

MONITORING REPORT (05/11/04)
CLEAN - INDIA

EXPLANATORY COMMENTS

1. Relevance and quality of design.

This project is designed to include the participation of NGO's and civil society groups in the preparation of a national action programme for sustainable development. The project introduces schoolchildren to environmental activities and teaches them at an early stage to think and apply their minds to environmental problems. Although very ambitious the project is very well designed, highly relevant, realistic and all inputs and results are appropriate to contribute significantly towards the purpose and objective.

2. Efficiency of implementation to date.

The project is ambitious, with activities planned according to strict time plans, and is being achieved in a cost effective manner, The major activities, largely carried out by schoolchildren, include: i) Drinking water quality monitoring; ii) Surface water quality monitoring; iii) Air quality monitoring; iv) Energy audits; v) Waste watch; vi) Biodiversity study; vii) Checking food adulteration. The project is run very efficiently and is well on track to achieve its targets

3. Effectiveness to date.

This is an unusual project in that the beneficiaries are actually involved in its development and the achievement of project results; this is noticeably effective and is proceeding very well. As a consequence, beneficiaries are contributing towards the results and they are disseminated widely. There is a growing waiting list of schools, towns and even requests from other countries to take part in the project. All the beneficiaries seen were very appreciative and enthusiastic and have in their own way achieved much already, particularly in convincing others of the need to respect the environment. The project is very effective in making significant progress towards the achievement of its targets of involvement of national, state and local authorities, the involvement of research and educational organisations, the establishment of a network of competent resource centres, The project is systematically assessing and documenting the environmental quality of major towns and cities in India for at least three years. It undertakes environmental improvement actions at the local level and collects and analyses seasonal and reliable quality/status information.

4. Impact to date.

The Objectively Verifiable Indicators (OVI's) at Overall Objectives (OO) level are:
'Number of empowered community networks involved in environmental

improvement action programmes'; and 'Improvement in environmental quality as compared to baseline'. Contribution to both of these is very evident in all the schools and communities visited. The project has made an impressive start and there is plenty of time for yet more significant impact to be model) The 'Asia Foundation' has requested starting a replica programme in Sri Lanka and they have requested CLEAN - India to undertake a facilitation role ii) The Forest and Horticultural Ministry Departments are providing assistance by providing samplings either free or at a nominal charge, assisting with digging pits, providing manure etc to help the children's activities iii) Some State Governments are providing some waste paper recycling units as the project has no funds for these. The project is well coordinated with other donors and projects, this being established through Development Alternatives (DA) before the project started. This scenario is expected to continue long after the project end.

5. Potential sustainability.

The Ministry of Environment & Forests, the Delhi Government, the State Governments where the project is active and the Ministry of Water Resources are all supporting project activities. There appears to be a general trend towards active environmental awareness on the part of the Delhi Government and local authorities are also assisting the various schools and communities in their 'clean-up' campaigns and eco-friendly waste handling activities. As a result of the activities and the publicity attached, many more schools are requesting entry to the schemes, further regions in India are becoming active and even other countries in Asia are taking an interest. Activities will continue after the project ends, but the extent of replication, dissemination and re-enforcement will be largely dependant upon the amount of external support the project will manage to obtain. At this stage it appears that the project will maintain its operations no matter which factors change, but the extent of further development would benefit greatly from further donor support.

KEY OBSERVATIONS, ACTION(S) RECOMMENDED AND BY WHOM (IN ORDER OF PRIORITY)

To Project Management: Priority 3: 1) Consider possibilities to obtain funding to enable implementation for the seven years originally envisaged and to enable extensive replication and dissemination. **2)** Consider adding quantification to the Objectively Verifiable Indicators (OVI's).

To EC DEL: Priority 3: 1) Encourage donors to consider funding the project for development. **2)** Consider possibilities for budget realignment in order to allow for increased travel and travel costs.