

WASPA NEWSFEED

WASTEWATER AGRICULTURE AND SANITATION FOR POVERTY ALLEVIATION

05TH SEPTEMBER 2008

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WORKSHOP BY NATIONAL CLEANER PRODUCTION CENTER

8TH AND 9TH SEPTEMBER 2008

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**ISB AUDITORIUM
KURUNEGALA**

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A WASTE TRAP TO PREVENT SOILD WASTE....



The main beneficiaries of WASPA Asia project- Kurunegala, are the farmers who use wastewater for paddy cultivation. Wastewater that flows across the city is the only alternative supply of water source for these farmers.

Among the hygiene related issues that was faced by them due to direct contact with wastewater, they were also facing the issue of solid waste, such as pieces of plastic, polithin, tin cans and medical waste such syringes and nee-

dles etc. that flow into their fields with the water.

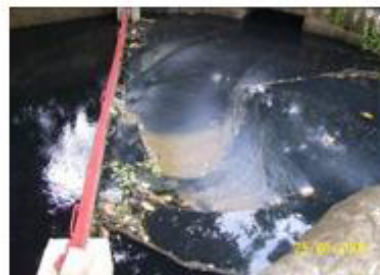
In order to prevent solid waste from entering the fields it was suggested to build a garbage trap, which was decided to be located at beginning of the irrigation canal, that diverts inland just before the wilgoda anicut.

The designing and cost estimation work was undertaken by the Irrigation Engineer of the department of Irrigation, and the WASPA team.

Once the design was finalized by the Department of Irrigation, the construction work of the trap was contracted to a builder by the Wilgoda Anicut Farmers' Organization, and the preliminary preparations of the site was done by a farmers voluntary labour campaign. The construc-

tion work and the setting out of the trap was monitored by the COSI Engineer, and Technical Officer of Irrigation Department and was completed by mid June 2008.

The trap is now functioning well as expected, and the maintenance of it has been undertaken by the Farmers Organization. Now all floating solids waste get trapped here and the farmers get solid waste free water for cultivation.



Solid waste retained from the waste trap

WASPA VISIONS...

THE FOLLOWING VISIONS WERE DEVELOPED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE "WASPA LEARNING ALLIANCE" IN ORDER TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES RELATED TO WASTEWATER AGRICULTURE, SANITATION AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION ISSUES IN KURUNEGALA.

Vision1

To have drainage facilities to collect rain water, and liquid waste, by removing solid waste, proper treatment and disposal, capacity building to manage awareness and regulations.

Vision2

To have adequate access to and use of proper sanitation and water supply and solid waste collections services for all households in WilgodaPura, as well as capacity (knowledge and attitude) on hygienic practices, and maintenance of facilities, in coordination between the community and the Municipal council.

Vision3

To have optimized yield and improved health for the farmers who irrigate from the Wilgoda anicut by access to irrigation water and infrastructure within the standards, and access to knowledge on how to use pesticide and fertilizer in conjunction with low quality irrigation water.

LEARNING ALLIANCE MEETING 24TH JULY 2008 AT ISB AUDITORIUM

The last LA meeting took a somewhat different note as Mr. Stef Smits representing the International Resource Center from the Netherlands (IRC), shared the experiences of the Bangladesh WASPA project with the LA members.

The Participants were —

- Mr. A.Samarakoon - Municipal Commissioner
- Mr. H.M.B.P Herath - Deputy Municipal Commissioner
- Dr. Gayani Dassanayake - CMOH

- Mr.R.D.D.Rajapaksha - PHU/ W
- Mr. D.A.R.L. Gunawardena - PHU/ W
- Mr. C.B. Abeysinghe—Utility manger Teaching Hospital
- Mr. SS Kanakarathnam—Treasurer, CBO Wilgoda
- Mrs. SM Nadawathi - Secretary, CBO Wilgoda
- Mrs. M. Selvanayagan Advisor, CBO Wilgoda
- Mr. M. Vadivel Advisor, CBO Wilgoda
- Ms. H.A Shanthi - Local Gov Officer (Development) MC
- Mr. S.M.B. Dassanayake -

- Municipal Engineer MC
- Mr. R.A.J. Ranasingha - Environment Officer MC
- Mr. D.U. Weerasooriya - CPHI MC
- Mrs. Chandrawathi Navarathna - Treasurer, Wennaruwewa Farmers organization
- Mr. Gunasekara - Vice president, Wenuaruwewa Farmers organization
- Ms. W. Ganga Wamakulasooriya - Dept. Agriculture
- Mr. L.H.M.H. Bandara - PHU MC



A temporary garbage trap in Rajshahi, Bangladesh



Wastewater used agricultural fields in Rajshahi, Bangladesh

LESSONS FROM BANGALADESH AND FOR BANGLADESH

It was agreed that most activities in Bangladesh and in Sri Lanka are somewhat similar while a few differs. Through a group activity the participants identified

- conducting frequent soil and water quality tests
- include majority of the citizens and communities instead of formal institution representation
- active participation of

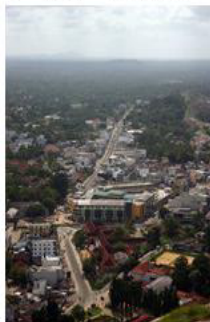
higher education institutions such as universities in project activities as some of the lessons that WASPA Kurunegala can take from Bangladesh project.

- More concern towards managing solid waste as Sri Lanka
- Establishment of a farmers' organization
- Making the farmers realize the gravity of being exposed to waste water directly

- Introduction of cleaner production concept among stakeholders in Sri Lanka
- Making use of Wastewater for crops other than paddy cultivation

The audience also observed that in Sri Lanka it is mostly oils and grease is a major contaminant of the water but in Rajshahi, it is mostly dyes and chemicals that are released from Silk industries.

Let us be
the
SOLUTION
STOP!
Water
Pollution



Kurunegala Town Sky view

SUSTAINABILITY OF THE LEARNING ALLIANCE...

Discussing the sustainability of the LA and the WASPA concept, the participants agreed that LA plays an important role in monitoring the activities and their results while also providing different stakeholders with a coordination mechanism and a platform to meet each other to find mutual solution for issues they face. It can also be brought up and addressed.

Therefore after the project pe-

riod end for the sustainability of the interventions made and that of the LA, the LA should take over the total responsibility of observation, monitoring and analysis of the existing situation and taking action for them. To keep the LA continuing the facilitator must keep up with networking and communication mechanism.

The Kurunegala Municipal council expressed that they are willing to take over the responsibility of the

LA while other members also agreed to it as it was the most suitable institution that has the capacity to call such meetings. It was suggested that who ever that takes over the responsibility needs to be trained and given knowledge on conducting such alliances.

CBO and the FD also expressed that they will make sure that through continuous pressure in all these meeting they will solve their issues with LA.

UPGRADED SANITATION FACILITIES FOR WILGODAPURA

The community of Wilgoda is a urban low income community that lacked sufficient basic sanitary facilities and hygiene behaviors. Majority of the residents were using a set of public latrines, which were damaged and not maintained properly. Pits from the public latrines appear to be located



too close to the canal (>10 m distance). When the latrines are full they were emptied using the MC gully-suckers, but there were complaints that pits are not emptied properly, leading to overflowing, which is unpleasant generating a foul smell and attracts flies.

To address this issue meetings were conducted with the Wilgoda Environment CBO and the Village action Committee (VAC) and it was decided to upgrade the existing

public latrines for the benefit of the community.

The VAC was involved in the purchasing of the material and providing voluntary labour for the construction work as and when required, while the CBO was trained on book keeping and good governance.

Now all 14 toilets are functioning well and each toilet has been assigned to 4 families for the purposes of use and maintenance.



Rehabilitated toilets with Hygiene messages

WORKSHOPS IN AUGUST 2008



Introduction to Home Gardening for residents of Wilgodawatte involved in live fence solid waste management along the irrigation canal

By Mr. Wijesinghe Bandara, AI— Dept. Agriculture
And Ms. Ganga Wamakulasooriya AI— Dept. Agriculture
On 18th August 2008
At Wilgodawatte Community Center



Workshop on Hygiene Promotion for Wastewater Farmers On 28th August 2008
"Hygiene & Public Health" by Dr. Ashoka Padmakumara,

"How to increase the crop yield with wastewater" by Mr. Wijesinghe Bandara, AI— Agrarian Services Center
"Farmers' Organization as an Institutions" by Mr. K. Jinapala, Senior Sociologist, IWMI



Training Programme on Cleaner Production Assessment Methodologies Organized by WASPA

Cont. from Page 1

The Workshop conducted by the National Cleaner Production Center, is scheduled to be held at the ISB, Kurunegala Auditorium on 8th and 9th of September 2008.

This 2 day workshop is being conducted for Municipal Council Health staff and relevant officers, NWP Pradesiya shabha Environment officers, Kurunegala Teaching hospital officers, Health De-

partment Personnel and Environment Officers of DS Offices.

"Concept of cleaner production and synopsis of the assessment methodology" and "Waste cause analysis & cleaner production techniques" will be discussed at the training programme.

All trainees will have to fulfill a

requirement of a field assignment to work in their own field station to receive the certificate by the NCCP.

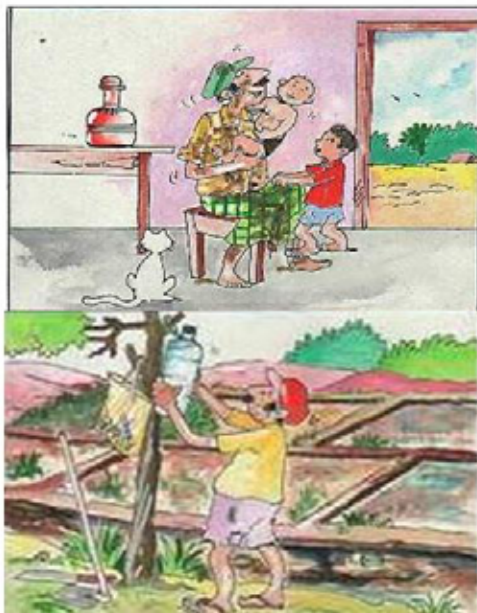
If you wish to participate please call

Keerthi Wijesinghe Senior Project Officer WASPA on

077 3132723



National Cleaner Production Center, Sri Lanka



Strengthening of Farmers Using PHAST Tools

Strengthening of the Farmers through increasing their awareness in essential in order to reduce the risk of Wastewater Farmers and also to induce a behavioral Changes in the lives of the wastewater farmers .

This activities will be conducted in small groups using one of the PHAST Tools, a set of picture cards that will help strengthen the farmers and also give them hygiene messages that will bring about better wastewater related hygiene practices in the farmer communities.

The first group is scheduled to be held on 11th September 2008.

PHAST stands for Participatory Hygiene And Sanitation Transformation, an innovative approach to promoting to hygiene, sanitation and community management of water and sanitation facilities. It aims to empower communities to manage their water and

to control sanitation related diseases by promoting health awareness and understating which intern lead into environmental and behavioral improvements.

Visit WASPA at IWMI web site
<http://www.iwmi.cgiar.org/WASPA/WASPAprojinfo.htm>

Visit WASPA at COSI web site
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WASPA Feedback was created with the intension of keeping the LA members and Stakeholders updated on current activities.

So, anyone who is interested in submitting articles, ideas and photographs related to wastewater, solid waste management and any other relevant issue, Please contact any of the WASPA team members or send your contributions to us .



Partners—

- International Water Management Institution (IWMI)
- International Resource Center for Water and Sanitation (IRC)
- NGO Forum for Drinking Water Supply, Bangladesh (NGOF)
- Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)
- COSI Foundation for Technical Cooperation (COSI)

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