Safe reuse of wastewater and treated excreta in agriculture: Options, assessments and potential barriers for fulfilment

Mahaweli Reach, Kandy, 25th and 26th February 2008

Objectives:

The objective of the workshop is to present and discuss wastewater, greywater and excreta management and agricultural use. The perspectives of the technical and non-technical options for risk reduction will be presented and discussed, as well as the nutritional benefits with the re-use. This will compare with the "WHO Guidelines for the Safe Use of Excreta, Greywater and Wastewater in Agriculture" and with the current management options as related to barriers to disease transmission as well as with different sanitation system solutions, including dry toilets.

Questionnaires for system data collection and exposure assessment will be presented and compared with the current assessments and participatory action plans done.

A participatory forward-aiming discussion will be included and related to different stakeholders, including local government, to assess options for the future and what further knowledge gaps that can be covered during the remaining year of the WASPA project.

Facilitators:

- Prof Thor Axel Stenström, Stockholm Environment Institute, Sweden. WHO Advisor;
- Alexandra Clemett, WASPA Programme Officer, IWMI.
- Keerthi Wijesinghe, WASPA Programme Officer, COSI, Sri Lanka.

Programme:

Revised Times	Presentation/Discussion	Person
	DAY 1 – 25 th February	
20 min	Opening.	KW
(10.00 – 10.20)	Introduction. Aim of the Workshop. Presentation of	
	participants and facilitators	
30 min	Summary of the outcomes and obstacles of the WASPA	KW with input
(10.20 – 10.50)	project in Sri Lanka	from AC
10 min	Short views and comments from participants	KW facilitate
(10.50 – 11.00)		
11.00 – 11.30	BREAK	
60 min	WHO Guidelines for the Safe Use of Excreta, Greywater and	TAS
(11.30 – 12.30)	Wastewater in Agriculture. How does it apply in the local	
	perspective?	
30 min	Questions and views from participants. Local applicability and	KW facilitate
(12.30 – 13.00)	constraints	with TAS
		responding
13.00 – 14.00	BREAK	
60-90 min	Technical and non-technical aspects of treatment and reuse.	TAS

(14.00 – 15.30)	Barriers against disease transmission and management		
,	options for risk reduction.		
15.30 – 15.50	BREAK		
30 min	Group discussion on its applicability in the local context.	KW facilitate	
(15.50 – 16.20)	Possibilities and constraints!		
40 min	Group presentations on solutions and outcomes, with	TAS, AC, KW	
(16.20 – 17.00)	comments from facilitators		
DAY 2 – 26 th February			
40 min	Nutrient value of excreta recirculation. Experiences from other	TAS	
9.00 - 09.40	areas and crop handling options.		
20 min	Discussion and comments from participants on the		
09.40 - 10.00	applicability within the local context		
10.00 – 10.30	BREAK		
90 min	Questionnaire based information gathering on system and	TAS	
10.30 – 12.00	based on exposure of different groups of humans as well as		
	crops.		
	Experiences from other assessment sites in Africa and the		
	Middle East		
30 min	Comments on how this relates to the participatory action plans	AC	
12.00 – 12.30	and assessments done		
12.30 – 13.30	BREAK		
60 min	Group work on the validity of these approaches within the	KW with	
13.30 – 14.30	local context. Suggestions of modifications or adoptions. How	support from	
	could the options discussed in the workshop so far fit into the	AC	
	action plans already developed		
30 min	Presentation of group work		
14.30 – 15.00			
30 min	Discussion on stakeholder opinions and institutional	PJ	
15.00 – 15.30	arrangements. Legal options within the local context.		
	Monitoring and the potential role of stakeholders/alliances in		
	this respect.		
15.30 – 15.50	BREAK		
40 min	The Way Forward. What have we learnt and where is the	TAS, AC,	
15.50 – 16.30	knowledge and management gaps	Participants	
16.30	Closing		