

WASPA NEWS

Why the Newsletter?

The use of wastewater in irrigation is vital for many farmers who do not have direct access to clean irrigation water, but wastewater needs to be treated properly before using it in irrigation as it has some health hazards also. In line with this burning issue, NGO Forum for Drinking Water Supply & Sanitation has been implementing an action research project titled WASPA-Asia, funded by the European Commission under the EU Asia Pro Eco-II, in Rajshahi, Bangladesh. One of the major components of this project is the establishment of Learning Alliances (LA) who are playing a crucial role throughout the implementing process of WASPA. The **WASPA NEWS** aims to make the targeted LA up to date and also scaling up the dimensions of the project with awareness building.

Garbage Trap

The WASPA-Asia Project being implemented in Rajshahi is on the way to install a garbage trap in reducing the flow of solid wastes in the storm water drain as well as the Terokhadia agricultural area. The WASPA-Asia Project in consultation with the Rajshahi City Corporation has finalised the design and location for the garbage trap. Once the approval from the RCC is obtained the construction work will commence.



Location for Garbage Trap

Training on Hygiene Awareness

The WASPA-Asia Project organised hygiene awareness training with a view to raising awareness among the wastewater using farmers about the importance of safe hygiene and safe use of wastewater. In February 2008, daylong hygiene awareness training was held at the Regional Training Centre of NGO Forum in Rajshahi. The training content was developed on the basis of the sanitation assessment findings and with the coordination of IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre, the Netherlands and NGO Forum Training Cell. The training was first of its nature for the wastewater using farmers in knowing the linkages between hygiene and the use of wastewater.



A partial view of the working session

Training on Agricultural Practices and Fertilizer Management

A training programme on agriculture practices and fertilizer management has been conducted in joint collaboration with the Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) in Rajshahi. The District Training Officer and the Metropolitan Agriculture Officer of the DAE were the key facilitators of the training. A total number of 100 wastewater using farmers participated in the training where the major focused areas were how to reduce the production cost keeping the productivity level high and also minimization of health hazards.