

Name of the Project: National School Sanitation Initiative

Name of Funding Organization: GiZ, MoUD, MoHRD

Project Duration: 2011- 2014

Project Description:

The National School Sanitation Initiative (NUSI) was launched in April 2011 by the Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD), Ministry of Human Resource Development (MoHRD), Central Board of Secondary Examination (CBSE) and GIZ to effectuate a quantifiable achievement in the provisions and practices of sanitation in the country. Under the initiative, it was to be made compulsory for the schools to focus on the practical aspects of sanitation in its right perspective, laying emphasis on personal hygiene, proper sanitation, clean toilet habits, safe drinking water, wastewater recycling, conservation of green spaces, among other subjects. Ecosan Services Foundation (ESF) was a knowledge partner in the National School Sanitation Initiative (NSSI). The project included implementations of water and sanitation infrastructure at five cities, which included the city of Delhi, Shimla, Vasai Virar Raipur and Tirupati. ESF prepared a detailed school action plan (SAP) for a total of 48 schools in these cities based on the baseline surveys obtained. Hardware and software implementations were carried out in each of the schools in these five cities.

Objectives Achieved:

Hardware Installations: Under this task, ESF had been assigned to do the procurements of the water supply and sanitation infrastructural needs of the schools for which action plan was prepared. ESF followed the due process of tender, quotations, selection of vendor and contractors etc. for all the cities. Ultimately in each city a vendor and contractor each, a supervisor and a storage go-down for storing procured materials were selected. ESF through frequent visits monitored the work done in each school. In the entire process, the participation and support of the school was a constant and various key document like the Letter of Intent (to join the program), a Memorandum of understanding of the roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder in the provided infrastructure and a Handing over Document were signed with the schools. ESF had to ensure transport, installation, quality control and final inspection of goods and services till the end of the project was done up to the mark.

Software components: The software components are activities that promote conditions at school and practices of school staff that help to prevent water and sanitation related diseases and help in maintaining an overall healthy and hygienic environment; the hardware and software activity personnel working in tandem all the while. Teacher's and students' trainings were conducted with the objective of helping teachers understand the basics of sanitation and hygiene so that they are better empowered to pass on this crucial information to the students. Another objective of the session was making the teachers aware of their own potential in being role models for the students and in bringing about a change in the health, hygiene and sanitation scenario of their own school.

E-Learning: The E-learning course on sustainable school sanitation for teachers was designed keeping in mind the India-specific conditions and the course aimed at empowering the teachers and building their capacity towards being initiators of change in the sanitation set-up of their schools. The course, divided into 12 different modules was designed to help teachers and school administrators tap into sector-specific knowledge of practices and approaches that are likely to yield positive results as they coordinate multi-sector efforts to improve sanitation and hygiene in schools. All the factsheets, along with the video lectures, references and the quiz were uploaded on a web portal. The teachers were given login ids and passwords and they could access the entire portal through that.