Minutes of the SuSanA India Chapter Meeting

Panjim, Goa, India
21 February 2018

Overview of the seminar

The SuSanA India Chapter meeting was held in Panaji, Goa, India on 21 February 2018, along with the 50th annual convention of the Indian Water Works Association's (IWWA).

The full day meeting of the SuSanA India Chapter was organized by the Ecosan Services Foundation, the India Sanitation Coalition and the SuSanA secretariat. The seminar brought together around 40 experts and encouraged discussions on the following topics:

- Urban sanitation
- Holistic approaches to sanitation
- Financing and monitoring sanitation

The participants also debated a way forward for the SuSanA India Chapter as it enters the second phase.

Various media channels were used to communicate the meeting's proceedings:

Information about past and upcoming SuSanA India Chapter meetings
Link: http://www.susana.org/en/knowledge-hub/regional-chapters/indian-chapter/susana-india-chapter-events

Preparation, feedback and on-going discussions originating from the SuSanA India Chapter session on the Forum
Link: http://www.forum.susana.org/232-susana-meetings/22152-susana-india-chapter-regional-meeting-goa-19-21-february-2018

Wednesday, 21 February 2018

Venue: Clube Tennis de Gaspar Dias**,** Near Bandodkar Samadhi Marg, Miramar Beach

▶ Welcoming Words of Dayanand Panse, Ecosan Services Foundation

Mr. Dayanand Panse, Ecosan Services Foundation, opened the second SuSanA India Chapter meeting. He said frequent meetings are good to facilitate exchange of views among India Chapter members and support the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM).

▶ SuSanA's role in promoting sanitation worldwide, Dr. Arne Panesar, SuSanA Secretariat

Dr. Arne Panesar gave an overview of the developments in 11 years of SuSanA and the birth of the Indian Chapter in June 2016. The India Chapter took up the momentum created by the launch of the SBM. As the funding for the first phase of the chapter is coming to an end, the meeting is an opportunity to brainstorm together about the way forward of the SuSanA India Chapter.

▶ SuSanA India Chapter's role in promoting sanitation in India, Nitya Jacob, SuSanA India Chapter Coordinator

The coordinator of the SuSanA India Chapter, Mr. Nitya Jacob gave a summary of the first two years of the SuSanA India Chapter and presented an outlook of the plans for the next phase.

The SuSanA India Chapter is supported by the India Sanitation Coalition (ISC) and the SuSanA secretariat - with financial support from Arghyam. The local membership for India is about 2,500 after two years, the largest country member base in the global SuSanA. The four objectives of the Chapter at launch were to create knowledge products that have a larger impact in India by adapting to the local needs, to provide a regional exchange platform, where practical knowledge from the field can be shared within India as well as globally and lastly, that SuSanA members and partners can increase their impact and efficiency by combining their resources while using SuSanA as a sounding board for dissemination.

Core activities are Thematic online discussions on sanitation-related issues, create an own SuSanA India Chapter website within SuSanA page and usage of SuSanA tools for the Chapter such as the library, Discussion Forum etc. and to organise face-to-face meetings. It has recently started a content-exchange with the Hindi Water Portal to bring out stories from the grassroots.

▶ Sanitation in India – Perspective from Quality Council of India, Ankit Tulsyan, Quality Council India

The Quality Council of India was established in 1997, formerly a part of Government of India and the ministry of commerce and industry. Its mandate is among others to ensure quality in the implementation through monitoring of Swachh Survekshan, SMB and the assessment and certification of ODF cities.

Mr. Ankit Tulsyan stressed that sanitation movements in India started much earlier than the SBM. However, today is a very critical junction for sanitation sector in India, with the SBM setting up of a national and state level project monitoring units (PMUs). The second change from previous missions is that instead of doing evaluations at the end of the programme, they are done more continuously every few months. Third, the focus is now on Open Defecation Free (ODF) communities, which is a major change from the past.

One big challenge was the institutional knowledge which is lost when bureaucrats are transferred. The PMU is able bridge the knowledge gap and bring the new appointees up to speed so the movement does not lose momentum.

Mr. Tulsyan highlighted several points of improvement for the SBM:

- Liquid waste management can be taken up more strongly by improving convergence between AMRUT and SBM
- ODF protocols needs to become more stringent
- FSM has been talked about but movement and actions are required now

He said meetings like these are the right stage with the right set of stakeholders to come together for constructive inputs and SuSanA together with ISC is the perfect platform to make voices heard in the sanitation policy landscape in India. A question and answer session followed.

Q: Is water supply to sanitation facilities included in Swachh Survekshan? A question on water availability is included in the Swachh Survekshan.

Q: Is there a pressure or conflict of interest to ULBs to rank ODF or higher? Ranking has not to be connected directly to visible cleanliness. Documentation on cleanliness includes three components, more than what is just visible in the city (processing of waste). Fierce competition among states and cities which has woken the cities and brought them into action.

▶ **Overview of India Sanitation Coalition and recap of the Insight Series 'Sanitation and Tourism', Shipra Saxena, ISC**

The India Sanitation Coalition was launched in 2015 with the aim of bringing together different actors in the sanitation sector. ISC is housed in FICCI, the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. It has about 150 active member organisations, from corporate members, civil society, and governments and engagements in Rajasthan and Maharashtra.

ISC supports partnerships and collaboration to reach more impact with a common voice. Another focus is learning and knowledge management. ISC has collected over 150 sanitation case studies from its members. ISC conducts the 'Insight series' - a solution oriented discussion format on sanitation topics that are not much debated but that have an influence on each other. The previous day, an Insight talk was organised on 'Sanitation and Tourism' that raised several issues.

▶ **Introduction round – A collection of dreams for SuSanA.** Participants were asked to introduce themselves and state expectations from the SuSanA India Chapter. Some excerpts:

- First meeting, gain knowledge about the network, what are goals of SuSanA (mentioned multiple times)
- Huge gap in views and posts in the thematic discussions, encourage to contribute
- Work with research institutions
- NGO and Government activities
- Contact to new business models & partners, knowledge about new technologies.
- Sanitation as a public health topic, how to sustain the momentum in India when SBM will end/be achieved in October 2019
- Cross sectoral alliance between AMRUT and SBM
- Today there is no innovative funding mechanism for innovative technologies
- Link between sanitation to agriculture and nutrition, be aware of the co-benefits
- Unique about SuSanA: membership has raised continuously. Continuity of quality, contributions to the sector. Honesty, not only increase membership, SuSanA is about sector and like-minded people.

- India Chapter: value addition to SBM is to bring people to talk about failures and successes, need to talk to each other, share learnings from different parts of the country
- Overcome challenge to promote products
- Knowledge exchange, overcome gaps in sanitation value chain
- Faecal waste management
- How can WASH be implemented, how can we reach the goal to really reach the schools
- What will be after completing ODF? FSM
- Behavioural change is very necessary
- Bring together people from different backgrounds to one platform. Govt. schemes need facilitators
- Policies remain on paper often, SuSanA can facilitate movement and implementation
- Involve more policy makers in meetings
- Documents like septage white paper should be distributed at higher level, ULBs should try it out and give feedback about format if it is useful.
- Include discussions from academic fields
- Field work experiences, learn from other experiences from other parts of the country
- SBM ODF by 2019, what alliances can work to reach that goal

Session 2 **12:00 - 13:00**	**Urban Sanitation Challenges** **Chair: Zachary Burt, Colombia University** *Download presentations: http://www.susana.org/en/knowledge-hub/resources-and-publications/library/details/2970*

Detailed Project Report on Comprehensive Underground Sewerage Scheme for Mysore City, Vinay Kumar (Mysore Municipal Corporation)

Mr. Vinay Kumar presented the requirements and challenges in preparing a City sanitation plan for Mysore, a rapidly growing city of about 1 million population with 65 wards.

Parameters to be clarified upfront include

1. What is required? How to plan the system? E.g., geographical characteristics like valleys

2. Is there sufficient water for a sewage system?

3. Are there enough funds and resources to plan proper sanitation in the city?

Challenges faced in the preparation of the CSP

- Most of sewerage lines have not been designed and installed scientifically. Gradients are a problem, flow is based on gravity and hydraulics are not properly planned and maintained
- Population is not estimated properly
- Blockings, mostly due to flushing of sanitary napkins
- No proper distribution of sewer lines
- Getting funds - a good Detailed Project Proposal (DPR) is crucial
- Proper treatment plants are required
- Capacity of treating 99% of sewage but only 80% is treated, rest ends up in open drains

In 2015, Mysore was declared ODF and has remained so.

Septage Management in Urban India, Rahul Sharma (GIZ)

Mr. Rahul Sharma presented the new white paper on 'Septage management from the urban perspective - Providing conceptual clarity', which is based on inputs from SuSanA members in the thematic online discussion on faecal sludge in India, as well as sanitation experts from GIZ.

Terminology and conceptual clarity

Why are we talking about septage management in India? Only 30 % of the households have sewerage systems. However, India cannot afford these water intensive systems. To provide a clarification on the term Septage: septage commonly refers to liquid and solid material that is pumped from a septic tank. It is the combination of scum, sludge, and liquid that accumulates in septic tanks. There appears to be a very thin line between septage and faecal sludge. Septage is limited to septic tank contents whereas faecal sludge includes contents from other on-site technologies including the septic tank. In other words, faecal sludge from septic tanks is known as septage, but faecal sludge and septage are interchangeably used in India.

Legacy of septage management

Discussion started in 1985 with ISO 2470, attention started in 2013 with policy document on septage, but took off when it was linked to funding in 2015. Taking on pace afterwards. Swachh Survekshan included question on septage management.

Conceptual clarity

Sewerage systems are not possible in all towns of India, neither can they cover the whole part of the cities at the moment. A strategy, therefore, needs to be a combination of onsite and off-site (decentralized and centralized) sanitation solutions co-existing in all cities.

What are possible sanitation solutions?

Different solution systems (conventional underground sewered system, Septic tanks,..), and all of them could reach to a solution. Septage management includes the storage (of septage in septic tanks), collection (emptying of septic tanks filled with septage), transport (of emptied septage), treatment and safe enduse or disposal of septage. Complete sanitation solution means the safe management of all wastewater streams (blackwater & greywater) emanating from households.

Cost of septage management?

For real comparison, the costs for end to end solution needs to be compared.

Are the existing septic tanks (in India) really septic tanks?

Septic tanks are the most common form of sanitation systems (approx. 38%) in urban India. However, existing septic tanks are often not designed as standard and have leaking sides and open bottoms.

Is it possible to regularize septage emptying private operators without having functional treatment facilities in towns?

It is important to regularize (licensing / permits) the septage emptying & transportation private operators. However, if any town lacks any treatment facility, in that case, it is important to understand where the private operator will discharge the untreated septage.

Are the right standards in place for safe reuse of treated septage in agriculture?

Rahul Sharma stated that further clarity on reuse of treated septage for agriculture application would be appreciated by all the stakeholders in the sanitation sector.

Are government approved environment laboratories prepared for testing septage samples?

The present Government approved environment laboratories in India are well equipped to test and analyze sewage samples. However, based on experience with laboratory personnel, the laboratories could be better informed and equipped for supporting the requirements of the septage management sector.

The presenter concluded by stating that various sanitation solutions must co-exist to achieve the objective of safe and sustainable sanitation for all.

Gender Transformative Planning for Urban Sanitation, Paramita Datta Dey (NIUA)

Mrs. Paramita Dey presented what research and evidence tell about gender and urban sanitation in India as well as analysed existing policy and programmes on urban sanitation in India. Availability of menstrual hygiene products and their disposal. Nutrition of women is affected because women who are reluctant to use toilets reduce their intake of food. Safety is an issue missing doors and latches in community toilets. General well-being is addressed in terms of disgust, fear and anxiety.

The **National Urban Sanitation Policy (NUSP)** from 2008 mandates cities for the first time to prepare city sanitation strategies, the policy however did not take up due to lack of funding. It draws attention to vulnerable groups but does little do articulate it further. Gender specific suggestions for NUSP are to engage women in design and management of sanitation facilities and to create awareness among stakeholders about women's needs. Men have to be taught about it, women need to be prepared to negotiate it. Further, to include menstrual hygiene management in sanitation planning. Safety and security for women in sanitation facilities needs to be addressed. Collect, collate and use sex-disaggregated data for planning sanitation facilities.

In the **National Policy on Fecal Sludge and Septage Management (NFSSM)** from 2017 gender based sanitation planning is being talked about in the policy but at the programme or project level gender aspect is missing.

Mrs. Dey clarified that 'gender mainstreaming' means that **mainstreaming needs to happen across all programmes.**

In **Swachh Bharat Mission, Urban**, gender is not articulated specifically. On the other side, **Swachh Bharat Mission Rural** has come out with guidelines for gender issues in sanitation, the guidelines for Gender Issues in sanitation (2017). These guidelines recognize the "health risks through medical conditions such as urinary tract infections, chronic constipation and mental stress" and call for strengthening the role of women in "planning, procurement, toilet construction and monitoring".

The **way forward** is to firstly to mainstream gender in all policy documents, to strengthen women's participation and equity in decision making because as of now, women are underrepresented in careers and training on sanitation management. Further, capacity development for women's needs. There are also great experiences with women's networks, there could be a financing mechanism (micro-credit) for improving or building sanitation facilities. Lastly, a gender balanced approached should also be encouraged in plans already and monitoring and evaluation plans need to be implemented to ensure facilities' quality and track use patterns.

Private sector and urban sanitation, Shipra Saxena (ISC) and Nitya Jacob (Samhita)

Mrs. Shipra Saxena speaks about experiences with **corporates in sanitation**. Especially with Modi launching SBM and CSR policy there was a lot of enthusiasm in corporate sector. The Toilet Board Coalition has published a study on 'The Sanitation Economy in India' and gave an estimation of the market of $62 billion annually by 2021. Furthermore, Corporate Volunteering has been taken up to promote behaviour change in the sanitation sector. One CSR study with over 100 corporates from ISC revealed that every corporation had at least one project in water or sanitation. One challenge however is that corporates get less interested in the urban space, easier to work in rural space.

Mr. Nitya Jacob presented the launch of the **WASH Platform** in 2017, also called Swachh Maharashtra Platform, a collaboration of Samhita Social Ventures, ISC and CEPT University from Hyderabad, with financial support from BMGF. Was launched with the aim to include more corporates into the space of sanitation and to cover existing gaps and enhance collaboration between companies, practitioners and the government (ULBs, state urban department). Faecal sludge management is a big component of it.

One of the founding members, Samhita Social ventures, supports corporates in their CSR related projects in WASH. Corporates have come to acknowledge the investment in sanitation, but with a narrow focus on school WASH (behaviour change is coming). Most of the CSR investments are rural. SBM has created new opportunities for companies to invest in a flagship programme.

Mr. Jacob concluded with a 'Call to Action' for companies to access to data driven impactful CSR projects in sanitation for funding including program management and implementation support in sanitation. The platform will also provide NGOs with access to companies who are willing to support sanitation projects. NGOs can support with capacity building and knowledge. The call goes also out to academic institutions to work on knowledge reports, white papers and case studies.

The presentation was concluded with the figure of 20,000 companies giving 15,000 crores in CSR – though it is unknown what share of that will go the sanitation sector, there is a large potential of funding lying there that can be exploited.

Session 3	**Holistic Sanitation Approaches**
14:00 - 15:00	**Chair: Ruchika Shiva, IRC Netherlands**

	Download presentations: http://www.susana.org/en/knowledge-hub/resources-and-publications/library/details/2970

Rural-Urban Nexus in Sanitation: Waste to Energy

Elisa Rose and Jitendra Yadav (GIZ)

Mr. Jitendra Yadav presented the '**Waste to Energy**' project of GIZ, which is a biomethanization plant that treats two waste streams – liquid (septage) and solid (organic) waste. The biogas plant, which is supposed to produce up to 2,600 m³ of biogas/per day was inaugurated in November 2017. The combined heat and power unit targets to feed 3,300 kWh per day into the Maharashtra power grid with an input of 10-15 TPD of organic waste from restaurants and 10-20 TPD septage from community toilets. Thus, the plant supports the reuse and recovering of nutrients and the closure of material loops taking into consideration waste water, solid waste, nutrients and energy.

The conceptual approach was ring-fenced by a study on biogas generation potential of different mixtures of organic waste and septage, a study for characterization and quantification of organic solid waste generated in commercial establishments as well as a wastewater study from selected Community Toilet Complexes in Nashik.

What is unique to the operation of the plant is that there is only one contractor that is responsible for collection, transportation, processing and marketing and disposal to ensure sustainable operation.

Plant operation will be sustained in the future with research on developing products from effluent and sludge at Birla Institute Goa. Further, IWMI is preparing a business model for the reuse of sludge from the Biogas reactor in agriculture as soil fertilizer and enhancer.

Mrs. Elisa Rose continued on the aspects of the **Rural-Urban Nexus**. An infographic displayed the circular flow of food that goes to cities, where different types of waste is created. These waste streams do not necessarily have to end there but can find their way back as organic manure, fertilizer or for irrigation purposes.

Potential products of biodegradable waste treatment from an agricultural view include compost, Phosphate Rich Organic Material (PROM) and Terra Preta (black soil). These products have the potential to benefit farmers in improving soil quality and crop productivity, prevent or decrease soil degradation and thus lead to long-term yield security and secured food and income.

The benefits from a holistic and integrated waste management approach go beyond the benefits at the rural level. At the urban level, waste management through renewable energy production can improve public health, increase quality of life and create jobs. Globally, recovering nutrients and energy will support food security, poverty alleviation and livelihood conservation. The link to climate change is through mitigating GHG, adaption to climate change (44% of soil in India is threatened with degradation), conserving natural carbon sinks and conserving biodiversity.

Ecosan – Some Unresolved Challenges

Lucas Dengel (EcoPro)

Mr. Lucas Dengel presented some unresolved challenges in the usage of Urine-diverting dry toilets.

1) Core issue of UDDTs is **sanitation by desiccation.** As per WHO, 12 months are required for sterilising faeces. In order to reduce building volume & costs, solar heating is employed to speed up drying & reduce the drying period a few hours.
2) **Squatting pants** should be built from ceramics not plastic, which could end up in the environment when broken. Further, ceramics is easy to clean. The **design of the pans** however are not changed per user demands but manufacturing needs. E.g., they could be deeper, the ring of the faecal drop hole should be flatter.
3) The **hygiene management** is found not to be specific to the type of toilet installed, but as per the general cleanliness households. Use and storage of brushes with Effective Microorganisms (EM) to take care of smell and bacteria.
4) The general **ignorance on ill-effects of lack of sanitation**. The cause and effect chain from OD to spread pathogens in particular during monsoon times is still not clear to many people. Also awareness about feces and sewage spreading diseases, not just impurity. Financial losses from bad sanitation due to expenses for doctors.

5) Lack of **system thinking**. System that addresses the management of human waste to make it risk free. Everyone should understand it from the sweeper, masonry to the user.
6) **Socio-cultural reservations**. Despite the daily reports on SBM, sanitation is still a taboo and people have difficulties talking facts and using the right words for feces. Underlying dilemma is the purity-pollution gradient in a caste conditioned society – all sewers are cleaned by Dalits but no one has to regard himself superior for the job

Setting up sanitation solution for 100+ ULBs

Navneet Garg (CAYA Construct)

Mr. Navneet Garg presented CAYA Construct, a sanitation company founded in 2015 to deliver scalable and sustainable social innovations for the SDGs. The company currently has three patent pending products in sanitation:

1) Community toilets
2) Onsite sanitation units
3) 6-piece modular toilets

Characteristics of the CAYA toilets are that they are easy to install and assemble. The IHHL toilet is a basic modular toilet that can be upgraded according to the taste and need of the customer. CAYA acknowledges that ODF would not be possible without covering the entire value chain – which also includes behavioural change. In order to take the stigma out of operation and maintenance of community toilets, the job is carried out by well-trained, uniformed Swachha Sainiks. Further, standardized IEC activities from CAYA which will cover slums, schools, markets and health centres.

BOT model (Build-Operate-Transfer) for public toilets that can be easily placed and be salvageable in case of road widening. Mr. Garg further presented consumer models for households toilets and closed by reiterated the challenges, but also the (financial) possibilities that lie in the sanitation sector in India.

Session 4 **15:00 – 16:00**	**Financing and monitoring sanitation: Accelerating the progress on SDGs** **Chair: Arne Panesar, GIZ** *Download presentation:* http://www.susana.org/en/knowledge-hub/resources-and-publications/library/details/2970

Blended finance for SDG 6: Indian financial innovations around SBM and beyond, Lesley Pories (Water.org)

Mrs. Lesley Pories presented financial innovations in India around SDG 6 and SBM. She firstly introduced the monitoring on water and sanitation for the 2030 SDGs. Guy Hutton from the World Bank did estimations on the total **capital investment to deliver universal access to safely managed WASH** and found around **$114 billion per year** would be required (which does not include O&M). Sanitation accounts for 60% of these estimated costs. The question that arises from this estimation is how to get the financing for water services?

The funding can come from various sources like private funding or public funding (Transfers, Taxes). This however still leaves a **financing gap** which can be split up in concessional finance, i.e. development finance institutions with a grant element as well as commercial finance, with a particular focus on domestic commercial finance.

Mrs. Pories then stated that India is already ahead of the game through SBM. To reach its target, the SBM guidelines recommend **Microfinance** as a great tool to blend public and private finance. SBM incentives or government regulations like the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRML) or priority sector lending (PSL) can act as a catalyst for private finance. Since SBM loans are only granted after construction of toilets, poor people have difficulties of paying costs upfront. Microfinancing can support them in paying the costs. Additionally, Business Correspondent (BC) models or government or non-government Self Help Group (SHG) models can support financing for WASH.

Besides the ongoing efforts, much more is still needed to finance the estimated need of ₹51,000-80,000 crores for HH-level sanitation. The estimated need for SBM incentives for uncovered rural households is estimated at ₹50,000 crores. Further, there is a significant need for finance for micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs). But only 1% of PSL portfolio used for financing sanitation could release between ₹25,000-30,000 crores, 1% of PSL portfolio from Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) can release approx. ₹1,200.

Benchmarking in WASH in Schools through the Swachh Vidyalaya Puraskar, Priyanka Goteti (ASCI)

Mrs. Priyanka Goteti presented the topic WASH in schools and the Swachh Vidyalaya initiative. She stated that schools are the potential nodes for disease transmission. Lack of proper water and sanitation leads to malnutrition, resulting in stunted growth in children. In the absence of menstrual management, adolescent girls prefer to skip school leading to absenteeism. This lead to multiple government schemes aiming to improve WASH in schools. The **Swachh Vidyalaya (SV) initiative** is to ensure that every school in India should have toilets for boys and girls and children with special needs as well as WASH infrastructure.

To create incentives to follow the guidelines, awards were given to schools at district, state and national level to recognize, inspire and celebrate excellence in WASH practices in schools. The categories and performance criteria included water, toilets, hand washing, O&M and behaviour & practice, each earning up to 28 marks in total. All government schools in rural and urban areas are eligible. To be eligible for the awards, however, schools need a minimum ranking.

Key features of the awards are 39 simple questions that are entered into a mobile based App or questionnaire in the website. For verification, photos are attached. The registration of schools would be done with the U-DISE code of the school. Received overwhelming response from government schools all over India, over 2,68,403 schools have completed the survey. Highest submissions came from Tamil Nadu. Verifications and evaluations were done by District Officers, registered as field evaluators. State wise district evaluation and national level evaluation were also conducted.

Concluding the presentation, Mrs. Goteti showed some before and after pictures of schools that significantly improved their sanitation infrastructure.

School WASH progress in Maharashtra and lessons for other states, Anand Ghodke (UNICEF)

Mr. Anand Ghodke presented Waster, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) in Government Schools and Ashramshalas in Maharashtra. He stated that the SDGs are about standards and continuity, but a big challenge is how to simplify processes with regards to the size of India and its state?

Key takeaways for improved WASH interventions

- Rapport building
- Benchmark – Baseline – Confidence
- Innovative designs developed by 7 districts
- Demonstration of WASH
- Technical support to clubs, CSR and Government
- Leveraging within and outside Government
- Convergence of funds or cross learnings
- Written instructions – GR, Circulars

Relevant issues are noted to be availability, access, adequacy and design. Adequacy norms include components on toilets, with the desired norm of 1 toilet unit for every 40 kids, at least one tap in each toilet block. Further, for group handwashing facilities with soaps, there should be min. 1 outlet for at least 10 students available. For drinking water, at least one source inside the school premise is the desired norm.

Challenges experienced were that SBM-G does not cover infrastructure, mobilization of funds and that operation and maintenance of WASH facilities in schools need more attention. State level training of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan **(**SSA) Engineers is equally important.

Session 5 **16:00 – 17:00**	**The way forward for the SuSanA India Chapter** **Chair: Nitya Jacob, SuSanA India Chapter Coordinator** **Round-Table Group Discussions**

This session focused on next steps for the SuSanA India Chapter as is plans for the second phase. The key questions were:
How can we make the SuSanA India Chapter more vibrant?

A: Definition of what is vibrancy:

- More participation in the thematic online discussion/the forum in general, more posts
- More members
- Bigger outreach and exposure of SuSanA
- SuSanA has a presence on a national scale
- SuSanA Matchmaker, brings together people to make them cooperate and develop new

Participants of the meeting suggested that SuSanA members, who have their "Eyes and Ears on the ground", have to share their experiences. They could be incentivized to overcome time constraints. These incentives could be in terms of recognition, not necessarily financial. Meetings are important places to meet members and network.

Start-ups could be invited to these meetings, in order to bring in more innovative ideas and to include more young people. Representation from Government in meetings is always needed so that the Government can reach out to the right persons. SuSanA should aim to be the go-to platform when the government needs comments from experts on sanitation. An SuSanA India newsletter could be considered.

Q2: How can we improve the constituents?
The suggestions included increasing interactions within SuSanA's membership through more sharing of knowledge and experience. Sub-India Level Platforms could be promoted as some said a national platform was not sufficient. These could be either around geographical concerns or subjects. Participants suggested looking beyond membership, listing constituents that need to be connected, e.g., students and academic institutions, architects, urban planners, residents' associations and real estate developers. The change that SuSanA promotes could happen through these actors. A mobile app would help to send push notification to members. Training at the ULB level would allow messages of SuSanA to come across.

A key question that was answered is how SuSanA wants to cater to members who are not technology savvy. Personal connections that come from meetings will increase contributions in the forum. Representatives of the Government talking about SuSanA would bring it to the press and make it more known.

Q3: How can the SuSanA platform improve cross-sector linkages?
Participants challenged the notion that cross-sectoral linkages were possible or even needed. Instead, the Chapter can focus on newer ideas and concepts and bring together people to discuss them. It could provide a fresh perspective on them. SuSanA could develop a cross-check list to as-

sess if WASH project were sustainable. Discussions could bring together different sectors, organizations and individuals, to provide across sectors. The Forum needed to reach out to young people who want to work in water & sanitation.

▶ Contact us

Please address any feedback to Nitya Jacob (nityajacob@hotmail.com) or the SuSanA secretariat at info@susana.org. For further information on the Sustainable Sanitation Alliance please visit our website www.susana.org

For further information about the SuSanA India Chapter please visit http://www.susana.org/en/knowledge-hub/regional-chapters/indian-chapter

Minutes were prepared by Franziska Volk (SuSanA Secretariat).

List of participants for the SuSanA India Chapter seminar in Panaji, Goa, India (21 February 2018)

No	Name	Organisation	Email Id
1	Lucas Dengel	EcoPro	lucasdl@auriville.org.in
2	Zachary Burt	Columbia University	zzburt@gmail.com
3	Radhika Boargaonkar	Ecosan Services Foundation	Radhika.boargaonkar@ecosan-services.org
4	Anand Ghodke	UNICEF	aghodke@unicef.org
5	Priyanka Goteti	ASCI	priyanka@asci.org.in
6	Nitya Jacob	ISC/SuSanA	nityajacob@hotmail.com
7	Liby Johnson	Gram Vikas	liby@gramvikas.org
8	Mrunal Karve	Ecosan Services Foundation	mrunal.karve@ecosan-services.org
9	Arne Panesar	GIZ	arne.panesar@giz.de
10	Dayanand Panse	Ecosan Services Foundation	dayanand.panse@ecosan-services.org
11	Elisa Rose	GIZ	elisa.rose@giz.de
12	Baksheesh Sachar	TISS	baksheesh22@gmail.com
13	Ruhi Saith	Oxford Policy Management	ruhi.saith@opml.co.uk
14	Shipra Saxena	ISC	Shipra.saxena@ficci.com
15	Rahul Sharma	GIZ	Rahul.sharma@giz.de
16	Ruchika Shiva	IRC	ruchika@ircwash.org
17	Ankit Tulsyan	Quality Council of India	tulsyanankit@gmail.com
18	Franziska Volk	GIZ	franziska.volk@giz.de
19	Jitendra Yadav	GIZ	Jitendra.yadav@giz.de
20	Parmeshwar Patil	Oxfam India	parmeswar@oxfamindia.org
21	Domaki Bhutia	Oxfam India	domaki@oxfamindia.org
22	Ravi Senji	RaVikas	ravisenji@gmail.com
23	Paramita Datta Dey	NIUA	pdey@niua.org
24	Abhinav Shankar	EcoPro	Ecopro.services@auroville.org.in
25	Harsha Yadava	Nalanda University	harsh.yadava@na-landa.univ.edu.in
26	Deepak Y. D	Tide Technocrafts	deepakyd@tidetechnocrafts.com
27	Lesley Pories	Water.org	lpories@water.org
28	Nikhil Varghesg	Quality Council of India	nikhil.v@qcin.org
29	Ajmal Shakeeb	NOPASNA	Ajmalshakeeb123@gmail.com
30	Nagesh Nandal	Bentley Systems	nageshenv@gmail.com
31	Vinay Kumar	Mysore city corporation	Vbg456@gmail.com
32	Dr. H Ramakrishna	Dayanand Soged College	hrkrishna1963@gmail.com
33	Ramaraju H K	DSCE, IWWA	hkramaraju@gmail.com
34	Suresh Jain		Sureshcjain194344@gmail.com
35	Romaine San Francesco	Nebula Enviro Solution	roaminesanfracesco@gmail.com