

Urban Wastewater: Livelihoods, Health & Environmental Impacts in India

Winrock International India & Partners

Supported by:

International Water Management Institute

Background...

- Wastewater use in agriculture is age old - has high potential
- In India an estimated 80% of wastewater may be used for irrigation (Cooper 1991)
- Contamination becoming complex – industrial waste (heavy metals, acids and derivatives of plastics, and organic components characteristic of human wastes)
- Affects the environment & health and livelihoods of ‘users’ and ‘consumers’
- Institutional support and legislation for pollution control is weak

Project objectives...

Mitigate the negative impacts of wastewater use in agriculture on the livelihoods and health of the dependent communities and on the environment

- Contribute to the existing research/knowledge on urban wastewater use for agriculture in India
- Sensitize stakeholders (policy makers/line depts./communities) ON the negative impacts of urban wastewater use and possible ways of mitigating them

Project activities...

- Case studies (Kolkata, Kanpur, Delhi, Ahmedabad)
- Consultations with local policy makers / planning authorities – includes Consultative & Action Group meetings (practitioners / academia)
- Synthesis document (case study results / recommendations)
- National assessment (secondary data / national level policies and guidelines)

Our partners...

- Delhi – Spatial Decisions
- Ahmedabad – Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action & Institute for Studies and Transformation
- Kanpur – Ecofriends & BAIF
- Kolkata – Jadavpur University