Communities of Practice: SuSanA - An Example

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The Sustainable Sanitation Alliance (SuSanA) – as an example for a Community of Practice

... together, we achieved a lot since 2007!







"Wild ideas" how to support UNSGAB – discussed @ GIZ HQ in 2004 to bring sanitation up on the political agenda

We should have a network to speak with one voice on sustainable sanitation! We should have an International Year of Sanitation!

We should have a global conference focusing on non-sewered sanitation! A Bollywood Movie on Toilets would be very cool!





SuSanA 2007-2023

- 15.000 Members from 170 countries
- 400 Partners
- more than 8.000Facebook followers
- More than 4.500 X (Twitter) followers





The Sustainable Sanitation Alliance (SuSanA) and its Working Groups – as an example for Communities of Practice

sustainable sanitation alliance

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SuSanA was founded prior to the International Year of Sanitation (2008) with the aim to **define "Sustainable Sanitation"** and to **promote sustainable sanitation systems** during the International Year

To avoid doubling of work in different institutions: **Match-making** was key: where-ever 1+1 is more than 2! A range of task forces and 12 **working groups** (or communities of practice) were formed during the initial meeting, which took up the task to write fact sheets, interlinking sanitation with other relevant topics (e.g. climate, emergencies, circular approaches)

In the initial years the **progress of the working groups, task forces** and the future strategy was discussed during **f2f "plenary meetings".** Then a core group supported the steering process.

The literature of the fact sheets provided the starting point of **SuSanA's Library** – which has today more than 4.000 entries. Discussions were later supported through the moderated **SuSanA Discussion Forum** (today approx. 15.000 members).

A joint road map – based on the task forces & working groups

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- establishment of various working groups covering different sanitation related issues & link them to adjacent areas and other MDGs
 - 1. capacity development for sustainable sanitation
 - 2. cost & economics of sustainable sanitation
 - renewable energies, groundwater protection & climate change
 - 4. treatment options, hygiene & health
 - 5. food security & productive sanitation systems
 - sustainable sanitation for cities & planning
 - community sanitation
 - sustainable sanitation in emergency & reconstruction situations
 - 9. sanitation as a business
 - 10. public awareness & sanitation marketing
 - 11. operation & maintenance of sustainable sanitation
 - 12. knowledge management & communication

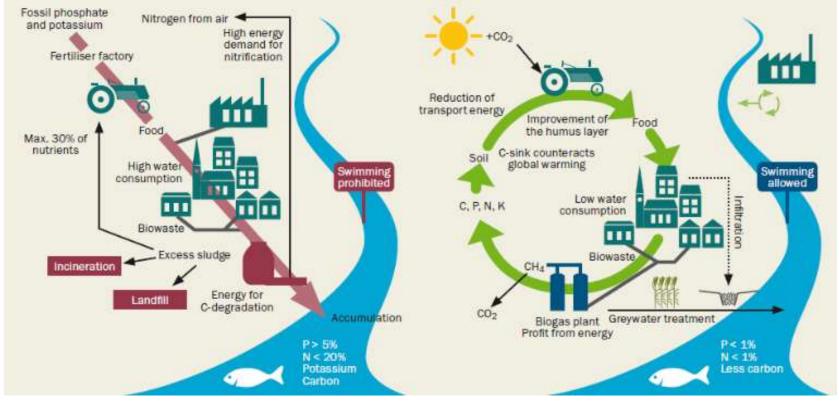
Conveyance (pipes or trucks) Business & awareness will et Emergencies wsai Operation & maintenance avo so Community & rural & schools (with) Capacity Cities avc o development ows o Finance B. **User** interface Treatment economics are a (toilet) Systems & Climate & health (WG 40 energy (wo t) Groundwater (w6.11) Productive sanitation ware Collection, storage, Reuse basic treatment or disposal

Focussing on the Sanitation chain or Sanitation system

Key messages:

- Sanitation needs to be viewed as a system
- Sanitation is a cross-sectoral issue

https://www.susana.org/en/knowledge-hub/resources-andpublications/library/details/1229 For hardcopy, please send an e-mail to <u>susana@giz.de</u>



Comparison of linear- and reuse-oriented approaches to sanitation

Adapted from Lange, J., & Otterpohl, R. (1996). Abwasser-Handbuch zu einer zukunftsfähigen Wasserwirtschaft

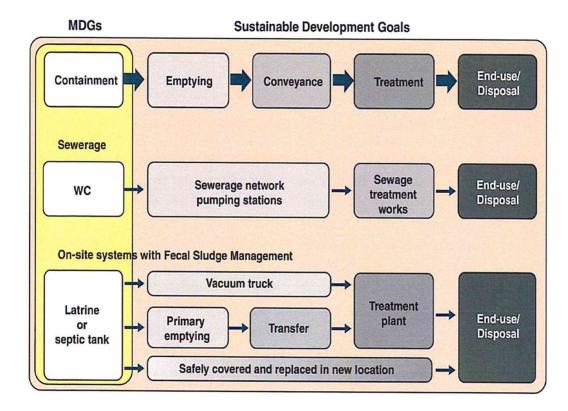
Sanitation System 1: Single Pit System Collection (Semi-) Input U Input/Output Input/Output C Conveyance Input/Output User Interface Use and/or and Storage/ Centralized Products Products Products Products Disposal Treatment Treatment Dry Cleansing Fill and Cover Material WSP C.8 Sewer Discharge Station Aerated Pond FWS CW . Urine HSF CW C.2 Human Powered .5 Irrigation VF.CW U.1 Dry Toilet Excreta Aquaculture Emptying & Single Pit Trickling Filter Faecal Sludge Effluent Macrophyte Transport Single Pit VIP UASB U.4 Pour Flush Toilet C.3 Motorized Empty-Disposal/ Blackwater Activated Sludge Faeces ing & Transport Recharge Sedimentation/ Anal Cleansing Thickening Water Unplanted drying beds D.11 Land Application C.7 Transfer Station -> Treated Sludge Planted drying beds D.12 Surface Disposal Flushwater Co-Composting 15 Biogas Reactor 0.5 Irrigation Soak Pit Greywater Treatment Effluent Greywater Disposal/ Recharge Disposal/ Stormwater Drains Stormwater Recharge

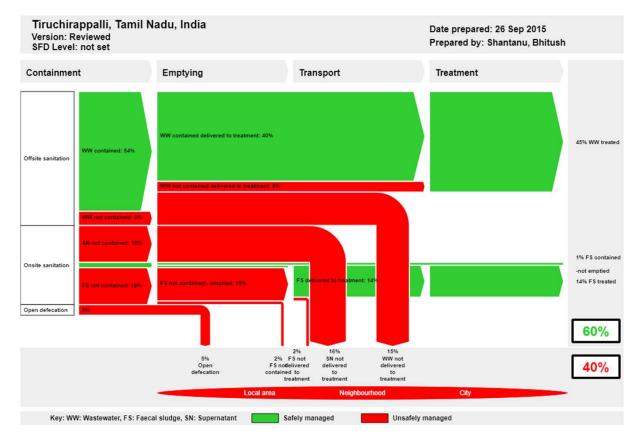
Combining sanitation system components along a sanitation chain

Source: Tilley, E., Lüthi, C., Morel, A., Zurbrügg, C., & Schertenleib, R. (2008). Compendium of Sanitation Systems and Technologies.

The SDGs were catching up with SuSanA...

... to go from ODF to ODF++ in India is a similar move...





The Shit Flow Diagram (SFD) helps us to ...

Source: SFD Promotion Initiative

... gain support for more sustainable sanitation!





What is SuSanA ?

SuSanA is a global community whose goal is to contribute to the achievement of the SDGs by promoting Sustainable Sanitation

SuSanA is a coordination and discussion platform

SuSanA is a sounding board

SuSanA contributes to the policy dialogue

SuSanA is a working platform

SuSanA promotes knowledge exchange and learning



The Sustainable Sanitation Alliance (SuSanA) – as an example for a Community of Practice

sustainable sanitation alliance SuSanA is based on enthusiasm of its members and partners for the joint topic and vision.

The SuSanA secretariat plays a crucial role in facilitating the many contributions of the SuSanA members and partners and the steering processes.

To understand the needs and interests of the different members and partners around the joint topic, is key to keep the activities going.

A mix of f2f and virtual formats formed a good base to keep the focus, be a sounding board for publications and innovative approaches, and identify new topics for collaboration among the members and partners.

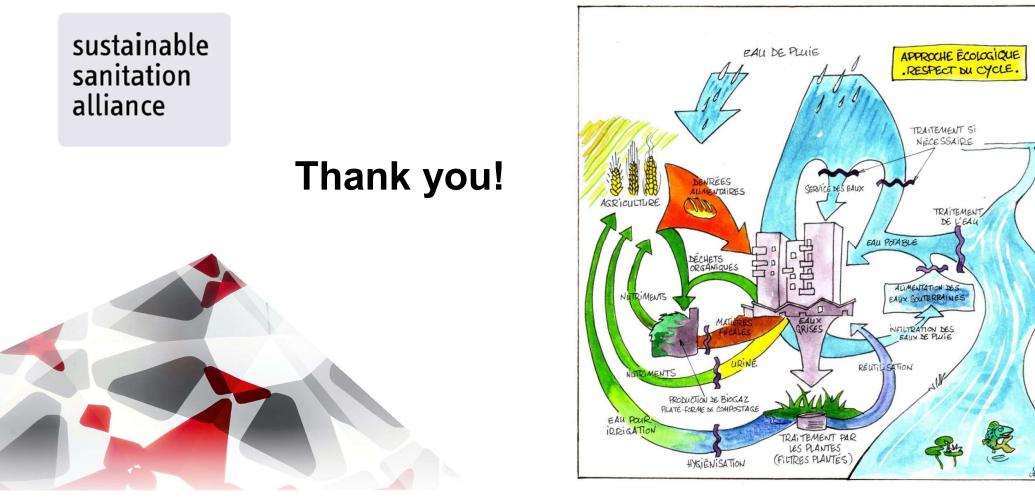
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Simplified Structure of SuSanA

Working group leads Active members and partners **Passive partners** Core group **13 Working groups Global Steering** Vision **Secretariat** Committee document Communication **SuSanA** tools: **Regional chapters** meetings **Discussion forum Mailing lists** Newsletter **Outputs Social Media** Vision **Strategic direction for WG** outputs document Alliance **Advancing thematic** dialog, factsheets, **Presentations, minutes, videos** publications, seminars

SuSanA members and partner organisations

The Sustainable Sanitation Alliance (SuSanA) – as an example for a Community of Practice





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