

waterpoints

GWP

The Global Water Partnership (GWP) was launched in response to a worldwide expressed need for an organization with an explicit mandate to address water-related issues with a comprehensive and demand-driven approach and, at the

which gives us the rare chance to actually decide the development path — a path preferably characterized by the sustainable, equitable and efficient use of available resources.

GWP is a partnership of equals; governments, NGOs, academic institutions, min-

cities.

What kind of service does GWP promise to provide? The services of the TAC; access to a worldwide network of people working towards a new approach to solve old problems, including a newsletter and a homepage on the Internet, and training programmes.

As people argue, increasingly, that water problems are solved by demand management practices, and that economical and political considerations are fundamental to any water-related issue, the future opportunities look brighter. Co-operation between GWP and the World Water Council (WWC) is crucial, the former focusing on translating the global consensus on water management into services to developing countries, while the WWC serves as a forward-looking forum for the analysis of strategic issues and awareness-raising in relation to water resources.

GWP invites all organizations concerned with water and development to join. For further information, contact *GWP Secretariat, Sida, S-105 25 Stockholm, Sweden. Fax: +46 8 698 5627. E-mail: gwp@sida.se*



Simon Ekless/Intermedate Technology

More research on women in relation to water and sanitation is important — as long as it is not too simplistic.

Web Site News

The latest site to establish itself on the Internet comes from the World Water Council (WWC): <http://www.walrus.com/~abe/wwc/>. The site contains background information, news of its programmes, forthcoming events, and a helpful reference list of international organizations. For more details, contact: David W. Moody, IWRN Technical Secretariat. E-mail: dwmood@com

same time, being based on partnership members jointly addressing water management issues. GWP was inaugurated in August 1996.

When the requests for water grow faster than availability allows, writes *Klas Sandstrom, GWP's Network Officer*, eventually demand management is required to bring use in balance with supply. In other words, it is no longer feasible, in a sustainable, cost-effective and environmentally friendly manner, to increase water supply by building new dams, pipelines and wells. Future solutions must be found at the user-end of the pipe: by improving water-use efficiency, reducing conveyance-system losses, reusing water, and optimizing allocation. Supply management must be replaced by demand management. The Dublin principles of sustainable water management are steadily gaining ground.

Is this initiative worth the effort? Yes, we believe so. We are in a time of transition — politically, economically and culturally —

istries, professional associations, and other organizations. GWP is its members — the set-up cannot exist without their support and engagement. Neither can GWP succeed if dominated by Northern development agencies, or without a strong sense of ownership and responsibility in the South.

GWP's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), an experienced group of water management experts, convened in Windhoek in November 1996. The meeting focused on how to put the Dublin principles into action, and on identifying appropriate activities in southern Africa. In June 1997 TAC will meet in Manila and address food security and, during the second half of 1997, in Brazil, to focus on water in mega-

Correction

In the July 1996 issue of *Waterlines* (Vol 15, No 1), we published an article by Shona McKenzie 'Oxfam in Goma — A public health learning experience'. The final paragraph on page 19, continuing on page 20, should read: 'The evaluation found that the refugees knew a lot about diarrhoea and malaria, and they understood the link between illness and dirty water. ... However, neither the importance of drinking-water, nor the transmission of malaria was well understood'.

GEN NET

The Collaborative Council's latest initiative is a network on gender issues in the WSS sector (GEN NET).

Run by Wendy Wakeman, a Gender Participatory Development Specialist at the World Bank's Washington headquarters, the network will publish a regular newsletter.

The first newsletter carries information on:

- applied research into women's participation in the urban slums of Bangladesh;
- details of a seminar on water resources in arid and semi-arid zones: exchange of knowledge and cultural practices; the support of women;
- publications on women and water from Indonesia; briefing on gender from IRC; and sourcebooks on gender issues for water and sanitation projects, and at the policy level in the sector.

For further details, contact: Wendy Wakeman, Gender Network Co-ordinator, Water and Sanitation Department, Room S4-133, World Bank Group, Washington DC 20433, USA. Fax: +1 202 477 0164.