

DAY 1 Presentations

SWA Presentation

The Samoa water Authority (SWA) was established in 1993. It has the role of the national supplier of water services in Samoa. SWA provide water for 88% of the population with 4,000 customers in Savaii and the remainder provided by villages.

The major objectives of the SWA are to:

- Improve responsiveness to customers
- Improve system performance
- Accurate water measurement
- Capacity Building of staff
- Effective monitoring of targets

SWA has the long term goal of being financially independent and within budget.

Sahara Sesega Anae spoke about the leak detection works that are occurring under the WaSSP project. Two activities include the reduction of waste and losses and vulnerability and failure in the water supply systems.

SWA supply over 4,000 customers in Samoa with water. Some of their achievements have been the collection of baseline data and the ability to calculate daily consumption. It is hoped that through further leak detection the UFW will be reduced to 40% by 2010.

Bluebird AH LAL Joint Venture Presentation – Dan Mu’a

Bluebird AH LAL (JV) is a union of local construction companies. They believed that through their union they would have a better chance at being awarded the larger projects that are usually granted to off shore companies. This feeling was in fact true and they have been awarded many of the large projects, funded by multilateral agencies, which are in Samoa. In the two years of operation, JV has grown and now employs fewer than 130 people. It is hoped that in the future JV will be able to employ more people from the region and increase their capacity of their staff.

Veolia Water Solutions & Technologies – Phil Battey

Veolia has offices in 59 countries and employs more than 83,000 people throughout the world. They have over 50,000 industrial and commercial clients. Veolia has four major divisions:

- Water
- Waste
- Energy
- Transport

Veolia is a world leader in water services with 153 years of experience in the water industry. Their two main activities are build and design and solutions. It is hoped that through this trip there will be more Pacific based projects on the books for Veolia.

Water Sector Management Unit – Nadia Meredith, Programme Manager

Water is a priority as it is fundamental to life. There is a human right to access safe water supply and basic sanitation. By placing water as a national priority it is believed that it will contribute to a

wider social, economical and environmental well being of the people. That is why there needs to be a wider sector approach to water and sanitation issues.

There are four sub-components to the Water Sector and Sanitation Programme. They include:

1. Sector Orientation
2. Water Resources
3. Wastewater and Sanitation
4. Water use/supply

The improvement of the water sector has been likened to a car where the passengers are the politicians, government ministries and departments, NGO's etc. The fuel of the car is the funding of the water sector. It is believed that there will be more than \$125 million dollars invested in the water sector over the next five years. The engine parts that make the car run are the policies and strategies, designs and work implementation, as well as the monitoring and evaluation. The drivers of the vehicle are the government and the consultation with the stakeholders. The map for the journey is the water for life sector plan and framework for action. This is a living document that will be periodically refined and updated. How long will the journey be? This is a medium-term process that will hopefully be developed by 2010. However this is an ongoing process.

ECONOVA – Dennis Hallorhan

Econova are a sewerage provider and work with wastewater and recycling. They provide a turn key solution where they train local people and develop site management plans which are developed during four phases.

The main point of recycling the water is to provide us with quality water for our daily needs.

Econova provide solutions for this recycling. While Econova do not advocate potable water from wastewater recycling, visitors have often tasted it out of curiosity. The water produced through recycling is class A+ quality, which in Australia is recommended for use in the toilet. Econova have solutions for different sized areas ranging from a single household to a whole community.

FLOVAC – Rick Wickham

Vacuum Waste Water Connection System is the green future of sewerage, bringing sustainable solutions to the water crisis. FLOVAC have been in the industry for 25 years. It begins with reducing the appliances in the home which will increase the flow of sewerage and its quality to the Waste water treatment plant. This will ultimately increase the efficiency of the Waste water Treatment Plant. It is better than the usual gravity system when used in a flat, sand and unstable soil. It is believed that the vacuum system has economical and ecological benefits.

Ministry of Health – Cassandra Betham

Water quality monitoring objectives:

1. Ensure safe drinking water
2. ensure accurate water quality data is available

Components:

- Draft National drinking water standards 2008
- Assist with monitoring and implementation of water safety plans
- Facilitate implementation

Wide Bay Water – Pankaj Mistry

If automated reading technology (AMR) were to be placed in each household we would be able to estimate the leakage that is occurring inside the house. This is one of the projects that Wide Bay Water and Griffith University are working on.

Through this project a study was conducted where leakage was identified in two ways; an alarm that sounded during MPR and a review of the household water use. It was found that many of the leaks were ones that could be readily fixed once it was detected. The repair programme saw an increase in the effectiveness and saving of water and money for the customer.

Samoa Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment – Suluimalo Amataga Penaia

The water resource division (WRD) was established in 2006. The goal was to secure sustainable water resources management. The main objective of the WRD is to ensure that the independent water resource management is applied as a means to foster equitable and efficient management and sustainable use of water.

The WRD has seen many achievements such as:

- Management WRMS approval
- Hydrological network expansion
- Flood Management Action Plan
- Increased capacity of staff

The WRD see the way forward is to:

- Strengthen control management and protection of water sources
- Improve knowledge of water resources and use
- Strengthen existing measures/mechanisms to protect ability
- Build capacity of key implementing agencies and other relevant shareholders
- Create greater public awareness
- Promote partnerships to support the management of water
- To secure finances

The WRD faces the following issues:

- Limited capacity and human resources to meet the demands
- Mobilizing financial instruments and incentives for sustainable resource monitoring
- Resource accessibility and customary land owners
- Sustaining stakeholders/communities participation
- Law enforcement is expensive
- Effective mechanisms for flow of information, utilization and access to information
- Water allocation - conflict resolutions for competing uses

National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research – Dr Chris Tanner

The aim of the sustainable water supply and waste treatment systems for a coastal Fijian village was to improve water and wastewater systems and also supporting and improving the health system. The focus is on existing village situations, wastewater treatment and water supply. One of these villages was the Votua village. There are 270 people, 50 houses, 88% of these had sanitation facilities and most had flushing toilets. However the grey water was clogging up the soil.

A village consultation was held with the water committees to strengthen the role they play in the village. This enabled the people to re-interpret, tell stories and give feedback. It also allowed the local plumber to motivate the better use of water and sanitation methods. Through this the project was able to identify the following problems:

- Poor pressure
- Very high leakage
- Poor quality of water outage
- Bore is too expensive
- Dams are prone to sedimentation causing frequent blockages and a frequent need to flush the lines

The project helped in the assistance of the following:

- Laying new pipes
- New storage tanks
- Whole new village water main

The result was an improvement in the water system.

Samoa Ministry of Women Community and Social Development – Maulolo Tavita Amosa

The MWCS D have a supporting role of the Independent Water Schemes. The MWCS D are the lead agency under the EU WaSSP project. We provide capacity building support to the Independent water schemes and the coordination of public services.

Response Strategy

- Strengthen the capacity of the IWSA
- Contract out in-depth research on IWS
- Strengths and weaknesses and design of a training programme

Training Programme

- Planning
- Financial management
- Maintenance
- User rules and communication

Provision of Technical Support

- Provide water engineer to analyse the scheme and prepare proposals
- Request technical support channeled through IWSA

Policy Issues

- Sharing of water resource
- Manage and maintain water schemes
- Role of independent water schemes in provision of rural water supply
- Local capacity

Future Plans

- Assist IWSA to identify financing for its members
- Promote self-regulation through community
- Facilitate improved relations between IWSA and SWA
- It is hoped to have 22 schemes completed before July 2009