



BANGLADESH JULY 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



SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICE

Water & Life, SJP and Swisscontact's solid waste management project has officially started in Bhashantek slum.

To pursue its ambition to improve the health situation in Bhashantek, W&L initiate a pilot project which would tackle a major issue: waste management.

In fact, as you may know, absence of waste collection-creates serious health and environmental hazard. Organic waste decomposition generates bacterias. Thus having indiscriminate dumping close to livelihoods can generate health issues such as diarrheas, skin diseases, pneumonia and facilitates the spread of malaria and dengue. Amzad, our first waste collector, has now started to improve the slum's sanitary via a door to door collection of solid waste at the clients' houses. Meanwhile, awareness is raised through a campaign about the dangers of indiscriminate dumping of solid waste.



HYGIENE PROMOTION

Our tools are now adapted to children ; visual supports allow us to discuss with kids of the importance of hand-washing. They are among the most vulnerable and are not aware of the impact of not washing hands. Thus, through interactive sessions, Shopna makes them understand the invisible threat they face ; "It is more dangerous than a Tiger", Shopna explains.

By raising awareness among children, it is families behaviour that we are changing thus, general health will improve.



FIRE-FIGHTING

In november, firemen from France came to instruct volunteer fire brigades organized by W&L in Bhashantek. At that time, SJP plumbers were especially involved and received an in depth training about the use of fire hydrants, so that they can ensure the sustainability of the fire protection system in Bhashantek.

In this way, a monthly fire mock drill is conducted. A signal is triggered on an unspecified time, then plumbers and some volunteers of the fire brigades have to gather at a fire hydrant and settle the pipes as quick as possible. This exercise improves their technical skills and strengthen their knowledge and efficiency. Thus, Bhashantek fire protection is now improving.



WATER SUPPLY

SJP water supply service is now well settled in the community of Bhashantek. The demand of connections is growing steadily. Since January, 106 new connections have been opened. It means that 477 people got access to private tap providing safe drinking water.

Most of the available meters are now connected to customers, now 1160 households benefit from SJP services. Besides, the network will be extended at the end of 2015, to cover all Bhashantek and give the opportunity to all the dwellers to access a safe source of drinking water inside their homes.

A NEW PROJECT

A prospection mission has been organised in Chittagong. This mission aimed at meeting new partners, strengthening our link with Chittagong Water and Sanitation Authority and visiting some potential intervention areas.

Thus pre-feasability studies were conducted in indifferent areas. It appears that some 'colonies' match with the criteria needed to set up an SJP branch ; 8000 households, water access via a few deep tube wells, far from most of the households (1-1.5 K.M), long time queueing for few liters of water at a very high price.

The next challenge for W&L/SJP is to finalyze the selection and the agreement regarding the intervention area.

Further technical investigations, deeper analysis of the situation and more partners networking will be done during the next prospection mission in July.

Then, by the end of this year, a water network will be settled in Chittagong and W&L/SJP will start collaborating with the local community to enhance the living conditions of the dwellers.

