Global Thematic Consultation on Water: Sub-consultation on wastewater management and water quality

Posted by jonpar - 14 Jan 2013 11:44

Dear IWA members and colleagues from partner organisations,

IWA is supporting the Global Thematic Consultation on Water in relation to the formulation of the proposed target related to 'wastewater management and water quality'. The other two discussion streams related to a) water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and b) water resource management.

The specific aims of this sub-consultation which will take place over the next 5 weeks are to :

1) Stimulate a wide range of global discussions with citizens, governments, civil society, academia, private sector, UN agencies among others on wastewater management and water quality related priority issues that need to be reflected in the future post-2015 goals and targets.

2) Analyse and share experiences from the present MDGs including those on water and sanitation and bring out evidence on progress and drawbacks from their implementation as well as evidence to support the necessary inclusion of wastewater management in the future development agenda.

3) Examine policy options and responses for wastewater management at local, national and international level and how these options might be deployed to inform the post-2015 agenda.

4)Suggest practical approaches to the formulation of objectives, measures, and monitoring processes for inclusion in future goals

The sub-consultation will take place around the following topics :

Week 1 - 14-20th Jan : Wastewater in an urbanizing world (led by UN-Habitat)

Week 2 - 21-27th Jan : Impact of wastewater on oceans - The nitrogen and phosphorous challenge (led by UNEP)

Week 3 - 28th Jan -3rd Feb : Wastewater reuse - development and innovation (led by IWA)

Week 4 - 4th -10th Feb : Collecting and treating urban water after use (led by Aquafed)

Week 5- 11 - 17th Feb : Economic opportunities in wastewater (Led by Aquafed/OECD)

I would encourage some discussion between members of different working groups to have some preliminary discussion on the SusSanA forum before the lead of the WG makes a contribution in behalf of the WG. I envisage that this would be more likely to have more influence into the consultation than many submissions as individuals.

Sign up, contribute to the discussion and have your voice heard at :

www.worldwewant2015.org/water/wastewater

Jonathan Parkinson

IWA Urban Sanitation Initiative Co-ordinator and Lead of SuSanA WG on Finance and Econonics

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Re: Thematic Consultation on Water in the post-2015 development agenda

Posted by envaros - 27 Jan 2013 09:13

Dear Dorothee et al,

For sure, the component of capacity building of local communities in WASH is very critical right from the onset (planning) to the operationalisation of the water point (borehole).

For instance in Zambia, a number of boreholes in rural areas are absolate because the community have lack capacity to maintain them or they think that it is the responsibility of Government to come and repair them. In addition, low participation and involvement by the local communities in WASH reduces their sense of ownership of such facilities. The above problems have been compounded by the lack of understanding of the inter-relationship between safe water, sanitation, personal hygiene and health.

Therefore, the aspect of capacity building in WASH should be enshrined in the upcoming Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

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Re: Global Thematic Consultation on Water: Sub-consultation on wastewater management and water quality

Posted by dorothee.spuhler - 29 Jan 2013 08:10

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Dear Stephen and all

Many thanks for your feedback – Please go ahead to suggest a rewording of the previous version of the statement!

Given the timing, I would like to motivate ourselves to post this or other statements this week:

For #1 (WASH):

Week 3 : WASH and Governance: People, Power and Politics (28 Jan. – 4 Feb.)

For #3 (Wastewater management and water quality):

Week 3: Wastewater reuse-development, innovation (28 Jan.-3 Feb.)

Dorothee

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Re: Global Thematic Consultation on Water: Sub-consultation on wastewater management and water quality

Posted by smecca - 01 Feb 2013 14:47

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Dorothee:

I offer the following changes to the last two sections of the draft statement.

The Susana platform in general and the Working Group 1 on Capacity Development in particular aims to contribute to this need by:

- further developing the global network to strategically accelerate and influence the capacity development process in the sanitation sector.

- further collecting, combining and sharing available resources from within the network

- continue supporting curricula development and other initiatives aimeding at enhancing the ability of

academics and professionals across disciplines to contribute to the mainstreaming and up-scaling of sustainable sanitation

- keep oncontinue functioning as a focal point and networking opportunity for anyone or any organisation which seeks to become active in capacity development for sustainable sanitation

- further using open-source approaches for sharing of course materials and other reources and optimising the use of the opportunities offered nowadays by the internet for capacity development.

The Working Group wants to stress on the post 2015 agenda the following:

1 – to adopt to sanitation a multi-disciplinary and trans-sectrooral approach with attention to the various social, political and institutional, environmental, technical and financial dimensions.

2 1 - to introduce at all levels with all key stakeholders the need for gathering information, in the concept of Life Long Learning - never stop informing yourselfstaying informed. Once there is a need, the discussion with the information suppliers (researchers, practitioners and others bound in learning alliances such as Susana) will follow.

3 – When looking into new technologies or different applications of existing ones, talking to knowledge networks can give any company, organisation and government looking for a sanitation solution a substantial head start. This should therefore be strongly encouraged, and the existence of the networks should be widely promoted so that people know where to turn to. IWA could play a strong role as intermediary.

4 to keep focusing on sanitation provision as a chain, not on a sanitation interface solely – from the user interface, collection, treatment, reuse and safe disposal of sanitation products.. Closely related to that is the strong recommendation to focus on waste as a resource.

5 to remain focused on multiple approaches to scale-up and capacity building including those that simultaneously enhance rural development by empowering local entrepreneurs to effect proven sustainable sanitation technologies at the community level.

..Steve

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Re: Global Thematic Consultation on Water: Sub-consultation on wastewater management and water quality

Posted by dorothee.spuhler - 02 Feb 2013 14:35

Thank you Steve!

I then suggest to post this statement tomorrow 3. Feb into the 2 posts:

For #1 (WASH):

Week 3 : WASH and Governance: People, Power and Politics (28 Jan. – 4 Feb.)

For #3 (Wastewater management and water quality):

Week 3: Wastewater reuse-development, innovation (28 Jan.-3 Feb.)

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The **Sustainable Sanitation Alliance (SuSanA)** is a network of organisations that share a common vision on sustainable sanitation. Since 2007, SuSanA has served as a platform for exchange, coordination and policy dialogue and a catalyst for sustainable sanitation. Working Group 1 concentrates on capacity development, which has been widely recognised as a prerequisite for the achievement of the MDGs.

For the post 2015 agenda this Working Groups want to stress the importance of further capacity building at all levels.

Sanitation protects and promotes human health by maintaining a clean environment and breaking the cycle of disease. Sustainable sanitation is far more than toilet availability. Toilets are part of a system that should be economically viable, socially acceptable, and technically and institutionally appropriate. Moreover, sustainable sanitation should also protect the environment and natural resources. This definition results in **five key criteria for sustainable sanitation** (SuSanA, 2008): a) protection of human health; b) protection of the environment and natural resources (including water resources, ecosystems, fuel wood etc.); c) viable technologies and operations; d) financial and economic sustainability; and e) socio-cultural acceptability and institutional appropriateness.

In the field of sustainable sanitation, **capacity development** is particularly important due to system complexity and the various sectors and authority levels involved: Governments and decision makers need to be aware of the importance of sanitation and the benefits of sustainable sanitation in order to show leadership and allocate the resources necessary. Leadership involves coordinating different governmental and non-governmental institutions to create an enabling environment across sectors - health, infrastructure, water, environment, agriculture, and education. Institutions and organisations, local governments, planners and the private sector need technical and managerial capacities in order to implement sustainable sanitation within allocated resources. At the same time, the civil society needs to show a demand for sustainable sanitation to ensure that sanitation is put on the local political agenda and to activate the private sector to respond to this demand.

The Susana platform in general and the Working Group 1 on Capacity Development in particular aims to contribute to this need by:

- further developing the global network to strategically accelerate and influence the capacity development process in the sanitation sector.
- further collecting, combining and sharing available resources from within the network
- continue supporting curricula development and other initiatives aimed at enhancing the ability of academics and professionals across disciplines to contribute to the mainstreaming and up-scaling of sustainable sanitation
- continue functioning as a focal point and networking opportunity for anyone or any organisation which seeks to become active in capacity development for sustainable sanitation
- further using open-source approaches for sharing course materials and other reources and

optimising the use of the opportunities offered nowadays by the internet for capacity development.

The Working Group wants to stress on the post 2015 agenda the following:

- 1 – to adopt to sanitation a multi-disciplinary and trans-sectoral approach with attention to the various social, political and institutional, environmental, technical and financial dimensions.
- 2 - to introduce at all levels with all key stakeholders the need for staying informed. Once there is a need, the discussion with the information suppliers (researchers, practitioners and others bound in learning alliances such as Susana) will follow.
- 3 – When looking into new technologies or different applications of existing ones, talking to knowledge networks can give any company, organisation and government looking for a sanitation solution a substantial head start. This should therefore be strongly encouraged, and the existence of the networks should be widely promoted so that people know where to turn to. IWA could play a strong role as intermediary.
- 4 – to keep focusing on sanitation provision as a chain,– from the user interface, collection, treatment, reuse and safe disposal of sanitation products.. Closely related to that is the strong recommendation to focus on waste as a resource.
- 5 – to remain focused on multiple approaches to scale-up and capacity building including those that simultaneously enhance rural development by empowering local entrepreneurs to effect proven sustainable sanitation technologies at the community level.

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Re: Global Thematic Consultation on Water: Sub-consultation on wastewater management and water quality

Posted by dorothee.spuhler - 03 Feb 2013 23:15

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Dear all

I have now posted this statement on behalf of the Working Group 1:

www.worldwewant2015.org/node/303872

www.worldwewant2015.org/node/303884

Best regards

Dorothee

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