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Environment

Water Community



Community Update

No. 30: 24 February 2009

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From the Resource Team

Dear members,

The next World Water Forum is upon us. The theme of the Forum is Bridging Divides for Water, and an expected 20,000 people from around the world will attend it, making it the biggest meeting place for experts, activists and decision makers working on water. Climate change, sanitation and water resources management figure prominently through the week-long programme. The resource team of the Water Community will be in Istanbul from 16-22 March and will send in first-hand reports to keep you updated.

We are thinking to have a thematic focus for our discussions this year. One idea was to have quarterly themes and we would like to hear from you about the themes we can run each quarter. The first quarter is more than half gone, but we have done a fair amount on drinking water. We are listing the themes below for your information and look forward to hearing from you about the themes you think should feature each quarter. Please let us know in a week or 10 days and we will compile the answers before getting back to you with the thematic plan for the year.

The themes are:

1. Drinking water
2. Sanitation
3. Water governance
4. Water use in agriculture
5. Water and climate change
6. Conflicts over water
7. Water resources management
8. Coastal regions
9. Gender issues

We are running a discussion on providing water 24/7 and another on conflicts concerning water and mining; we look forward to your inputs for the same. Since the last update, we completed four discussions on Scaling up Solid and Liquid Waste Management; Inputs for the National Water Mission of the National Action Plan for Climate Change; Rainwater Harvesting in Hilly Areas and; Survey on Household Water and Sanitation.

With warm regards,
Nitya Jacob and Sunetra Lala,

Member Postings



Workshops and Conferences

Upcoming

Seminar on Participatory Approach to Water Resource Management, 19-20 March 2009, New Delhi (from [Sacchidananda Mukherjee](#), WWF-India, New Delhi)

The Council for Social Development, New Delhi is organizing a two day seminar on 'Participatory Approach to Water Resource Management'. The conference aims at enhancing the understanding of water resources governance and water management with a focus on the involvement of people in policy making, implementation and monitoring so that the increasingly scarce resource like water can be fruitfully utilized and conserved in the interest of people. For more information, please contact Firdaus Fatima Rizvi, Associate Fellow, Council for Social Development, 53 Lodhi Estate, New Delhi-110003, email: firdaus@csdindia.org and firdausrizvi@gmail.com.

Conference on Schools as Nurseries of Peace, 20-21 March 2009, New Delhi (from [Swati Sahni](#), Pravah, New Delhi)

Pravah and Bluebells international school are organizing a conference to examine the need and scope of looking at schools as nurseries of peace. Designed as an interactive space to understand different perspectives on education for peace, it will bring together thinkers and practitioners from the sector to examine the role of "Schools as nurseries of peace".

The conference seeks to bring together teachers, heads of schools, academicians, researchers, heads of institutions and government officials to discuss issues around peace building in schools and role of teachers as peace builders. To participate and for further details, please contact: swati.pravah@gmail.com.

Integrated Water Resource Management in Theory and Practice, 28-29 May 2009, Brussels, Belgium (from [K.J. Joy](#), Society for Promoting Participative Ecosystem Management, Pune)

This open international conference is intended as an arena for discussions around recent findings in the field of integrated water resources management (IWRM). This conference will show the major findings from the EC-funded FP6 project STRIVER. The conference is open and external oral presentations are highly encouraged. Contributions from researchers, water managers, river basin planners and policy makers will be emphasized. For more information please visit http://www.solutionexchange-un.net.in/environment/comm_update/res30_24020903.pdf.

American Society of Engineering Education Northeast Conference (from [Sarosh Patel](#), University of Bridgeport, USA)

The Spring 2009 Northeast ASEE Conference will be held on 3-4 April 2009 at the University of Bridgeport, Bridgeport, Connecticut, U.S.A.

Community News

Open Query

DISCUSSION:

Strategy for Improving Urban Drinking Water Supply-24/7 Water Supply Is Wasteful.

Reply by 27 February 2009 to sewes@solutionexchange-un.net.in

Mining Induced Conflicts Over Water-Experiences;

Examples. Reply by 6 March 2009 to sewes@solutionexchange-un.net.in

See Completed Queries

Solution Exchange Events

Upcoming Events

Regional Workshop of gender Community, 27-28 February 2009, Bhubaneswar, Orissa. For more details, please contact [Mallika Basu](#)

Annual Forum of ICT for Development Community. 2-4 March 2009, Hyderabad. For more details please contact [Rajen Varada](#) or [Gitanjali Sah](#).

From Our Partners

UNICEF

This year's conference theme is: Engineering in the New Global Economy. In the coming years, our world will continue to face economical, environmental and energy related problems. How is Engineering and Engineering Technology Education responding to the needs of our society and the world? This will be the theme for an exhilarating and thought provoking weekend of professional workshops, presentations, and discussions at the University of Bridgeport. For more details please visit <http://www.asee2009conference.org>.

Third Stop-TB Partners Forum (from [Ramya Gopalan](#), UNDP, New Delhi)

Panos South Asia's Global AIDS Programme invites applications from junior and mid-career journalists to cover the "Third Stop-TB Partners Forum" to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil from 23 - 26 March 2009. Selected journalists will be required to undergo a two-day training & orientation at Rio de Janeiro and subsequently cover the conference. They would also help run a blog which Panos will set up. In addition, the journalists will bring out a daily conference newsletter and file stories for their respective publications. Applicants who have shown interest in issues relating to health/TB& HIV/AIDS are encouraged to apply. For more information please visit http://www.stoptb.org/events/partners_forum/.

From [Sunetra Lala](#), Research Associate

Conference on Water Utilities and Law: Current Trends and Development

UNESCO Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science at the University of Dundee, Scotland, UK, will hold a two day Conference on Water Utilities and Law on 3-4 September 2009. The Conference will address the role of law in promoting appropriate policies, structural design and regulatory solutions in order to meet the Millennium Development Goals target of reducing the proportion of people without access to sustainable, safe drinking water by half. Please visit <http://www.dundee.ac.uk/water/news/waterutilities.php> for more details.

The East Asian Seas (EAS) Congress 2009

The Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA) and the Philippine Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) would like to invite you to the East Asian Seas (EAS) Congress 2009 in Manila, Philippines on 23-27 November 2009. The EAS Congress, which carries the theme "Partnerships at Work: Local Implementation and Good Practices," offers an exciting programme which will bring together experts and practitioners from within and outside the East Asian Seas region. The Congress will provide a venue to tackle issues and highlight good practices and lessons learned in the management of coastal and ocean areas including the impacts of climate change and other emerging concerns. To know more about EAS Congress events and participation opportunities, please visit www.pemsea.org/eascongress.

Recently Held

◆ [IKEA social initiative adds \\$48 million to UNICEF's child health programme](#)

◆ [Building back better: 200th school opened in Indonesia](#)

◆ [New nutrition policy for northern states of Sudan to strengthen child health, reduce mortality](#)

◆ [Academy Award recognition for India's fight to eradicate polio](#)

UNDP

◆ [Climate change in Croatia: New Human Development Report launched](#)

◆ [UNDP welcomes Davos emphasis on climate change](#)

◆ [Lighting up Lesotho](#)

◆ [UN Climate Change Conference ends amid clear](#)

From [Sarah Figge](#), *Solution Exchange*

Asia-Pacific Business Forum 2009/Climate Game Change

The Asia-Pacific Business Forum 2009/Climate Game Change – Innovations and Solutions for Climate Change Adaptation convened in Bangkok, Thailand, on 21 January 2009. The Forum was organized by the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), and it brought together 300 representatives from the private sector, government, civil society and international organizations, with the aim of promoting new partnerships, ideas and resolve for combating climate change. The outcome from the forum will be fed into preparations for the UN Climate Change Conference, due to take place in Copenhagen in December this year. Please visit <http://www.unescap.org/unis/press/2009/jan/g01.asp> for more details.

commitment

- ◆ [Japan invests US\\$92 million to help Africa weather climate change](#)

UNESCO

- ◆ [UNESCO Water Portal Newsletter No. 211: Water and AIDS](#)



Third Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) Meeting of the Ministerial Process of the Fifth World Water Forum

The Third Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) meeting of the Ministerial Process of the Fifth World Water Forum, hosted by the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and co-organized by the World Water Council, was held at the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) headquarters in Rome, Italy, from 21-23 January 2008. The meeting gathered delegates from over 60 countries to continue negotiations on a global plan of action for adapting to global changes that affect the management of freshwater resources. Please visit <http://www.climate-l.org/2009/01/world-water-forum-prepcom-highlights-impacts-of-climate-change-on-water-scarcity.html> for more details.

Upcoming Trainings

From [Sunetra Lala](#), *Research Associate*

Negotiation and mediation for water conflict

A course on Negotiation and mediation for water conflict will be jointly offered by UNESCO's From Potential Conflict to Cooperation Potential programme (PCCP) and the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education. The course will introduce the basic concepts of water cooperation, conflict prevention and mitigation. The course will be held from 6 to 24 April 2009 in the Hague & Delft (The Netherlands) and the deadline for applications is 6 March 2009. For more information please visit <http://www.unesco.org/water/wwap/pccp/> and www.unescoihe.org/Education/Short-courses

Financial Management of Water Organizations

The aim of this course is to prepare participants for positions of leadership in water sector and utility management. The course will be held from 27 April to 15 May 2009 in Delft (The Netherlands) and the deadline for applications is 27 March 2009. For more details please visit <http://www.emwis.net/thematicdirs/events/financial-management-water-organizations>.

Awards

International ReSource Award for Sustainable Watershed Management 2010 *(from Pradeep Mohapatra, UDYAMA, Bhubaneshwar)*

Swiss Re launched the "ReSource Award 2010" on 5 January 2009. Swiss Re established the

International ReSource Award in 2002 to actively support the planning, evaluation and implementation of water-related projects with the aim of promoting awareness and encouraging the efficient use of this precious resource. The award is an annual competition for innovative watershed management projects with a total value of USD 150 000. It will be granted to one or several projects selected by an international jury. The award is looking for projects which genuinely seek to contribute to raising awareness of the ecological, social and economic significance of water sources and watersheds in developing and emerging countries (only projects, which are implemented in a non-OECD country are being considered). Preference will be given to those projects which demonstrate innovative preventative measures for protecting water resources, i.e. projects that have a pioneering character in the local context (cultural, institutional or technological) and involve local community and/or regional institutions. All information on the ReSource Award, including application guidelines can be found at www.swissre.com/resource.

Annual National Urban Water Awards (NUWA) 2009 (from [Chandan Chawla](#), UNDP, New Delhi)

Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD), Government of India is announcing the Annual National Urban Water Awards (NUWA) 2009. The NUWA has been instituted by the MoUD in association with the Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and GTZ to recognize, inspire and celebrate excellence in urban water management. These awards have been instituted with the explicit purpose of honoring urban local governments, water boards/utilities and organizations who have demonstrated improvements in service delivery of water through effective water management practices. The awards aim to provide forum to showcase urban initiatives and inspiring models in water management. The awards are open to Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), Water Utilities/ Boards, NGOs, CBOs, private sector, bilateral and multilateral agencies in combination with ULBs/Water Utilities/Boards in the categories of (i) technical innovation (ii) financial reform (iii) services to the poor (iv) citizen services and governance (v) public-private partnerships and (vi) urban sanitation. Eligible organizations can submit nominations in more than one category and requested to submit their nominations on or before 25 February 2009. For further information please visit <http://www.asci.org.in/nuwa2009website/waterawards2/home.htm>.

Water, Engineering and Development Centre (WEDC) Scholarship (from [Bhawna Vajpai](#), Independent Consultant, New Delhi)

Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom is making 15 full-fee scholarships available for students who wish to study the Water and Environmental Management MSc programme by distance learning, starting in January 2010. These scholarships are available only to applicants who are nationals of, and resident in, certain Commonwealth countries. Full details about the awards and an application form are available electronically from: <http://wedc.lboro.ac.uk/dl-scholarships.php>. Fully completed applications must be received by WEDC on or before 1st May 2009.

Call for Submissions: SEED Initiative Annual Awards (from [Sarah Figge](#), Solution Exchange)

The SEED Initiative, founded by IUCN, UNDP and UNEP, is soliciting applications for its annual awards. The SEED Awards for Entrepreneurship in Sustainable Development is an annual international competition, designed to support locally-led, innovative, entrepreneurial partnerships in developing countries, which have the potential to make real improvements in poverty eradication and environmental sustainability. SEED Award winners receive a tailored package of support services, worth up to US\$40,000, to help establish their venture and increase their impact, including access to relevant expertise and technical assistance, meeting new partners and building networks, developing business plans and identifying sources of finance. Application deadline: 16 March 2009. Further information on eligibility criteria and the application process can be found at <http://www.seedinit.org/mainpages2/awards/what/index.php>.

Publishing Opportunities

Hydraulic Bureaucracies: Flows of Water and Power (from [Sunetra Lala](#), Research Associate)

This special issue of Water Alternatives will include case studies from various countries that will emphasize the inner historical transformations and the role of these water bureaucracies in the transformation of landscapes, as well as in the formation of the state and wider social relationships. Potential contributors interested in this topic can send an abstract by 1 March 2009. For more information please visit http://www.water-alternatives.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=47&Itemid=1.

Job Openings

From [Sunetra Lala](#), Research Associate

Programme Assistant

UNICEF

Location: Hyderabad

Last Date: March 9, 2009

http://216.119.85.221/artman2/publish/indian-jobs/article_12135.shtml

Health Specialist, Policy & Planning

UNICEF

Location: New Delhi

Last Date: March 3, 2009

http://216.119.85.221/artman2/publish/indian-jobs/article_12022.shtml

Coordinator- Grievance Redressal (R&R)

Govt. of Orissa-UNDP project

Location: Bhubaneswar, Orissa

Last Date: March 4, 2009

http://216.119.85.221/artman2/publish/indian-jobs/article_12082.shtml

GEF Consultant

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Location: New Delhi

Last Date: February 23, 2009

http://216.119.85.221/artman2/publish/indian-jobs/article_11887.shtml

Project Manager

Jal Bhagirathi Foundation

Location: Jodhpur, Rajasthan

Last Date: February 28, 2009

http://216.119.85.221/artman2/publish/indian-jobs/article_12111.shtml

Executive Assistant to Managing Trustee

Jal Bhagirathi Foundation

Location: Jaipur, Rajasthan

Last Date: February 28, 2009

http://216.119.85.221/artman2/publish/indian-jobs/article_12110.shtml

Office Manager

Saciwaters

Location: Hyderabad

Last Date: March 19, 2009

http://216.119.85.221/artman2/publish/indian-jobs/article_12084.shtml

Campaigner – Energy

Greenpeace India

Location: Bangalore

Last Date: March 6, 2009

http://216.119.85.221/artman2/publish/indian-jobs/article_12120.shtml

Public Engagement Manager

Greenpeace India

Location: Bangalore

Last Date: March 6, 2009

http://216.119.85.221/artman2/publish/indian-jobs/article_12119.shtml

Recommended Readings

From [Vijay Krishna](#), India Water Portal, Bangalore

Preliminary Consolidated Report on the Effect of Climate Change on Water Resources

The Preliminary Consolidated Report on the Effect of Climate Change on Water Resources, prepared by the Central Water Commission and the National Institute of Hydrology, under the guidance of the Ministry of Water Resources in 2008, is one of the first official reports made available by the Government of India, of a reliable quantitative assessment based on field data, of the likely effect of climate change on the availability of water resources, i.e. on the glaciers and snow melt, on rainfall and their effect on run off into the river system and their contribution to groundwater. For more details please visit

<http://www.indiawaterportal.org/blog/2009/01/05/preliminary-consolidated-report-on-the-effect-of-climate-change-on-water-resources/>.

Irrigation Infrastructure – A View from Below

“Irrigation Infrastructure - A View from below” is a new research study by Chitra Krishnan funded by the “Knowledge in Civil Society” initiative. The study works along these lines: Say we have an irrigation infrastructure on a river. This is an evolving thing, new projects are proposed, existing ones need maintenance and so on. At the same time from year to year the rainfall scenario is changing, leading to different water flows and water users need to anticipate and adapt to each year's situation. If the river flows through more than one state there are inevitably interstate disputes over the usage and management of the water. Flood control, hydel generation, domestic and industrial needs compete with agriculture needs for the same water. The study seeks to follow these dynamics for the Tungabhadra river over a specific two year period, while applying the appropriate historical and technical contexts for understanding what is going on. For more details please visit

<http://www.indiawaterportal.org/blog/2008/12/26/irrigation-infrastructure-a-view-from-below/>.

Leo Saldanha on Bangalore's Water ([Parineeta Dandekar](#), for Social Development, New Delhi)

A video on Leo Saldanha's talk about water management in Bangalore: Past and present, this took place on the banks of the Hebbal lake on the 4 January 2009. For more details please visit <http://in.youtube.com/watch?v=flubmrPTDVo>.

Progress in Waste Management Research (from [Ashok Ghosh](#), AN College, Patna)

Edited by James I. Daven and Robert N. Klein, Chapter 2 of the book focuses on Cleaner Production Policy and Philosophy: The Preventive Strategy of Industrial Waste Management: Some Experiences from India and Australia (pp. 93-158). For more details please visit https://www.novapublishers.com/catalog/product_info.php?products_id=6754.

Health Hazards As Slow Poison And Risk Assessment On Human Health Caused By Water Pollutants (from [R.C. Chhipa](#), Centre for Air and Water Modelling, Jaipur)

In this research paper the functionality aspect of water pollutants especially of chemicals and their adverse effects on human health have been discussed. Further consumption of polluted water with a variety of polyelectrolyte /polyradicals in physiological activities of different organs and their correlations with human health hazards are also presented. For more information please visit http://www.solutionexchange-un.net.in/environment/comm_update/res30_24020902.doc.

WaterMOVES (from [Pankaj Shrivastav](#), UNDP)

In this issue: (A) Andhra Pradesh State Water Policy 2008: Expectations and Gaps - R.V. Rama Mohan. (B) Kosi's Dilemma: The Processes Within - Surya Prakash Rai. (C) Book Review: Performance and Development Effectiveness of the Sardar Sarovar Project, Tata Institute of Social Sciences Study, August 2008 - Alisha Vasudev. (D) Guidelines for National Lake Conservation Plan, May 2008 - Amita Bhaduri. (E) In Memoriam K.R. Datye. For more details please visit http://www.solutionexchange-un.net.in/environment/comm_update/res30_24020901.pdf.

From [Sunetra Lala](#), Research Associate

Water For All News - Dumping the Dirty Deed; Issue 42, February 2009.

Concerted efforts around the globe have made open defecation a dying practice. But it is not dying fast enough. The years between 1990 and 2006 saw only a slight drop from 24% to 18% in the number of people engaged in this practice. This means a staggering 1.2 billion people, most of them in rural areas, still defecate in the open, unaware or unmindful of the health and environmental problems they are creating. This issue focuses on the efforts of Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, and Indonesia to loosen the tight grip of open defecation on its people. The reforms highlight the crucial role of knowledge when people become aware of the consequences of their actions and the alternatives available to them; they are able to make the informed decision to stop the practice. For more details please visit <http://adb.org/Documents/Periodicals/Water/2009/issue42-feb09.asp>.

Thirsty Planet: World heads for 'water bankruptcy'

The world is heading toward "water bankruptcy" as demand for the precious commodity outstrips even high population growth, the Davos report warned. In less than 20 years water scarcity could lose the equivalent of the entire grain crops of India and the United States, states the World Economic Forum (WEF) report, which adds that food demand is expected to sky-rocket in coming decades. Water has been consistently under-priced in many regions and has been wasted and overused, the report said. Many places in the world are on the verge of "water bankruptcy" following a series of regional water "bubbles" over the past 50 years. For more details please visit <http://www.grist.org/news/2009/01/29/davos-water/index.html?source=daily>.

Research Suggests Glacier Melting will Slow Down

A new study suggests that increased glacier melting may be due to natural phenomena, not solely global warming, and that as a result the rate of melting will slow down and not contribute to the extreme sea level rises postulated by some scientists. For more details please visit

<http://www.iwapublishing.com/template.cfm?name=news238>.

Clean Water, Green Jobs

A Canadian report 'Clean water, green jobs' suggests investing in a greener water infrastructure, which would generate more jobs in the environmental sector. It urges replacing ageing water infrastructure with green facilities. For more details please visit <http://www.iwapublishing.com/template.cfm?name=news244>.

Practical Wastewater Treatment Report

This report serves as both a textbook for the working professional and a guide for the student to learn about the elements of wastewater treatment. The report addresses how to handle various types of industrial wastes and how to design a wastewater treatment plant. For more details please visit <http://www.emwis.net/thematicdirs/news/practical-wastewater-treatment-report>.

Network Activity



Completed Queries (from 20 January 2009 – 24 February 2009)

Discussion: Scaling up Solid and Liquid Waste Management, from Yusuf Kabir, United Nations Children's Fund, Kolkata. Issued 27 January 2009

Available at <http://www.solutionexchange-un.net.in/environment/cr/cr-se-wes-15120801.pdf> (PDF; Size: 196 KB)

Inputs regarding how to make SLWM a demand-driven activity through community participation; and the available SLWM technology options

Inputs for Water Mission of National Action Plan on Climate Change- Advice; Examples, from Himanshu Thakkar, South Asia Network on Dams, Rivers and People (SANDRP), New Delhi. Issued 30 January 2009

Available at <http://www.solutionexchange-un.net.in/environment/cr/cr-se-wes-29120801.pdf> (PDF; Size: 140 KB)

Inputs regarding the specific initiatives that should be included in the National Water Mission

Rainwater Harvesting Structures in Hilly Terrain-Examples; Advice, from Arnab Bhattacharjee, Social Activist, Malkangiri, Orissa. Issued 20 February 2009

Available at <http://www.solutionexchange-un.net.in/environment/cr/cr-se-wes-08010901.pdf> (PDF; Size: 156 KB)

Inputs regarding the appropriate rainwater harvesting structures, suitable for hilly terrain that can be designed and made by local communities

Survey on Household Water and Sanitation-Advice, from Binayak Das, Arghyam, Bangalore. Issued 23 February 2009

Available at <http://www.solutionexchange-un.net.in/environment/cr/cr-se-wes-30010901.pdf> (PDF; Size: 84KB)

Inputs regarding the desirable parameters for analyzing Arghyam water and sanitation data

Many thanks to all who contributed to this issue!

If you have items to feature in the Updates, please send it to Solution Exchange for the Water Community at se-wes@solutionexchange-un.net.in

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