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POSITION PAPER

PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION

SEU'S EXPERIENCES AND APPROACHES



SOCIO-ECONOMIC UNITS, KERALA
KERALA WATER AUTHORITY
DU.CH-DANISH SUPPORTED WATER & SANITATION PROJECT

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POSITION PAPER

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PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION

SEU'S EXPERIENCES AND APPROACHES

Prepared for presentation to the Indo-Dutch-Danish
Joint Review Mission September 26 - October 8, 1989.

The issues raised in this paper have been presented with a view
to improving the functioning and working atmosphere of the
organisation and are not meant to be taken as direct, indirect
or personal criticism of anyone within or outside SEU.

September, 1989

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INTRODUCTION

One of the most crucial objectives for the SEU project is "to ensure community participation with particular consideration of women's involvement in any possible aspect of the implementation, operation and maintenance of the schemes" (KE-6, page 7). Right from the start of the SEU project a variety of activities related to such community participation have been initiated:

- in initial contacts with panchayats information and ideas regarding the future Rural water Supply Scheme are exchanged, culminating in the establishment of Panchayat Water Committees and ongoing interaction between KWA, panchayat and SEU.

- in site-selection extensive consultation of the (future) users takes place, leading to the formation of a site-selection committee and/or Ward Water Committee

- in the sanitation pilot programme we have experimented extensively with close collaboration of voluntary agencies and panchayats as representatives of users, as well as with immediate involvement of users through sanitation committees at ward and neighbourhood level.

- in Hygiene Education activities a large number of organisations, clubs and institutions have taken an active role in organizing, educating and representing users.

- in those places where protected water will be arriving shortly we are establishing large numbers of Ward Water Committees, which will be the main channel for ongoing users' involvement and representation in all issues of operation, maintenance and cost-recovery for Rural Water Supply Schemes, as well as the distribution and utilisation of water.

- small studies have been carried out to assess people's views and preferences regarding possible participation in matters concerning drinking water and sanitation.

After an initial period of trial and error, we are in the process of consolidating our approaches and attempting more (cost) effective strategies. We had hoped to benefit from previous experiences in this sector, in other parts of India. For that purpose early 89 a consultant was charged with collecting and analysing materials resulting from various efforts undertaken by voluntary agencies all over India, to involve communities in issues of drinking water and sanitation. SEU's Research Report Nr.2 presents the results of that exercise. Although it was useful to find out what others have tried before, we also found out that not many agencies are in fact involved with piped water schemes. It seems that most if not all actual experience of users' involvement in drinking water in India is from situations where hand pumps, wells and springs are used: decentralised, un-sophisticated and relatively cheap technology, with low recurrent costs, which seems to make it much easier to involve users and to share financial and practical responsibilities.

However, the situation in the Dutch and Danish assisted schemes in Kerala is different and subsequently strategies for users' involvement are much more complicated. Here we are dealing with sophisticated and centralised Water Supply Systems, a highly professional and complicated bureaucratic organisation, a high level of recurrent costs and much less obvious opportunities for meaningful and responsible community involvement. Compounding these problems are the peculiarities of the social and political environment: Kerala is a state where participation of users seem to be channeled mainly through the political process, where politicians then present demands and pressures to the governmental institutions at the various levels. While there is a high level of general political awareness and of mass-organisation, there is a strikingly low level of genuine, active community involvement in taking actual decisions and managing specific resources. And there are virtually no precedents of users immediately sharing the burden of managing specific public provisions, while at the same time having some degree of influence over those provisions. In other words: participation in Kerala manifests itself more often through political patronage and pressure than as active, focused involvement and collaboration between users and governmental institutions.

This situation means that the SEU project is faced with a tremendous task and this position paper presents a number of suggestions and observations on which we would very much appreciate to receive feedback, advice and direction. It should be stressed that this paper needs to be read in conjunction with the Position Paper of Operation & Maintenance and Cost Recovery, which contains the most recent proposals to the KWA and Review Mission for meaningful community involvement in those two fields. However, in this paper we present a global outline of what we are endeavouring, mainly in the form of the report of our earlier workshop on this subject. This report (the first part of this Position Paper), gives the main conclusions and describes our strategies towards establishing, training and supporting the Ward Water Committees. As indicated above, these WWC are the focal point of our participation strategies and we would like to put as much emphasis as possible on proper support to these Committees.

However, this immediately points towards two crucial questions, hopefully to be answered by the KWA and Review Mission:

1. The status of these Committees: the time has come for the KWA to take some firm decisions regarding the official status and responsibilities for these committees and the way KWA staff should relate to these committees. Only if these Committees are taken seriously, especially by KWA and panchayats, they will become serious and effective.
2. Training and support for these Committees from SEU: it is relatively simple to establish a large number of committees, as we have found out. But that creates only an empty shell and high expectations. What is needed, from the SEU's perspective, is solid training, organisational development, ongoing support and careful monitoring. We are looking at

the establishment of approx. 700 committees, all over the State. It should be clear that even a minimal training effort (outlined in the Paper) requires more manpower, expertise and time than SEU presently has at its disposal. The enclosed paper describing the Central Unit's experiences makes clear how difficult it is to work under pressure and what a tremendous task we are faced with. The Review Mission needs to consider how much importance should be given to formation and training of these committees - and what amount of financial and manpower resources can be devoted to this activity.

Meanwhile one element in our strategy has been finalised and is submitted to the Review Mission for their comments: the Manual for the Ward Water Committees on the various aspects of water and its management. This manual, published in Malayalam (but with an English translation for those who are interested) is a product of a joint effort of people in KWA, SEU and others and gives, for the first time, a comprehensive overview of the technical, social and health related aspects of drinking water. This manual also outlines tasks and responsibilities of the W.W.C.s and will help these committees in their activities. It was particularly stimulating to note that the Minister, responsible for Drinking Water, Mr. Baby John, took a very active interest in this matter and has introduced the Manual to engineers, panchayats and others, as detailed in his letter (reprinted in this Position Paper).

The other texts in this Position Paper throw light on the options and constraints for community involvement:

- C.O. Kurian's mini-survey on people's perception of participation
- various papers presented by the Community Organisers of SEU outlining their observation and ideas
- an outline of the envisaged roles of the WWC
- an outline for training the WWC.
- SEU-Central's experiences so far.

The enclosed papers, in combination with the mentioned Manual and proposals in the Position paper on O&M and Cost-recovery, reflect the present SEU's understanding. We realize that we are only learning by doing and we do not, as yet, have any final answers. Our first experiences with communities have been very positive: we have found a high level of interest in drinking water and a willingness of people to get practically involved. We now face the challenge of designing replicable strategies for channeling such interest into meaningful involvement of (future) users into every aspect of design, planning, operation and maintenance of Rural Water Schemes. That challenge can only be taken up in very close collaboration with the KWA, and with sound support from the donor agencies. We hope to have a positive response from both.

Dear Mr./Mrs.

It goes without saying that Drinking Water and Environmental Sanitation play a great role in the maintenance of good health. Due consideration has to be given to the fact that a large number of our rural population have very little knowledge on these aspects. Drinking water plays a vital role in the prevention of communicable diseases. Considering the importance of drinking water and sanitation, the United Nations Organisation have declared 1981 to 1990 as the 'International Water Decade' for Drinking Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation. It is inevitable that a lot of experiments are tried out in this field to make inferences.

Although 'rural drinking water distribution' received much attention during the VII Plan period, we have yet a long way to go in this direction. The whole-hearted co-operation of the public is essential to enable the Government to successfully implement their efforts. Much expenditure is involved in the implementation, maintenance and operation of such projects. People's participation on par with Governmental efforts is an essential aspect in this field of activity.

Under the auspices of the Kerala Water Authority, the Socio-Economic Units are functioning to bring about the required awareness and ensure community participation on drinking water and sanitation aspects among the rural masses. Ward Water Committees are being formed at the panchayat level to ensure community participation in the area of drinking water supply. Necessary training for the members of these committees is being imparted by the Socio-Economic Units. The Ward Water Committee Manual brought out by the Socio-Economic Units will be of much help in the above context. The Ward Water Committee Manual effectively conveys the importance of Health Education, Drinking Water & Sanitation during the International Water Decade. A copy of the manual is enclosed. Those involved in drinking water and sanitation activities should gear-up their activities in order to achieve all our goals.

Anticipating whole-hearted co-operation of all concerned.

Yours Sincerely,

Baby John

"Community participation" as people perceive it.

-Research Team of Quilon Unit.

INTRODUCTION AND THE CONCEPT:

With Jesus Christ we would have said 'Man does not live by water alone' ! But when there is no water, man does live by water alone. In such a situation, one expects water to function as a wonderful solvent of all socio structural conflicts and false priorities. If so, then, what would be the response of people to the call of community participation (here onwards, C.P.) in our water & sanitation (hereonwards W & S) Projects !

The following brief article is a summary of the findings of a small research conducted among the elected members and few selected individuals of the three Panchayaths (Angengo-Cheriyamad-Kundara; 60 respondents/20 each from Panchayaths) where we have our sanitation Projects in the going.

The theme is 'Community Participation' and the object to find out the perception of people about this crucial component in the context of W & S Programme. The areas covered are: the views on the concept, on the history of such participation (if any), on the strategies to be adopted at different stages of W & S Projects for the realisation of C.P, on the existing socio-cultural situation which are congenial/prohibitive for this aim and, finally, on the ideal organisational pattern to be resorted for this.

The concept peoples participation/community participation came into prominence from the moment all concerned shifted their opinion (for good reason and after costly experience) from the position, "PEOPLE ARE IGNORANT" to "PEOPLE KNOWS". Nowadays no one disputes that it should be local people themselves who must decide what they want because they are the best judges of their needs and development/change required, rather than someone from our side.

2. As they see it:

Of the 29 elected panchayat members who were asked to comment on this emphasis, two in cheriyamad and one each from Kundara and Angengo were totally vague in their answer. Harijan members of all panchayaths used the term 'weaker section' as the chief element of the component as it is specially meant for their up-liftment - for the interest of the weaker section to be promoted and equity preserved presidents of the panchayaths relatively have a better feel about CPs implications but even they failed to see 'decision making' as its major constituent. Most of the respondents said about the "co-operation of the people" but could not conceive how it is to be actualised through some process. Majority of the respondents seems to assume that expertise came from 'others' and C.P. mainly means

proper dissemination of all information regarding the project to the people. Only very few voiced that people should be consulted and no one said that people are the best judges of their needs and of the methods to meet it. Interestingly, not a single respondent (including women) mentioned any role for women in this, either directly or indirectly. One expected that at least the women representatives would say something. There were of course few exceptionally enlightening expressions which came from Kundara and Anjengo: "Pride in participation that is it" / "Govt. and people-going hand in hand" / "Voluntary labour without monetary gain" etc. But two respondents also said, "the needs of people can be considered but our people are not yet ready for further levels of participation" (one of them was an elected member!).

3. History of Programmes with C.P. as its component:

One very interesting point that emerged here is the way people looked at "Sramadan" (voluntary labour of C.D.P fame) vis-a-vis c.p. in development projects. There is ample evidence from the answers that people confuse C.P. with mutual aid and charity activities. Before it was specifically mentioned hardly few mentioned the nationally famous 'NREP' which constructed new roads everywhere, supposed to be with C.P. The point may be perhaps that, in practice, nothing of consequence in terms of genuine participation was there as they were just another govt. programme.

Though no one mentioned any programme as such, after NREP & IRDP were specifically mentioned and asked for their comments, suddenly almost everyone voiced the level of cross corruption involved in those. Perhaps the best way to express them will be to quote few of them:

a teacher: "It was peoples participation in corruption/ A Harijan women: "Sir, even God aspects bribe---"/ a ward member: "These strengthened the local base of politicians". a teacher (Kudara): The unholy alliance in IRDP was: Veterinary doctor-Bank-Block Office: and that of NREP was: Nominee-Panchayat-Block Office".

But, one person from Kundara told that in places where people were alert, NREP roads were a success and with C.P. but such instances were dismally rare.

We should note behind these allegations an ideal 'ought to be' held by people: 'programmes should be free of corruption without political/bureaucrative interference'. But this being apart, the answers received seldom indicated any clear awareness about the channels or form of participation which are intended.

From the close interview situation that we had had, what one noticed in the face of people was not moral anger but as if nothing will ever improve! It has its history and sociology which is not our present concern.

not our present concern.

4. Strategies to be adopted in W & S. & CP.

Viewing the answer as a whole, our point which came out glaringly is the concept of committees at the local level. The difference is only in the constituting persons and leadership. Majority opinion is that the committee should be represented by all political parties. But quite a good number also said that it should be above politics. Only two said that women should be a party to it. These who said that it should be lead by ward members were invariably panchayat members.

Before it was mentioned, only two respondents said about the different stages of W & S. Projects and the concomittant roles and responsibility to be taken up by people and committees. It was expected that once the stages are spelt out to the respondents, concrete suggestions would come for each stage. But against all expectations, solid suggestions were expressed only for stages related to 'operation and maintenance' and repairs. For other stages, i.e. 'formulation of problem' 'options for solution', 'Planning and implementation', the responses were either backing or vague.

With regard to O & M and repairs, the answers received could be broadly grouped into two. One set held that the local people themselves should do the minor repairs and be vigilant about maintenance. This is because, as many qualified, the authorities will be either inordinately slow to react to complaints or leave the complaints untouched. About 70% of this set are advocating that the govt. should pay the local person/committee who take the initiative. The other 30% are far mobilizing local resources to meet expenses in this regard. The other set feels that the panchayath should take up the responsibilities for O & M and repair.

Whatever the stage, many respondents feel that the ultimate success will depend on the co-operation of political party in power and effectiveness in which proper information about the project activities is imparted the people. Most of them said that SEU should take the lead in the awareness building.

5. Local Socio-cultural atmosphere & CP.

The aim of the question pertaining to this aspect was to find out how and in what ways the local situation is either congenial or prohibitive to the ideal of CP.

All the responses from Angengo maintains the extreme difficulty of people to participate in the project in material and economic terms due to lack of space, irregular income etc.

Interestingly this section seems to have stimulated the thinking of people quite or lot everyone was coming out with theories

and analysis on the socio-cultural background of their respective locality, and most of them intensely critical of the social reality around them.

Many answers from Kundara mentioned about the so-called false contradiction maintained between ruling and opposition parties with the result that the priorities of the area are often turned upside down.

From Angengo quite a few said about the lack of critical awareness of the people which is an ingrained weakness. Few respondent from Cheriyanad emotionally told that the really needy are often not heard, no matter which party rules.

A fisherman from Angengo said that our chief malady is that the anti socials are given shelter by politicians.

Few respondents from all the three panchayaths, mentions of the communal undercurrents' which are not apparantly visible. Most such views mainly, came from Cheriyanad.

Water or no water, people these days would follow that the political leader say, it was more or less, the view of many and hence, in the villages, for any programme to be successful, politics is the determining variant. It is with this assumption that people advocate the representation of all political party in committees

6. Ideal organisational pattern at local level and C.P.

Of all the different views received both from within and among the panchayats, 'use of existing political structures and a local committee with representation of political parties, represented the majority opinion. Many of these people were also nearer to the political activities in the sense of being members of panchayaths, Few especially in Angengo told of keeping politics at a distance and from Kundara quite a few advocated for getting the active co-operation of youths through their clubs. One person (a woman) from Angengo forcefully told about the potentiality of organising women locally which would, according to her, only be apt, as they are the ones who are really suffering the burden of difficulties, be it lack of water or sanitation.

About 20% of the respondents held that the committee constituted for the purpose should continue to exist to attend the follow up activities of W & S Projects. But majority were either silent or skeptical of that possibility.

Conclusion:

We should look at these responses in the background of Kerala's Water Situation and its Socio-cultural backdrops. We know that the socio-economic system here is based on the motives of individual

advancement, Though it may be true of India as a whole, this is more so in Kerala due to historical and cultural factors. This is very well reflected in their habitation, mobility pattern, aspiration, level of commitment and political behaviour. Another major factor (which may be an all India Phenomenon) is the disinclination of local political leaders to allow power to reach the people. In addition to these, we cannot talk of water scarcity (like poverty) in Kerala in the dimension we say it about, say, Andhra or Gujarat. Here there always is some source of water available for the primary needs of people. The heavy rain and the numberless canals spread all over also give a psychological feeling to the people that water situation is not all that bad.

One important trend which emerged in the vagueness and/or absence of responses on strategies regarding the earlier stages of W & S Projects viz, formulation of problem/options for solution/ planning and implementation. Certainly majority of people still think they have no genuine role at the earlier stage which from the angle of C.P. but are the most crucial.

The hyper activity of politics sans ideological commitment is the haulmark of present day Kerala. Though apparantly everything turn around politics, one can easily perceive how it is shrewdly being manipulated for catering their own material interest and that is it. Also in a social structure which is heavily leaning of an hierarchical pattern with different sections having verying needs. C.P. would be an uphill task requiring long and tremendous work and innovative methods, which is a challenge for SEUs.

One tend to feel that in Kerala's case (even in its "problem villages") men does not live by water alone as there is an array of favourite political beverages to count on.

/...../

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION.

questionnaire seeking the opinions of elected representatives of Panchayath and few selected villagers, through a small survey.)

We here of "Community Participation in Developmental Activities".
What meaning are you giving for this emphasis?

Do you know of any Developmental Activities implemented in this Panchayat earlier, giving emphasises to the element of community participation?

We know that "Community Participation" was an important element in the nationally covered NREP|IRDP Programmes. Could you critically look at it to say how far the emphasis helped the programme towards the attainment of its objectives?

Please suggest the strategies/actions to be adopted for a proper realization of 'Community participation' in the water and sanitation Projects?

Please suggest the steps/Actions and Strategies to be adopted for a proper realization of Community participation in the following different stages of the project of water and sanitation?

=====
4) Formulation of Problem :

5) Options for Solution :

6) Planning :

7) Implementation :

8) Maintenance/Operation :

9) Repair :

=====
5. What do you think are the existing circumstances/Peculiarities
{ Social - Economic - Cultural } in the village structure/among
the individuals which might enhance/blocks the proper realiza-
tion of 'Community participation'?

7. Which do you think are best organisational methods/organisations/
people to be evolved/utilised for the realisation of proper commu-
nity participation in the village?



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Record Of The Workshop On Community Participation In Calicut

On 20 & 21 December 1988

List of Attachments:

1. General outline of the problems
by the Senior Adviser
2. Detailed statement on the present situation and proposals for action
from Mr. C.O. Kurian (Unit South)
3. Detailed statement and elaborate proposals
from Mr. George Varghese (Unit Central)
4. A list of Panchayats
from Mr. Isac John (Unit North)
5. A previous memo on the formation of Water Committees

record of the workshop on community participation in Calicut on 20,21 december 1988

1. introduction

after a number of preliminary SEU activities in relation to the involvement of (future) users, communities and panchayats in drinking water and sanitation we felt the need to discuss and plan our further activities in more detail. For this purpose an intensive workshop was held between the three community organisers of the three Socio-Economic Units and the Senior Adviser. Some documents were drafted in preparation to this workshop and these are attached :

- a. general outline of the problems by the Senior Adviser
- b. a detailed statement on the present situation and proposals for action from Mr. Kurian (Unit South)
- c. a detailed statement and elaborate proposals from Mr. Varghese (Unit Central)
- d. a list of panchayats from Mr. John (Unit North)
- e. a previous memo on the formation water committees

2. main conclusions

the following points were discussed and decided for further action:

a. early involvement SEUs required: if we genuinely want to stimulate and support users' involvement in drinking water and sanitation it is essential that, somehow, the Units are involved from the start - not like now only when the schemes are finalized. This means: collaboration with the IPD section of the KWA. The Coordinating Office should explore this with KWA and donors.

b. involvement youth clubs: of all the various community level organisations and groups the youth organisations seem to offer the best potential for large scale involvement at the grass-roots level: these clubs seem to present a reservoir of dedicated, local human resources, keen on involvement and association with us. The involvement of such clubs could be:

- initial data-collection
- mobilisation of people in regard to initial site-selection
- beneficiaries' organisation and mobilisation in sanitation schemes
- health education related to water and sanitation
- monitoring and evaluation activities
- public awareness campaigns on cost, value and use of water
- perhaps: campaigns for house and group connections
- perhaps: looking after water points

Based on the ideas presented by Mr. Varghese (see annex) we can experiment with such involvement of youth clubs. We suggest to accept clubs on the basis of their activities, and on their commitment to non-political and non-communal action (as far as their involvement with SEU is concerned). Party-political or ideological factors should not be taken into account.

Minimal financial support for such clubs in case they are involved is required. See proposal Mr., Varghese. As an example: for Mala scheme this would come to Rs 7200 per year, an acceptable amount. However we have to plan our involvement in training and providing information material to such clubs, in identifying and supporting a district level youth coordinator who will help to liaise and coordinate. Furthermore: we need to carefully think how such clubs will be linked to our other activities (panchayat and waterd committees) and to KWA.

It was decided to explore and experiment at a limited schale in the three regions. The Community Organisers will be in charge of this and will now take appropriate steps.

c.voluntary agencies: with the exception of Kerala North these seem to offer another promising venue for collaboration. Their roles can be:

--implementing agencies in sanitation (esp. when we will implement a large scale sanitation programme, this depends on the outcome of the pilot sanitation programme and donors/KWA decisions).

--as partners in health education; this requires training, supervision and provision of materials and can only be judged by our HE colleagues on a case-by-case basis.

--as possible vehicles for water development activities, such as now proposed by PASSS (spring development).

This needs exploration with the donors (review mission!!), KWA and further fact-finding by the 3 Units.

--as link with communities for variuous water and sanitation activities. This requires further investigation and discussion with agencies at State level: CO to discuss with PAD, Kanfed, KSSP and perhaps others.

From existing information: KANFED and KSSP do not really appear to be very suitable in relation to our work. Perhaps the various Social Service Societies are more appropriate, this needs further contacts with the dioceses (to be taken up by the three Units) and the Archbishop (CO).

d.ward water committees: this is and will be the main and central element in our participation strategies. These committees can meet three major objectives:

- a.to organise and mobilise users to solve problems themselves
- b.to represent users towards KWA and panchayat
- c.to assist in collection and dissemination of information

We agreed that such committees should only be formed if and when water is coming shortly: say half a year before the expected commissioning of the scheme. The composition of the committees should not be based on (party-)political criteria, although the elected member will always be included. The demands on the committee should make it unattractive for people who are only motivated by political reasons: time-requirements, house-visiting, public meetings, obligation to

receive training, removal after repeated non-attendance, etcetera.

The SEU should take an active role in the formation and selection of these committees, based on the information and contacts we collect (mostly through the field assistants) in the course of our work. The community organisers should have a deliberate strategy and time-table for the formation of these committees in 89 and 90.

After the initial involvement of the committees in design and site-selection, they will be active in health education, use of water, operation and maintenance, settling disputes, facilitation of house and group connections, and especially: presentation of users' demands and observations to KWA and panchayat. (some of these points are detailed in the attached on water committees.)

For the most effective liaison of these committees we suggest the following arrangements:

- each ward water committee (WWC) deputed 2 representatives (one to be a woman) to the panchayat water committee (PWC)
- the Panchayat Water Committee's meetings are attended by the Executive Officer of the panchayat and others as and when required.
- direct contact between WWC and KWA through pre-addressed postcards and phone
- monthly meetings between representatives of all WWCs at the level of the panchayat to be attended by an AEE, AE or EE of the KWA and the Executive Officer of the panchayat.
- to experiment with the idea of charging these committees with the responsibility for minor repairs of the water supply system within the area: Perhaps for a fixed amount per year a licensed plumber will maintain and repair taps and pipes within a panchayat, under supervision of the WWCs and PWCs.

Wherever the local staff of the KWA and Panchayat are enthusiastic experiments can and should be undertaken to strengthen the role of the water committees. For this every Community Organiser will identify suitable places and activities.

e.formation of and support to water committees: the steps towards the formation of the water committees require intensive and active involvement by the Units's staff, esp. the Community Organiser and the proposed Assistant Community Organiser:

- a. pre-publicity (with the panchayat and KWA)
- b. selection of the approx. 6 to 8 members per WWC

c.formation meetings: two initial meetings, of which at least one should be attended by the Community Organiser, both by the CO-assistant.

d.the production, distribution and introduction of the Water Committees Manual (see below)

e.three training sessions on relevant topics

f.ongoing support: monthly meetings with al WWC for the assistant CO, with the Panchayat Water Committee, KWA staff and panchayat staff for the Community Organiser.

g.trouble shooting: as and when required, but estimated at 2 days per panchayat per month, for Community Organiser and his assistant.

h.exposure of selected WC members to interesting projects and situations within and outside of Kerala:SEU would organise and finance such trips.

i.establishment of a Water Users Association at the State level. This will require a lot of liaison work, contact with the KWA and the organisation of at least one state level meeting.

j.exchange of information between and to the water committees: if done at state level a task for the SEU-Coordinating Office, if at lower level for the Units.

k.monitoring and evaluation of these activities and their impact, partly by Coord.Office, partly by Units, partly by outside researchers.

The Community Organisers should now estimate how much time will be required for them and their colleagues within 1989, considering the progress of the water schemes. We estimate that in total 420 committees need to be formed within 1989, which requires training for approximately 3000 members....

f.training materials for water committees: we suggest to provide all members of all water committees with the Water Committee Manual. This should be produced as soon as possible (targetted for 1-3-89). The following design is proposed: some attractive, sturdy folder which can include the different leaflets and future communications to/among the water committees. These leaflets will cover the major subjects relevant for proper understanding and carrying out of the tasks of these committees. each of these will be 4 or 8 pages, written in colloquial Malayalam, richly illustrated and of potential use also in other connections. The following 12 topics and authors are proposed :

1.the involvement of water users (C.O.Kurian): a general explanation of the importance of users participation and the various methods of involving them.

2.the concept of self-help, self-reliance and development (Martin de Graaf): a general explanation of what people can do themselves to solve their problems, what they can do jointly and how they can claim assistance. A discussion of the relationships between Government, panchjayats and people.

3.The Water Committee (Isaac John): a formal introduction of the concept, rules, responsibilities and procedures for the Ward Water Committee and Panchayat water Committee and the role of SEU, KWA and panchayats in this regard.

4.The Kerala Water Authority (Mr.Unnikrishnan or other senior KWA staff to be requested): a presentation of the role, organisation, budget and structure of the Kerala Water Authority.

5.The production and costs of drinking water (Mr.Bhattatirapad to be requested): a more technical explanation of the various steps for water collection, purification and distribution, and the financial and logistic implications.

6.The value and importance of water (Dr.Soman to be requested): an explanation why (clean and accessable) water is so important: for health, general well-being, productivity, liberation of women.

7.Medical aspects of water (Rema Devi to be requested by Isaac John): a factual explanation of the various water-born, water-related and water-washed diseases.

8.Operation and Maintenance (The Engineers Association to be requested by MdG):an explanation of the criteria for safe water, procedures for testing, the requirements and costs of proper maintenance, complications in operation of RWS.

9.Good and bad water (Isaac John): how to technically distinguish between the two, how safe water becomes unsafe (e.g. improper handling, storage and utilisation), how unsafe water can be made safe (e.g. boiling, chlorination, filtration).

10.Water distribution: (George Varghese): the different systems with their (dis-)advantages for water distribution: hand pumps, public taps, group taps and house taps. How can communities or people apply for connections, at water costs and where?

11.The importance of sanitation (Mr.R.Suresh):introduction and explanation of rural sanitation: why it is important, what people themselves can do, how much it costs and where help is available.

12. Directory of resources (Mr. R. Suresh): which department, voluntary agencies, commercial institutions and others are involved in this field, where can they be found and what can they do for water users?

We suggest that all involved will draft their sections, share among the Community Organisers and Coordinating Office by the 28th January and discuss on their next meeting, probably 31st January.

After discussion, editing, illustration, etcetera final printing and distribution of the first issue can take place. The first requirement for 1989 seems to be at least 5000 copies.

g. the use of media: apart from printed material also films, videos, and slides will be required. The Coordinating Office should asap collect existing videotapes and films on the relevant topics, while the Community organisers will investigate the real availability of TV-monitors, VCRs and film projectors at the various locations. For initial; training sessions we envisage to bring together the members of 3 ward committees at a central location, two times half a day. For such meetings video, film or slides should be available: CO to compile a list. The World Bank material needs to be reviewed on usability and we need to make arrangements for copying, adaptation and translation. Community Organisers are requested to review the WB materials.

Apart from the existing video and film material we need to have a video/film produced on users' involvement and water, as well as on sanitation and people. Production of the sanitation video is about to start, the first film/video will take more time and funds than we presently have and needs detailed discussion with the donors.

Radio is already being used (Jheevah Daarah) and an effort should be made to have copies of the broadcasts for each Unit.

C.O. Kurian will investigate the possibility of having drama-material produced, perhaps in collaboration with KSSSP. Modest expenditure for this is allowed.

Flipcharts and flannographs on water and sanitation are presently being produced under supervision of the Coordinating Office and the Health Education staff.

Finally: OverHead projectors have been ordered and should arrive very soon. The Community Organisers should familiarize themselves with this technology, which might be the most appropriate at Units' level. Cameras and hand held public address systems have been ordered. Radio-cassette recorders and slide projectors have been purchased for the units and should reach them any day now.

h. personnel requirements: we strongly agreed on two important points:

-Field Assistants should serve in the Health Education and the Community organisation activities and these two sectors should not be separated. There seems to be a tendency towards personal and programmatic separation of these two sides, but we think that this is not appropriate or practical. For beneficiaries these two aspects are hardly distinguishable and in fact many subjects come up on both sides (as illustrated by the topics in the proposed manual). The Field Assistants will be relating to the the communities, local agencies and panchayats anyway and it would be a tremendous waste of their time and information to collect local information twice in the context of the two approaches. So we strongly advocate close collaboration between the Health Educators and Community Organisers and joint control over the Field Assistants. Especially when the suggested Link Workers will be introduced, the Field Assistants might get some more time for community organisation activities. This point should be discussed in detail with our HE colleagues.

-even with such Field Assistants being somehow available, there will be more work in the field of Community organisation than can be handled by one Organiser per Unit. The Units in South and Central need to establish, train and support approximately 160 ward committees and 16 panchayat water committees in the course of 1989, while the Unit North has to establish 60 and 6 respectively. Clearly this needs more manpower and we propose to create a temporary post of Assistant Community Organiser. The main justification for the creation of this post is the very late stage in which the Dutch supported Units have been established, which forces them to catch up with the RWS under construction much faster than originally planned.

Financial implications of these various proposed steps need further discussion at Unit and Coordinating Office level.

1. Studies and experiments:

1. at the moment a consultancy study is carried out on participation experiences in regard to water in other parts of India. Preliminary results expected by the end of January.

In addition to this and other current studies the following topics were mentioned for studies and/or experiments:

2. leaching from pits (Isaac John to follow up)

3. real per capita consumption of water under different circumstances: public/group/house taps; seasonal variation; distance variation. To be discussed with TLO and STA and KWA.

4. habitual ways of handling and mis-handling of water around taps (Kurian to follow up).

5. water quality testing by voluntary agencies or clubs: which technical and operational factors are involved and how can it be done? Advice from TLO and STA and engineers first.

6. group connections: George Varghese to discuss with Mr. Than-gappan about possible experimentation in Mala.

7. Household expenditure on water borne and water related dis-eases. Perhaps collaboration with Medical College or Loyola College possible??

8. Possible large scale campaigns for house connections. If an interested KWA engineer can be found.

3. next steps: the following actions are required:

1. Community Organisers discuss their plans with colleagues in the Units and take note of their comments. This in particular regarding the involvement of panchayats and the role of Field Assistants.

2. Based upon the latest information each Unit prepares a more detailed plan for 89 regarding the formation, training and support to water committees at ward and panchayat level

3. Manpower requirements are calculated and discussed at unit level. If present staff will not be sufficient proposals are submitted to Coordinating Office. Based upon this a final decision regarding assistant Community Organiser to be taken.

4. Youth Clubs (or similar community based groups) are identified and for the major schemes to be commissioned within this year their involvement is investigated. Financial requirements, training needs, materials and similar implications calculated and presented to Heads of Units and Coordinating Office.

5. Meanwhile: Manual drafted and produced as outlined

6. Willingness KWA staff in the various schemes to collaborate, esp. in the formation and support to committees investigated. Possible training needs for kWA staff identified and taken into account.

7. Interest KWA engineers to participate in one or more studies or experiments identified and more specific plans submitted to Heads and Coordinating Office.

8. In the next meeting the necessary steps for to finalize Action Plans for 89 identified.

9. In that meeting also the major issues to be identified which need to be presented to the Project Review Mission.

(mdg)

This is part of the preparatory documentation shared with the participants of the workshop.

1. The problem: what do we want?

Participation: how to initiate, - organize and support the effective and efficient involvement of users in regard to drinking water? That is the question we need to address in a very down-to-earth way: considering our limited resources and time, taking into account the special circumstances of Kerala and the peculiar features of the KWA, what should we do to make sure that meaningful participation takes place. now and ...after this project?

There are different kinds of benefits and disadvantages attached to different aspects of participation (I hope to send you a note on this before we meet), but by and large the SEU-programme is based on the assumption that the (prospective) users of water should be more involved in issues related to their drinking water, sanitation and health. So our professional problem now is: how to do it? And how to optimize the chances that such involvement will be long-lasting and constructive?

The nature and possible benefits of community participation are outlined in one of my articles and I recommend reading this for the sake of having a shared vocabulary and knowledge: "catching fish or liberating man". (this article was shared with you in July, during orientation in Trivandrum and should be in the Units' files). However that article, like most literature on the subject, does not give much practical advice on how to initiate, strengthen, and support the real involvement of real people. So that is what we should design and plan now.

2. resources: what do we have:

any sensible planning starts with an inventory of your (possible) resources: what do we have, in terms of manpower, funds, transport, support, time and... constraints. Also: we should have a realistic understanding of the project-context in which we are supposed to operate. First a list of our (potential) resources:
--there are 3 full-time community organisation officers (who also have to look after sanitation and site-selection),
--fieldstaff consisting of minimally 3x3 fulltime field-assistants, who are mostly involved in health education-work,
--the possibility to appoint temporary staff, or attract resource people as we need them
--some funds for training, publications, campaigns, etcetera,
--and outside of SEU: a perplexing variety of voluntary agencies, community groups, communal organisations, political parties and groups, trade-unions and other public organisations
--the panchayats: both the elected members and staff. As I have noticed the strength and interests of panchayats differs greatly, but most seem quite eager to work with us - for a variety of reasons.
--KWA-staff, not under our control and with varying degrees of interest and sensitivity regarding community involvement

Then the time element:

The time-factor is different for each scheme:

assuming that participation should start just before a RWS is commissioned, we can observe that:

- some schemes (eg Trikunnapuzha, Vakkom-Anjengo) are already - partially- operational
- quite a number of schemes (eg. Mala., Kundara) will be commissioned within the foreseeable future (half a year)
- some other schemes (eg. Nattika Firka, Cheegode?) will be ready by the end of 89
- some major schemes will take some years to be completed (eg Pavaratty, Kolacherry)

Finally, we can list the various concrete activities in which users' involvement appears to be essential or useful: these provide the context for any participation. It should be kept in mind that we, SEU, do not really control these activities.

- a) design of a RWS (if this is not finalized ahead)
- b) site-selection for public standposts
- c) decisions on group- or community taps
- d) implementation of a RWS
- e) decisions regarding house-connections
- f) operation of RWS
- g) maintenance of RWS
- h) health education and change of health behavior
- i) recovery of capital costs and/or operational expenses
- j) sanitation activities
- k) evaluation of RWS and general health issues

3. possible activities for SEU

If these are our resources and the immediate activities, what can be done to initiate and support participation? I would like your detailed comments and suggestions to the following list of **possible** activities: (the sequence is arbitrary!!)

- a. formation of water committees
- b. training to water committees
- c. other support to water committees
- d. organize site-selection with comm. part.
- e. involve voluntary agencies in.....
- f. publicity at local level
- g. publicity at regional level
- h. publicity at state level
- i. production handbook/manual for ward committees
- j. production film or video on relevant subjects
- k. development streetdrama or similar
- l. any conferences
- m. special studies and data-collection
- n. exchange visits to other parts of India
- o. appointment of local promoters
- p. inventory of participation experiences elsewhere in India

- r.monitored experiments with group/community cap
- s.monitored experiment with houseconnection
- t.monitored experiments with panchayat payments
- u.monitored experiment with local caretaker
- v.monitored experiments with different payment systems
- x.....

4.Literature

With this memo I am sending you some more photocopied documents on participation:

- an excerpt from Anisur Rahman's paper on "participatory organisations the rural poor" with some interesting, though general ideas
- a portion of the Manual and Resource Book for popular participation : please study the interesting distinction of training needs on page 9 and onwards!
- a section from "guiding principles for people's participation" which gives some rather practical instruction on how to organize some aspects of participation.

I would also like to direct your attention to two documents which you have already:

- the copy of the handbook on the formation of village committees (from danida-Tanzania)
- the text in the World Bank training material module nr. 2.4

I think this will keep you busy enough. Please do not hesitate to add your own points, suggestions and observations. I look forward to stimulating and productive discussions

Best regards to you,

Yours sincerely,
Martin de Graaf
(Senior Adviser)

encl.:as listed

7. Exmukone	1989 April	Map/W/C	Friends Arts & Sports Club All Kerala Youth Centre Harijan Service Society U.K. Memorial Arts & Sport Club Dhanya Club Five Star Recreation Club Mahabaleshwar Arts & Sports Club
8. Vaikom	partially commissioned	Map/w/c	Tarasa Arts & Sports Club Gomusthan Arts & Sports Club Rasthura H.S. Brothers Arts & Sports club Solar Arts & Sports club Darsana Arts & Sports club Nandu Memorial Club
9. Kadakkavoor		Map/W/C	ICDS
10. Anjengo	final comm. ± July 89	Map/w/c	Vincent de paul organization, Trivandrum District Fishermen Federation ICDS Kranti Mahila Samaj Jaganmata Arts & Sports club, KSSP Mathaji Arts & Sports Club P.C.C. Medical Mission Convent
11. Chirayinkil		Map/W/C	
12. Kizhuvallam		Map/W/C	ICDS
13. Azhur		Map/W/C	
14. Koipuram	89' May	Map/W/C	
15. Cheriyana	89' April	Map/W/C	N.S.S. College Punalur Social service society.
16. Torikunnapuzha	commissioned	Map/W/C	

b. List of Resources

Item	Kundara project area	Anjengo	Chariyamad	Koiporam	Thrikunthipuzha
a. design of a R/S					
b. site selection for public stand post	P.C, Users, K.A, SEU	K.A	P.C, Users, K.A, SEU	P.C, Users, K.A, SEU	K.A
c. decision on group/ community tap.					
d. implementation of a R/S.	KWA, SEU, WWC.		KWA, SEU, WWC.	KWA, SEU, WWC.	
e. decision regarding house connection	panchayats, KWA, SEU, P.C.	panchayats, KWA, SEU, P.C.	panchayat, KWA, SEU, P.C.	panchayat, K.A, SEU, P.C.	panchayat, K.A, SEU, P.C.
f. operation of R/S	APB body of WWC	APB body of WWC.	APB body of WWC.	APB body of WWC	APB body of WWC
g. Maintenance of R/S	"	"	"	"	"
h. health education and change of health behaviour.	ICDS, PHC, Clubs, WWC, SEU, Block	ICDS, PHC, Clubs, PHC, NSS, P.C, SEU, Block	PHC, NSS, P.C	PHC, WWC	PHC
i. recovery of capital costs and/or operational expenses	panchayats, P.C.	panchayats, WWC		panchayat, WWC	panchayat, WWC.
j. sanitation activities	P.C. WWC, link workers, users	P.C. P.C, link-workers, users	P.C., P.C, link-workers, users		
k. evaluation of R/S and general health issues	P.P., KWA, SEU, PHC, Outside agency.	P.P., KWA, SEU, P.P.C. Outside agency.	P.P., KWA, SEU, outside agency.	P.P., KWA, SEU, Outside agency	P.P.

L. O. Luv

C. Priority & Involvement

1. Formation of Water committees

The present method of formation (elected members doing it with representation of all shades of political parties) is defective - PAs can play a crucial role in locating the right kind of people for WAC but we have to find ways to reconcile the idea with that of panchayat

- the absence of distribution line in certain wards of panchayat is a serious problem to the formation of WAC.

2. Training to WAC

Can be conducted by the unit with the help of Apex WAC. The materials and training manual must be produced by coordinating office with collaboration of each units.

3. Special studies and data collection

- habitual ways of mishandling water at tap points.
- systematic study on the conduct of people of 'good and bad' water.
- a study on the prevalence of harmful words among childrens in pilot sanitation areas. (this is a small study to complement the basic WAC study).

4. Appointment of link personnel

One in each panchayat. This selection could be done by SEU with the recommendation of PAs. This link person can be used for both participation and health education.

5. Exchange visits to other parts

Some dynamic members of the WAC should be given an opportunity to visit project places at our expense to increase their involvement and knowledge.

6. Publicity

Materials to be produced by co-ordinating office. Distribution and dissemination by SEU/panchayat and WAC - Exhibition panchayat level for school and public.

7. Street Drama

Ample scope for this with association with RSS and local clubs. Script made/certified by units (expense!)

8. Monitored experiments

- consulting and involving panchayat and Kerala Water Authority to assess and organise its technical, financial and administrative aspects.
- Evolving an efficient system for:
 - Paying deposit
 - Processing application
 - organising chambers of the area
 - Installing the metres
 - (500 people = 1 metre reader!)

- If panchayat can manage and collect charges etc. it can retain 75% of the total collection.

- Payment for public taps:

O & M the purview of KWA

Bill given to Panchayat

If panchayat involve in private connections and handover the money to KWA.

- KWA provide water

- PANCHAYAT collect and give money to KWA

- SEU help in this regard

- ABC link person role in O & M consult with KWA.

D. What Practical Output from Workshop

1. Evolving a participatory Methodology to systematically involve the users/wvc to find out their knowledge - needs and priorities to enable themselves to perform what they are supposed to do.
2. Content of training Module 1 for the users/wvc.
 - water as scarce and valuable commodity (cost too)
 - dangers of unsafe water - good/bad water
 - a model water project: descriptive detail from intake to water tap.
 - users participation: what is it all about and why: (this is very important for the people of Kerala generally cannot envisage the merits of participatory project activities) The idea of participation ends with a political - style democratic committee formation.
 - role, objectives and linkage of KVA/SEU/panchayat/wvc
3. Priority list of areas/stages requiring following activities, interventions and methods of doing it (nature of village level organisation structure, frequency of meetings; who to meet whom and how etc.)
4. Possibility of including KVA as an organic part (Informal/Formal) of KVA structure: our suggestions.
5. Creative exchange of ideas to arrive at a consensus (to the extent possible) on the way and means to ^{be} adopted to overcome our common/special problems in the village:
 - distribution net work over/whole wards left out/ limitation of revised estimates.
 - political over activity and problems in genuine representation in wvc
 - panchayat 'authority' structure ^{at} wvc: the existing atmosphere of suspicion among panchayats (whenever wvc is seriously consulted) about panchayat authority vis - a - vis wvc.

C. O. Kurian

M A L A S C H E M E

Sl. No.	Panchayats	Population	Likely date of Receiving Water
1.	Mala	28664	1989 January (partial) 1989 June
2.	Annamanada	24451	
3.	Kuzhoor	17347	
4.	Poyya	18850	
5.	Puthenchira	17427	
6.	Vellangallore	29351	

N A T T I K A S C H E M E

Sl. No.	Panchayats	Population	Likely date of Receiving Water
1.	Nattika	17168	1989 November
2.	Engadiyoor	19000	
3.	Vadanappally	23199	
4.	Thalikulam	19350	
5.	Valapad	20815	
6.	Edathuruthy	24703	
7.	Kaipamangalam	26275	
8.	Perijaram	17001	
9.	Kathikkam	22007	
10.	Greenrayanapuram	30074	

P A V A I A T T Y S C H E M E

Sl. No.	Panchayats	Population	Likely date of Receiving Water
1.	Pavaiatty	18195	
2.	Vadakkkad	20519	
3.	Poorkulam	18320	
4.	Mullassery	17941	

5.	Venkidangu	23841
6.	Pookodu	23055
7.	Punnayoor	25100
8.	Punnayoorkuliam	24810
9.	Tykadu	12104
10.	Arthattu	14908
11.	Chovvanoor	22464
12.	Kadavallloor	24648
13.	Kattakambal	22455
14.	Elavally	19915
15.	Tirumattakodu	21431
16.	Chalissery	17251
17.	Thrithala	15276
18.	Nagalassery	19050

1992

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VOLUNTARY AGENCIES

MALA SCHEME

I. N.S.S. UNITS

- A) N.S.S Unit of Carmel College, Mala
(There is only one college in all the six Panchayats)
- B) N.S.S. Units of St. Joseph's College, Irinjalakuda
and Christ College, Irinjalakuda.
(Although these colleges are outside our area,
they are cooperating with us)

II. NEHRU YUVAK KENDRA

There are 9 clubs affiliated of NYK lying over
the Six Panchayats.

- A) Ushus Club, Vennur
- B) Y M A, Poovathussery
- C) Jayakerala Kalavedi, Kuzhoor
- D) Disco Arts & Sports, Kuzhoor
- E) Archana Arts & Sports, Kuzhoor
- F) City Arts & Sports, Kundoor
- G) Jayasree Mahila Samajam, Mala, Pallippuram
- H) IASS, Kottamuri
- I) Navajyotni Arts & Sports Club, Kalletunkara.

III. ISCUS (Having units in six Panchayats)

IV. ICDS Units (having units in Mala, Annamanada, Kuzhoor,
and Poyya Panchayats

V. Snehagiri Social Service Centre

VI. Social Action (It is having units in all 6 Panchayats)

VII. Kerala Sasthra Sahitya Parishad (KSSP)

VIII. Reading Rooms:-

There are altogether about 25 Gramina
Vayana Sala or Public Libraries in these 6 Panchayats.

IX. Lions Club

X. Y's Mens Club , Y.M.C.A.

VOLUNTARY AGENCIES
NATTIKA - FULLA SCHEME

I. N.S.S. UNITS

- A) N.S.S. Units of S.H. College, Nattika
- B) N.S.S. Units of Govt. Polytechnic, Tripprayar
- C) N.S.S. Units of MES College, Vemballoor
(Although this college is outside our scheme area they are willing to cooperative with us.)
- D) N.S.S. Unit of Medical College, Trichur.

II. COSTFORD

III. NEHRU YUVAK KENDRA

(NYK has units only in Nattika, Thalikulam, Vadanappally Panchayats) Although these are six NYK Units in these Panchayats only three of them are very active.

- 1) Sree Narayana Recreation Club, Nattika
- 2) Pradesh Yuvajana Kala Samithi, Nattika Beach
- 3) Priyasarsini Arts Club, Nanthekandam.

IV. KERALA SASTRA SAMITHYA PARISHAD

(KSSP has active units in Nattika, Valapad, Vadanappally Mathilakam, Perinjanam and Sree Narayana Puram Panchayats)

V. CDS Units

VI. Y's Mens Club, Y.M.C.A

VII. Libraries:-

(There are atleast 2-3 libraries in all the ten Panchayats)

VIII. Other Clubs:-

There are atleast one Youth Clubs in all the Panchayats.

RESOURCES

A) PRESENT MAN POWER

One Community Organizer, 3 Field Assistants and a draftsman.

B) VEHICLES

Now there are two vehicles in each Unit.

PROPOSALS

A) MAN POWER

As the Community Organizers have to look after Community Organization, Sanitation and Site Selection, it is better to have one Field Assistant each in charge of Ward Water Committee, Sanitation and Site Selection under the supervision of Community Organizer.

As there is a proposal of appointing paid link persons in Health Education, the Service of our Field Assts. can be taken from Health Education and could use in the Community Organization Activities.

One Field Assistant can assist the Community Organizer in arranging Ward Committees, conducting Community meetings and other community organization Programmes. While the other two can be used in site selection. If there is a fourth Field Assistant, he can be in charge of sanitation (If not, our draftsman can look after the sanitation work in addition to his work on mapping. At present he is helping the Community Organizer in sanitation and stand point selection). If three (or four) Field Assistants are available in Community Organizations work, the Community Organizer will have enough time in supervising and co-ordinating all the three divisions i.e. Ward Committee, Sanitation and Site Selection.

For eg., :- Ward Committee :-

If there is one Field Assistant in charge of Ward Water Committee, the work load of Community Organizer

together and give a brief introduction about Ward Committees and other SEU Programmes. From the second meeting onwards the WWC can meet separately and the Field Assistant can attend each Ward Meeting. By this method the CO will have to attend only 2 - 3 meetings in a Panchayat and he can personally cover all the Panchayats in the schemes as well as see all the Ward Committee members. In some cases, if possible, he can attend the second/third or other meetings (ie., separate meetings for each ward).

SEU CLUBS

SEU affiliated Clubs:-

(At least one club for two-three wards of a Panchayat ie., 4 -5 clubs in a Panchayat)

We can affiliate existing, active clubs or can form new clubs. These clubs can be the working agency of SEU in the village. If possible, in the ward Committee atleast one person should be an officebearer of SEU affiliated clubs. One of the Field Staff, who is in charge of Water Committees can lookafter these clubs also).

(Another option - A co-ordinator/convenor selected from the office bearers of the clubs themselves can look after it)

We can use the club members for all our community participation programmes. We have to meet some small expenses which may occur during programme arrangements. Any way the club office bearers will be become our voluntary link persons in the Community.

BUDGET

For initial expenses of formation of clubs atleast Rs.100/- will have to be spend for each club. If we form 5 clubs in one Panchayat, for Mala Scheme alone (total 6 Panchayats) we will be having 30 affiliated clubs. The initial expenses will be 30 x 100 = Rs.3,000/-

We have to budget another Rs.100/- for other expenses per club for one year. So for 30 clubs it will be another Rs.3,000/- So the total expenses may come up to Rs.6,000/-

One person can be elected as the co-ordinator/ convenor of the clubs by the clubs themselves. we can pay a small incentive (like Rs.100/- per month) to him for his organizational work. Adding this incentive giving to the co-ordinator the total expenditure of clubs under Mala Scheme may come up to Rs.7,200/-

We can arrange community organization meetings, festivals and various arts programmes, exhibition, all propogating the message of safe drinking water, health and sanitation through these affiliated clubs.

NOTE:-

As an experiment we can start these clubs in Mala scheme or in the 10 Panchayats coming under Nattika Scheme (In the case of Nattika Scheme the expenses may come around Rs.12,000/-)

B. VEHICLES:

If a moped is provided to the Field Assistants it will minimise their workload very much. For the frequent travel from one place to another at the field the only practical solution is a moped. (A cycle is not very practical in hilly areas especially in the case of ladies) The ~~estimated~~ estimated cost of 5 mopeds is Rs.15,000/- to 20,000/-

WATER COMMITTEES (PROPOSALS)

Composition (conditions for membership)

1. Membership:-

Minimum ⁵, Maximum 9 (with atleast 2 women)

The Panchayat member should be the convenor.

2. Living with the ward.

3. Being actively involved in social work or connected with some community organization work, voluntary agencies or any actively working social organisations in the area and should be very much interested x in issues of water, sanitation, health and community organisation and have enough time to spare with devotion and commitment to these xxxxxxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx causes.

4) Being a accepted personality within the ward (not a controversial figure at all)

5) Being available for all activities of Ward Water Committees including training programmes for W.C. Members.

SPECIAL NOTE:

In the Pilot Sanitation area of SED, one member should be selected from the beneficiaries

SUGGESTIONS FOR COMPOSITION

The concerned panchayat member can convene a meeting of all voluntary agencies, clubs, mahilasamajams, school teachers, medical personnel and important public men of the ward and from them a committee can be formed in consensus.

TRAINING TO WATER COMMITTEES

1. Training to selected committee members in maintenance of public taps. This will enable them to rectify minor complaints.
2. Training in the planning and organisations of Health Education.
3. Training Programme on water (sources, collection, filtration, distribution, the cost involved and other details regarding RnS)

SITE SELECTION WITH COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Contact local youth clubs, Mahilasamajams:-
Locate places for arranging groups meetings - Through the meetings introduce the project to the people - Educate them about the need of clean and good drinking water, the cost involved in providing safe drinking water through public taps.
Conduct survey with general participation - Through the
for its selection

Before fixing the posts call all the people who may be the potential users and discuss with them (Avoid the areas and houses that can afford private connections) After discussions try to find out a place agreeable to all concerned.

Involvement of Voluntary Agencies:

1. The services of Voluntary Agencies can be utilised in mobilising Public opinion in favour of safe drinking water and sanitary latrines.
2. Promotion of Community Taps and Private Connections
3. Arranging Community Group Meetings, organising people, conducting Health Education classes on sanitation and water.

Publicity:

Local Level:-

1. News Boards (2) Hoardings (3) Wall Paintings
4. Mini Exhibition at Panchayat Level (5) Community Meetings.

Regional Level:

1. Wall posters (2) Pamphlets (3) Puppet shows
4. Traditional arts forms (including street dramas)
5. Exhibitions (6) Seminar (7) Festivals & Competitions

State Level:

1. State level Seminars (2) Preparation of Booklets, Pamphlets etc. (3) Media including AIR, and TV (4) Video film on SEU activities and Programmes. (5) 16 MM Movie (6) 35 MM slides with Malayalam commentary on tape.

Production of Hand Book/Manual:

A handbook describing all details including tasks, composition, Role etc., of WWC is a must. Hand book on water giving detailed reports on water sources, collection, filtration, distribution and the cost involved in it at different stages etc. will be very useful.

Production film/video

1. A 16 MM Movie or A Video Film on Water and Sanitation.
2. A-16 MM Movie or Video Film on Community Participation showing different stages of participation including the working of Water Committees.
3. Health Education films.

(All should be in Malayalam)

Note: There should be one VCP and 16MM Projector in all the Units.

Street Dramas and Traditional Art forms

1. Street Dramas focusing on Water, sanitation and Water borne diseases.
2. Musical groups focusing on the same
3. Katha Programmes or like traditional art forms.

(We can conduct a script competition (for street drama) based on above subjects and best script can be staged)

Conference/Meetings:

1. Scheme level conferences of all Panchayat Presidents and Executive Officers coming under Nattika and Pavaratty Scheme (Dist. Panchayat Officers also should be invited)
Through this meeting we can give an idea of SEU Programmes, WWC, Sanitation, WWC and the cost involved (the like subjects)
The Superintending Engineer, Executive Engineers and concerned Assistant Executive Engineers also should be invited. The presence of the Senior Adviser and Executive Co-ordinator will be very much useful.
2. Scheme level conferences of Voluntary Agencies working in the area to chalk out SEU Programmes.
3. Regional level meetings of SEU and KWA

Special Studies

An evaluation study of Sanitation Programme after the completion of atleast 200 latrines (During January '89)

Exchange Visits:

Exchange of ideas and Programmes between other Dutch Danish supported Programmes will be useful. The Head of Units CO, HE could visit the other areas and have a brief study.

Campaigns for user's involvement in RWS:

Users involvement right from the design of RWS to Standpoint fixation is very useful. Before the design is finalised if we could form Ward Water Committee and through them convene community meetings we would take their suggestions into consideration and make appropriate change in the design atleast in the coverage of the areas. The people should be well aware of the schemes going on or coming. They should be educated about the benefits of their participation in such schemes through meetings.

COMMUNITY TAP SYSTEM AND PRIVATE CONNECTIONS

(A report from Mala Scheme)

Community Tap System is a new proposal widely accepted by the community according to our experience. In the Mala Scheme (Covering 6 Panchayats) according to the instruction given by our Executive Engineer Mr. Thankappan we decided to test Community Tap in to practice. At first we selected Vellangalloor Panchayat as a Pilot area to test the case. First at the Panchayat Committee and after at the Ward Committees we described in detail to them about the merits of Community Tap and defects of Public Tap. If more Public Taps were given the Panchayats have to give more money and it will raise their burden. All Panchayats members agreed this and naturally they became the active propagators for Community Tap. The Ward Committee also take it seriously and when our staff visited the field for site selection it became easy for us. They proposed less Public Tap and a several areas were pointed out for fixing Community Tap (possible areas) and we found at these places many of the villagers are willing to pay something for their water monthly. The enthusiasam and support we got at Vellangallore Panchayat prompted us to extend this proposal to all the other 5 Panchayats in the Scheme. And thus we could limit the number of Public Tap and promote more Community Tap. One major reasons for the success of this proposal is the support we got from the WWC Members. The presence of the Executive Engineer, who is well known in the area) in the meetings also helped as much.

About private connections, we requested the WWC members to collect the list of possible houses willing to take private connection in their ward. In some wards it come around 125 while in some area it is less than 75.

give above 1000 connections per Panchayat it will cut short ~~the~~ financial commitments of the Panchayat in a large scale. Except in Kuzhool - Annamanada Panchayat (where water scarcity is less) we expect to achieve this target of 1000 connections in a Panchayat.

Payment System:-

A large majority of the people prefer to get their bill monthly. A very few prefers slab system compared to monthly meter reading system.

SANITATION:

All Panchayats are waiting for the large scale sanitation programme. Event^hough we cannot give sanitary latrines to all Panchayats, we have to find some money for providing sanitary latrines to the other wards of Mala and Edathuruthy Panchayats.

If no latrines are provided to the other wards, the peoples faith in SEU and its good name will be spoiled and it will surely affect our future working in the area.

Budget:-

For construction of 100 latrines in each remains the wards of Edathuruthy and Mala Panchayat (total 14 wards) (1400 Latrines) the estimated cost may come over Rs.21,00,000/-

School Latrine:

There are a lot of applications for school latrines. For eg., in one panchayat alone (Mala) we got 13 application. If we could provide some amount for school latrines in next year budget it will be much appreciated.

Qm

Areas covered by the DANIDA funded Projects

CALICUT

MALAPPURAM (DT)

CANNANORE

- 1. Ramanattukara
- 2. Fergke

- 1. Kondotty
- 2. Nedyirruppe
- 3. Cheekode
- 4. Cherukav
- 5. Kuzhimanna
- 6. Pulikkal
- 7. Vazhakad
- 8. Vazhayur
- 9. Alancode
- 10. Edappal —
- 11. Nannamukke
- x 12. Thavanocr —
- 13. Vattamkulam.

- 1. Keezhallur
- 2. Koodali
- 3. Kuttiyattur
- 4. Kolacherry
- 5. Mayyil
- 6. Mattannur
- 7. Munderi
- 8. Narath

Thavanocr

June 1989 onwards

1989 - June onwards in the year 1990 - June
all except 12. Th. in 1990 (middle)



SOCIO-ECONOMIC UNITS, KERALA

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY

DUTCH-DANISH SUPPORTED WATER & SANITATION PROJECT

Coordinating Office :

Post Bag 6519, Vikas Bhavan P.O., Trivandrum-695 033.

Phone (0471)-68907,69543,68773 Telex (435)-379

NOTE REGARDING WATER COMMITTEES

This is a first draft for a memo which should, in the end, outline our approach in regard to water committees. At the moment we only have some general ideas and objectives and we will need to collect, analyse and understand much practical experience before we arrive at any more definite strategies and policies.

1. Task of Ward Water Committees (WWC)

- a. Assist and advice in regard to the selection of public stand-posts.
- b. Assist in the mobilisation and organisation of community resources (such as land, material, labour, information) that will help to overcome problems related to drinking water and sanitation.
- c. Act as a channel for presenting the views and needs of the people in the ward to the KWA, panchayat and other relevant government institutions.
- d. Act as a channel for the sharing of information from the panchayat, KWA or other bodies on issues of drinking water and sanitation with the local community.
- e. Assist in the planning and organisation of health and hygiene education at the community level.
- f. Assist in the planning and implementation of sanitation activities with and by the community.
- g. Assist in the selection of beneficiaries in any sanitation activity to be undertaken by the SEUs.
- h. Assist in maintenance of drinking water sources and in monitoring of their quality and performance.
- i. Reporting any faults or problems related to rural water supply systems to the KWA.
- j. Organise any joint actions by the local community in regard to drainage, well-protection, public laundry and bathing facilities and cleanliness of the surroundings.
- k. Advise and assist in establishing house connections in close collaboration with the KWA and panchayat.

1. Advise and assist in any other activity related to the well-being of the community.
2. Composition of The Ward Water Committee

The committee should be small enough to be effective and take quick decisions, but large enough to have good representation of the community. The panchayat office should help in the formation of these committees, as advised and guided by the Socio-Economic Units. The community should select the members, the panchayat office should propose and the Unit should approve. Members should meet the following conditions:

- a. Living within the ward.
- b. Being actively interested in issues of health, water and sanitation and willing to devote some of their time to these issues without any remuneration.
- c. Being widely accepted within the ward.
- d. Not being involved in any political or social conflict or controversy related to the future activities of the committees.
- e. Being interested and available for regular training and meeting.

We suggest that the committees will consist of approx. 6 people, of whom at least 2 women, and of the following background:-

The elected panchayat member, members of locally active social, cultural or religious agencies, mahilasamajams, school-teachers, medical personnel, informal leaders.

The membership should reflect the composition of the ward in social and geographic aspects. It should be understood and accepted that no one will represent any political party or other specific interest-group. Members act in their individual capacity only, aiming at representation of the collective interests of the ward population.

3. Role of SEU:

The SEU will have the following roles:

- a. Explaining the possible functions of the proposed ward water committees to the panchayat and the local communities.
- b. Assisting in the formation of the committees.
- c. Reviewing and endorsing the proposed committees.
- d. Informing the committees in detail about the present or future rural water supply scheme for the respective wards.

- e. Giving instructions on the criteria and procedures for site-selection and, if needed, for the collection of information regarding the physical and social structure of the ward.
- f. Organizing training of issues related to drinking water, sanitation and public health, wherever possible with or through the existing agencies.
- g. Liaison between the WWC and the existing agencies active in the fields of health and sanitation.
- h. Providing health education material to the WWC when needed.
- i. Providing training to members of the WWC for better planning and monitoring of their work.
- j. Plan with the WCC any sanitation activities to be undertaken in the ward and assist in making available support for such activities.
- k. Establish, improve and monitor any contacts between WWC and KWA and panchayat.
- l. Assist in establishing contact between the WWC from different wards and in planning of any joint actions by such WWCs.

The SEUs will have to develop practical measures for regularly offering this kind of support, training and liaison. Although the initiative for establishing these WWCs is taking by the SEUs, these committees should be increasingly independent from our support.

(mdg 7/28/88)

**FORMATION AND ACTIVATION OF
WARD WATER COMMITTEES
AND REPORTING FORMAT**

A PROPOSAL BY

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC UNIT (NORTH)
KERAJA WATER AUTHORITY
CALICUT 673005**

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR DRINKING WATER SUPPLY, SANITATION
AND HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Approach

District level - Quarterly/half yearly meetings

Panchayat level/- Monthly meetings

Field (Wards) level - Action/Implementation

I District Level Conference

- Objective (a) Introduction of programme to the District level Departments/Agencies Officers.
- (b) Planning participation & coordinating similar programme of the different departments at
- (c) the District and Panchayat/Block level

PERSONNELS & DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED IN DISTRICT LEVEL

(i) District Collector

A.D.M

(ii) Department of Health Services

District Medical Officers

" Health Education Officers

" Mass Education Officers

" Medical Officers - Primary Health Centre

Officers from Health Training Institute.

(iii) Department of Social Welfare & ICDS
Regional Asst. Director of Social Welfare
Programme Officers, ICDS
Child Development Project Officer (CDPO)

(iv) Department of Rural Development

Assistant Development Commissioner
District Women Welfare Officer
Block Development Officers (BDO)

(v) Department of Panchayat

District Panchayat Officer
Executive Officer (Panchayat level)
Panchayat Presidents

(vi) Adult Education and Extension Services

District Adult Education Officers
Programme Officer, Adult Education, University
Programme Coordinator, N.S.S, University

(vii) Department of Mass Communication

District Information Officer
Field Publicity Officer (Govt. of India)

viii All India Radio

Family Welfare and Extension

ix Nehru Yuvak Kendra
Coordinator

(x) Kerala Water Authority

Chief Engineer

Superintending Engineer

Executive Engineer

Asst. Executive Engineers.

Asst. Engineers.

(xi) Socio-Economic Unit

Head

Health Educator

Community Organizer

Asst. Engineer.

Field Staff.

2. Panchayat Level Implementation Committee

Panchayat President

" Executive Officer

" Overseer/Bill Collectors

Ward Members

Health Inspector

Health Education Officers

Programme Officer - N.S.S. Unit

Volunteers - N.Y.K.

" K.S.S.P

Extension Officers - B.D. Office

Asst. Engineer / K.W.A

SEU Members

Mahila Samajam Representatives

Field Level Implementation of Sanitation

Draftsmen - SEU & KWA

Overseers - Panchayat

Representatives - Beneficiary Committees

Ward Member -

Water Tap Site Selection programme

Assistant Engineer - 1

Field Assistants - 3 SEU

Surveyors - 2 - KWA

Ward Committee Members

Ward Committee Members

Ward members

Active Social Worker

Representative of Youth Clubs

Women Member

Health Education Programme

Ward Members

Ward Committee

Link Workers

Local Voluntary Organizations

Mahila Samajam

NYK/KSSP/NSS/Trainees/ICDS

Schools

Volunteers

Training & Orientation by the SEU

Field level Health Workers & Volunteers

Activities

Health class/Demonstrat^{ions}ions/Exhibitions

House visits / Survey / Monitoring

March, 1989

The Panchayat President
..... Panchayat.

Sir,

Please refer to our meetings on/your list sent to this Office dt.....regarding Ward Committee formation as per prescribed requirements for the activities planned in the Panchayat. The following members have been recommended and identified in this Panchayat and it is requested to convene a meeting of these members to convey to all, the future steps required of them.

Ward Water Committee Members

Ward I

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Ward II

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

etc.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

Executive Engineer,.....Project

Head, Socio-Economic Unit (N)

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY

..... Project

TRAINING PROGRAMME
(for Ward Committee Members)

Panchayat _____

District _____

Name of Member _____

Father/Husband's name _____

Dear Sir/Madam,

You have been selected by the Panchayat to undergo Ward Committee Training at the following place.

Place _____

Date _____

Time _____

Please bring this invitation and register your name on this day.

After the completion of training you are entitled to look after the needs and requirements of the public standposts, and water supplies in your Ward. Certificate, Identity card, log sheet will be supplied.

Please attend the training and make it a success.

Executive Engineer

..... Project.

Socio-economic unit.

Production of materials

Two types of materials needed I - A Manual for Ward Committee Members which contains

- a) Ward Committees role & duties
- b) K.W.A set up
- c) Operation and Maintenance System
- d) Cost of Rural Water Supply Scheme
- e) Public Standpost care, cost & handling, disposal of stagnated water.
- f) Health aspects
- g) Reporting & Maintenance system

II Training Materials - (to be used during training of W.W.C members)

- a) Hand Book for Volunteers (Health Instruction materials)
- b) Slides - Water handling & misuse etc.
- c) Films - Water Borne diseases
- Filtration procedure (large scale & small scale)
- d) Posters
- e) Folder
- f) Puppets
- g) Flash cards

Targets for formation:

At present we cannot say clearly the date of commissioning of water schemes in our project areas. However it is advisable to activate the groups (WWC) just 8 weeks before the commissioning of water. The training must be scheduled just prior to this, say 2-3 weeks before this.

Procedure for W.W.C Formation

1st Step

1st week - verify the availability of members in the WWC (already formed) and inform them that they are officially selected by the Panchayats and approved by the KWA (Send letters to each Ward Water Committee members signed by the KWA Project Executive Engineers. Inform them of a date for the first meeting the time, venue. (In this meeting fix the Training date, venue, time etc)

2nd Step

Training - Two days training for WWC

Training Activities: Panchayat wise training should be conducted in two sessions. (Training should be inaugurated by the KWA officials or the responsible officials from the KWA, Panchayat should be invited, their roles of KWA and Panchayat etc. need to be explained).

a) orientation classes

b) film shows/slide shows

or

supply of Manuals

supply of kits - Post Card, any other which can be provided.

Involvement of Youth Clubs

According to the availability of clubs in the area, their interest, sincerity, dedication, could be considered while involving them in the programme.

Youth Club can be especially used to create awareness among the public.

Assistance could be as

Material and, or, if necessary

Financial and technical

D

Monthly Report of Information Education Communication of (Health Sub-Committee Members)

Activities ↙

Name of Volunteer:

Name of Panchayat:

Collaboration with
which Agency :

Name of Ward :
Working Areas:

Month :

Year :

Rev

1

2

3

4

5

1. Details of Activities undertaken in the area

2. No. of classes taken and by Whom

Response of the Group

Topics - 1
2
3

3. Educational aids

4. Collaboration with agencies

(Guest lectures

Sharing of materials etc.

(Health Service, ICDS, NYK

Mahila Samajams, Other Organizations/

Govt. agencies

5. No. of house visits conducted

6. Problems/suggestions noted

7. No. of posters distributed

Serial No.

1

2.

3

etc

8. No. of leaflets distributed

1

2

3

4

9. No. of film shows/slide shows
(Specify which topic)

10. No. of demonstrations conducted

Topic

11. No. of Tape played

Topic

12. No. of group discussion conducted
Topic

13. No. of visits by supervisory staff/SE/U

14. Next month's Plan proposed

Areas where posters were posted

Houses

Schools

Anganwadis / Balwadis etc.

Date

Any Other Suggestions

←

MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT FOR LINK WORKERS

1. Name of Link Worker

2. Panchayat

Areas visited

1
2
3
etc.

3. Tasks assigned by the SEU

a)
b)
c)
d)
e)

4. No. of programme organized in the last month

a) Programme

b) Area

c) No. of Members who
attended the meeting

d) Important
decisions

f) General Problems reported by the Committee members

g) Suggestions of the Committee members

h) Recommendations for the SEU to act on

i) Monthly plan of action prepared & received in the W.W.C and
a brief summary of the review

Meeting

Signature

Name:

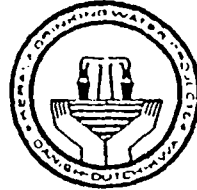
Address:

Date:

Remarks of the Link Worker on the working of the Volunteers

Date: Remarks by SEU

SOCIO-ECONOMIC UNIT (NORTH)



KERALA WATER AUTHORITY

DUTCH - DANISH SUPPORTED DRINKING WATER PROJECTS

WEST HILL, CALICUT 673 005.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that Mr / Ms. _____
of _____
has attended and completed the Training / Orientation Course on _____
_____ conducted by the Socio-Economic Unit (North)
from _____ to _____

Executive Engineer,
..... Division
Kerala Water Authority

Head
Socio-Economic Unit (North)

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION - OUR EXPERIENCE

SOCIO ECONOMIC UNIT-CENTRAL

One of the major goal of Socio Economic Unit is to assure peoples participation and community involvement in all stages of a rural water supply scheme.

The Central Unit of SEU started functioning from 8th August 1988 at Trichur. There are three Dutch assisted Water Supply Schemes under this Unit. They are Mala Rural Water Supply Scheme covering 6 Panchayats, Nattika-Firka Rural Water Supply Scheme covering 10 Panchayats and Pavaratty Rural Water Supply Scheme covering 18 Panchayats.

When SEU started its work, Mala RWSS's first stage was almost completed and was hurrying up for partial commissioning. The pipes were already laid. SEU was in a heavy pressure for selecting the sites of Public Stand Posts within a short period so that the Schemes can be commissioned partially before 31st of March 1989.

At this atmosphere we had to rush for the formation of Ward Water Committees (WWC) also with a missile speed so that Ward Water Committees have to be formed in all the six panchayats before the site selection procedures begin. We had also, at this time, Pilot Sanitation Programmes started in two Panchayats. One - Mala Panchayat - under the Mala Scheme and other - Edathuruthy Panchayat - under the Nattika-Firka Scheme. So we had to form WWCs in that Panchayats also for the better implementation of these projects.

Involving the Community in all stages of a Rural Water Supply Scheme was not possible in Mala since it was almost at the commissioning stage. But we tried our best to involve them in the selection of sites for Public Stand Posts. For

that we have formed Ward Level Committees in all the six Panchayats under Mala Scheme. There are altogether 62 committees in that Scheme. At that time we had no constitution or specific guidelines for forming these committees. We directed the Panchayats to convene a meeting of Youth and Women's Clubs, Voluntary Organisations, Social Workers etc., at all wards. At that meeting the people themselves proposed some names. We insisted that atleast one of them should be women and another two should be from youth group. These committees were formed in a temporary nature at that time. We formed such type of committees in all the six Panchayats of Mala Scheme. We also formed committees in Edathuruthy Panchayat where Pilot Sanitation Programme was going on during the same period. We selected 3-4 persons as a sub-committee in each ward and gave them charge for health education (in few Panchayats only). All these committees were not uniform. The membership varies from 7-10 in various wards.

These committees formed were very useful in the selection of sites for standposts. The members were very co-operative and with their help we could finalise our programme with in the target time. The committee members helped us in organising film shows and exhibitions as part of our health education programme also.

During January-February 1989, a Pilot Coverage Study was conducted in two Panchayats of Nattika-Firka. ie., Sreenarayana Puram and Engandiyoor. We had formed committees in that two Panchayats also. These committee members helped us very much in conducting the Pilot Study.

Although we had formed committees in 9 Panchayats by that time, we could not say that the committees were in full satisfaction to us. There is no uniformity either in the number of members or in its organisational structure. Since we selected them in a hurry, some members were not up to the mark. Yet we used them for our site selection procedures and they are very co-operative. In our sanitation programme, these committee was very useful. The members helped us in many activities like supervision of construction, health education to beneficiaries, monitoring of latrines etc.

Committee in a systematic manner :-

SEU decided to give a uniform structure to these committees. A constitution was prepared for the committee and a manual was prepared for the use of committee members. The composition of Ward Water Committee and the criteria for the selection of members were decided. The Duties and responsibilities of Ward Water Committee Members was also decided. According to the new composition the committee has 7 members. The elected Panchayat member will be the convenor. Two members will be representatives of women (preferably from Mahilasamajams) and two will be Youth representatives. One will be an active social worker and the last member will be a representative from ICDS Supervisors/JPHNs/ Government servants etc. The committee will have a secretary and two of them will be elected to Panchayat Water Committee. A three member Health Education Sub-Committee will also be selected from the members.

After getting clear guidelines for forming a committee, SEU-Central had to re-constitute the temporary natured committees already formed in 9 Panchayats. Again special meetings were held for the re-constituting process and these programme is going on.

Meanwhile SEU-Central had another emergency call from KWA. This time it is from the Nattika-Firka division. At the Co-ordination meeting held in KWA Circle Office on 24.5.1989, SEU was asked to complete the site selection proceedings of 10 Panchayats of Nattika-Firka before September 1989, as the scheme will be ready for partial commissioning by the end of October 1989. The additional proposals of line extension also has to be finalised. Here again SEU was in a crisis, completing the site selection and proposing the new additional lines within 2-3 months, of 9 Panchayats (SEU has already completed the work in one Panchayat and it took 3 months to finish the work with existing SEU personnel). There were no Ward Water Committees in that Panchayats. So before going to the site selection programmes SEU have to form these committees so that real sites should be selected by the people themselves. Formation of Ward Water Committee in all these Panchayats within a short time is not an easy task. Here again SEU staff worked day and night to organise various groups, convene meetings, arrange Panchayat Committees and convening the first meeting of selected Ward Water Committee members.

Real Community Participation:-

The SEU had to complete the site selection within two months. The process was started during 1st week of July, with the skeleton staff of SEU. As we could not complete in time, SEU recruited eight temporary draughtsmen for this purpose. But if we put these eight draughtsmen in two or three groups and start the work it will take at least 6-8 months to complete 10 Panchayats. Hence SEU had only two options, to recruit more temporary draughtsman or to send these eight draughtsmen in eight team (single member team!) The second one is very difficult because in a site selection team at least 3-4 members should be required to mark the sites, to measure the distance, to locate the houses, categorising them etc. All these work cannot be done by a single person. But we had to minimise our expenses and finish the work in time and so SEU-Central decided to opt for the latter!

How it is possible?

It was a real challenge for us!

We decided to put the Ward Water Committee members of each wards as site selection team members with the temporary draughtsman as head. For this we had to give special training for them.

One after another Panchayat we convened the meeting of Ward Water Committees (all wards together) and special orientation was given to them for helping in site selection process. The dates of site selection of each wards were fixed at that meeting. All Ward Water Committee members were requested to be present on that day from 8.30 am to 3-4 pm for site selection. We fixed 3 days per ward and an average it took 30 days for completing each Panchayat.

It was really a good experience for us. Literaly we saw community participation in most of our wards. The Ward Water Committee members of each wards spent their time for the whole three days in vast majority of wards. The average attendence of Ward water committee members for these site selection programme is about 80%. In many wards all the seven members were present for these three days. The Government Staff, teachers and other employees who are members of Ward Water Committee took leave and worked for their village! The co-operation from the women Ward Water Committee members were encouraging. Other than the Ward Water Committee members, in many places the local youths also co-operated with the work.

It does not mean that whole things gone well. There were some difficulties. In a few wards the absence of Panchayat member at the site selection programmes created some confusion at the beginning. (The member may be busy politician and he may not have time to spend for ward visit! He may have to attend a procession or a strike for the benefit of his state or have to attend a seminar on some issues! He may come the third day and ask the committee members to change their decision or start from ABC!)

But eventhough this type of things happened in a few places we could sort out the problem and was able to take a final unanimous decision.

The support we got from the so called Voluntary agencies and governmental and non-governmental organisations are not very encouraging. Many organisations are only in paper doing nothing. There are some very good organisations but they are actively involved in so many programmes and with their present resources they could not extend active support for SEU activities.

The local youth clubs can be utilised for SEU programmes. After the inclusion of two representatives of youth clubs in each Ward Water Committee, the committee is getting more support and recognition from the villagers.

Now we have Ward Water Committees in sixteen Panchayats. We formed health education sub-committees in all these sixteen Panchayats. Each Ward Water Committee is having a Secretary and the Panchayat Ward Member is the Convenor of the Committee.

The Ward Water Committee at a Glance:-

We have formed Ward Water Committees in all wards (altogether 166) of sixteen Panchayats. The details are given below:-

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Panchayat	Wards	No. of W.W.C. formed	No. of W.W.C. functioning
1.		Mala	12	12	12
2.	MALA	Annamanada	11	11	11
3.	SCHEME	Kuzhur	9	9	9
4.		Poyya	9	9	9
5.		Puthenchira	9	9	9
6.		Vellangallore	12	12	12
7.		Engandiyoor	10	10	10
8.	NATTIKA-	Vadanappally	10	10	10
9.	FIRKA	Thalikulam	10	10	10
10.	SCHEME	Nattika	9	9	9
11.		Valapad	12	12	12
12.		Edathuruthy	11	11	11
13.		Kaipamangalam	11	11	11
14.		Perinjanam	9	9	9
15.		Mathilakom	10	10	10
16.		S.N.Puram	12	12	12
TOTAL			166	166	166

We have formed Ward Water Committees in 166 wards and it is functioning till now because it is engaged with site selection activities which naturally creates interest in them. But how can we sustain their interest?

What all activities we could entrust on them?

How is it possible?

Will K.W.A. approve their role?

These are very important questions.

An activity we can entrust with ward water committee is health education. We are organising this programme now with the help of Ward Water Committee. But we do not think that it can fully sustain their interest. The health services department although is co-operative to SEU activities, we could not expect their full support for long future. Now we are using the WWC members for arranging health education programmes, classes, film shows and the like.

In some Panchayats we are getting the help of Ward Water Committee for chlorinating the wells. Especially in the coastal areas of Nattika-Firka where diarrhoeal diseases are common during rainy season. The chlorination was arranged with the help of Ward Water Committees and local clubs. But this programme is only a seasonal one and by entrusting only health education activities on them, we could not sustain their interest for ever.

To sustain the interest of WWC members the best activity we could entrust with them is the operation and maintenance. But this part has to be agreed by K.W.A. The K.W.A. at present has many reservations on this subject. Their argument is that operation and maintenance is purely a technical affair and it cannot be given to WWC members. We have to find out some compromise stand over this issue. At least the repairs of Public taps should be given to WWC at the first stage. Later on, after a small training to selected WWC members, the operation and maintenance of pump houses can also be given to them. Even this part should get approval from K.W.A. Board.

The WWC can report on faults on the line, can organise campaigns for Private connections and Group connections. If we could get the approval from K.W.A. regarding this we think, we can sustain their interest. The Ward Water Committee can take up the renovation of existing water sources like well ponds etc. as the piped water-system cannot cover 100% population.

Another important aspect is the recognition of Ward Water Committee. The K.W.A. should accept the Ward Water Committee. Getting recognition, is ofcourse, prestige to everybody. If their membership is recognised by K.W.A., they will surely be more active and co-operative.

SEU - affiliated Clubs:-

In Ward Water Committee we have two representatives of local youth clubs. But this is not enough. If we could get support from more youth clubs, we can creatively use that. The SEU-Central with an intention of involving youth in Village health and sanitation programmes decided to affiliate some clubs to SEU.

As an experiment we started this programme in two selected panchayats ie., Nattika and Valapad. We are planning to extend these programme to other panchayats also. We would like to make the club members as Voluntary link workers of SEU in their Villages. For this, first, a meeting of 35 clubs in Nattika Panchayat and 46 clubs in Valapad Panchayat was convened and briefed all SEU activities. A preforma was distributed to be filled up. These preforma contain questions about club activities membership, womens involvement, health education activities of clubs, their willingness to co-operate with SEU, how? etc. Filled up questionnaires were collected back and after strict scrutiny 8 - 10 clubs were selected and SEU personnel visited these clubs and personally studied their activities and capability.

is going on in Valapad. We wish to involve the club members in all SEU activities like community organisation, chlorination of wells, cleaning of water tanks, campaign for private connection and group taps etc.

The cleaning of water tanks with public participation should be encouraged.

(We had some experience regarding this. In Vellangallore Panchayat, when we decided to clean a water tank with the help of WWC in one ward, the whole people of that colony came round the tank and helped the WWC members in the cleaning programmes. We could arrange a health education class and film shows after the cleaning programme. In the evening a public meeting was also held. The people agreed to clean the water tank without any pressure from outside. The support we got from the K.W.A Executive Engineer was very good and it made us to think that if K.W.A. accept the importance of WWC we could make them more useful).

After experimenting this programme (formation of affiliated clubs) in these two panchayats we would like to extend the programme to other panchayats also.

Conclusion:-

We feel that the Ward Water Committees are very useful and may become a focal point in the day to day activities of K.W.A.

The potentials of these committee can be utilised in a useful manner provided the K.W.A. recognise and accept the Ward Water Committee.