



# NEWSLETTER #1



BANGLADESH MARCH 2015

Water & Life and Shobar Jonno Pani Ltd.

A comprehensive approach based on water & sanitation and social enterprise to improve the living conditions of slum's dwellers

## AN INNOVATIVE APPROACH

In 2008, Eau et Vie started its projects with an idea which could seem very ambitious: to install affordable running water in each household of targeted slums. 6 years later, the innovative approach of Eau et Vie is recognized in the Philippines, Bangladesh and will start soon in Ivory Coast.

The intervention scheme of Eau et Vie is based on social entrepreneurship and micro-credit methodology, applied to water supply and solid waste management in urban areas.

Concurrently, the NGO implements activities which are mandatory for the improvement of the living conditions on a long-term perspective. Indeed hygiene promotion, fire-fighting and sanitation are handled by the NGO.



## 2014 AT A GLANCE

Focus on our Pilot Project of Bhashantek slum in Dhaka.

The installation of the water network with household connections started in May 2012.

SJP provides tap water since November 2013.

**1,813 household connected to the water network**  
**4 mosques, 3 schools, 1 prayer site and 4 day care centres connected**



- Needs assessed through a baseline study & Composition waste study
- Development of a business model for Primary Waste Collection
- Agreement with the Dhaka North City Corporation and Swisscontact Foundation to implement the project



- 14 Awareness sessions in schools and Radda health center
- 734 persons sensitized to handwashing good practices



- Set up fire-fighting brigades with 70 volunteers
- Distribution of extinguishers & personal protective equipment
- 2 sessions of trainings with the Bangladesh Fire Service & Civil Defence
- Distribution of 40 extinguishers and 93 protection equipments (gloves, hoods...)

# SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Until now, people did not have access to proper facilities to carry out waste from the slum. This left the dwellers with no choice but to throw their waste in pounds, drains, and alleys...

Thanks to a partnership with the foundation **Swisscontact** and the **Dhaka North City Corporation**, a pilot project for waste management will start soon in Bhashantek.

A paying service of primary collection will be managed by SJP from the first quarter of 2015.

**The core principles will be :**

- the segregation of mixed and recyclable waste
- daily door to door collection
- DNCC transfer station to manage secondary collection (to the landfill)

This is a pretty challenging project, that is why awareness-raising sessions are a crucial component of to change the habits of people.



Waste composition analysis in Bhashantek

# FIRE FIGHTING

In November, W&L had the pleasure to welcome two firemen sent by a French Fire Service & Civil Defence. Their visit was the start of a collaboration which helped (and will help) to **reduce risks related to fire in Bhashantek**.

They provided 2 trainings to 10 volunteer fire-fighting brigades (70 persons, 65% of women) and SJP plumbers in partnership with the Dhaka Fire Service and Civil Defence.

SJP plumbers got especially involved, in order to organize refresh trainings with the new fire hydrant and hoses. Until then, they organize an exercise every month.

Refresh trainings were also organized to ensure that the 40 fire extinguishers distributed could be used properly.



A French fireman training one of SJP plumbers

# HYGIENE PROMOTION

It is a complex topic because it has to lead to long term evolution of habits. All the inhabitants of the slum know the basic rules of hygiene but because of the lack of facilities, people are not able to hedge against water-borne and water-washed diseases (diarrheas, parasitic infections, giardia...).

A sufficient access to clean drinking water is the first condition to improve people's health.

Soap and handwashing are the most efficient tools to avoid the common and problematic health issues in the slum. This is the reason why W&L is running **handwashing promotion sessions**, mainly focused on children (who are the most efficient vehicle to change behaviour) and women.

In 2014, W&L organized 14 sessions with 734 beneficiaries.



W&L Community Facilitator conducting a discussion about handwashing



# Case studies

## FATEMA

HER FAMILY: HER HUSBAND AND 1 CHILD  
CLIENT OF SJP SINCE NOVEMBER 2013



### Previously how was the situation regarding water?

Often in the morning we heard that ` today we are not getting water `.

When I did not get water from the hand pump then I had to go to another one.

It was really something problematic for us. Sometimes as water was available just for a short time I had to collect water very early in the morning. For fetching water I had to queue for a long time as 15 to 20 families were using the same one.

### Now, how is the situation?

Now, at any time we can use water! Now I do not face any problem regarding water access.

Inhabitants of the area also benefited from your action. Now water is pure and free from contamination. Moreover, we get water regularly.

## PIASH

HIS FAMILY: HIS WIFE AND 2 CHILDREN  
CLIENT OF SJP SINCE DECEMBER 2014



### Could you describe the way you did your daily tasks before and after getting SJP connection?

I wake up early in the morning. Then I washed my face and then I use to pray at the mosque. In the previous time, I faced a lot of problems related to water... For instance when I wanted to wash my face before praying sometimes the handle of the hand pump was not available because it had been taken by someone, it was missing or stolen. At that time I didn't get water on time every day...

Now for bathing and going to the mosque it takes less time. Having a private connection makes it easier and the water is free from dirt, germs or any contamination.

With the water network of SJP, I don't need to buy filtered water. Now water tap is inside my home, so when I want to get water, I can!