

# New Sanitation



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*Believe it or not, human waste has commercial value. It contains raw materials for fertilizer and energy. This value can be an incentive for business development and a trigger to increase access to improved sanitation. The New Sanitation concept comprises a range of sanitation services that build on nutrient recovery and energy withdrawal and offer an alternative for conventional sewerage and water-based sanitation.*



## New Sanitation Program

Currently over 2.6 billion people live without access to improved sanitation facilities<sup>1</sup>. since urban areas are better served than rural areas, cities are under pressure to keep up with the ever expanding urban populations. Finding ways to cope with the growing needs for sanitation services is therefore urgent. At the same time the agricultural sector faces an increase in demand for food and for crops that can be used to produce renewable bio-energy, while it becomes evident that the basic ingredient of fertilizer, phosphate, is becoming scarce. In order to keep pace with population growth and related energy demand, the reuse of nutrients and energy from wastewater are imperative.

Our aim is to strengthen the market for end-products from the sanitation chain (organic fertilizer and bio-energy) in order to stimulate sanitation service delivery. We therefore develop innovative holistic programs that bring together the fields of sanitation, food and energy in developing countries.

The commercial value of nutrients and energy is an economic incentive for advancing the objective of providing more people with adequate sanitation. Simultaneously the program offers alternatives for conventional sewerage and water-based sanitation,. Through stimulating the market for bio-energy and organic fertilizer products and increasing the access of sanitation, the New Sanitation Program has potential to become a sustainable solution to a serious problem. As the demand for sanitation end-products increases, the number of facilities will rise.

<sup>1</sup>WHO, 2010

### Partners

Shell,  
DHV,  
WS Regge & Dinkel,  
Rabobank Foundation,  
WASTE,  
UNEP – GPA,

## Join Us!

Participating in the New Sanitation program offers organizations the opportunity to direct development funds into a formula that Aqua for All is able to leverage into co-funding arrangement, making the financing go further. It is a comprehensive program wherein your organization can gain access to knowledge and expertise that may complement your core business, reaping the benefit from lessons our participants have already learned, and possibly avoid wasting time and money 're-inventing the wheel'.

## New Sanitation and Aqua for All

New Sanitation is newest among our three main development tracks. The program approaches the sanitation challenge from the perspective of nutrient reuse. We've identified useful links between the sanitation sector and the fields of agriculture and sustainable energy. Aqua for All is member of the Nutrient Platform, which is an important network and source of information for our New Sanitation Program. Furthermore, Aqua for All works toward leveraging externally generated funds in order to maximize the impact of the program. We also safeguard the quality of the projects under implementation, the monitoring progress and reporting back to program donors.

## New Sanitation Highlights

### Safi Sana

Aqua for All is the founder of Safi Sana Ltd., which develops and manages an economically sustainable business case for sanitation, energy and the resources of waste. Safi Sana consists of a franchise concept for public water and sanitation facilities and runs a business unit which helps design, build and operate a centralized waste digestion and processing plant which then produces bio-energy and organic fertilizer. The first pilot of Safi Sana took place in Ashaiman, Ghana (Safi Sana Ghana, Ltd). The experience gained in this pilot will be used to extend the business model elsewhere in Ghana and in other African countries.

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### WioLab

The project "Addressing land-based Activities in the Western Indian Ocean (WIOLaB)" addresses the degradation of the marine and coastal environment due to land-based waste mismanagement. The WIO-LaB Project is being implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Through our funding leverage mechanism and partnership brokering efforts, Aqua for All provides valuable technical and financial assistance to the development of a number of wastewater demonstration projects which involve separation of waste streams and nutrient reuse.



Aqua for All was the main editor of the booklet "Smart Hygiene Solutions" in the NWP smart solutions series. The booklet is written for non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations and local health workers who seek to help break the cycle of disease transmission by improving the hygiene conditions of communities and households in developing countries. Further information about this booklet can be found on [www.kitpublishers.nl](http://www.kitpublishers.nl) and [www.akvo.org](http://www.akvo.org)