Water Safety Plans Deliver...

Nowahatti, BANGLADESH

Improved Health, Changed Behaviour

Safer water, leading to:
- Better health
- Higher productivity
- Less expenditure on clinics and medicines
- Children miss school less; improved education outcomes
- Better knowledge about safe water storage and handling
- Increased confidence in the water supply system
- Reduced expenditure on medicines
- Higher productivity
- Better health

Water supply system
- Poverty reduction through improved water safety
- Improved confidence to participate in water supply decision-making
- Stronger sense of ownership
- Better knowledge about water
- Children miss school less; improved education outcomes
- Improved health
- Reduced expenditure on medicines
- Higher productivity
- Better health

Better knowledge about water safety practices, particularly household water treatment and storage

Increased confidence in the water supply system

Safer water, leading to:
- Better health
- Higher productivity
- Less expenditure on clinics and medicines
- Children miss school less; improved education outcomes
- Better knowledge about safe water storage and handling
- Increased confidence in the water supply system
- Reduced expenditure on medicines
- Higher productivity
- Better health

Amarapuri’s water supply system
- Poverty reduction through improved water safety
- Improved confidence to participate in water supply decision-making
- Stronger sense of ownership
- Better knowledge about water
- Children miss school less; improved education outcomes
- Improved health
- Reduced expenditure on medicines
- Higher productivity
- Better health

Amarapuri Open Defecation Free (ODF). It

Better knowledge about safe water practices, particularly household water treatment and storage

Increased confidence in the water supply system

Safer water, leading to:
- Better health
- Higher productivity
- Less expenditure on clinics and medicines
- Children miss school less; improved education outcomes
- Better knowledge about safe water storage and handling
- Increased confidence in the water supply system
- Reduced expenditure on medicines
- Higher productivity
- Better health

Better knowledge about safe water storage and handling

Amarapuri’s water supply serves 1530 households, and is managed by a Water Users’ Group. In 2010, a water safety plan was developed, and the users’ group quickly realized what a powerful tool this could be.

They used the process to improve water supply management, operations and quality. Consumer satisfaction has increased, and the local health officer considers Amarapuri to be “waterborne disease-free”. Members of the users’ group hold regular workshops for local communities and retailers to improve water hygiene, and cover the vessels as they carry them home. Their proactivity has seen big improvements in water safety in their village, and much less sickness in their family.

Amarapuri’s water supply serves 1530 households, and is managed by a Water Users’ Group. In 2010, a water safety plan was developed, and the users’ group quickly realized what a powerful tool this could be.

They used the process to improve water supply management, operations and quality. Consumer satisfaction has increased, and the local health officer considers Amarapuri to be “waterborne disease-free”. Members of the users’ group hold regular workshops for local communities and retailers to improve water hygiene, and cover the vessels as they carry them home. Their proactivity has seen big improvements in water safety in their village, and much less sickness in their family.

Your Next Step

WATER SUPPLIERS

Ensure that water safety plans become part of your curricula, providing training as part of your curricula, providing training as part of continuing professional development and continuing to research their impacts.

Give your support, and ensure your money is spent where it is most urgently needed.

ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS

Ensure that water safety plans become standard practice by including them in your curricula, providing training as part of continuing professional development and continuing to research their impacts.

This will ensure that the water sector is characterized by analytical risk-based thinking and an improved capacity to develop water safety planning and health.

CONSUMER GROUPS

Demand improvements in water quality, and use the water safety plan resources above to identify and communicate the most serious hazards and associated risks.

Clear expression of problems and confidence in suggesting solutions is a strong driver for change.

CONSUMER GROUPS

Demand improvements in water quality, and use the water safety plan resources above to identify and communicate the most serious hazards and associated risks.

Clear expression of problems and confidence in suggesting solutions is a strong driver for change.

With the Sustainable Development Goals focusing more on improving the quality, as well as accessibility, of drinking water (both in and outside the home), water safety planning will become even more important.

HEALTH PROVIDERS

Use the water safety plan materials to help you in awareness-raising and surveillance, both to support communities and to influence your ministry.

Your role in surveillance is a key part of water safety planning, and helps ensure that improvements in water quality are sustainable.

L/NGOs

You may be supporting any of the groups above, and can encourage them to use water safety plans as a way of achieving their goals.

The process of developing water safety plans brings together many stakeholders and contributes in multi-dimensional ways to better water services and better health.

ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS

Ensure that water safety plans become standard practice by including them in your curricula, providing training as part of continuing professional development and continuing to research their impacts.

This will ensure that the water sector is characterized by analytical risk-based thinking and an improved capacity to develop water safety planning and health.

CONSUMER GROUPS

Demand improvements in water quality, and use the water safety plan resources above to identify and communicate the most serious hazards and associated risks.

Clear expression of problems and confidence in suggesting solutions is a strong driver for change.

With the Sustainable Development Goals focusing more on improving the quality, as well as accessibility, of drinking water (both in and outside the home), water safety planning will become even more important.
Water Safety Plans Defined

Developing a water safety plan involves bringing together an interdisciplinary group of professionals, technicians and stakeholders, who get to know the water system thoroughly, and work out reliable, realistic and responsible ways to make sure the system works as it should. A good water safety plan will ensure that processes are in place to:
- Prevent contamination at the source;
- Remove or reduce contamination by treatment;
- Prevent re-contamination in distribution and handling;
- Monitor and assess the quality of water supplied.

Water safety plans can be developed for all contexts, from small, simple village water systems to large, complex metropolitan systems. The risk management approach is accessible for professional and non-professional operators of the water supply sectors, and for NGO staff, lay people and community members. In fact, the process of working together is a strong feature of water safety planning, and one of its key benefits.

Water safety plans have informed Nagpur Municipal Corporation and Orange City Water (operators of the system) of the main risks to water quality, enabling them to upgrade water quality protection. Standard operating procedures have been developed, and systematic training has resulted in an informed, dynamic and participative approach to improving performance. Water suppliers have been assisted to maintain and invest in water and sanitation services, giving stability to future funding. The water safety plan works with the non-revenue water project to create a more cost-effective water supply.

Water Safety Plans Developed

Phase I, 2005–2009: Piloting water safety plans and setting foundations
Phase II, 2010–2011: Scaling up water safety plans
Phase III, 2011–2016: Consolidating water safety plans for sustainability

Water Safety Plans Deliver...

- Better Business for Water Suppliers
- Local to National Scale-up