

CARIBSAN 2008

Report on

“Integration of Sanitation Policies in National Development Plans in the Caribbean Region”

**Knutsford Court Hotel
Kingston, Jamaica
April 28 & 29, 2008**

Regional Workshop on the Integration of Sanitation Policies in National Development Plans in the Caribbean Region

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Day 1 - April 28, 2008

Opening Ceremony

This session was chaired by Peter Knight, Director, Environmental Health Unit, Ministry of Health. He began by drawing attention to the objectives of the workshop.

The overall objective of the Workshop is to:

Contribute to the improvement of the well-being of the population of the Caribbean region through the integration and development of sanitation

The specific objectives are:

1. To present the current situation of sanitation in the region
2. To raise awareness of the need to integrate national sanitation policies into development plans
3. To share best practices and experiences in the region and from abroad
4. To identify solutions appropriate to the region that will serve as a basis to the elaboration of recommendations and orientation for future activities.

The first statement was made by **Kenza Kaouakib-Robinson, UN Focal Point for the International Year of Sanitation, Chair, Gender & Water Task Force, Department of Economics and Social Affairs, United Nations.**

She opened by bringing attention to the growing importance of sanitation within the global community. The United Nations General Assembly in 2006 declared 2008 as the International Year of Sanitation (IYS), which Ms. Kaouakib-Robinson noted brought attention to the need for raising public awareness through educational initiatives and inter-agency cooperation to address inadequate access to potable water and improved sanitation facilities and services. She highlighted targets that had been established under the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Project to reduce by more than half the number of persons not having access to improved sanitation services and facilities. Improvement in human health status, reduction of child mortality and the integration of sanitation into national sustainable development strategy and Poverty Eradication Programme (PEP) were identified as areas of priority at the regional, national and local level. Ms. Robinson closed by identifying areas that should be given consideration in addressing sanitation. These included:

- Development of Comprehensive National Plans
- Natural resources management
- Human resources management
- Gender access
- Community and participatory planning; engagement of civil society

Mr. François Brikke, Regional Team Leader for Latin America and the Caribbean, Water and Sanitation Programme, The World Bank was the second speaker.

He began by identifying what improved access to sanitation facilities and services meant to communities. The Caribbean Sanitation Workshop was noted by Mr. Brikke as being a timely event to foster (a) the introduction of global and local level technologies, (b) inter-agency cooperation (including engagement of civil society and the private sector), and (c) the development of new financial strategies by devising financial mechanisms to increase investment in the sanitation sector.

Dr. Ernest Pate, Representative, PAHO/WHO Jamaica, was the third speaker.

He highlighted the work PAHO had been undertaking in Jamaica to raise awareness about the importance of universal access to improved sanitation facilities and services. He noted several challenges affecting the adoption of sustainable waste management strategies in Jamaica, including increasing access to sanitation services, availability of supporting infrastructure, adoption of affordable technological solutions and alternative financing mechanisms to support policy goals and objectives.

Dr. Lester Forde, member of the Steering Committee, Global Water Partnership Caribbean was the final speaker.

Dr. Forde spoke of the need to address sanitation through an integrated regional approach, involving both urban and rural communities. He pointed to several areas that were deemed critical in addressing integrated water resources management, which he indicated had a corresponding impact on sanitation. Critical areas included:

- Climate Change;
- Advances in Bio-fuel technology; and
- Eco-Sanitation

Dr. Forde ended by encouraging members of the political directorate to be advocates of water and sanitation issues, given the lack of attention being paid to the sector in the Caribbean Region. He noted that this was important in driving policy decisions at the national and regional level.

The keynote presentation was made by the Hon. Rudyard Spencer, Minister of Health and Environment, Jamaica

The Minister began by noting the lack of consideration given to sanitation in Caribbean policies, and hinted at the possibility of being the advocate for sanitation management in the Caribbean.

He noted that sanitation management was both ‘under-looked and under-appreciated’ within the region, and sustainable development approaches were urgently needed to address some of the critical areas of concern associated with sanitation management. The workshop was identified by the Minister as a catalyst for not only improving sanitation management across the Caribbean Region, but also as a foundation step for supporting policy formulation and inter-agency cooperation.

He noted that the impacts of inadequate sanitation on the poor were of fundamental concern to the Government of Jamaica. To address such concerns the Minister outlined that participatory governance, the development of a focused ministerial authority and the development of political, social, economic and environmental systems were crucial to building regional and local capacity and securing regional partnerships in meeting sustainable development objectives.

Meeting the targets of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were seen as priority issues for Jamaica and the Minister outlined the steps the Government of Jamaica were taking to ensure that the social, economic and environmental needs of society were met. Projects and programmes that have been completed and those in the pipeline include:

- The preparation of the Vision 2030 plan by the Planning Institute of Jamaica. The draft plan has now gone out for public and stakeholder consultation.
- The preparation of the Wastewater Standards that have been included in the recently published Development and Investment Manual¹ (2006).
- The preparation of the National Medical Waste Policy, which is now awaiting final approval from Cabinet
- The development of Wastewater Regulations by the National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA)
- The preparation of the Drinking Water Regulations by the Environmental Health Unit in the Ministry of Health and Environment. The technical draft is to be submitted to cabinet before the end of the year.
- The preparation of a Wastewater Master Plan. The design and implementation of the plan is supported by institutional arrangements between the National Environment and Planning Agency, the Water Resources Authority and the Environmental Health Unit in the Ministry of Health and Environment.

Session 1 – Analysis of Current Sanitation Situation in Caribbean Countries

¹ The manual is available online at Cabinet website.

Session 1 was chaired by Mr. Evan Cayetano, Natural Resource Management Specialist at the Inter-American Development Bank. He noted that this session was important in providing background information on the status of sanitation in the Caribbean Region, and the achievements and challenges experienced in the sanitation sectors of each country across the region. One of the main highlights of the session was the presentation by Francois Brikke on the status of sanitation in Latin America, which brought attention to the success and challenges that emanated from the 2007 Latinosan Workshop on Sanitation held in Latin America. A synthesis report from a rapid assessment of the Caribbean Sanitation Situation was presented, followed by country presentations from selected countries on the status of sanitation in their respective countries. The session ended with a discussion on the various achievements and challenges experienced in sanitation sectors in the Caribbean.

An overview of the sanitation situation in Latin America was presented by François Brikke, WSP-World Bank.

The Latinosan Workshop on Sanitation attracted:

- 1000 registrations
- 850 professionals
- > 140 presentations
- 40 sponsors (among which 50% from the private sector) and
- 32 journalists

Five themes were explored at the workshop. This included (a) Hygiene education and excreta disposal (b) Domestic wastewater management (c) Solid waste management (d) Institutional and Financial Tools and (e) Contamination prevention and control. With twenty-two (22) sanitation country reports presented, five main side events were organized to involve all participants in the process of offering solutions to the plethora of issues raised concerning sanitation. These included:

- Ministerial Round Table and Declaration
- Latin America and Caribbean Community Leaders Meeting
- Sanitation and Transparency Workshop
- Training of Journalists and Media Presence
- Commercial Fair and Meeting Points

From the workshop the following critical aspects of sanitation management were identified:

- Inter-agency and inter-ministerial cooperation
- Behavioural change (cultural norms and practices)
- Development of Community Sanitation programmes
- Development of School Sanitation programmes
- Development of micro-financing enterprises
- Introduction of regional and local technologies

Specific issues related to sanitation management included:

- a. Those concerning institutional / financial aspects Latin America (LA)
 - Low priority given to sanitation in planning
 - Poor coordination between various sectors
 - Insufficient municipal capacity
 - Tariffs not covering costs
 - Investments too low

- b. Those concerning community aspects (LA).
 - Rural and peri-urban especially affected
 - Hygiene behaviour critical
 - Technology not adapted / appropriate

- c. Those concerning institutional and financing aspects
 - Sanitation development for the urban poor can be part of a more global urbanization plan
 - Experience and knowledge with overall sanitation financing remains murky and piecemeal.
 - Norms, legal framework, human resources and sanitation policies are still limited

The conference saw the one (1) Ministerial Declaration being made, but more importantly the following was achieved:

1. The Conference served as a booster and resulted in the organization of country sanitation agenda
2. Country or provincial level Sanitation Workshops were organized in 10 countries, including a Regional Conference for the Caribbean
3. Study tours and visits were organized on condominial and ECOSAN water and sewerage systems
4. Agencies have been organizing themselves to use IYS advocacy tools
5. Greater thrust for knowledge related to sanitation in urban and rural communities.

Mrs. Ianthe Smith, WSP-World Bank Consultant presented a synthesis report on a rapid assessment of the Caribbean sanitation situation.

The rapid assessment report presented, provided information on the policy, legislative and institutional framework guiding sanitation management in the Caribbean. Achievements and challenges, along with recommendations for addressing key problems areas were also highlighted in the report.

From the assessment it was revealed that no Caribbean country had a National Sanitation Policy. However in spite of this, many of the Caribbean Islands had met their Millennium Development Goal target relating to universal access to improved sanitation facilities and services. Anguilla, the Bahamas, Barbados, the British Virgin Islands, and Trinidad and Tobago were identified as having 100% universal access to sanitation, with countries such as Antigua and Barbuda,

Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, Turks and Caicos, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, coverage falling within the 90th percentile region. Jamaica, Dominica, Guyana and the Dominican Republic, coverage was found to be highest in the urban areas, with ninety-one percent (91%) having access in Jamaica, eighty-six percent (86%) in Guyana and Dominica, and eighty-one (81%) in Dominican Republic. In the rural areas of these countries, coverage falls within the sixty to seventy-five percent (60-75%) range. Haiti was identified as the only country that would not meet the MDGs even with some improvements in urban sanitation.

Although the MDG's indicate that sanitation coverage is good, Mrs. Smith indicated that they should be viewed with caution as sanitation is defined differently in different countries and the numbers do not indicate how effective the sanitation solutions are. In fact in reality sewage from treatment plants such as the ones serving Kingston were only providing primary treatment and the effluent is polluting the Kingston Harbour.

Results of the study:

a. Legislation

Public Health Acts are the most common legislative instruments used to guide sanitation management in the Caribbean Region. These acts are however found to be outdated. Within the last 10 years, many countries have developed National Solid Waste Management Acts. Countries that have developed waste management acts include Jamaica, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent.

b. Institutions

There are several Solid Waste Management Authorities in the Caribbean that have been given responsibility for sanitation management. In countries where there is no formal or sanitation specific authority, environmental health units, solid waste management units and health departments assume responsibility for sanitation management.

c. Financing

- Main source of financing for sanitation is from Governments through annual income and expenditure budgets. Allocations from national budgets are deemed relatively small.
- Main donors and partners - IADB, World Bank, UNEP, GEF, PAHO, UNDP, UNICEF & Dutch Govt. (Suriname)
- Community waste and sanitation projects assisted through other donor grants

d. Challenges and Constraints

From the study it was noted that many of the Caribbean Islands share similar challenges and constraints. The following were identified:

- Lack of a sanitation policy which is integrated into development plans
- Multiple institutions with responsibility for some aspects of sanitation
- Roles of agencies not clearly defined resulting in overlaps and gaps

- Insufficient interagency collaboration
- Weak enforcement
- Insufficient human and financial resources to efficiently manage sanitation
- Insufficient focus on rural and peri-urban sanitation
- Political instability
- Sanitation not a national priority; lack of political will
- Corruption
- Low public awareness and insufficient public participation
- Bad engineering practices
- Insufficient financial and human resources
- Uncontrolled development (squatting)
- Cost for infrastructure development
- Inadequate drainage and wastewater management
- Insufficient equipment to monitor receiving waters
- Public sector agencies with responsibility for sanitation short-staffed
- Funding for training inadequate

Recommendations

Financing

- Provide incentives for external investors
- Coordinate and integrate fragmented budgeting of institutions to make more efficient use of resources
- Apply environmental taxes/levies to finance sanitation

Monitoring & Evaluation

- Provide additional human resources
- Develop diagnostic instruments for evidence based quantitative analysis of sanitation in regard to health, environmental pollution and poverty reduction

Capacity Building

- Create partnerships between government, private sector and universities to help develop young professionals

Gender considerations

- Foster gender mainstreaming in sanitation policy development and implementation

Country presentations followed where the national situation was presented for selected Caribbean countries. There were presentations from:

- 1. Barbados (Mr. Ricardo Marshall)**
- 2. Guyana (Mr. Teófilo Monteiro)**
- 3. Jamaica (Mr. Peter Knight)**
- 4. Suriname (Ms. Astracia Warner)**

5. Trinidad & Tobago (Ms. Camille Forde)

The presentation on the national status of sanitation in the countries mentioned above, focused on six core areas (a) Definition of Sanitation (b) Legislation (including those covering some area of sanitation) (c) Institutional Arrangements (d) Current Sanitation Situation (e) Achievements and Challenges and (f) Recommendations for Action.

Presentations from each country supported the rapid assessment conducted by WSP consultant that sanitation coverage in many of the Caribbean Islands was more than ninety percent (90%) in both urban and rural areas. However, attention was brought to countries such as Jamaica, Suriname, and Guyana, which had less than sixty-five percent (65%) coverage in rural areas. In rural interior areas of Suriname and Guyana, coverage is less than thirty-five (35%).

The country presentations highlighted ten (10) key issues common across the region.

1. No country has a National Sanitation Policy
2. There is no master plan on wastewater or solid waste
3. There are currently a number of policies, legislation, and guidelines that address different aspects of sanitation, but their interrelationship is not well defined. These include solid waste and wastewater regulations, food safety regulations, Poverty Eradication Programmes and Environmental Action Plans.
4. There is a lack of financial and human resources to support the effective implementation of sanitation regulations
5. Low private sector and community involvement in sanitation issues; users and NGOs are not always sufficiently involved in the development of policies, legislation and implementation of projects
6. Responsibility for sanitation falls under several Ministries, Authorities and Departments of Government. In many of the islands, there is conflict between agencies with responsibility for sanitation. The main conflict has come with some Authorities being both regulators and provider.
7. With no ownership of sanitation issues across various agencies and departments, there is no driving force behind sanitation, which has weakened efforts made by sanitation regulators
8. There is no formal collection and disposal system for solid waste in rural areas; resulting in low sanitation coverage, particularly in rural interior areas.
9. High level of unregulated and illegal dumping, including indiscriminate burning of waste by regulators and communities

10. The cost of implementing sanitation programmes

Achievements were more country specific, as approaches to sanitation management differed in each country.

Barbados

- Universal Access (MDG's surpassed)
- Sanitary Engineered Landfills
- South Coast and Bridgetown Sewerage Projects and planning for West Coast Sewerage Project
- National Food Safety Training Programme
- National Vector Control Training Programme
- Integrated Solid Waste Management Programme
- Illegal Dumping Prevention and Control Programme

Proposed way forward includes the implementation of a solid waste project including environmental health education, public awareness programme, recycling and composting programmes etc.

Jamaica

Proposed actions to improve sanitation include:

- Finalize and implement the National Sanitation Policy (Ministry of Health & Environment and the Ministry of Water and Housing)
- Develop a comprehensive Integrated Sanitation Action Plan to address specific policy areas
- Institutionalize a Sanitation Task Force to act as a driver for the implementation of the policy strategies
- Finalize and promulgate the Water Supply and Sewerage Services Act (Ministry of Water and Housing)
- Develop a Master Plan for Sewerage

Guyana

Achievements and way forward include:

- Guyana Safer Injection Project – US AID/PAHO
- National Inventory Study on Hazardous Waste
- Hazardous Waste Management Project (Undertaken by Caribbean Environmental Health Institute (CEHI))
- Community Services Enhancement Programme (CSEP)
- Rehabilitation of Sewage Treatment Facility in Georgetown - GWI

Suriname

Initiative to establish National Steering Committee for Sanitation and Waste Management

Trinidad and Tobago

Proposed way forward includes the establishment of policy framework for municipal solid waste. The policy outlines short, medium and long term actions to address waste management.

Short-Term Activities (1-3 months)

- Develop operating guidelines for commercial generators
- Design and implement stationary and wheeled Litter Bin Systems
- Conduct Environmental Sensitization and Awareness Programme
- Establish and implement systems of environmental monitoring
- Introduce and develop cost accounting system for Municipal Corporations

Medium-Term Activities (3-6 months)

- Conduct a waste characterization study
- Establish guidelines and effect certification of contractors
- Invite tenders and commence contract awards on a phased basis
- Finalize Waste Disposal Strategy Design
- Establish source separation demonstration projects at new Housing Development Corporation units

Long-Term Activities (6-12 months)

- Establish and staff Central Administrative Unit
- Develop and finalize a National Policy for Municipal Solid Waste Management
- Address country-wide route configuration on a phased basis
- Implement Waste disposal Strategy

Session II – Learning from our Experiences

Session II was chaired by Mr. Francois Brikke, Regional Team Leader for Latin America and the Caribbean, Water and Sanitation Programme, The World Bank

Session II, '*Learning from our Experiences*,' focused on the experiences of Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs), Community Based Organisations (CBOs), and the private sector in implementing and managing sanitation projects and initiatives. A presentation on the relationship between 'Health, Sanitation, and Economics' by Dr. Homero Silva of the Pan-American Health Organisation was also included in this session.

Dr. Homero Silva-Pan-American Health Organisation (PAHO)/World Health Organisation (WHO) Environmental Health Advisor-Health, Sanitation and Economics

Dr. Silva's scientific overview on health, sanitation and economics highlighted

1. The relationship between wealth and health
2. The relationship between wealth and nutrition
3. The relationship between wealth, sanitation, and nutrition, and its impact on poverty and human (child) growth.

Sanitation, wealth, and human growth were identified as social, economic, and environmental determinants of growth. The study, which was undertaken in Peru, revealed that there was a positive correlation between sanitation and human well being (health and wealth). Using selected variables, including gross national product (GNP) and the human well being index (health status), the results of the study showed that the higher GNP, the higher the human well being index (i.e. indicating the more healthy a person is). Similar studies done on (a) sanitation and incidence of malnutrition showed that higher sanitation coverage resulted in lower malnutrition incidences and (b) human well being and Intellectual Co-efficient (IQ) showed that the better one's health status is, as measured on the human well being index, the higher one's IQ.

Using the same methodological approach, the relationship between crime, malnutrition, and poverty was examined. The results showed that crime was highest in areas where poverty was highest, but also where sanitation coverage was low. The main inference drawn from the study was that sanitation and hygiene play an important role in the reduction of malnutrition, but also is vital to poverty reduction given its role in improving human growth and overall health status.

Mr. Christopher Corbin -AMEP Programme Officer, UNEP CAR/RCU: Community Based Sanitation Efforts in the Caribbean: UNEP's Experiences

Mr. Corbin's presentation looked at wastewater management and the attention being focused on land based sources of pollution in the Caribbean Region. He started by pointing to wastewater and sanitation management issues that were being faced across the region, particularly those affecting the marine environment. He highlighted that one of the main challenges is controlling sewage production. He noted that over eighty percent (80%) of untreated sewage ended up in the marine environment, leading to widespread destruction of marine resources. Wastewater was identified as the number one direct source of pollution in the marine environment.

Access to sanitation services and facilities in rural areas is of tremendous concern to the Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP). Mr Corbin noted that despite figures, presented in the rapid assessment presented by Mrs. Ianthe Smith, showing high sanitation coverage in many countries, many rural areas, particularly coastal areas, lacked the necessary sanitary facilities and services. He pointed to the need to safeguard coastal and marine resources by controlling wastewater production and improving sanitation management. He noted that this was critical in ensuring human health and safety and protecting the fisheries, tourism and shipping sectors.

Mr. Corbin brought attention to UNEP's Cartagena Convention addressing wastewater management. Ship generated sewage and the lack of adequate receptacles at regional ports to deal with wastewater was a main priority area in the Convention. Pollution from land based sources and activities was also a major priority issue identified in the Convention. The lack of

adequate sewage treatment plants and package treatment plants in coastal areas had resulted in leaching and increased pollution from land based activities.

With only four countries signing unto the Land Based Sources Protocol, Trinidad and Tobago, St. Lucia, Panama, and the Government of France on behalf of the French Territories, Mr. Corbin stressed the need for more countries to sign the protocol to address pressing wastewater issues. He closed by highlighting the objectives and goals of the protocol and identified challenges facing the wastewater and sanitation sector in the Caribbean Region.

Cartagena Protocol- Land Based Sources Protocol

Objectives of protocol:

- **Reduce pollution** through establishment of effluent and emission limitations and/or best management practices
- **Exchange information** on land-based pollution through cooperation in monitoring and research

Obligations of Protocol

1. General Obligations
 - National Planning including use of EIAs
 - Integrated Coastal Zone and Watershed Management
 - Environmental Monitoring and Assessment
2. Specific Obligations for Major Pollutants
 - Effluent and Emissions limitations, Time Tables for implementation, and Classification of Recreational Waters (Annex III - Sewage)
 - Best Management Practices (Annex IV – Agricultural Run-off)
 - Most Appropriate Technologies

UNEP- Sewage and Wastewater Management Initiatives

- Sewage Needs Assessments
- Training and Capacity Building: GPA, CEHI, PAHO
- Demo and Pilot Projects: UNEP, IWCAM
- Development of Revolving Fund for Wastewater Management: IDB, UNEP
- Promotion and Awareness: National Workshop in Guyana (PAHO)
- Environmental Assessment and Monitoring
- National Programmes of Action
- Partnerships

Challenges and Recommendations

Challenges

- Adsorptive capacity at national level
- Realistic Project Objectives and Time Lines
- Projects that focus on Implementation

Recommendations

- Realistic Time Frames for project development & implementation
- Concrete Outputs & policy influence
- Mainstream into national plans & programmes
- National and Regional Partnerships

Community and Private Sector Sanitation Projects and Activities

Mr. Robert McKinney –Rose Hall Development Limited- A Private Developers Perspective

Mr. McKinney's presentation focused on the challenges faced by private sector utility companies in offering sanitation services in Jamaica. He noted that the Rose Hall Development Limited, a private utility company originated from the need to provide adequate water supply to the hotel industry located on the north coast of Jamaica. Under their wastewater treatment programme, the company had built 11 km of pipeline along the north coast and developed a stable lake with a maximum capacity of 22 million gallons, to supply water to hotels that had contracted the services of the company.

He noted, however, that despite having provided a state of the art waste treatment facility, able to operate and treat wastewater beyond standards established by local regulators, the facility was operating below its capacity. Mr. McKinney identified several factors which contributed to the problems being faced by the company:

1. Slow approval of application permits by regulatory authorities
2. Planning authorities have continued to interfere in the tourism land development process
- Many of the hotels, now being constructed along the north coast, entered into contracts with the company, but have encountered delays in construction activities due to the interference of agencies such as the National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA) which has continued to halt development at project sites.
3. Behaviour and Culture - Jamaicans are still sceptical about using treated wastewater for everyday activities e.g. for domestic use
4. High Operating Cost - The wastewater treatment process was noted as being energy intensive and costly to undertake. With limited support from government authorities in expediting the development process, the company has been unable to maximise on potential profits.

He closed by highlighting that without partnership agreements between government and private sector companies, sanitation management will not be undertaken efficiently and strategies put forward may not have the type of impacts expected. Mr. McKinney pointed to the growing

demand for potable water and the ways government could reduce overall cost was to invest in cost-effective private sector initiatives.

Ms. Siegmien Staphorst- National Women's Movement, Suriname

The National Women's Movement in Suriname focuses on the challenges faced by women in the rural interior areas of Suriname. Ms. Staphorst's presentation highlighted women's access to sanitation facilities and services in the rural interior and least developed areas of Suriname. Her presentation brought attention to the position of women, particularly those belonging to indigenous groups, as it related to access to social facilities and services, including sanitation, and their overall capacity to deal with the challenges affecting their communities.

She noted the large gaps in sanitation coverage between urban and rural areas. In Suriname sanitation coverage in urban areas is said to be as high as ninety-percent (90%), while for rural areas coverage is estimated at thirty percent (30%) and even lower in villages such as Sipaliwini at twenty-one percent (21%).

She highlighted the lack of government funding for sanitation and water projects in rural and rural interior areas, and the lack of sustainable development programmes to address issues such as community participation, project financing and maintenance and capacity training and public awareness. Recommended actions made by Ms. Staphorst to address gender biases and inequitable access to sanitation and social services included:

- The integration of water and sanitation programmes in national development goals and objectives
- The integration of water and sanitation services in poverty eradication programmes
- The inclusion of sanitation financing in national economic policies
- Adoption of a participatory approach to community planning; identifying opportunities to be had from investing in social and environmental capital
- Providing training programmes to educate women on their role in sanitation management

Mr. Aldrin Calixte- Haiti Survie

Mr. Calixte's presentation highlighted the challenges being faced in Haiti related to access to potable water supply and sanitation services and facilities. He noted that the collection and disposal of waste was a very serious problem in Haiti. The inadequate supply of proper waste disposal facilities had resulted in indiscriminate dumping and the pollution of scarce potable water resources. The distance travelled by women and children to satisfy their domestic water needs was highlighted as a serious problem facing the government.

To address the problem of sanitation management and access to potable water, the Integrated Management of Water in Dry Zone and Waste Management Project was introduced in 2007. The central objective of this initiative is to build a cistern for collection of rainwater used for personal use (domestic) and promoting sustainable agriculture (vegetable production) to improve the nutritional conditions of affected communities. The project which is being piloted in La Biche, 2nd Section of the town Cote de Fer, is aimed at:

- Improving universal access to potable water supply and sanitation facilities and services
- Increase the availability of water and its quality and quantity sufficient for families
- Lower risks of diseases by consumption of polluted water and decrease of the rate of infantile mortality
- Improve access to food and increase daily nutritional intakes

The pilot project undertook the construction of 4 cisterns, but there is hope of building 21 more cisterns by 2010. An integrated approach, initiated through public-private sector partnership is being promoted.

Ms. Carmen Griffith – Construction Resource and Development Centre (CRDC)

Ms. Griffith's presentation highlighted cultural and behavioural concerns that continue to influence people's perception of sanitation. She noted that communities were more concerned with having access to adequate potable water supply than improved sanitation facilities and services. One of the reinforcing points of Ms. Griffith's presentation was how communities defined sanitation. The overall community assessment of the sanitation situation in Jamaica showed:

1. Persons were misinformed about the impacts of sanitation on their health status
2. People's perception of adequate waste disposal facilities included, plastic bags (lada bags) and kites² for human excreta disposal
3. Individuals accepted that sink holes were appropriate forms of sanitation facilities

Raising Public Awareness

To improve access to sanitation facilities and services, and raise public awareness about the social, economic and environmental impacts of proper sanitation the Construction Resource and Development Centre (CRDC), along with several partners (UNEP, USAID, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Water and Housing and OXFAM) engaged in the following activities:

- Designed and implemented training and education programmes to raise public awareness
- Constructed sanitation infrastructure to support community sanitation projects and initiatives
- Devised a financial mechanism, which allowed sanitation financing to be included in mortgage payments tied to regularization of tenure programmes.

The proposed way forward included:

- Preparation and implementation of a National Policy; with actions nationally to support the work on the ground

² Kites are plastic bags that are used for the disposal of human excreta. The name kite represents the disposal action by individuals, who dispose of the bag by throwing it into bushes and surface water e.g. rivers

- Financing at the community level
- Training of more sanitation practitioners that is gender balanced

Ms. Anneta Pinto- Coalition for Community Participation in Governance, Jamaica-presented on National Perspectives on Sanitation Situation in Jamaica in relation to the Draft Sanitation Policy, a community study conducted in St. Ann, Kingston, St. Catherine and Manchester

The study undertaken by the Coalition for Community Participation in Governance sought to garner the views of communities on the Draft National Sanitation Policy. In her presentation Ms. Pinto noted that the policy was summarized into a user friendly format to effectively engage grassroots communities and other members of civil society on issues of sanitation and their recommended actions for improvement in the sector. A summary of the recommendations made by the members of civil society were presented. These included:

- There was need for a National Sanitation Policy to address public health and safety concerns.
- Decision-makers should be encouraged to keep the language of policy documents simple and user-friendly, to allow involvement of all sectors of the population.
- The Policy needs to provide guidelines about burial sites and their effect/impact on the water resources, particularly underground water resources.
- Community organizations should play a role in reducing the growth of informal settlements and in promoting hygiene practices at the local level.
- Appoint Community-Based Organization (CBO) representatives with responsibilities for monitoring local sanitation situations
- Need for an easy reference point for information about responsibilities of different government agencies. Oftentimes names and responsibilities of Ministries change, confusing citizens and making it difficult to monitor who has responsibility for specific aspects of sanitation. This also included improvement in the customer service base of sanitation service providers.
- Need for inter-agency cooperation at the national, regional and local levels
- Ensuring that all agencies, ministries, departments and private sector organizations adhere to the objectives and regulations established by the policy.
- Promote alternative options for water access, for e.g. rainwater harvesting and community co-management schemes.
- Ensure proper and effective implementation and monitoring of projects, programmes and plans of action initiated within the sector.

Discussion: Comments and Key Policy Issues

It is significant to remember that the International Year of Sanitation, 2008, is half-distance from the initiation of the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals in the year 2000, and the completion year goal of 2015. In fact, this objective should be foremost in the minds of the participants during their deliberations. And as you know, of the eight goals we are seeking

internationally by 2015, our attention at this workshop should be focused on Goal Seven: *To ensure environmental sustainability.*

Definition: For the purpose of this informal guidance document, two definitional statements are set forth as follows:

Sanitation: Those issues involved with, and reflecting on, the appropriate and adequate conduct of public health, including water supply, the handling and disposal of human, municipal, and hazardous wastes of all types, and the use of land, water, and air as they are involved in human endeavours;

National Development Plans: The need to define this concept.

Key Issue One: Existing Policies, Policy Shortcomings, and Gaps

1. Environmental:
 - Quality and location of wastewater discharges
 - Types of wastewater systems
 - On-going monitoring wastewater discharges(Effluent)
 - Quality and quantity control of biosolids (sludge) in land application
 - Waste mismanagement on public and private properties
 - Establishment of open spaces, public and private
 - Type of excreta disposal Systems
 - Standards/Guidelines
 - Environmental Impact

2. Solid Waste Management:
 - Respecting the solid waste hierarchy:
 - Waste minimization
 - Reuse
 - Recycle/recover in other use
 - Burial/ landfill
 - Utilization of organics as a resource
 - Utilization of wastewater as a resource
 - Failure of legislative/political support of regulatory bodies
 - Public and academic educational support
 - Training and staff development
 - Drains

Key Issue Two: Institutional Structure and Arrangements

There is need for:

- Clear lines of communication between and among various government agencies organization

- Training
- Public/community participation in sanitation issues
- Community Development
- Training should be built-into on-going work program
- Promoting the nutritional aspects and its relationship to sanitation
- Promoting the benefits of good sanitation
- Reviewing legislation and regulations pertaining to sanitation management
- Cost /Finance of Sanitation System
- Partnership and mechanisms for partnerships
- Private sector involvement in sanitation management
- Economic Measures to be identified to address project and programme costs
- Advocacy issues to be addressed within the institutional hierarchy

Key Issue Three: Challenges in Developing/Implementing Institutional and Policy Reform

- Sanitation institutions lack the ability to maintain the attention of funding agencies
- Inability of sanitation institutions to convince budget makers of need for funding for training and expanded programs
- The lack of attention given by the media to the importance of sanitation in the society
- Lack of Cooperation of sanitation issues amongst institutions
- Lack of Organization and Management within the sanitation sector

Key Issue Four: Main Priorities for Action

- Standardising sanitation definitions in the region to bring about commonality of issues
- Waste Management Issues
- Community Development, participation and organization
- Stakeholder involvement (NGOs, CBOs and Private Sector)
- Water Supply
- Need to assess the state of Sanitation in Countries
- Need for Sanitation Policy in countries
- Linking/synergy of Sanitation to existing environmental programs

Day 2 - April 29, 2008

Session III -International Year of Sanitation: Making it Real

Session III was chaired by Ms. Diane Quarless, Chief, Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Unit, Division for Sustainable Development, United Nations

Honourable Dr. Horace Chang, Minister of Water and Housing, Jamaica- IYS-Challenges and Opportunities for Jamaica

Dr. Chang was the main presenter on day two (2) of the sanitation workshop. He opened by noting the growing importance of sanitation management in influencing the quality of life in communities. In his presentation Dr. Chang highlighted the relationship between public health, environmental management and sanitation, noting that the region required comprehensive sanitation policies to address environmental and public health and safety issues associated with what he considered to be ‘inadequate social and waste services.’

Water and sanitation were identified as amongst the most important determinants of health. Attention was brought to the quality of waste collection and disposal facilities and the influence they had on individual and community health statuses, but more critically, overall quality of life. Dr. Chang stressed the need to focus on the quality of human settlements, bringing attention to what he called were the inadequacies of providing sustainable and ‘liveable’ human settlements. ‘Inadequate Social Services’ was used as the broader term covering inadequacies. Specific issues mentioned included:

- Inadequate educational facilities
- Inadequate health facilities
- Inadequate waste facilities
- Limited access to potable water supply
- Limited economic opportunities; huge growth in informal economy

Dr. Chang in offering solutions to address existing and emerging sanitation issues spoke to the need of making sanitation a more politically sensitive term. He noted that the absence of sanitation facilities did not bring about ‘social discontent’ as did the absence of water and changes in government policy and cultural behaviour patterns is needed to integrate water and sanitation issues. He further stressed the need for sanitation to be given consideration in policies as a priority area related to improving daily lives. One of the proposed solutions raised by the Minister was the regularisation of informal settlements, particularly squatter settlements.

Data presented by the Minister acknowledged that there were approximately 700 informal settlements in Jamaica. He noted that the emergence of these informal settlements had created problems of poor health, sanitation and education. The way forward the Minister indicated was through infrastructural developments, resource development projects and upgrading of wastewater treatment and sanitation facilities. He indicated that the recently completed Soapberry Sewage Treatment Plant was able to manage 18 million gallons of sewage per day and would help to improve wastewater treatment in the corporate area. Other projects identified include the construction of a sewage treatment plant in Harbour View, Kingston and the preparation of a Master Plan for the southeast coast for sewage and sanitation.

The Minister closed by stressing the timeliness of the workshop on sanitation, and reinforced his and the Government of Jamaica’s commitment to improving sanitation management in Jamaica and the region.

Mr. Francois Brikke: Report on LATINOSAN and AFRICASAN

Mr. Brikke's presentation examined the main features of the Declarations made at LATINOSAN and AFRICASAN Sanitation Conferences.

He began by drawing attention to the eight (6) main objectives of the International Year of Sanitation. These included:

1. ***Increasing awareness and commitment of actors of all levels***, regarding the importance of attaining the sanitation MDGs, with convincing communication, strong monitoring data, revealing evidence.
2. ***Mobilizing governmental counterparts and existing alliances***, through quick cooperation agreements determining by whom and how the necessary steps shall be taken.
3. ***Ensuring real commitments*** leading to the execution of sanitation programs and the strengthening of sanitation policies through the allocation of clear responsibilities.
4. ***Promoting sustainable and traditional solutions based on demand***, that acknowledges the importance of working upward from the baseline with both professionals and the communities.
5. ***Ensuring the increase of financial support through national budget commitments, and from other sources, including cooperation agencies, financial institutions and civil society.***
6. ***Developing and strengthening human and institutional capacity, involving inter-sectoral programs on hygiene, household installations (such as bathrooms and lavatories), access to safe water and sanitation services, and waste water treatment.***
7. ***Increase sustainability as well as the effectiveness of available sanitation solutions, to enhance the impact on health, social and cultural acceptance, technological and institutional appropriation, and the protection of the environment and natural resources.***
8. ***Promote and capture learning to enhance the evidence base and knowledge on sanitation which will greatly contribute to the advocacy and increase investments in the sector.***

LATINOSAN Declaration

The LATINOSAN declaration is divided into two parts:

1. **Preamble:** This recognizes the importance of sanitation and takes into consideration sanitation status within the Latin American region. Acknowledgement and welcoming of the IYS is also addressed in this section.
2. **Declaration:** This promotes the prioritization of sanitation into national development policies, supports the accomplishment of the main objectives in the International Year of

Sanitation and pushes for the strengthening of inter-governmental cooperation in the region

AFRICASAN Declaration

The AFRICASAN declaration, similar to LATINOSAN, is divided into two parts:

- 1. Preamble:** This recognizes the importance of sanitation and takes into consideration sanitation status within the African region. Acknowledgement and welcoming of the IYS is also addressed in this section.
- 2. Declaration:**
 - Bring messages of AFRICASAN to the African Union. Mr. Brikke highlighted this as being one of the major highlights of the AFRICASAN Conference, as steps had been initiated to bring about regional cooperation in addressing sanitation issues.
 - Review, elaborate National Sanitation policies within 12 months and increase profile of sanitation in PRSPs
 - Ensure that one principal institution takes leadership
 - Establish specific budget allocations (0.5% of GDP)
 - Develop information and monitoring
 - Other elements of the IYS
 - Call on external support agencies and OAU

Mr. Brikke ended his presentation by encouraging participants of the Caribbean Sanitation workshop to identify workable strategies, similar to those in Africa and Latin America that can be implemented across the region to bring about changes in the management of waste in the region. He noted that regional integration was paramount to the success of the workshop, and the solution and activities undertaken following the workshop were the most crucial in bringing about practical solutions to sanitation management in the Caribbean.

Session IV- Integrating Sanitation into National Development Plans

This sessions was chaired and facilitated by Mr. Basil Fernandez, Managing Director, Water Resources Authority, Jamaica

Session IV aimed at identifying region specific issues and recommendations required to address sanitation management in the Caribbean. Four workshop groups were selected:

1. Policy and Institutional Priorities

Facilitator- Mr. Ian Gage, Director, Project Implementation Unit, Rural Water Project, Jamaica

Rapporteur – Lionel Michael, Chief Health Inspector, Ministry of Health Antigua/Barbuda

2. Financing Issues and Approaches

Facilitator- Mr. Paul Hinds, Regional Coordinator, Global Water Partnership (GWP)- Caribbean

Rapporteur – Andre Worme, Chief Environmental Health Officer Grenada

3. Community Priorities

Facilitator- Ms. Michelle Watts, Water Resources Authority, Jamaica

Rapporteur –

4. A Workable Implementation Framework

Facilitator- Mrs. Ianthe Smith, Managing Director, Environmental and Engineering Managers Limited-WSP, World Bank Consultant

Rapporteur – Ms Annetta Pinto - CCPG

Workshop Group Discussions Towards Practical Solutions

The issues and recommendations emanating from the various group discussions are presented below.

Group 1- Policy and Institutional Priorities

Existing Policies and Policy gaps

- Most countries have a policy for building approval that involves a Physical Planning Ministry or Development Control Authority
- No sanitation policy
- There does not appear to be a policy for sanitation issues in unplanned settlements
- There is a problem with enforcement
- Standards and appropriate technologies in policies is a weakness for onsite sanitation (including management guidelines for de-sludging etc.)
- In some countries there is no obligation for new developments to connect to a sewage treatment plant even where it exists and residents and commercial entities are charged for sewage services
- There is generally a lack of policies governing septage disposal (Trinidad is an exception with dedicated facilities for septage management, though enforcement is poor). In some of the other countries, there is an unwritten policy or practice of septage management at sewage treatment plants or solid waste disposal sites

Key Institutional Issues to be addressed

- Community organisation involvement
- Clear lines of communication between and among various government agencies and areas of responsibilities
- Public/community participation in sanitation issues
- Legislation and regulation
- Information system development and training

Challenges in developing or implementing policy and institutional reform

- The challenge to a national plan is lack of coordination and cooperation among the various agencies
- There is generally a lack of political will
- Technocrats have to be creative in bringing concerns to the political directorate to get their support
- We are more reactive than proactive
- We need proper marketing and packaging of information to the different target groups to get their attention
- Technocrats may need to push harder
- Balancing priorities between technocrats and politicians
- Resources once priorities have been identified
- Balancing the right to information with what information can be made public i.e. there is the need for protocols

Main priorities for action - national and regional

- Monitoring and enforcement
- Proper definition for onsite sanitation
- Comprehensive sanitation policy
- Country-level gap analysis but enforcing existing policies in the meantime

Recommendations

- Sanitation policy
- Enforcement policy development
- Gap analysis

Group 2-Financing Issues and Approaches

Existing Levels and Sources of Financing for Sanitation

International sources

- USAID
- IDB/World Bank
- Global Environment Fund (GEF)
- US Peace Corps – Technical Co-operation

Local sources

- Counterpart funding provided by Governments
- Revolving funding for affordable sanitation and environmental projects
- Jamaica Social Investment Fund (World Bank)
- Private sector companies e.g. Grace Foods
- Environmental Levies, Tariff structures, User fees etc.

Issues

- Conflicts in Prioritization of funding
- Need for co-ordination and accountability

Levels of Financing/ Investments

- Pre-requisite to determining levels of financing – Technical needs assessment
- Insufficient levels of funding – Variation from country to country
- Funding required for sanitation in schools

Financing technical solutions at the household level (Issues)

- Need to address stigma associated with some sanitation technologies e.g. Pit Latrines
- Need for culturally acceptable technology

Recommendations

- Governments and CBO's to work to determine needs
- Donor agencies and National Governments to be consistent with regards to funding
- Greater effort to be made at marketing sanitation to the private sector to gain their support
- Need to identify sanitation issues for integration in national development (can be outlined in a National Strategic Development Plan)

Group 3- Community Priorities

Main Challenges

Solid Waste

- Infrequent Collection
- Disposal into gullies
- Inadequate receptacles
- Indiscriminate dumping (inside/outside community)
- Non compliance with public health regulations/laws
- Insufficient transfer stations
- Cultural acceptance of collection receptacles
- Inadequate information on composting
- Inadequate waste separation (commercial/domestic)

Waste Water

- Inappropriate wastewater treatment options
- Inadequate monitoring & enforcement of approved systems

- Outdated regulations
- Absence of Central collection/treatment system in high population areas (in areas of high water table)
- Inappropriate land use/zoning enforcement

Drainage

- Outdated/inadequate infrastructure
- Watershed deforestation- increase surface run off
- Indiscriminate re-routing of watercourses
- Poor maintenance
- Improper disposal of garbage/plastic bottles etc.
- Lack of policy/regulations to reduce surface runoff & increase infiltration - urban forestry
- Blocking of drains with garbage (plastics)

Obstacles to Solutions

- Lack of ownership of responsibility by community
- Lack of appreciation of garbage as a resource – potential fertilizer etc.
- Inadequate infrastructure (roads- narrow; limited access)
- Lack of community cohesion/spirit
- Political interference

Facilitators of Solutions

- Strong/active community groups- “Captain” in Guyana
- community animators- education & awareness raising
- Positive political intervention
- Partnerships/ power sharing: NGO’s & political representatives
- Recognition respect for community “gatekeepers”
- Innate knowledge of the community of their own problems

Strengthens/Weaknesses of Organisations

Organizations

- Government & municipal agencies
- Private commercial entities
- NGO’s
- CBO’s
- International donor agencies

Strengths

- Organizational capacity
- Centralized- enhanced coordinating functions
- Commitment/ motivation- CBO’s

- Access to information/ networking- NGO's
- Knowledge of local problems- CBO's
- HR capacity- Govt's.

Weaknesses

- View of Government as a “gravy train”
- Inadequate allocation of resources by Government
- Poor enforcement of land use, zoning laws & regulations

Recommendations

- Research into appropriate sanitation solutions- based on protection of environment; financial costs; social acceptance
- National sanitation policies
- Allocation of more resources
- Implementation/enforcing of zoning policies- land use, watershed
- Implementation of national/community level education campaign
- Appropriate financing of household sanitation
- Updating of sanitation legislation/regulations
- Greater collaboration among NGO community in the Caribbean region
- Regulations for informal sorters (“scavengers”)
- Governments to facilitate recycling facilities
- Enforcement of existing legislation/regulations
- Regional guidelines re Basel Convention (import/export of waste)

Group 4- Workable Implementation Framework

Important considerations- some of the challenges differ from country to country but many are the same; hence we should

- Seek to find solutions that may work generally and
- Identify specific solutions for countries

Features of the existing implementation framework for sanitation

- Multiple agencies with responsibility for sanitation
- No lead agency
- Some territories have outdated Public Health Acts

St. Vincent

- 3 agencies responsible
 - Ministry of Health (Public Health Dept.) responsible for Waste disposal
 - CWSA – education and awareness and provide water

- Overlap of responsibilities
- Monitoring framework in place; needs improvements

Dominica

- 4 or 5 agencies responsible
 - Health, Water, Local Government, Housing
- There is over lap, but good collaboration between agencies e.g. one agency looks at the building while Ministry of Health has to oversee the sewage infrastructure.
- Ministry of Health is the lead agency

Suriname

- 5 to 6 Ministries
 - Min of Public Works responsible for Sanitation
 - Ministry of Health responsible for Monitoring
- There are overlaps, coordination needs improving. Subject to change due to new initiatives
- There is an interagency body: all stakeholders are involved e.g. PAHO, NGOs,

Antigua and Barbuda

- Multiple Agencies
 - Central Board of Health, Environmental Division, Development Control Authority (DCA), Ministry of Public Works
 - DCA- has unlimited authority that supersedes board (by legislation); board has representatives from all the above Ministries.

Trinidad and Tobago

- Ministries
 - Ministry of Health, Public Utilities, Solid Waste Company, Ministry of Local Government (solid waste collection, Public Health Inspectors, garbage collection)

Jamaica

- Multiple agencies
- No one will take the ‘sanitation child’
- Ministry of Health and Environment
 - new legislation to address sewage facilities of a particular size; Public Health Department also
 - Ministry of Water & Housing
 - Dept. of Local Government; Office of the Prime Minister responsible for solid waste disposal
- NSWMA

What should a workable institutional framework seek to achieve?

- Have specific entity with responsibility for implementation and monitoring
- Establish clearly defined roles and responsibilities of different agencies

- Sanitation needs a home-integrated approach but one agency has to take lead role
- Legislate responsibilities so when governments change, responsibilities are not subject to change, creating changes and confusion
- Decentralised/local monitoring
- Dedicated financing for monitoring and implementation
- Multi-sectoral approach needed-empowerment of key players-inclusion of NGOs, communities and business sector and wider civil society in implementation

Key features/characteristics of a workable implementation framework

- Definition of sanitation relevant to all countries and region
- Public Health Acts are outdated-get new updated instruments to give agency responsibility for monitoring sanitation functions
- Public support needed for implementation

Immediate Requirements and Recommendations

- Need for policy and legislation
- Need for lead agency with responsibility for implementation and monitoring
- Need updated acts to legislate responsibilities of different ministries and monitor implementation of actions
- Awareness raising among policy makers, governments at national and regional levels.

Next 6 months

- Include as a recommendation out of this Workshop that all recommendations of this Workshop be included as an agenda item at the next CARICOM Heads of Government Meetings and subsequently other CARICOM Ministers Meetings
- Prepare and present a paper at the CARICOM Heads of Government Meeting on how sanitation affects national development and how much will it cost if we ignore sanitation issues

Establishing Partnerships

- Regional partnerships
- Inter-agency and inter-governmental partnerships

Session V- Caribbean Issues: Towards A Synthesis

This session was chaired by Ms. Camille Forde, Senior Planning Officer, Ministry of Local Government, Trinidad and Tobago

CARIBSAN Recommendations

The following recommendations presented below were identified throughout the workshop and were presented by Mrs. Ianthe Smith.

A summary of the recommendations agreed at the CARIBSAN Workshop by attending member states, NGOs, CBOs and private sector agencies are provided below. A detailed outline of the recommendations is provided in the official CARIBSAN 2008 Kingston Recommendations document prepared for submission to the United Nations.

- Providing sanitation solutions at the community level at an affordable price
- Changing public perception of the latrine as a viable sanitation solution where water supply is unavailable and where unsuitable soil conditions exist
- Promoting the reuse and recycling of waste
- Improving sanitation in schools
- Signing onto other regional environmental agreements to demonstrate will, assists in mobilizing additional
- Incorporating sanitation issues in other relevant policies and national plans
- Consider sanitation issues in Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation Plans
- Modalities for monitoring sanitation and presentation of data needs to be standardized
- Include sanitation on the agenda of the next CARICOM Heads of Government Meeting and on other relevant Ministers Meetings; provide information on the likely environmental, social and economic costs of not addressing sanitation
- Income generating opportunities for the community in development and/or application of on-site sanitation
- The financial needs should be informed by a comprehensive technical needs assessment at the community and national levels
- Capacity building for communities to prepare documentation to source financing, implement solutions and report and evaluate the projects
- Establish mechanisms to share information and promote technology suitable to the region at Government and Civil Society levels regionally

Session VI- Summary and Next Steps

This session was facilitated by Ms. Linnette Vassell, Community Development and Gender Specialist, Rural Water Programme, Jamaica

Next Steps-Post Workshop Activities

The following were identified as the activities to be undertaken at the completion of the CARIBSAN workshop:

1. Make participants list available - complete the final document by Friday, May 2, 2008 (summary and recommendations) – Planning committee responsible
2. Submit final sanitation workshop document to respective ministries or authorities and the media (report to the organizations of Country Representatives)

3. Each country should provide a response to the three to five new actions that they will take as a result of this conference (share this by email and set this within 30 – 90 day timeframe for submission); actions should include time frame for implementation.
4. Identify two or three facilitators (regional facilitating grouping? focal point) to coordinate focal group.
5. The existing preparatory committee would remain as the focal point to receive information from the respective countries
6. Sanitation working groups in the countries (at least three representatives from different organizations – possible recognition from the government as the sanitation focal point)
7. Include water and waste water professionals in sanitation management planning (example CWWA)
8. CWWA – having their conference in Jamaica this year – Ian Gage – Rural Water Company, Jamaica, has undertaken to (a) seek to include sanitation into the discussion on financing for water (b) to take conclusions from this workshop to the conference
9. Conclusions and recommendations to be taken to the CSD in New York
10. Agencies to look at funding local initiatives at the national level
11. Seek to get media attention (public education) to incorporate sanitation issues surrounding world environment day – Panos one of the agencies that can assist
12. Do a regional schools march for World Environment day specifically highlighting sanitation and water issues within the Caribbean (St. Vincent and the Grenadines to develop a basic Caribbean action for sanitation around world environment day and committee will seek to implement it)
13. When do we meet again? Next 12 to eighteen months? Two years?
14. Where? Suriname
15. What is our name? CARIBSAN
16. Identify a champion in our respective territories – preferably a Government Minister

Organisational Responses (next step) - NGOs, CBOs and Private Sector Initiatives

1. Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ)

- Target interventions to community based organisations, NGO's and schools
- Particularly interested in moving the issue of sanitation in schools
- Public education and national awareness on the issue
- Have an integrated national strategy – not interested anymore in the piecemeal work
- Promote the establishment of an inter-sectoral committee formation

2. Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO)

PAHO as a technical cooperation agency (and not a donor agency) has pledged to facilitate and/or undertake the following:

- Integrate sanitation into water safety plans
- Update national sanitation plans
- Strengthen health evidence base to decision-making

- Integrate Caribbean sub-regional plan on sanitation policy through CARICOM or Caribbean public health agency
- Facilitate sanitation research and documentation to identify human resource needs within the Caribbean
- Focus on reducing inequity – rural vs. urban, peri-urban, different vulnerable groups
- Integrate and strengthen sanitation component within eco-clubs and sanitation school networks
- Facilitate the standardization of sanitation concepts
- Ensure that figures used reflect reality – figures presented this week don't reflect reality need standardization
- Develop and disseminate affordable, safe and culturally/affordable sanitation technologies
- Ensure integrated approach to sanitation e.g. Environmental Health Advisor for the Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean – sits in CEHI so very integrated – PAHO and CEHI

3. Caribbean Environmental Health Institute (CEHI)

- Through Caribbean Environment Forum and Exhibition (June 23-27, 2008 in Grenada) will present findings of workshop. Can identify some priority issues within a timeline for delivery and implementation
- Highlight emerging issues at Forum e.g. climate change, water and sanitation: a shared responsibility
- Recommendations raised at CARIBSAN Workshop will be taken to Board meeting in September this year (2008) so that decisions pertaining to sanitation management can be made by Ministers in respective countries so that they become priority issues for our work programmes – 16 Ministers of Health present at the meeting (English speaking Caribbean)
- Advocate for CARICOM programme specifically to address sanitation and water in addition to existing water programmes e.g. IWCAM: nine (9) projects looking at watershed management and integration with a strong sanitation theme.

4. Global Water Partnership (GWP) - Caribbean

- Facilitate organization through the 2008 work plan. The work plan has two activities relating to sanitation (a) Providing support for Caribbean Sanitation Workshop and (b) Providing support for partner country (Guyana) to prepare their National Sanitation Policy
- Monitoring activities and funding will be done through outcome mapping. The next steps here will provide ammunition to ask for more funds for 2009. We will be looking at Suriname for help as well. Focus will be placed on support for public consultation and workshops.
- Work with Caribbean Water Net to continue facilitating training and liaise with them to get their partnership on sanitation initiatives
- Work with CWWA to incorporate sanitation on CWWA agenda for up coming meeting.

5. NGO conference in Suriname in October on Women and Water

- Invite grassroots organization and NGO's

- Develop ideas from there into project proposal – water, sanitation and solid waste management.

6. Water and Sanitation Partnership (WSP), World Bank

- Knowledge: WSP and World Bank can provide knowledge on school sanitation, etc.
- Networking: UN, World Bank can play a role in Caribbean by offering resources at a very high level
- Finance: World Bank can support the development of the international year of sanitation; could try to see how to make a concrete follow up after this workshop; regional focal point will be provided with the information; person needs to be identified to manage this,
- Grants – WSP can negotiate on behalf of region with World Bank to provide loans. At the Governing board meeting in June this will be placed on the agenda. However Africa is the first priority, then East Asia and Pacific, followed by Latin America. The board will be asked about funding for Caribbean. Grants provided are focused on helping the poorest of the poor and there is need to convince donors about these sanitation issues and the poor in Caribbean countries. There is need for more convincing material to get the donors
- Programmes/Loans – these can be done only through the governments. Put very clear cut poverty alleviation proposals together. One mechanism that is very interesting now is to pool funding – basket fund for a sector wide approach
- Advocate for national governments to take up the issues of sanitation. Ministers can be used at the highest level to raise awareness of key policy issues related to sanitation

7. Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

The IDB will seek to:

- Develop strategies for water and sanitation in Latin America and Caribbean. We are inviting Caribbean countries to participate in developing strategies/business plans within the water and sanitation sectors in the region. IDB Board approved water initiative in 2007. Work being done in Trinidad, Guyana, recently invited Jamaica to participate
- Identify mix of investments – systems by loans vs. grant-like funding: key activity is stakeholder participation
- Advocate support for regional partnerships on sanitation at the CWWA meeting this year. Raise awareness on the opportunities to be had from networking

8. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

UNEP is not a donor agency but can provide assistance in some key areas. These include:

- Capacity building and training
- Technology and knowledge transfer
- Influencing policy, institutional and legal reform: review of legislation being done – opportunities for building sanitation into these processes
- Promoting partnerships developed – national programmes of action – plans to reduce pollution: including sewage

- IWCAM project: CEHI and UNEP collaboration
- Develop revolving fund for waste water management – a project document that will be prepared for GEF in October
- Information sharing, clearing house sharing, best practices and water quality issues

UNEP will also seek to encourage more countries to come on board to support the protocol on Land based sources of pollution – only four countries signed up to this only two from the Caribbean – offer open to other member states who want to have promotional workshop

The closing session was chaired by Mr. Peter Knight

Geneva Hibbert, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Water and Housing, made the final closing remarks. She began by thanking all the participants who had contributed to the success of the workshop and highlighted the commitments she and her Ministry would fulfil in helping to address sanitation concerns in Jamaica. She noted that the Minister of Water and Housing had indicated that sanitation management in rural areas would be the main priority for the Ministry and initiatives aimed at improving sanitation services and facilities in these areas would be designed and implemented to meet the 2015 Millennium Development Goals target. She further emphasised the need for countries to meet the objectives of the International Year of Sanitation and help to improve the quality of life for all the people of the Caribbean region.

Closing remarks were made by **Ms. Kenza Kaouakib-Robinson** who noted that the workshop was a success and had brought about many practical recommendations to address sanitation problems facing the region. She noted that the process has just begun, stressed the need for continued work in each country to deal with specific sanitation issues with full participation of communities and more specifically women who are the backbone of entire families. She reiterated that sanitation is achievable and stressed the importance of starting with small affordable solutions to address sanitation issues. She further encouraged participants to bring to their respective governments the problems and recommendations discussed at the workshop, so as to begin the process of effecting change in the sector. She also stressed the importance to bring the recommendations to CARICOM to ensure the highest political involvement in the region.

ANNEX A
List of Participants



CARIBBEAN SANITATION WORKSHOP
“INTEGRATION OF SANITATION POLICIES IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS”
April 28 & 29, 2006

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

No.	Last Name	First	Organisation	Address	Email	Contact No
1	Abraham	Barnabas	Tete Mdrne, Dominica	Tete Mdrne, Grand Bay, Roseau, Dominica	baro1955@sbcglobal.net	767-448-6068 Fax
2	Allen	Owen Dave	Managing Director, Community Organisation for Management, Monitoring & Development	People's Arcade, Howard Cooke Boulevard, Montego Bay, Jamaica	odamaxef@yahoo.com	876-979-3159
3	Allen-Young	Grace	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health	2 - 4 King Street, Kingston, Jamaica		876-967-1100-1
4	Aquing	Patricia	Executive Director, Caribbean Environmental Health Institute			
5	Asin	Melvin	Second Secretary, Head of Infrastructure Section, European Union	8 Olivier Road, Kingston 8, Jamaica	melvin.asin@ec.europa.eu	876-924-6333
6	Augustin	Evastus	Community Liaison Officer, Fond'or Development Foundation	P. O. Box 1627, Castries, St. Lucia	evestus56@yahoo.com	758-584-3596
7	Bailey	Coreen	Scotts Hall Benevolent Society			
8	Benny	David	Manager, Contracts Administration, Waste Water, Water & Sewerage Authority	Farm Road, Valsayn, St. Joseph, Trinidad	benn9420@wasa.gov.tt	868-662-2302
9	Biesinger	Stephen	Snr. VP, Sales, Global Sanitation Solutions	1329 South 800 East, Orem, Utah, 84097, USA	steve@gsanitation.com	801-228-2326
10	Blyden	Diane	RWN, Guyana	Guyana	rwn.guyana@yahoo.com	592-225-4323
11	Brikke	Francois	Regional Team Leader - Latin American and the Caribbean Region	Water and Sanitation Program - The World Bank	fbrikke@worldbank.org	615-0685 ext.324
12	Broughton	William	Regional Environmental Health Officer - South East Regional Health Authority	2 - 4 King Street, Kingston, Jamaica	williamb@serha.gov.jm	876-54-3440-3
13	Browne	John Oral	Antigua and Barbuda		job_tech@hotmail	268-460-3642

No.	Last Name	First	Organisation	Address	Email	Contact No
14	Buchanan	Sandra	Director, Water Monitoring Unit, Ministry of Water & Housing	25 Dominica Drive, Kingston 5, Jamaica	sandmow@cwjamaica.com	876-926-1590
15	Burke	Reginald		Barbados	riburke@gmail.com	246-231-7263
16	Calixte	Aldrin		Haiti	hsurvie@yahoo.com	509-373-37377
17	Cayetano	Evan	Natural Resource Management Specialist-Inter-American Development Bank	40 Knutsford Boulevard, Kingston 5, Jamaica	evanc@iadb.org	876-926-2342-4
18	Chang	Horace	Minister, Ministry of Water & Housing	25 Dominica Drive, Kingston 5, Jamaica	horace.chang@mhtww.gov.jm	876-926-1590/ 876-926-1561
19	Christie	Winsome	Director of Communications, Ministry of Water & Housing	25 Dominica Drive, Kingston 5, Jamaica	winsome.christie@mhtww.gov.jm	876-926-1590
20	Clarke	Marine	Bybrook Benevolent Society	Bybrook P.A. Portland, Jamaica.		876-351-8732
21	Coombs	Dionne	Mile Gully/Warick Castle Development Benevolent Society	Mile Gully/Warick Castle, Gayle P. O., St. Mary, Jamaica		876-376-9132
22	Corbin	Chris	Programme Officer, United Nation Environmental Programme	14 Port Royal Street, Kingston, Jamaica	cjc@cep.unep.org	876-922-9267
23	Coto	Niolas	Regional Coordinator	Oficinas de la ANDA, Colonia San Benito, Boulevard del Hipodromo	nicolascotoviera@yahoo.com	503-2247-2985
24	Cover	Terrence	St. Thomas Environment Protection Agency	P. O. Box 46, Morant Bay, St. Thomas, Jamaica		876-3598639
25	Daubon	Leopold	Regional Environmental Health Officer - Southern Regional Health Authority	2 - 4 King Street, Kingston, Jamaica	leopold.daubon@srha.gov.jm	876-962-9491
26	Donaldson	Noel	Chairman, Rural Water Supply Limited	Courtleigh Building, 3rd Floor, 6 St. Lucia Avenue, Kingston 5, Jamaica	nwdd@hotmail.com	876-971-5630
27	Douse	Andrew	Environmental Officer, Urban Development Corporation	12 Ocean Blvd., Kingston, Jamaica	adouse@udcja.com	876-922-8310
28	Dwyer	Kamille	Urban & Regional Planner, Environmental & Engineering Managers Ltd.	26 Armour Glade Dr, Kingston 8, Jamaica	kamille.dwyer@gmail.com	876-925-9060
29	Edmead	Randolph	Director of Physical Planning and Environment, St/ Kitts/Nevis	Blaben Comercial Dev., St. Kitts	phyplskb@sisterisles.kn	869-465-5842 Fax
30	Edwards	Sally	Regional Advisor in Environmental Epidemiology, Pan American Health Organization	PAHO/WHO - OCPC	edwardss@cpc.paho.org	246-426-3860 Ext. 5040

No.	Last Name	First	Organisation	Address	Email	Contact No
31	Fernandez	Basil	Managing Director, Water Resources Authority	Hope Gardens , Kingston 6, Jamaica	commander@cwjamaica.com	876-927-1878
32	Fletcher	Osmond	Quality Control Technician, Rose Hall Developments	Rose Hall Po. O., Montego Bay, Jamaica	o.fletcher@rosehall.com	876-357-9590
33	Forde	Camille	Senior Planning Officer, Ministry of Local Govt, Trinidad	Ministry of Local Government, Kent House, Maraval, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad	camforde@yahoo.com	868-628-5220 Fax
34	Forde	Lester	Steering Committee Memeber - GWP Caribbean	Port of Spain, Trinidad		
35	Gage	Ian	Programme Director, Rural Water Programme	6 St. Lucia Ave Kingston 5, Jamaica	houtie1@hotmail.com	876-754-5485
36	Glasgow	Shermaine	CEHI	St. Lucia	sglasgow@cehi.org.lc	
37	Gordon Webley	Joan	Executive Director, National Solid Waste Management Authority	61 Half Way Tree Road , Kingston 10, Jamaica		876-920-7939
38	Grant Cummings	Joan	Environmental Foundation of JA	1b Norwood Ave Kingston 5, Jamaica	bracelets59@yahoo.com	876-960-6744
39	Griffiths	Carmen	Construction Resource Development Centre	11 Lady Musgrave Ave, Kingston 10, Jamaica	carmen.crdc@cwjamaica.com	876-978-4061
40	Hardware	Thorant	Managing Director, CAN CARA	8 Cargill Avenue , Kingston 10, Jamaica	thorsab2001@yahoo.com	876-929-4119
41	Harris	Stacy	Planning Officer, Ministry of Local Government, Trinidad & Tobago	Kent House, Maraval, Trinidad & Tobago	harrisS@gov.tt / harris.stacy@gmail.com	868-628-5220
42	Haughton	Sagynch	Technical Director (Housing), Ministry of Water & Housing	25 Dominica Drive, Kingston 5, Jamaica	sagynch.haughton@mhtww.gov.jm	876-960-1261
43	Henry	Barbara	Harkers Hall Community	Harkers Hall, St. Catherine, Jamaica		876-899-1858
44	Hibbert	Geneva	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Water & Housing	25 Dominica Drive, Kingston 5, Jamaica	genhibbert@hotmail.com	876-926-1590
45	Hinds	Paul	Global Water Partnership Caribbean	Port of Spain, Trinidad	phinds@gwp-caribbean.org	
46	Jacas	Lorenzo	Manager, Information Systems, Rural Water Programme	25 Dominica Drive, Kingston 5, Jamaica	rural/water@cwjamaica.com	876-926-1590
47	Kaouakib Robinson	Kenza	UN Focal Point for the International Year of Sanitation	UNDESA	robinson1@un.org	
48	Knight	Peter	Director Environmental Health Unit, Ministry of Health	2 - 4 King Street, Kingston, Jamaica	knightp@moh.gov.jm	876-967-1100-1

No.	Last Name	First	Organisation	Address	Email	Contact No
49	Kolbusch	Paulette	Acting Senior Manager Environmental Management, NEPA	10 Caledonia Ave Kingston 5, Jamaica	pkolbusch@nepa.gov.jm	876-754-7540
50	Lawrence	Bridget	Environmental Analyst, National Water Commission	4 Marescaux Road, Kingston 10, Jamaica	bridget.lawrence@nwc.com.jm	876-511-5435
51	Lawrence	Velva	Project Consultant, Local Initiative Facility for the Environment	2 - 6 Grenada Crrescent, Kingston 5, Jamaica	lifejamaica@cwjamaica.com	876-920-9183
52	Lawrence-Norton	Simone	Ministry of Health	2 King Street, Kingston, Jamaica	nortons@moh.gov.jm	
53	Lewis Fuller	Eva	Director, Health Promotion & Protection, Ministry of Health	Oceana Bldg. 2, King Street, Kingston, Jamaica	fullere@mohe.gov.jm	876-754-1100-1
54	Lyew Ayee	Paris	Department of Informatics, University of the West Indies	UWI, Mona, Kingston 7, Jamaica		
55	Malcolm	Taraleen	Regional Environmental Health Officer- North East Regional Health Authority	2 - 4 King Street, Kingston, Jamaica	taralee.malcolm@nerha.gov.jm	876-795-3107
56	Marshall	Ricardo	Project Manager, Ministry of Health, Barbados	Ministry of Health, Bridgetown, Barbados	solid@sunbeach.net	246-426-2510 Fax
57	Martin	Cyril	Breadnut Walk Community, Development Committee	Ginger Hill P.O., St. Elizabeth		876-866-9221
58	McCleod	Kaytana	Policy Analyst, Cabinet Office	1Devon Road, Kingston 5, Jamaica	kaytana.mcleod@cabinet.gov.jm	876-927-9941
59	McDonald	Franklin	Institute of Sustainable Dev.UWI	UWI Mona, Kingston 6, Jamaica	fgm@cep.unep.org	876-990-1365
60	M ^c farlane	Basel	Regional Environmental Health Officer- Western Regional Health Authority	2 - 4 King Street, Kingston, Jamaica	basel_mcfarlane@yahoo.com	876-952-1124
61	McKensie	Karlene	Senior Urban Planner, Local Government Department	85 Hagley Park Road, Kingston 10	kmckenzie@mlge.gov.jm	876-754-0992
62	McKinney	Robert	Quality Assurance Manager, Rose Hall Developments	P. O. Box 1, Rose Hall, St. James, Jamaica	r.mckinney@rosehall.com	876-579-7960
63	Mclymont	Indi	Acting Manager, Environment, PANOS	9 Westminster Road, Kingston 10, Jamaica	indi@panoscaribbean.org	876-920-0070-1
64	Michael	Lionel	Chief Health Inspector, Min. of Health, Antigua/Barbuda	Min. of Health, All Saints Road, St. Johns, Antigua/Barbuda	cbh_chi@yahoo.com	268-462-2936/ 268-460-5992 Fax
65	Miller	Janice	Assistant Director , Economic Affairs- Ministry of Foreign Affairs& Foreign Trade	21 Dominica Drive, P.O. Box 624, Kingston 5, Jamaica	leadmfaja@cwjamaica.com	876-926-4220

No.	Last Name	First	Organisation	Address	Email	Contact No
66	Miller	Roy	Technician, Community Organisation for Management, Monitoring & Development	People's Arcade, Howard Cooke Boulevard, Montego Bay, Jamaica		876-325-5218
67	Monteiro	Teófilo	Environmental Health Advisor, Pan American Health Organization	PAHO/WHO -Guyana	monteirt@guy.paho.org	
68	Morgan	Bethune	Planning & Research Manager, National Solid Waste Management Authority	61 Half Way Tree Road , Kingston 10, Jamaica	devonrowe@mlge.gov.jm	876-926-3988
69	Murray	Gerald	Jamaica Social Investment Fund	1C Pawsey Rd. Kingston 5, Jamaica	gerald.murray@jsif.org	876-968-4545
70	Nangle	Melissa	Environmental Engineer/ Policy Analyst, Ministry of Water & Housing	25 Dominica Drive, Kingston 5, Jamaica	melissa.nangle@mhtww.gov.jm	876-926-1590
71	Pate	Ernest	Representative, Pan American Health Organization	2 King Street, Kingston, Jamaica		876-967-4626
72	Patrick	Stephanie	Consultant, Ministry of Water & Housing	25 Dominica Drive, Kingston 5, Jamaica	stephie_nuffvibes@yahoo.com	876-754-5485
73	Pinto	Anneta	Coordinator, Coalition for Community Participation in Governance	11 Lady Musgrave Ave, Kingston 10, Jamaica	ccpg876@yahoo.com	876-978-4061
74	Quarless	Diane	Chief SIDS			
75	Reynolds	Steven	Hampstead Benevolent Society	Hampstead P. O., St. Mary, Jamaica	hampsteadcitizen@hotmail.com	876-329-2283
76	Rose	Audrey	Consultant, Ministry of Water & Housing	25 Dominica Drive, Kingston 5, Jamaica	khalaud32@yahoo.com	876-926-1590
77	Ryan	Joan Monica	Public Relations Officer, St Vincent & the Grenadines	clo PO Box 363, Kingston, St Vincent	monica_jrlocks@yahoo.com	784-456-2552 Fax
78	Scarlett	Authrine	Senior Director, Housing, Ministry of Water & Housing	26 Dominica Drive, Kingston 5, Jamaica	authrine.scarlett@mhtww.gov.jm	876-926-1590
79	Sewell	Charmaine	Ministry of Water & Housing	25 Dominica Drive, Kingston 5, Jamaica	charmaine.sewell@mhtww.gov.jm	876-926-1590
80	Silva	Homero	Environmental Advisor, Pan American Health Organisation	Oceana Bldg. 2, King Street, Kingston, Jamaica	silvah@jam.paho.org / treasurean@jam.paho.org	876-967-4626
81	Smith	Ilanthe	Managing Director, Environmental & Engineer Limited	26 Armour Glade Dr, Kingston 8, Jamaica	itsmith@mail.infochan.com	876-925-9060
82	Smith	Terence Patrick	Grenada Community Development Organisation	Grenada	Tsmith@Spiceisle.Com	473-443-2323
83	Snow Young	Patricia	Senior Director, Ministry of Water & Housing	25 Dominica Drive, Kingston 5, Jamaica	patmow@cwjamaica.com	876-926-1590

No.	Last Name	First	Organisation	Address	Email	Contact No
84	Spencer	Rudyard	Minister, Ministry of Health	2 - 4 King Street, Kingston, Jamaica		876-967-1100-1
85	St. Catherine	Brent	Program Officer, Coalition for Community Participation In Governance	11 Lady Musgrave Ave, Kingston 10, Jamaica	ccpg876@yahoo.com	876-978-4061
86	Staphorst	Siegmien	Director, Nat. Women's Movement	Surinamese	siegmien@cq-link.sr	
87	Stewart	Janette	WASH Promoter, Whitehorses Botany Bay Pamphret Development Benevolent Society	Botany Bay District, Whitehorses P. O., ST. Thomas, Jamaica		876-703-5812
88	Streete	Don	Manager, Quality Control Assurance, National Water Commission	4 Marescaux Road, Kingston 10, Jamaica	ludwig.streete@nwc.com.jm	876-929-3540
89	Tenney	Dennis	Executive Vice President, Global Sanitation Solutions	1329 South 800 East, Orem, Utah, 84097, USA	dennistenney@gmail.com / dennis@gsanitation.com	801-566-3575
90	Thomas	Anthony	Chief Environmental Health Officer - Health Department	2 - 4 King Street, Kingston, Jamaica	daviathom@yahoo.com	876-984-2282
91	Torsak	Kevin	Snr. VP, Business Development, Global Sanitation Solutions	1329 South 800 East, Orem, Utah, 84097, USA	kevin@gsanitation.com	801-228-2325
92	Tyrell	Keisha	Technical Director, Water Monitoring Unit, Ministry of Water & Housing	25 Dominica Drive, Kingston 5, Jamaica	keisha.tyrell@mhtww.gov.jm	876-926-1590
93	Vassell	Linnette	Community Development and Gender Specialist, Ministry of Water & Housing	25 Dominica Drive, Kingston 5, Jamaica	linnette.vassell@gmail.com	876-754-5485
94	Vitalis	Emerson	Environmental Health Officer, St. Lucia	Ti Rocher Post Office, Castries	mamas36@hotmail.com	758-451-9892 Fax
95	Walker	Cleon	Project Committee Chairman	Gravel Hill Community Benevolent Society		876-846-4644
96	Warner	Astracia Simone	Acting Head Environ. Inspection, Suriname	Rodekruislaan 13, Paramaribo, Suriname	sim_astra22@hotmail.com	597-497-978 Fax
97	Watts	Michelle	Senior Environmental Officer, Water Resources Authority	Hope Gardens, Kingston 6, Jamaica	mishk@cwjamaica.com	
98	Whyte	Stephen	Executive Vice President, Global Sanitation Solutions	1329 South 800 East, Orem, Utah, 84097, USA	stephen@westmoorconsulting.com	801-377-2354
99	Williams	Cynithia	Executive Member, St. Thomas Environmental Protection Agency	RADA Office, P.O. Box 46, Morant Bay, St. Thomas, Jamaica	s.t.e.p.a@hotmail.com	876-359-8639
100	Williams	Neville	Water Supervisor, Jamaica Social Investment Fund	1C Pawsey Road, Kingston 5, Jamaica		876-845-1084

No.	Last Name	First	Organisation	Address	Email	Contact No
101	Wilson	Lauriston	Ministry of Education	2 National Heroes Circle, Kingston 4, Jamaica	lauriston.wilson@moe.gov.jm	876-502-5955
102	Wilson	Shena	Five Star Dev. Ben. Society	.		876-358-3519
103	Worme	Andre	Chief, Environ. Health Officer, Ministry of Health, Grenada	Ministry of Health, Grenada	amworme2@hotmail.com	473-440-4127 Fax
104	Wothke	Aljoscha		Trinidad	info@eco-project-ltd.com	868-788-3550
105	Wright	Mary	Ministry of Water & Housing	25 Dominica Drive, Kingston 5, Jamaica	mary.wright@mhtww.gov.jm	876-926-1590