

**REPORT OF DR. SADEQUE, GWA REPRESENTATIVE, ON IRC SYMPOSIUM:
SANITATION FOR THE URBAN POOR PARTNERSHIPS AND GOVERNANCE,
19-21 NOVEMBER 2008, DELFT, THE NETHERLANDS**

The symposium opened in Delft on 19 November 2008 with a range of speakers from the north and south to tackle the most difficult question of all – how to bring sanitation of the urban slums of the world's fastest growing cities and so help people living in the worst conditions to transform their lives. Sanitation is by far the biggest challenge facing the global water and sanitation sector in the coming period, Peter de Vries, a senior official from the Netherlands Directorate General for International Cooperation told the IRC Symposium Sanitation for the Urban Poor: Partnerships and Governance.

Lodewijk de Waal Chairman of the Supervisory Board of IRC, said: “I hope that this symposium will be another milestone in the history of fighting for sanitation and assisting in bringing clean water and sanitation to most of the world's population. We all realise that this is pivotal to the economic development and health of ordinary people all over the world.”

Ben Lamoree, Director of IRC, welcomed partners to the symposium. “I hope you enjoy these three days of learning and sharing together.” A project approach will never succeed in solving the urban sanitation crisis because it will not succeed in sustaining services in the long term or extend them to all who need them. That was the central theme of the main background paper to the symposium, introduced by IRC’s Joep Verhagen. The aim was to promote a service approach which tried to ensure that people received services long term. “Service at scale does not just mean reaching a lot of people, it means at scale in terms of time. You want service today, you want it tomorrow you want it in five years.” A service delivery looked at the entire chain hardware and software, delivery and support. “We believe that local government is essential. Civic society has an important role but delivering services cannot be done without the involvement of local government.” The microfinance issue also came up on the table to finance water and sanitation as a new model.

Dr. Sadeque, Director (Training & Administration), InM (Institute of Microfinance), Bangladesh and GWA Representative distributed the GWA brochures, CDs among the participants and made poster presentation on “Partnership for Menstrual Hygiene Promotion for Poor Slum Girls in Urban Sanitation”. He highlighted the GWA activities and promoted the theme bringing women and men to the water table. He also explained the vision, mission and core strategic activities of GWA with different participants. It is pertinent to be mentioned that Gender and

Technological choice was selected as one of the bright ideas in the symposium. There were two desks in the symposium, one is from IRC with their publications and other one is of GWA. The honorable Minister Mr.Cesar Salgado, Minister for Social Investment Fund, Honduras was very keen to know the activities and pleased to give pose with the GWA brochure. Further , Mr.James Gao, Chairman, Clean Water Allaince, of China has also given a pose with the CD as a mark of acknowledgement of GWA. In the concluding day met with Royal Highness Prince of Orange of the Netherlands and gave the brochure to him and he told that he is aware of GWA activities. Taking photograph of Prince was forbidden except by the selected professional photographers due to security reason, so no snap could be taken by the participants.

The GWA desk drawn attention of the sector stakeholders' and some of the glimpses are given below.

	
<p>GWA Desk in the Symposium</p>	<p>Mr.James Gao, Chairman, Clean Water Alliance, China, is seen holding the CD of GWA at the GWA desk in the symposium. Dr.Sadeque , Director, InM, Bangladesh and GWA Representative is also seen in the picture.</p>



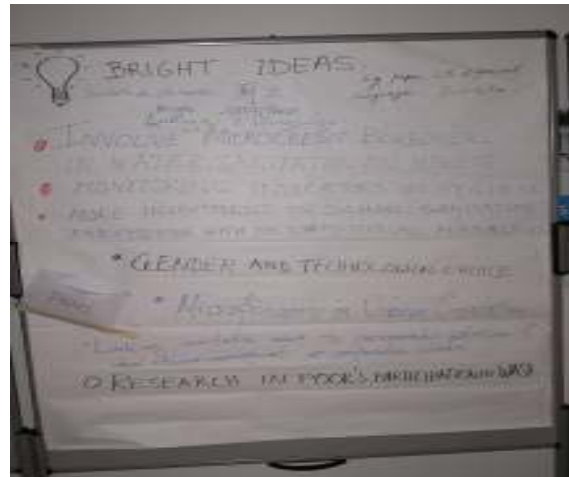
Dr. Yogesh Kumar, Executive Director, SAMARTAN, Centre for Development Support, India, is seen visiting GWA desk in the symposium



Mr. Timeyin Uwejamomere, Policy Officer Urban Water & Sanitation Services, WaterAid, UK, is keenly looking the brochure of GWA



Symposium Participants in the GWA desk



Gender and technological choice has come up as one of the bright ideas



Participants of the symposium are observing the Poster on "Partnership for Menstrual Hygiene Promotion for Poor Slum Girls in Urban Sanitation" presented by Dr.Sadeque.



Dr.Sadeque is presenting the group discussion outcome on the selected topic *Politics for the urban poor*.



His Excellency Mr.Cesar Salgado, Minister for Social Investment Fund, Honduras, is seen with Dr.Sadeque, holding GWA brochure.



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