

Limdi, residents get water once in ten days

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
SURENDRANAGAR, SEPT 12

LIMDI has a knack for being in the news. This time it is the water problem that's...

According to Chunubhai, who owns a small dhaba on the highway, many people have been forced to close down restaurants and dhabas due to the water shortage. Almost all the eight dams in Surendr...

...skin disease, so we can...
...chavat, and another by a...
...before even those...
...considering...
...thing to ch...
...ment into L

Newsline SPECIAL

Politics of water keeps state thirsty

skills and management. In cities too, misuse of water cannot be stopped unless strict police action is taken against those who steal water and unless the Municipal Act is not amended to suitably punish such defaulters.
Harshad Dave, Ghuleliya

Where are those who claim during the election supply of water to Rajkot leaders have failed to provide water to the city. Many announced and many have the fact remains that reached the people.
Junmy Advani, Rajkot



Damaged pipeline holds village to ransom

By Sajid Shaikh
TARSALI (Vadodara): The 2,000-odd residents of Navi Nagri on the Tarsali-Vadodra road, are literally dying of thirst. For the last 10 days, the area has been starkly reminiscent of Saurashtra and...

Rathod. He said appeals to the contractor were ignored. "They snapped our life-line." Mr Rathod lamented. The case was brought to the notice of Tarsali panchayat sarpanch Jagdishbhai Patel, but he too could do precious little. Mr Patel said he has persuaded the contractors to repair the lines immediately. "But so far, they have not done anything in this regard."
Swami Construction Company, which was...

The water crisis is a bolt from the blue. No government ever subsidises when a situation here...
...Narmada being used as...
...that was n...
...M make rete...
...uring his vis...
...see that th...
...Borno Saurasi...
...the SC...
...Yerav...
...Neither the village...
...nor the panchayat told us about the pipeline...
...Had they brought this to our notice we would have been careful." He said prior notice was sent to the district panchayat office on Rajm...
...nai Road. Villagers lament that even after the damage was done, both the contractors and the district panchayat did little to restore water supply.
...Said another resident Sheru Mehmud Pathan: "Ten days have passed. They are aware the pipeline has been damaged. Even..."

...the land arid

...flight, and ordered immediate action. When contacted, Gujarat Pollution Control Board...

...ed for Rajkot

Library
IRC International Water Sanitation Centre
Tel: +31 70 30...
Fax: +31 70 35 899 64

Gujarat 2010

A Vision of Safe Water, Hygiene and Sanitation for All

pipeline water crisis by Feb

The problems that the RMC facing are immense. With no surface...

with Goals, Strategies and Recommendations for Action
Compiled on behalf of participants in 'Vision 21 Gujarat' by
Nafisa Barot (UJTHAN)
Rajesh Bhat (ASAG)
Biplab Paul (Lokvikas)

March 2000

dig deep into heart of city water reserves

...ing the city soil deeper and every year, pumping out more crore gallons of water every day...
...heart of the earth, pushing down...
...table by about seven feet every...

half-hour water cut that is being considered by the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation is just the beginning. The dark side of water mining, diversions from dams, the shift from rural irrigation needs to urban drinking water...

Chanasma. And that is the way Ahmedabad is headed," says Shashidharan Nambiar of the Development Support Centre, a funding agency for watershed development projects in the state. The towering multi-complexes and towers of Drive-in, Satellite...

lens of water a day," says a senior officer in the engineering department. "With 1,500 bore wells penetrating the city soil every year — 40 per cent of these taking the place of failed ones — the water level is going down by about...
...normally. Experts fear...

RECOMMENDATIONS

THE Central Ground Water Board recommends that the state should...
...to install the deepening ground water...
...the Government of a State Ground Water...
...in critical areas...

822 - IN00 - 16713

GUJARAT 2010

A Vision of Safe Water, Hygiene and Sanitation for All
with Goals, Strategies and Recommendations for Action
compiled on behalf of participants in 'VISION 21 GUJARAT' by

Nafisa Barot
Rajesh Bhat
Biplab Paul

Library
IIRC International Water
and Sanitation Centre
Tara Road, Dhaka 1000
Bangladesh

CONTENTS

Acknowledgements	3
Introduction	4
Gujarat 2010: A Vision of Safe Water, Hygiene & Sanitation for All	5
Goals, Strategies & Recommendations for Action	8
Fundamental Rights	
Health and Hygiene	
Institutional Processes	
Policy Change	
Sanitation	
Economics	
Technology Development	
Gender	
Schools	
The Gujarat Vision Process	18
Annexes	
1. Participants in the Gujarat Vision process	
2. Key Questions on a "watsan" future	
3. Responses to Key Questions	
4. Vision 21: A Note (WSSCC)	

Acknowledgements

This effort in articulating a vision for the drinking water, hygiene and sanitation future of Gujarat has drawn on the experience and ideas of a very large number of participants. The names of participating individuals and institutions are included in this document. All have given most generously of their time and wisdom. Particular thanks are due to those who have helped review our documentation and progress from time to time. These include Barry Underwood, Ashok Bhargava, Y N Nanjundiah, Ashok Shah, Ms Trupti Soni, Dr Arun Mudgerikar and Ashoke Chatterjee. The design and production of this document has been supervised by Supriya Sahai. The three volunteers for the drafting task also acknowledge the support of the Collaborative Council and its VISION 21 team throughout this endeavour. They look forward to sustaining this partnership toward the realisation of this vision through action.

Nafisa Barot (Utthan)
Rajesh Bhat (ASAG)
Biplab K Paul (Lokvikas)

“Every man whose soul is not a clod Hath visions”

- John Keats

Introduction

This document endeavours to express in words the collective vision of a group of development activists, planners and thinkers. Visions, unlike dreams, are fruits of past actions and seeds for the future. This exercise, therefore, is not meant as mere rhetoric but is intended to be a blueprint for future action.

The process of articulating a people's vision in water supply and sanitation sectors in the state of Gujarat for the year 2010 was inspired by a similar effort initiated at the global level by the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) in 1997. Development activists in Gujarat were quick to respond to this stimulus. Through dialogue and discussion, they have come up with clear ideas on a desirable scenario in the water supply and sanitation sectors by the year 2010. This exercise, in fact, strengthens past efforts and ongoing processes made by non-government organisations (NGOs) in Gujarat.

Besides compiling /crystallizing ideas together in one paper this Vision document has the following applications:

- * It initiates an ongoing process of sharing of experiences, achievements, strategies and concerns.
- * It can support the process of planning by CBOs, NGOs, GOs and donor agencies for setting targets, evolving new partnerships, and for resource mobilisation.
- * It may, if effectively used, become a tool for advocacy with governments at several levels.

This document, along with the Global Vision 21 and a national Vision for India, can become a collective effort of GOs, NGOs, CBOs and corporate sector partners to improve the water supply and sanitation scenario in a holistic way. It can also orient the planning process in the context of water supply and sanitation as people's entitlements.

The Vision document has two main parts: the first part articulates an overall scenario in the year 2010 in each of the sub-sectors (e.g. health, policy-change) in the context of water supply and sanitation. The Vision presentation reads as if the reader is in the year 2010. The second main part lays down goals for each sub-sector and suggests strategies and actions to achieve these goals.

The section on the Vision process describes the group's own experience in articulating this Vision for Gujarat.

Gujarat 2010: A Vision of Safe Water, Hygiene and Sanitation for All

Fundamental Rights

In the decade since India and the global community committed themselves to the achievement of VISION 21, communities and authorities in Gujarat have worked together to realise access to hygienic conditions, safe water and sanitation as fundamental rights for all. While these services today reach every citizen in the state, efforts continue to improve their quality and sustainability.

Health and Hygiene

There is decline in water-borne diseases -- thanks to the hygiene and sanitation efforts over a decade by households, communities and voluntary organisations with support of concerned authorities. Communities and NGOs have worked together with Government agencies on water quality monitoring and surveillance.

Child morbidity and mortality status has been improved and Gujarat now is ahead of other Indian states.

Fluorosis, which for many years was a major challenge in several districts of Gujarat, has been controlled by use of appropriate technologies and community water quality monitoring and surveillance facilitated by Government and voluntary sector, initiated through Gujarat Vision 21 effort.

Institutional Processes

In most villages, women have a strong presence in local groups for natural resource management. These groups function as the first tier in a participatory structure that extends to taluka and district committees for natural resource management. Each of these committees is well informed and active on issues of water supply, sanitation, health and hygiene through support from NGOs.

Policy makers have been sensitized to creatively incorporate suggestions from these committees. The State water and sanitation plans have been made over the decade with the help of such participatory, bottom-up planning.

In this participatory structure, the local self-government structure of Panchayats (including their women members) at each administrative level has been an active participant in planning, implementation and monitoring. NGOs have played a major role in capacity building of Panchayats in Gujarat since the introduction of the 73rd and 74th Constitution Amendments in 1993.

Empowerment through this participatory structure has been reflected in district and state-level water, sanitation and health education plans, which are formulated and operated through village level groups.

The Gujarat Vision 21 effort led to a sustained mechanism for networking among stakeholders. This unity provided strength to organise opportunities for policy intervention with state, central and other donor agencies.

Media in Gujarat has been an active partner towards awareness generation and advocacy of policy change. It has also helped sustain pressure on all the stakeholders to perform their roles responsibly.

Policy Change

Government's role has increasingly facilitated and supported peoples own initiatives. Services are largely provided by trained para-professionals at community level.

The new policy is more comprehensive and holistic in nature and thereby establishes better convergence of sectoral activities and elicits better inter-departmental coordination within Government at all levels.

A people-centred policy framework towards decentralised control as well as responsibilities, has given the opportunity of employment creation leading to greater self-sufficiency and sustainability of the programme.

The new policy provides for improved enforceable measures to control contamination of drinking water sources.

Sanitation

Ninety percent of rural households and hundred percent of urban households are using individual toilets of appropriate, location-specific designs.

Wastewater, grey water and biodegradables are recycled using user-friendly and cost-effective technologies. Stormwater in both rural and urban areas gets recharged into underground aquifers. This has helped small and marginal farmers and urban agriculturists.

Urban sanitation exemplifies the positive attitudinal change of the authorities towards slums. The authorities provide safe sanitation through accessible household and community models, as well as protection of slum dwellers' rights. The corporate sector is a principal partner in urban slum sanitation programmes, reflecting a strong social commitment.

The inhuman practice of manual handling of human excreta has been completely eliminated. The communities involved in this practice in the past are now well into alternative occupations and their children are supported by special educational and occupational opportunities.

Economics

Economics of water supply has improved through community participation in rural and urban areas. Operation and maintenance costs as well as responsibility for drinking water services actively involve client communities.

A cost-sharing structure has emerged in which household contributions towards both capital and service costs, routed through communities, make the system more sustainable. Community groups monitor service charges as well as maintenance responsibilities.

In urban areas, water charges are now at a progressive rate. They reflect growing ability to pay and consumption levels. Cross subsidies are at work to protect poorer groups.

A regulatory framework has been developed to encourage and control private operators for water and sanitation services.

A positive and synergistic partnership between communities, government, private sector and NGOs has been established.

Technology Development

A broad consensus has been evolved towards use of area and problem-specific appropriate technologies.

Technological choices are such that they are cost effective so that limited resources are stretched.

Simple and down-to-earth technologies enable local communities to manage the upkeep and maintenance on their own.

Technologies selected are also eco-centric in nature and thus do not create problems for the ecology.

Government and the corporate sector lay adequate emphasis and allocate enough financial resources for research and development. This helps in evolving new technological options and for innovations in old ones.

Gender

With active participation and facilitation of women's groups, village-working funds have been generated, benefiting economic empowerment of women and providing impetus to higher sanitation coverage.

In most villages, women have a strong presence in the decision-making process for natural resource management. Household responsibilities for drinking water and sanitation are now better shared between men and women. The daily burden of fetching water from distant places has been dramatically reduced by improved community water management services.

Schools

With active support of Government, every school in Gujarat has at least two toilet blocks one each for boys and girls. The enrollment of girls has increased dramatically as a result and dropouts greatly reduced because of this facility.

All schools are working as active centres for information dissemination towards the benefits accruable through better health and hygiene practices.

Teachers are trained in hygiene education and this is actively demonstrated in and outside classrooms, leading to higher usage of existing facilities and increased coverage.

GOALS, STRATEGIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

Fundamental Rights

Goals 2010

Access to hygienic conditions, safe water and sanitation as fundamental rights to be achieved for all citizens of Gujarat.

Strategies

Advocacy for the development of basic services and for priority toward investment in programmes, and capacity-building essential for their achievement. Coalitions and partnerships with those in India and elsewhere experienced in human rights advocacy toward campaigns for building and sustaining political will for water, hygiene and sanitation action. Specific attention provided to the urgent need to arrest and reverse deteriorating trends in urban and peri-urban areas.

Action

Coalitions and partnerships toward recognition of these basic services as human rights at the state, national and international levels.

Working groups established to bring together experience and wisdom toward translating concepts of rights into improved and sustainable services.

Statewide campaigns initiated toward the advocacy of these rights, with media support.

Responsibilities that must accompany rights defined clearly, including new responsibilities for raising resources and for the design and implementation of maintenance services.

The need for adequate legislation to be reviewed.

Administrative structures reviewed toward improved accountability, transparency and involvement of stakeholders.

Special attention given to the urgent need to improve conditions in urban and peri-urban communities.

Health and Hygiene

Goals 2010

From 13,000 no-source villages in 1999 to almost no village without reliable, perennial drinking water source.

70 % reduction in morbidity by water-borne diseases.

Child mortality rate reduced to 45 per thousand from 137 per thousand around the turn of the century.

80% reduction in fluorosis affected regions.

Salinity ingress halted completely.

A near foolproof drought plan evolved by the State with adequate emphasis on watershed management, water harvesting and waste control.

Strategies

Awareness and control campaigns on water-borne diseases by NGO networks and State authorities.

Emphasis on health and hygiene training of rural/urban water committees and health workers and Panchayats.

Hygiene education programmes in every school. Hygiene awareness and training for school teachers.

Active monitoring of water quality and quantity and hygiene behaviour at block level by citizens' groups.

Promotion of reverse osmosis and water harvesting technologies to meet the challenge of drought.

Action

Mobilisation of community health groups through existing networks, with special emphasis on community mobilisation toward behaviour change.

Training of health workers and teachers to be intensified through appropriate educational strategies and materials. State Health Dept strengthened toward these efforts.

Promotion of water-harvesting techniques throughout the state, in both rural and urban situations.

Initiate community action for monitoring water supply, both quantity and quality.

Base-line survey undertaken to provide data for monitoring and evaluation.

Active support by community group to the school latrine programme initiated under Gujarat Education Policy.

Institutional Processes

Goals 2010

Existing NGO networks for water and sanitation action replaced by similar networks of community-based organisations, empowered as initiators and implementers, linked together and to authorities through alternative networks.

State policies on water supply and sanitation evolved with community participation reflecting area-specific issues, designed for devolution of planning and implementation through communities.

The State's role places emphasis on facilitating and encouraging peoples initiatives and as a resource provider. The state accepts its responsibilities for the provision of basic services while planning, management and implementation systems reflect genuine participation and decision making by communities and citizen groups. Community initiatives are actively supported and encouraged by the state system.

Media resources in the state mobilised for awareness, Media acts as a monitor on goals.

Strategies

Rural sanitation in Gujarat reflects synergistic partnership between communities and the State, while urban sanitation shows the same between communities, the State and the corporate sector.

Members of every Panchayat as well as other community-based organisations given opportunities for training related to water supply, hygiene, sanitation and health.

Public awareness and support mobilised through sensitising mass media.

Use of all media opportunities, including local and folk media toward behavioural change.

Outreach to media persons through awareness and information opportunities.

Consultations with persons in the performing arts toward their support and action for goal achievement.

Action

NGOs mobilised for awareness and capacitation toward these goals. Information exchange systems established and used through networks with a better range of stakeholders.

Support systems innovated and positioned, drawing on the experience of the Area Resource Groups now identified to assist water-harvesting efforts through State-NGO partnerships.

Efforts at raising resources strengthened and extended.

Outreach to policy makers toward change, using networks and Gujarat 2010 and Vision 21 for advocacy.

Immediate documentation of the Vision effort as an awareness and training tool. Seminars for media persons on the Vision and its implications.

Development of media alternatives (docu-dramas, Bhavai performances, songs, street dramas etc) through networking with stage/cinema/TV artists, folk performers. Formulation of a media campaign, and resource-raising toward its implementation.

Policy Change

Goals 2010

Current centralised policies on decision-making and technology in water and sanitation as well as in maintenance and management issues shift to greater sharing of responsibilities with communities.

Hygiene given priority as a precondition for health.

In rural communities, the natural resource management committees become active partners. In urban areas, citizen committees take on this role.

Financial resources are diverted toward citizen groups with demonstrated capacity for good management. Experience in 1999/2000 with Pani Samitis is used as a motivation for such change.

In dry areas, all buildings have basic water-harvesting facilities through legislation of the Chennai pattern, with guidelines for rural and urban conditions.

Strategies

Advocacy and lobbying with decision-makers, and through public-opinion building.

Media support recruited for such awareness.

Water-harvesting techniques and hygiene behaviour actively promoted and training opportunities organised for NGOs and field workers.

Action

Advocacy campaigns planned and initiated through existing networks. Policy makers encouraged through articulating and debating alternatives.

Financial implications worked out to assist application and demonstration of alternatives.

Opportunities developed for sensitising planners and decision-makers. Immediate attention given to institutional restructuring essential for change, with alternatives worked out in cooperation with authorities.

Responsibilities for planning, decision-making and action at each level clearly spelled out. Such changes discussed and promoted through citizen groups. Advocacy with donors initiated for active support.

Sanitation

Goals 2010

Ninety percent coverage and usage achieved.

A range of technology alternatives provided to suit the variety of rural and urban needs.

Households identified and accepted as the catalysts for behavior change and action.

Households, authorities and industries capacitated for water and waste recycling.

Urban alternatives innovated and promoted.

Private initiative mobilised for service provision and maintenance.

Payment structures developed to encourage ownership and responsibility while protecting the poor.

Ban on manual handling of human excreta strictly applied through awareness, monitoring and rehabilitation efforts.

Strategies

Technology options promoted actively, with financial options/alternatives clearly communicated.

Financial resources mobilised through incentives for private initiative and through user-friendly schemes as incentive.

Strong awareness and hygiene education efforts coupled to the mobilisation of women as beneficiaries and as pressure groups.

Training facilities strengthened and promoted.

Building legislation directed at improved sanitation facilities.

Education sector mobilised as partners and current efforts for school toilets supported and extended.

Promotion of stronger male involvement in sanitation management responsibilities.

Human rights approach aggressively used to protect sanitation workers and to enforce laws prohibiting human handling of excreta. Networking with other macro issues to strengthen this human rights advocacy.

Action

Training and information aids developed for accessing technology options, coupled with strong campaigns for awareness and action.

Contribution schemes developed and tested by existing networks toward minimum contributions, ranging from 10 to 20 percent of basic costs.

Village committees, managed by women, organised and mobilised with training facilities extended at each level of need.

Alternative models developed and communicated for urban needs, reflecting both technology and financial options. The 'pay-and-use' model actively promoted.

Particular attention given to the special needs of women and the disabled, including action to cover such needs through legislative action.

School programme accepted as an immediate priority by all water and sanitation networks in the state.

Economics

Goals 2010

Per capita capital cost investment in the state reduced from Rs 2000-2500 to Rs1000-1500 through the promotion of lower-cost rural technologies and resource raising at the community level.

Maintenance costs in rural areas reduced to Re1 per litre, through user-friendly, lower cost technologies and community participation.

The bulk of maintenance costs accepted as a community responsibility.

Equity in the distribution of water resources between urban and rural needs, and within cities between household/industrial, rich/poor consumption.

Latrine finance schemes for households that are user-friendly and reflect ability-to-pay aspects.

Strategies

Developing and articulating the economic alternatives through existing partnerships.

Special attention paid to commercial-use pricing systems for industrial usage of water.

Promoting these options for the understanding of planners and communities.

Advocacy for policy change with authorities and public, stressing water as a scarce, often non-renewable resource.

Building community capacity for resource mobilisation and management, both for water and for sanitation.

Promotion of user-friendly schemes with households and communities.

Action

Advocacy of alternative economic models with state authorities, particularly politicians and engineers.

Introduction of alternative schemes through demonstration projects.

Advocacy at the community level to prepare citizens toward new attitudes and responsibilities.

Capacity-building of community organisations for the new economic roles/responsibilities.

Rational pricing policies introduced for commercial uses of water, including cross-subsidy schemes on ability-to-pay basis. Development of alternative, user-friendly finance schemes for sanitation.

Promotion of such schemes with households and communities.

Technology Development

Goals 2010

State to accept and encourage appropriate and area specific technological options for both water supply and sanitation in each of the geo-agro-climatic regions of the state.

A cadre of professionals is trained for operation and maintenance (O&M) aspects of water supply and sanitation delivery system.

Technical Support Centre established at district level to back up the efforts of professionals.

Strategies

R&D functioning through appropriate and area-specific technological options.

Training for sector professionals in technology options intensified.

Funding partners to lay as much emphasis upon technical research as on other aspect of water supply and sanitation delivery systems.

State and corporate sector to evolve an action plan to set up district level technology back-up centres.

Action

Academic and research organisations as well as corporate sector to encourage vigorous research in appropriate technological options for water and sanitation.

NGOs to start training of para-professionals and facilitate them for application of their skills.

NGOs to mobilise international, national and corporate partnerships for achieving these goals.

Gender

Goals 2010

Women in the forefront as initiators and managers.

Natural resource management groups with adequate representation of local women operative in all villages of Gujarat.

District and State-level planning for drinking water, sanitation and health education formulated, operated and monitored through citizen groups with adequate representation of women.

Strategies

Gender-sensitive natural resource committees in every village.

Citizen/women-led water committees in urban areas of need.

Mobilising women in the state as stakeholders.

Action

NGOs to work on ensuring women's participation in natural resource groups, organised at village levels.

Training of natural resource groups members in the areas of gender sensitive micro-planning towards sustainable water supply and sanitation delivery systems. Male responsibility for maintenance of water sources to be actively promoted.

NGOs to work on advocating policies and programmes geared towards strengthening women's participation in water supply and sanitation delivery systems.

Schools

Goals 2010

A target of one toilet per 300 children, with separate facilities for boys and girls, achieved in all schools.

Hygiene awareness and training reaches every teacher in the state.

Strategies

Active support by community-based organisations to current school latrine programme introduced under Gujarat Education Policy.

Child-to-parent hygiene awareness and education encouraged.

Supplementary efforts through mobilising women's committees and social service organisations in towns and villages, toward generating resources and training efforts.

Donor support mobilised.

Action

School programme accepted as an immediate priority by all water and sanitation networks in the state.

NGOs take the lead for public awareness campaign, teacher training, resource mobilisation and monitoring.

An initial three-year project drafted for donor support.

THE GUJARAT VISION PROCESS

The effort to articulate a 'Vision 21' relating to the aspirations and needs of the people of Gujarat has brought together over **30 individuals and institutions** in support of the Collaborative Council's initiative (Annex 1). These participants have been the catalysts for a series of consultations over the past months toward drafting a Vision 21 for the future of drinking water, hygiene behaviors and sanitation in Gujarat. Consultations have taken place with households, communities, community-based organisations, authorities and donors in order to learn from past experience and set realistic goals as well as to determine how best to reach them.

A dialogue with communities and authorities on sector issues has been on going in Gujarat for many years. The WSSCC initiative has given a useful opportunity to pull together the **lessons of the past**, revisit many familiar assumptions and practices and draw on the experience of partners elsewhere in India and the world.

Gujarat NGOs have been among the **pioneering forces** in water and sanitation planning and action in India, as well as in hygiene education. In a state with chronic drought and water scarcity, adequate drinking water services have been a key social and political issue. (This has been further underlined while the Vision 21 process was on going. 1999 was a year of acute water shortage in Gujarat, in the midst of national elections). Sanitation education here has its roots in Mahatma Gandhi's priority to this need ever since his earliest activities in India, which began in Ahmedabad. More recently, activists in Gujarat have been closely involved with India's National Drinking Water Mission.

Work on a Vision 21 for Gujarat was inspired in September 1997 by the **visit to Ahmedabad of Mr Hans van Damme**. At a meeting organised with Ahmedabad-based NGOs working in the water and sanitation sector, Mr van Damme presented the idea of the global Vision 21 process, and the **linkages** that were being sought between needs and aspirations at **local, national, regional and international levels**. There was a belief that Gujarat offered an ideal location to test and apply the Vision process to local needs. Gujarat had a strong record of public and private experience and action in the sector, a history of participatory and community effort, a network of mature community-based organisations, an active state authority including a major training infrastructure, specialised institutions (with some devoted to sanitation) and considerable experience in hygiene education, women's issues, communication and cooperative structures. Gujarat had been a major arena of work associated with the National Drinking Water Mission.

Participants in the September 1998 meeting decided to attempt drafting of a Vision 21 for Gujarat. This could be a useful **tool for forward planning and action**, help consolidate **networking** among local stakeholders and make an important contribution to national and regional thinking toward a **global Vision 21** by drawing on Gujarat's inherent strength of experience.

Discussions within the group underlined the need for an **integrated approach** to such an exercise. Its experience strongly endorsed the WSSCC's emphasis on sanitation and more appropriate technologies as key issues. It stressed the importance of seeing the "watsan" situation within a broader framework of natural resource management, and the empowerment of communities toward self-reliance. Gujarat's experience with mobilising women toward social action had been significant.

Once the group resolved to articulate a Vision 21 for Gujarat, a first step was to formulate a set of **key questions** (Annex 2) which participants could use to stimulate discussion at several levels. The foundation would be responses from communities and households, through organising meetings and visits and by drawing on consultations held in recent months as well as on accumulated experience.

An analysis of the response to key questions (Annex 3) revealed a very large number of issues, and possible goals and strategies concerning them. Such an enormous range of

concerns demanded prioritisation, and also suggested a need for the Vision group itself to re-examine and re-think the validity of some of its own assumptions regarding community/household needs and aspirations. A meeting was then planned to share the outcome of the survey, and to try and select priorities for the Vision exercise and its follow-up.

A meeting on 3 April 1999 provided a major breakthrough toward articulating a relevant Vision. There were **clear messages from past experience**, and signals for the need for thorough stocktaking and self-evaluation, before charting directions for the future. The discussion confirmed a strong dichotomy between **urban and rural issues**, and for the overriding importance of **efficient management of natural resources**. In a state with a natural scarcity of water, this must include approaches for recharging ground water, minimising waste and examining/strengthening the legal framework within which planning and action is conducted.

A critical issue that emerged was the need for **change in established roles and relationships** among stakeholders. Issues of privatisation, decentralisation and the future role of state authorities needed to be thought out with great care, avoiding simplistic assumptions. **Technology choices** that were cost-effective, appropriate to a variety of needs and user-friendly would also have to be easy to maintain. Community responsibility toward operation and maintenance was seen as an emerging issue of great importance, closely linked to changing roles in the community-government partnership.

Sanitation required an urgent change of emphasis from coverage to greater attention to **actual usage**. This in turn was dependent on improving levels of knowledge, attitude and practice through strong hygiene education and communication. Reaching women and dealing with the gender implications of "watsan" demanded close attention to the role of women in self-government, i.e. their **effective participation** in Panchayati Raj institutions of self-governance. The group felt that these institutions would need to be mobilised to accept a very active future role in water resource and sanitation management and for the spread of hygiene awareness and action. There was recognition that women have been the worst affected by the lack of sanitation facilities in rural and urban situations, and mobilising women must be a first priority. There was debate on the on-going Government scheme of operating sanitation programmes through the present incentive scheme (operated through an NGO in each state, which acts as a nodal institution for processing proposals). This multi-tier evaluation scheme, with its complex documentation, evaluation and collection procedures, seemed to need re-examination. There was a view that subsidy-based incentives have accelerated dependency rather than encouraging a more self-reliant attitude within communities. **Decentralisation** was seen as essential to improved sanitation, with clear systems for encouraging entrepreneurship while protecting the interests of the weakest sections. The potential here for employment generation and economic empowerment, particularly of women, emerged through references to the success of Village Sanitation Funds managed by local groups in Orissa.

Specific attention was demanded toward the condition of the **scavenger community**, still marginalised in Gujarat through the inhuman practice of **manual handling of human excreta**. Although banned by legislation, this shameful practice continues. It demanded a time-bound joint initiative toward its control and elimination. Rehabilitating these communities should be a major responsibility of all stakeholders in the sector, working together.

The pace of progress in the sector also seemed to demand greater understanding of the need for **change within the NGO sector** itself, and not just in Government. Transparency and accountability in operation, better capacity for networking, trust and sharing among non-government partners, integrating and synchronising activities for maximum benefit of communities were aspects which required improving NGO capacities for change and for accepting new responsibilities. A stronger NGO sector, with robust net-works and greater unity in action, could demand a stronger role in planning and implementation. It could also more successfully act as a pressure for changes urgently needed at policy levels within the state, and in national and international decision-making.

Defining new roles and responsibilities for NGOs also required clear articulation of what Government should be expected to do in the coming years. There was no **clear consensus**

on this issue. One school of opinion was that Government should restrict itself to facilitating community-based/community-initiated action. Others felt that this was impractical, and that the state had an overriding responsibility in ensuring water and sanitation services as well as hygiene education. The contrast of urban and rural situations was raised, to point out that NGOs and communities could not possibly expect to handle the complex and capital-intensive demands of urban water supply and sanitation. Agreement existed on the need for far greater participation by communities and their NGO representatives in planning and implementation, as well as for authorities to be more clearly accountable to the communities they are expected to serve.

It was felt that there was now a need to spell out what responsibility communities in Gujarat could at this stage assume, and what this might require in terms of government facilitation as well as internal capacitation. The challenges of influencing and participating in urban planning and action also needed to be more specifically identified. It was agreed that maintenance and monitoring functions would require active community and NGO involvement. They offered an opportunity for better partnership with state authorities.

At the meeting, Lokvikas (through its representative Shri Biplab Paul) volunteered to coordinate the next steps toward a draft Vision 21 for Gujarat. It was decided to select **priorities for group action**, draft a short thought-provoking document as a Vision statement, work out strategies and action alternatives, meet with authorities to exchange ideas for the future, raise resources for these initial tasks, and feed the outcome into the wider Vision 21 process.

A **comprehensive document** was then put together to merge responses received to the key questions in the earlier round to the ideas and suggestions of the 3 April meeting. With this, a further round of consultations was held with groups who had been unable to attend the April meeting, as well as with the participants' own constituencies. Discussions were also held with key resource persons on technical issues.

This attempt to put together the most **important issues and concerns** took place through a series of consultations during May and June 1999. Ideas and suggestions were made on possible strategies toward **decentralisation and capacity building**, greater **transparency and accountability between partners**, and the development of an enforceable **legal framework**. Special needs were discussed of **urban development** (where the greatest impact of population pressures was expected in the coming years) and of capital-intensive technologies that Gujarat's cities may require. Marketing of services and inherent issues of **privatisation and payment for services**, were examined. Monitoring and surveillance of **water quality** emerged as a key area for NGO/Government cooperation. The role of **Panchayati Raj Institutions** in future strategies was underlined. Reviving and promoting **water-harvesting technologies** in both cities and villages was suggested as priority for strategy and action.

Respondents felt that the Gujarat activity must draw on regional and global experience in the areas of **hygiene education and practice** as well as the implications of promoting water and sanitation as **human rights**. These concepts (which were being debated in the global Vision process) were relatively new to the sector, and were basic in their implications. The household model suggested by the global Vision 21 effort also required examination in the context of Gujarat, where household involvement is familiar.

The outcome of these consultations was taken for joint review when the group met again on 26 June. This discussion focussed on the need for a strong investment in understanding the **geohydrological diversity** of the state before recommendations are finalised. How decentralisation concepts could be translated into actual practice may also need greater concentration on defining **stakeholder roles** toward a better "watsan" future, and this would make strong demands on NGOs toward professionalism and efficiency. **Media support** for policy change and understanding of the sector's needs would be required, and this demanded planning and sharpening communication skills. Particular attention was suggested toward identifying **economic opportunities** within the sector that could speed community response, particularly among women and youth.

There was satisfaction at the quality of dialogue that had taken place through the group and between communities, activists and planners. It had progressed from individual aspirations and needs to the identification of key issues/goals/strategies as well as their prioritisation. **It may be important for the group**, which had come together and worked together informally over the past months, to now decide if any steps were needed to **establish its own legitimacy**. This could be important for taking the next steps in articulating a Vision 21 for Gujarat (with strategies and actions in its support) and initiating a dialogue with state and national institutions. It was agreed that a Vision statement, supported by strategies and suggestions for action, would be drafted by a small committee of volunteers (Nafisa Barot, Rajesh Bhat and Biplab Paul were nominated by the participants) and brought back to the larger group for discussion. After ratification, these ideas could be shared with national/regional/global consultations.

The drafting process completed its first phase with the Gujarat 2010 document. It was ratified at the group's meeting on 25 October 1999 and shared with participants in the Collaborative Council's **Global Forum** (Ahmedabad, 14 November 1999). Discussions with the international community suggested areas for review and strengthening. Improvements to Gujarat 2010 were discussed on 22 February 2000, and the final document prepared for discussion at a special session on the Gujarat Vision at the **2nd World Water Forum** in The Hague on 18 March 2000.

A film was specially prepared by the National Institute of Design, with the assistance of the Collaborative Council, to communicate the central message of Gujarat 2010: serving the unserved, through joint action and renewed urgency. The Gujarat 2010 document and the film would now be translated into Gujarati and used for communicating this message throughout the state.

GUJARAT 2010 Participants

1. Shri Binoy Acharya
Director, UNNATI
G-1/200 Azad Society
Ahmedabad 380 015

Phone : (079) 674-6145
Fax : (079) 674-3752
e-mail: unnati@ad1.vsnl.net.in

2. Shri Sham Antoorkar
Chief Executive
Indian Inovatix Ltd
103 Sahjanand Complex
Shahibag Road
Ahmedabad 380 004

Phone : (079) 562-1329/562-5951
Fax : (079) 562-1329

3. Shri S Balaram
National Institute of Design
Paldi
Ahmedabad 380 007

Phone : (079) 663-9692
Fax : (079) 660-5242
e-mail: nid@vsnl.com

4. Dr Jagdish M Barot
Director
Gujarat Jal Seva Training Institute
'G' Road, Sector-15
Gandhinagar 382 015

Phone : 82-23305 (O); 82-32133 (R)
Mobile: 9824023123
Fax : 82-23243
e-mail: jmb40@hotmail.com

5. Ms Nafisa Barot
UTTAN
36 Chitrakut Twins
Near Management Enclave
Nehru Park, Ahmedabad 380 015

Phone : (079) 675-1023/675-5213
Res : (079) 675-2341
Fax : (079) 675-4447
e-mail: nafisa@icenet.net

6. **Shri Rajesh Bhat**
Executive Trustee
Ahmedabad Study Action Group
Kashmira Chambers, 5th Floor
Behind Popular House
Nr Mount Carmel Rly Crossing
Navrangpura, Ahmedabad 380 009

Phone : (079) 658-9093 (Office)

(079) 754-5157 (Res)

Fax : (079) 658-9094

e-mail: asag@ad1.vsnl.net.in

Gram : KARTHAVYA

7. **Ms Vineetha Bhavsali**
DRISHTI Media Collective
D-2 Karnavati Apartments
Opp Shraddha Petrol Pump
Bodakdev, Ahmedabad 380 054

Phone : (079) 674-1437

Telefax: (079) 674-9235

8. **Ms Bharti Bhavsar**
Self Employed Women's Association
SEWA Reception Centre
Opp Victoria Garden, Bhadra
Ahmedabad 380 001

Phone : (079) 550-6477/550-6444

9. **Ms Indu Capoor**
Director, CHETNA
Lilavatiben Lalbhai's Bungalow
Civil Camp Road, Shahibaug
Ahmedabad 380 004

Phone : (079) 286-6695/286-8856/286-5636

Fax : (079) 286-6513/642-0242

e-mail: chetna@adinet.ernet.in

chetna@icenet.net

10. **Shri Ashoke Chatterjee**
Distinguished Fellow
National Institute of Design
Paldi
Ahmedabad 380 007

Phone : (079) 663-5244 (Extn.1053: Office; 1080: Res)

Fax : (079) 660-5242

e-mail: nid@vsnl.com

▲shchat@nid.edu

11. Ms Mirai Chatterjee
Self Employed Women's Association,
SEWA Reception Centre
Opp Victoria Garden, Bhadra
Ahmedabad 380 001
- Phone : (079) 550-6477/550-6444
Fax : (079) 550-6446
e-mail: Sewa.mahila@gnahd.
globalnet.ems.vsnl.net.in
12. Ms Surabhi Chaudhury
Kamdar Swasthya Suraksha Mandal
Govind Patel's Bungalow
NH Road, Rakhial
Ahmedabad 380 023
- Phone : (079) 273-0495
13. Shri S K Chopde
VIKSAT
Nehfu Foundation for Development
Thaltej Tekra, Ahmedabad 380 054
- Phone : (079) 642-6220/644-2642/644-2651
Fax : (079) 642-7123/642-0242
e-mail: viksat@ad1.vsnl.net.in
14. Shri Kaushik Desai
Environmental Sanitation Institute
Gandhi Ashram
Ahmedabad 380 027
15. Shri Sudershan Iyengar
Director
Gujarat Institute of Development Research
Thaltej-Gandhinagar Highway
Near Gota Char Rasta
Gota, Ahmedabad 380 060
- Phone : (079) 745-4192/745-4193
16. Ms Trupti Jain
UNNATI
G-1/200 Azad Society
Ahmedabad 380 015
- Phone : (079) 674-6145
Fax : (079) 674-3752
e-mail: unnati@ad1.vsnl.net.in

17. Shri Mayank Joshi
17 Shreyaspark Society
Near Antrixnagar
Opp Preranatirth Bungalows
Satellite Road, Ahmedabad 380 015

Phone : (079) 675-0396

18. Dr Anand Mehra
VIKSAT
Nehru Foundation for Development
Thaltej Tekra
Ahmedabad 380 054

Phone : (079) 642-6220/644-2642/644-2651

Fax : (079) 642-7123/642-0242

e-mail: viksatsat@ad1.vsnl.net.in

19. Shri H P Mishra
Kamdar Swasthya Suraksha Mandal
Govind Patel's Bungalow 382
N H Road, Rakhial Ahmedabad 380 023

Phone : (079) 273-0495

20. Shri Arun C Mudgerikar
Unicef
Plot No.70, Sector-19
Gandhinagar 382 019

Phone : 82-25366/82-27034

Phone : (079) 646-4402

Fax : 82-25364

21. Shri S Mudrakartha
VIKSAT
Nehru Foundation for Development
Thaltej Tekra, Ahmedabad 380 054

Phone : (079) 642-6220/644-2642/644-2651

Fax : (079) 642-7123/642-0242

e-mail: viksatsat@ad1.vsnl.net.in

22. Shri Y N Nanjundiah
Multi Media Consulting Engineers
Multi House, Lane next to C N Vidyalaya
Behind La-Gajjar Bungalow
Ambawadi, Ahmedabad 380 006
Phone : (079) 642/3671/642-0567/
Res : 82-24079 (Gandhinagar)
Fax : (079) 656-8332

23. Shri Apurba Oza
Aga Khan Rural Support Programme
Choice Premises, Swastik Cross Road
Navrangpura, Ahmedabad 380 009
- Phone : (079) 642-7029/642-7729/642-7205
Fax : (079) 642-0864
e-mail: akrsp@icenet.net
24. Prof P P Pangotra
Indian Institute of Management
Vastrapur, Ahmedabad 380 015
- Phone : (079) 630-7241/630-8357/630-7825
Fax : (079) 630-0352/630-6896
e-mail: mdp@mdplan.iimahd.ernet.in
25. Shri Himanshu Parikh
2 Sukhshanti
Near Ambawadi Circle
Ahmedabad 380 006
- Phone: (079) 656-3590
Res : (079) 662-1417
Fax : (079) 644-0263
26. Shri Sooryakant Parikh
Executive Chairman
National Sanitation & Environment Improvement Foundation
Sahayog Commercial Centre
Ahmedabad 380 001
- Phone : (079) 550-3996
Res : (079) 656-5745
27. Shri Ishwarbhai Patel
Director
Environmental Sanitation Institute
Gandhi Ashram
Ahmedabad 380 027
- Phone : (079) 755-7702/755-6247
Res : (079) 755-2515
Fax : (079) 755-8052
28. Shri Jayesh Patel
Environmental Sanitation Institute
Gandhi Ashram
Ahmedabad 380 027
29. Shri K B Patel
Member-Secretary
Gujarat Water Supply & Sewerage Board
Near Shalimar Cinema, Sector-16
Gandhinagar 382 016
- Phone : 82-22547/82-22087/82-22057

30. Ms Pallavi Patel
Deputy Director, CHETNA
Lilavatiben Lalbhai's Bungalow
Civil Camp Road, Shahibaug
Ahmedabad 380 004

Phone : (079) 286-8856/286-6695/286-5636
Fax : (079) 286-6513/642-0242
Gram : CHETNESS

31. Shri Biplab K Paul
Programme Coordinator
Lokvikas, Saket House
Panchsheel, Usmanpura
Ahmedabad 380 013

Phone : (079) 755-1931/755-2873/755-0452/755-1817
Fax : (079) 755-0452
e-mail : saket@ad1.vsnl.net.in
(Sidhpur Tel.No.02767-20065)

32. Shri Anjal Prakash
VIKSAT
Nehru Foundation for Development
Thaltej Tekra, Ahmedabad 380 054

Phone : (079) 642-6220/644-2642/644-2651
Fax : (079) 642-7123/642-0242
e-mail: viksats@ad1.vsnl.net.in

33. Mr Dinesh C Pyakural
Regional Coordinator
Ministry of Housing & Physical Planning
Singha Dukbar
Kathmandu, Nepal

34. Shri Kaushik Raval
UTTHAN
36 Chitrakut Twins
Near Management Enclave
Nehru Park, Ahmedabad 380 015

Phone : (079) 675-1023/675-5213
Fax : (079) 675-7774

35. Shri K Stalin
Drishti Media Collective)
D-2 Karnavati Apartments
Opp Shraddha Petrol Pump
Bodakdev, Ahmedabad 380 054

Phone : (079) 674-1437
Telefax:(079) 674-9235

36. Mr Rupert Talbot
Chief, WES Section (WSSCC)
Unicef-India
73 Lodi Estate
New Delhi 110 003

Phone : (011) 469-0401 (Ext.1304)
Fax : (011) 462-7521/469-1410

37. Shri R K Tripathi
Secretary (Water Supply)
Government of Gujarat
Block-7, 9th Floor, New Sachivalaya
New Sachivalaya
Gandhinagar 382 010

38. Mr Barry Underwood
Chief Executive
Aga Khan Rural Support Programme
Choice Premises, Swastik Cross Road
Navrangpura, Ahmedabad 380 009

Phone : (079) 642-7029/642-7729/642-7205
Fax : (079) 642-0864
e-mail: akrsp@icenet.net

Towards tomorrow in water and sanitation

SOME KEY QUESTIONS

(representative of major concerns in the Vision exercise, and suggested for use at the local level)

1. How are things going in water and sanitation for you and your community?
2. What were things like here ten/twenty years ago? Have the years made a difference? Are things better today, or worse than they were? How do you know?
3. It is sometimes the case that drinking water is regarded as a priority by communities and/or authorities, but sanitation is neglected as an issue that must take care of itself. Is this true of your situation? If so, why? Who needs to change or be convinced so that sanitation gets the attention it deserves?
4. Where would you and your community like to be ten or twenty years from now, in terms of the availability of safe drinking water and of basic sanitation facilities?
5. How would you know if things are changing for the better or for the worse? What signs would you look for?
6. If change is needed in terms of priorities and attitudes, whose minds need changing? What are the opportunities you see that can make such change possible?
7. What barriers stand in the way of change? Are they barriers of ignorance, technology, resources, or of the power to change the way things are?
8. What are the elements in this situation that are in your power to change? What can you, your community and your organisation do to make change happen? What capacities need to be strengthened toward greater self-help and self-reliance?
9. What changes seem outside your power to achieve, and which may need the help of others? Whose help or co-operation is needed?
10. It has often been the case that those who are most in need of better services in drinking water and sanitation are those with the least voice in decision-making. Women are one example of this bias, although they are the ones most affected by inadequate services in our sector. They are also the ones most concerned with the well-being of children. What is the situation in your community in this regard? What steps can be taken to ensure the participation and mobilisation of those most in need, and particularly of women?

**A "VISION 21" FOR GUJARAT: EMERGING ELEMENTS
Water & Sanitation in 2010**

1. The Vision: where we want to be tomorrow

Equity in distribution and access; opportunities to all to make and exercise choices

Every citizen afforded basic requirements of water & sanitation; universal household access to piped water supply.

The special needs of women and children (particularly of girl children) becomes a dominant feature in watsan planning and action

Sanitation accepted and facilitated as a state priority

Manual handling of human excreta completely eradicated

Dignity and safety for sanitary workers

Public sanitation facilities in every village

Better health through knowledge/attitudes/practices

Environmental sanitation understood and practiced

Hygiene education spread, with schools as catalysts

Accessible technology options, responding to a range of user needs

Water/sanitation options linked to and promoted with other appropriate technologies

Better systems for access to materials and finance for sanitation

Fluorosis controlled/eliminated

Integrated water resource management practiced, with strong public participation and ownership

Decentralised management/ownership systems developed, facilitated, practiced throughout Gujarat linked to empowered local self-government systems through Panchayati Raj legislation

Decentralisation understood and practiced as responding to local needs and initiatives, as the transformation and not withdrawal of government support systems

Government agency emphasis shifts from provider/controller role to facilitation and support

NGOs capacitated in training, systems management, advocacy, and in establishing strong partnerships/networks

Public accountability becomes a culture within watsan institutions, official and NGO

Local skills developed and incomes generated through watsan

Drinking water and sanitation integrated with ecological/environmental management

Pay-and-use strategies spread throughout urban Gujarat, as an efficient economic option; partnerships with corporate sponsors demonstrated/promoted

Gujarat's pilgrimage centres become centres of sanitation and safe water demonstration/awareness

Donor policies reflective of local realities

2. Issues/Goals/Strategies: getting where we want to be

(a) Equity

(a) Fair sharing of water resources as the ultimate goal.

The need for interim solutions/options for immediate action.

Attention to the situation of the poor and marginalised, including the continuing shame of manual handling of human excreta, and of inhuman working conditions; such strategies may need drastic upward revision in payment for work as well as provision of alternative employment opportunities

Careful monitoring of progress in meeting the known needs of women and children (particularly girl children)

Promoting the principle of community ownership

(b) Environment

Escalating degradation of the environment is swallowing progress in the sector. It demands:

Major importance given to natural resource management skills and application, and linking drinking water needs to agricultural, industrial and urban water planning; water-harvesting and recharging aquifers given emphasis

Studies of geo-climatic zones for micro-planning

Strict application of pollution control measures, including the use of "banned chemicals" by local industries

(c) Health

Improvement of the health of marginalised groups, particularly women and children, through better water and sanitation systems

Reducing the incidence of diarrhoeal diseases, particularly in districts of Gujarat with high incidence rates

Safety standards enforced for sanitation workers working under conditions of extreme risk

Research initiated on health conditions among Gujarat's sanitation workers

(d) Drinking Water

Access has improved

Importance of natural resource management/water harvesting

Drinking water/irrigation water linkages

Understanding the variety of water needs/uses

Impact of drought/rainy season factors

Piped water supply: preferences and equity issues

Scarcity and equitable distribution issues

Water quality: pollution/geo-hydrological contamination: the issue of fluorosis in Gujarat

Reviews of experience with schemes for decentralisation

Need for technology options

Community-friendly financing schemes needed to promote domestic water-harvesting

(e) Sanitation

Open defecation has decreased marginally. Community sanitation remains critically neglected. Facilities for other domestic needs such as bathing and washing have improved.

Unlike water, sanitation not viewed as a survival issue

No health improvement unless sanitation accompanies water supply

Awareness is the foundation: importance of hygiene education

Environmental sanitation: the concept must cover not only human waste, but other domestic needs, waste disposal

Sanitation packages combining sanitation with location-specific options and other appropriate technologies for energy-saving etc

Demand creation through existing institutions: school/cooperatives

Pilgrimage sites as service demonstration/awareness-raising

Importance of technology options, at appropriate cost/price (11 models available in Gujarat)

Examining the economics of sanitation: cost/price structures

Training facilities in sanitation technology

Linking sanitation to other appropriate technologies e.g. chulhas

Building up local skills e.g. rural masons

Institutional structures: decentralisation/experience with the 'nodal agency' system

Urban systems: importance of pay-and-use systems

Corporate support for spread of urban systems

Corruption factors: what controls are possible?

(f) Technology

Training needed for sanitation workers/for women (using local skills/materials)

'Technology' of dig-and-bury for open defecation needs acknowledgement

Developing dry sanitation technologies

Developing mobile demonstration units

Development of a wider range of options, appropriately priced

Access to materials and finances

Experience with inappropriate technologies

Importance of piped water supply for household uses

(g) Economics

Income-generation opportunities through watsan, particularly for women (eg as masons for sanitation needs)

Developing adequate financing systems for sanitation (eg sanitation fund on the Orissa pattern)

Study implications of reported non-usage of large sums returned each year as unspent under govt. sanitation programmes

(h) Government's Role

"Decentralisation" needs redefinition: it should not imply an escape for Government from its essential roles and responsibilities; Government must remain an active and accountable partner; role definition important now in the context of so-called market-driven policies; social needs demand good governance, not least governance, unlike industrial needs

Moving from supplier/controller to facilitator

Encouraging peoples/private initiatives

Need for enabling legislation and legal enforcement

Experience with decentralisation on drinking water issues

Experience with the 'Nodal NGO' concept in sanitation

(i) NGO Roles

Experience with the 'Nodal NGO' concept in sanitation

Experience with decentralisation efforts in drinking water

Advocacy and pressure group roles: balancing, cooperation and confrontation.

Strengthening Partnership roles within govt. systems

Channel for feedback from communities to decision-makers

As catalysts for partnerships: building strong collaborations

Partnership with Gujarat dairies and cooperatives

Acting as a watchdog toward government NGO accountability

Promoting a strong sense of community ownership

(j) Urban Issues

NGOs alone cannot handle the challenge of the sanitation needs of millions of urban citizens; government involvement and responsibility essential

NGO cooperation should reflect strong urban representation

Urban vision/experience/needs/strategies need to be segmented from those of rural areas, leading to urban-specific strategies and action

Urban experience in other countries (i.e. Chile and Argentina) may be relevant to Gujarat's needs

(k) Institutional Factors

Strengthening taluka/district level committees

Using Panchayati Raj as a more effective platform/pressure

Partnerships with Gujarat cooperatives in dairy sector

(l) Communication

Documentation of past field experience should now be top priority. The importance of advocacy, information, dialogue, education

Building communication skills/resources for community action

Developing adequate training and motivational materials

Harnessing local communication resources

Communication campaigns toward policy change

Developing mobile demonstration units

(m) Design

Need for networking between activists, engineers and designers to improve products and systems eg handpump repair/maintenance tools for women mechanics, portable / personal defecation systems for travellers, training/communication media aids

(n) Monitoring & Evaluation

Importance of establishing practical indicators of change, and of using them to improve project performance e.g. measuring change in toilet facility coverage as well as usage, health parameters, water quality, facility maintenance standards.

(o) Donor-related Issues

Making donors more sensitive partners

Influencing donors on policy issues involving govt partners

(p) Some Future Directions

Sanitation awareness/motivation/training/education

Enlarging technology options in sanitation

Linking safe water/sanitation to larger ecological context

Creating an integrated, holistic understanding of issues

Setting targets: e.g. one public sanitation facility in every village in Gujarat by the end of 2000

Exploring corporate support for urban sanitation facilities

Servicing pilgrimage sites with public sanitation facilities

Influencing donor policies

Research on health status of sanitation workers

Separation of urban and rural needs; special attention to Recruiting help for documentation

Developing a 'Vision 21' for Gujarat through the current network, through recruitment of a full-time staff support for a limited period.

Promoting a strong sense of community ownership

Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council

VISION 21

BUILDING A SHARED FRAMEWORK FOR WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION A FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

Summary of Vision 21 Process

The VISION 21 initiative has been designed to put an end, through shared efforts, to the backlog in universal access to water supply and sanitation, while recognising the needs of other water stakeholders. VISION 21 will draw a practical picture of the water supply and sanitation future that we collectively seek to create. It will outline the ways how to get us closer to that future. It will focus on the question which changes in attitudes and approaches are needed to make that future possible and the steps that are required to realise these changes:

vision > changes > goals > strategies > plans > action

Thus, a statement of VISION 21 will show what we need to do to-day, against a background of visionary and long-term thinking, to reach a future that we all desire.

In order to bring about common ownership and shared commitment to the vision, the process must be a people's process:

- a process that is directed to dialogue among affected and involved partners to find the right solution, with due attention to local situations and local opportunities;
- a process that stresses investment in capacities of people, so that they themselves can initiate and guide investments in material structures and equipment, where these are not available.

The generation of commitment and capacity will be of crucial importance. The process of VISION 21 is therefore its essence. The building stones of that process are collaboration and matching bottom-up approaches with top-down ones, supplemented with learning from past lessons and add innovative thinking to conventional wisdom. If on that basis the right process in terms of people's participation and broad collaboration can be started up through VISION 21, then the harnessing of the people's own vast resources will enable the implementation and upkeep of safe water supply and sanitation by and for all people, with due regard to water as a precious resource.

=

A Steering Committee, chaired by the Collaborative Council Chair will oversee the VISION 21 process, supported by Advisers. A Task Force will stimulate and co-ordinate activities. Action teams will work on three parallel lines of effort:

(i) **Social Mobilisation through Local Catalysts and National and Regional Co-ordinators** who will work together during January to June 1999, to develop local, sub-national (district, province) and national visions. These will emerge from one level to the next, in a "fountain" of bottom-up consultations, reaching a fair balance between bottom-up and top-down approaches.

Between July and September 1999, sub-regional and/or regional sessions will bring the national visions together in a regional vision. At the end of the process, in October 1999, a small global meeting will bring these regional visions together into a global vision.

(ii) **Knowledge Synthesis** through a team that will assemble and analyse current and newly developing knowledge, with the aim to incorporate learning from past and innovative experiences into the emerging new visions.

(iii) **Industrial consultations**, disclosing views and visions from professionals and representatives from civil society regarding desirable future developments in the industrialised world

A **Drafting Team**, responsible for the drafting process will be fed with the emerging visions, knowledge synthesis results, outcomes of the industrial consultations, as well as reports from major conferences, outputs from the Vision Management Unit scenario team and all other relevant material, to integrate these various inputs into one comprehensive whole.

A **Linkages Team** will maintain contacts with agencies and individuals and arrange for organisational backing.

VISION 21 will be one of three components in an overall vision for the management of the world's water resources in the 21st century. This broad *Vision for Water, Life and the Environment* will have elements addressing the issues of *Water for Food* and *Water for Nature*, in addition to the Vision 21 element labelled *Water for People*. It is being compiled by the World Water Council in readiness for the *Second World Water Forum* to be held in The Hague on 16-22 March, 2000. Accordingly, during the process, close co-ordination and co-operation will be sought and maintained with the **World Water Vision Management Unit**. As much as possible consultations will be integrated or held back-to-back, with overlapping meeting periods where opportune, and participants will be invited back and forth.

Summary of VISION 21 Process

Track I: *Vision for Water Supply and Sanitation:*

1. Social Mobilisation, 2. Knowledge Synthesis, 3. Industrial consultations; integrated through Report Drafting, and supported by a Linkages team;

Track II: *Vision for Water, Life and the Environment (water supply and sanitation sub-sector component):* Co-operation with and inputs into the World Water Vision Management Unit

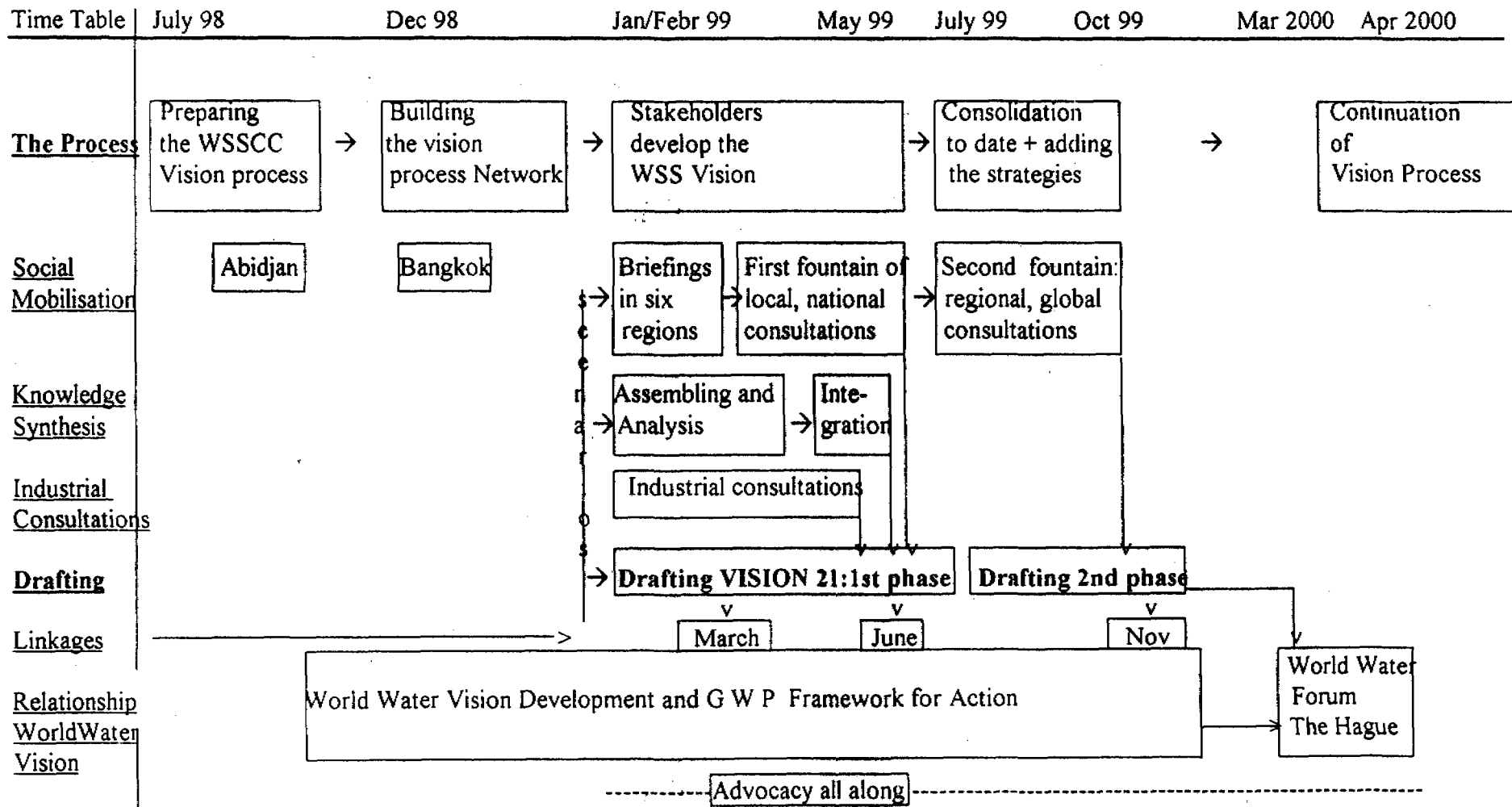
There are three phases:

1. Building the process network completed in January 1999
2. Stakeholders develop National Visions;
Knowledge Synthesis Team completes its work;
Industrial consultations complete their inputs;
Drafting Team completes first round of work January 1999 - June 1999
3. Development of Regional/Global Visions and adding the Strategies; Drafting is completed July 1999 - October 1999

The aim is to have this first comprehensive version of VISION 21 ready by early 2000, for presentation at the Second World Water Forum in March 2000 in The Hague, The Netherlands. That will not be the end of the process, however. Indeed it will be the start of a process of realising the vision through shared action which will last for several years into the next century. It will refine and further detail the preliminary outcome of 2000, and further adapt it to regional, national or local circumstances.

2nd March 1999

Water Supply and Sanitation Vision 21 Process



Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council. 2nd March 1999