



Report to the File 474

## EHP II E-Newsletters

January 2001–May 2004

Prepared by

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What's New at EHP - January 2001

Dear Colleagues:

Welcome to the first issue of "What's New at EHP," a monthly E-newsletter of the Environmental Health Project.

Please feel free to distribute the newsletter to your staff and contacts.

The E-newsletter is intended to keep EHP staff, partners, clients and colleagues informed of EHP happenings and activities, new EHP publications and reports, and upcoming meetings and conferences related to environmental health. This issue as well as previous issues of What's New can also be accessed on our web site at <http://www.ehproject.org>

Questions and comments about our project or this E-newsletter are very welcome. To subscribe, please send an email to <mailto:info@ehproject.org>

We hope you enjoy our newsletter.

May Post Dan Campbell Betsy Reddaway Adam Bosak The EHP Information Unit

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NEW FEATURE ON THE EHP WEB SITE

In this month's web update, we are introducing a new page on the EHP web site: "EHP Activities." By clicking on appropriate links, you will get information on where EHP is working and what it is doing. You will find summary descriptions of the activities as well as links to available reports related to the activities. To see this new feature "EHP Activities," which will be updated monthly, please click on [http://www.ehproject.org/live/ehp\\_activities.htm](http://www.ehproject.org/live/ehp_activities.htm)

IMPROVING EFFECTIVENESS OF NATIONAL MALARIA CONTROL PROGRAMS

Historically, vector control has been a mainstay of national malaria control programs, but increasing resistance to insecticides, high costs, and wasteful practices have limited its effectiveness. Effective vector control depends on using the right mix of interventions to fit local conditions and vector ecology. Working with national malaria control programs in Nepal, Eritrea, and Mozambique, EHP is focusing on capacity building in collection, analysis, and use of data to strategically target control measures at the local level. For example, improved mapping of malaria cases in Maputo, the capital of Mozambique, has helped local officials target their efforts in neighborhoods with the greatest number of cases. National malaria control program officials have requested USAID to expand EHP's assistance to cover the Maputo metropolitan area and Mozambique's other five provincial capitals. The case maps for Maputo have also revealed areas of intense transmission where modest efforts at vector control may have a substantial impact on malaria incidence; further investigations are planned for the coming year. For more information, please contact Gene Brantly <mailto:brantlyep@ehproject.org>

#### URBAN CONGOLESE CREATE HEALTHIER NEIGHBORHOODS

EHP is working with NGOs and the University of Kinshasa, School of Public Health to build the capacity of community groups involved in improving environmental conditions and health in urban areas of the Democratic Republic of Congo. In one city, local groups and an international NGO have teamed to overcome severe daily water shortages that affect the population of 800,000 people. In Kinshasa, EHP, community groups and NGOs are working together to reduce flooding and improve conditions in public markets. Each project combines community participation, entrepreneurial business, infrastructure construction, and education to improve child health. For information on this activity, please contact Chris McGahey <mailto:mcsagaheyc@ehproject.org>

#### CASE STUDIES ON DECENTRALIZATION OF WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION IN LATIN AMERICA

EHP recently carried out six case studies on the decentralization of water supply and sanitation services in Latin America. The case studies--focusing on small towns and rural communities-- were developed around three themes. These themes, while distinct, represent three aspects of one major issue - the effect of reform and decentralization on the less advantaged elements of the population. The three themes are as follows: -Role of small and medium-sized municipalities in service provision: Each case study under this theme describes a different management model for providing services. The case studies were implemented in El Salvador, Colombia, and Paraguay. -Institutional arrangements to provide backup support to rural systems: Case studies carried out in Honduras and Nicaragua under this theme address the question of which institutional models can provide backup support to rural communities after the systems are operational. -Effective regulation of municipal services: This study provides an overview of the regulatory trends, defines the issues that need to be addressed to establish a regulatory structure, and includes a brief summary of eight experiences with regulatory reform in the region. These case studies will be available in February 2001 in English and in Spanish. Please contact <mailto:info@ehproject.org> for information.

#### BLOOD LEAD LEVELS IN CALLAO, PERU

A baseline survey of blood-lead levels was conducted in Lima by the General Directorate of Environmental Health (DIGESA). USAID/Peru supported the study with technical assistance from EHP. The baseline study, conducted in 1998-99,

included 2,510 children, aged 6 months to 9 years, and 874 post-partum women living in Lima and the Province of Callao. The mean blood-lead level in children was found to be 9.9 ug/dL. Certain areas of El Callao, however, showed alarmingly high levels of lead exposure. Preliminary information gathered at the time of the study suggested that exposure to lead originated from a large depository of mineral concentrates located in the area where the highest levels were identified. Children's hand- mouth habits, combined with dusty playground areas, limited water supplies, and poor handwashing practices, contributed to children consuming significant amounts of lead from the dust and soil. The report summarizes activities undertaken to investigate the sources, the results of those efforts and proposed next steps. This new EHP Activity report is in Spanish, with an abstract in English. (The file is 4, 205 KB.) The report can be accessed at: [http://www.dec.org/pdf\\_docs/pnack563.pdf](http://www.dec.org/pdf_docs/pnack563.pdf)

#### FIFTH WSSCC FORUM IN IGUACU

The Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) held its Fifth Global Forum in Iguacu, Brazil, in early December. Preliminary activities leading to the Forum included a planning meeting in Montreal (early September) and e- conferences (September and October). EHP staff participated in the Montreal meeting, facilitated the e-conferences, and attended the Iguacu Forum which culminated in the draft Iguacu Action Program (IAP). Advocacy will be a major plank for the IAP and will focus on hygiene promotion, environmental sanitation, institutional management options and public private partnerships, and community-based, participatory and social marketing approaches. EHP plans to partner with other Collaborative Council members and substantially contribute to reaching Vision 21 in the areas of hygiene promotion, sanitation partnership, and monitoring and indicators. For more information please send an inquiry to <mailto:info@ehproject.org>

#### NEW REPORT ON WS&S LAUNCHED BY WHO/UNICEF

The Global Water Supply and Sanitation Assessment 2000 report was launched by WHO/UNICEF at the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) meeting in Iguacu, Brazil. The Assessment 2000 is the result of an improved methodology for collection and analysis of national water supply and sanitation coverage data. The data in the Assessment came from nationally representative household surveys and focuses on consumer-based coverage and consumer use of services rather than hardware construction. The Assessment estimates that 2.4 billion people worldwide still do not have acceptable means of sanitation, while 1.1 billion people do not have an improved water supply. Of note is a change in the terminology related to coverage data in the Assessment report. Based on lack of information on the "safety" of the water served to the population or the "adequacy" of sanitation facilities, the terms "safe" and "adequate" have been replaced with "improved" in the report. EHP staff attended the PAHO regional meeting of the Americas in Porto Alegre where the Assessment 2000 data related to the Americas was extensively used in the presentations. The PAHO meeting highlighted urban-rural inequities in water supply and sanitation coverage in the Americas as well as inequities in coverage and diarrhea prevalence based on income levels. The Assessment 2000 Report is available from the WHO at: [http://www.who.int/water\\_sanitation\\_health/Globassessment/GlobalTOC.htm](http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/Globassessment/GlobalTOC.htm)

#### INTERNET 2001

In January 2001, a two-day meeting on "The Web and Beyond: Harnessing the Potential of IT for Improving Health" was held in Washington DC by the Population and Health Materials Working Group. This Working Group is composed of

representatives from USAID-funded projects and cooperating agencies. Staff from the EHP Information Unit attended the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to share information on lessons learned related to using the Internet and other communication technologies for health information and training. Case studies from the field and working sessions on a range of IT issues were discussed as well as discussions on future challenges facing the use of information technology in development. For detailed information on discussions and presentations from the conference, click on: <http://www.med.jhu.edu/ccp>

#### UPCOMING MEETINGS IN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Listed below are upcoming meetings and conferences for February 2001: \*February 18-22, Dallas, Texas American Mosquito Control Association Annual Meeting Texas, AMCA/Texas MCA. Hyatt Regency Dallas at Reunion Web site: <http://www.mosquito.org> Phone: (800) 233-1234. \*February 26-28, Kampala, Uganda Regional Conference on Reform of the Water/Sanitation Sector in Africa - Water Utility Partnership Web site: <http://www.wupafrica.org>

For the complete list (covering meetings and conferences from January to December 2001) click on our EHP web site at: <http://www.ehproject.org/live/MeetingAlert.htm>

What's New at EHP - March 2001

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KNOWLEDGE SHARING FORUM IN NICARAGUA

USAID/Nicaragua is implementing a rural water supply, sanitation and health reconstruction project through six PVOs with technical assistance from EHP/Nicaragua. To improve the implementation, impact and sustainability of the project activities, EHP/Nicaragua sponsored and implemented a forum to share knowledge and exchange experiences and lessons learned. Forum participants included field-level staff, social promoters, technicians, field engineers, work supervisors and program managers. One of the key objectives of the forum was the identification of key problem areas or needs of the PVO partner agencies which will require further EHP/Nicaragua assistance and intervention. The forum resulted in increased coordination and partnership between the six PVOs implementing the project activities as well as improved understanding and coordination with the Government of Nicaragua agencies. The sharing of experiences was particularly useful for the PVOs working in isolated areas of the country. A report on the forum with detailed information on the forum design, discussions, and conclusions can be accessed at: [http://www.dec.org/pdf\\_docs/pnack728.pdf](http://www.dec.org/pdf_docs/pnack728.pdf)

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## INTEGRATED BASELINE SURVEYS IN MADAGASCAR

EHP is supporting a four-year program in biologically diverse ecosystems in Madagascar linking and integrating activities among projects in population, health and environment (natural resource management). The central hypothesis of the program is that by integrating natural resource management activities with population and health activities, programs will be more effective and sustainable. Voahary Salama or Integrated Programs Initiative (VS/IPI), a consortium of 20 partners that EHP initiated, implements the program.

EHP's principal role in VS/IPI is monitoring and evaluation as well as operations research. EHP is currently developing and testing an integrated survey instrument for a baseline study and follow-up surveys that will measure household practices, attitudes and participation in community development activities. The objective of the baseline study and follow-up surveys is to evaluate the effectiveness of the multi-sectoral integrated approach. Among key indicators identified are health outcomes, nutritional status, and fertility control practices. These indicators have been selected because they are directly linked to natural resource management, agricultural practices, and

livelihood issues. The quasi-experimental design of the baseline study comparing control and intervention communities increases the ability of follow-up surveys (which will use the same instruments) to attribute improvements over time to the interventions. Effectiveness will also be measured in qualitative terms through participatory action research by the University of Michigan Impact Assessment Project.

For more information on the program, please contact Eckhard Kleinau (mailto:kleinauef@ehproject.org)

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## STRENGTHENING VECTOR CONTROL PROGRAMS IN AFRICA: A SUMMARY OF CASE STUDIES IN FOUR AFRICAN COUNTRIES

A Regional Consultative Meeting was sponsored by WHO/AFRO in Harare, Zimbabwe, to develop a strategy for strengthening the capacity of national ministries of health in vector ecology and vector control in Africa. To support the meeting, EHP funded a series of case studies in Uganda, Zimbabwe, Cameroon, and Senegal.

The studies focused on current activities and human resource capacity in vector ecology and control in the four countries. Some major recommendations based on study findings pointed toward the need for updating and utilizing available entomological and parasitological data in programming decisions and in forecasting epidemics. The need to establish a multi-national network to monitor vector resistance to insecticides was also highlighted. Other recommendations included the need to establish a regional network of vector control specialists and to identify and develop cost-effective, community-level vector control guidelines.

The report on the country case studies and regional meeting proceedings will be available in March 2001. Please contact mailto:info@ehproject.org for information.

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## COST COMPARISON OF DDT AND ALTERNATIVE INSECTICIDES FOR MALARIA CONTROL

EHP recently sponsored a brown bag presentation on cost comparison of DDT and alternative insecticides for malaria control. The guest speaker was Kathleen Walker, Ph.D., from USAID.

In anti-malaria operations, the use of DDT for indoor residual spraying has declined substantially over the past 30 years. However, this insecticide is still considered valuable in malaria control mainly because of its low cost relative to alternative insecticides. A 1990 cost comparison by the WHO found DDT to be considerably cheaper than other insecticides which can cost 2 to 23 times more, on the basis of cost per house per 6 months of control.

Dr. Walker's presentation compared recent price quotes from manufacturers and WHO suppliers for DDT and appropriate formulations of nine other insecticides. Calculations based on these "global" price quotes show that DDT is still the least expensive on a cost per house basis. However, the presentation also highlighted the fact that a "global" cost comparison may not realistically reflect local costs or effective application dosages at the country level. Data on insecticide prices paid by national health ministries showed prices of insecticides can vary substantially.

To obtain a copy of Dr. Walker's article on which her presentation was based, send a request to: <mailto:info@ehproject.org>

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## SANITATION IN SMALL TOWNS IN LAC

Hygiene education and access to safe drinking water are generally viewed as two critical factors in reducing the incidence of water-borne diseases. Although equally important, access to sanitation has systematically lagged behind water supply. In Latin America and the Caribbean, only 80% of urban populations and 40% of rural populations have access to sanitation.

A number of USAID missions in the region have been supporting municipalities in the area of water supply and sanitation (WS&S), many through municipal strengthening programs, but efforts to date have focused more on drinking water supply than on sanitation. A new activity to be implemented by EHP will focus on sanitation improvement in small towns. For this activity, small towns are defined as urban centers with populations between 5,000 and 25,000. The intent of this definition of "small towns" is to focus on the smaller municipalities rather than the mid-sized to large cities. The proposed activity will build on lessons learned from past EHP experience in the decentralization of WS&S services.

Typically small towns are not in a position technically, financially, or institutionally to effectively provide sanitation services. This activity will define these issues and examine potential solutions. The outcomes of the activity will be (1) an overview document that defines the issues associated with

improving sanitation in small towns and (2) development of a methodology and related tools that can be used in the planning and implementation of improved sanitation strategies in small towns operating in a decentralized system.

The methodology will be developed this spring and is expected to be ready for pilot testing in the summer of 2001. For more information on this activity, please contact Fred Rosensweig (mailto:rosensweigfj@ehproject.org) or Eddy Perez (mailto:perezea@ehproject.org)

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ELECTRONIC FILES FOR OLD FAVORITES FROM WASH

The Water and Sanitation for Health Project published several reports that were considered by many to be timeless. EHP has recently prepared electronic files for six of these "golden oldies"-Technical Report 32, 37, 41, 85, 86, and 87. Among them is the widely used Facilitator Guide for Conducting a Team Planning Meeting (Technical Report 32). They can be downloaded from the publications page of EHP's web site. (<http://www.ehproject.org/live/Rptspub.html>)

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\* \* \* What's New at EHP - May 2001

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\*PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP FOR HANDWASHING INITIATIVE IN CENTRAL AMERICA

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PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP FOR HANDWASHING INITIATIVE IN CENTRAL AMERICA

In the Fall of 1995, EHP I and BASICS began collaboration on a Public-Private Partnership Initiative in Central America. The overall objective of the initiative was to reduce diarrhea morbidity and mortality in children under five through promotion and increased adoption of effective handwashing. The strategy implemented was to work with private-sector partners (primarily soap companies) in order to leverage a modest amount of USAID investment into a long-term, effective communications effort throughout Central America.

The terms of the partnership were established and documented through the formalization of a Task Force comprised of representatives from EHP, BASICS, and four Central American soap companies. Under the initiative, handwashing campaigns were launched in Guatemala, El Salvador, and Costa Rica using various media, school programs, and community promotion through local markets and through NGOs. Both branded campaigns (endorsing a company product) and generic campaigns were launched.

This partnership activity was developed to serve as an example of how public-private partnerships can work together where areas of self and mutual interest

are sufficiently defined, and an effective process is developed and managed to facilitate and sustain the collaboration.

Currently, EHP II, BASICS, the World Bank, and UNICEF are collaborating on a summary document describing the development and implementation of this initiative. The documentation is to provide guidance to others for the application of this and similar approaches in other countries; it will be oriented toward those organizations wishing to play a "catalyst" role similar to that played by BASICS and EHP.

For information on the forthcoming publication, please contact Dan Campbell (mailto:info@ehproject.org)

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#### HYGIENE BEHAVIOR IMPROVEMENT IN KINSHASA MARKETS

USAID/Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is currently implementing an urban environmental health project through the local office of an NGO, Action Against Hunger. The project's objective is to improve sanitary conditions and hygiene behavior in public markets in Kinshasa. Project activities focus on improving water supply and sanitation services in the markets and conducting sensitization (i.e., information, education, and communication) campaigns related to food, individual, domestic, and market hygiene.

To determine the project's health impact, EHP in collaboration with Action Against Hunger is supporting the design and analysis of two studies: a baseline study and an end-of-project impact study. The end-of-project impact study will look at utilization of hygienic latrines; appropriate handwashing (timing and method); incidence of diarrhea during the previous two weeks in children under five; hygienic conditions of shops and restaurants; and changes in knowledge, attitudes, and practices of vendors and clients related to food, individual, domestic, and market hygiene.

The studies will be carried out in Kinshasa by Action Against Hunger in cooperation with the University of Kinshasa School of Public Health.

For information on the activity, please contact Chris McGahey. (mailto:mcsagahey@ehproject.org)

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#### ERITREA: NATIONAL MALARIA CONTROL PROGRAM ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP

Through EHP, USAID/Asmara provides technical assistance to the Eritrea National Malaria Control Program (NMCP). The NMCP held its annual Program Assessment Workshop January 24-27, 2001. The workshop was attended by over 100 participants from the MOH central and zonal staffs and from several other ministries.

At the workshop, EHP staff and consultants presented preliminary results from several studies conducted by the NMCP and EHP over the last 15 months. These studies include the first phase of a national parasite prevalence survey; a national survey to identify the distribution and abundance of anopheline species; longitudinal studies of vector behavior and larval ecology; and clinical trials to determine the efficacy of chloroquine for treatment of uncomplicated malaria. The studies will be completed in April 2001 and final results will be available soon thereafter.

For more information, please contact Gene Brantly.  
(mailto:brantlyep@ehproject.org)

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#### IMPROVING THE EARLY WARNING REPORTING SYSTEM IN NEPAL

The Early Warning Reporting System (EWARS) in Nepal consists of district and zonal hospitals functioning as sentinel sites reporting six priority diseases. The Hetauda Vector-Borne Disease Research and Training Center (VBDRTC) serves as the focal point for the system by receiving and analyzing data from the sentinel hospitals.

With technical assistance from EHP, USAID/Nepal is supporting the Ministry of Health in strengthening and improving the surveillance capacity of the EWARS. A strengthened EWARS will have the following components: (1) an improved district-level EWARS that allows district health teams, VBDRTC, and the MOH/EDCD (Epidemiology and Disease Control Division) to improve disease control operations and respond to outbreaks in a timely manner; and (2) an expanded community-based EWARS in three pilot districts to enable prompt identification and operations at the community level as well as monitor community-based behavior change and care-seeking interventions.

For more information on this activity, please contact Lisa Nichols.  
(mailto:nicholsls@ehproject.org)

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#### ASSESSING THE FEASIBILITY OF DEVELOPING A VECTOR-BORNE DISEASE CENTER IN THE BOLIVIAN AMAZON

Vector-borne diseases such as malaria, dengue fever, and leishmaniasis are major health problems in Bolivia, particularly in the Bolivian Amazon region. Strengthening the national laboratory network is a key element in Escudo Epidemiologico ("Epidemiologic Shield"), a Government of Bolivia priority program.

At the request of the Bolivian Ministry of Health, USAID/Bolivia supported an assessment to determine the feasibility of developing a vector-borne disease center (VBDC) at Guayaramerin to serve Beni and Pando, two regions that make up most of the Bolivian Amazon. EHP consultants were part of the assessment team. The VBDC is envisioned as a regional laboratory for vector-borne diseases and a regional center for training, applied research, and quality control for diagnosis, treatment, and control of these diseases.

For information on the report on the findings from the feasibility assessment, please contact <mailto:info@ehproject.org>.

For more information on the activity, please contact Gene Brantly at <mailto:brantlyep@ehproject.org>

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What's New at EHP? E-newsletter #4, June 6, 2001

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IN THIS ISSUE:

EXPANDED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR MALARIA CONTROL IN MOZAMBIQUE

INTEGRATED SURVEY INSTRUMENT FOR LINKING HEALTH, POPULATION, AND THE ENVIRONMENT IN MADAGASCAR

NEPAL: WORKSHOP ON COMMUNITY-BASED STRATEGY FOR PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF MALARIA AND KALA-AZAR

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE HATO MAYOR PILOT PROJECT

INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATION ON INDOOR AIR POLLUTION—UPDATE PROVIDING SUPPORT TO THE SYSTEM-WIDE INITIATIVE ON MALARIA AND AGRICULTURE

CONFERENCE IN NAIROBI, KENYA

EXPANDED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR MALARIA CONTROL IN MOZAMBIQUE

In March 2001, EHP provided input to USAID/Mozambique in the development of an expanded program of technical assistance for Mozambique's National Malaria Control Program (NMCP). EHP's input builds on lessons learned over the past two years, during which EHP helped national and local authorities improve malaria surveillance in Maputo and develop detailed maps of the distribution of malaria cases and risk ("stratification") in the capital city. Under the expanded program, USAID/Mozambique will provide technical and operational support for two of NMCP's important initiatives: improving malaria surveillance (through establishing five sentinel surveillance sites) and increasing the effectiveness of malaria vector management (including indoor residual spraying and larval controls). Continued assistance to local authorities in Maputo will also be a component of the expanded program. Work under the new program is anticipated to begin in September 2001. For information on the activity, please contact: Gene Brantly (<mailto:brantlyep@ehproject.org>)

INTEGRATED SURVEY INSTRUMENT FOR LINKING HEALTH, POPULATION, AND THE ENVIRONMENT  
IN MADAGASCAR

EHP is supporting a four-year program in biologically diverse systems in Madagascar, linking and integrating activities among projects in health, population, and environment (H-P-E). The design of the integrated H-P-E household survey instrument for collecting baseline data in intervention and control communities has been completed. The baseline survey (and follow-up surveys) aims to evaluate the effectiveness of the multisectoral integrated approach. The central hypothesis is that by integrating the environment (natural resource management activities) with health and population activities, programs will be more effective and sustainable. The household survey covers three regions, and fieldwork is under way through April. Funding for the survey was provided by EHP and Taya Meva (Summit Foundation grant). The survey is implemented by Direction de la Démographie et des Statistiques Sociales/Institut National de la Statistique, and results will be available by the end of May 2001. For more information, contact Eckhard Kleinau (<mailto:kleinauef@ehproject.org>)

NEPAL: WORKSHOP ON COMMUNITY-BASED STRATEGY FOR PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF  
MALARIA AND KALA-AZAR

EHP/Nepal, with support from USAID/Nepal, organized a five-day workshop that included personnel from the Ministry of Health; representatives from nongovernmental organizations, USAID/G/PHN, and EHP/Washington; and other partners to discuss and select a community-based intervention strategy for the prevention and control of infectious diseases—in particular, kala-azar (leishmaniasis) and malaria. Interventions will be pilot-tested in two districts in Nepal in collaboration with district-level Ministry of Health staff and village development committees. This is the first initiative of its kind to be designed for improved management and control of infectious diseases through a primarily community-based approach. For more information on the activity, please contact Lisa Nichols (<mailto:nicholsls@ehproject.org>)

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE HATO MAYOR PILOT PROJECT

USAID/Dominican Republic and the National Water Supply and Sewerage Institute (INAPA) are working together and cofinancing a pilot project to decentralize rural water supply and sanitation services in the Hato Mayor province. The pilot project will develop and test strategies to implement a decentralization strategy focusing on community participation in the construction of rural water supply and sanitation systems through the application of the Total Community Participation (TCP) model. Based on lessons learned, the pilot strategy will be scaled up to the national level. The rural water supply implementation unit (Acuenductos Rurales [AR]) of INAPA will serve as a normative body working in collaboration with nongovernmental organizations and other contracted entities. USAID, through EHP, will assist INAPA in developing the capacity within AR to carry out its new role as the normative body to implement INAPA's strategy of decentralization of rural water supply and sanitation systems nationwide. For information on the activity, please contact Eddy Perez (<mailto:perezea@ehproject.org>)

INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATION ON INDOOR AIR POLLUTION—UPDATE

Last year, EHP served as the secretariat for the Indoor Air Pollution Conference, which was sponsored by USAID and the World Health Organization. In attendance were approximately 50 international participants, including

representatives from donor agencies and development organizations, as well as academics and researchers. The conference had four major objectives: 1. To promote a dialogue on health impacts of indoor air pollution and household energy use, interventions to reduce exposure, and policies and strategies that contribute to sustainable economic and social development 2. To identify priority research and policy initiatives for effective interventions 3. To recommend an agenda for action 4. To identify the next steps needed to introduce and coordinate the action agenda Five background papers were presented at the conference. Two have been published as journal articles. Links to the two papers are now available via the EHP Web site at:  
<http://www.ehproject.org/Library/WebliographyEH.htm>

#### PROVIDING SUPPORT TO THE SYSTEM-WIDE INITIATIVE ON MALARIA AND AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE IN NAIROBI, KENYA

Some agriculture practices and systems (e.g., crop selection and design of irrigation systems) may contribute significantly to malaria transmission. Last year, EHP supported a discussion on linkages between malaria and agriculture at the annual meeting of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). This session was organized in collaboration with the USAID Office of Agriculture, Food Security, and Economic Development AFSED and the Canadian International Development Research Centre (IDRC). Following the meeting, the CGIAR established the System-wide Initiative on Malaria and Agriculture (SIMA) to improve understanding of the linkages between malaria and agriculture. In May 2001, EHP cosponsored the first conference for SIMA in Nairobi, Kenya. Participants included representatives from six countries in East and Southern Africa, as well as representatives from several CGIAR centers, AFSED, and IDRC. Participants discussed the objectives, scope, and organization of SIMA and developed a clear set of themes that will be used to guide and define specific research projects. One of EHP's objectives is to demonstrate the effectiveness of integrated vector management (IVM) programs. Changing agriculture practices and systems in ways that reduce malaria transmission could be an important part of IVM. EHP may provide financial support for one or more SIMA research projects that are within the scope of IVM. SIMA is also planning other conferences in West and Central Africa, Latin America, and Asia. For more information, please contact Gene Brantly (<mailto:brantlyep@ehproject.org>)  
What's New at EHP - September 2001

Dear Colleagues:

Welcome to the fifth issue of "What's New at EHP," the E-newsletter of the Environmental Health Project.

The E-newsletter is intended to keep EHP staff, partners, clients, and colleagues informed of EHP happenings and activities, new EHP publications and reports, and upcoming meetings and conferences related to environmental health. This issue as well as previous issues of What's New can also be accessed on our Web site, at <http://www.ehproject.org/>

Questions and comments about our project or this E-newsletter are very welcome. To subscribe, please send an e-mail to <mailto:info@ehproject.org>

We hope you enjoy our newsletter. Please feel free to distribute the newsletter to your staff and contacts.

May Post Dan Campbell David Elwell Adam Bosak

The EHP Information Center

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IN THIS ISSUE:

INDIA: IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF THE URBAN POOR LIVING IN SLUMS

FIELD TRIALS OF BIOLOGICAL LARVICIDES FOR MALARIA CONTROL IN ERITREA

STRENGTHENING URBAN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH IN KANANGA, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

THE BANGLADESH, BHUTAN, INDIA, AND NEPAL (BBIN) NETWORK

INFORMATION EXCHANGE NETWORK

UPCOMING MEETINGS IN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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INDIA: IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF THE URBAN POOR LIVING IN SLUMS

In May, a team composed of three members of EHP's staff traveled to India on a three-week assignment to identify a strategy and initiate a work plan for the design and implementation of USAID/India's Urban Health Program. The broad goal of the Urban Health Program is to improve the health of poor people dwelling in urban slums in elected areas of India. Based on the strengths and experiences of USAID/India's Regional Urban Development Office (RUDO), two cities have been identified in which to implement the program initially: Ahmedabad (Gujarat) and Indore (Madhya Pradesh).

EHP will be the lead organization to guide the implementation of the USAID/India Urban Health Program. In this capacity, EHP anticipates playing a variety of roles to achieve program goals and objectives. These roles include, but are not limited to, technical assistance in areas within EHP's mandate and manageable interest; identification and coordination of cooperating agencies and nongovernmental organizations for other technical assistance activities beyond

EHP's mandate; creating a mechanism for providing small grants to local nongovernmental organizations; and overall leadership, coordination, and facilitation with other cooperating agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and international agencies.

For information on this activity, please contact Eddy Perez  
(mailto:perezea@ehproject.org)

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#### FIELD TRIALS OF BIOLOGICAL LARVICIDES FOR MALARIA CONTROL IN ERITREA

With funding from USAID/Asmara, EHP provides technical support to the Ministry of Health in Eritrea for implementing its National Malaria Control Program.

Mosquito control is an important part of Eritrea's National Malaria Control Program (NMCP), which currently uses indoor spraying, the chemical larvicide temephos, and community-based environmental management to control adult and larval mosquito populations. EHP is helping NMCP conduct field trials to evaluate the potential for using two biological larvicides, *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *israelensis* and *Bacillus sphaericus*. The trials, which will begin in September, will have two components: The first will confirm the efficacy of the larvicides, and the second will examine several issues that will determine the effectiveness of a larvicide program. During a recent trip, EHP consultant Dr. Robert Novak and EHP Resident Adviser Dr. Josephat Shililu prepared detailed plans and protocols for the trials and completed the site selection process.

For information on this activity, please contact Gene Brantly  
(mailto:brantlyep@ehproject.org)

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#### STRENGTHENING URBAN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH IN KANANGA, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

The USAID/Democratic Republic of Congo Urban Environmental Health Strategy developed by EHP in collaboration with the Regional Urban Development Office presents a framework for both short-term and long-term interventions. Short-term interventions include the implementation of results-oriented pilot projects. The International Rescue Committee, in close collaboration with local nongovernmental organizations, is implementing one pilot project in Kananga.

The main objective of the Kananga activity is to reduce the incidence of morbidity and mortality due to waterborne diseases, particularly among women and children, by enabling better health and hygiene practices, increasing quantity of household water, and improving the sustainability of water supplies.

To date, 60 springs have been improved and 2 cisterns have been constructed. To support sustainability of the water supplies, each new source is privately owned and operated. Additionally, 10 local nongovernmental organizations have been trained to improve and manage water points, and 48 social animators trained in hygiene and health sensitization techniques have been mobilized. Another component of the Kananga pilot project is the implementation of baseline and impact surveys related to health and hygiene practices in the Kananga population. The University of Kinshasa School of Public Health, with support

from EHP and the USAID Regional Urban Development Office, recently completed the baseline study.

For information on this activity, please contact Chris McGahey (mailto:mcgaheyc@ehproject.org)

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#### THE BANGLADESH, BHUTAN, INDIA, AND NEPAL (BBIN) NETWORK

In July 2000, EHP organized an initial workshop for representatives from vector-borne disease programs in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, and Nepal to discuss the potential for collaboration on cross-border initiatives. The workshop was funded by the USAID Regional Bureau for Asia and Near East and was held in Nepal. An outcome of the workshop was the Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal (BBIN) Network.

As part of its support for the Regional Infectious Diseases Strategy in South Asia, the USAID Asia and Near East Bureau is increasing its funding for continued development of the BBIN Network and its related cross-border activities, through EHP. Under this new activity, EHP will work with BBIN Network members to improve communication among members; standardize diagnostic and surveillance procedures for priority infectious diseases; improve the quality of data available regarding the epidemiology of infectious diseases, resistance to antimicrobial drugs, vector ecology, and vector susceptibility to insecticides; and increase information shared related to infectious diseases among BBIN Network members.

The BBIN Network has launched its Web site at <http://www.bbin.org>. Next steps for standardizing diagnostic and surveillance procedures were discussed at the Inter-country Meeting on Cross-border Initiatives on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, Malaria and Kala-azar, organized by the World Health Organization Southeast Asia Regional Office and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation and held in Kathmandu from March 6 to March 9, 2001.

For information on the BBIN Network and its cross-border activities, please contact Gene Brantly (mailto:brantlyep@ehproject.org)

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#### INFORMATION EXCHANGE NETWORK

Diarrhea is the second most important killer of children under 5. Although there is clear evidence of reduction of diarrheal disease mortality in recent years (thanks to case management with oral rehydration salts), existing data suggest that to reduce morbidity and mortality related to diarrheal disease further, programs must also focus on primary prevention of diarrhea.

Although several preventive interventions have been promoted, proper disposal of feces of children under 5--a key hygiene behavior essential in primary prevention of diarrhea--has been generally overlooked.

EHP's Information Center is establishing an interactive e-mail information exchange network on the topic, titled "Proper Excreta Disposal and Its Impact on Diarrhea Prevention in Children Under 5." This is a free service open to all interested professionals.

To join the network, please send us an e-mail (<mailto:info@ehproject.org>)

The discussions are tentatively scheduled to start August 6 and will last about 4 weeks. \*\*\*\*\*

UPCOMING MEETINGS IN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

August 20-24, 2001, Lusaka, Zambia: 27th WEDC Conference: People and Systems for Water, Sanitation and Health  
<http://www.lboro.ac.uk/wedc/conferences/27contents.htm> · August 28-September 1, 2001, Leeds, United Kingdom: 12th British Society for Parasitology Malaria Meeting <http://www.biology.leeds.ac.uk/school/Conferences/malaria/index.htm>

· A complete list of meetings and conferences can be found on the EHP Web site at: <http://www.ehproject.org/live/MeetingAlert.htm>

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What's New at EHP? E-newsletter #6, September 25, 2001

DEAR COLLEAGUES:

Welcome to the sixth issue of "What's New at EHP," the E-newsletter of the Environmental Health Project. The E-newsletter is intended to keep EHP staff, partners, clients, and colleagues informed of EHP happenings and activities, new EHP publications and reports, and upcoming meetings and conferences related to environmental health. This issue as well as previous issues of "What's New" can also be accessed on our Web site, at <http://www.ehproject.org>.

Questions and comments about our project or this E-newsletter are very welcome. To subscribe, please send an e-mail to <mailto:info@ehproject.org>

We hope you enjoy our newsletter. Please feel free to distribute the newsletter to your staff and contacts.

May Post Dan Campbell David Elwell Abdulzatar Kuku

The EHP Information Center

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IN THIS ISSUE:

LESSONS LEARNED FROM COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH IN BENIN

SUSTAINABLE SANITATION SERVICES IN SMALL TOWNS IN LAC

IMPROVED HYGIENE IN KINSHASA MARKETS, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

URBAN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND BEHAVIOR CHANGE IN PERU

MINI-PORTAL ON ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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LESSONS LEARNED FROM COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH IN BENIN

Community Management of Environmental Health, also known as GESCOMÉ II (Gestion Communautaire de la Santé Environnementale), is a multiyear activity implemented by EHP in Benin. GESCOMÉ II is a scale-up of GESCOMÉ I—a pilot community-based activity to prevent diarrheal disease in children under 5. GESCOMÉ I was operational from 1997 to 1999. GESCOMÉ II began operations in September 1999 and will be completed at the end of September 2001.

GESCOMÉ II has continued the focus on diarrheal disease prevention initiated by GESCOMÉ I, while expanding to include gender awareness, community and social mobilization, participatory information, education and communication, and reinforcing ties between municipal authorities and the community related to diarrheal disease transmission and prevention.

An activity to document lessons learned from the design, implementation, and accomplishments of GESCOMÉ II and GESCOMÉ I is scheduled to begin in late October. The document, titled "Governance, Community Mobilization, and Environmental Health Outcomes-Lessons Learned in Benin," will be prepared by a

combination of international and Beninese experts. The documentation activity is tentatively scheduled to be completed by early December.

For information on the lessons-learned documentation activity, please contact Eckhard Kleinau (mailto:kleinauef@ehproject.org)

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#### SUSTAINABLE SANITATION SERVICES IN SMALL TOWNS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

A number of USAID missions in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) have been supporting municipalities in the area of water supply and sanitation (WS&S)-many through municipal strengthening and environment programs. In general, USAID efforts have focused more on drinking water supply than on sanitation.

EHP is implementing an activity focused on sanitation improvement in small towns. Small towns in LAC typically have populations between 5,000 and 30,000. Small towns typically are not in a position technically, financially, or institutionally to provide sanitation services effectively. The EHP activity examines these issues and proposes a strategy for sustainable sanitation services in small towns.

Two primary outcomes are envisioned from the activity: (1) a strategic paper that provides an overview of the issues involved in improving sanitation in small towns and that identifies a strategy that can be used in the planning of sustainable sanitation services and (2) a step-by-step methodology that a local consultant team can use to develop the sanitation plan. Ultimately, the goal is to implement a sanitation plan that is financially sustainable, that protects the environment, that maximizes health benefits, and that is equitable.

EHP will field-test the methodology in the fall of 2001 in Ecuador and in two countries to be identified in Central America and the Caribbean. Documents will be finalized after the field tests are completed.

For information on the activity, please contact Fred Rosensweig (mailto:rosensweigfj@ehproject.org).

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#### IMPROVED HYGIENE IN KINSHASA MARKETS, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

The USAID Mission to the Democratic Republic of Congo (USAID/DR Congo) has been implementing the Urban Environmental Health Strategy. Developed by the EHP in collaboration with the Regional Urban Development Office (RUDO/Africa), the strategy focuses on diarrheal disease prevention.

Short-term strategy interventions include the implementation of three urban environmental health pilot projects. One pilot project related to market sanitation was recently completed by Action Against Hunger (Action Contre la Faim ACF -USA) and local authorities, with technical assistance from EHP and the University of Kinshasa School of Public Health. The objective of the pilot project was to improve sanitary conditions in public markets in Kinshasa.

Under the pilot project, new "sanitation units" have been constructed in seven Kinshasa markets. These units include toilets, showers, water points for washing hands, water storage tanks, septic tanks, and the ability to collect rainwater

for use in the units. In addition, 11 drinking water points have been established in locations where water was not previously available to the market vendors, restaurateurs, and customers. These new facilities are under the management of nongovernmental organizations and private businesses, and income generated through operation and use of the sanitation facilities will be used to ensure their sustainability and maintenance. Furthermore, hygiene education teams have been trained to provide education to the market community on food and on individual, domestic, and market hygiene. These trained specialists can be seen daily in the markets, speaking with vendors, customers, and restaurant owners and workers.

For information on the activity, please contact Chris McGahey (mailto:mcpahey@ehproject.org).

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#### URBAN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND BEHAVIOR CHANGE IN PERU

USAID/Peru's Urban Environmental Health and Behavior Change activity aims to reduce environmental health risks associated with exposure to locally generated contaminants and pathogens in periurban residential neighborhoods and communities. The activity's purpose will be achieved through four interventions: policy improvement assistance; site-based pilot projects to demonstrate innovative approaches in environmental health; training and local institutional strengthening; and development of community-based environmental health risk monitoring capacity.

USAID/Peru's primary counterpart for the activity is DIGESA, the Environmental Health Division of the Ministry of Health. During the past year, EHP worked with DIGESA in project planning and in a variety of activities related to childhood lead poisoning. Under the Urban Environmental Health and Behavior Change activity, EHP will provide a wide range of technical assistance and procurement support to DIGESA and to implementing private voluntary organizations (PVOs) and local authorities. Within this context, EHP's first role has been the design and delivery of a start-up workshop that seeks to ensure that all actors and stakeholders involved have a clear understanding of the activity and their respective roles.

The start-up workshop was held in Lima, Peru, the week of September 10. The workshop was attended by a USAID/Washington representative as well as a three-member EHP team, which included the EHP Director. Approximately 40 participants attended the workshop,

including key staff from the implementing partners- DIGESA, USAID/Peru, CARE- and representatives from key stakeholders, such as the World Bank Water and Sanitation Program (WSP) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (USCDC), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Pan American Health Organization, SEDAPAL (the national water supply and sanitation agency), and CONAM (the national environmental protection agency).

For information on the Peru activity and the workshop, please contact Eddy Perez (mailto:perezea@ehproject.org).

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#### MINI-PORTAL ON ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

A mini-portal on environmental health has been established on the Information Services page to provide access to more environmental health information resources.

In addition to the usual categories on our Information Services page, new categories of information resources include Bibliographic Databases, Development News Sources, Commercial News Sources, Reference Resources, and Statistical Resources.

The address for the mini-portal is <http://www.ehproject.org/live/Infoser.html>.  
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EHP News - January 2002

DEAR COLLEAGUES:

Happy New Year! Welcome to " EHP News," the E-newsletter of the Environmental Health Project. The E-newsletter is intended to keep EHP staff, partners, clients, and colleagues informed of EHP happenings and activities, new EHP publications and reports, and upcoming meetings and conferences related to environmental health. This issue as well as previous issues of our newsletter can also be accessed on our Web site, at <http://www.ehproject.org>.

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We hope you enjoy our newsletter. Please feel free to distribute the newsletter to your staff and contacts.

May Post Dan Campbell David Elwell Abdulzatar Kuku

The EHP Information Center

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EHP News January 17, 2002 Vol. 2, No. 1  
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IN THIS ISSUE:

EHP WELCOMES NEW DIRECTOR

GOVERNANCE, COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH IN BENIN

MONITORING WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE ACTIVITIES

EXPANSION OF MALARIA AND VECTOR CONTROL THROUGH THE PRIVATE SECTOR

NEW PUBLICATION

UPCOMING CONFERENCES/MEETINGS

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EHP WELCOMES NEW DIRECTOR

The Environmental Health Project welcomes Sandra Callier as the new director of the project. She will join EHP on February 19, 2002.

Ms.Callier has over twenty-five years work experience in international development. Most recently, she served as the Project Director for the Monitoring, Evaluation, and Design Support (MEDS) project. Prior to that, Ms. Callier worked as a development management specialist for the USDA Office of International Cooperation and Development, as a USAID project officer and regional health/nutrition advisor in Guatemala and as a democracy officer in the USAID Center for Democracy and Governance. She has an M.A. in International Studies from Johns Hopkins University, concentrating in Economic Development and Latin American Studies.

Ms. Callier will succeed Dr. Masseur Bateman who will be joining USAID/India as the Child Survival Advisor.

We are delighted to welcome her aboard.

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#### GOVERNANCE, COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH IN BENIN

A team of governance and anthropology specialists has been mobilized by EHP to document lessons learned from community management of environmental health in Benin.

Since September 1999, EHP has been working with USAID/Benin to optimize decentralized decision-making related to diarrheal disease prevention in selected medium-sized towns in Benin. This partnership project which engaged citizens and government in local communities, resulted in the provision of much wanted and much needed public latrines under well-structured management. Participatory community health communication (PCHC) with "natural groups" in the communities has ensured proper use of the latrines by thousands of users and has led to improved hygiene behavior such as hand washing by users when leaving the facility.

For information on the Benin activity, please contact Chris McGahey (mailto:mcgaheyc@ehproject.org)

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#### MONITORING WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE ACTIVITIES

Improving the validity and reliability of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WSH) indicators and data collection methods is a core activity that EHP pursues at both the international level and the program level.

At the international level, EHP is collaborating with the WHO and UNICEF Joint Monitoring Program (JMP), the USAID-funded Monitoring and Evaluation to Assess and Use Results (MEASURE) project, the InterAgency Working Group on Household/Community Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses, and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council, to improve and strengthen WSH indicators collected through large-scale surveys, such as the Demographic and Health Surveys and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys.

At the program level, EHP is collaborating with USAID missions in a number of activities, including testing WSH indicators and data collection methods in several field programs including those in the West Bank, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Benin, India, and Nicaragua. In the West Bank, for example, in addition to testing the water quality, EHP is testing the use of intestinal parasite prevalence as an approximation of health outcomes. The project is also compiling and reviewing WSH survey questionnaires and data collection methods to develop an annotated instrument and assessment and planning guideline for program managers, and collaborating with the Child Survival Collaborations and Resources (CORE) Group to develop a WSH module for rapid health facility assessment and school hygiene and sanitation assessment.

For more information on EHP's activities related to monitoring and indicators, please contact Eckhard Kleinau (mailto:kleinauef@ehproject.org).

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#### EXPANSION OF MALARIA AND VECTOR CONTROL THROUGH THE PRIVATE SECTOR

In collaboration with EHP, the Support for Analysis and Research in Africa Project, and the Child Survival Technical Support Project, the Child Survival Collaboration and Resources (CORE) Malaria Working Group convened a workshop, "Fresh Air: Malaria Technical Update," from November 26 to December 1, 2001, at the African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF) Conference Center in Nairobi, Kenya.

More than 150 participants from 53 organizations including non governmental organizations (NGOs), UNICEF, WHO/Geneva, WHO/AFRO and representatives from commercial insecticide and mosquito net manufacturers and distributors attended the workshop which provided a venue for the private sector (NGOs and commercial partners) to share experiences and identify opportunities for collaboration in malaria and vector control. Materials and information are posted at <http://www.childsurvival.com/documents/workshops/malaria/index.htm>

The workshop generated important next steps for collaboration and cooperation among the NGOs, the commercial sector and WHO's Roll Back Malaria Initiative. Next steps identified include coordinated strategy development and implementation at the regional and country levels; collaboration on operations research and monitoring and evaluation particularly related to community-based treatment and safe motherhood programs, and integrated vector management including vector control "beyond bed nets"; and last but not least, collaboration on technical information exchange (including electronic media such as the EHP Malaria Bulletin) and capacity building.

For more information, please contact Michael Macdonald (mailto:macdonaldmb@ehproject.org).

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#### NEW PUBLICATION

The EHP Activity Report 105, Operations and Maintenance Strategy for Community-Managed Rural Water Supply Systems in the Dominican Republic: Technical Assistance to Acueductos Rurales, Instituto Nacional de Aguas Potables y Alcantarillados, Santo Domingo, September 16-October 4, 2001, is now available electronically on our web site at [http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity\\_Reports/AR105FinalEng.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity_Reports/AR105FinalEng.pdf)

This report documents work carried out as part of the technical assistance that EHP provided to Acueductos Rurales, a department of the Dominican Republic's Instituto Nacional de Aguas Potables y Alcantarillados (National Water Supply and Sewage Institute). The report analyzes Acueductos Rurales' opportunities and constraints, and identifies a strategy and pilot project designed to provide Acueductos Rurales in helping rural communities develop, operate, and maintain water supply and sanitation systems.

USAID/Dominican Republic provided financing for the technical assistance. If you would like hard copies of the report, please contact (mailto:info@ehproject.org).

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UPCOMING CONFERENCES/MEETINGS

FEBRUARY 2002

Feb 17-20: WEF Disinfection 2002: Health and Safety Achieved through Disinfection, St. Petersburg, FL USA  
<http://www.wef.org/Conferences/Disinfection2002/opening.jhtml>

MARCH 2002

Mar 8-13: IDA World Congress on Desalination and Water Reuse, Manama, Bahrain -  
<http://www.ida.bm>

Mar 22: World Water Day 2002 - <http://www.waterday2002.iaea.org>

APRIL 2002

22-24 April Larval Control in the context of Integrated Vector Management for Malaria Symposium to be held in conjunction with the 23rd African Health Sciences Congress <http://www.100megsfree.com/makerere/home2.htm>

22 - 24 April 2002 - NSF International / World Health Organization Symposium on Bacteria in Drinking Water: Public Health Implications, Geneva, Switzerland -  
<http://www.nsf.org/conference/hpc>

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EHP News - March 2002

DEAR COLLEAGUES:

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We hope you enjoy our newsletter. Please feel free to distribute our newsletter.

May Post Dan Campbell David Elwell Abdulzatar Kuku

EHP Information Center

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Environmental Health Project E-Newsletter March 12, 2002 Vol. 2, No. 2  
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IN THIS ISSUE:

E-CONFERENCE ON HYGIENE IMPROVEMENT FRAMEWORK

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SYMPOSIUM ON LARVA CONTROL IN INTEGRATED VECTOR MANAGEMENT

PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF HURRICANE MITCH VICTIMS IN NICARAGUA

AFRICA MALARIA DAY 2002: MOBILIZING COMMUNITIES TO ROLL BACK MALARIA

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E-CONFERENCE ON HYGIENE IMPROVEMENT FRAMEWORK

EHP is facilitating an electronic forum on the Hygiene Improvement Framework (HIF). EHP's partner in this on-line conference is the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council. The conference is part of a series of discussions leading to the Third World Water Forum in Kyoto, Japan, March 2003. The e-conference on the HIF will run from March 1 through March 29, 2002.

The HIF, developed by EHP, is an integrated approach that combines access to hardware, hygiene promotion, and enabling environments. The strong underlying message is that all three components must be included if water supply and sanitation (WS&S) projects are to have a greater impact on health. The framework builds upon what has been learned from over 20 years of WS&S programming and seeks to establish WS&S programs more firmly as part of comprehensive efforts to improve the health of children.

The conference has been organized as follows:

March 1-8: Presentation and discussion of the HIF  
March 11-15: Sharing field examples of integrating hygiene promotion into WS&S projects  
March 18-22: Discussion of the implications of the HIF for designing and implementing WS&S projects  
March 25-29: Next steps and summary

The HIF discussion paper and presentation are on the EHP Web site at:  
(<http://www.ehproject.org/Pubs/GlobalHealth/GHCArticle.htm>)

Subscribe to the conference at: (<http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/cgi-bin/wa.exe?SUBED1=hygiene-behaviour&A=1>)

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#### LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: SMALL-TOWN SANITATION

Together with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) and the USAID Water Team, EHP is implementing an activity focused on sanitation improvement in small towns. Small towns in LAC typically have populations between 5,000 and 30,000. EHP has developed a step-by-step methodology that can be used by a local consultant team to develop a plan to provide sustainable sanitation services. The goal is to implement a sanitation plan that is financially sustainable, protects the environment, maximizes health benefits, and is equitable.

Three small towns in LAC have been identified for field-testing the methodology. The field-testing has been completed in Macara, Ecuador, under the USAID Southern Border Project, implemented by a CARE-led consortium. Beginning in mid-March, field testing will take place in La Cabima, Panama, under the overall coordination of the Interinstitutional Commission of the Canal Watershed and the Panama Canal Authority. The third pilot activity will be in White Horses, Jamaica, under the Ministry of Water and Housing through the Inter-American Development Bank Rural Water Project.

After completion of field tests in May, EHP will finalize the methodology and disseminate it via two subregional workshops. One workshop will be in the Andean region, and one will be in Central America. The workshops are expected to take place in September or October 2002.

For information on the activity, please contact Fred Rosensweig  
(<mailto:rosensweigfj@ehproject.org>)

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#### SYMPOSIUM ON LARVA CONTROL IN INTEGRATED VECTOR MANAGEMENT

In malaria control programs in Africa, larva control is often misunderstood and often a misuse of scarce resources. Conversely, it is also often a missed opportunity, particularly in "fringe" and periurban situations where there are large human concentrations and where breeding sites are limited and identifiable.

EHP continues to work with the World Health Organization and other partners to develop strategies for more rational vector control, tailored to specific ecological and programmatic contexts.

As part of this effort, EHP will convene a symposium in Kampala, Uganda, from 22 to 24 April 2002, entitled "Larva Control in the Context of Integrated Vector Management for Malaria Control." The symposium will assemble researchers, program managers, policymakers, and commercial partners to share their understanding of existing information on efficacy and programmatic effectiveness, to determine a framework for filling information gaps, and

ultimately to articulate the conditions and methods by which larva control, including environmental management, can make a cost-effective and sustainable public health impact in Africa.

For more information, contact Michael Macdonald (mailto:macdonaldmb@ehproject.org) or Gene Brantly (mailto:brantlyep@ehproject.org).

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#### PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF HURRICANE MITCH VICTIMS IN NICARAGUA

EHP recently completed the Rural Water Supply, Sanitation, and Environmental Health Reconstruction Program--a USAID-funded activity to protect and improve the health status of families affected by Hurricane Mitch in rural or resettled population centers in Nicaragua. Strategies included increasing sustainable water supply and sanitation services, improving hygiene behavior, and providing community organization and education programs for populations in affected areas.

EHP worked with six private voluntary organizations that were already established in Nicaragua before the hurricane. EHP provided grants, management, and technical oversight to support these organizations as they worked with communities, conducting hygiene education programs and reconstructing or building water and sanitation systems.

The activity exceeded its objectives, reaching an estimated 215,000 beneficiaries and resulting in significant improvements in hygiene practices and health. A significant impact of the activity was the adoption of what environmental health director of the Nicaraguan Ministry of Health termed a "new paradigm," shifting from interventions consisting solely of water and sanitation measures to interventions in preventive health that incorporate a central focus on water and sanitation.

EHP Activity Report 106, Nicaragua: Rural Water Supply, Sanitation, and Environmental Health Program ([http://www.ehproject.org/Pubs/Activity\\_Reports.htm](http://www.ehproject.org/Pubs/Activity_Reports.htm)), provides a detailed account of this activity.

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#### AFRICA MALARIA DAY 2002: MOBILIZING COMMUNITIES TO ROLL BACK MALARIA

Africa celebrates Africa Malaria Day next month, on April 25!

This year, the theme for the day is "Mobilizing Communities to Roll Back Malaria and Taking Malaria Prevention and Treatment to the Home." Africa Malaria Day will also celebrate the role of the community-level caregivers--the community health workers, the mothers, the shopkeepers, the traditional practitioners who often provide the first point of contact for people struck by malaria who live in remote, underserved areas. Africa Malaria Day 2002, which marks the second anniversary of the Abuja Declaration, will highlight, reward, and celebrate the work done by people in the community, whose efforts often go unrewarded and unrecognized.

The World Wide Web site for Africa Malaria Day is: ([http://www.rbm.who.int/amd/abuja2002\\_first.htm](http://www.rbm.who.int/amd/abuja2002_first.htm))

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EHP News - June 2002

DEAR COLLEAGUES:

Welcome to "EHP News," the E-newsletter of the Environmental Health Project. This issue as well as previous issues of our newsletter, new reports, and other resources can also be accessed on our web site at <http://www.ehproject.org>

Questions and comments about our project or this E-newsletter are very welcome. To subscribe, please send an e-mail to (<mailto:info@ehproject.org>)

We hope you enjoy our newsletter.

May Post Dan Campbell David Elwell Abdulzatar Kuku

EHP Information Center

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Environmental Health Project E-Newsletter June 5, 2002 Vol.2, No.3  
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IN THIS ISSUE:

WEST BANK ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT

NEW BROCHURE

NEW EHP PUBLICATIONS

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WEST BANK ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT

An environmental health assessment of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Village and Water Sanitation (VWS) Program in the West Bank has been completed. The Environmental Health Project (EHP), in collaboration with Save the Children, carried out the assessment in January and February 2002, under very difficult conditions. The purpose of the VWS Program is to provide safe and sustainable water and sanitation services to an estimated 140,000 people living in 46 underserved communities in the West Bank--in areas west of Hebron and south of Nablus.

The assessment focused on access to and types of water supply and sanitation facilities, willingness and ability to pay for new infrastructure, knowledge and practices affecting household and community water and sanitation management, prevalence of waterborne and sanitation-related disease among children under five years old, and quality of domestic drinking water.

The findings have been presented at a USAID debriefing. The assessment is the first in a series of operational research activities intended to provide information for the design phase of the VWS Program for improvements in infrastructure and household hygiene practices.

For more information, please contact:

(<mailto:hafnercr@ehproject.org>)

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NEW BROCHURE!

EHP has updated its brochure. A 319K PDF version is available on the EHP Web site:

<http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Brochure/EHPBrochure2002.pdf>

For more information or a hard copy of the brochure, contact:

(mailto:info@ehproject.org)

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NEW EHP PUBLICATIONS!

1. Activity Report on Hygiene Behavior Change in Peru

Activity Report 107, "Developing a Hygiene Behavior Change Program for Children with Lead Poisoning Living in Informal Urban Areas of Lima, Peru" is now available from EHP.

The report documents a behavior change project to reduce lead exposure among children as part of USAID/Peru's Urban Environmental Health and Hygiene Behavior activity. The project is part of the follow-up on recommendations from a study of blood lead levels of postpartum women and children in poor areas of Lima and Callao, which had shown high blood-lead levels in those living close to a shipping port and storage area for mineral concentrates in Callao. The report describes steps involved in the behavior change technical assistance provided by EHP to the Environmental Health General Directorate (DIGESA) of Peru's Ministry of Health, as well as the lessons learned.

A 945K PDF version of the report is available at:

[http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity\\_Reports/AR107PEBehChgArch.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity_Reports/AR107PEBehChgArch.pdf)

For more information or a hard copy of the report, contact:

(mailto:info@ehproject.org)

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2. Activity Report on Malaria Vector Control

Activity Report 108, "A Review of Control Methods for African Malaria Vectors" is also now available from EHP.

This report reviews published information on selected control methods for anopheline mosquitoes and provides a relatively brief introduction to options for malaria vector control. It describes most of the physical, chemical, and biological methods that have been used in malaria vector control programs and summarizes information on factors that influence the efficacy of each method. Because of EHP's programmatic focus on community-based actions to prevent disease transmission, the review pays greatest attention to environmental management and other vector control methods that may be implemented by community-based organizations.

A 628K PDF version of the report is available at:

[http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity\\_Reports/AR108MalRevArch.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity_Reports/AR108MalRevArch.pdf)

For more information or a hard copy of the report, contact:

(mailto:info@ehproject.org)

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### 3. EHP Brief on EHP's West Bank Program

EHP Brief 5, "Programming, Participation, and Partnerships under Duress: The West Bank Village Water and Sanitation Program" is now available from EHP.

This is a one-pager Brief which describes a two-year, USAID-funded program in the West Bank implemented by EHP in close partnership with the Palestinian Water Authority and other concerned national agencies. The purpose of the program is to provide safe and sustainable water and sanitation services for up to 140,000 people living in 46 communities in areas west of Hebron and south of Nablus.

A 531K PDF version of EHP Brief 5 is available at:

<http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/EHPBriefs/EHPB5.pdf>

For more information or a copy of EHP Brief 5 or other EHP Briefs, contact:

(mailto:info@ehproject.org)

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### 4. Joint Publications: Advocacy Pamphlet and CD-ROM on Handwashing

Two companion pieces to The Story of a Successful Public-Private Partnership in Central America: Handwashing for Diarrheal Disease Prevention are now available, published by the Basic Support for Child Survival Project (BASICS II), EHP, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), USAID, and the World Bank.

Advocacy Pamphlet: "Public-Private Partnerships: Mobilizing Resources to Achieve Public Health Goals: The Central American Handwashing Initiative Points the Way." This is a 16-page pamphlet that outlines the key elements of public-private partnerships, as illustrated by the Central American Handwashing Initiative, including critical factors for replication.

PDF versions of the pamphlet are available on the EHP Web site:

English (1.7M):

[http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Joint\\_Publications/JP002CAHandPmphltEn.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Joint_Publications/JP002CAHandPmphltEn.pdf)

Spanish (8.8M):

[http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Joint\\_Publications/JP002CAHandPmphltSp.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Joint_Publications/JP002CAHandPmphltSp.pdf)

French (1.7M):

[http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Joint\\_Publications/JP002CAHandPmphltFr.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Joint_Publications/JP002CAHandPmphltFr.pdf)

For more information or a hard copies of the pamphlet, contact:  
(mailto:info@ehproject.org)

CD-ROM: "Public-Private Partnerships for Public Health: Promoting Handwashing in Central America: A Compendium of Resources." This is a mini-CD-ROM containing a variety of materials in English and Spanish to be used in conducting similar handwashing initiatives. Its contents are as follows:

The Story of a Successful Public-Private Partnership in Central America:  
Handwashing for Diarrheal Disease Prevention (in English)

Public-Private Partnerships: Mobilizing Resources to Achieve Public Health  
Goals: The Central American Handwashing Initiative Points the Way (in English,  
Spanish, and French)

Generis Latina Final Report: Evaluación de Impacto del Campaña "Lavo Mis Manos  
por Salud" (in Spanish)

Market Survey (in Spanish)  
Radio Jingle (in Spanish)

Television Spot (in Spanish)

Promotional and Public Relations Pamphlets: Lavo Mis Manos por Salud (in  
Spanish)

1, 2, 3 Generic Campaign, Protex, Unisola, "Manolo," and Public Sector Posters  
(in Spanish)

For more information or a copy of the CD-ROM, contact:

(mailto:info@ehproject.org)

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EHP News - July/August 2002

DEAR COLLEAGUES:

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We hope you enjoy our newsletter.

May Post Dan Campbell Abdulzatar Kuku Milton E. Stern

EHP Information Center

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Environmental Health Project E-Newsletter July/August, 2002 Vol.2, No.4  
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IN THIS ISSUE:

- IMPROVING THE EARLY WARNING REPORTING SYSTEM IN NEPAL
- ASSESSING AND PROMOTING NATIONAL SANITATION POLICIES
- POST-MITCH ACTIVITIES IN NICARAGUA--WORKING WITH NGOs
- AFRICAN SANITATION AND HYGIENE CONFERENCE
- NEW EHP PUBLICATIONS

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IMPROVING THE EARLY WARNING REPORTING SYSTEM IN NEPAL

With technical assistance from EHP, USAID/Nepal is supporting the Nepal Ministry of Health to improve their early warning reporting system (EWARS). The EWARS consists of 26 district and zonal hospitals functioning as sentinel sites reporting six priority diseases. Based on strategies identified at the EWARS Implementation Workshop held in Kathmandu, revised EWARS forms have been developed for reporting the six priority diseases. In addition, revised definitions and criteria for "timeliness of reports," "accuracy of reports" and "comprehensiveness of reports" have been identified. Furthermore district EWARS teams comprising of staff from hospitals and public health offices have been formed in eight of the 26 sentinel sites linking the sentinel sites to the public health offices for prompt alerts and responses to current or potential outbreaks. A two-day training also was provided by EHP to the district EWARS teams.

For more information, please contact Lisa Nichols at <mailto:nicholsls@ehproject.org>

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ASSESSING AND PROMOTING NATIONAL SANITATION POLICIES

More than 2.4 billion people around the world currently lack access to adequate sanitation facilities. EHP and its partners, which include UNICEF, CARE, the Swiss Federal Institute for Environmental Science and Technology (EAWAG), the IRC International Water and Sanitation Center, the Pan American Health Organization, the U.K. Department for International Development-funded WELL2 project, WHO, the World Water Council, the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council and the World Bank Water Supply & Sanitation Program, were engaged in the development of a tool to assist in the assessment, promotion and overall improvement of national sanitation policies.

A consultant team began work in October 2001, and sanitation policy assessment guidelines have been completed. The consultant team focused on field data collection in Peru, South Africa and Uganda, examining these countries' recent experiences in promoting and implementing a national policy on sanitation. This data collection informed the process for defining and developing an assessment tool that captures the key elements of national sanitation policies.

The key partners met in March 2002 in Washington, D.C., to review and revise the guidelines for field testing. Field tests are anticipated to take place over the coming 6-12 months in a number of countries using a range of approaches. The report, "Guidelines for the Assessment of National Sanitation Policies," is now available from EHP (see "New EHP Publications" below). For further information, please contact Eddy Perez at <mailto:perezzea@ehproject.org>

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#### POST-MITCH ACTIVITIES IN NICARAGUA--WORKING WITH NGOs

In October 1998, Hurricane Mitch left a trail of destruction through the heart of Central America. To protect the health of families in rural communities devastated by Hurricane Mitch, USAID responded to the disaster by allocating nearly US\$9.8 million over a 27-month period. The work was conducted through EHP's Nicaragua Rural Water Supply, Sanitation and Environmental Health Reconstruction program. EHP served as program manager overseeing grants and providing technical oversight to six private voluntary organization (PVO) grantees, which functioned as program implementers. Interventions included provision of water and sanitation services, construction of household latrines and hygiene promotion through community mobilization and school hygiene programs. The results exceeded program objectives, and all behavior change targets related to hygiene and sanitation were achieved.

To follow-up and monitor changes related to hygiene improvement brought about under EHP's Nicaragua program, EHP is supporting and providing technical assistance to NicaSalud, a local non-governmental organization (NGO) in Nicaragua. NicaSalud has been tasked to function as a coordinating body for a network of PVOs and NGOs formed after Hurricane Mitch to deliver and support extended health services in Nicaragua, coordinate post-Mitch network activities in improving hygiene- and sanitation-related behaviors and document the community-based experiences of PVOs and organizations participating in the NGO network.

For more information on the activity, contact John Gavin at <mailto:gavinjm@cdm.com> or Lisa Nichols at <mailto:nicholsls@ehproject.org>

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AFRICAN SANITATION AND HYGIENE CONFERENCE

EHP staff participated in the African Sanitation and Hygiene conference that was held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from July 29-August 1, 2002.

Of the 800 million people in Africa, 300 million lack adequate sanitation, yet sanitation and hygiene programs suffer from low political priorities and small budgets. Recognizing the need to raise the profile of sanitation and hygiene, the conference brought together a large group of senior politicians, professionals and activists concerned with sanitation and hygiene in Africa. The conference built on the work and ideas of several other important international meetings including the African Ministerial Conference on Water (AMCOW) held in Nigeria April 29-30, 2002, that brought together ministers from 43 African countries.

The EHP Information Center prepared a CD-ROM of selected EHP reports and articles on sanitation and hygiene for distribution at the conference.

For a copy of the CD-ROM, please contact <mailto:info@ehproject.org>

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NEW EHP PUBLICATIONS!

1. Strategic Report on the Assessment of National Sanitation Policies

Strategic Report 2, "Guidelines for the Assessment of National Sanitation Policies."

This report provides guidelines to inventory and evaluate the adequacy of sanitation policies in developing countries. The assessment tool will serve to focus attention on key elements of sanitation policy and programming. The tool also provides methods guidance for sanitation data collection and suggestions for field assessment.

A 1.85MB PDF version of the report is available at:

<[http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Strategic\\_papers/SR2SanPolweb.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Strategic_papers/SR2SanPolweb.pdf)>

For more information or a hard copy of the report, contact <mailto:info@ehproject.org>

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2. Activity Report on the Health of Children Living in Urban Slums in Asia and the Near East

Activity Report 109, "Health of Children Living in Urban Slums in Asia and the Near East: Review of Existing Literature and Data."

Due to the rapid pace of urbanization in Asia and the Near East (ANE), the USAID/ANE Regional Bureau tasked EHP with a three-phase activity. Phase 1 involves compilation/literature review of information related to what is known about urban slum child health and information gaps, focusing on three cities in the region: Cairo, Egypt, Ahmedabad, India and Manila, Philippines.

The activity report provides the compiled information related to urban slum child health and guidelines for strategic planning and program development.

A 1MB PDF version of the report is available at:

<[http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity\\_Reports/AR109ANEUrbHlthweb.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity_Reports/AR109ANEUrbHlthweb.pdf)>

For more information or a hard copy of the report, contact  
<<mailto:info@ehproject.org>>

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3. Joint Publication on Prevention of Diarrhea Through Improving Hygiene Behaviors

Joint Publication 4, "Prevention of Diarrhea Through Improving Hygiene Behaviors, The Sanitation and Family Education (SAFE) Pilot Project Experience."

The Sanitation and Family Education pilot project implemented by CARE/Bangladesh with technical assistance from the International Centre for Diarrheal Disease Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B), focused on the "software" aspects of water, sanitation and hygiene, in particular, hygiene promotion for diarrhea prevention. The SAFE results clearly showed the importance of hygiene promotion to achieve health outcomes.

The principal report, documenting the SAFE project, was published by CARE/Bangladesh in February 1995. ICDDR,B reprinted the report as part of its Special Publication Series. Unfortunately, the report did not receive the wide circulation that its findings and methodological documentation deserved, and EHP re-printed the report as a CARE-ICDDR,B-EHP joint publication to make the document available to a wider audience.

A 2.28MB PDF version of the report is available at:

<[http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Joint\\_Publications/JP004SAFEr.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Joint_Publications/JP004SAFEr.pdf)>

For more information or a hard copy of the report, contact  
<<mailto:info@ehproject.org>>

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Subject: EHP News - September 2002

DEAR COLLEAGUES:

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We hope you enjoy our newsletter.

May Post Dan Campbell Abdulzatar Kuku Milton E. Stern

EHP Information Center

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Environmental Health Project E-Newsletter September 2002 Vol. 2, No. 5  
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IN THIS ISSUE:

- \* WEST BANK ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT
- \* A DISSEMINATION WORKSHOP ON SMALL TOWNS' SANITATION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
- \* GHANA URBAN HEALTH ASSESSMENT
- \* NEWS FROM THE BANGLADESH, BHUTAN, INDIA AND NEPAL (BBIN) NETWORK
- \* HONDURAS: DEVELOPMENT OF A SUPERVISORY SYSTEM FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH TECHNICIANS
- \* NEW EHP PUBLICATIONS!

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WEST BANK ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT

An environmental health assessment of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Village and Water Sanitation (VWS) Program in the West Bank has been completed. The field work, carried out by EHP and Save the Children, was completed over a two-week period in January 2002 under very difficult conditions.

The VWS program is a two-year initiative funded by USAID and undertaken by EHP in close collaboration with the Palestinian Water Authority and other concerned national agencies. The purpose of the VWS Program is to provide safe and sustainable water and sanitation services to an estimated 140,000 people living in 50 underserved communities in the West Bank in areas west of Hebron and south of Nablus.

The assessment focused on access to and types of water supply and sanitation facilities, quality of domestic drinking water, knowledge and practices related to handwashing in school children (6-12 years), prevalence of waterborne and

sanitation-related diseases among children under five, and hygiene knowledge and behavior of caretakers of children under five and school-age children. This is the first in a series of operational research activities that are intended to provide information for the design phase of the project and to identify appropriate indicators for evaluating program outputs and impacts on behavior and possibly health.

The report, "USAID Village and Sanitation Program, West Bank of Palestine - Environmental Health Assessment Phase I" is now available from EHP (see "New EHP Publications" below).

For information on the activity, please contact Craig Hafner at hafnercr@ehproject.org.

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#### A DISSEMINATION WORKSHOP ON SMALL TOWNS' SANITATION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

In recent years, there has been a significant and growing interest in improving water supply and sanitation (WSS) services in small towns. Small towns are not large enough for a conventional utility but often too big for community-managed water supply and sanitation models used in rural areas. Sanitation services in small towns require formal management arrangements, a legal basis for ownership and the ability to expand to meet growing demand. In Latin America, small towns tend to have populations of 5,000-25,000.

Over the past year, with support from USAID's Latin America and the Caribbean Bureau, Office of Regional Sustainable Development (LAC/RSD), EHP has developed a methodology for improving sanitation in small towns in Latin America and the Caribbean. This methodology has been field tested in Ecuador, Panama and Jamaica. The report, "Improving Sanitation in Small Towns in Latin America and the Caribbean: Practical Methodology for Designing a Sustainable Sanitation Plan" is now available from EHP (see "New EHP Publications" below).

To introduce the methodology, develop strategies for its use and to identify actions for follow-up, two dissemination workshops have been planned. The first workshop will be held in Peru, October 1-3, 2002, and will include participants from Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru and Paraguay. The second is planned for November 19-21, 2002, in Honduras for Central American countries.

For more information on the workshop or the activity, please contact Fred Rosensweig at rosensweigfj@ehproject.org

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#### GHANA URBAN HEALTH ASSESSMENT

The urban population in Ghana currently constitutes 38% of the total population and is growing at over twice the rate as that of rural areas. Given this rapid urbanization scenario, USAID/Ghana is interested in achieving a better understanding of urban poor health conditions.

The Environmental Health Project (EHP) was tasked by USAID/Ghana, USAID Bureau for Global Health/Office of Health and Nutrition and USAID Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade/Office of Environment and Urban Programs to conduct an assessment of the health needs of the urban poor in Ghana. The

assessment information is anticipated to provide a road map for possible Mission interventions related to poor health in urban areas and to feed into future urban slum health programming under USAID/Ghana's country strategy.

A team of two EHP consultants and two consultants from Ghana has completed a literature review and on-the-ground assessment of conditions in the urban slums of Accra and Kumasi. Key findings show that clean water supply and sanitation, in particular, are the most critical needs for improving poor health in urban areas and that services for the urban poor are inadequate. A draft assessment report of findings and strategic recommendations for USAID/Ghana is now under preparation.

For more information on the activity, contact Sarah Fry at [frysk@ehproject.org](mailto:frysk@ehproject.org)

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#### NEWS FROM THE BANGLADESH, BHUTAN, INDIA AND NEPAL (BBIN) NETWORK

Due to increased population movement across common borders in South Asia, cross-border spread of vector-borne diseases is on the rise. The Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal (BBIN) network for vector-borne diseases was conceived two years ago to facilitate regular information sharing and standardized surveillance approaches. With support from USAID/Nepal, EHP/Nepal played a major role in the BBIN network including taking the lead in establishing partnerships, forging the links between the four member countries, conducting regional workshops and establishing and managing the BBIN Web site for information sharing.

The BBIN Web site was currently updated with new features that include: a new country page from "Bangladesh"; a "Breaking News" section reporting vector-borne disease outbreaks, epidemics and related actions in the region; an "Events" page covering "Current Events," "Previous Events" and "Upcoming Regional Events" with emphasis on cross-border issues; an "Information Exchange" page; and a "Library" page with regional news bulletins/publications and relevant reports.

Check out the BBIN Web site at <http://www.bbin.org>.

For information on the BBIN and cross-border vector-borne disease initiatives, please contact [ehp@wlink.com.np](mailto:ehp@wlink.com.np).

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#### HONDURAS: DEVELOPMENT OF A SUPERVISORY SYSTEM FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH TECHNICIANS

USAID has been working with the Honduran Ministry of Health (MOH) since 1993 in the development of an integrated environmental health program. To date, the MOH has trained 270 environmental health technicians, with more anticipated to be trained in the future. The MOH also is in the process of training 50 supervisory staff.

USAID/Honduras has requested EHP to assist the MOH in developing a framework for the supervisory staff, which includes task definition, evaluation and reporting. An EHP consultant has carried out a first visit to assess the status of the current program for environmental health technicians and make recommendations for improvement. Two more visits are planned. For more information on the activity, please contact Fred Rosensweig at [rosensweigfj@ehproject.org](mailto:rosensweigfj@ehproject.org)

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NEW EHP PUBLICATIONS!

1. Activity Report on Phase II of the Peru Lead Project

Activity Report 110, "Support for Phase II of the Peru Lead Project to Determine Blood and Ambient Lead Levels in Metropolitan Lima and to Manage the Lead Exposure Problem in Critical Areas"

In 1997, a collaboration was initiated between USAID/Peru and the Peruvian Ministry of Health's General Directorate of Environmental Health (DIGESA) to implement a program to phase out lead from gasoline. As part of the program, a blood-lead study was implemented to obtain baseline data to monitor changes in blood lead levels associated with the phase-out. The study conducted by DIGESA among high-risk populations, mainly children and women living in Lima and Callao, showed severe lead contamination in an area near the port of Callao. The findings highlighted a need to look at probable sources of contamination other than leaded gasoline. As a result, DIGESA, EHP and USAID implemented a follow-on phase of the study. The purpose of the Peru Lead Project Phase II was to clearly identify all possible sources of lead exposure and to provide technical assistance and support to DIGESA to manage the problem.

A 1.12MB PDF version of the report is available at:

[http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity\\_Reports/AR110-PELeadPrj2Final.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity_Reports/AR110-PELeadPrj2Final.pdf)

For more information or a hard copy of the report, contact  
<<mailto:info@ehproject.org>>

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2. Strategic Report on Sanitation in Small Latin American Towns

Strategic Report 3. Improving Sanitation in Small Towns in Latin America and the Caribbean - Practical Methodology for Designing a Sustainable Sanitation Plan

Over the past year, with support from USAID's Latin America and the Caribbean Bureau, Office of Regional Sustainable Development (LAC/RSD), EHP has developed a methodology for improving sanitation in small towns in Latin America and the Caribbean. This methodology has been field tested in Ecuador, Panama and Jamaica.

A 1.86MB PDF version of the report, "Improving Sanitation in Small Towns in Latin America and the Caribbean: Practical Methodology for Designing a Sustainable Sanitation Plan," is available at:

[http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Strategic\\_papers/SR3LACSanSmTwmsCombinedFINAL.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Strategic_papers/SR3LACSanSmTwmsCombinedFINAL.pdf)

A 2.46MB Spanish version of the report also is available at:

[http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Strategic\\_papers/SR3-LACSPANISH.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Strategic_papers/SR3-LACSPANISH.pdf)

For more information or a hard copy of the report, contact  
<mailto:info@ehproject.org>

3. Joint publication on USAID Village and Sanitation Program West Bank of Palestine

Joint Publication 5. USAID Village and Sanitation Program, West Bank of Palestine - Environmental Health Assessment Phase I

An environmental health assessment of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Village and Water Sanitation (VWS) Program in the West Bank has been completed. The field work was carried out by EHP and Save the Children over a two-week period in January 2002 under very difficult conditions.

The assessment focused on access to and types of water supply and sanitation facilities, quality of domestic drinking water, knowledge and practices related to handwashing in school children (6-12 years), prevalence of waterborne and sanitation-related diseases among children under five, and hygiene knowledge and behavior of caretakers of children under five and school-age children.

This publication, in collaboration with Save the Children, presents the results of this assessment.

A 2.32MB PDF version of the report is available at:

[http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Joint\\_Publications/JP005WestBankAssessfinal.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Joint_Publications/JP005WestBankAssessfinal.pdf)

For more information or a hard copy of the report, contact  
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We hope you enjoy this issue.

May Post Dan Campbell Abdulzatar Kuku Milton E. Stern

EHP Information Center

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Environmental Health Project E-Newsletter October/November 2002 Vol. 2, No. 6  
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IN THIS ISSUE:

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- \* HYGIENE PROMOTION IN THE LAC REGION
- \* MALARIA CONTROL IN ERITREA
- \* THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO: INTEGRATING HYGIENE IMPROVEMENT INTO PRIMARY HEALTH CARE
- \* INTEGRATING HEALTH, POPULATION AND ENVIRONMENT IN MADAGASCAR
- \* OUTCOMES FROM THE WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
- \* NEW EHP PUBLICATIONS!

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INDIA: IMPROVING CHILD HEALTH AND NUTRITION IN URBAN SLUMS

In the largest cities in India, 40-60% of the population lives in slums or squatter settlements. Working with USAID/India, EHP has developed an action plan for a five-year urban health program. The goal of the India Urban Health Program is to bring about sustained improvement in child health in urban slums in selected cities, focusing on diarrheal disease reduction and improving neonatal survival.

Two cities, Indore and Jamshedpur, have been identified to implement the India Urban Health program. Approaches include a situation analysis and data compilation, development of partnerships and coalitions, capacity building of NGOs, CBOs and public and private health care providers, implementation of services utilizing partnership models, a knowledge inventory of available urban slum child health data for information sharing and multi-level advocacy activities.

To date, EHP has hired a local urban health program director, established an office in Delhi, carried out consultative stakeholder workshops in Indore to identify partners, conducted health vulnerability assessments for priority intervention zones and created a local consultant base for program implementation.

For information on the activity, please contact Sarah Fry at [frysk@ehproject.org](mailto:frysk@ehproject.org) or Dr. Siddharth at [ehpindia@mantraonline.com](mailto:ehpindia@mantraonline.com).

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#### HYGIENE PROMOTION IN THE LATIN AMERICA CARIBBEAN REGION

In collaboration with PAHO, Ministries of Health, and PVO and NGO partners, USAID has launched a behavior change for hygiene improvement activity in two countries in the Latin America Caribbean region.

Under this activity, the USAID-funded EHP provides assistance in training and materials development to NGO partners working in high diarrheal disease incidence districts in Nicaragua and Peru. The activity highlights the expanding focus of Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) from a facility-based approach to community-based IMCI (C-IMCI), emphasizing community and household practices and preventative behaviors at the household and community level.

The strategy is modeled after a successful approach used by EHP in the Dominican Republic to develop and field test a C-IMCI module integrating hygiene behavior change into existing C-IMCI modules in diarrheal disease prevention.

For more information on this activity, please contact Lisa Nichols at [nicholsls@ehproject.org](mailto:nicholsls@ehproject.org).

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#### MALARIA CONTROL IN ERITREA

Almost 67% of the resident population of Eritrea lives in malaria endemic areas. Malaria accounts for over 30% of the total outpatient morbidity in Eritrea, and an estimated 28% of all hospital admissions are malaria related.

The government of Eritrea has a strong commitment to malaria control, and through USAID/Eritrea, EHP is providing technical support to the Eritrea National Malaria Control Program (NMCP). To better guide decisions on vector control programs, the NMCP initiated a series of studies.

Two studies, one examining the factors responsible for larval production, such as spatial patterns of anopheline species and larval ecology, and the other evaluating the efficacy of two alternative bacterial larvicides have been completed. The reports are now available from EHP (see "New EHP Publications" below).

For information about malaria control in Eritrea, please contact Gene Brantly at [brantlyep@ehproject.org](mailto:brantlyep@ehproject.org).

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THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO: INTEGRATING HYGIENE IMPROVEMENT INTO PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, USAID is supporting a range of integrated activities within SANRU III, which is a five-year, \$25 million, rural primary health-care project that operates in 63 health zones.

EHP has conducted training of zonal water and sanitation coordinators, and a two-year action plan to integrate hygiene improvement into the water and sanitation component of SANRU III also has been completed. Other activities include formative research to identify high-risk hygiene behaviors and develop a behavior change communication strategy and the training of health center nurses to provide hygiene improvement messages that promote child health. Improving hygiene behavior at the household level will be a core component of the project's community-based integrated management of childhood illness (C-IMCI) framework.

For more information on these activities, please contact Fred Rosensweig at [rosensweigfj@ehproject.org](mailto:rosensweigfj@ehproject.org).

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INTEGRATING HEALTH, POPULATION AND ENVIRONMENT IN MADAGASCAR

Since 2000, EHP has been supporting a four-year program in Madagascar that links and integrates activities related to health, population and environment (H-P-E).

Voahary Salama or Integrated Programs Initiative (VS/IPI), a consortium of 20 partners in Madagascar that EHP helped to coordinate, implements the program. The partnership includes USAID/Madagascar, seven NGOs, a Malagasy foundation funded by the Summit Foundation and 12 other organizations, including several USAID-funded projects, which provide funding, technical assistance and implementation support.

VS/IPI aims to strengthen the capacity of NGO partner organizations in developing and testing model approaches for integrating H-P-E programs, evaluating effectiveness and synergies created by different integration models, disseminating lessons learned, and replicating best practices in integrated approaches locally, nationally and internationally.

To date, a survey has been conducted to provide information for designing integrated approaches and to serve as a baseline for evaluating program effectiveness over time. Moreover, VS/IPI partners, including EHP, have developed and implemented key social marketing and capacity-building approaches and materials for integrating activities at the community and program levels.

A mid-term report highlighting the above and other key achievements in the first two years of the activity, 1999-2001, is now available from EHP (see "New EHP Publications" below).

For information on this activity, please contact Eckhard Kleinau at [KleinauEF@ehproject.org](mailto:KleinauEF@ehproject.org)

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OUTCOMES FROM THE WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) was held August 26-September 4 in Johannesburg, South Africa. The WSSD is a ten-year revisiting of the Agenda 21 Agreement reached during the 1992 UN Rio Earth Summit. The WSSD is seeking to reinvigorate, at the highest political level, the global commitment to sustainable development and its implementation at the local, regional, national and international levels. Participants were governments, multilateral financial institutions, United Nations agencies, citizen groups, business and industry, environmental organizations and others.

At the request of the White House, USAID conducted the first-ever comprehensive survey of sustainable development activities by U.S. agencies and departments. Findings revealed that over 20 Agencies were actively involved in a full range of development assistance efforts. More than 400 on-the-ground initiatives were identified and entered into a fully searchable database and a comprehensive compendium. These findings are summarized in the USAID report: "Working for a Sustainable World: U.S. Government Initiatives to Promote Sustainable Development."

At WSSD, USAID emphasized partnerships between governments, NGOs and private sector entities as a key role in developing a continuing focus on sustainable development. These partnerships will be focused on key initiatives to:

- \* reduce the number of people living without safe drinking water
- \* enhance access to clean energy
- \* reduce hunger and increase agricultural productivity
- \* ensure universal access to basic education
- \* stem AIDS and reduce tuberculosis and malaria
- \* manage and conserve forests and oceans.

Information on the conference outcomes can be accessed at [www.usaid.gov/about/wssd](http://www.usaid.gov/about/wssd) .

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NEW EHP PUBLICATIONS!

ACTIVITY REPORT 111. MALARIA VECTOR STUDIES IN ERITREA

In Eritrea, larval control is implemented as part of an integrated approach to malaria control. Although malaria remains a major cause of mortality in Eritrea, little is known about the Anopheles mosquito species responsible for malaria transmission. Since each mosquito species has a limited geographical range, understanding ecological diversity and biotic interactions is critical in determining how vector populations are structured.

For larval control to be an integral part of a vector management program, a sound understanding of the factors responsible for larval production is crucial. On this basis, studies were initiated on the spatial patterns of anopheline species and larval ecology in Eritrea with the overall goal of providing insights into the bionomics of malaria parasite vectors.

A 1.33 MB PDF version of the report is now available at [http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity\\_Reports/AR111-EERMalVctStdFINAL.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity_Reports/AR111-EERMalVctStdFINAL.pdf)

For more information or a hard copy of the report, contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

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EHP News - January 2003

DEAR COLLEAGUES:

Happy New Year!

Welcome to the first issue of "EHP News" for 2003. This issue, as well as previous issues of our E-newsletter, new reports and other resources can be accessed on our web site at <http://www.ehproject.org>.

Questions and comments about our project or this E-newsletter are very welcome. To submit a question or subscribe to our E-newsletter, please contact us at [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

We hope you enjoy this issue.

May Post Dan Campbell Abdulzatar Kuku Milton E. Stern

EHP Information Center

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Environmental Health Project E-Newsletter January 2003 Vol. 3, No. 1  
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IN THIS ISSUE:

- \* THE WEST AFRICA WATER INITIATIVE
- \* LAC REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON COMMUNITY IMCI
- \* REDUCING URBAN MALARIA TRANSMISSION IN UGANDA
- \* LESSONS LEARNED FROM COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH IN BENIN
- \* URBAN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PILOT ACTIVITIES IN DR CONGO
- \* AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR RURAL WATER SUPPLY, SANITATION AND HYGIENE SYSTEMS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
- \* NEW EHP PUBLICATIONS

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THE WEST AFRICA WATER INITIATIVE

The World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg formally endorsed "partnerships" as a model for action. Likewise, USAID emphasized partnerships between governments, NGOs and private sector entities as a key strategy in developing a continuing focus on sustainable development. As a result of this global movement towards partnerships, the West Africa Water Initiative (WAWI) was launched.

Core partners in the Initiative representing a spectrum of international institutions include: the Hilton Foundation; World Vision International; USAID; UNICEF; the World Chlorine Council; the Cornell International Institute for Food, Agriculture and Development; WaterAid; Winrock International; the Desert

Research Institute; the International Trachoma Initiative; the United Nations Foundation; and Lions Clubs International Foundation.

In its first five-year phase, the Initiative will invest over \$40 million in small scale, potable water supply, sanitation, hygiene and integrated water resources management activities in Ghana, Mali and Niger.

A WAWI Partners Meeting was held on December 30, 2002, for team building, establishing working relationships, and organizing the partners around strategic and focused goals. USAID and EHP staff attended the meeting. EHP will play a leading/coordinating role in establishing and developing a core set of six to eight indicators to be used in the WAWI monitoring and evaluation system to monitor WAWI goals.

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#### LAC REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON COMMUNITY IMCI

The Child Survival Collaboration and Resources Group (CORE), Basic Support for Institutionalizing Child Survival (BASICS) and the Environmental Health Project (EHP) are collaborating on a regional workshop on Community Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (C-IMCI) in the Latin America Caribbean (LAC) region.

The purpose of the workshop is to provide a forum for discussion and coordination among PVOs and USAID Missions working in LAC for scaling up/accelerating C-IMCI in the region. The workshop will additionally present an opportunity to identify issues and challenges in scaling up C-IMCI programs as well as build PVO capacity in integrating perinatal and neonatal care and environmental health into C-IMCI.

The workshop will be held in Managua, Nicaragua, February 11-13, 2003.

For information, please contact Lisa Nichols at [nicholsls@ehproject](mailto:nicholsls@ehproject).

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#### REDUCING URBAN MALARIA TRANSMISSION IN UGANDA

Malaria is a critical health problem in Uganda and has a dramatic impact on the health status of Uganda's rural population. Recent data indicate that malaria is also a problem in urban areas.

EHP has initiated an activity in two cities, Kampala and Jinja, aimed at reducing urban malaria transmission. In the first year, the activity will identify mosquito breeding sites in areas at high risk for malaria, develop baseline data on breeding sites and malaria infection rates, and work with local stakeholders to develop an action plan for eliminating or controlling the breeding sites. The action plan will then be implemented during the second year, with regular monitoring to evaluate its impact on reducing local mosquito populations, biting rates and malaria transmission. The activity is co-funded by USAID's Bureau for Global Health, Office of Health, Infectious Disease and Nutrition (USAID/GH/HIDN) and Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade, Office of Urban Programs (EGAT/ENV/UP), with cooperation and supervision from USAID/Kampala.

For more information about the activity, please contact Matt Lynch at [mlynch@usaid.gov](mailto:mlynch@usaid.gov) or Gene Brantly at [brantlyep@ehproject.org](mailto:brantlyep@ehproject.org).

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#### LESSONS LEARNED FROM COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH IN BENIN

Community Management of Environmental Health also known as GESCOME (Gestion Communautaire de la Sante Environnementale), a multi-year activity implemented by EHP in Benin, has been completed. Since September 1999, EHP has been working with USAID/Benin to optimize decentralized decision making related to diarrheal disease prevention in selected medium-sized towns.

The activity, which engaged citizens and government in local communities, resulted in the provision, under well-structured management, of much wanted and needed public latrines. Additionally, participatory community health communication (PCHC)—an innovative approach to cooperative learning by community and public health personnel—ensured proper use of latrines, resulting in reduced open air defecation. PCHC also led to improved hygiene behaviors such as handwashing after latrine use, covering food, covering water jars and increased general cleanliness of the environment. There was also a change in the understanding of causes of diarrhea and an increase in participatory decision making and solution finding related to health problems.

The GESCOME approach stresses the importance of decision making at the local level and coalition building between local government, civil society and communities to stimulate community changes in health understanding and health practices.

A report documenting lessons learned from the GESCOME experience is now available from EHP (see "New EHP Publications" below).

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#### URBAN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PILOT ACTIVITIES IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

In response to the deteriorated urban environmental conditions in the country, the USAID Mission to the Democratic Republic of Congo (USAID/DRC) developed an urban environmental health strategy in collaboration with the USAID Regional Urban Development Office (RUDO/Africa). EHP provided the technical assistance.

The strategy provided a framework for USAID/DRC to implement its Urban Environmental Health Program, which included long-term and short-term interventions. Short-term interventions comprised three urban health pilot activities: market sanitation and hygiene in Kinshasa; water, sanitation and hygiene in Kananga; and a community-based environmental health program in Kinshasa. The three pilot projects, begun in 2000, have been completed, and a lessons learned exercise to identify key elements of the pilot activities that will lead to the design of long-term interventions has been conducted.

A lessons learned report is being prepared. For information on the availability of the report, please contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

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#### AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR RURAL WATER SUPPLY, SANITATION AND HYGIENE SYSTEMS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC





EHP News - March 2003

DEAR COLLEAGUES:

Welcome to "EHP News." This issue, as well as previous issues of our E-newsletter, new reports, and other resources can be accessed on our web site at <http://www.ehproject.org>.

Questions and comments about our project or this E-newsletter are very welcome. To submit a question or subscribe to our E-newsletter, please contact us at [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

We hope you enjoy this issue.

May Post Dan Campbell Abdulzatar Kuku Milton Stern

EHP Information Center

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Environmental Health Project E-Newsletter March 2003 Vol. 3, No. 2  
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- \* BEST PRACTICES FOR DENGUE PREVENTION AND CONTROL IN THE AMERICAS
- \* DHANUSHA-MAHOTTARI VECTOR-BORNE DISEASE PROGRAM: COMMUNITY-BASED PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF KALA-AZAR
- \* SANITATION IN SMALL TOWNS: SUMMARY REPORT ON SUB-REGIONAL WORKSHOPS
- \* USAID KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT INVENTORY
- \* NEW EHP PUBLICATIONS

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CAIRO URBAN SLUM CHILD HEALTH PROGRAM

In an effort to help USAID Field Missions effectively program child health resources in urban slums, USAID/Asia Near East (ANE) Bureau launched an Urban Health Initiative.

Phase I of the Initiative, a desktop literature review of existing studies on child health in urban slums and squatter settlements in select countries of the ANE Region, was recently completed by EHP (<http://www.ehproject.org/live/Rptspub.html>). Cairo was one of the case cities selected in the desktop study, and the USAID/Egypt Mission responded favorably to a region-wide request for a city-based follow-on program. Phase II is the design and implementation of a demonstration integrated child health program. Two slums in greater Cairo, Ezbet el Nakhl and Hekr Abu Domaha, have been selected for the program. These slums were selected for their extreme need, lack of infrastructure and services, and in the case of Hekr Abu Domaha, for its

"temporary" status. Ezbat El Nakhl is a community of garbage collectors and recyclers whose livelihood is in jeopardy due to imminent privatization of Cairo's solid waste management. The presence of NGOs in the neighborhoods capable of carrying out program activities added to the selection criteria, and capacity building of these organizations will be a key activity.

EHP and USAID/EGAT/Urban Programs staff visited Cairo in December 2002 to establish a relationship with the Mission and to scope out program approach and implementing partner possibilities. The Mission is participating in the Urban Slum Health Program through a grant for MCH/RH activities, which will complement EHP's hygiene improvement efforts.

For more information on the Cairo program, please contact Sarah Fry at [frysk@ehproject.org](mailto:frysk@ehproject.org)

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#### AGA KHAN WORKSHOP

Through EHP, USAID assisted the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) in the design, facilitation, and technical direction of a workshop for field and management staff from seven countries in Asia and Eastern Africa. The AKDN is a group of private institutions, including the Aga Khan Foundation and others, working to improve living conditions and opportunities in specific areas of the developing and developed world. The workshop was held in Kenya, February 24-27.

The overall goal of the workshop was to improve the impact and efficiency of environmental health programs within the Network. Specific objectives were to define environmental health within the context of AKDN programming; to describe a practical framework for environmental health programs and identify principles to guide its application within the Network; and to identify specific communication vehicles within AKDN and with outside sources that are engaged in environmental health.

The workshop was attended by 24 participants from India, Pakistan, Kenya, Tanzania, Syria, Mozambique and Zanzibar. All workshop objectives were achieved, and a list of follow-up activities was developed. The complete report from the workshop is being finalized and will soon be available from EHP.

For more information, contact Craig Hafner at [hafnercr@ehproject.org](mailto:hafnercr@ehproject.org).

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#### BEST PRACTICES FOR DENGUE PREVENTION AND CONTROL IN THE AMERICAS

In the past ten years, the number of dengue and dengue hemorrhagic fever (DHF) cases has increased dramatically in the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region. In response to the growing need of health staff to address dengue prevention and control, USAID requested EHP to develop a document of best practices for the prevention and control of dengue fever.

The conceptual framework for the document is that of comprehensive, integrated dengue prevention and control, a framework the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) proposed in 1994, which is supported by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Dengue Branch, and the World Health Organization (WHO). The best practices include 11 examples of practices currently in use in several countries—nine from the Americas, one from Southeast Asia, and one of

global application. The best practices selected were those that are consistent with the conceptual framework and reasonably well established, and they were written by a range of contributors, each of whom was directly familiar with the practice. The document is now available from EHP (see "New EHP Publications" below).

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#### DHANUSHA-MAHOTTARI VECTOR-BORNE DISEASE PROGRAM: COMMUNITY-BASED PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF KALA-AZAR

With support from USAID/Nepal, EHP is collaborating with several local and international nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and the Nepal Ministry of Health in pilot testing community-based interventions for kala-azar prevention and control.

The pilot program was initiated in 2001 in Dhanusha and Mahottari, two kala-azar and malaria affected districts of the Terai region. Under the program, Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs) and other community health workers, will play an important role. The training of FCHVs that is being conducted focuses on raising awareness at the community level, identification of kala-azar cases, and case referrals using specially-designed referral cards. Other community members such as Mother Child Health Workers (MCHWs), Village Health Workers (VHWs), and Village Development Committee (VDC) members are also being orientated to provide a support system for the FCHVs.

For information on the activity, please contact Lisa Nichols at [NicholsLS@ehproject.org](mailto:NicholsLS@ehproject.org)

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#### SANITATION IN SMALL TOWNS: SUMMARY REPORT ON SUB-REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

EHP developed a practical tool with a ten-step methodology for designing a sustainable sanitation plan for small towns. The methodology was field tested in three countries. To disseminate the principles and methodology with practitioners and policy makers throughout Latin America, two workshops were held—one in Peru and the other in Honduras—by EHP in partnership with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the Water and Sanitation Program.

The workshops provided a unique opportunity to discuss the issue of small town sanitation with participants from 12 countries, representing national and local governmental and non-governmental institutions, and the donor community. A report documenting the outcomes of the two workshops is now available from EHP. (See "New EHP Publications" below.)

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#### USAID KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT INVENTORY

Three knowledge-based tools used by EHP to communicate activities and practices in environmental health were highlighted in the USAID Knowledge Management Inventory:

- \* Information exchange networks on malaria and hygiene
- \* E-conferences on safe excreta disposal and EHP's Hygiene Improvement Framework





institutions, and the donor community. This report captures the insights gained in the course of conducting the two workshops.

A 264 KB PDF version of the report will be available at:  
[http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity\\_Reports/AR117.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity_Reports/AR117.pdf)

For more information or a hard copy of the report, contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org)

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EHP News - Special Global Health Council Conference Issue

May 2003

DEAR COLLEAGUES:

Welcome to "EHP News." This special issue of EHP News commemorating the annual Global Health Council conference, as well as previous issues of our E-newsletter, new reports, and other resources can be accessed on our website at <http://www.ehproject.org>.

Questions and comments about our project or this E-newsletter are very welcome. To submit a question or subscribe to our E-newsletter, please contact us at [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

We hope you enjoy this issue.

May Post Dan Campbell Abdulzatar Kuku Milton Stern

EHP Information Center

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Environmental Health Project E-Newsletter May 2003 Vol. 3, No. 3  
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- \* MAINSTREAMING PREVENTION OF DIARRHEA IN CHILD HEALTH
- \* HEALTHY FAMILIES, HEALTHY FORESTS: INTEGRATED PROGRAMS
- \* MALARIA, DENGUE, CHOLERA: ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGIES FOR CONTROL AND PREVENTION
- \* IMPROVING MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH IN URBAN SLUMS AND SQUATTER SETTLEMENTS
- \* ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN INCOME GENERATION AND HEALTH
- \* VISIT THE EHP BOOTH

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GLOBAL HEALTH COUNCIL CONFERENCE 2003 FOCUSES ON HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The 30th Annual Conference of the Global Health Council (GHC) will be held May 27-30, 2003, at the Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D.C. The theme for this year's GHC conference is "Our Future on Common Ground: Health and the Environment." Professionals from health and environmental disciplines including service providers, policy makers, advocates, researchers and representatives from community-based organizations, non-governmental organizations and private voluntary organizations from all over the world will be participating in the conference to share information, experiences and lessons learned.

According to the GHC website, six million people die each year and tens of millions more suffer from serious illnesses attributed to a combination of

water-related diseases, indoor air pollution, urban air pollution and toxic chemical exposure. All are areas in which EHP works.

Together with our partners in environmental health, EHP will participate in this year's annual GHC conference. To share our experiences in environmental health, EHP organized two pre-formed panels, "Mainstreaming Prevention of Diarrhea in Child Health" and "Improving Maternal and Child Health in Urban Slums and Squatter Settlements," and will participate in a panel discussion, "Malaria, Dengue, Cholera: Environmental Strategies for Control and Prevention." Additionally, a panel discussion based on an EHP activity in Madagascar, "Healthy Families, Healthy Forests: Integrated Programs," is on the conference program. EHP will also have a booth in the exhibition hall.

See related stories below for more information on EHP events at the conference.

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IT'S BACK: THE RETURN OF VECTOR CONTROL AS A TOOL AGAINST MALARIA WEDNESDAY, MAY 28 11:00 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

This panel, organized by an EHP USAID Advisor, will discuss current priorities for controlling vector-borne diseases in Africa, the role of vector control vis-à-vis other control interventions, and challenges in using the full range of integrated vector control interventions as part of integrated disease control programs.

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MAINSTREAMING PREVENTION OF DIARRHEA IN CHILD HEALTH THURSDAY, MAY 29 10:30 A.M.-12:00 NOON

Every year, 1.3 million children-under-five die because of diarrhea, and those who survive suffer from malnutrition and have lasting consequences related to physical and mental development. While substantial progress has been made in reducing mortality from childhood diarrhea, morbidity remains high. Hygiene improvement focusing on practical and inexpensive means exists for diarrhea prevention and needs to become central to child health programs together with ORT and case management. This pre-formed panel organized by EHP and moderated by Dr. Robert E. Black, Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health, includes presenters from Peru, DR Congo and the Dominican Republic. Presenters will discuss trends in diarrhea morbidity and the importance of diarrhea prevention, and present experiences from the DR Congo and the Dominican Republic related to application of hygiene improvement in field programs.

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HEALTHY FAMILIES, HEALTHY FORESTS: INTEGRATED PROGRAMS THURSDAY, MAY 29 1:30 P.M.-3:00 P.M.

EHP is providing technical assistance to a four-year activity in Madagascar, collaborating with the Association Voahary Salama. The Association is comprised of non-governmental organizations and other groups working in Madagascar's key environmental corridors to support integrated delivery approaches and activities linking family planning and other public health interventions with natural resource management and environmental conservation. This panel, organized jointly by Population Action International (PAI) and EHP, will present the Madagascar activity as well as case studies from Tanzania and Guatemala.

Discussions will focus on the population-health-environment nexus that can lead to programs that effectively combine reproductive health, environmental conservation and natural resource management. Dr. Duff Gillespie, Senior Scholar at the Packard Foundation, will moderate the panel.

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MALARIA, DENGUE, CHOLERA: ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGIES FOR CONTROL AND PREVENTION  
FRIDAY, MAY 30 8:30 A.M.-10:00 A.M.

The global prevalence of dengue has grown dramatically in recent decades. According to WHO, the disease is now endemic in more than 100 countries in Africa, the Americas, the Eastern Mediterranean, Southeast Asia and the Western Pacific. Some 2.5 billion people— two fifths of the world's population—live in areas at risk for epidemic transmission. EHP will participate in the above panel presentation and will discuss best practices in dengue prevention and control.

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IMPROVING MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH IN URBAN SLUMS AND SQUATTER SETTLEMENTS  
FRIDAY, MAY 30 1:30 P.M.-3:00 P.M.

Global urbanization is unprecedented. By 2015, the number of urban dwellers is expected to exceed rural dwellers for the first time in history. This pre-formed panel organized by EHP will explore challenges and progress made in providing preventive and curative health services for children living in urban slums and squatter settlements, describe efforts to collect and analyze data related to urban poor, discuss strategies for child health programs in complex urban settings, and present case studies of successful slum interventions.

Presenters come from a range of organizations—PAHO, Macro International, and EHP/India. The panel moderator is Dr. John Borrazzo, Environmental Health Advisor, USAID.

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ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN INCOME GENERATION AND HEALTH THURSDAY, MAY 29 10:30  
A.M.-12:00 P.M.

This panel moderated by an EHP staff member will discuss environmental issues, which have an impact on health, that are often affected by economic considerations.

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VISIT THE EHP BOOTH

EHP's booth is located behind the Cyber Café. Come visit the EHP booth, #506, at the conference. Grab a latte and swing around to our booth to say "Hello."

Come find out information about our project and our activities. We will also have copies of popular key EHP reports, EHP Briefs, our CD-ROMs and brochures, as well as information about how to subscribe to our e-newsletter and e-bulletins and updates on malaria and environmental health. We look forward to seeing you there.

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EHP News - June/July 2003

DEAR COLLEAGUES:

Welcome to "EHP News."

Previous issues of our EHP E-newsletter, new reports and other resources can be accessed on our website at <http://www.ehproject.org>.

To subscribe to the EHP E-newsletter, please contact us at [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

We hope you enjoy this issue.

May Post Dan Campbell Abdulzatar Kuku Milton Stern

EHP Information Center

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Environmental Health Project E-Newsletter June/July 2003 Vol. 3, No. 4  
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- \* NEPAL HANDWASHING WITH SOAP INITIATIVE
- \* URBAN HEALTH CONFERENCE IN INDIA
- \* NEW EHP PUBLICATIONS, BRIEFS, AND MORE

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#### CAIRO HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOOD PROGRAM

In an effort to help USAID field missions effectively program child health resources in urban slums, USAID Asia Near East (ANE) Regional Bureau launched an Urban Health Initiative. Under the Initiative, EHP is implementing the Cairo Healthy Neighborhood Program with support from USAID/Egypt and USAID/EGAT/Urban Programs.

Ezbet El Nakhl, the slum community selected for the Healthy Neighborhood Program, ranks among Cairo's most destitute areas. Its residents are mostly "zabbaleen," or traditional garbage collectors, sorters and recyclers, who live and work in the garbage and waste collected from nearby neighborhoods.

Activities to be undertaken by EHP under the program include: a situation analysis of Ezbet El Nakhl; community and governmental/organizational stakeholders meetings to identify program priorities; hygiene improvement activities based on priorities identified at stakeholders' meetings; and capacity building of local NGOs involved in the program to implement the activities.

The project has been initiated with the formation and training of a team of Egyptian consultants, who together with community volunteers, will conduct the two-week long situation analysis before the end of June.

For more information, contact Sarah Fry at [frysk@ehproject.org](mailto:frysk@ehproject.org).

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#### STRENGTHENING MALARIA SURVEILLANCE IN ERITREA

EHP is providing technical assistance to the Eritrea National Malaria Control Program to help strengthen analyses of historical data. Data on reported malaria cases (hospitals and health facilities), interventions (e.g., antimalarial drugs, household spraying, nets, and environmental management), and meteorological data (rainfall and temperature) have been gathered and re-entered into computer databases, covering the period 1996-2002.

The data, now disaggregated to local levels, are being used to reconstruct events associated with the severe epidemics in Eritrea during 1997-98 and to evaluate the impact of malaria program interventions. Results will be used to identify potential improvements in program planning, epidemic preparedness, revising malaria risk maps and defining and improving protocols for sentinel surveillance sites.

For more information, please contact Gene Brantly at [brantlyep@ehproject.org](mailto:brantlyep@ehproject.org).

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#### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO: INTEGRATING HYGIENE IMPROVEMENT INTO PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

In the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), USAID is supporting a range of integrated activities within SANRU III, a five-year, \$25 million, rural primary health care project implemented by Interchurch Medical Assistance (I.M.A) and Christian Church of Congo (ECC). SANRU III is revitalizing and expanding the network of existing zonal water and sanitation (WS&S) coordinators established under SANRU I/II in the 1980s, while at the same time increasing program emphasis on hygiene improvement, behavior change communication and community-based integrated management of childhood illnesses (C-IMCI). SANRU III operates in 63 of DRC's decentralized health zones.

EHP has been assisting SANRU III in two areas. To help SANRU revitalize and expand the network of WS&S coordinators, EHP organized a training of trainers workshop to establish a national training team for WS&S coordinators and prepared materials for the trainers.

Second, EHP has assisted SANRU III in developing a hygiene promotion component that focuses on key hygiene behaviors such as handwashing, safe water storage, and safe excreta disposal. This component has been implemented under SANRU's C-IMCI framework. EHP's technical assistance consisted of formative research, communication materials development, and training of staff from ten pilot health zones. In the coming year, EHP will assess the experience in the pilot zones, develop a strategy for scale-up, and provide assistance in implementing the strategy.

For more information on EHP activities in the DRC, please contact Fred Rosensweig at [rosensweigfj@ehproject.org](mailto:rosensweigfj@ehproject.org).

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#### NEPAL HANDWASHING WITH SOAP INITIATIVE

A memorandum of understanding outlining a partnership between USAID/Nepal and UNICEF/Nepal has been drafted to promote handwashing with soap as a public health initiative. The initiative will draw on models and lessons learned from handwashing initiatives in other countries to develop a public private partnership (PPP) between soap manufacturers, the public sector, and international organizations, and will be integrated with existing sanitation and hygiene programs in Nepal. The overall objective of the initiative will be to prevent diarrheal disease among children under five in Nepal through a coordinated communication campaign promoting proper handwashing with soap.

Prior to designing and implementing the campaign, social and consumer research will be conducted, and findings will be used to design effective campaign strategies. EHP has subcontracted a private marketing and communications company to provide private sector/social marketing expertise to the handwashing initiative and is also assisting UNICEF in initial preparations to conduct the social and consumer research.

For more information, please contact Lisa Nichols at [nicholsls@ehproject.org](mailto:nicholsls@ehproject.org).

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#### URBAN HEALTH CONFERENCE IN INDIA

With support from USAID/India, a national conference on urban health is being organized by EHP/India together with the Government of India. The conference will take place in Bangalore, June 30–July 1, 2003. The purpose of the conference is to provide a platform for dialogue among policy makers, planners and implementers of urban health programs, to review programs and policies related to urban health, and to make key recommendations for future urban health programming to the Government of India.

The conference proceedings will be highlighted on the EHP website, [www.ehproject.org](http://www.ehproject.org).

For information on the Urban Health Conference, please contact Sarah Fry at [frysk@ehproject.org](mailto:frysk@ehproject.org) or Siddharth Agarwal at [siddharth@ehpindia.org](mailto:siddharth@ehpindia.org).

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#### NEW EHP PUBLICATIONS, BRIEFS, AND MORE

#### ACTIVITY REPORT 118. LESSONS LEARNED FROM ASSESSMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROJECT WEBSITE

This report documents the findings and recommendations from the website evaluation and actions taken to improve the EHP website.

A 401 KB PDF version of this report is available at:  
[http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity\\_Reports/AR-118-WebSiteAsses.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity_Reports/AR-118-WebSiteAsses.pdf).





EHP News - August/September 2003

DEAR COLLEAGUES:

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We hope you enjoy this issue.

May Post Dan Campbell Abdulzatar Kuku Milton Stern

EHP Information Center

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IN THIS ISSUE:

- \* NEPAL-INDIA CROSS BORDER COLLABORATION: STUDY ON POPULATION MOVEMENT ACROSS NEPAL-BIHAR BORDER FOR TREATMENT OF KALA-AZAR AND MALARIA
- \* NICARAGUA: CAPACITY BUILDING OF NGOs IN PARTICIPATORY COMMUNITY MONITORING
- \* ERITREA VILLAGE PILOT PROGRAM FOR MOSQUITO SOURCE MANAGEMENT
- \* PAHO-EHP PARTNERSHIP FOR HYGIENE BEHAVIOR CHANGE
- \* REDUCING URBAN MALARIA TRANSMISSION IN UGANDA
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NEPAL-INDIA CROSS BORDER COLLABORATION: STUDY ON POPULATION MOVEMENT ACROSS NEPAL-BIHAR BORDER FOR TREATMENT OF KALA-AZAR AND MALARIA

Kala-azar and malaria have emerged as an increasing burden to India and Nepal in those communities situated along their common border. Inadequate public health services and an open, porous border between the two countries have further exacerbated the problem. To address these issues, a joint meeting was held in Bihar, India, organized by the Department of Health, Government of Bihar, India, and HMG Ministry of Health, Nepal. The meeting was coordinated and facilitated by EHP/Nepal.

At the meeting, a consensus was reached by the participants on six key follow-up activities. One activity was to conduct a study on population movement across the Nepal-Bihar border for treatment of kala-azar and malaria. A protocol is being developed under the activity. The study area will be the Nepal-Bihar border and will focus on households with cases of kala-azar/malaria. The study will look at: characteristics of the border population, their health seeking behavior including reasons for border crossing, and the socio-economic impact of

kala-azar and malaria in the Nepal-Bihar border. The findings will be used to identify a coordinated approach to prevention and control strategies.

For more information, please contact: Lisa Nichols [nicholsls@ehproject.org](mailto:nicholsls@ehproject.org) or Panduka M. Wiejeyaratne at [panduwij@ehp.wlink.com.np](mailto:panduwij@ehp.wlink.com.np).

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#### NICARAGUA: CAPACITY BUILDING OF NGOS IN PARTICIPATORY COMMUNITY MONITORING

In 1999, USAID responded to the devastation caused by Hurricane Mitch in Nicaragua by supporting a two-year reconstruction program. The program was implemented through EHP. Interventions included provision of sustainable water supply and sanitation services through construction/rehabilitation of community water systems, repair/replacement of household latrines, and hygiene promotion through community mobilization.

For program sustainability, it is essential that participatory community monitoring (PCM) strategies be integrated into these community-based programs. Therefore, at the end of the two-year program, EHP initiated a partnership with NicaSalud, a consortium of NGOs in Nicaragua, to ensure the monitoring, evaluation and follow-up of the community-based environmental sanitation and hygiene programs.

Working with NicaSalud, EHP is developing a comprehensive PCM methodology that will be institutionalized. The approach emphasizes capacity building of NicaSalud NGOs in PCM skills and participation by all community stakeholders including women, youth, and households with low socio-economic status. Strategies include development of a training manual, training for consortium NGOs, and appropriate tools for community monitoring of hygiene improvement activities.

For more information, contact Sarah Fry at [frysk@ehproject.org](mailto:frysk@ehproject.org).

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#### ERITREA VILLAGE PILOT PROGRAM FOR MOSQUITO SOURCE MANAGEMENT

The Eritrea National Malaria Control Program (NMCP) has long used source reduction and chemical larvicides in its control programs. EHP is helping introduce the use of biological larvicides and is providing assistance to refine protocols that maximize the effectiveness of larval control methods.

With technical support from EHP, the NMCP tested the efficacy of two bacterial larvicides, Bti and Bs, and determined the frequency and dosages required to maintain effective control of mosquito larvae in several types of breeding sites. The NMCP then launched an operational pilot program in four intervention villages and four control villages.

The first year of the pilot has been completed. The procedures proved feasible, and results demonstrate that larvicides were effective in reducing larval and adult mosquito populations within defined areas. The study highlighted the importance of larval management throughout the year, with special emphasis during the dry season, particularly at man-made sites. The pilot program will continue for a second year, during which the NMCP will expand the size of the areas under control and begin implementing larval control interventions in

collaboration with village health agents.

For more information, contact Gene Brantly at [brantlyep@ehproject.org](mailto:brantlyep@ehproject.org).

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#### PAHO-EHP PARTNERSHIP FOR HYGIENE BEHAVIOR CHANGE

Since 2001, EHP has been collaborating with PAHO in the development, field application and testing of a hygiene behavior change (HBC) strategy for diarrheal disease prevention. Pilot behavior change activities have been initiated within the community-based Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (C-IMCI ) framework in Peru and Nicaragua. The strategy being used in the two pilot activities was developed by EHP and used successfully in the Dominican Republic. A key aspect of the strategy includes coordinating and collaborating with respective Ministries of Health to scale-up the pilot HBC process. Plan International is the lead implementing NGO in both countries.

The pilot activities include design, testing and development of HBC materials and activities to promote three key hygiene behaviors (handwashing, safe excreta disposal and use of safe water) and capacity building of a multi-partner, local implementation team to design, plan, implement and monitor a community-based HBC activity. The process also incorporates a consultative approach between HBC promoters from NGOs and community members to enhance community participation and ownership in HBC approaches and targets.

The HBC process guide and products developed in the two pilot activities will be integrated into materials that PAHO is using under its IMCI Initiative throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.

For more information, contact Lisa Nichols [nicholsls@ehproject.org](mailto:nicholsls@ehproject.org) or John Gavin [gavinjm@ehproject.org](mailto:gavinjm@ehproject.org).

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#### REDUCING URBAN MALARIA TRANSMISSION IN UGANDA

Recent data indicate that malaria is a problem in urban areas in Uganda. EHP is supporting an activity in two cities, Kampala and Jinja, aimed at reducing urban malaria transmission using environmental management.

During the first year of the activity, entomological and parasitological surveys were implemented by EHP in two sites in each city. Additionally, larval breeding sites were mapped. The survey of breeding sites indicated that most breeding takes place in brick pits, puddles and blocked drains. Biting and malaria transmission rates as well as prevalence rates for parasitemia in children six months to five years of age were also assessed. Based on the findings, EHP developed action plans in consultation with communities, local partners and district health authorities to reduce larval breeding in target sites in both cities. The second year will focus on implementation of the action plans.

The activity is co-funded by USAID/Uganda, the Office of Health, Infectious Disease and Nutrition in the Bureau of Global Health (USAID/GH/HIDN), and the Office of Urban Programs in the Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade (USAID/EGAT/ENV/UP).

For more information about the activity, please contact Fred Rosensweig at [frosensweig@trg-inc.com](mailto:frosensweig@trg-inc.com) or Gene Brantly at [brantlyep@ehproject.org](mailto:brantlyep@ehproject.org).

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NEW EHP PUBLICATIONS

JOINT PUBLICATION 6. USAID VILLAGE WATER AND SANITATION PROGRAM, WEST BANK—  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT—PHASE II

This survey is the second in a series of environmental health assessments conducted for the West Bank Village Water and Sanitation Program. The survey looked at access to and quality of water, health outcomes, and health and hygiene knowledge. This publication, in collaboration with Save the Children, presents the results of this follow-up assessment.

A 1.92 MB PDF version of this joint publication is available at:  
[http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Joint\\_Publications/JP006-WestBankFollowup.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Joint_Publications/JP006-WestBankFollowup.pdf).

For more information or a hard copy, contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

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ACTIVITY REPORT 120. COMBINING HYGIENE BEHAVIOR CHANGE WITH WATER AND  
SANITATION: MONITORING PROGRESS IN HATO MAYOR, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Two surveys were conducted as part of a hygiene behavior change program monitoring process in nine communities of the municipality of Hato Mayor, Dominican Republic. The surveys were part of a total community participation process in that the team that initiated and implemented the activities participated in the systematic process of ongoing community level data collection. The purpose of these surveys was to provide NGO program managers and communities with timely information about changes in diarrhea prevalence and hygiene behaviors before and after water and hygiene interventions were introduced and to quantify the changes that were plausibly associated with their efforts. This report documents the results of those surveys.

A 555 KB PDF version of this activity report is available at:  
[http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity\\_Reports/AR-120%20EHP%20Hato%20Mayor.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity_Reports/AR-120%20EHP%20Hato%20Mayor.pdf).

For more information or a hard copy, contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

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EHP BRIEF 17. WEST BANK VILLAGE WATER AND SANITATION PROGRAM: FINDINGS FROM  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

A 747 KB PDF version of this brief is available at:  
<http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/EHPBriefs/EHPB17.pdf>.

EHP BRIEF 18. PARTICIPATORY MONITORING OF HYGIENE BEHAVIOR CHANGE IN HATO MAYOR,  
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

A 712 KB PDF version of this brief is available at:  
<http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/EHPBriefs/EHPB18.pdf>.

For more information or a hard copy of the above EHP Briefs, contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

EHP News - November 2003

DEAR COLLEAGUES:

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We hope you enjoy this issue.

May Post Dan Campbell Abdulzatar Kuku Milton Stern

EHP Information Center

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Environmental Health Project E-Newsletter November 2003 Vol. 3, No. 6  
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IN THIS ISSUE:

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- \* INTEGRATING HEALTH, POPULATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT IN MADAGASCAR
- \* PROTECTING AND IMPROVING WATER SOURCES IN JORDAN
- \* DEVELOPING MALARIA RISK MAPS IN ERITREA
- \* PANAMA: SANITATION IN SMALL TOWNS WORKSHOP
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PERU AND NEPAL: PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS IN HANDWASHING INITIATIVE

Several studies in different parts of the world have indicated that proper handwashing at proper times results in diarrhea reduction. Collectively, studies over the past decade have reported a 33% to 47% reduction in diarrhea from handwashing alone.

In Peru, the Ministry of Health together with USAID, the World Bank Water and Sanitation Program (WSP), CDC, UNICEF and other public and private partners are working together on the design and implementation of a public-private partnership in handwashing initiative. The initiative is based on the concept that private commercial firms and public entities would find it mutually beneficial to work in partnership to achieve complementary goals of promoting handwashing for public health. USAID, through EHP, has initiated consumer research and baseline field work in Peru as a first step in designing a public-private partnership for handwashing with soap campaign. EHP has subcontracted a local research firm, PRISMA, to conduct the research.

Similarly, in Nepal, USAID, through EHP, and UNICEF/Nepal are collaborating to implement a public-private partnership in handwashing with soap initiative. A local research firm, VARG, subcontracted by EHP, has completed the baseline research. Results from the market research will be used to design an effective media/communications program. The initiative has been able to recruit both large, multi-national and small, regional soap manufacturers to participate. Regional stakeholders' meetings have been held to introduce the initiative and to garner support from various organizations. The initiative's products and approach will be disseminated through UNICEF/Nepal's school sanitation and community programs.

For more on the handwashing initiative, contact Lisa Nichols at NicholsLS@ehproject.org.

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#### INTEGRATING HEALTH, POPULATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT IN MADAGASCAR

Recognizing the nexus between health and environment as a crucial element for achieving sustainable development, USAID is supporting a consortium of NGOs and supporting organizations under Voahary Salama (VS), the NGO umbrella organization that leads the community-centered, integrated health, population and environment program along Madagascar's forest corridors.

EHP helped establish VS as a mechanism to coordinate integrated activities and provided support and assistance in the institutionalization of VS. VS is now a legal association. It is gaining increasing international exposure as a prime example of integrated programming, and EHP and VS received the Population and Environment Pioneers and Leadership award in 2002. VS partners serve 120,000 people in 160 remote rural communities.

In the program, social marketing approaches are implemented through community resources and NGO structures. The approaches are built around an "innovator model" that uses early adopters of positive practices in the community as role models. Two video documentaries produced in 2003 portray the "champion community" approach. The champion community approach is one of the most successful social marketing approaches for engaging communities in setting their own development goals in population, health and the environment.

Preliminary data in Madagascar show substantial improvements of key health indicators: lead NGOs reported a more than twofold increase in contraceptive prevalence rates from less than 10% to over 20%; severe malnutrition rates of children under five dropped from 13% to 5%; and vaccination coverage increased from 41% to 93%.

For more information, contact Eckhard Kleinau at KleinauEF@ehproject.org.

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#### PROTECTING AND IMPROVING WATER SOURCES IN JORDAN

USAID/Jordan is funding an initiative to protect and improve water sources in Jordan and thereby safeguard previous infrastructure investments and protect public health.

The first phase of the initiative, the Jordan Water Quality Management Project, was implemented by Camp Dresser & McKee (CDM), from March 2002 to January 2003,

in close partnership with the Ministry of Water (MWI), Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) and the Ministry of Health. The first phase focused on problem analysis of Jordan's water management system and identified areas for improvement.

EHP (through CDM) is currently implementing the second phase of the initiative. Based on priority problems identified in Phase I, Phase II focuses on three tasks: (1) watershed protection including the implementation of a pilot program; (2) laboratory quality assurance/quality control; and (3) operations and maintenance at selected WAJ treatment facilities.

The watershed protection task is based on findings from Phase I that indicated spring water in five watersheds contained elevated concentrations of coliforms and nitrates and concluded that domestic wastewater is the primary source of groundwater pollution.

For more information on the Jordan watershed/water quality management program, please contact Chitra Parameswar at parameswar@cdm.com.

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#### DEVELOPING MALARIA RISK MAPS IN ERITREA

Eritrea is prone to severe malaria epidemics, and malaria is a leading cause of hospital and health center admissions and in-patient deaths in both children and adults. The decentralized malaria control program in Eritrea is managed by zonal coordinators, who have an established historical practice of using hand-drawn malaria maps.

With technical assistance from EHP, USAID is supporting the development, testing and using of malaria risk maps in Eritrea. Models for the spatial stratification of malaria risk in Eritrea have been developed and tested, and the most robust model has been identified, which employs only three variables: data from the Mapping Malaria Risk in Africa (MARA) model of malaria seasonality; land use; and altitude.

The model was presented by EHP at GeoMed, an international conference showcasing the latest tool developments, research and accomplishments in the application of geo-spatial analysis in public health. The conference was held at the University of Maryland Medical School, October 15-17.

For more information on malaria risk maps in Eritrea, please contact Gene Brantly at brantlyep@ehproject.org.

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#### PANAMA: SANITATION IN SMALL TOWNS WORKSHOP

Sanitation in small towns is a growing and important problem. Very few small towns in Latin America have managed to provide sustainable sanitation services. This can be attributed to multiple factors including lack of demand for sanitation, an inadequate policy framework, and limited institutional capacity to effectively manage sanitation systems.

Over the past two years, EHP has developed a methodology for designing a sanitation plan for small towns, field tested the methodology in three countries, and actively disseminated the results of this activity in the region.

One of the field tests was in La Cabima, a community of 14,000 residents within the Panama Canal Watershed.

With support from USAID, EHP organized a national-level workshop in Panama related to sanitation in small towns. The purpose of the workshop was to discuss and agree upon the framework for a national plan/strategy to improve sanitation in small towns specific to Panama, based on the La Cabima experience. The workshop was attended by 41 participants from national and local governments and NGOs. The workshop resulted in a higher level of awareness about the problem and initial discussions about addressing the problem on the national level. The plan is now being implemented with prospects for funding likely.

For information on workshops or on small town sanitation, contact Fred Rosensweig at [frosensweig@trg-inc.com](mailto:frosensweig@trg-inc.com).

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#### COP IN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The EHP Information Center has created a trial Environmental Health Blog at <http://EHUpdates.blogspot.com>.

A Blog is a regularly updated, online, information and news journal and includes links to full text articles, study abstracts, news items, questions, opinions, etc. It is also a tool for creating a community of practice (COP)—a community of professionals and experts with a common vision and interest. What sets Blogs apart from other online writing is their dynamic nature (as opposed to static web pages). A Blog thrives on multiple, regular contributors posting information, news, opinions, etc.

The Environmental Health Blog focuses on water, sanitation, hygiene improvement and integrated vector management for malaria prevention and control. Please contact us at [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org) if you would like to join our Community of Practice in Environmental Health. You will be assigned a username and a password to enable you to contribute information to the Blog. Feedback on the Blog is also welcome.

For information, contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

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#### NEW EHP PUBLICATIONS

Activity Report 121. Nepal: Analysis of Baseline Survey Data on Japanese Encephalitis, Kala-azar and Malaria

This report analyzes potential risk factors for malaria, kala-azar and Japanese encephalitis across various household/population groups in Nepal. The survey included a socio-behavioral survey, an entomological survey with household and peri-household vector collection, and a clinical survey with blood sample collection. The report analyzes survey findings and identifies interventions for the three vector-borne diseases.

A 542 KB PDF version of this activity report is available at:  
[http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity\\_Reports/AR%20121%20BaselineSurveyNepaL.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity_Reports/AR%20121%20BaselineSurveyNepaL.pdf)

For more information or a hard copy, contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

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EHP Brief 19. The Nepal Survey on Malaria, Japanese Encephalitis and Kala-azar

A 507 KB PDF version of this brief is available at:

<http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/EHPBriefs/EHPB19.pdf>

For more information or a hard copy, contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

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Highlights from the Sixth Annual Assessment and Mid-term Review Workshop on  
Malaria Control in Eritrea

This is a mission-funded report, which includes an overview and an annex of the  
PowerPoint presentations from the Annual Workshop on Malaria Control in Eritrea.

A 1.3 MB PDF version of this report is available at:

<http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Others/Highlights-Malariaworkshop.pdf>

For more information or a hard copy, contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

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EHP News - January 2004

DEAR COLLEAGUES:

Welcome to "EHP News."

Happy New Year!

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May Post Dan Campbell Abdulzatar Kuku Milton Stern

EHP Information Center

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EHP News Environmental Health Project E-Newsletter January 2004 Vol. 4, No. 1  
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IN THIS ISSUE:

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ASSESSING POINT-OF-USE WATER TREATMENT AND SAFE WATER STORAGE IN ZAMBIA

Point-of-Use (POU) water treatment is the treatment of water where it is used (household, schools, health facilities) as opposed to treatment of water as part of a community water supply or at a treatment plant. Safe water storage is an important complement to POU water treatment to prevent the re-contamination (by dirty hands and utensils) of water by keeping water in narrow mouth and covered containers or vessels equipped with taps. Both are components of the Safe Water System (SWS). The remaining component of the SWS addresses behavior change to sustain safe treatment and storage practices as well as hygiene promotion such as handwashing.

The primary objective of POU water treatment and safe storage is diarrhea prevention, and the main target populations are children under-five and their care givers. Although the efficacy of POU treatment and safe storage is well documented, program effectiveness has not been equally documented, in particular

in households with reduced access to improved water sources and at a higher risk of diarrhea.

EHP is supporting an operations research (OR) activity in Zambia—studying a POU water treatment and safe water storage project implemented by the Society for Family Health, a local affiliate of Population Services International (PSI). The project interventions include POU chlorination using the disinfectant solution “Clorin” and safe water storage in jerry cans. The pilot project was initiated by PSI which successfully social marketed “Clorin” and jerry cans.

The goal of the OR activity in Zambia is to assess the level and use of POU chlorination and safe water storage by low income households with reduced access to improved water sources and higher risk of diarrhea, and higher income households with increased access to improved water sources and lower risk of diarrhea. To date, the study protocol and instruments have been finalized and field work will start around the end of January.

For information on the activity, please contact Fred Rosensweig at [frosensweig@trg-inc.com](mailto:frosensweig@trg-inc.com).

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#### IMPLEMENTING URBAN CHILD HEALTH IN INDIA

The India Urban Child Health Program is a five year effort by USAID to bring about sustained improvement in the health of urban poor children in slum areas of India. USAID through EHP has been working with key governmental and NGO partners in selected cities, and the program has entered its second year of implementation.

The first year of the program focused on situational analysis, vulnerability assessment and other program development efforts in Indore, including a partnership with an NGO-CBO consortium of five organizations for the implementation of child health interventions in 73 slums. One of the crucial components of the Indore urban health program is capacity strengthening of NGO-CBO partners and local-level team members implementing interventions such as neonatal health, improved birth practices and hygiene improvement in the slums.

Over the past year and a half, EHP has emerged as a significant technical resource to the Government of India for informing and influencing its urban health programmatic directions. In a significant move, the Government of India (GOI) requested USAID/India to support the development of sample urban health proposals under the second phase of GOI’s Reproductive and Child Health program. EHP is providing technical assistance to the proposal development. These proposals are expected to provide solid examples of urban poor health care delivery planning in different city settings. Using the Indore program as a model, other sites for urban health programming include Jamshedpur, Delhi, Bally in W. Bengal near Kolkatta, Dehradun, Haridwar, Haldwani and Agra.

For information on the activity, please contact Dr. Siddharth Agarwal at [ehpindia@mantraonline.com](mailto:ehpindia@mantraonline.com) or Sarah Fry at [frysk@ehproject.org](mailto:frysk@ehproject.org).

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#### MALARIA STUDIES IN ERITREA

An article, "High Seasonal Variation in Entomologic Inoculation Rates in Eritrea, a Semi-arid Region of Unstable Malaria in Africa," published in the American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, 69(6), December 2003, pp. 582-588, discusses findings from malaria studies in Eritrea. The studies were supported by USAID through a mechanism for cooperation with the Ministry of Health, Eritrea, and with technical support from the Environmental Health Project.

The article, based on entomologic studies conducted in eight villages in Eritrea, investigates malaria transmission patterns in different ecologic zones from mosquito collections conducted for 24 months between September 1999 and January 2002. Conclusions from the study demonstrate the need to generate spatial and temporal data on transmission intensity on smaller scales to guide targeted control of malaria operations in semi-arid regions. Furthermore, annual entomologic inoculation rate (EIR) estimates derived in the study provide a means of quantifying levels of exposure to infected mosquitoes in different regions of the country. Since Eritrea has made significant steps in reducing the burden of malaria based on WHO's Roll Back Malaria initiative, the findings are of importance for evaluating the efficacy of vector control measures.

The article may be viewed at <http://www.ajtmh.org/cgi/content/abstract/69/6/607>. The co-authors include: EHP's Gene Brantly, EHP consultant Josephat Shilulu, and others.

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#### EHP SUPPORT TO WAWI

The West Africa Water Initiative (WAWI), is a global partnership of fourteen international institutions working together to provide potable water supply, sanitation, hygiene and integrated water resources management activities in Ghana, Mali and Niger.

Following a WAWI Partners' meeting in December 2002, USAID was requested to play a lead/coordinating role to develop a WAWI monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan. EHP was asked to develop the M&E plan, and in particular to select a core set of indicators to measure progress towards WAWI's four objectives. The development process was based on research of existing M&E practices, discussions with the partners involved and the WAWI programmatic framework. A draft WAWI M&E plan has been developed, and the final WAWI M&E Plan report is expected to be available in mid-January 2004.

Additionally, based on further discussions with WAWI partners, EHP will also be playing an important role in strengthening hygiene promotion in the WAWI programmatic framework. An EHP consultant will undertake a field assessment in the three WAWI countries from mid-January through mid-February 2004.

For further information on EHP and WAWI, please contact David Fernandes at [fernandesd@cdm.com](mailto:fernandesd@cdm.com). ....

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#### ANE REGIONAL URBAN HEALTH WORKSHOP

USAID Asia Near East (ANE) health programming has not kept pace with the region's rampant urbanization and the health needs of urban slum dwellers, in particular, children living in the vast and growing cities of Asia and the Near

East. Recognizing this, the USAID ANE Regional Bureau launched a three-phase Urban Health Initiative in 2001.

A literature review of existing studies on child health in urban slums in select countries of the ANE region was completed by EHP (EHP Activity Report 109: [http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity\\_Reports/AR109ANEUrbHlthweb.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity_Reports/AR109ANEUrbHlthweb.pdf)) during Phase I. Phase II called for implementation of demonstration urban health programs. EHP is implementing Phase II of the Initiative in Egypt (Cairo Healthy Neighborhood Program) and in India (India Urban Child Health Program). The Cairo program is funded by the USAID ANE regional bureau in collaboration with USAID/EGAT/Urban programs and USAID/Egypt, while the India program is funded by USAID/India.

Phase III of the Initiative focuses on advocacy. The ANE Regional Urban Health Workshop to be held in Agra, India, in February 2004 aims to promote increased health programming in ANE urban slums. The overall workshop objectives are to raise awareness of urban health issues in the ANE region, to present a roadmap for developing urban health programs, and determine next steps for country-level urban health programming. The workshop is designed to increase dialogue among participants on this critical issue. The workshop will provide input to the Urban Health Programming Guidelines being developed by EHP under the ANE Initiative.

For more information, please contact Sarah Fry at [frysk@ehproject.org](mailto:frysk@ehproject.org).

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#### REDUCING URBAN MALARIA TRANSMISSION IN UGANDA

Environmental management for vector control frequently aims at introducing changes in the local hydrology or in water-use practices. Environmental management provides a basis on which other methods such as chemical control can build in a complementary fashion, while reducing the environmental costs and resistance risks incurred by excessive use of insecticides.

Recent data indicate that malaria is a growing problem in urban areas in Uganda. A two-year study designed to assess the strengths and weaknesses of a community-based environmental management program for malaria control has been implemented in four study sites in two Ugandan cities: Kampala and Jinja. In Year 1 of the two-year study, entomological and clinical surveys were carried out to determine the level of transmission and intensity of infection in different urban settings. Based on the findings, control options were identified, and community action plans specific to the ecology and social settings in each site were developed using a participatory approach.

The Year 1 Summary Report, "Development of a Community-based Environmental Management Program for Malaria Control in Kampala and Jinja, Uganda" is now available from EHP (see "New EHP Publications" below).

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#### NEW EHP PUBLICATIONS

Activity Report 122. First Year Summary Report. Development of a Community-based Environmental Management Program for Malaria Control in Kampala and Jinja, Uganda.

This report describes the activities and findings for the first year of a two-year study designed to assess the strengths and weaknesses of a community-based environmental management program for malaria control in two Ugandan cities: Kampala and Jinja.

A 786 KB PDF version of this activity report is available at:  
[http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity\\_Reports/AR-122%20Uganda%20.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity_Reports/AR-122%20Uganda%20.pdf)

For more information or a hard copy, contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

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EHP Brief 20. Community-based Environmental Management for Urban Malaria Control in Uganda—Year 1

A 530 KB PDF version of this brief is available at:  
<http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/EHPBriefs/EHPB20.pdf>

For more information or a hard copy, contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

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MISSION-FUNDED REPORT

Malaria Epidemic Forecasting and Preparedness Manual

A 560 KB PDF version of this report is available at:  
<http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Others/Eritrea%20Epidemic%20Manual%20Final.pdf>

For more information or a hard copy, contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org). EHP News -

March 2004

DEAR COLLEAGUES:

Welcome to "EHP News." Previous issues of our EHP E-Newsletter, new reports and other resources can be accessed on our website at <http://www.ehproject.org>.

To subscribe to the EHP E-Newsletter, please contact us at [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

EHP Information Center

May Post Abdulzatar Kuku Milton Stern Christopher Ellis

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EHP News Environmental Health Project E-Newsletter March 2004 Vol. 4, No. 2  
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ADVANCING HEALTH OUTCOMES THROUGH MULTI-SECTORAL APPROACHES

The CORE Group and EHP are co-hosting a workshop March 23-25, 2004, in Washington, DC, on advancing child health outcomes through multi-sectoral approaches.

The objectives of the workshop are to develop key characteristics of an effective multi-sector platform (MSP) for C-IMCI; help participants identify opportunities for multi-sector programming in the field; and identify next steps to be taken by the CORE Group to enhance the evidence-base for the MSP and mobilize resources for cross-site learning.

The workshop will focus on the following MSP themes: communicating key family health practices through other sectors; addressing barriers and facilitating factors related to adoption of key family health practices; and mobilizing multi-sectoral resources for expanded local ownership of C-IMCI programming. Seven field-based case studies will be highlighted. For information on the MSP meeting, please visit <http://www.coregroup.org/> or email Sandy Callier at [callierss@ehproject.org](mailto:callierss@ehproject.org).

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NEPAL-INDIA CROSS-BORDER COLLABORATION FOR KALA-AZAR PREVENTION AND CONTROL

Countries in the South Asian region share common borders. These countries are also home to re-emerging vector-borne diseases. Under USAID/Asia Near East (ANE) Regional Bureau's strategy for infectious diseases, EHP is providing facilitative and technical support to help establish common surveillance procedures for priority vector-borne diseases in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal (BBIN). The ANE program emphasizes support to: assist national institutions, share information, and monitor regional trends related to incidence and prevalence of malaria, kala-azar and Japanese encephalitis (JE), as well as malaria drug resistance (MDR).

Specifically, under the USAID/ANE-funded Nepal Infectious Disease Program, collaboration between the MOH/Nepal and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare/India, has been strengthened to address cross-border prevention and control of kala-azar and malaria. A rapid study on population movement across the Nepal-Bihar border has been conducted, focusing on health-seeking behavior and treatment practices of the population residing along the Nepal-Bihar border, and a coordinated prevention and strategy has been developed based on the findings. "Kala-azar Week," a communication campaign focusing on behavior change messages, which include rallies, exhibition, and radio messages targeting the border population, has also been conducted in 11 kala-azar affected border districts. Regular meetings are also planned to identify roles and responsibilities and reach an agreement upon a plan to sustain cross-border collaboration.

For more information, please contact Gene Brantly at [BrantlyEP@ehproject.org](mailto:BrantlyEP@ehproject.org).

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COLLABORATING WITH PAHO IN HYGIENE PROMOTION

In collaboration with PAHO, ministries of health and PVO and NGO partners, USAID is implementing a hygiene behavior change activity in two countries—Peru and Nicaragua. The objective of this activity is to improve behaviors that studies have shown to have an impact on diarrheal disease incidence.

Hygiene promotion focuses on promoting three hygiene practices—handwashing, safe excreta disposal, and safe water (treatment, storage and use within the home). The methodology used is based on a C-IMCI module developed by EHP and successfully implemented in the Dominican Republic (DR).

Under this collaboration, EHP is providing technical assistance and training of NGOs in the design, implementation and evaluation of a hygiene behavior change activity involving community participation. One highlight of the activity is the involvement of a core group of Dominicans who had been trained in the pilot activity in the DR, and who contributed to the skills and capacity building of participating NGOs in Nicaragua and Peru.

The first four phases of the activity have been completed. The activities focused on conducting formative research related to behaviors to be promoted, development of the hygiene behavior change strategy, preparation and production of materials, training of community hygiene promoters and implementation of the hygiene promotion activities. The last two phases will focus on monitoring and supervision and a final survey to measure behavior change.

For more information, please contact John Gavin: [gavinjm@cdm.com](mailto:gavinjm@cdm.com)

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#### ASSESSING THE EARLY WARNING AND REPORTING SYSTEM IN NEPAL

EHP carried out a three-week assessment of the Early Warning and Reporting System (EWARS) in Nepal. EWARS is a hospital-based sentinel surveillance system tracking six priority diseases in Nepal: three vaccine-preventable diseases (polio, measles, and neonatal tetanus) and three vector-borne diseases (malaria, kala-azar and Japanese encephalitis).

The objective of EWARS is to track, monitor and report disease trends related to the six priority diseases. The information flow in EWARS, starting from the communities, the health posts and centers, and the district public health office, goes to the hospital-based sentinel sites and ultimately reaches the national/policy level via the Vector-borne Disease Research and Training Center (VBDRTC). The sentinel sites send reports to the VBDRTC immediately, in the case of an outbreak, and weekly on a regular basis. VBDRTC serves as the focal point for receiving and analyzing information and sending it to the national level, so that timely information is provided to policy-level decision-makers in case of an outbreak to facilitate early response activities. USAID through EHP assisted EWARS in the development of reporting and investigation forms, outbreak reporting forms and guidelines; training in surveillance and response; distribution of epidemiological surveillance kits; and resource back-up.

The report on the assessment findings and recommendations is now available from EHP (see New EHP Publications below).

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#### PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP FOR HANDWASHING WITH SOAP INITIATIVE

UNICEF/Nepal in collaboration with USAID, the World Bank, local government ministries, and private partners is launching a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) to promote a handwashing with soap initiative. The initiative is modeled after a successful USAID-led PPP process launched in five Central American countries in the late 1990s that produced 50% increases in handwashing with soap among mothers and reduced diarrheal diseases in children under-five.

The objective of the Nepal initiative is to reduce diarrhea incidences in children under-five through a coordinated communication campaign promoting proper handwashing with soap. The initiative is based on the concept that private firms and public organizations would find it mutually beneficial to work in partnership to achieve complementary profits and benefits in promoting handwashing with soap to prevent diarrhea. For example, one of the key goals of the initiative is expansion into new markets, particularly in low income rural areas. Thus, the soap industry stands to gain by selling more soap in newer markets, while the public agencies move toward the desired objective of improved handwashing practices and a reduction in diarrheal diseases.

As part of USAID's support to the Nepal initiative, EHP worked with a marketing and communication consulting firm to develop a series of planning tools that were used in the preparation of the first phase of the initiative. These tools can be used and/or adapted by public or private sector organizations interested in initiating a PPP. A report, "Planning Tools for the Nepal Public Private Partnership for Handwashing Initiative," is now available from EHP (see New EHP Publications below). For more information on PPP initiatives, also visit [www.globalhandwashing.org](http://www.globalhandwashing.org)

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EHP END-OF-PROJECT EVENT

USAID and EHP will be hosting "Advancing Environmental Health for Disease Prevention: Past Experiences and Future Priorities" on Tuesday, June 1, 2004, 1:00-3:00 pm, at the 31st Annual GHC Conference, Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D.C.

At the event, USAID and EHP staff will share lessons learned from five years of EHP experience (1999-2004) and discuss future directions in environmental health programming. Highlights include:

- \* Application of the Hygiene Improvement Framework (HIF) for diarrheal disease prevention—integration of the HIF into child health and primary health care programs
- \* Strengthening national malaria prevention and control programs
- \* Linking population-health-environment
- \* Improving health for the urban poor

Stay tuned.

For more information about the 31st Annual GHC Conference, go to [http://www.globalhealth.org/view\\_top.php3?id=223](http://www.globalhealth.org/view_top.php3?id=223).

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NEW EHP PUBLICATIONS

Activity Report 123. Cairo Healthy Neighborhood Program: Situation Analysis with Literature Review and Stakeholder Meetings

The participatory situation analysis and stakeholder meeting process has proven to be an effective approach to catalyze actions aimed at improving the health of children and families in certain poor urban neighborhoods in Egypt. This report presents the background, methodology and results of the situation analysis and stakeholder meetings along with a literature review of existing studies on child health in urban slums in the ANE Region.

A 1 MB PDF version of this activity report is available at:  
[http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity\\_Reports/AR%20123%20Egypt.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity_Reports/AR%20123%20Egypt.pdf)

For more information or a hard copy, contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

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Activity Report 124. West Africa Water Initiative (WAWI): Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, Program Framework and Indicators

The West Africa Water Initiative (WAWI), is a global partnership of fourteen international institutions working together to provide potable water supply, sanitation, hygiene and integrated water resources management activities in Ghana, Mali and Niger. Following a WAWI Partners' meeting in December 2002,

USAID was requested to play a lead/coordinating role to develop a WAWI monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan. EHP was asked to develop the M&E plan and, in particular, to select a core set of indicators to measure progress towards WAWI's four objectives. This report documents the WAWI M&E plan and the core indicators.

A 360 KB PDF version of this activity report is available at:  
[http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity\\_Reports/AR%20124%20WAWI%20M&E.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity_Reports/AR%20124%20WAWI%20M&E.pdf)

For more information or a hard copy, contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

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Activity Report 125. Combining Hygiene Behavior Change with Water & Sanitation: A Pilot Project in Hato Mayor, Dominican Republic. April 2000-May 2002

In the summer of 2000, USAID/Dominican Republic initiated a project to add hygiene behavior activities to a water and sanitation construction program (RECON) launched by USAID in 1999 to repair the damage wreaked by Hurricane Georges. The RECON program had a \$7 million health component that included community-based integrated management of childhood illnesses but no specific attention to hygiene. USAID requested the Environmental Health Project (EHP) to provide technical assistance to incorporate the behavior-change approach, the goal being to increase the health impact of the water and sanitation projects. This report summarizes the pilot project in Hato Mayor, Dominican Republic.

A 343 KB PDF version of this activity report is available at:  
[http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity\\_Reports/AR-125%20DR%20Hygiene%20Behavior.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity_Reports/AR-125%20DR%20Hygiene%20Behavior.pdf)

For more information or a hard copy, contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

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Activity Report 126. Assessment of Early Warning and Reporting Systems (EWARS) in Nepal

The Environmental Health Project (EHP) requested a team of consultants to carry out an assessment of the Early Warning and Reporting System (EWARS) in Nepal. The objective of the assessment was to examine the current performance of the system in the eight pilot districts, focusing attention on the reporting and response functions.

A 2.25 MB PDF version of this activity report is available at:  
[http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity\\_Reports/AR-126%20EWARS-ASSESSMENT.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity_Reports/AR-126%20EWARS-ASSESSMENT.pdf)

For more information or a hard copy, contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

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Activity Report 128. Planning Tools for the Nepal Public Private Partnership for Handwashing Initiative

The tools presented in this report relate to technical support provided by USAID through the Environmental Health Project (EHP) to the Public Private Partnership (PPP) for Handwashing with Soap Initiative, which was started by UNICEF and implemented with financial assistance from USAID and the World Bank.

A 368 KB PDF version of this activity report is available at:  
[http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity\\_Reports/AR%20128%20Nepal%20Handwash%20Form  
at.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity_Reports/AR%20128%20Nepal%20Handwash%20Form%20at.pdf)

For more information or a hard copy, contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

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EHP Brief 20. Community-based Environmental Management for Urban Malaria Control  
in Uganda—Year 1

A 530 KB PDF version of this brief is available at:  
<http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/EHPBriefs/EHPB20.pdf>

For more information or a hard copy, contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

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EHP Brief 21. Cairo Healthy Neighborhood Program

A 734 KB PDF version of this brief is available at:  
<http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/EHPBriefs/EHPB21.pdf>

For more information or a hard copy, contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

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EHP Brief 22. Public-Private Partnership for Handwashing with Soap Initiative in  
Nepal

A 804 KB PDF version of this brief is available at:  
<http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/EHPBriefs/EHPB22.pdf>

For more information or a hard copy, contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

EHP News - May 2004

DEAR COLLEAGUES:

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EHP Information Center

May Post Abdulzatar Kuku Milton Stern  
Christopher Ellis

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EHP News Environmental Health Project E-Newsletter May 2004 Vol. 4, No. 3  
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IN THIS ISSUE:

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- \* IMPROVING SMALL TOWN SANITATION IN JAMAICA - A SUCCESS STORY
- \* WORKSHOP ON PARTICIPATORY COMMUNITY HEALTH ENQUIRY HELD IN INDORE, INDIA
- \* STATUS OF INSECTICIDE RESISTANCE OF MALARIA, KALA-AZAR AND JAPANESE ENCEPHALITIS VECTORS IN BBIN
- \* EHP BRIEF OUTLINING THE WEST AFRICA WATER INITIATIVE AVAILABLE

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PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP FOR SAFE DRINKING WATER

A public-private partnership (PPP) for safe drinking water was officially launched in New York at the United Nations' Commission on Sustainable Development Meeting. The objective of the Safe Drinking Water Alliance is to develop innovative approaches for ensuring the safety of drinking water. USAID, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health/Center for Communication Programs (CCP), CARE, Population Services International and Procter and Gamble joined forces to leverage their expertise and resources to better understand behaviors related to household water treatment, to share knowledge gained and identify opportunities for scaling up safe drinking water efforts.

The Safe Drinking Water Alliance will receive \$1.4 million over the next 18 months from USAID through USAID's Global Development Alliance.

(Source: USAID Health: News/Info)

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USAID TO INVEST IN \$70 MILLION HYGIENE AND SANITATION INITIATIVE

Dr. Anne Peterson, USAID Assistant Administrator of the Bureau for Global Health, announced a new hygiene and sanitation improvement initiative during a meeting of the 12th session of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development in New York, April 14-30, 2004.

USAID plans to invest \$70 million over a nine-year period on targeted health programs aimed at the prevention of diarrheal diseases, a leading killer of vulnerable populations, including approximately 2 million children under five every year.

"Hygiene and sanitation have long been neglected, yet critical elements of public health," Dr. Peterson said. "In the face of the growing AIDS pandemic, we have more reasons to be really serious about clean water, improved hygiene and sanitation. Through our efforts and those of our partners, USAID intends to reduce the suffering and death associated with diarrheal disease worldwide."

Building on its previous health program experience in water supply, sanitation and hygiene, USAID's new initiative will focus on bolstering key hygiene practices that are proven effective in diarrhea prevention—safe storage, handling, and disinfection of household drinking water; effective handwashing; and improved sanitation.

(Source: USAID Washington DC, Press Release)

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#### IMPROVING SMALL TOWN SANITATION IN JAMAICA – A SUCCESS STORY

Sanitation in small towns is a growing and important problem, and very few small towns in Latin America have managed to provide sustainable sanitation services. This can be due to a lack of demand for sanitation, an inadequate policy framework, and limited institutional capacity to effectively manage sanitation systems. With support from USAID's Latin America and the Caribbean Bureau, Office of Regional Sustainable Development (LAC/RSD), EHP developed a 10-step methodology to be used in sustainable small town sanitation plans development.

This methodology was field-tested in Jamaica with funding from USAID/Water Team. White Horses—a small town in Jamaica—was identified by the Jamaican Ministry of Water and Housing (MOWH) and USAID/Jamaica for the field testing. White Horses was already slated to receive water under the IADB funded Rural Water Project (RWP), but the perception was that an improved water supply system without the inclusion of proper sewer and sanitation systems was not likely to bring about maximum health and sanitation benefits.

The field test resulted in the development of the White Horses Sanitation Plan. Through a series of dissemination workshops, the Plan served as a basis to seek further funding needed for implementation, construction of the identified sanitation systems and training of the White Horses community to operate and maintain the sanitation systems. Recently, USAID/Jamaica succeeded in leveraging more funds from other donors—the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica and the UN Environment Program—in addition to in-kind labor from a committed community.

White Horses Sanitation Plan is an example of a success story initiated by USAID investment in an innovative methodology for small-town sanitation that influenced other donor investment and community interest and commitment.

In addition to Jamaica, the methodology was also field tested in Ecuador and Panama. For more information, email Eduardo Perez at [perez@ehproject.org](mailto:perez@ehproject.org).

For further reading, see the following:

Strategic Report 3. Improving Sanitation in Small Towns in Latin America and the Caribbean – Practical Methodology for Designing a Sustainable Sanitation Plan ([http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Strategic\\_papers/StrategicReport3-English.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Strategic_papers/StrategicReport3-English.pdf) )

EHP Brief 24. Improving Small Town Sanitation in Jamaica – A Success Story (<http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/EHPBriefs/EHPB24.pdf>)

For more information or a hard copy of either publication, contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

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#### WORKSHOP ON PARTICIPATORY COMMUNITY HEALTH ENQUIRY HELD IN INDORE, INDIA

A new report from EHP delineates the processes followed by, and the principles and findings that emerged from, a ten-day workshop on Participatory Community Health Enquiry. The workshop was held March 20-30, 2003, in Indore, India, with the NGO-CBO partners implementing the USAID EHP Urban Child Health Program. The purpose of the workshop was to enhance the program partners' skills in: (1) conducting a participatory community enquiry with accurate triangulation and reporting of findings; (2) outlining and documenting a process through which a community takes ownership of the program objectives and processes; (3) prioritizing interventions based on community needs; and (4) planning subsequent actions. The workshop was designed specifically to guide urban health programs in the slums of Indore with limited access to and availability of health care facilities.

For further reading, see the following:

Activity Report 127: Participatory Community Health Enquiry and Planning in Selected Urban Slums of Indore, Madhya Pradesh and A Field Guide for Community Facilitators of PCHEP ([http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity\\_Reports/AR-127%20India%20Report%20and%20Field%20Guide.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity_Reports/AR-127%20India%20Report%20and%20Field%20Guide.pdf))

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#### STATUS OF INSECTICIDE RESISTANCE OF MALARIA, KALA-AZAR AND JAPANESE ENCEPHALITIS VECTORS IN BBIN

Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, and Nepal (BBIN) are endemic in malaria, kala-azar (KA), and Japanese encephalitis (JE). Transmitted through mosquito and sandfly vectors, these diseases have a high prevalence at border areas and are involved in cross-border transmission between these countries. The use of insecticides for vector control of these diseases will continue to play a major role in the programs of disease control.

For further reading, see the following:

Activity Report 129. Status of Insecticide Resistance of Malaria, Kala-azar and Japanese Encephalitis Vectors in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal (BBIN) ([http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity\\_Reports/AR-129%20Status%20Insect%20Format.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity_Reports/AR-129%20Status%20Insect%20Format.pdf))

For more information or a hard copy, contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

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EHP BRIEF OUTLINING THE WEST AFRICA WATER INITIATIVE AVAILABLE

The West Africa Water Initiative (WAWI) was launched in late 2001. WAWI is a global partnership of fourteen institutions working together to provide potable water supply, sanitation, hygiene and integrated water resource management activities in Ghana, Mali and Niger. Following a WAWI Partners' meeting in December 2002, USAID was requested to play a lead/coordinating role to develop a WAWI monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan. EHP was asked to develop the M&E plan and in particular to select a core set of indicators to measure progress toward WAWI's four objectives.

For further reading, see the following publications, which are available on the EHP website:

EHP Brief 23. Monitoring and Evaluation Plan for the West Africa Water Initiative (<http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/EHPBriefs/EHPB23.pdf>)

Activity Report 124. West Africa Water Initiative (WAWI) Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, Program Framework and Indicators ([http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity\\_Reports/AR%20124%20WAWI%20M&E.pdf](http://www.ehproject.org/PDF/Activity_Reports/AR%20124%20WAWI%20M&E.pdf))

For more information or a hard copy of either publication, contact [info@ehproject.org](mailto:info@ehproject.org).

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