

# Report on Study Tour, Ecosan Capacity Development and Vision Workshop Kenya, September 2010



By

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# Disclaimer

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Content of this report is the sole responsibility of the authors Ms. Pradnya Thakur (Ecosan Services Foundation, India) and Mr. Martin Wafler and Mr. Johannes Heeb (both seecon international gmbh, Switzerland).

The contents reflect the personal views of the authors and do not necessarily represent the position of German Technical Cooperation Agency (GTZ).

# Background

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Drawing from the successful establishment of the Indian NGO *Ecosan Services Foundation (ESF-India)* as one-stop-shop for training services, promotional activities, project implementation, and consultancy services in ecological sanitation in South Asia, GTZ-ecosan intends to initiate a south-south knowledge transfer to support the young African ecosan market, fill the demand for consultancy, training and other capacity building services not only in Kenya, but all over Africa, and to establish a Kenyan organisation “ESF-Kenya” as local service provider.

In order to perform the activities, consultants were appointed. Ecosan services foundation, India and Seecon International were appointed as consultants for the Study Tour, Ecosan Capacity Development and Vision Workshop.

# Ecosan Vision Workshop

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## **Objectives:**

To facilitate a vision exercise possibly a team building process that can lead to the establishment of ESF Kenya

## **Participants attended:**

Participants of the workshops were from water companies, water board, beneficiaries of some existing ecosan projects, NGOs working in grass root level.

# Presentation: 1 Ecosan Promotion Project (EPP)

## 2 Experiences from Red cross

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### **Ecosan Promotion Project (EPP):**

- Water Sanitation Trust Fund (WSTF) provides basket funding (WHO, WB, etc.) for community sanitation (urban & rural)
- 2 WSTF funding schemes: Urban Project Concept (UPC) & Community Project Cycle (CPC)
- Training of artisans in cooperation with AKUT Partner (<http://www.akut-umwelt.de/>)
- Promotion of reuse in rural areas in cooperation with Ministry of Agriculture

### **Experiences from Red cross:**

- Training of artisans by GTZ
- Loss of knowledge (new management of school, teachers, pupils, etc.)
- Challenge: handling of ecosan resources such as urine
- Sustainability needs to be addressed
- Interest is high in the beginning but later nobody wants to take responsibility

# Presentation: Experiences from ROSA

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## **Brief of Presentation:**

- focus areas: Arba Minch (Ethiopia), Nakuru (Kenya), Arusha (Tanzania), and Kitgum (Uganda)
- research: WHO guidelines, O&M, settlement structures, grey water, financing
- learning: post-project phase must be emphasized (funding)

## **Questions and Feedback:**

- Focus on process rather than on output?
- WSTF focuses on urban areas mainly, excludes (at present) non-sewered areas
- Challenges of informal sector
- Maintenance issues
- Cost benefit analyses in ongoing projects (biogas vs. UDDTs)?

# Presentation: Sanitation Service Challenges

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- project interventions not demand driven so failed to stimulate demand
- inadequate funding for sanitation and lack of advocacy, training, access to information and information exchange with local people
- lack of community participation so social marketing challenges
- political platform to encourage (inter)national, regional, local sanitation
- prices have to be adjusted according to the low income areas
- It is hard for households to understand how to operate and maintain the sanitation facilities
- Problem to focus on sanitation (political, financial...)
- only communities can apply for funding by Community Development Trust Fund (CDTF)
- after approval, funds are given directly
- Example: in the Mwea area (which is facing high ground water table) community implemented UDDTs on their own (instead of going for pit latrines)

# Presentation: 1. Success Story of ESF and Seecon in India

## 2. Mobilisation of ecosan approach in India

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- ESF, India along with Seecon, Switzerland has a small core team has worked since day one on a network basis with colleagues and partners spread all over India and the world increasing and reducing the team as per the task.
- Both the organisations were following actively from the start: knowledge transfer as a core issue with courses, workshops and e-learning alongside with the implementation of projects to illustrate the theory taught in the classroom.
- Due to its activities, a strong volunteer base of more than 300 ecosan experts has been created, of whom many are in lively contact with the team for support.
- A vast educational material responding to the various demands that has been addressed: from posters that are easy accessible for children, to highly scientific technical manuals or international e-learning courses is biggest asset of this initiative.



# Presentation: 1. Success Story of ESF and Seecon in India

## 2. Mobilisation of ecosan approach in India

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- ESF and Seecon have extended its reach and has lead programmes as well in Maledives, Sri Lanka, Buthan and Phillipines.
- **Active contribution by ESF and seecon in Sustainable Sanitation Alliance (SuSanA)**, to develop tools of knowledge transfer by producing factsheets on sustainable sanitation model projects.
- The work of the organisations has enabled to receive the whole hearted support from gtz and the confidence shown by the Government of India DDWS, Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Urban Development , GOI by attributing the task of the training of Total Sanitation Campaign Officials in ecological sanitation and school sanitation initiative in urban areas.

# Discussion - Conclusions for future development of ecosan

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- Allocation of **funds** for IEC(esp. **awareness raising**).
- **Need to coordinate Kenyan ecosan activities.**
- WSTF yet not impressed ecosan (pre-requisite for funding is existing sewer system).
- **Major challenge in informal settlements** (e.g. slums): town, water and sanitation planning have to go hand-in-hand.
- The same things are done over and over again, there is **no coordination and networking**.
- **Output has to be shared with Ministries and responsible policy makers.**
- More funds has to be invested in awareness creation -we have to change the mind set to bring demand driven approach
- Decision makers and key stakeholders have to be involved through policies
- economic incentives (especially in urban areas) are missing (w.r.to reuse of urine).
- **schools: O&M of sanitation systems is an issue.**
- **address cultural issues** (e.g. use of urine, etc.).
- lack of space in urban areas.
- **research** required to proof safety and dissemination of results.
- break cultural block through education, awareness.
- **community participation is needed.**
- design: to be improved (especially UDDT)

# Do we need an ESF-Kenya? - Questions

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Questions for group discussion “Do we need an ESF-Kenya”?:

1. Why?
2. Role?
3. Tasks?
4. Structure?
5. Partners?
6. Further Issues?

# Do we need an ESF-Kenya? - Answers

## Group 1:

1. Yes; need for body to **coordinate; information & knowledge sharing**; harmonize policies in sanitation
2. Can coordinate and do **capacity building** for different stakeholders
3. knowledge & information management; capacity development; **quality assurance**
4. society of professional players
5. **Donor organisations; NGOs** (national, international); **government of Kenya** (Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation); **Water and sanitation companies; Research institutes** (KARI); Public Universities; Private sector

## Group 2:

1. Yes; Information is limited as far as ecosan is concerned
2. **training; networking** and education
3. **empower existing organisations** and **undertake ecosan projects**
4. NGOs and governmental organisations
5. Sustainability; **exit plans required**

# Do we need an ESF-Kenya? - Answers

## Group 3:

1. Don't know why
2. Coordination of all NGO wastewater and sanitation activities
3. Support private sector; sell ecosan concepts
4. After 4 years of gtz ecosan in Kenya no partners
5. Private sector have to be the key player; a private sector structure
6. **If the government does not support ecosan there is no sustainability**

## Group 4:

1. Yes; bring all actors together; act as knowledge bank and link to other "banks" in the world;
2. Promote capacity building; **resource mobilisation**; IEC; offer sustainable affordable and sustainable sanitation
3. Promote capacity building; resource mobilisation; IEC; offer sustainable affordable and ecological sanitation
4. NGO structure
5. Other NGOs; donors; CBOs; government and institutions; contractors
6. **Use existing structures & institutions**; logistics/staffing

# Do we need an ESF-Kenya? - Answers

## Group 5:

1. Yes; promotion sustainable use of resources; promotion of environ. sustainability;
2. Promotion of **renewable energy**, reuse of human waste, ecosan concepts for creating awareness
3. Cap. development (trainings, ...); Pilot projects; **up-scaling; social marketing; lobbying & advocacy**
4. Resource and training centre; board of trustees; CEOs,
5. NEMA; Universities; Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MWI); Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation (MPH&S), Ministry of Education (MOE), NGOs, private sector, financial inst., Ministry of Environment & Natural Resources (MOE&NR)
6. **Reevaluate what is there, identify the gaps and see what is needed**

## Group 6:

1. Yes
2. There is no organisation promoting sanitation in cities,
3. Collection of information; **sharing of best practices; monitoring and evaluation; research & development; influence policy formulation & implementation**
4. network
5. NGOs; government; research inst.
6. Environmental sustainability; Ecosan has to be promoted where people do farming and have toilets

# Task 3: Ecosan Vision Workshop



Mr. Patrick P. Onyango,  
GTZ Water Sector Reform  
Program



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# Task 3: Ecosan Vision Workshop



Participants interacting during tea break



Participants studying ecosan information material



Presentation of findings on  
“Do we need an ESF-Kenya?”



Group photo

*Photos (source: M.Wafler, 2010)*



# Ecosan Vision Workshop

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## Observations and Conclusion:

- In Kenya sustainable sanitation is promoted as an isolation **“stand alone”** basis and was not seen as general practice.
- There are **organisation mainly focussing on the water business and lesser emphasis on sanitation business activities.**
- The existing networks are mainly **of water companies.**
- There is no organisation focusing only on **‘Ecosan’ or ‘Sustainable sanitation aspect’.**
- An **Alliance** (a similar to SuSanA) should be established **linking water and sanitation professionals** as well as non-governmental institutions. Idea of bringing in different government initiatives in sustainable sanitation network will be worth trying.
- Professionally managed network of organizations and professionals with a **permanent secretariat may be a key to success.**
- The key objective of the network which the permanent secretariat to generate is **“visibility of the initiatives”** as well as to reach the **critical mass, for up-scaling and mainstreaming sustainable sanitation in Kenya.**
- None of the existing organisation is willing to take responsibility to mobilise the network.
- A very strong consensus emerged after the group works and discussions for **need of ESF\_Kenya**, similar to that of ESF India as one stop-shop solution.

# Contact Details Consultants

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