

PROGRAM REPORT

Gender Mainstreaming through Safe Water Education Awareness and Training Program

Introduction:

A one day workshop cum awareness and training program entitled "Gender Mainstreaming through Safe Water Education" was organized by WWN-Nepal/Nepal Water Partnership with joint support from Business and Professional Women Nepal (BPWN) and International Lions Club, Mahankal on 26th September, 2006 in Balambu Village Development Committee (VDC), where most grass root and untouchable people live.

The main objective of this program was to make aware community in safe drinking water, health and environmental programs to benefit the poor as well as general communities impacting less incidence of water borne disease in family and save the family income

The program was well attended by around 100 participants from nook and corner of the village.

The program was divided into two sessions :

- a) Inauguration Session,
- b) Training Session

Inauguration Session:

The Inauguration session started with the registration of the participants with two volunteers.

Ms. Laxmi Keshari Manandhar Chaired the inaugural session and subsequently Ms. Roshana Shakya, the Coordinator of the program welcomed the participants and gave brief introduction of the program. Speaking on the occasion, she also stressed the need of gender mainstreaming in safe drinking water education and the concept of Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM).

The GWP-SAS Regional Council Member (alternate) and the Coordinator of WWN-Nepal Ms Mangala Karanjit expressed the importance of involvement of women in such program and utilizing the achieved knowledge in the household behavior.

Mr. Birendra Man Shakya, President of Lions Club Mahankal expressed the comparative sanitary status and personal hygienic behavior of the people of rural

and urban area. He expressed that such program will help to change the life style of the villagers.

Mr. Gundas Maharjan, ex-president of the VDC expressed his gratitude and thanked the organizer to have launched such an important program in the needful village and requested to launch series of campaigns on that subject there in future too.

The guest of honor Mr. Biswo Ram Gorkhali expressed that such programs are very important and should be launched in other communities too.

Dr. Dilli Devi Shakya Vice President of BPW Nepal shed lights on the importance of safe drinking water education in the village, which can be used in other fields in integrated manner.

The Chief Guest of the program Mrs. Ambica Shrestha , in her speech said that such program can help to improve the health of the people and thus save the family income. At the end the Chairperson, Ms. Laxmi Keshari Manandhar concluded the inaugural session expressing her gratitude.

Training Session:

After the conclusion of the inaugural session the Training Session started at around 1:00 pm.

The Public Health Expert Mr. Shatrughan Ojha lectured on Public Health, Personal Hygiene and Sanitation

The Program Coordinator Ms. Roshana Shakya explained the IWRM methods and its proper utilization and the impact of water quality in the public health. She also made participants aware on how ignorance and carelessness can pollute water. The demonstration on the proper and feasible safe household treatment of water was also carried out during this session.

Mrs. Padmaja Shrestha from ENPHO gave a very interesting orientation on water pollution and household drinking water treatment with "*PIYUSH*" a new an easy and reliable method of disinfection.

Conclusion:

On the closing of the program, Ms. Mangala Karanjit offered her sincere thanks to all the participants for their attendance and active participation. She also expressed her hope and trust for the participants continued active participation and support in WWN Nepal future activities and impart the knowledge gained in the training to other groups of the society and thereafter he called the Program to close.

Expected Outcome of the Program:

As women are the one responsible for collection, management and usage of water and caring of children, sick and elderly members in the family, the program encouraged women to treat the drinking water themselves and practice the good personal hygiene. They are also made aware of chances of contamination with feces resulting various water born epidemics in the family. The community people will benefit from household chlorination and personal hygienic behavior and save family income. The program is also expected to generate awareness in active member women of community, who can impart the acquired knowledge to other groups and families

Some pictures of the program:



Inaugural Session



Participants



Participants at the training session



Speech by the Chief Guest