Community Organisation Structures for Effective Water and Sanitation Management in Peri-Urban Areas; Case of Lusaka – Zambia

Obed C. Kawanga

Abstract

The paper discusses the practical experiences of an institutional arrangement at community level implemented through Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST), by effective community regulatory framework for sustainable water and sanitation management in peri urban areas. It also discusses strategies empowered poor communities with cost sharing skills to run communal water sources and waste management through community structures.

The paper brings out how implicit experience and tacit knowledge translated into shared experiences and explicit knowledge resulting into effective community structures. The paper points out negative experiences on how voluntarism without legislation as affected community participation, considering gender perspectives, cultural background as well as the socio-economic situations of the venerable groups the poor.

The community regulatory structure has achieved the reduction in the number of deaths due to cholera in pilot compound reduced drastically from \( \frac{30}{10,000} \text{ in 1994 to } \frac{1}{10,000} \text{ in 2000} \). The project is now extending to six (6) more peri-urban communities.

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1 Founder President for Network for the Environmental Concerns and Solutions (NECOS-Zambia)

E-mail Okawanga2001@yahoo.com

Central Statistical Office, Agriculture and Environment
P.O.BOX 31908, Lusaka, Zambia, Phone:260-01-253655