Water & Sanitation in Village Fantan, Armenia

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Mexico, 2006
Armenia

- 50% live in poverty
- 17% in utter poverty < 1 USD per day
- 47% rural have centralized water supply
- 40% rural have no sanitation
Fantan

"Dried Fountain"

- 1117 inhabitants
- 60 households are (of 240) refugees Azerbaijan conflict
- Almost no employment opportunities, only 12% have a job
- Income per person does not exceed 24 USD p/month
Water sources

Old source
- Surface mountainous springs
- Constant risk of pollution
- Tularemia outbreak in 2003 (157 cases)

New source
- Groundwater
- Good quality
- Street-taps
New well : but no home-connections

- incomplete centralised water system
- need for carrying the water from the streets (women, children)
- shortage of electricity for water pumping
- irregular water supply
Water sampling

Results: 55 % of water samples had bacterial contamination
Gender Issue
Local actions

- Raising awareness campaign about health and sanitation among rural and local authorities in Fantan
- Improvement of water quality in Fantan
- Encouraging Community participation with focus on women participation in decision making process
Costs of Street Taps versus Home Connections

- Per person cost 0.35 USD per month for water
- Household installation of water meter and pipe connection 24 USD
- Water cost with water meter per cubic meter 0.20 USD
Water supply improvement in Fantan

- Partnership on all levels was established
- Water meters were purchased by AWHHE and WECF in frame of Dutch-funded project
- All 240 households are being connected
- Information water campaign among rural population is conducted
Expected results

- Thanks to metering, households pay for actual use, can control how much they spend
- Rational drinking water use
- “Old source” will be used for household-washing and agriculture purposes
- Next step: wastewater treatment and ecological toilets implementation
Discussion in Fantan: WECF experts, AWHHE and local authority
Installation of the water-meter
Conclusion

- Lack of strategy to address the needs of the poorest
- Increased local capacity building
- More priority for rural drinking water supply and public health
- More grants or very low-interest credits for connections and water-meter installations
Conclusion

- Sanitation sector is absolutely neglected in rural areas
- No policy on sanitation service
- Urgent investments are required to improve water and sanitation services
Thank you for your attention!