

**New
Executive
Director of
UN-HABITAT**



On 25th August 2010, the United Nations General Assembly elected Dr. Joan Clos as the Executive Director of UN-HABITAT at the level of Under Secretary-General of the UN. Joan Clos succeeds Mrs. Anna Tibaijuka who has headed UN-HABITAT since it was formed in 2001 to replace the UN Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS). The agency is mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all. He is expected to begin his tenure on 18 October for a period of four years.

The former Mayor of Barcelona, Joan Clos, has a long career in the Spanish Government both at the local and national level. Between 2006 and 2008, he was appointed Minister of Industry, Tourism and Trade in President José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero's cabinet. Prior to this, between 1997 and 2006, Joan Clos served two terms as Mayor of Barcelona.

For Dr. Clos' detailed Biography, please see Page 10 of this Newsletter.

this issue

Organized Ger Community takes charge of Development in Mongolia	P.2
Joint 'Hoi An' Eco-city Scoping Workshop in Vietnam	P.3
World Water Day 2011 on Water and Urbanization in Stockholm	P.4
WATSAN Improvement through Gender Mainstreaming in Pakistan	P.5
Nepal Prime Minister launches the Bagmati Action Plan	P.6
UN-HABITAT participates in the World City Water Forum in Korea	P.11



water for asian cities

UN-HABITAT to be the Executing Agency for the Global Sanitation Fund Programme in Nepal

UN-HABITAT will soon be on board for executing the Global Sanitation Fund (GSF) programme in Nepal. The grant agreement is to be signed between UN-HABITAT and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), which is the host UN agency for Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC). The launching programme will take place in first week of October 2010 in which stakeholders from Government, UN agencies, INGOs, NGOs and WSSCC's GSF programme staff will be participating. Nepal has been committed US\$ 5 million for a period of five years.

The Global Sanitation Fund is a pooled fund designed to increase financing in the sanitation sector established in 2008. It is open to contributions from all sources, and accessible to all countries meeting eligibility criteria. GSF has been created by the WSSCC to support efforts to help larger numbers of poor people to attain sustainable access to basic sanitation and to adopt good hygiene practices. The fund is being managed by the WSSCC Secretariat in Geneva, Switzerland. The GSF is one activity of the WSSCC, which is a membership network that seeks to support water and sanitation programme by enhancing collaboration among its members, generating and sharing knowledge, and advocating in favour of water and sanitation. UNOPS provides the legal structure and administrative framework for the WSSCC on the Global Sanitation Fund.

In the first round, following countries have been selected to receive GSF grants viz. Burkina Faso, India, Madagascar, Nepal, Pakistan, Senegal and Uganda. There will be a second round as well wherein countries like Bangladesh, Benin, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Nigeria, Tanzania and Togo will be participating. Nepal will be the third country to launch GSF after Senegal and Madagascar.

The purpose of the GSF in Nepal is to support national efforts to help large numbers of poor people attain sustainable access to sanitation and adopt good hygiene practices. In practice, it is envisaged that the funds will initially support four key objectives identified in the country proposal:

1. To achieve Open Defecation-Free (ODF) status, and adoption of good hygiene practices, in at least 200 Village Development Committees (VDCs), 5 municipalities and 8 entire districts, through total sanitation pro-

gramme approaches such as School-Led Total Sanitation (SLTS), Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) etc. (These targets may be revised up/ down in the light of experience.)

2. To strengthen the capacity of district, VDC, municipality, school and NGO personnel to promote sanitation and hygiene, and to support the construction of low cost sanitation facilities.
3. To strengthen sector strategy and monitoring at national and district levels in line with the Master Plan on Hygiene and Sanitation.
4. To record and use lessons learned from country and regional experience in sanitation and hygiene promotion to support the scaling up of effective approaches, in cooperation with other ongoing knowledge management activities in Nepal.

The programme will give attention to scaling up actions that have been shown to be effective, rather than simply expanding existing projects or programmes, and identifying cost-effective approaches that can be readily extended to other areas within available resources.

The sub-grant programme envisages calls for proposals every 6 months for 4 years. These would generate large projects in 8 districts (lasting 4 years each). Therefore, the number of large projects will be 8 with average amount of USD 318,750/per project

In addition, there will be 65 small grants which shall be made with average amount USD 26,154: 40 for supporting the achievement of Open Defecation Free status in 200 Village Development Committees (average of 5 VDCs per grant, but could be higher), 5 for supporting municipality-focused programmes, and an additional 20 for other types of support projects such as training builders, government officials, etc.

Direct procurements are envisaged as up to 35 contracts with an average value of USD 22,000 where some procurement (15) are simple (e.g. based on at least quotes) and others (20) more complex. The total number of payments would be approximately 1,800 over the 5 years.

Organized Ger Community takes charge of their Development in Mongolia

The Ger Area households within the Community Development Council (CDC) under the Community Led Ger Area Upgrading project in Ulaanbaatar city, organized an Inauguration Ceremony to mark the construction of a water kiosk in their neighbourhood on 27th August 2010 in Ulaanbaatar, MONGOLIA.

CDC has been formed by the representatives of residents of 11th Khoroo, Bayankhoshuu area started the construction of a water kiosk connected to the nearest water supply pipeline. Around 2600 people of 554 households will directly benefit from the kiosk with access to water, 24 hours a day, with reduced distance to water kiosks. The Ger areas in Ulaanbaatar are primarily being served by trucked water supply sold at water kiosks. Residents have to walk long distances to fetch water from the nearest water kiosk. Haulage of water is usually the responsibility of children in the Ger communities which have currently an access to 6.7 litres per capita per day. The CDC will take charge of the construction with the involvement skilled and unskilled labours of the local area.

The Community Led Ger Area Upgrading Project is being implemented in partnership between UN-HABITAT, Municipality of Ulaanbaatar, and Ministry of Road, Construction, Transport and Urban Development with the grant assistance of the Government of Japan through Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to address problems of infrastructure & services in selected Ger areas in the city.



Ger area constitutes 58% of the total population of Ulaanbaatar. The inauguration marks commencement of the construction under the project with communities' leadership after completion of "community mobilization and organization" phase. Fifty two Community Development Councils (CDCs) are established in 5 different project areas which will take leadership of their communities' development. Under the project, 15 community service infrastructure projects, 5 water kiosks and 50 micro projects will be built as per the needs and priorities identified by the local communities in the Ger Areas.

UN-HABITAT team set forth the next HCPD for a better urban life in Viet Nam

On July 14th-16th, the UN-Habitat Viet Nam team has successfully held a workshop in Cua Dai, Quang Nam Province in preparation of the next UN-Habitat Country Programme Document (HCPD) which aligns with the coming five year socio-economic development plan of Viet Nam (2011-2015) and the development of the next UN One Plan (2012-2016). In compliance with current UN-Habitat's Medium Term Strategic and Institutional Plan (MTSIP), it calls for an enhanced normative and operational framework (ENOF) to enable UN-Habitat to play a leadership and catalytic role in promoting sustainable urbanization in the country. At the retreat, participants have analyzed the strengths and weaknesses of UN-Habitat in development context and ODA landscape of Viet Nam. In recognizing new opportunities and potential threats, the team discussed UN-Habitat vision and its comparative advantages.

Five UN-Habitat focus areas of (i) Advocacy, monitoring and partnership; (ii) Participation in urban planning, management and governance, (iii) Pro-poor land and housing, (iv) Environmentally sound basic urban infrastructure and services, and (v) Human settlement finance system were also analyzed in a Vietnam context through presentations by UN-Habitat Viet Nam staff. Open and in-depth discussions on thematic areas were benefited from helpful comments by Lowie Rosales, Human Settlements Officer of the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP) and Nguyen Quang, Habitat Programme Manager of Vietnam.

Urbanization is a necessary process in many developing countries, and of course Vietnam is not an exception. While Vietnam has made some significant achievements in economic growth and social development, urban challenges are profound and not easy to solve overnight. UN-Habitat Viet Nam is currently working on three One Plan funded projects including (1) the Quang Nam Provincial Development Strategy, (2) Support for Pro Poor Housing Policies in Vietnam and (3) and Vietnam Urban Observatory System.

The project progress have also been reviewed and ideas for future projects, and implementation of effective One UN methodology and funding were brainstormed and discussed. It was agreed that climate change has become a globally sensitive subject, and there has been a commitment from the Vietnamese government to respond to its potential impact. Although there have been several local initiatives in climate change mitigation and adaptation, little has been done to integrate climate change considerations into urban plans. "We



Group Photo of UN-HABITAT Team in Vietnam, 2010. Photo © UN-Habitat

can not do spatial planning for all provinces/cities, but what we can do is providing capacity building, and do research on climate change. In addition, we also can promote the policy to develop climate change resilient infrastructure." Quang said. Through discussion groups, contributions, a vision statement "UN-Habitat in Vietnam: A proactive member of UN family and a trusted partner working together with people for a better urban life" was agreed among all members.

"I have a vision and a strong belief that Vietnam will become a driving force in the region, and ROAP will support Vietnam to become the regional trailblazer in terms of development." Lowie said.

Joint 'Hoi An' Eco-city Scoping Workshop in Vietnam

UN-HABITAT together with Portland State University (PSU) and the Peoples Committee of Hoi An organized a joint scoping study workshop in Hoi An from 13-15 September 2010, with the intent to create new ideas regarding the development of the first eco-city in Vietnam, namely Hoi An.

The plan of eco-city development in Hoi An has been approved to build "a living laboratory in Viet Nam" from now until 2030 and will go through three phases. The first phase which is between 2010-2015 is to find approaches that potentially include encouraging public transportation, developing eco-tourism, promoting environment preservation, establishing pollution control mechanism, and developing other eco friendly practices.

In this context, Hoi An eco-city scoping workshop gave an opportunity to the local authority of Hoi An to learn best practices of urban sustainability from the leader of (PSU), to share concepts of "integrated urban sustainability" and "interdisciplinary approaches" among local officials and PSU faculties, to have a solution-oriented discussion on current challenges and seek for innovative localization approaches for the plan in the future, to identify applicability and feasibility of future projects in the form of PSU-Hoi An cooperation, based on a local thinking and planning perspectives, and to establish a concrete long term collaborative mechanism in the field of joint research and consultation for urban sustainability practices.

"This normative idea is a starting point to join efforts of researchers, related partners and local authorities to contribute for the "Green Growth" of Hoi An. UN-HABITAT is committed to work together with other UN agencies such as ILO, FAO, UNESCO and UNIDO to find resources from One Plan to implement this idea." Dr Nguyen Quang, UN-HABITAT Programme Manager said.

Participants brought with very interesting and comprehensive presentations. These includes Hoi An's current approaches and practices in sustainable development, and best practices and innovative ideas of Portland sustainability practices. They were "Overview of development contexts and sustainability issues" from UN-HABITAT, "Hoi An sustainable development issues and Hoi An Eco-city development strategy by 2030", "Sustainable tourism development and management strategy" from UNESCO, "Sustainable Urban planning for Hoi An city" from Da Nang University, "Green production in Hoi An" from UNIDO, "Urban Rural linkage impacting Hoi An as an Eco-city from FAO, and especially introduction of PSU sustainability initiative.

"Knowledge of Portland is to serve not only to Portland but the whole world. We have many different ideas about how to help Hoi An become eco-city. We will introduce effective tools, innovative ideas and initiatives which make Portland become the greenest city in America so that Hoi An can apply it into the long-term plan" Dr Marcus Ingle from PSU said.

Principally, it is UGB (Urban Growth Boundary) in which every city must have the line to demarcate urban and rural land, and growth – compact and sustainable growth – that preserve resources and create a liable city with vibrant



All participants at the Joint 'Hoi An' Eco-city Scoping workshop in Vietnam, 2010. Photo © UN-Habitat

downtowns. It is also innovation based on a participatory planning with many subsequence plans such as regional transportation plans, urban renewable plans for specific neighbourhood, bicycle master plan, and adoption of carbon reduction plan.

More importantly the newest initiative "Eco-district" is introduced a concept of highly integrated district or neighbourhood that is a) resources efficient, captures, manages and reuses a majority of energy water and waste on site, b) home to range of transportation options, provides a rich diversity of habitat and open space, and enhance community engagement and wellbeing - to scale up sustainable development across the city. In line with the definition and application of the initiatives of Eco-district in Portland, PSU and Hoi An focused on four priorities to develop a concept note for the eco-city plan: Renewable energy and Habitat conservation, Urban management and Infrastructure, Social development and Cultural preservation, and sustainable Leadership/Governance.

In the workshops, all participants not only had an opportunity to share and discuss the experiences and ideas about urban sustainable development but also visited Tra Que vegetable village, Hoi An water supply factory and the ancient town of Hoi An. Three site visits created a chance for them to some extent to come up with practicable ideas to discuss about the four focused thematic areas.

The workshop was finalized with witnessing such a strong commitment of stakeholders including the Chairman of Hoi An. "It is such a useful and practical workshop for Hoi An eco city plan because we can find very good and new ideas from the experience of Portland as well as from different sectors of society of Hoi An. The contents of ideas are practicable and applicable explicitly for Hoi An with options of localization of the concepts and approaches. But the most important thing is that we have to connect strength of all partners to implement the plan.

The concept of eco-city is very broad and it includes eco-thought of people. I believe that with the help of PSU, UN-HABITAT and Da Nang University, we can improve knowledge and change the attitude of the leaders about this issue of Urban sustainability practices. Together with selecting suitable ideas with high priorities, preparing a concrete plan, making a strong commitment of all partners will make the ambitious plan of building an eco-city of Hoi An become true" Mr. Le Van Giang, Chairman of City people's Committee of Hoi An, said.

UN-HABITAT, PSU, Hoi An, and Da Nang University plan to collaborate long term to establish the first ever Eco-city of Vietnam, which would make a promising future for whole nation within a green sustainable land, making great contribution to the world.



World Water Day 2011 on Water and Urbanization

Outcome of the Preparatory Seminar on World Water Day 2011

Urban Water Management: Key Issues and Priorities for Action

Background

UN-Water has dedicated World Water Day 2011 (WWD 2011) to the theme **Water and Urbanization**. The objective of WWD 2011 is to focus international attention on the impact of rapid urban population growth, industrialization and uncertainties caused by climate change, conflicts and natural disasters on urban water systems. It will encourage action by governments, organizations, communities, and individuals around the world to actively engage in addressing urban water management challenges.

UN-HABITAT is coordinating the organization of the WWD 2011 campaign on behalf of UN-Water. As part of the World Water Week in Stockholm, a seminar on **"World Water Day 2011 - Urban Water Management: Key Issues and Priorities for Action"** was held on 7 September 2010. The seminar brought together UN-Water members, partner organizations and sector stakeholders to discuss the preparations for WWD 2011.

The seminar was chaired by Mr. Bert Diphooorn, Director of the UN-HABITAT Human Settlements Financing Division. It was organized into two main sessions with the first session focusing on presentations by UN-Water members on thematic areas of urban water management followed by a panel debate and plenary discussion on the planning of and key messages for WWD 2011.

Welcome and Introduction

The welcoming and introductory remarks were delivered by Dr. Zafar Adeel, Chair of UN-Water who noted that the international observance of World Water Day has gained prominence over the years. In his opening remarks, he invited UN-Water members, partner organizations and sector stakeholders to actively take part in preparations for the global celebrations of WWD 2011 and encouraged interested organizations to contact UN-Water regarding their plans for WWD 2011.

Thematic Presentations

UN-Water members and partner organizations made seven presentations covering the following thematic areas of urban water management:

- i) Urbanization and water management - trends, challenges and perspectives. *Dr. Graham Alabaster*, Chief, Section I, Water, Sanitation and Infrastructure Branch – UN-HABITAT
- ii) Strategies for integrated urban water management in cities of developing countries. *Mr. Alberto Tejada-Guibert*, Director a.i., Division of Water Sciences, UNESCO, and *Ms. Sarantuyaa Zandaryaa*, Programme Specialist, UNESCO
- iii) Managing the ecological footprint of urban water. *Dr. Thomas Chiramba*, Head of the Freshwater Ecosystems Unit, UNEP
- iv) Urban water management and agriculture. *Mr. Javier Mateo-Sagasta*, Associate Professional Officer (Water Quality and Environmental Aspects of Irrigation), FAO
- v) Social dialogue and utility participatory governance as a tool to ensure sustainability of water policy reforms. *Mr. Carlos R. Carrión-Crespo*, Sectoral Specialist for public services and utilities, Sectoral Activities Department, ILO, Geneva
- vi) Capacities for Mega-Cities coping with water scarcity. *Dr. Jan-Peter Mund*, Programme Officer, UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC)
- vii) The role of learning alliances in catalyzing change in urban water management. *Mr. John Butterworth*, IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre

Panel Debate

The panel was composed of four internationally renowned experts in water and sanitation issues, namely, Mr. Gerard Payen, a member of the UN Secretary General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation (UNSGAB) and President of the International Federation of Private Water Operators (AquaFed); Dr. Margaret Catley-Carlson, member of UNSGAB and Patron of the Global Water Partnership (GWP); Mr. Piers Cross, a former Global Programme Manager of the World Bank Water and Sanitation Programme (WSP); and Prof. Karl-Ulrich Rudolph, Director of the Institute of Environmental Engineering and Management at the University of Witten/Herdecke, Germany and also the coordinator of the UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC) working group on "Capacity Building in Water Efficiency".

Mr. Gerard Payen stressed the need to keep the WWD 2011 messages simple. He suggested three parts that could form the WWD 2011 campaign message: i) recognition of existing challenges such as rapid urbanization, uncertainty about future changes caused by climate change, interactions between cities and rural areas and the enormous efforts being made to improve the situation; ii) warning message that despite the huge achievements, the trends are not satisfactory and that delaying actions in cities will prove costly in future; and iii) key priorities for action, including integrating policies in all aspects of urban water management, long-term planning, the need for geographically inclusive policies and financing.

Mr. Piers Cross argued to focus on success stories and avoid depressive messages currently projected in urban water and sanitation discourse. He recommended that the those thematic areas should be chosen that appeal to a wider audience, issues that trigger actions, issues that create a platform for advocacy and those that celebrate the achievements being made in addressing the urban water challenges. Prof. Karl-Ulrich Rudolph noted that the driving force behind any concept lies in the understanding and awareness on who does what and why? He proposed a strong incentive to motivate positive action in urban water management.

Dr. Margaret Catley-Carlson argued that WWD 2011 provides unparalleled opportunity for the UN-Water members to focus attention on a clear vision to better improve and celebrate successes in urban water management. She recommended that "doom and gloom" in the water sector should be reflected in background documents as increased attention is given to sustainable solutions.

Recommendations from Plenary

During the plenary discussions, participants made the following recommendations regarding the planning, organization and development of key messages for WWD 2011:

- i) **Focus on solutions** – most of the speakers stressed to focus on success stories. It was recommended that the key messages for WWD 2011 should be realistic in highlighting urban water challenges while celebrating success stories.
- ii) **Involve top leadership** – The organizers of WWD 2011 should get global leaders to recognize the importance of proper water management in cities and use their messages to inspire positive action.
- iii) **Get more children and youth involved** – Participants unanimously agreed on the need to get more children and youth involved in activities to celebrate the WWD 2011 activities.
- iv) **Work with the media** – Media should be involved in the preparations for the WWD 2011. A media training workshop was suggested for journalists as apart of the WWD 2011.



- v) **Connect as many WWD 2011 events across the world as possible** – More effort be made to better connect WWD 2011 events across the globe through television/ video conferences, live broadcasts, facebook, twitter etc to provide a sense of community participation in the global celebrations.
- vi) **Link mayors and city water managers** – it was recommended that the WWD 2011 organizers should host a videoconference or dialogue of Mayors and city water managers around the globe to link cities in discussing innovative solutions to urban water management.

The road map to Cape Town

Closing the seminar, Mr. Bert Diphorn presented the road map to the WWD 2011 global celebrations planned to take place in Cape Town, South Africa as follows:

- i) **Preparation of communication and outreach materials** – Preparations for WWD 2011, including event programme, speakers, invitations, UN-Water statement, engagement with the media, and the development of

posters, flyers, banners and other marketing/outreach products to be concluded by December 2011.

- ii) **Preparatory conference in Zaragoza, Spain – 13-17 December 2010** – During the conference on “Sustainable Water Management in Cities: engaging stakeholders for effective change” the UN-Water Statement on WWD 2011 will be finalized. Specific outcomes of the conference – especially case studies – will be presented as part of the WWD 2011.
- iii) **Dissemination, advocacy and outreach activities** – Focus will be on dissemination of campaign materials, advocacy and outreach activities in the rest of the months leading up to WWD 2011.

This session was webcasted which can be accessed online or download recording at <http://www.2degreesnetwork.com/register/3733d632-17cd-4fd5-84aa-e6bdb8f09aee/> by joining the 2degrees Water Risk and Strategy Working Group. The Water Risk and Strategy Working Group is an information portal for global water management issues and a place to discuss the most pressing water management challenges and exchange best practice examples, tools and advice. Register free at <http://www.2degreesnetwork.com/register/>

Water and Sanitation Improvement through Gender Mainstreaming and Capacity Building of Local Authorities, Pakistan

UN-HABITAT Pakistan is implementing ‘Water and Sanitation Improvement through Gender Mainstreaming and Capacity Building of Local Authorities’ project in 21 informal settlements of six selected cities of Pakistan, with special focus on Gender Equality. This project aims at facilitating access to water and sanitation for urban women, thereby improving their quality of life and freeing more time for women to engage in other social and economic activities.

The project started with a situational analysis for water and sanitation services in the urban areas of Pakistan, which helped in identification of the cities for implementation of the project. The situational analysis findings were shared with relevant stakeholders and disseminated to wider audience from Watsan sector in Pakistan through a National Consultative Workshop. This National event was also a culmination of the series of provincial workshops with the title of ‘Gender Mainstreaming in WASH’.

The project is being implemented through local NGOs partners so that capacity of the local institutions and service providers gradually improves for the sustainability after the project has ended. The project is being implemented with extreme poor urban communities engaged in professions which are often marginalised and stigmatized e.g. Beggar, sex workers, sweepers and low waged or home based workers, living in conditions which at places are below human dignity, amongst posh urban centres. Since social mobilization has remained a major challenge since start of project, the project team has perceived the development of BCC (Behaviour Change Communication) material with a different angle, thus mainstreaming RBA (Rights Based Approach) and Gender Equality along with UN-HABITAT’s patent Human Values-based Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion has evolved some useful sensitization material such as the

‘A Story of Pain and Disgust’ (A story of women who migrated to an urban slum after getting married to an IDU from her rural parents dwelling), posters with involvement of religious leaders and reading materials for different age groups. The whole process of participatory BCC material development is being documented for wider sharing of experiences. The project team has synchronized the different Themes of BCC with different stages of Project Management Cycle (1. ‘Demand Creation’ before community intervention’s inception; 2. ‘Technical Education’ before project design; 3. ‘Health, Hygiene and Nutrition Promotion’ during the project implementation; and 4. ‘Linking improved facilities with positive behaviours’ at the project completion). BCC material are selected from a wide range of communication tools (leaflets, posters, street theatre, puppet shows banners, documentaries, audio visual clips etc) and developed in a participatory manner with involvement of community based on a formative research with the tool of ‘Appreciative Inquiry’. A communication campaign is launched on each stage of the project with a focussed theme to involve all members of a family (Grand mother & father, Mother and father, Adult boys and girls, younger boys and girls as well girl and boy child) with help of the developed BCC material.

Local Participatory Action Plans are developed at the settlement level with special focus on Gender needs based on the primary assessment with Participatory Reflection and Action (PRA) tools. The implementing partners were provided with the on job training for Gender Mainstreaming in WASH and customization of PRA tools before start of the project. On the completion of primary assessment, women led interventions in water and sanitation improvement are hence introduced addressing the true needs of the vulnerable and destitute groups of the local community.



Nepal Prime Minister launches the Bagmati Action Plan

The Bagmati Action Plan (BAP), prepared with the motive of conserving and restoring the river Bagmati and its tributaries in an integrated approach, has been launched in Nepal on 3 September, 2010. Rt. Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Madhav Kumar Nepal launched the Bagmati Action Plan officially amid a function organized by High Powered Committee for the Integrated Development of Bagmati Civilization (HPCIDBC) and National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC) in the Capital.

Since, the Bagmati River is linked to Bagmati Civilization, natural beauty and urban development; it should be protected in natural condition- said Prime Minister Madhav Kumar Nepal. He believed that the BAP will be very helpful in materializing the efforts made to conserve Bagmati River system. He urged all the stakeholders to help in maintaining the historical, cultural and environmental importance of the river. The Plan had been prepared by HPCIDBC, NTNC with technical and financial support of UN-HABITAT Water for Asian Cities Programme Nepal and United Nation Environment Programme (UNEP). It had been ratified as the official framework document for the development of river system of Kathmandu Valley from the Ministerial Cabinet of Government of Nepal on 11 August, 2009.

Dr. Siddhartha B. Bajracharya, Executive Officer, NTNC claimed that it is the first plan of its kind in Nepal, which was brought to conserve river system. He told that it is a five year project that aims to clean the Bagmati river system and its tributaries. According to him, an estimated budget of NRs. 15 billion has been proposed for the successful implementation of this action plan.

The Plan has identified decreasing water flow, degradation of river water quality, degradation of catchment quality, narrowing and deepening of water way and depletion of aquatic diversity as the major problems in Bagmati River system. Similarly, it has identified the discharging of untreated sewerage, dumping of waste along the river bank, sand mining and river bank encroachment as the main cause behind Bagmati River pollution.

Hence, the Bagmati Action Plan has classified the valley into five different zones- Natural Conservation Core Zone, Rural Zone, Peri-urban Zone, Urban Zone and Downstream Zone, in order to address the issues of river pollution at micro level. It has proposed different activities for different zones to address these problems at micro level, said Mr. Ram Chandra Devkota, Member Secretary of HPCIDBC while presenting the implementation strategy of BAP at the launching programme.

The Plan has proposed for afforestation and rainwater harvesting at Shivapuri Watershed and other areas to increase water quality and flow in the river. It has given top priority to onsite sanitation including technologies such as ECO-SAN toilet to improve environmental sanitation and reduce river pollution at Natural Conservation Core Zone and Urban Zone.

In addition, the plan has also proposed for rehabilitation of the existing wastewater treatment plants and the promotion of Decentralized Wastewater Treatment System (DEWATS). It has also planned to adopt public private partnership approach for the faecal sludge management in some areas as well.

Apart from it, the plan has also recommended for establishing short and long-term sanitation landfill sites for waste management. It will promote household and community level waste management system, and engage private sector for the management of solid waste in Kathmandu Valley.

Since the Bagmati River has high cultural and religious values, the plan has proposed to provide support to cultural and traditional activities related to Bagmati River to maintain and conserve the heritage sites along the river bank.

According to the Plan, IEE/EIA studies should have been carried out prior to any industrial and other construction activities in order to regulate urban growth in and around the river. Similarly, the river bank and bed will be protected using bioengineering and managed by relocating and resettling the squatter settlement.



Introducing Human Values-based Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Education (HVWSHE) in Phnom Penh of Cambodia

In April 2008, UN-HABITAT signed a Cooperation Agreement with a local NGO, Cooperation for a Sustainable Cambodian Society (CSCS) to launch the Human Values-based Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Education (HVWSHE) pilot project in Russey Keo and Dangkor districts of the Municipality of Phnom Penh. The project is expected to be completed by March 2011.

HVWSHE is a learning process that increases people's knowledge and awareness about water, sanitation and hygiene, and associated challenges, develops the necessary skills and expertise to address the challenges, and fosters attitudes, motivation and commitments to make informed decisions. Specific objectives of HVWSHE project in Cambodia were: i) enhance better understanding of HVWSHE in Cambodia, ii) develop training guidebooks for HVWSHE, iii) provide platform for exchanging domestic and international experiences on HVWSHE, iv) enhance the capacity of teachers to conduct HVWSHE, v) demonstrate HVWSHE to other schools through pilot schools both in educational approaches and water classroom, vi) establish cooperation with the Royal University of Phnom Penh to establish HVWSHE within the University's Environmental department and to establish a pilot demonstration project on rainwater harvesting.

In order to achieve the project objectives, CSCS signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS) to established close working relationship and partnership with four relevant departments of MoEYS (Department of Curriculum Development (DCD), Department of School Health (DSH), and Department of Teacher Training (DTT)), and the Phnom Penh Municipal Department of Education, Youth and Sport. CSCS is also closely working with the Phnom Penh Office of Education and the Chiefs of Education, Youth and Sport offices of the two target districts. Ten schools were selected from both target districts (5 schools per district). Eight of them are primary schools.

HVWSHE project has also established strong partnership with the Phnom Penh Teacher Training College and the Department of Environment Science (DES) of the Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP). The DES of RUPP has reviewed their curriculum to integrate HVWSHE concept into the Water Quality Management subject. The university students are also expected to develop demonstration modules on water saving and pilot rainwater harvesting demonstration projects as part of their course work.

Outcome of the project

- ✓ Good cooperation established with the Ministry of Education Youth and Sports and Department of Curriculum Development; TTD, SHD;
- ✓ Development of HVWSHE curriculum, students' text books and teacher manuals for schools in Cambodia, which have consequently been approved and signed by H.E. I.M. Sathy, Minister of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS);
- ✓ Capacity building and training of School Directors, Teachers, D.O.E and P.O.E on HVWSHE and pre-service teachers of TTC in Phnom Penh;
- ✓ HVWSHE has been taught to students studying at eight primary schools and two secondary schools in Russey Keo and Dangkor districts;
- ✓ Integrated of the HVWSHE concept into two core subjects of the national curriculum: Khmer Literature for grade 4 and Earth Sciences for grade 9;
- ✓ Review of the DES-RUPP curriculum & integrating HVWSHE into the Water Quality Management Subject, which will be taught to third year students;
- ✓ In addition, teaching and learning materials (posters, audio visual aids and guidelines) have been developed by CSCS in cooperation with counterparts from MoEYS for schools and colleges of target areas;
- ✓ CSCS in cooperation with Phnom Penh Water Supply Authority (PPWSWA) produced an audio visual aid (DVD on HVWSHE) for water classrooms;

- ✓ Establishment of two water classrooms in the target areas, one per target district. The project team developed a guideline for water classroom preparation & management to support schools in the establishment of HVWSHE water classroom in Cambodia. The Facilitator and trainer guidebook on HVWSHE classroom of UN-HABITAT, the Teacher Manual on Effective Learning of Child Friendly School Policy and the Guideline for Library Preparation and Management of MoEYS were used as references to develop the project guidebook on HVWSHE classroom preparation and management; and
- ✓ In each academic year, one outstanding teacher and one school director per target district will be selected by the working group, whose members are from D.O.E, P.O.E, MoEYS and CSCS, as HVWSHE Champions. The selection criteria for teachers & school directors take into account the following: achievements of HVWSHE activities and levels of promotion campaign efficiency of HVWSHE in their schools and surrounding communities. There are forty-one HVWSHE classrooms in eleven schools (eight primary schools, two secondary schools and one TTC), forty-one target teachers (three of them were trainers of TTC), who have been teaching HVWSHE. The total number of target students is 2,042 (960 of whom are female).



Demonstration activities inside the water classroom in Cambodia, Photo © UN-Habitat

Other impact

Directors of water utility companies from five provinces in Cambodia (Kampot, Kampong Cham, Kampong Thom, Pursat and Svay Rieng) – and which are under UN-HABITAT's MEKWATSAN programme - were trained on the definition and application of HVWSHE. They have realised that HVWSHE could help contributing to achieve their overall objectives, and have requested UN-HABITAT and CSCS to extend the HVWSHE project to their respective provinces to support the tasks of water utility offices.

Teachers and students of CHAMROEUN ROTH primary school in LOU village, SVAYPARK commune, Reussey Keo district, Phnom Penh, Cambodia, beyond the project realm, conducted a four-day campaign (from 28 March to 1 April 2010) to promote HVWSHE at school and in surrounding communities. The target groups were representatives from three villages, invited by the school to participate in the promotion event. A total of 133 community people (88 women) participated in the workshops.

The school's management has promoted HVWSHE to the surrounding communities by sharing important HVWSHE messages. Posters have also been shared with the community for display on village information boards.

HVWSHE messages are also continually shared with students during the morning assemblies before classes begin. Moreover, two additional schools established water classrooms, using their own resources, following instructions of the guideline developed by the project. So far, four water classrooms were established in our target areas. Only two of them were actually established with UN-HABITAT project resources.

12th Meeting of Sustainable Sanitation Alliance (SuSanA) during WWW 2010

The 12th meeting of Sustainable Sanitation Alliance (SuSanA) was held on 2 consecutive days in conjunction with the World Water Week starting the day after. The meeting was organised by Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) and the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) on behalf of SuSanA secretariat. On 03-04 September 2010, various working group meetings were organized and following were the key presentations during the programme:

- New concept on Sanitation Ladder and need to reconsider JMP model
- Progress on several thematic working group of Susana like Capacity building, Food Security, Community, Rural and School Sanitation, Operation & Maintenance, Public Awareness and Sanitation Marketing, Sustainable Sanitation during Emergency, Sanitation Systems & Technological Options, Gender and Sanitation, Sanitation for Cities and Planning, Ground Water Protection, Renewal Energy and Climate Change, Costs and Economics of Sustainable Sanitation.
- All thematic group presented fact sheets which will be quite useful for stakeholders in implementation of project.
- Online Course materials for sustainable sanitation
- New Sustainable Sanitation Water Management Tool Box and CLTS presentation were also two very good presentation that can be used in several UN-HABITAT WATSAN programme.
- Social Networking through facebook, twitter, flicker, Youtube to disseminate information on sustainable sanitation activities at global level
- Information about Sanitation and Water For All was also discussed during the meeting.

It was discussed that the classical concept of sanitation ladder leading from open defecation to flush toilets (technology based) is used for JMP monitoring but does not take into account if the infrastructure is functioning. Hence, there is a need to include functions of sanitation systems like excreta containment, access, pathogen elimination or nutrient reuse in the sanitation ladder.



Chair: Roland Schertenleib (EAWAG) and Co-Chair: Roshan Raj Shrestha (UN-Habitat) during SuSanA plenary meeting on 04 September 2010. Photo © UN-Habitat

On Saturday 4 September, a total of 5 sessions took place with joint plenary and working group meetings. The plenary provided a forum for a short introduction round of all participants, allowed newcomers and partners to get a quick overview about SuSanA and the working groups, it welcomed/encouraged (new) partners to join/participate in working groups and tried to help "dormant" working groups get active.

The working group meetings in Session 2 provided the opportunities to interact on technical issues. Besides the presentation of the working groups and other SuSanA related activities there was an opportunity for presentations of key developments in the sanitation sector (such as the sanitation ladder) and external inputs from WSSCC, WASH United and SWA.

Meeting concluded with a felt need for continuous cooperation among SuSana members and update the information to each thematic group. Both GTZ and SEI committed to provide its support to run secretariat and welcomed support from other members. UN-HABITAT contributed during thematic working ground session in capacity building and sanitation.

Workshop on Management of Groundwater Abstraction and Pollution

At the Workshop on Management of Groundwater Abstraction and Pollution during Stockholm World Water Week 2010, Dr. Roshan Raj Shrestha, UN-HABITAT Regional Chief Technical Advisor, South Asia presented a Paper on **"Local initiatives for conserve Traditional Water Sources through Rainwater Harvesting and Ground Water Recharge"** on 7 September 2010. The presentation was highlighted ancient and traditional community managed water supply system in Kathmandu Valley established during 4th Century and its destruction after introduction of new water supply system, haphazard urban growth and heavy extraction of groundwater. The paper also highlighted importance of such water supply system due to shortage of drinking water supply through city supply network and community's initiation for conservation of traditional water supply system through rainwater harvesting and ground water recharge.

In response to community initiative, UN-HABITAT in partnership with private sector like Coca-Cola, academic institution like Bentley University, USA, local authority of the Lalitpur Sub-metropolitan City, local NGO and local community groups has been supporting local initiative to establish groundwater recharge systems in different communities of the city of Patan was also highlighted during the presentation.

The session was chaired by Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) was the convener and Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources, Germany (BGR), International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH) and World Bank/GW-MATE were the Co-convener of the session.

There were also other three papers like 'Prioritising and mainstreaming groundwater management in developing countries' by Prof. Steven Foster, World Bank GW-MATE, 'Investigation of sustainability of arsenic low aquifers in regions with high arsenic groundwater, SE Bangladesh – implications for water management' by Mr. Mattias von Brömssen, Ramböll Sweden and 'Increasing role of groundwater intensive development in global water policy' by Prof. Ramon Llamas, FMB Water Observatory, Spain. In general the workshop addressed the issues on the protection of groundwater resource, increasing threat from inadequately regulated pumping and pollution that arises from inadequately controlled effluent and waste disposal and land use. Similarly discussion was held on institutional responsibility for control of groundwater abstraction and protection against pollution, need for development of groundwater protection strategies, need of better land use planning for effluent discharge and waste disposal practices and effort needs to make groundwater use and environmental conservation more compatible.

The UN Secretary-General, Mr. Ban Ki-moon has introduced new Targets under respective Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) since the beginning of his tenure. For details please check the United Nations MDG website, <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals>. For example:

GOAL 7: ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Target 3: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation

Target 4: By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers



Taps, Toilets and Tennis Rackets for 40 Schools around Lao PDR

Forty schools around Lao PDR received a welcome gift: a box full of sports equipment. The aluminum containers filled with bibs, rackets, nets and other useful things were donated by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in a partnership with UN-HABITAT's Human Values-based Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Education (HVWSHE) initiative.

UN-HABITAT currently has water and sanitation projects in 28 towns around Lao PDR. However, the work undertaken here extends beyond installing taps and toilets, as demonstrated by the Human Values-based Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Education program. The scheme was introduced in 2008 to raise awareness and understanding of water conservation and other issues related to water and sanitation amongst young people in Lao PDR.

Building capacities at schools is an important step in facilitating changes in behavior and attitudes, and understanding the linkage between good health and access to clean water is a key message UN-HABITAT, Lao Olympics committee and the Norwegian Church Aid - the partners in this particular initiative

- want to promote. IOC's donation fits in with the campaign's aim to increase the youngsters' understanding of the relationship between good health and active lifestyle.

Physical education is a favorite subject amongst the children and sports such as volleyball and table tennis are extremely popular, but as Mr. Bounsouk Thilasack of the Ministry of Education pointed out at the handover ceremony held on May 11th, many schools are unable to provide the necessary materials and tools required for physical education. With the newly received equipment, at least some of students will now be able to enjoy playing not just volleyball, but also try sports that are perhaps new to them, such as badminton. This will hopefully encourage them to lead a more active lifestyle which, in turn, will lead to improved health.

"We hope that the new equipment will improve after school sports activities besides playing a catalytic role to our current HVWSHE initiative", said Mr. Buahom Sengkhamyong, the country's Chief Technical Advisor of UN-HABITAT.

Representatives from the NCA, UN-HABITAT, National Olympics Committee, Ministry of Education and school teachers / students at the handover ceremony of Sports Equipments in Lao PDR, 2010. Photo © UN-Habitat



Eye on Asia: Water Sufficiency through Improved Water Quality

A half-day Seminar on "Eye on Asia: Water Sufficiency through Improved Water Quality" was organized during the Stockholm World Water Week on 08 September 2010 by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Korea Water (K-Water) and Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI).

Presentation and discussions on Water quality issues for Asia's sustainable socioeconomic growth, impacting on agriculture due to pollution, impact on human health, and national budgets were made during the session. The session also discussed on current and emerging solutions to rapidly scaling up water quality enhancements in communities, cities, and basins.

Dr. Roshan Raj Shrestha, UN-HABITAT Regional Chief Technical Advisor, South Asia made a presentation on "Civil Society Initiative on City Supply Water Quality Monitoring and Improvement".

The presentation highlighted the two decades history on water quality monitoring by civil society in Nepal and its impact on mass awareness on need for

improvement of water quality, improve in water quality supply system and formulation of drinking water quality standard due to this initiative.

The paper also highlighted simple cost effective tool for water quality monitoring by civil society and its knowledge dissemination at various level. Similarly, UN-HABITAT's intervention on water quality improvement in city was also discussed.

There were presentations on: Water quality and the cities of Asia by Prof. Seeram Ramakrishna, National University of Singapore;

Challenges for sustainable water quality improvement in Asia by Nasimul Islam, ADB, Indonesia;

Index of drinking water adequacy by Dr. Fan Mingxuan, National University of Singapore; and Achieving better water quality in urban centres in India: Policy options for boosting investments by Rajendra Kumar Barhate, Environmental Science and Engineering.

Biography of Dr. Joan Clos, the new Executive Director of UN-HABITAT



Dr. Joan Clos, Executive Director Designate, UN-HABITAT

A graduate of medicine with qualifications in public health, Joan Clos first joined the Barcelona Municipal Government as Director of Public Health in 1979. During this period he was instrumental in conceptualizing the General Health System law which led to the introduction of the Spanish National Health System.

As Councillor, between 1983 and 1987, Clos was known for improving municipal management and for initiating urban renewal projects. In particular, he directed the regeneration of Ciutat Vella (The Barcelona Downtown district) through a series of comprehensive interventions that included financial & social investment and the strengthening of urban facilities.

Elected as Deputy Mayor for two terms, from 1991, Clos reorganized the economic and financial structures of Barcelona City Hall to meet the challenges of the Olympic Games. He was also instrumental in establishing a financing programme for further investment following the Olympics.

Mayor of Barcelona

During his tenure as Mayor, from 1997 to 2006, Joan Clos implemented far reaching investment programmes for the city of Barcelona. One of the most ambitious projects was the design and preparation of Barcelona Project which aimed at renovating the city's industrial and technological zones. An additional 250 hectares of land in one of the most deprived areas of Barcelona was renovated to include social housing, hotels and offices. In 2004, this was the site of the first Forum of Cultures, which also hosted the second World Urban Forum.

In addition to his municipal background, Joan Clos has considerable regional and international experience. He established the Metropolitan Plan for the Management of Urban Waste which led to the closure of the Garraf waste dump, setting up four treatment stations with facilities for recycling.

At the international level, in 1998, Joan Clos was elected President of Metropolis, the international network of cities. In 2000, he was elected President of the World Association of Cities and Local Authorities, (WACLAC). Between 2000 & 2007, he was Chairman of the United Nations Advisory Committee of Local Authorities, (UNACLA). In 2004, he was the Vice-president of United Cities and Local Governments, (UCLG) and between 1997 & 2003, he was member of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions, (CEMR).

UN-HABITAT Mission to Bhutan

A UN-HABITAT Mission led by Andre Dzikus, Chief, WSS-II, UN-HABITAT and Dr. Kulwant Singh, visited Bhutan with the main objective of meeting the Minister and Senior Officials of the Government of Bhutan to discuss and explore the possibilities for new initiatives under the Water for Asian Cities (WAC) Programme and also meet various other UN partners and also private sector organisation including Coca-Cola Management in Bhutan.

During the visit to Thimphu, Bhutan, the Mission met with the Minister, Secretary, Director, DUDES (Department of Urban Development and Engineering Services), Head of Urban Infrastructure Division, Chief Planning Officers and Environment Officers of the Ministry of Public Works and Human Settlements. The Mission made a detailed presentation on the role and various activities of the UN-HABITAT at the global, regional and country level and also on the role of Water for Asian Cities Programme in the countries of the region.

The Minister and all the High Officials of the Government of Bhutan expressed happiness at the visit of the UN-HABITAT Mission and through the Mission invited UN-HABITAT for taking up various activities in Bhutan. After discussion the Minister requested the UN-HABITAT Mission for taking up a Rainwater Harvesting Project in Mongar township as soon as possible. Suggestions were also made for the setting up of an HVWSHE classroom in a school in Bhutan.

Meetings with the UNRC, Thimphu, Bhutan

The Mission also called on the UNRC and briefed her on the objectives of the Mission as well as the interest of UN-HABITAT to undertake some activities under the WAC Programme. The RC briefed about the various activities under UNDAF and also suggested that UN-HABITAT may participate in the UNCT meetings through its Bangkok office and appreciated the UN-HABITAT interest for taking up the activities and making a start before end of the year in Bhutan.

Expanding Partnership with Coca-Cola in Bhutan

The Mission had a meeting with Mr. Tshenchok Thinlay, Managing Director, Coca-Cola Bottling Company in Bhutan and shared with him the UN-HABITAT partnership with Coca-Cola for the last four years. The MD showed interest and stated that he will concretize his ideas for a partnership project in consultation with his team as well as with the management of Coca-Cola India who have been supporting the unit in Bhutan.

As a follow up and in pursuance of the discussion with the Government of Bhutan a cooperation agreement is being developed for setting up (a) RWH in Mongar and (b) HVWSHE classroom in a high school. Coca-Cola India has also agreed in principle to support another initiative in Bhutan.

Nepal: the Best Achiever among UN-HABITAT Supported Countries

Impact Study carried out so far in UN-HABITAT supported countries has shown Nepal as the best achiever in urban water and sanitation (WATSAN) perspective", stated Andre Dzikus, Chief, WSS-II, UN-HABITAT. Speaking at a dissemination workshop in Lalitpur on 21 July 2010, Dzikus has shared this opinion. The workshop had been organized by UN-HABITAT Water for Asian Cities Programmes to share the findings of the study carried out to evaluate the impact of WAC programme in urban WATSAN sector in Nepal. Based on the Nepal Country Impact Study report, Dzikus also mentioned about the tangible impacts that WAC programme did in last five years in urban WATSAN sector in Nepal. He stressed on the need to strategize the community involvement approaches to optimize the impacts of available WSTF. Krishna Prasad Acharya, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Physical Planning and Works expressed his commitment to take initiative to replicate the successful WATSAN practices in new urban areas of Nepal. At the programme, Roshan Raj Shrestha, UN-HABITAT Regional Chief Technical Advisor, South Asia stressed that the urban water and

sanitation should be given compatible priority along with other development sectors to achieve remarkable improvement in WATSAN in urban areas. UN-HABITAT has been undertaking various WATSAN projects under its WAC Programme in 35 municipalities, 18 small towns and 8 peri-urban area of Nepal with focus on pro-poor WATSAN governance, urban water demand management, integrated urban environmental sanitation, and income generation for the urban poor. He informed that the programme has directly benefited more than 232,000 people improving their living standards with remarkable improvement in water supply and sanitation in the programme areas. Sharing about the partnership between the Department of Water Supply and Sewerage (DWSS) and UN-HABITAT in building the capacity of local agencies and communities in small towns of Nepal, Gajendra Thakur, Director General, DWSS suggested UN-HABITAT to allocate their support in hardware components of the project so that WATSAN services could improved and made easily accessible to urban poor.

UN-HABITAT participates in the World City Water Forum in Korea

UN-HABITAT represented by Toshiyasu Noda, Regional Director, ROAP, Andre Dzikus, Chief, WSS-II and Kulwant Singh visited Incheon to participate in the World City Water Forum Infra-Workshop 2010 from 10-13 August 2010. The World City Water Forum Infra-Workshop, which was attended by nearly 1,000 participants comprised of four workshops. These included (i) Water Champion Cities Workshop organised in partnership with World Water Council; (ii) Incheon Water Declaration Workshop; (iii) World Water Development Report 4 Workshop organised in collaboration with UN-HABITAT; and (iv) HydroAsia & HydroEurope Workshop. These were held in Songdo Convensia. The UN-HABITAT Mission particularly focused and attended Water Champions Workshop and World Water Development Report 4 Workshop. The WWDR 4 Workshop reviewed and discussed the draft Challenge Area Report and made several suggestions for further revising the Report. These included the following.

1. Current and future challenges faced by urban areas
2. Water and Urbanisation: Challenges including rapidly increasing urban population; impact of climate change; Aging, Deteriorated and Absent infrastructure;

The workshop discussed various Factors including:

- (a) Finances and investments;

- (b) Governance includes transparency, accountability, equity/ capacity building
- (c) Political will, public awareness, ethics and values.

The workshop concluded that the key vision of the report should be sustainable and reliable urban water supply and improved environmental sanitation in the world's cities with strategies such as:

- i) Comprehensive city planning, integrated urban water & solid waste management;
- ii) Self sustaining urban environments; water demand management;
- iii) 3R- reduce, reuse and recycle;
- iv) Rights Based Approaches, Reducing Corruption and Fraud,
- v) Community Based Planning processes and delivery mechanisms
- vi) User/Polluter pay principles, Innovative financing
- vii) Advocacy, Awareness Raising, Education (HVWSHE)
- viii) Strengthened Capacity for Improved Service Delivery etc.

The workshop highlighted (i) The technology challenge of both existing aging infrastructure and new technology required to meet new standards and challenges; and (ii) Sea-level rise which will pose a major challenge for many coastal cities.

UN-HABITAT Mission meets World Toilet Association in Korea

During the visit to South Korea, the UN-HABITAT Mission had a very fruitful meeting with Mr. Hyung-Deog Lee, Secretary General of World Toilet Association (WTA) in Songdo. The Mission familiarized Mr. Lee about the UN-HABITAT in general and specifically about UN-HABITAT's Water and Sanitation related programmes in Africa, Asia and LAC countries and particularly in the field of sanitation in promoting Eco-Sanitation in India, Nepal and Mekong Region Countries. Mr. Lee also apprised UN-HABITAT about WTA and gave an introduction of WTA. He explained the background of World Toilet Association, its goals, its business and sources of funding. He said that currently WTA was working in Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, South Africa in the African region. In Asia WTA was working in Cambodia, Laos, China, Indonesia, Nepal and also Mongolia. He also explained WTA's Guidelines and Public Toilet Building Project Procedures.

The UN-HABITAT Mission expressed interest to jointly take up projects in the Asian Region particularly in Nepal and Mekong region as well as in Indonesia. It was agreed that UN-HABITAT will also share some of its publications with the WTA and further interact for developing possibilities for jointly taking up projects to build community toilets.

UN-HABITAT Mission Meeting with the University of Incheon

A special Meeting was held with Professor Gye-woon Choi and his team comprising of Alicia Rio and Lien Guey Ler in which future cooperation between the UN-HABITAT and the University of Incheon was discussed. The Mission discussed the possible areas of collaboration. The Mission proposed Incheon University to be the UN-HABITAT Partner University. The Mission also discussed about the possibility of organising more workshops next year including workshop on Valuing Water, Investing in Infrastructure, its maintenance and operation as well as Energy and Industry. These workshops as proposed by the University of Incheon can be planned independently. The meeting also discussed the IUCH joint research project proposal with UN-HABITAT and KOICA for addressing the Climate Change Impact on Water and Sanitation System Services in Nepal and Bhutan. The meeting discussed the possibility of organising Seminars to discuss the findings and results from the research at an appropriate time. The UN-HABITAT Mission was informed about the Regional Meeting on Climate from 15-17 September in Korea which is supported by World Bank, GTZ and others. UN-HABITAT was invited.

Safe Drinking Water Campaign among Students in Nepal

An Inter-School Speech Competition has been organized on 02 August 2010 in Lalitpur to sensitize students on the importance of safe drinking water and enhance their knowledge on drinking water treatment options. The competition with the theme "Drinking Water Treatment Options" has been organized jointly by Environment and Public Health Organization (ENPHO), UN HABITAT, EAWAG/ SANDAC and Coca Cola Company.

The students participating from 4 different schools presented their speech about different drinking water Point of Use (PoU) options particularly chlorination, boiling, filtration and Solar Water Disinfection (SODIS) technique at the programme. Among them, four students were selected as the winner in four different categories. Reshu Shrestha from Shree Shanti Secondary School was awarded in Bio-Sand Filter category, Pramod Sunuwar won the award in SODIS category where as award in Chlorination category went to Karishma Rawot and Colloidal Siver Filter category to Sangeeta Aalemagar of Kumbheshwor Primary School. The winners were felicitated with certificate and prize.

The Executive Director of ENPHO, Mr. Suman Shakya said that the child mortality rate due to various waterborne diseases has been decreased remarkably in Nepal due to successful efforts made by different WATSAN organizations in raising public awareness on safe drinking water and promoting drinking water PoU options. ENPHO, UN HABITAT, EAWAG/ SANDEC and Coca-Cola Company has organized a week-long Water and Hygiene Campaign in 10 selected schools of Lalitpur. The campaign has been initiated with the aim to sensitize students on safe drinking water, encourage them in its use and prevent waterborne diseases. Apart from speech competition, the campaign conducted various activities including student orientation programmes, educational exposure visit and school cleaning campaigns.

UN-HABITAT and Coca-Cola Company has been conducting "Partnership for Safe Water" programme in Lalitpur Sub-metropolitan City for past few years. This campaign has been conducted in the same schools covered by the Partnership for Safe Water programme. The programme has also been implemented in other 5 municipalities of Nepal to extend safe drinking water and sanitation.

Editorial Board

- Toshi Noda, Director,
UN-HABITAT ROAP, Japan
- Andre Dzikus, Chief,
Water & Sanitation Section II,
UN-HABITAT Headquarter
- Roshan Raj Shrestha,
CTA, South Asia Region, WAC,
Kathmandu, Nepal
- Avi Sarkar,
CTA, South East Asia,
UN-HABITAT Vientiane, Lao PDR

Chief Editor

- Andre Dzikus, Chief,
Water & Sanitation Section II,
UN-HABITAT Headquarter

Managing Editor

- Kulwant Singh, Advisor,
MEK-WATSAN and WAC
Programme, New Delhi, India

Story Write-ups for ROAP

- Yumi Kumagai,
Information Officer,
UN-HABITAT Japan

Design & Layout

- Jogesh Arora,
Management Assistant,
UN-HABITAT India

UN-HABITAT Japan Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP)

ACROS Fukuoka Building,
8th Floor, 1-1-1 Tenjin, Chuo-ku,
Fukuoka 810-0001, Japan
Tel: (81-92)724-7121
Fax: (81-92)724-7124
Email: habitat.fukuoka@unhabitat.org
Web: www.fukuoka.unhabitat.org

UN-HABITAT Headquarter Water for Asian Cities (WAC) MEK-WATSAN Programmes

UN Complex, Gigiri
P.O. Box 30030, Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: +254-20-7623060
Fax: +254-20-7623588
Email: Andre.Dzikus@unhabitat.org
Web: www.unhabitat.org/water
www.unwac.org

UN-HABITAT Initiative brings Water Supply to Secondary Towns in Laos: MEK-WATSAN Phase II underway

UN-HABITAT has begun the implementation of the second phase of the Mekong Region Water and Sanitation Initiative (MEK-WATSAN) in nine towns around the Lao PDR. The total budget exceeds \$3million USD, bringing access to clean water and/or improved sanitation facilities to more than 280,000 people around the Mekong Region, over 73,000 of whom are in Lao PDR. This will be achieved by replacing or rehabilitating existing water and sanitation structures or expanding the current networks and building new facilities.

The project implementation in Lao PDR is a joint effort between UN-HABITAT and the Government. At a district-level the projects are executed mostly by Nam-Papa State-owned Enterprises (NPSEs), who are responsible for urban water supply in the country. One of the projects is also piloting a public-private partnership with GRET, a French NGO, and another is carried out in association with the Department of Statistics (DoS). However, when it comes to the hands-on work, the communities benefiting from the initiative will have a key role in the process: they have the main responsibility for digging drenches for the pipes. They are also consulted in the planning stage of the projects.

As well as providing improved access to water and sanitation, the project aims to build capacity among the inhabitants of the target villages. This is achieved through capacity-building initiatives such as training local artisans to build and maintain latrines.

MEK-WATSAN aims to improve the living conditions of the urban poor in the Mekong Region as well as to protect local environments. The first phase of the programme was launched in 2005 and included a number of "fast-track" initiatives demonstrated how by using participatory and community-based approaches access to water and sanitation can be improved in a short time and with relatively small investments.

In this a "roll-out" phase the programme is being expanded to another 10 towns around the Northern, Central and Southern Regions of Lao PDR, and it is expected to complete towards the end of 2011. MEK-WATSAN also operates in the neighboring Vietnam and Cambodia, supporting the efforts of the Governments in the Mekong region meet their water and sanitation-related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Public-Private-Community Partnerships to support the Campaign on "Adopt My School"

As part of the Public-Private-Community partnerships, COCA-COLA INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED and UN-HABITAT have come forward to support the *Campaign ("Adopt My School")*. This goal is to improve community access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation through water conservation and raising awareness in 80-100 schools across India. The proposal from Coca-Cola India Private Limited is an extension of their support to UN-HABITAT's Water and Sanitation Trust Fund and is exemplary in providing a model of collaboration between the private sector and UN agencies.

The overriding thrust of this Campaign is to ensure that students and community have adequate knowledge about water and sanitation issues and probable solutions and are able to propagate the learnings achieved in schools to improve the children's health, learning achievement and productivity. The Campaign is aimed in pursuit of the Millennium Development Goal 7, target 3 of reducing the population of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation to half by 2015.

Coca-Cola India Private Limited (CC IPL) has conceptualized and designed this Campaign to create mass awareness about how collaborative efforts could improve awareness on water and sanitation amongst school children, by improving the conditions of schools in India which include lack of water, poor sanitation and hygiene, waste disposal sys-

tem, poor and ill-equipped sports infrastructure etc. The aim is to build awareness about Water and sanitation and promotion of healthy, active lifestyles of school children by improvement/provision of basic infrastructural facilities as Health and hygiene of school children are largely dependent on adequate availability of drinking water and proper sanitation in their schools.

Discussions are on way with a leading news channel "NDTV Limited" or any other leading media channel to partnership for the said Campaign for devising the mass media Campaign which will generate public interest and help raise funds for the implementation of the Project. Apart from NDTV Limited, both UN-HABITAT and CC IPL shall identify the local implementing agency for the purpose of implementing the Project.

UN-HABITAT shall be primarily responsible for imparting and using its technical and subject knowledge on water and sanitation for the implementation of the Project including supplying content on water and sanitation, conducting WATSAN Classrooms, rendering value based educational support during the course of the Project.

The Campaign and Project will be implemented between a period of 12-18 months through an equal joint partnership between CC IPL and UN-HABITAT along with other key partners.