
SDC WATER NEWS - ISSUE N°18, October 2012

YOUR NEWSLETTER - LINKING YOU 4 TIMES A YEAR WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES AND THE SECTOR

This is the electronic news bulletin of SDC's Section Global Programme Water Initiatives sent out to Swiss international cooperation people we believe are involved or interested in water related aspects. This medium lives through interaction and active involvement: you are invited to send – at any time – your contributions, feedbacks, as well as subscription issues to manuel.thurnhofer@deza.admin.ch. The news team is grateful for any input received.

Your SDC WATER NEWS editorial team: [François Münger](#) / [Christian Eggs](#) / [Manuel Thurnhofer](#) / [Johan Gely](#) / [Roger Schmid](#) / [André Olschewski](#) / [Florian Klingel](#) / [Anne Sophie Aublet](#) / [Chris Morger](#) and various contributing collaborators from abroad.



BREAKING NEWS

New GWP Chair appointed: Dr Ursula Schaefer-Preuss

Dr. Schaefer-Preuss is an economist who has been engaged in the field of development policy for more than 35 years. Her latest assignment was as Vice President of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in Manila for Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development. Prior to joining ADB, Dr. Schaefer-Preuss was Director General of Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and held posts as Alternate Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank, in the Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations in New York, and the German Embassy in Khartoum, Sudan. [GWP website- news](#)

SWA – update

Sanitation and Water for All (SWA) is a global partnership between developing countries, donors, multi-lateral agencies, civil society and other development partners working together to achieve universal and sustainable access to sanitation and drinking water, with an immediate focus on achieving the MDG Goals in the most off-track countries (see also <http://www.sanitationandwaterforall.org/aboutswa.html>). It has been supported by SDC from the beginning as a global advocacy mechanism in addition to the monitoring and analysis mechanism (JMP, GLASS). The High Level Meeting (HLM) of SWA aims to address the lag in implementing broader commitments by fostering a discussion on the bottlenecks to progress. This leads governments and donors to identify and state the specific actions which will be undertaken, rather than make new or different broad commitments. The Partnership has clearly prioritized monitoring of commitments and the available reports so far are the following: i) a summary of the commitments made at the 2010 HLM, ii) an update on the implementation status of 2010 HLM Commitments after one year (2011 report) and iii) a Summary of the commitments made at the 2012 HLM.

Further key actions which the SWA Secretariat is leading on, along with timeframes, are:

1. An update on the implementation status of 2010 HLM Commitments after two years (2012 report);
2. The role of SWA for an efficient monitoring and reporting on HLM commitments: avoiding doing a parallel monitoring system while ensuring accountability aspects. This issue will be broadly discussed at the GLASS evaluation as well as at the November SWA Partnership meeting.
3. Take stock of the advocacy and policy influencing work of SWA during the forthcoming SWA partner meeting in Johannesburg.

For further information, please contact johan.gely@deza.admin.ch.

WSSCC announces new Executive Director

Mr Chris Williams, a development practitioner with over 25 years of experience in international organizations in Africa, Asia and the Americas and with a training in economics and sociology, will take up offices as the next Executive Director of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) in October 2012. [WSSCC's announcement](#)

The Swiss Water Partnership (SWP): feedback on the on-going process of drafting the action plan 2012-2013

At the beginning of its mandate in May 2012, the SWP secretariat organized personal bilateral meetings with a majority of members in order to get to know them and to collect their ideas on the strategic orientation of the platform and the activities to be conducted. The results of these interviews were shared with all members at the SWP member meeting in June 26th, and the activities prioritised. Involving the members in drafting the action plan is a crucial element in the process of creating ownership; this is expected to motivate the members to take a leadership role on certain actions and thus increase the impact of the platform.

The action plan aims at describing the main activities that will be conducted by the Swiss Water Partnership in 2012 and 2013, highlighting how these activities will contribute to the SWP objectives, who will be involved and when these activities will be planned and conducted. The action plan has been drafted and sent to all members; it will be completed and validated in November by the steering board. Significant activities have been planned, such as networking aperitifs, trade fair, facilitation of partnerships, participation to international events (World Water Summit Abu Dhabi, World Water Week Stockholm) and national event (International Year of Water Cooperation). A new website will be available by the end of November 2012 at <http://www.swisswaterpartnership.ch/>

For further information, please contact SWP secretariat: swp@helvetas.org.

CURRENT TOPICS

Swiss researchers won a prize for their new “diversion toilet”

The interdisciplinary team of Swiss aquatic researchers (EAWAG) and designers from Austria (EOOS) won with their “Diversion toilet” a special recognition award at the “Re-invent the Toilet” competition sponsored by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The new toilet model will provide a sanitary solution that ensures human dignity and hygiene, while also being environment-friendly and economically feasible. All for less than five Cents per day and person!

For further information, please refer to http://www.sdc-water.ch/en/Home/News/News_Detail?itemID=9769

In search of a “Blue Health Centres” concept

Against widely held beliefs, many health centres in developing countries do not have adequate WASH facilities. Also the WASH-related MDG targets have typically been formulated for the household level whereas other facilities (e.g. education and health) where people need WASH have been excluded, hence aren't much on the radar screen of the development community and governments. When conceptualizing WASH in health centres we should integrate the aspects of basic services provision (like in communities) and of health facilities' specificities:

- Regarding the basic WASH services in a health centre setting, the concept should not only address the needs of the health staff and the patients themselves, but also those of assisting family members. Further it can be anticipated that “centralized” services management options and related capacity building have a better chance to succeed than in dispersed settlements.
- Regarding the specificities of WASH in health centres, the management of hazardous wastes is a prominent one. Adequate incinerators are lacking or not operational, and often the (small quantities of) hazardous wastes are mixed with other wastes. Furthermore the issue of peoples' disabilities, more frequently encountered here than in other settings, needs to be addressed, as WASH facilities are rarely designed for physically challenged people. Finally health facilities largely convey health messages, but not basic hygiene messages, although health-care settings would be an ideal place for linking both types of messages – addressed to the patients/visitors and the health care staff.

A “Blue Health Center” concept should therefore address water supply (water quality, quantity and access), excreta disposal, drainage, hygiene promotion and health-care (hazardous) waste management, without ignoring cleaning and laundry, food storage and preparation, control of vector-borne disease, and eventually building design (including ventilation), construction and management. For furthering such a concept, a RésEAU e-discussion jointly held with SDC's Health Network is proposed for the period between 19 of November and 7 of December 2012.

For further information, please contact manuel.thurnhofer@deza.admin.ch

INSTITUTIONAL ISSUES

Message on Switzerland's International Cooperation 2013-2016

After the National Council, the Council of States adopted the Message on Switzerland's International Cooperation for 2013–2016 on Tuesday, 11 September 2012. It confirmed thus the decision taken last year to increase the Swiss Official Development Assistance to 0.5% of the Gross National Product. With a budget of 11.35 billion CHF, the principal objective of development cooperation remains poverty reduction, however in the future, Switzerland plans to work more closely in fragile contexts and to contribute to overcoming

global challenges which seriously worsen the prospects of poor countries. For SDC's proposed credit, water is one of the 9 themes retained to achieve its goal, especially in order to guarantee access to resources and essential services for all. *For further information, see the news [here](#).*

Post-2015 processes in the water sector

The reflections on a post-2015 framework have started in order to timely reach international consensus on potentially new Global Development Goals. The 2010 MDG Summit requested the UN Secretary-General (SG) to launch a consultative process on such a follow-up framework. Last year, a UN System Task Team was established, co-led by UNDP and UNDESA (UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs), to coordinate preparations for beyond 2015 (incl. a roadmap) and to support the work of a High-level Panel that the SG has subsequently appointed in July 2012 to advise on the post-2015 agenda. In Sept. 2013, the international debate will be launched at a General Assembly High-level Meeting that will review progress on the MDGs and map out a forward looking agenda. The post-2015 agenda will have to reflect new development challenges and will also be linked to the outcome of "Rio+20", in regard to the elaboration of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Switzerland advocates the convergence of the SDG-agenda with the post-MDG-agenda. Based on a decision of the Federal Council SDC is responsible to steer and lead the post-2015 process at national and represent the Swiss position at international level.

In the water sector, on the one hand the Joint Monitoring Program (JMP) has taken the lead and initiated in May 2011 a process to identify **post-2015 goals, targets and indicators on WASH** (www.wssinfo.org/post-2015-monitoring/overview), and on the other hand UN Water has started recently a process to formulate a **global water goal** to be part of the SDGs. In a workshop held on Sept. 19, 2012, SDC's Global Program Water Initiatives (WIs) has formulated its position and feedback regarding the "*Draft Long List of Goal, Target and Indicator Options for Future Global Monitoring of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene*" put under consultation by the JMP. The workshop further allowed developing a post-2015 processes strategy and action plan for WIs aimed at: i) making high level representatives aware of the issues regarding a global water goal and support them in their undertakings according to their needs, ii) ensuring that water is a specific theme of the **country level consultations** under the leadership of the UN Development Group-UNDG (chaired by UNDP) and influencing them where SDC has a voice in the national water sector, iii) fostering a strong Swiss (and like-minded) voice on water in post-2015 processes, and iv) contributing to the process so that "bankable" WASH targets with corresponding indicators incorporating human rights principles are set and are congruent with the SDG on WASH/Water. Following the workshop WI drafted an outline proposal for the global water goal (incl. WASH, wastewater and water resources management sub-goals) with the aim to further stimulate the debate within UN Water and through other intergovernmental sector platforms.

Beyond the fifty, multi-stakeholder country level consultations, the "global conversation" on a new post-2015 development framework will include eleven **global thematic consultations**. Water and energy have been recently added to the initial list of nine thematic consultations. The thematic consultation on water is co-led by UN Water, UNDESA and UNICEF with the support of the Netherlands and Switzerland, and is going to take place between the end of 2012 and March 2013. The participatory bottom-up consultation seeks to bring together views and perspectives from a broad range of stakeholders, on the basis of their knowledge and experiences representing different countries, regions and institutional perspectives. Based on framing papers on key water-related topics a sequential on-line dialogue will be organized and the consultation is proposed to end with a final high level meeting in conjunction with the World Water Day celebrations on 22 of March 2013. A synthesis report of the thematic consultation shall provide an assessment on progress and lessons to date and recommendations on how water should be reflected in the development agenda after 2015. This document will feed into the overall synthesis that includes all thematic areas, as well as the country consultations.

The Global Program Water Initiatives invites all colleagues with a mandate in the water sector to pro-actively contact their UN representations and sector round tables in the field for updated information, follow up of developments and opportunities in taking part in these thematic and country level consultations. It must be our common interest to advocate for a global water goal and represent our sector with a strong voice in all fora related to the post-2015 development agenda.

For further information contact manuel.thurnhofer@deza.admin.ch.

HEADQUARTER FLAGSHIP ACTIVITIES

2nd UN-Water GLAAS Evaluation Meeting held in Bern

50 participants from UN Agencies, NGOs, and governments' agencies from 10 countries gathered 2nd/3rd Oct. 2012 in Bern to attend the GLAAS (UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-water) evaluation meeting. The GLAAS monitors the inputs, processes and their outputs (e.g. policies, investments, human resources) that influence the provision and sustainability of drinking-water, sanitation and hygiene systems and services. Following publication of a proof-of-concept report in 2008,

GLAAS published two full reports in 2010 and 2012 – the latter covering 74 countries and 24 external support agencies. GLAAS is generally acknowledged as having gained itself a specific niche within the global WASH monitoring landscape. It is an important tool for the SDC Global Program Water Initiatives as it is part of an important and logical sequence of work/partnership which combine the global water and sanitation data acquisition (Joint Monitoring Program – JMP), the data analyse/assessment (GLAAS) and the sector global advocacy (Sanitation and Water for All – SWA). The main meeting outcomes are that:

- GLASS is a low cost and high quality global monitoring product and process.
- GLASS allows us to unify forces to lobby for a water goal in the Post 2015 goals.
- Water Quality should be included in the future water goals and reported by JMP and GLAAS.
- We should strengthen alignment with national monitoring systems.
- We need to improve links with other global, regional and national monitoring systems.
- The presence of new actors (from emerging states) should be reinforced in the future.

For further information see [here](#) or contact johan.gely@deza.admin.ch.

International Year of Water Cooperation (IYWC) - 2013

The UN General Assembly has declared that 2013 will be the International Year of Water Cooperation. National activities are steered by the Water Group of the Interdepartmental Platform for Sustainable Development (IDANE) of the Swiss Government (group chaired by SDC) and are composed of a national component coordinated by the FOEN (Federal Office of Environment) and an international component coordinated by SDC. The main objectives for the latter are that i) the Swiss stakeholders are aware of the importance of International water cooperation and of the opportunities for involvement, ii) that they recognize the necessity of international cooperation in the water and sanitation sector and finally iii) that they initiate and support existing Swiss cooperation mechanisms like Solidarit'Eau, the Swiss Water Partnership, CEWAS and the NGO consortium. The key message is that Switzerland has economic interest, know-how and responsibility towards international cooperation in the water and sanitation sector. The activities are currently being developed and will include a webpage presenting general information about the IYWC and pointing out key moments during the year, two international conferences (one on municipal services, the other on water basin cooperation), the elaboration of a water compass that will be widely distributed and specific events highlighting the existing cooperation mechanisms.

For further information please contact francois.munger@deza.admin.ch and refer to the IYWC website (still under construction but soon accessible).

Decentralized Solidarity Mechanisms (DSM) – extension at global level

Decentralized Solidarity Mechanisms (DSMs) are tools to facilitating cooperation among local governments and sub-national institutions, such as local authorities and water utilities, on a voluntary basis and as a gesture of solidarity. DSM are additional means to achieve universal access to water and sanitation as they facilitate access to additional financial resources, local capacity building and transfer of technology.

Global Water Solidarity (GWS) is a global coalition platform of local, regional and national governments, public and private institutions, civil society organizations from Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America. Its members and partners are working together to facilitate the development, replication and scaling up of DSM and to support existing mechanisms at national and regional levels. GWS was officially launched during the 6th WWF in Marseille, is hosted by UNDP and is financed by SDC, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UNDP. The platform builds on existing experiences at national and regional level within European countries, e.g. the platform *solidarit'eau suisse*. The services of the GWS platform encompass:

- Grant Global Water Solidarity recognition to existing DSMs through a label
- Ratify the International Charter for the Promotion of Decentralized Solidarity Mechanisms
- Build up and support the online community of practice on DSM
- Establish a demand-driven technical cooperation network.
- Promote the debate on the contribution of DSMs to universal access to water and sanitation services

For further information, please contact manfred.kaufmann@deza.admin.ch

“The Great WASH Yatra”: a handwashing campaign full of innovation to exert a global influence

In India, SDC is supporting a ground-breaking awareness-raising campaign in cooperation with the Government and planned by WASH-United. It will take form in an itinerant festival entitled “Yatra”: over the course of about fifty days, this festival will travel through five States in the center of India, offering targeted attractions not only on the theme of washing hands, but also on that of hygiene at home and the utilization of toilettes and menstrual hygiene.

This campaign is marked by three innovative aspects:

- First of all, it is an event planned for an outreach rarely equaled, hoping to reach more than 80 million persons.
- Secondly, it is a positive campaign, avoiding messages of blame and guilt. The involvement of national stars from the world of the “king” of sports, i.e., cricket, along with that of Bollywood actors and actresses will contribute to the aura of the event.

- And lastly, the immediate and longer-term effects will be subject to an in-depth analysis (by Eawag) so as to evaluate the concrete impact of the campaign on people's behavior.

If successful, the SDC intends to undertake a second campaign of the same kind on another continent in 2013. The lessons learned from the experience in India should make it possible to demonstrate the pertinence of using positive messages supported by innovative marketing mechanisms.

For further information, please refer to the campaign website (<http://www.nirmalbharatyatra.org/>), SDC's project ([project overview](#)) or contact directly Christian Eggs at christian.eggs@deza.admin.ch

IN-COUNTRY ACTIVITIES

SuizAgua Colombia "Water Footprint: put into practice"

Stress on global water resources, especially in developing countries, is recognized as an important issue in terms of sustainability. From a company life cycle management perspective, there is therefore a growing demand for adequate indicators and methods of assessing impacts related to water use, such as the water footprint. SDC, Clariant, Holcim, Nestlé and Syngenta launched in 2010, the SuizAgua Colombia pilot project aiming at applying the water footprint as an indicator to improve water use efficiency. In 2012, 7 Colombian companies added to the process in coordination with the National Cleaner Production Centre (CNPML). Additionally, a geographic application of the water footprint is developed for the Porce River watershed, in coordination with the Center of Science and Technology of Antioquia (CTA).

The first step is to assess and understand the water footprint of a selected process or product; including water withdrawal, consumption and pollution. In a second step, the water footprint hotspots allow the identification of reduction measures priorities. Additionally, each one of the participating companies undertakes social and environmental responsibility actions related to a better water management in their area of influence.

Other contributions of this initiative:

- Scientific support for the development of the *ISO 14046 (Water Footprint: requirements and guidelines)*
- Scaling up process with companies in Chile and Peru (SuizAgua Andina project)

For further information, see www.suizaguacolombia.net/ / www.cooperacion-suiza.admin.ch/colombia contact or contact diana.rojas@eda.admin.ch

SDC promotes demand-driven sanitation solutions. Nicaragua.

Usually projects of water and sanitation in Central America have successfully implemented a demand-driven approach for drinking water solutions, but sanitation solutions have been limited to a single option: the VIP latrine. In order to change its strategy, in 2011 SDC's Water and Sanitation Programme in Nicaragua (Aguasan), informed the population about new available sanitation solutions. Together with local partners Aguasan produced a catalog with five solutions ranging from a latrine to a comprehensive module with low flow toilet, sink, shower and laundry, so families could choose the solution that fitted their needs, economic possibilities and environmental and geographical local conditions. Families from Mulukukú, a small town in the North Atlantic region of Nicaragua, responded proactively to this methodology; the majority of the beneficiaries has chosen sanitation modules more complex than the latrines and also has improved and customized the sanitary facilities that the project offered, resulting in a stronger sense of ownership. The rest of the beneficiaries chose the basic solution mainly due to technical aspects and not to economic constraints. It is a policy of Aguasan that families provide 30 percent of the total cost of the infrastructure, which helps people to feel ownership of it. The project is going to be fully completed in December 2012. The lessons learned in Mulukukú and other communities will serve as input for the design of strategies for sanitation projects in Nicaragua and at the regional level in Central America.

For further information, please contact carmen.pong@aguasan.org

SDC launches a new WASH program in the Great Lakes

SDC has been active for many years in the Great Lakes region (Rwanda, Burundi and South Kivu- DRC) supporting the strengthening of the health systems and the decentralization process. The new message on Switzerland's cooperation 2013-2016 has maintained a strong emphasis on fragile states, including this region. Thanks to the increase of ODA (0.5% Fund), SDC has launched in 2011 a new program "Water and Sanitation in health centres" and is now about to finalize an additional program "Drinking Water for the population". The latter is a 4-years program that focuses mainly on building or rehabilitating water schemes in rural and peri-urban areas with a well-developed soft component for capacity building at local and regional level of the key stakeholders and awareness raising on hygiene issues. The consortium Skat Consulting Ltd. - Swiss Tropical Public Health Institute will implement this project.

For further information, please see [SDC's website](#) or contact annesophie.aublet@skat.ch

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

Announcement: [E-learning course on International Water Law](#) - The goal of this course, jointly developed by UNITAR and the University of Geneva in partnership with SDC, is to provide professionals involved in negotiating, concluding or implementing treaties on or related to freshwater resources with an advanced knowledge of the principles and norms that govern the use, sharing, management and protection of freshwater resources. For further information, please refer to SDC's shareweb: http://www.sdc-water.ch/en/Home/News/News_Detail?itemID=10014

AGUASAN Meeting N°114 - The minutes of the 114th AGUASAN meeting are now available for download on the [AGUASAN page in the Ressources section of the shareweb](#).

SDC's Water Team Day 2012. The minutes of the SDC Water Team Days 2012 held on June 25 & 26 2012 in Bern, Switzerland are now online. You can download the document [here](#).

IRC, WASH-cost. Assessing hygiene cost-effectiveness: a methodology. August 2012.

This Working Paper describes a methodological framework that is being proposed to assess the cost-effectiveness of a number of hygiene interventions. The methodology is designed to i) capture the financial costs of labour and materials associated with the intervention, ii) examine three key household hygiene behaviours (faecal containment, latrine use and drinking water management) and assess their levels of effectiveness. For further information, please refer to the working paper: [pdf](#)

RWSN. National monitoring of rural water supplies. How the Government of Uganda did it and lessons for other countries. 2012

Having been involved in Water and Environment sector performance measurement from its inception in 2003 up to today, the authors of this publication describe the lessons learned and challenges, setting out five principles and ten golden rules for others who want to establish such a process. For further information, please download the document on RWSN website: [document](#)

WHO Global costs and benefits of drinking-water supply and sanitation interventions to reach the MDG targets. May 2012 This report updates previous economic analyses conducted by the World Health Organization, using new WSS coverage rates, costs of services, income levels and health indicators. Benefit-cost ratios (BCR) and costs are estimated to meet the MDG drinking-water and sanitation target and to attain universal access of basic services. Rural and urban areas are analysed as separate targets. The analysis utilises WSS coverage definitions of the JMP (WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation). Download (PDF, 2415 KB): [\[en\]](#)

World Bank. Reaching across the waters - facing the Risks of Cooperation in International Waters. March 2012

Against a backdrop of increased volatility in international food prices and energy supply, due in part to water availability, a new World Bank report calls for greater international cooperation on the 80% of the world's rivers that cross national boundaries. For further information, including downloading the report, please refer to: [worldbank website](#)

WSP. Learning note: Behavioral Determinants handwashing with soap. 2012

The Water and Sanitation Program (WSP) has supported the Global Scaling Up Handwashing Project in Peru, Senegal, Tanzania, and Vietnam. The project has tested whether innovative promotional approaches to behavior change can generate widespread and sustained improvements in household hygiene practices. The project has a significant learning objective, an important component of which is to ascertain the key factors that influence behavior change. This Learning Note aims to highlight key findings from two studies, the impact evaluation baseline study conducted in Peru in 2007 and a "doer/non-doer" study conducted in Senegal in 2010. For further information, download the note: [here](#)

WSP. Policy and sector Reform to accelerate access to improved rural sanitation. June 2012

The Water and Sanitation Program (WSP) has provided technical assistance to support government efforts to scale up rural sanitation since 2007 through Scaling Up Rural Sanitation (TSSM). One of the central objectives of this initiative is to learn how to improve rural sanitation at a scale sufficient to meet the 2015 MDGs, and to then use the lessons learned to help replicate policy, programmatic, and service delivery approaches in other countries. Endline assessments of this initiative were conducted and intended to determine to what extent the gaps identified in the baseline enabling environment assessments had been addressed. For further information on key findings and recommendations, please refer to the document: [pdf](#)

WSP. What Does It Take to Scale Up Rural Sanitation? July 2012

Starting in 2007, WSP provided technical assistance to help governments design, plan, implement, and monitor national rural sanitation programs that start at scale and are sustainable. This initiative was carried out in three countries, India, Indonesia, and Tanzania. In each country, at scale service delivery was led by governments, communities, and the local private sector. The paper shares lessons and best practices

learned from this work, specifically in: i) generating demand for sanitation at the household and community levels; ii) increasing the supply of affordable, aspirational sanitation products and services; and iii) strengthening local and national governments to lead large-scale sanitation programs. For further information, please download the document: [here](#)

WSSCC- Global Sanitation Fund. August 2012 Progress Report

As of 30 June 2012, WSSCC's Global Sanitation Fund supports work actively in Cambodia, Ethiopia, India, Madagascar, Malawi, Nepal, Senegal and Uganda. In those countries, 94 sub-grantees have raised awareness of sanitation and hygiene nationally and in a number of regions. As a result of their work, around 750,000 people have access to and are using improved toilets, among other leading indicators of progress. This midyear progress update presents the ongoing results of GSF programme implementation. For further information, please download the report in [English](#) or in [French](#)

CALENDAR

29 Oct. - 2 Nov. 2012, Chapel Hill, USA: Water and Health Conference - Science, Policy & Innovation

Jointly organized by the Institute for the Environment and the Water Institute at UNC, the conference brings together academic research with policy, practice and networking events and will consider drinking water supply, sanitation, hygiene and water resources in both the developing and developed worlds with a strong public health emphasis. Main themes are: "Monitoring and Evaluation for Sustainability", "Ecosystem Protection and Drinking Water Safety", "WaSH and Child Health", "Beyond 2015: Realizing Universal Access and Human Rights", "Water, Energy and Climate", "Making Sanitation Benefits Achievable and Sustainable for All" and "Household-centered WaSH". For further information, see <http://whconference.unc.edu>.

12-16th November 2012, The Hague, The Netherlands. Training from the Water Services That Last initiative "An introduction to Service Delivery- the role of the Service Authority", ,

The five day event is aimed at senior WASH specialists working for development partners, NGOs or governments. The focus of the training is on the most critical institutional level for sustainable service delivery, that of the service authority (decentralised local government at district, municipal, or commune level) and deals with key issues for this level including planning, regulation, monitoring and financing. Details of the course can be found via this link: <http://www.waterservicesthatlast.org/News/Events>

If you would like to register for the training, please go to <http://servicedeliveryapproach.eventbrite.com/>

For questions or additional information, please contact triple-s@irc.nl

20-23 Nov. 2012, Nagpur, India: IWA Conference on Decentralized Wastewater Management in Asia

Population densities in Asian cities are much higher than other parts of the world, and the predominance of poverty in urban slums is ubiquitous throughout the region. Against this backdrop, the lack of wastewater management continues to be a huge challenge. Conventional centralised approaches to wastewater management have largely failed to address the wastewater disposal needs of poor communities due to high capital investment, poor operation and maintenance or low connection rates. The decentralised approach – referred to as DEWATS - has been demonstrated to be a cost-effective and efficient way of wastewater treatment to improve environmental health conditions as well as providing opportunities for re-use and resource recovery. This conference will examine the decentralised approaches, from a technical and engineering perspective, but also taking into consideration the social, institutional and financial aspects that determine the success of these systems. For further information, please refer to <http://www.iwadewats-nagpur.com>.

27 November 2012 (9.30-16.30). Kultur- und Kongresszentrum KKL, Luzern

"Unser täglich Wasser Haben wir genug Wasser, um die Welt zu ernähren"? / „Notre eau quotidienne Avons-nous suffisamment d'eau pour nourrir la planète?" This event, organised by SDC and HAFL (School of Agricultural, Forest and Food science), aims at exploring the interrelationship between water scarcity and food availability and showing innovative solutions to face the challenges. If interested, please register [here](#)

12-14 December 2012, Dakar, Senegal. Second High Level Forum on water and sanitation for all This forum is organized by the Pan-African Intergovernmental Agency Water and Sanitation for Africa (WSA) with the collaboration of the Government of Senegal. For further information, please refer to: [High Level Forum on water and sanitation for all](#)

17-22 March 2013. Viña del Mar, Chile. Water Week Latinoamerica

The event provides an unique platform to share experiences and practices among the scientific, business, political and civic societies. The event focuses on new thinking and positive action towards water-related challenges and their impact on the environment, health, climate, economy and community. The event

includes seminars, workshops and side events. For further information, please visit the website: <http://www.waterweeklatinoamerica.com/>

9-11 April 2013, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia: IRC Symposium 2013 - monitoring sustainable WASH service delivery

As water and sanitation coverage expands, the need to know the status of systems and services becomes even more critical. Governments are increasingly realising the importance of good monitoring information at multiple levels to ensure services are sustainable and investments are not wasted. The number of initiatives to strengthen WASH service monitoring is growing, new tools are being developed, and international indicators are being refined. The 2013 IRC Symposium will provide a global platform for sharing these initiatives and experiences. Please mark your calendars for 9 to 11 April 2013 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. A first official announcement with more details will be circulated in early July. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact IRC with your suggestions or questions at symposium@irc.nl.

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