



Future Leaders training programme Page 1



World Aid's day Page 6



Water from waste to Resource Page 8

## LEDeG organises first module of FUTURE LEADERS TRAINING PROGRAMME



### 25 participants took part in the three-day training programme

Ladakh Ecological Development Group (LEDeG) in collaboration with Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) Leh organised a three-day 'Future Leaders Training

Programme' under the Liveable Leh project, which is supported by European Union (EU) and co-funded by BMZ, at Hotel Singge Palace in Leh from December 26 to 28.

Manas Rath, senior advisor at BORDA, and Tushar Gogia, consultant, were provided training to the participants. More than 25 participants took part in the three-day training programme, including



*Manas Rath from BORDA interacting with the participants*

Deskyong Namgyal, Principal, Eliezer Joldan Memorial College Leh; Rinchen Angmo, Head, Goldenmile Learning; Stanzin Donsal, Chief Accounts Officer, District Fund Office Leh; Rinchen Dolma, Reporter, District Information Department, Leh; Rinchen Angmo, Editor, Reach Ladakh Bulletin; Mohammad Ramzan Khan, President, Anjuman Moin-ul Islam Youth Wing; Stanzin Dolkar, Member, All India Congress Committee; Padma Tashi, Projects Director, Pel Drukpa Charitable Trust; Rinchen Angmo, Director, Art of Motion; Fariha Yousuf, coordinator, LEDeG; Stanzin Dorjey, Managing Director, Ladakh Retreat; Tsewang Gyalsen, Assistant Director (Planning); Tsetan Angmo, Assistant Director (Planning) Rural Development; Rigzin Chodon, Research Associate, Ladakh Arts and Media Organisation (LAMO); Rigzin Wangmo Lachic, Founder/Operator, Dolkhar; Saira Parveen, Vice President, National Conference Women's Wing; Norboo Rinchen, Manager, Hotel Samaya; Rinchen Wangmo, Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE) PDD; Nansel Stobdan, Project Associate, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); Kunzang Wangmo, Horticulture Development Officer;

Tamchos Gurmet, Senior Engineer, Blue Water Company; Dorje Angchuk, Vice President, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Leh, and Tsering Dorjey, Programme Manager, REWA Society.

The objective of the training programme was to provide a platform to like-minded people from the public and private sectors- government, businesses, and entrepreneurs, and working together to tackle the problem arising in urban areas of Leh town. Both the trainers also helped the participants to shape their personalities.

The first session of the opening day started with a brief introduction. The participants were asked three questions: if you were a tree, what kind of tree would you be and why? If you were an animal, what kind of animal would you be and why? If you were a city, which city would you be any why? The participants were then asked for their response. Thereafter, the participants also took part in a group exercise. Post-tea, Manas and Tushar outlined the appreciative inquiry philosophy. Appreciative Inquiry (AI) is a facilitated process to discover past and current practices that inform and inspire participants as they strive to



*Tushar Gogia (with cap) and Manas Rath during the Future Leaders Training Programme.*

collaboratively create and implement an ideal future. It does not focus on the identification, but rather envisioning and creating a positive future.

AI involves selecting topics of shared interest for inquiry, conducting structured interviews to bring out stories that reveal the best of the past- or what has worked- and identifying themes to help plan the future. Appreciative Inquiry is a systematic process that uses the art and practice of asking questions and building upon stories to foster innovation and imagination.

According to the trainers, the advantages of Appreciative Inquiry are that it solicits the full participation of stakeholders in mission or vision development, strategic planning and community development; it builds support for change as an ongoing process and not just a one-time event; it promotes heart-felt inquiry, discovery and renewal; supports organisations in transition.

However, there are also challenges involved in this process. Since Appreciative Inquiry is intended to bring the 'whole system' together, when using the tool at the community level, it is important to make sure participants

are representative of the entire community and that very broad access is created to include as many people as possible; it is not appropriate where predictable, linear processes and outcomes are required or where the problem identification and problem-solving method for change is preferred.

Basically, the 4-D cycle is followed in implementing the Appreciative Inquiry process:

- **Discovery:** craft questions, develop an interview guide, train interviewers, conduct interview, share stories from interviews about best practices, map the core of the findings
- **Dream:** reflect on a focal question, engage in a dream dialogue, clarify the collective dream, creatively enact the dream, determine common themes, create an organisational dream map and document the dream
- **Design:** identify a meaningful social architecture, select relevant and strategic design elements, identify organisational design preferences, craft provocative propositions.
- **Destiny:** review, communicate and celebrate accomplishments, generate a list of potential actions, and



*Participants engaged in a group activity during the Future Leaders Training Programme.*



self-organise for inspired action.

Tushar further added that the inquirer should restrain from giving advices and encourage the speaker to share more. He asked the participants to form a group of two people and asked the inquirer to use AI tool to collect information from the speaker about an incident in his/her life that made him/her feel successful.

Post-lunch, Tushar Gogia shared his expectations from the participants at the end of the training programme. According to him, he expected the participants to develop a good personality, work on projects related to Leh town, and use the learnings from the training programme to good effect.

On the second day, Manas and Tushar asked the participants to practice and better Appreciative Inquiry technique. Once the group exercise was over, Tushar and Manas gave the participants an overview of the sustainable development goals (SDGs). The trainers shared that there were Millennium Development Goals before the SDGs came into effect in 2015. The SDGs, called 'transforming our world: the 2030 agenda for sustainable development, have 17 goals that are interconnected and have 169 indicators.

The objectives and challenges of SDGs are aiming for sustainable, safer and more prosperous planet. There must be social progress, economic growth and environmental protection. The trainers then asked the participants to rate the 17 SDGs on a scale of 1-10 on personal, community, Leh

and professional level. The participants were then asked to draw a bar graph indicating the impact and need of SDGs for Leh town. The participants were then divided into a group of three and asked to work on an SDG assigned by the trainers.

On the concluding day, the participants did an outdoor activity in which a participant was blindfolded and his teammates had to direct him/her to the clues and instruct to find the treasure. Thereafter, Manas Rath gave a presentation on the situation of water in Leh town. Manas shared with the participants that private bore wells were the largest source of water for Leh town accounting for 35% of the total distribution. He further added that the New Indus River supply has a capacity of 12.7 million liters per day (MLD).

The participants were then asked to set personal, professional and community goals that they wanted to achieve in 2019. Post-lunch, the trainers and participants agreed to meet every three months. Both the trainers asked the participants to spend 15 minutes each day to write what they learnt in the training programme. They also asked the participants to practice and use the AI technique in everyday conversations.

The participants also agreed to meet every week at LEDeG Office to discuss SDGs and indicators with other groups. The groups will also give a presentation of their project plans during the meeting.

## Ladakh NGO Forum observes WORLD AIDS DAY



Winners of the quiz competition during the World Aids Day at Lamdon Model School in Leh

### The theme for this year was 'Know Your Status'

The Ladakh NGO Forum observed World AIDS Day at Kushok Bakula Rinpoche Memorial Hall, Lamdon Model Senior Secondary School, Leh, on December 1. World AIDS Day, which is commemorated each year on December 1, provides a platform to unite in the fight against HIV, show support to people infected with HIV and also pay tribute to those who have passed away. Ladakh Ecological Development Group (LEDeG) is a member of the Ladakh NGO Forum.

The global theme of this year's World AIDS Day was "Know Your Status". The importance of the theme was to urge people to know their HIV status through medical tests and to have access to prevention, treatment and care services of HIV. We can ensure that health care is accessible, acceptable, available and of good quality for everyone when we are aware of our HIV status.

The awareness programme was inaugurated by Dr Sonam Wangchuk, Director of Himalayan Culture Heritage Foundation (HCHF). He gave the welcome speech and informed the audience about the newly formed Ladakh NGO Forum and its vision for a better Ladakh. Thereafter, Stanzin Dawa, Principal, Lamdon Model Senior Secondary School, who was the chief guest for the occasion, thanked the members of the NGO Forum for organising the event

and also involving the students. He requested the students, staffs and audience to learn and pass the knowledge to others to make Ladakh AIDS-free by 2030 in Ladakh.

Later, Stanzin Dawa invited Dr Spalchen Gonbo, Pediatrician at Sonam Norboo Memorial Hospital Leh, to throw light on the current status of HIV/AIDS patients in Ladakh. He revealed that total 49 patients, including 29 locals (11 male and 18 female) are HIV positive and are being treated at Integrated Counselling and Testing Centre (ICTC), Leh. He gave a presentation on the virus which causes HIV and the methods to deal with it.

Fariha Yousuf, training assistant at LEDeG, gave a research-based presentation on HIV/AIDS. She highlighted the misconceptions and misunderstandings of the factors leading to AIDS. He shared facts about how the virus is spread from person to person. Thereafter, a quick question and answer session was conducted, and the students were rewarded.

A documentary film on HIV/AIDS was also screened for the students. Sonam Gyatso, Director, Leh Old Town Initiative (LOTI) gave a vote of thanks. He added that similar events would be conducted by the Ladakh NGO Forum in the future.



*Stanzin Dawa, Principal of Lamdon Model School*



*Dr Spalchen Gonbo interacting with the students*



*Students listening attentively to the speakers*

# 12 WAYS TO TURN WATER FROM WASTE TO RESOURCE

*As 80% of the world's wastewater flows untreated into the environment, we asked an expert panel to discuss how to promote water reuse.*





INDIA

## 1 | Highlight success stories

The main message we should give is that proper reuse can save money and generate income, and is good for the environment. In the Netherlands, there is now a wastewater plant that actually generates energy. As a sector we need to highlight such examples, provide technical options and work with the public to raise their awareness about the danger to their health around wastewater.

*Arjen Naafs, technical adviser, WaterAid South Asia, @Arjen\_Naafs,@wateraid*

## 2 | Tackle cultural stigma

Wastewater is often out of sight and out of mind. There is resistance not just from the public to re-use but also from governments and health authorities. In one recent project on wastewater management we demonstrated that water was safe for specific re-use.

*Christopher Corbin, programme officer, pollution prevention,  
UN Caribbean Environment Programme, @cristojc, @UNEP\_CEP*

We have examples of successful reuse – such as biogas installations in Ethiopia fuelling kitchen units, eco-san toilets in peri-urban Mozambique, and a co-composting plant in Bangladesh which produces fertiliser. In all examples, however, it takes a considerable effort for awareness raising and longer term presence. It is possible, but it requires determination and patience.

*Arjen Naafs*

## 3 | Talk money

Wastewater farmers make cost savings due to their reduced use of chemical fertilisers. For example, farmers in Mexico who irrigate about 140 hectares [346 acres] of land make a cost saving of \$135 [£107] per hectare per year, a substantial amount of money which would otherwise be used to purchase chemical fertilisers. Work in Pakistan has shown that farmers with access to untreated wastewater could harvest more crops per year, and earned more than \$600 [£476] per hectare per year more than farmers using regular irrigation water, as a result of higher cropping intensities and savings in fertiliser costs.

*Prince Antwi-Agyei, independent consultant – water and sanitation, NHance Development Partners Limited*

The sale of reused water for industrial use can be a big driver for utilities to invest in wastewater treatment. Nagpur Municipal Corporation is India's first (and perhaps only) civic body to earn money from sewage. However, policy issues regarding the industrial use of wastewater and the transportation costs for carrying wastewater away from urban areas to industries have made this difficult in most parts of the country. Some pragmatism in policy change can go a long way in making wastewater treatment a financially lucrative proposition.

*Shrey Goyal, director & co-founder, Sustainable Growth Initiative, @ShreyGoyal, @ThinkSGI*

## 4 | Use good PR

Communication is the key. The Singapore story is so successful because they had a visionary leader who communicated the new water programme incredibly well to citizens. Lee Kuan Yew ensured his citizens were ready for the transformation.

*Pritha Hariram, programme manager, water supply and sanitation services,  
International Water Association, @PrithaHariram, @IWAHQ*

## 5 | Link to national priorities

So often we hear about the lack of political will on many environmental issues, in both developing and developed countries. Frankly, many decision makers see wastewater as an investment without any returns. We need to change that dialogue. We can do this by speaking their language and making linkages to national priorities, such as health, employment and development.

*Christopher Corbin,*



*KENYA*

## 6 | Highlight public health risks

One emerging global challenge is antimicrobial resistance (AMR), which can be spread from wastewater treatment systems. Like many emerging health challenges, AMR may be difficult to contain to one part of the world. This has negative social and economic implications and is currently being treated as a public health issue, with attention to minimising antibiotic use. However, it is critical to ensure that waste containing AMR traits is safely managed. We need more information about emerging contaminants and it will be important to think about this as a growing number of countries start releasing these compounds into wastewater streams.

*Sarah Dickin, research fellow, Stockholm Environment Institute, @seiresearch, @sarabdickin*

## 7 | Make investment viable

It's not the lack of access of finance, it's about managing risks for financiers. Investors and development banks are looking for government or industry partners that are creditworthy, that have the vision to carry the projects all the way. This requires looking at new business models including PPPs [public-private partnerships], good procurement and performance-based contracts. Here is a good example where development financiers worked with two entities in Kampala, Uganda, to build their capacities to embark on this journey.

*Pritha Hariram*

## 8 | Partner up

We got great visibility for wastewater by linking up with regional NGO partners – the Global Water Partnership-Caribbean and the Caribbean Water and Wastewater Association – who already had a political forum of ministers. We were then able to raise the profile through partnering with the Inter-American Development Bank and UN Environment. Part of what we need to do as agencies to engage decision makers is work collectively, with the private sector, UN agencies, NGO and development banks..

*Christopher Corbin*

## 9 | Be politically active

Political activism and applying pressure on local governments can work wonders, and can sometimes lead to cities adopting more progressive policies. For example, Delhi now plans to reuse 25% of total sewage produced by 2017, 50% by 2022, and 80% by 2027. This is primarily due to widespread awareness of the horrific state of the Yamuna river flowing through the city.

*Shrey Goyal*

## 10 | Get the media on side

We can do all the studies to show the benefits derived from treating and reusing water. The main challenge, however, is how to communicate these findings to them. There is the need to partner with the media to convey this message. From my experience in Ghana, politicians are mostly forced to work when the media push them..

*Prince Antwi-Agyei*

## 11 | Work with religious leaders

In some countries, people have religious beliefs that prohibit consuming crops irrigated with wastewater. In these cases, FAO [Food and Agriculture Organization] works with the local government and religious leaders to build knowledge and raise awareness among communities. Religious leaders play a vital role in this specific situation, telling people that usage of treated wastewater in agriculture is not against religion.

*Marlos De Souza, water platform secretary, Food and Agriculture Organization, @marlosOz*

## 12 | Use tech well

It was once part of a pilot for a cheap water-purifier solution being marketed across urban and rural low-income households. A small instrument was used to show how wastewater compared to packaged mineral water, tap water, and river or stream water in terms of total dissolved solids. Interestingly, this saw some success among the urban poor and middle income households, but not so much in rural areas. .

*Shrey Goyal*



PERU

Funded By:



Partners:



Editor : Tashi Lundup

Editorial Team : TenzinMotup, Fariha Yousuf,

Designer : Tundup Gyatso