

Global News

2002 Calendar Launched

Walter Stottman, Program Manager, launched the very popular WSP 'cartoon' calendar on 6th Dec, 2001. He gave a short and lively speech and handed over the first copy to Mr S. Banerjee, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation, Government of India.

The South Asia office of the Water and Sanitation Program (WSP) has published a calendar on water and sanitation related themes for the past two years, using cartoons as a medium. The calendars have been very popular. Given the success of the earlier calendars, the WSP decided to produce a truly international calendar in 2002, with cartoons from all of its four regions: Africa, South Asia, East Asia and Latin America. Each of the regional cartoonists has a unique comic perspective, but one common strand runs through all of the sketches: that the status quo is no longer good enough and new approaches must be found.



WSP Council and Program Management Team meetings at the Hague

The second WSP Council meeting was held at the Hague, Netherlands on October 11-12. The meeting was chaired by Jamal Saghir, Director Energy and Water Department. Members attending were: Ian Curtis (DfID), Ingvar Andersson (UNDP), Willem Ankersmit (NEDA), Guy Carrier (CIDA), Jean-Louis de Gerlache (DGIC), Armon Hartmann (SDC), Kurt Mock Jensen (Danida), Inger Stoll (NORAD), Michael Tawanda (NORAD) as an observer, Ketso Gordhan (former CEO Johannesburg City), Sheela Patel (SPARC, Mumbai, India) and Dennis Mwanza (CEO WUP, Abidjan). Members of the WSP Program Management Team (PMT) were also in attendance. The Council endorsed the Program's business plan strategy update, which re-emphasized the need to focus on policy reforms and institutional change in client countries. The WSP's finances were also reviewed and future funding arrangements were discussed. One of the main recommendations of the Council was that the Program develop a long term vision with a link to the International Development Goals. This would

be presented at the next WSP Council, to be hosted by Danida at Copenhagen in June 2002. Immediately following the Council meeting, the WSP PMT held a 2- day meeting at the Hague on October 13 and 14. In attendance were the Program Manager, regional and global thematic team leaders, and the chief financial officer. For more information contact info@wsp.org

Africa

Restructuring WSP-AF to Increase Efficiency

Prior to the beginning of a new funding cycle with many of its funding partners, the Program in Africa is restructuring its resources to create a more flexible and strategic platform for its operations. The objective of this restructuring exercise is to focus our work agenda, reduce fixed costs, refresh the skill base and improve cost efficiency. Staff changes and cost reduction measures have been announced.

For more information, contact Piers Cross, Regional Team Leader at wspaf@worldbank.org.

Building Partnerships to Serve the Urban Poor Better

Over 120 sector specialists took part in a three-day workshop in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire on 'Building partnerships to serve the urban poor in water and sanitation'. The workshop marked the end of an applied research and dissemination project on WSS service to the urban poor in Africa, funded by the European Commission. The workshop was co-organized by the Water Utilities Partnership for Capacity-Building in Africa (WUP) and WSP and hosted by the water utility SODECI and Ministry of Infrastructure.

Participants, including representatives from 20 African water and sanitation utilities examined the challenge of closing the gap between the declining percentage of urban households which are connected to their networks and the growing number of unserved households left to depend on more costly and often unsafe and less convenient alternatives. The workshop also included presentations and group work on the role of innovation and appropriate standards in meeting the needs of the poor; appropriate tariff structures and subsidies; customer outreach; and sector reforms with emphasis on private sector and the urban poor.

Long considered a peripheral objective, serving the urban poor, is now recognized as a strategic goal and a matter of long term survival for utilities confronted with the prospect of playing an increasingly marginal role in sprawling and dysfunctional cities. While the role of utilities is central, they cannot, succeed on their own. The role played by small-scale independent providers (SSIPs) is significant and partnerships with these and other actors should be established or strengthened.

Of fundamental importance is the role that Governments play in creating a suitable framework for water and sanitation services to the urban poor. This includes ensuring that 'progressive' tariff structures don't in fact increase the cost to the poor, and that public private partnerships are designed with the poor in mind.

For more information, contact Mukami Kariuki, Senior Water and Sanitation Specialist at wspaf@worldbank.org.

The First International Ecosan Conference in China

The WSP co-sponsored the first International Conference on Ecological Sanitation in Nanning, China together with Sida, UNICEF and the Jiusan Society. Neither conventional

sewerage systems nor traditional sanitation options have shown practical, environmentally-sound solutions at scale in developing countries and the world - rich and poor - faces a challenge to radically overhaul policies and practices associated with water, sanitation and waste management. The conference brought together over 300 participants (including WSP staff, partners and clients) to review the state of technical research into alternative sanitation solutions which respect ecological integrity, conserve freshwater, recycle nutrients for agricultural production and promote healthy living.

The depth and quality of the research efforts presented at the conference brought ecological sanitation to a new threshold of credibility and launched the topic into mainstream thinking. The conference presented encouraging research and pilot project experience, concluding that further research into health, economics and financing, institutional implications and market development is needed. Particular attention was drawn to potential applications in urban and peri-urban areas. WSP-AF will be following up the conference by supporting the analysis of further pilot projects in Africa and seeking to include ecological sanitation options within the national sanitation policies.

For more information, contact Lukman Salifu, Water and Sanitation Specialist or Andreas Knapp at wspaf@worldbank.org.

International Small Towns WSS Management Conference, Addis Ababa

In 1999, the World Bank's Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Thematic Group (RWSTG), in collaboration with WSP, launched a global small towns initiative to study and document innovative management models that provide good quality, affordable services that are sustainable and can be expanded to meet demand. Other institutions and donors that collaborated with this initiative included French Cooperation, pS-Eau and GTZ.

In Africa, case studies were carried out in Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mauritania, Nigeria, Kenya, Ethiopia, Uganda to learn lessons from real world experience, documenting projects being implemented or piloted by the World Bank and other donors, preparing issues papers (on subjects like management models, financing options, tariff setting, institutional change, and sanitation) and developing 'tools of the trade' (like model contracts, specifications for billing software, options for promoting household connections, and methods for cost effective design). A conference was also organized in Nouakchott, Mauritania with over 100 participants from across Africa.

To continue sector dialogue and assist the countries in implementation of sector reforms in the management of water and sanitation services in small towns and multi village schemes, an International Conference on 'Water and Sanitation Services in Small Towns and Multi Village Schemes' is being organized jointly by the Federal Government of Ethiopia, the World Bank and WSP. The Ethiopian Government will play host to the conference planned for May 28-31, 2002 in Addis Ababa.

For more information, contact Annie Manou-Savina, Senior Community Development Specialist at wspaf@worldbank.org.

Rolling out the Methodology for Participatory Assessment in Africa

A 14-day regional training workshop held in October 2001 in Dar es Salaam brought together 36 trainees, drawn from Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. This is the first of two training workshops planned by WSP-AF to roll out the MPA in Africa. This practical approach to gender mainstreaming was developed by the Participatory Learning and Action (PLA) initiative comprising the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council Working Group, WSP and IRC (International Water and Sanitation Center). Hosted by the Government of Tanzania, trainees' participation was supported by many of the WSP's partners, including CIDA,

Danida, Sida, UNESCO, and UNICEF. Trainees return to their countries with country action plans to roll out MPA at national level.

For more information, contact Rose Lidonde, Community Development Specialist at wspaf@worldbank.org.

South Asia

Private Sector Participation in Urban Water and Sanitation Services: Managing the Process and Regulating the Sector National Workshop

The Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation, Government of India, organized a two-day workshop to help define the optimal arrangements for managing the process and for regulating relations between consumers and suppliers of WSS. The workshop was in support of the intentions of several states, municipalities and urban local governments to attract private operators and investors to improve urban water and sanitation services (UWSS). This effort was supported by the Water and Sanitation Program-South Asia, the World Bank Institute (WBI) and the Public-Private Infrastructure Advisory Facility (PPIAF). The workshop launched the Ministry's preparation of a set of best practice guidelines for attracting private sector participation (PSP) in UWSS. The Workshop benefited from presentations by professionals engaged in sector reform in India and elsewhere, persons who have structured privatization transactions, regulators and private operators. (LINK TO AGENDA). Participants included decision-makers from national, state and urban bodies, and representatives from consumer groups and related sectors providing network services. It is expected that a first draft of these guidelines will be available in January and finalized by March 2002.

The debate focused on three key parameters: market structure, regulatory regime and political accountability. Drawing on international best practices, deliberations at the Workshop helped gain an insight pertaining to key questions for the Indian context in areas such as:

- Pre-PSP Structuring
- Privatization Process
- Economic regulation
- Options for large cities
- Solutions for Small Towns

For more information, contact Salman Zaheer, Lead Utilities Specialist at wspas@worldbank.org.

Operational manuals for local government finalized

WSP-SA in Pakistan has supported the government in its decentralization initiative by institutionalizing best practices for the sector. As part of this work WSP-SA has been working with the Government of Pakistan on four crucial aspects of the new system: legal, transition, operational, and capacity issues. On the basis of analytical and field work, WSP-SA has provided advice to the government on these aspects and has finalized three operational manuals for the Tehsil Municipal Administration, the new local government level responsible for water and sanitation provision. These manuals with widespread applicability provide the direction in which rules of business, codes, and procedures within the government need to be changed to incorporate, among other practices, participatory

planning, sharing of responsibilities between the public and civil society sectors and inclusion of the private sector in service management. WSP-SA has also worked closely with the World Bank in the design of the first, of the new generation of, community infrastructure projects.

For more information, contact Raja Rehan Arshad, Team Leader (Pakistan) or Sara Fatima Azfar, Urban Environmental Specialist at wsp@worldbank.org.

Watsan Bazaar 2001

Decades of development in water and sanitation sector in Bangladesh have produced enviable results. The sector is replete with a rich variety of experiences, some of which qualify as examples of global best practices. A large number of stakeholders are actively involved in policy, operations, R&D, institutional management and monitoring functions. However, many success stories remain unnoticed or undocumented, and are not disseminated or replicated. Mutual sharing of knowledge is, therefore, important to improve sectoral performance. The WATSAN Bazaar held on October 29, 2001 was organized jointly by WSP Bangladesh and Danida to provide this opportunity.

Twenty-three organizations set up information booths to project their activities or programs, flagship projects and best practices. Over 40 participants representing diverse groups of stakeholders, policy makers and development partners went about gathering information from the booths or sat in small groups to brainstorm and select key issues the sector faces and identified actions required to address the issues. The issues were clustered into the following eight themes: Environmental Sanitation, Services for the Poor, Monitoring and Surveillance, Institutional Arrangements, Hygiene Promotion and Communication, Arsenic in Groundwater, Technology Options including piped water supply, and Gender.

The plan of action recommended in the Bazaar will be formally taken up by the National Forum as part of Governments agenda for improving access to water and sanitation. WSP-SA will play an important role to support the Government and other stakeholders to achieve the objectives set in the plan of action, key ones include decentralized institutional arrangements and community based piped water supply, scaling up sanitation through local governments, and implementing a city wide model for Solid Waste Management.



For more information, contact Shafiul Azam Ahmed, Water & Sanitation Specialist or Khawaja M. Minnatullah, Senior Water and Sanitation Specialist at wsp@worldbank.org.

Banki Piped Water Supply Project Revisited

Three experimental community piped water supply projects in Uttar Pradesh, India were initiated in 1963 by the Planning, Research, and Action Institute (now PRAD), Lucknow, and implemented with assistance from UNICEF / WHO, and the State Government. A 1975 paper (Safe Water in Rural Areas: An Experiment in Promoting Community Participation by K. K. Misra in International Journal of Health Education, 18: 53-59, 1975(?)) documented the success of one of these projects, the Banki Piped Water Scheme. In a field visit on October 10, 2001, it was determined that the Banki project operated until 1994. Power supply problems, beginning in 1975, appear to have led to the scheme's eventual collapse. Based on information in the 1975 paper, it is evident that the objectives of these three schemes and their management models were very similar to those of numerous similar schemes that are currently being implemented by Government of India. These schemes provided for capital contribution by the sponsor and community responsibility for operations and maintenance.

The scheme had two key objectives:

- To develop a piped water scheme where the community has ownership and manages the scheme independently.
- To demonstrate the health benefits of piped water schemes.

WSP is making a detailed study of all the three schemes. It is possible that these would have enough variety to make for an interesting study and provide some useful lessons. The study aims to capture the key factors leading to the projects partial success and eventual failure in order to inform the current 'demand-responsive' projects being implemented by GOI and others. Lessons from these projects, particularly the institutional and financial aspects, can assist policy makers and designers better develop sustainable RWS projects. For more information, contact Vivek Srivastava, Team Leader (India) or Mike Webster, Rural Development Specialist at wspsa@worldbank.org.

International Conference on Water for Rural and Urban India

India is confronted with a great challenge of providing its citizens with increased access to efficient, sustainable water and sanitation services. There is a need for India to develop mechanisms to allocate scarce water resources between competing uses. Methods like groundwater recharge, creation of surface water storages, rainwater harvesting etc need to be vigorously implemented. Rational tariffs, commercialization or privatization of water supply bodies and reforms of financing system are also strongly recommended. To address and deliberate on these issues, the Confederation of Indian Industries in association with Water and Sanitation Program-South Asia, World Bank Institute, Public - Private Infrastructure Advisory Facility and Change Management Forum organized a two-day International Conference on 18th and 19th September in New Delhi. For more information, contact Pushpa Pathak, Urban Specialist at wspsa@worldbank.org.

Staff News

Global

Agnieszka Grudzinska will be leaving the Program after three years, to join ECA as a Country Program Coordinator for Russia.

Africa

Antoine Sendama leaves WSP-AF after serving as the Country Sector Advisor in Rwanda. He takes on an appointment with the Nile Basin Initiative in Uganda.

Brazille Musumba leaves WSP-AF as the Regional Communications Officer based in our Nairobi office. He has enrolled for a MPhil degree program in human ecology at the Free University of Brussels (VUB).

Paulo Oscar Monteiro is leaving WSP-AF's staff complement but will continue to be a close ally in the sector in Mozambique.

Rose Lidonde leaves WSP-AF after a decade of service on issues related to gender, participation and hygiene. WSP-AF hopes to continue to collaborate with her on further development of African hygiene networks in Africa.

Terry Mwangi is leaving the Program after 17 years service, the latter years devoted to managing WSP-AF's, highly efficient and well-used library.

Tore Lium, WSP-AF's staff member in Ethiopia, retires after almost 8 years of service due to poor health. We wish him a speedy recovery as he returns home to Norway.

WSP-AF wishes all the above staff kwaheri and all the best in their future endeavors.

South Asia

Obituary

A loyal and dedicated staff of the Bangladesh team, Shahjahan passed away after complications from a heart operation. Shahjahan had been the senior driver for 12 years in the Bangladesh Country Office. Prior to joining the WSP, he had worked with the Bank resident mission for 5 years. We will miss Shahjahan.

New Learning Products

Africa

Sector Reform: Water Supply and Sanitation in Africa, Kampala Statement, November 2001

Andean Region

An Anthropological view of sanitation issues in rural Bolivia. A Summary

Sistemas Condominiales de agua y alcantarillado: Evaluacion de Impacto

El Alto Condominial Pilot Project Impact Assessment. A Summary

Sistemas Condominiales de agua y alcantarillado. Costos de implementación del modelo.

Evaluación Económica Financiera, PPEA

Menor costo con mayor beneficio. Servicios de agua y alcantarillado para familias de bajos ingresos. Lecciones del PPEA

NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS

Following the success of its portal for the World Summit, the BPD is happy to announce the launch of its portal for the Kyoto Third World Water Forum:

<http://www.bpd-waterandsanitation.org/english/kyotoportal.htm>

Dealing with tri-sector partnerships (public, private and civil society) to bring water and sanitation to the poor, Building Partnerships for Development Water and Sanitation will be heavily engaged in encouraging dialogue at Kyoto and helping to build on the commitments made at Johannesburg.

The newly-launched BPD Kyoto portal makes two main contributions to the pre-Forum debate over water and sanitation for the poor. First, it provides links to other resources on the Third World Water Forum and to initiatives that are particularly active in the run-up to Kyoto. It also provides a set of short notes that elaborate the benefits (and risks) of being in partnership for the public, private and NGO sectors. Visitors to the portal may also find out more about becoming a member of BPD in Phase II, the new project-support and other activities and join the BPD mailing list.

For more information contact, David Jones at info@bpd-waterandsanitation.org