



## Ninth WES-Net India Core Group Meeting

1430 – 1700 hrs, 23 November 2005  
Plan International, New Delhi

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### ***Present:***

1. Vijay Sardana (VS), SPWD
2. Preeti Soni (PS), UNDP
3. Jill Carharriss (JC), Lead India
4. Nupur Mishra (NM), Lead India
5. Shipra Saxena (SS), WaterAid India
6. R.K. Daw (RKD), UNICEF (in Paul's stead)
7. A. Kalimuthu (AK), Plan International
8. Tejinder Kaur (TK), Pragmatix

This was the first meeting after AK took over as leader of the Core Group. Meeting started with a welcome address by Mr Bruno Oudmaoer, Country Director, Plan International (India). Mr Oudmaoer gave a brief overview of Plan's activities in India and expressed his pleasure to host the secretariat for WES-Net India. AK also extended a warm welcome to the group on behalf of Plan International (India) before the meeting started.

### ***The following agenda items were discussed:***

#### **1.A Update on institutional set up**

After consultations with J. Sagar & Associates, the sub-group on institutional set up had three options:

1. to register as a trust
2. to register as a society
3. to register as a non profit company

VJ, as members of the sub group, brief the group on pros & cons of all the options and group finally agreed to go ahead with the second option of registering the network as a society since it seems to be the best suited option. The group suggested that draft Memorandum of Association be circulated to the Core Group first. Then based on the group's suggestions, the revised version should be circulated to the members.

**Action: Mark** to go ahead with the consultancy to Satyajit Singh.

#### **1.B WES-Net India Database**

Members of the sub group on database were not available, therefore it was decided to discuss this point in the next meeting.

#### **1.C Action Research Coordination**

WaterAid have confirmed to take on this activity. They have developed a template which will be forwarded to all members to fill in and return to WaterAid. PS informed that Solution Exchange will be carrying out a similar "visioning exercise", basically to plan the activities of SE. Therefore, it would be sensible to join both the activities and arrange them together. SE has also offered to send out the WaterAid template to members, as they will be sending out a similar format to the members.

**Action:** **TK** to forward the template to Core Group for suggestions before sending out to PS; **PS** to send out the template asap.

## 2. Website Design and Management

AK had forwarded electronic copy of the draft design to the Core Group two weeks ago. In the meeting hard copies were also provided. The draft looked fine as a starter, subject to further modifications later.

There are a lot of technical queries being forwarded to Plan by the design consultant. AK sought group's opinion on two of the issues: 1) whether e-commerce should be possible and 2) whether WES-Net should allow passwords to the members to upload the information like CVs etc. Group discussed briefly that e-commerce should be possible, whereas password provision should not be there for the time being since it is not decided whether we will go ahead with hiring IRC portal next year or not. The password can be made available later for a nominal fee.

JC suggested that Plan should also draw on Core Group's in-house expertise to develop the website. The idea was welcomed by the whole group and member offered to extend their help.

**Action:** **AK** to run the final draft through Core Group for suggestions once it is ready.

## 3. Rainwater Catchment Systems Conference

Mr Manavalan was not available to give an update, but overall opinion was that the conference was very useful and successful. An observation made by some core group members was that all the conference papers on "water quality" were from overseas and none from India. AK has copies of these papers which he will circulate to the Core Group.

**Action:** **AK** to circulate copies of conference papers to Core Group.

## 4. Delhi Jal Board: 24x7 water supply issues – how Core Group can respond?

Since WES-Net India is about water related issues, we should not piggy bank on others but address them separately. Issues like pricing, scarcity, capacity building, equity distribution etc should be addressed very specifically. Lead India has the background documents related to water governance. They have offered to share the documents with the Group and will arrange a meeting. Whole Core Group is invited as well as any other experts and guests. SE has offered to do a survey based on these papers and the subsequent discussion. Conclusions of survey will be sent out as a WES-Net India product.

**Action:** **JC** to circulate background documents and arrangement meeting; **PS** to carry out the survey and come up with conclusions.

## 5. Newsletter

The immediate observations were repetitive copies and non-functional links of the newsletter. AK assured that, though the right members were not available in the meeting, the issues will be addressed soon.

## 6. Solution Exchange: Regional meeting outcomes & membership update

Meeting was very useful and interesting; PS will share the minutes; approximately 50 new members registered. SE is updating the database of members for both WES-Net India and SE and will later forward to TK.

**Action: PS** to circulate minutes of the meeting to the Core Group and; forward revised database to TK.

## **7. WES-Net India Secretariat:**

- **Domain registration:** Plan will respond to this asap.
- **Visibility material:** There has not been any printed material so far due to funding issue which Plan will now try to arrange for.
- **Staffing requirements:** AK to discuss this with Paul and, A J James if necessary.
- **Arrangements at Plan office:** Some arrangements have already been made for WES-Net India staff at Plan office.

## **8. Next GBM**

The group unanimously agreed that the next GBM should be called once the network is registered. Memorandum of Association, research coordination activity and other points can then be placed as agenda items for the GBM. Therefore timing of the next GBM should be conditional to registration of the network. It should be called the 'first formal GBM'.

**9. Next Core Group meeting:** should be called as soon as the draft constitution is ready. The draft should first be circulated to the sub group and then to the Core Group so as the group can come prepared for the discussion. The meeting will be held at Plan International; tentatively in the second week of January (after Christmas holidays). Exact date to depend on availability of the Core Group.

There was a suggestion to rotate venue of the core group meetings.