Principles and Objectives: Session 2 : Objectives

Module 3 Session 2

Why define objectives ?

- Objectives establish clearly what a wastewater management plan is aiming to achieve. They describe a future state the plan seeks to reach.
- Wastewater objectives fit into higher level aims and objectives set by international targets like the Millennium Development Goals.
- Indicators or measures can be attributed to different objectives against which the Plan, over time, can be judged. Examples :
 - Health objectives can be defined for example by reduction in incidence of Gastro Enteric diseases.
 - Environmental objectives by quantity and diversity of habitat in water bodies
 - Livelihood objectives by reduction in poverty among farming households

Wastewater Management and MDG Impacts



Adapted from Mehta, M and Knapp A – The challenge of financing sanitation for meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) WSP 2004

Wastewater Management Objectives

Three possible reasons for wishing to improve wastewater management:

To improve/protect public health

- To improve/protect the environment this is often required by legislation.
- To generate income and support livelihoods of local people.

Trade-offs? Who benefits and who loses ?

- > A critical trade-off in wastewater management is
 - Income and livelihoods of farmers from produce irrigated or grown in wastewater verses health risks to themselves or people who consume products.
- Who benefits and who loses ?
 - Where resources are limited infrastructure investment and its benefits are likely to be captured by more powerful groups in a town. Serving slum, poor and informal housing areas is often lowest priority but where the greatest health gain can be realised.

Making Choices

- One approach, participatory planning processes can help to expose the trade offs - who benefits and who looses through different investment choices -.
- Participatory planning processes build on peoples knowledge and priorities and focus on information and analysis based, open and transparent decision-making.
- > They have a number of characteristics:
 - Include the poor or representatives of the poor;
 - Involve women as central to the process;
 - Bring politicians and technical officers together in analysis and decision making; and
 - Develop a shared view of problems and prioritise action around this.

Municipal Planning for Poverty Reduction (MAPP)

