create both the atmosphere and the practical programme to achieve our vision of hygiene, sanitation and water for all."*

Gourisankar Ghosh is currently Chief of the WES Programme at UNICEF. Before that he served as Joint Secretary at the Ministry of Rural Development in India.



News from IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre

## Gender and Water Alliance to launch programme

In January 2001 the Gender and Water Alliance will officially launch its programme. The GWAlliance is a network of organizations and individuals working to achieve equity and equality amongst women and men, irrespective of age, colour, creed, language or income, regarding sustainable water resources development and management at all levels. The GWAlliance is a participants' organization where all decisions are taken collectively and all structures are transparent and accessible.

The GWAlliance is an outcome of the Vision to Action session on Gender Mainstreaming at the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Water Forum held in The Hague in March. The World Water Vision has declared that every woman, man and child must have access to safe and adequate water, sanitation and food, but also be responsible for ensuring maintenance of the ecosystem. Governments are urged to involve interest groups in all levels of decision and policy making, and to establish and strengthen mechanisms at national, regional and international levels to facilitate the required participation of all stakeholders.

"In 35 years of experiences with conferences, this launching of the Gender and Water Alliance is the most practical result I have ever witnessed." This is how Ms Chandni Joshi, Regional Programme Director of UNIFEM (United Nations Development Fund for Women) in South Asia described her feelings to the press. "This alliance being formed today means a continuing push for the inclusion of gender considerations in water resources management and the equal involvement of women and men in the water sector", said Bill Cosgrove, Director of the World Water Vision Unit in Paris.

Integrated water resources management refers to the coordinated development and management of water, land, and related resources for optimizing economic and social

welfare without compromising the sustainability of vital environmental systems. Optimizing development implies recognizing that women and men of all strata have different requirements and often unequal opportunities for domestic and productive uses of water and the use of catchment areas, and that women and the poor generally have fewer opportunities to share in and benefit from development and management. Greater equity requires changing practices through more effective mobilization of human resources and institutional capacities, resulting in more logical sharing of burdens, benefits and responsibilities between women and men.

The GWAlliance, which now counts some 110 individuals and organizations as members, aims to contribute to enabling governments to concretely implement the World Water Vision recommendations, and incorporate gender and equity practices into legislation, policies, and decision-making processes concerning design and management of water resources and systems. It will help to establish mechanisms according to local conditions and needs, and so ensure equitable and meaningful participation of all interests groups in managing water resources. It will also contribute to mobilizing the rights and meeting the demands of poor women and men to have affordable, functioning, and dependable services.

The GWAlliance will advocate change in the field in areas such as gender sensitive information sharing, networking, and capacity building. It is in the process of identifying gender ambassadors to influence policy development and attend relevant sector meetings. Through annual global reports on water and gender, relevant statistics and indicators for water sub-sectors will be disseminated, and simple advocacy materials for water and gender equity will be produced in several languages. GWAlliance members

## News in Brief

### Environment ministers asked to prioritize energy and safe water for the poor

Civil society stakeholders urged environment ministers at a meeting in Bergen, Norway on 15 September 2000, to make "promotion of sustainable approaches to the provision of energy and fresh water, particularly to the most deprived communities", two of the priority subjects at the 2002 Earth Summit. Representatives of business, local government, trade unions, and NGOs, who were brought together by UNED Forum to speak to the ministers, also emphasized the importance of stakeholder participation in intergovernmental processes on sustainable development. The meeting report and background papers are available at: <http://www.earthsummit2002.org/cs/2002/bergen.htm>

Contact: Danielle Morley, UNED Forum, UNED-UK, c/o UNA 3 Whitehall Court, London SW1A 1EL, UK, tel.: +44-20-78391784, fax: +44-20-793058, e-mail: [dmorley@earthsummit2002.org](mailto:dmorley@earthsummit2002.org)

### World's freshwater systems under threat

Degradation of the world's freshwater systems threatens their ability to support human, plant and animal life, according to a new report\* by the World Resources Institute (WRI). By 2025, at least 3.5 billion people (nearly 50% of the world's population) will face water scarcity and 29 of the world's river basins (each populated by 10 million people by 2025) will experience further scarcity. Much of the degradation is due to habitat destruction, the construction of dams and canals, introduction of non-native species, pollution, and over-exploitation. Waterborne diseases from faecal pollution of surface waters continue to be a major cause of illness in the Third World.

\*Revenga, C. [et al.] (2000). Pilot analysis of global ecosystems: freshwater systems. Washington D.C., USA, World Resources Institute, [http://www.wri.org/wri/wr2000/freshwater\\_page.html](http://www.wri.org/wri/wr2000/freshwater_page.html)

Contact: Adlai Amor, WRI, 10 G Street, NE (Suite 800), Washington, DC 20002 USA, tel.: +1-202-7297600; fax: +1-202-7297610, e-mail: [aamor@wri.org](mailto:aamor@wri.org), <http://www.wri.org/> (WRI Press Release, 21 Oct 2000)

News in Brief continues on page 7

have set up a list server to establish terms of reference for the Secretariat and the yet-to-be-elected Steering Committee, and will continue to use it for information sharing.

The Gender and Water Alliance is an Associated Programme of the Global Water Partnership; the Secretariat is housed at IRC. If you are interested in participating in its activities, contact Ms. Jennifer Francis at IRC at the address in the colophon, or send an e-mail to [francis@irc.nl](mailto:francis@irc.nl).

## Successful sanitation programme in Guinée

With its partner CREPA, IRC just completed an evaluation of UNICEF's sanitation programme in Guinée, West Africa. Since 1997 the programme has been promoting the construction of Sanplat latrines and trained local masons will have constructed over 8750 units at the end of this year. UNICEF has contributed the cement for the Sanplat, an iron bar of a metre for the lid, and the cost of the mason. The households contribute everything else: digging of the pit to 4 metre depth, sand and gravel, and the superstructure. The cost of the first three items already matches the contribution of UNICEF in cash terms, while the design and material of the superstructure is left to the households. Thus, depending on availability of funds, the superstructures vary from simple bamboo or wooden enclosures to beautiful huts. During the almost four-week field survey it became clear that all latrines are being used and that demand exceeds supply. Motivation for sanitation and hygiene behaviour is done through the Rural Radio, with different types of programmes in the vernacular and through the trained community officials, who are elected volunteers.

The most interesting aspect of the programme is the fact that the elected Rural Development Committee (CRD) is in charge of the whole programme, establishing demand for the year to come, the number of masons to be trained, management of the materials, and the selection criteria for the beneficiaries. The conditions for a household to get cement are the same in all CRDs: the pit has to be ready and sand and gravel present. After that, the approach differs: some CRDs decide that whoever comes first gets the cement. Other CRDs divide the amount of cement between different districts and again others include specific target groups such as leaders, who are expected to receive visitors, or disadvantaged groups such as the very poor or the elderly. An interesting finding is that all latrines planned are indeed constructed and used. A second finding is that the involvement of women in the programme is limited, because information on the programme is given through male channels and is not certain to reach women, especially those whose husbands work in the city. Community management means the decisions are up to the community, but the programme will improve information through the Rural Radio and increase involvement of women through community groups.

---

## Resources and Events

---

### New Publications

Ferron, S., Morgan, J. and O'Reilly, M. (2000). **Hygiene promotion : a practical manual for relief and development**. London, UK: Intermediate Technology Publications, 2000. vii, 250 p.; boxes, fig., ill., 62 ref. ISBN 1853395056. Price: Not quoted

This manual provides guidance, particularly for fieldworkers, on hygiene promotion in emergency settings. The opening chapter provides an introduction to the context of emergency relief and rehabilitation projects and to current hygiene promotion theory. The manual then considers the four phases of the

project cycle: assessment, planning, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation. It draws on experiences of hygiene promotion fieldworkers, especially from CARE, in emergency relief programmes undertaken between 1992 and 1998. Extensive appendices include a series of data collection tools, hygiene promotion illustrations, information about hygiene-related diseases and how to prevent them, pictures for use in the field, and an annotated bibliography.

Available through booksellers or direct from: IT Publications, fax: +44-20-74362013, E-mail: [itpubs@itpubs.org.uk](mailto:itpubs@itpubs.org.uk), <http://www.oneworld.org/itdg/publications.html>

Ahmed, M.F. and Rahman, M.M. (2000). **Water supply and sanitation : rural and low-income urban communities**. Dhaka, Bangladesh : ITN-Bangladesh, 2000. x, 444 p. : fig., tab. ISBN 9843109368. Price: Not quoted

This textbook deals with water supply and sanitation appropriate for rural and low income communities in Bangladesh. It consists of three parts. The first part deals with the key elements needed for sustainable water supply and sanitation, including: community involvement and community management; institutional aspects; gender awareness; health, hygiene, and use of facilities; financial aspects; and the project cycle. The second part reviews environmental sanitation technology, with chapters on: on-site sanitation; wastewater collection and transportation (sewerage and non-sewered disposal); programming; excreta and wastewater treatment; stormwater and sullage drainage; and solid waste management. The final part deals with water supply technology, including: water sources; water quantity and quality; water treatment; groundwater treatment (arsenic, iron and hardness removal); water transmission and distribution; and low-cost technologies (dug wells and tubewells).

Available from: ITN-Bangladesh, Centre for Water Supply and Waste Management, Civil Engineering Building (3<sup>rd</sup> floor), BUET, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh, fax: +880-2-9663695, e-mail: [itn@dhaka.agni.com](mailto:itn@dhaka.agni.com), e-mail: [itnaz@dhaka.agni.com](mailto:itnaz@dhaka.agni.com); [itn@vasdigital.com](mailto:itn@vasdigital.com), <http://www.agni.net/itn>

## Conference and Events Calendar

10-16 Feb 2001 - **The Third International Symposia on Reducing the Impact of Toxic Chemicals on Bengal Basin Economies**, Calcutta, India (10-12 Feb) and Dhaka, Bangladesh (14-16 Feb)

Organized by: Ghosh Research Associate International (GRAI)/Bengal Basin Working Group. URL: [http://www.nvo.com/ghosh\\_research/door/](http://www.nvo.com/ghosh_research/door/)

Contact: Ghosh Research Associates International/ Bengal Basin Working Group, 2509 McGee Ave. Berkeley, CA 94703, USA, e-mail: [ghosh\\_research@msn.com](mailto:ghosh_research@msn.com)

26-28 Feb 2001 (new date\*) - **Regional Conference on Reform of the Water and Sanitation Sector in Africa**, Kampala, Uganda

Organized by: Water Utility Partnership (WUP) in collaboration with the World Bank Institute (WBI), the Union of African Water Suppliers (UAWS) and the Streams of Knowledge initiative. Theme: "Reform of the Water and Sanitation Sector: Enhancing Public Private Partnerships in the Context of the Africa Water Vision". Aimed at decision makers from African countries. URL: <http://www.wupafrika.org>

\*postponed from 11-13 Dec 2000

*News in Brief continued*

### South Africa: cholera outbreak makes government rethink water policy

Most of the victims of a cholera outbreak in Kwazulu-Natal had resorted to unsafe water because they could not afford connection fees or monthly tariffs. Since the start of the outbreak in mid-August 2000, 4270 cases and 32 deaths have been reported. In a reaction to the outbreak, the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAF) has announced that the government will consider providing a lifeline amount of 6000 litres of water per household per month free-of-charge. The South African Municipal Workers Union (SAMWU) believes the next step is to provide piped water and better sanitation to all as this is less expensive in the long run than treating the victims of waterborne diseases in hospital.

Contact: SAMWU, e-mail: [samwu@wn.apc.org](mailto:samwu@wn.apc.org), <http://www.cosatu.org.za/samwu/>; DWAF, Private Bag X313, Pretoria 0001, South Africa, fax: +27-12-3262715, <http://www-dwaf.pwv.gov.za/>

(FM News, 3 Nov 2000; WHO Disease Outbreak News, 3 Nov 2000; DWAF Press Release, 13 Oct 2000; SAMWU Press Statement, 17 Oct 2000)

### Asian environment ministers develop regional action programme

Water quality, water conservation, and integrated water resources management are among the priority areas identified by environment ministers from 42 countries in Asia and the Pacific who met in Kitakyushu City, Japan, from 31 Aug-5 Sept 2000. The Ministerial Declaration and a Regional Action Programme for Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development 2001-2005 are available at <http://www.unescap.org/mced2000/outcom.htm>. Recommendations in the Action Programme include: increased private sector involvement in water supply and sanitation; reducing by half between 2000 and 2015 the proportion of people who lack sustainable access to adequate sources of affordable and safe water; the development of national water visions; and the strengthening of local communities and women's role in water conservation and management activities.

Contact: Mr. Rezaul Karim, Chief, Environment Section, UN ESCAP, UN Building, Rajadamnern Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand, tel.: +66-2-2881614, fax: +66-2-2881059, e-mail: [karim.unescap@un.org](mailto:karim.unescap@un.org)

Contact: *Managing Director, Water Utility Partnership (WUP, 05 B.P 2642, Abidjan 05, Côte d'Ivoire), tel.: + 225-21-240828, fax: + 225-21-240063, e-mail: wup@africaonline.co.ci, http://wupafrika.org*

### 10-14 Sep 2001 - 10th International Conference on Rainwater Catchment, Mannheim, Germany

Organized by: FAKT, fbr and International Rainwater Catchment Systems Association (IRCSA).

A conference within Rainwater International 2001 and in conjunction with the International Rainwater Fair and Forum: Rainwater Harvesting in Practice. Topics: Rainwater catchment systems in the urban environment; Rainwater harvesting in humid and arid regions; Rainwater harvesting: the quality issue; Water harvesting for agriculture, including environmental aspects; Public/official support and awareness creation. Fees: EUR 400 / US\$ 400, IRCSA members: EUR 300 / US\$ 300. URL: <http://www.rainwaterconference.org>

Contact: *Hans Hartung, FAKT, Kanalstr.23, D-97990 Weikersheim, Germany, fax: +49-7934-990031, e-mail: ircsa@rainwaterconference.org*

## Training Courses

### Institute of Water and Sanitation Development (IWSD), Harare, Zimbabwe

In 2001-2002 the IWSD offers several diploma, distance and short courses. The Diploma Course in Water and Sanitation is offered both in Harare (17 weeks, 29 Jan-25 May) as well as in the form of a one-year distance course (13 Mar 2001-12 Feb 2002). There are one-week short courses on: Management of water & wastewater treatment plants; Integrated water resources management; Environmental impact assessment; Water law & institutions; Laboratory analysis of water & wastewater; Water quality (monitoring and control); Methodology for participatory assessments; Project proposal development for research projects; Communication skills; Industrial wastewater management; and Logical framework. There is also a four-week course on Community Management of Water Supplies and Sanitation (29 Oct-23 Nov).

Contact: *IWSD, The Training Manager, IWSD, Box MP, 422, Mt Pleasant, Harare, Zimbabwe, tel./fax: +263-4-735017/26/35 or 738120 or 250522, mailto:admin@iwsd.co.zw, http://www.iwsd.co.zw/*

### The (European) Network University (TNU) and the IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre

Dynamics of the Water Sector: Institutional changes in the urban water and sanitation sector - risks and opportunities, 15 Jan-2 Feb 2001, 5-23 Mar 2001, 7-25 May 2001 (3 weeks)

An innovative, interactive, three-week course on the Internet for water professionals and decision makers who have to deal with or are interested in institutional changes in the sector. Topics include: public-private partnerships, stakeholders' interests, sector characteristics/specifics, private sector participation experiences worldwide, stakeholder examples, sector trends & developments. There are weekly assignments and group discussions. Fees: US\$ 1250 (EUR 1470), a discount is negotiable for students from developing countries. URL: <http://www.irc.nl/products/training/inetcourse.html>

Contact: *Mona Hansen (Project Coordinator), TNU, Oude Turfmarkt 141, 1012 GC Amsterdam, The Netherlands, tel.: +31-20-5255302, e-mail: watersharing@netuni.uva.nl, http://www.netuni.nl/ or e-mail: training@irc.nl*

### WEDC, Loughborough University, UK M.Sc. by Distance Learning

The following modules are offered: Water & environmental health; Water for low-income communities; Solid waste management; Urban infrastructure; Environmental assessment; Community & management; Low-cost sanitation; Wastewater treatment; Short project; Case study; Individual study. Each module costs GBP 900 (EUR 1500) in 2001. URL: <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/wedc/education/dl-programmes.htm>

Contact: *Kathy Brown, WEDC, Loughborough University, Leicestershire LE11 3TU, UK, tel.: +44-(0)1509-222885, fax: +44-(0)1509-211079, e-mail: k.c.brown@lboro.ac.uk*

## Colophon

ISSN 1389-3157

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

Editor: Dick de Jong ([jong@irc.nl](mailto:jong@irc.nl))  
Contributors: Brian Appleton (WSSCC News) ([appletonb@who.ch](mailto:appletonb@who.ch)); Cor Dietvorst (Resources and Events) ([dietvorst@irc.nl](mailto:dietvorst@irc.nl)); Eirah Gorre-Dale, UNDP; Nicolette Wildeboer ([wildeboer@irc.nl](mailto:wildeboer@irc.nl))

IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre  
P.O. Box 2869, 2601 CW Delft, The Netherlands  
Tel. +31-15 2192939, fax +31-15 2190955  
E-mail: [general@irc.nl](mailto:general@irc.nl). Internet: <http://www.irc.nl>

You can subscribe to Source Weekly and the bi-monthly Special Features Edition via the Source web page at: <http://www.wsscc.org/source> or by sending a two-line message:  
subscribe source-weekly  
end  
to: [majordomo@listserv.antenna.nl](mailto:majordomo@listserv.antenna.nl) (leave the subject line blank)