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PROBLEMSOLVING AND DECISIONMAKING
By community participation

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Preface

As a student at the department of " Ecology of Habitat" at the Agricultural University of Wageningen, the Netherlands, I performed my practical period at the Institute of Human Settlements (IHS, Puslitbang Pemiukiman) in Bandung, Indonesia from June until December 1986.

There I was supervised by Mr. Parwoto and at his request I joined the PSWS project and made a study about problem solving- and decisionmaking processes.

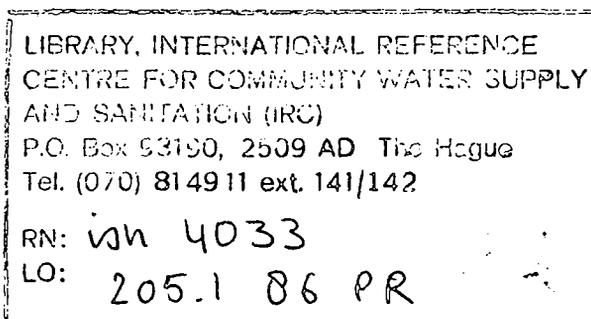
It was sometimes quite hard for me to get the right information and find some good literature, which could be helpful in making this report. Therefore I decided to do some extra literature study when I return to the Netherlands. This report, thus is not the definite version. The definite version I will send by post from the Netherlands to Indonesia.

I enjoyed my practical period at the IHS very much. I got quite a good view on how the Indonesian people approach housing problems, especially the ones related to water supply and sanitation.

Especially I want to thank Mr. Parwoto for supporting me and discussing my work together. Also I want to thank all the other people at the IHS with whom I had many nice talks and discussions.

Irene Dijsselbloem

4 december 1986



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1.1 Indonesia

Indonesia is one of the biggest countries in the world. It covers an area of nearly 5 million sq. km, of which 2 million sq. km are land. Indonesia consists of 13,677 islands of which only 3992 are permanently settled and some 6000 are named.

This means a diversity of ethnic groups in Indonesia. About 250 different languages are spoken. Indonesia has the 5th largest population in the world- over 162 million people- and its growth is enormously. Between 1930 and 1984 the growth on Jawa was from 11 million people to 28.5 million people. Especially in the cities this growth is causing many problems.

Although in Indonesia live such a diversity of cultures and religions, also relations between these different groups can be noticed, of which some are thousands of years old. For example, all over Indonesia animism- the belief that every object has a hidden power, influences the doing and thinking of the people, no matter what their professed religion.

Also, of the many religions that have come to these islands, almost 90 % of the people are muslims.

Several events have also made the Indonesian population into a unity. One of the most important contribution to this was their constant struggle for independence from Portugese, English, Dutch and Japanese colonial rule. Beside this, the anti-imperialistic period of Soekarno in which the militaristic coup, led by Soekarno, was prevented, stimulated the unation of the Indonesian people.

After the declaration of independence from colonial rule in 1945, the unity of the Indonesian people was stressed by government politics by the promotion of the Pancasila, a weapen which expresses the 5 principles put forth by the state as a foundation of political and social rule.

It gives an answer to the most urgent questions a new state is confronted with, on the subjects of religion, relations with other states, national unity, government and sharing prosperity. (See next page).

The 5 principles are:

1. Believe in a god (symbol: star):
One must believe in a god.
2. Nationalism (symbol: head of a wild buffalo):
All ethnic groups must unite and prosper

3. Indonesian democracy (symbol: banyan tree):
Indonesia is built on democracy on all levels
4. Humanitarianism (symbol: chain)
Unbroken unity of mankind.
5. Social justice (symbol: sprays of rice and cotton):
A just and prosperous society that will give adequate supplies of food and clothing for all.

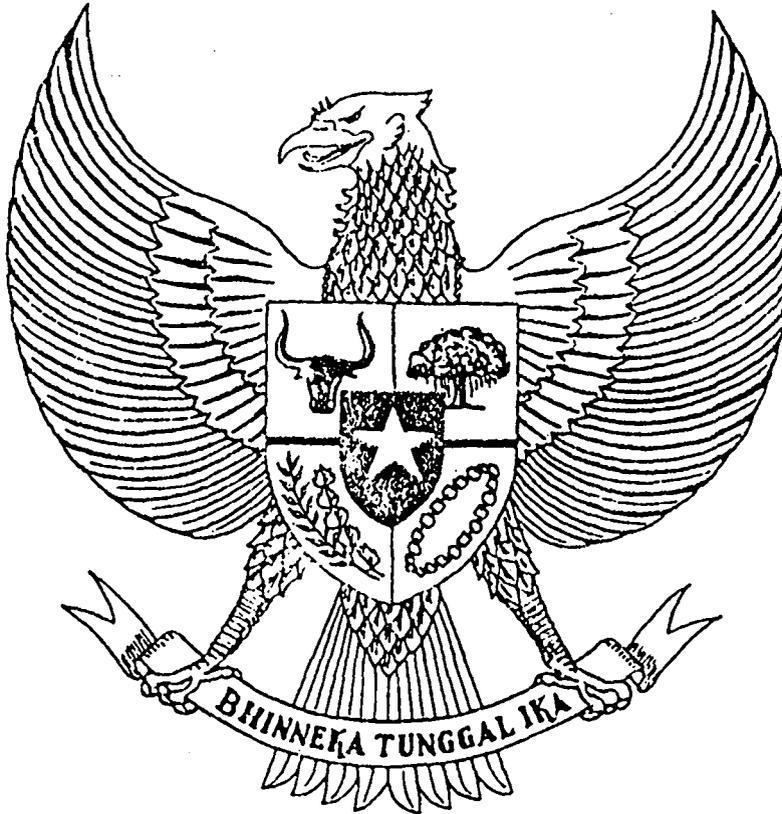


Figure : The Pancasila

Indonesia is confronted with many problems. It is still a developing country; the national income is very low and the mortality rate quite high comparing with other developing countries in south-east Asia.

One of the biggest problems is the enormous growth of the population in a short time. This has also caused a huge urbanisation problem. Between 1971 and 1981 the urban population increased with some 4-5%. This growth is twice as much as the growth in rural areas.

Also the migration from the other islands to Jawa has become almost a disaster. For instance on West Jawa (4686000 hectares; 2,3% of the total area of Indonesia) 28.5 million people (18% of the total population) live. The distinction between rural and urban areas is becoming less and less clear.

The urbanisation process is caused by the decrease of labour in the agricultural sector, attention and investments of the government concentrated on industries and other modern sectors around the cities, and the development of the infra structure.

The enormous growth of the population has also caused many problems in rural and urban areas of health, housing, hygiene, water supply and sanitation. In 1982 only 40% of the urban population was provided with good water supply facilities and 20% had access to sanitary facilities. In the rural areas only 18% was provided with good water supply facilities and 24% had access to sanitary facilities.

Until 1979, the period of Repelita I and Repelita II, attention was almost only paid to water supply in some of the bigger cities in which more than 100000 people lived. After 1979 also attention was paid to smaller cities: The Ibu Kota Kecamatan (IKK) in which 3000-2000 people live .This resulted in an ambitious project in which an integrated approach to improve living conditions was made . (more about the IKK project: see chapter "The PSWS project")

In rural areas the improvement of housing conditions have been neglected for a long time. In the rural areas the people were thought to be able to help themselves. The last few years it has become clear that the growth of the population in rural is becoming a big problem too. Now also many projects are started to improve the rural living environment as well.

Decision making in Indonesia

To get a better understanding of the governmental organization in Indonesia, you will find a model of the several levels of decisionmaking from national level to village level, on the next page. Three important principles of the Indonesian way of life which influence their ways of decision making will be explained:

Gotong royong*:

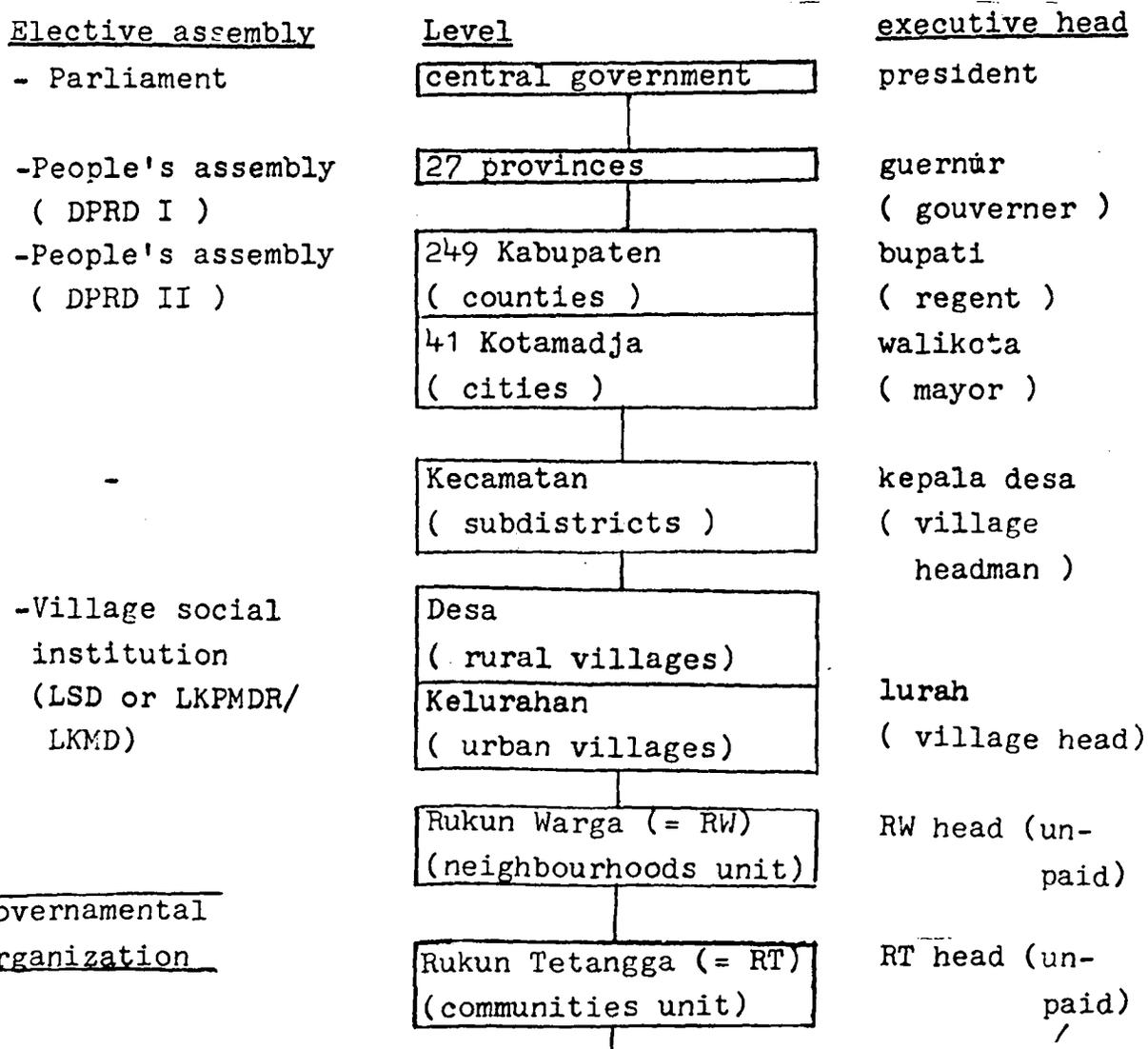
Gotong royong means the joint responsibility and mutual cooperation of the whole community to each of its members, all working together to achieve common end. Having its origins in earlier times, gotong royong is an all-important principle in Indonesian life. Indonesia is made up of thousands of villages and the tradition of gotong royong is the real grass-root basis of political rule. Each village has a headman (lurah or kepala desa), who coordinates gotong royong

programs and carries out government policies.

The lurah rule by assigning friends and assistants to tasks, a sort of administration by friendship. Loyalties to family, village and friends are more important than self-advancement.

Musjawarah and Mufakat*

These political processes are built on very ancient customs of Javanese origins. Musjawarah (deliberation), and Mufakat (agreement) are methods of resolving political policy and personal differences by prolonged discussion ending in a unanimous decision. These methods are used both in the highest legislative body in the state and at the humblest village meetings. Indonesian people do not believe in the western style democracy where the majority of 50-percent-plus-one-or-more gets its way. They believe this system is not fair to the remaining 49%-or-less of the voters. The will of the minority is fully as important as that of the majority (or at least it should be), so the people talk themselves out until until all parties come to some accord. It is each person's responsibility to state his feelings, and to take part in all negotiations. This technique goes very slowly, but all points of view are brought together in one compromise agreement.



model: governamental
organization

General approach

During the United Nations Water Conference (1971) the world attention was concentrated on the urgent problems of water supply, and as a result the UN declared the decade 1981 to 1990 to be the International Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (IDWSSD).

A study on Public Standpost Water Supply Systems was carried out for the World Bank by the International Reference Centre (IRC) in the Hague in 1969 and resulted in a publication of series of technical papers.

When world-wide problems were recognized associated with this type of water supply and many requests for more information were made, this led to the planning of a multi country demonstration project.

The PSWS project aims to develop appropriate methods for the planning, implementation and management of community water supply systems which include a number of public standposts.

Public standposts are build to serve the community with public taps, on their own or in combination with house connections. This is often the most appropriate mean of water supply, especially for the poorest people in rural areas.

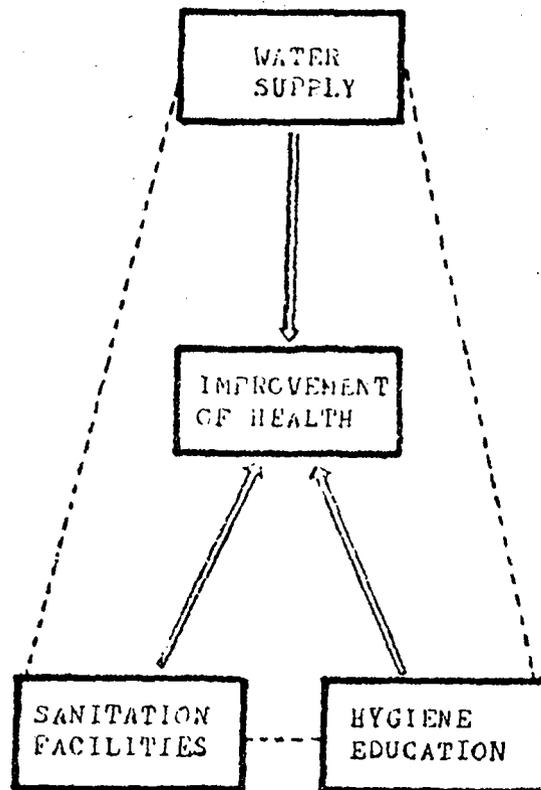
The approach of the PSWS project is to integrate the essential technology in a wider community based framework which includes practical finance, administration and participation. The project is designed especially to benefit the poorer sections of the communities in rural and urban areas.

The project will be made up by 4 linked activities:

- Demonstration projects in four countries: Malawi, Zambia, Sri Lanka, Indonesia.
- Preparation of manuals and guidelines on aspects of Public Standpost Watersupply Systems.
- Ongoing evaluation and "lesson learning".
- Transfer and application of knowledge generated both in-country and internationally.

In the planning, implementation and management of the project, various organizational, economic, socio cultural and technical componente should be brought together and considered jointly

(From : Public Standpost Water Supplies, Inc.)



Each participating country will develop and improve the approach to the Public Standpost Watersupplies through study, demonstrations of better methods and sharing of experience.

In the demonstration scheme project the community is able to participate in all activities, for example:

1. Participation in design and construction.
2. In financial and maintenance organization.
3. In implementing hygiene education levels.
4. In planning service levels.
5. In ongoing evaluation.
6. In management of the system.

The project approach of promoting community participation at every stage, use of integrated approaches and development of project activities by nationals, has been well adopted by all participating countries. Still, the implementation of the project and the results have varied considerably from country to country.

In general considerable progress has been made in most of the countries in terms of development of ideas and understanding of improved approaches to standpost systems.

The PSWS project in Indonesia*

In the current government strategy on watersupply in Indonesia, a clear distinction is made between the supply of clear water for urban areas and that for rural areas. Following the pattern inherited from the colonial period before World War II, the two main agencies dealing with the provision of water supply are presently the Ministry of Public Work for the urban areas, and the Ministry of Health for the rural areas.

Recently a new strategy for the current Repelita IV (Fourth Five Year Development Plan 1984-1989) was adopted in which the Ministry of Public Works became responsible for rural water supply which formerly was taken care of by the Ministry of Health.

Cooperation and synchronization between the two ministries mentioned have always been close, and in fact a third agency, the Ministry of International Affairs is also linked to the cooperation. The tripartite connection is clearly reflected in the National Board for the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (IDWSSD) as well as in the executing levels of water supply projects; nationally, provincially and at village level.

Regarding the targets on water supply set in the National Development Plan, the emphasis on water supply distribution systems is to reach 70% urban coverage with 60 litres/capita/day (lcd) (60% coverage in rural areas), with minimum 30 cld. It includes the installation of water supply distribution systems in 2000 small towns or capitals of districts, popularly known as IKK Water Supply. IKK Water Supply was started in early 1982, and was considered to be an ambitious national project. It launched standardized water supply package plans, in which the distribution network and the construction of public standpost form part. The IKK Water Supply project has attracted great interest in the international community, including the IRC in Den Haag, which expressed its interest in cooperating in action research on Public Standpost Water Supplies (PSWS). One of the objectives of cooperation is to evaluate the perceptions of such projects in general, and a community based approach to water supply planning in particular. Also "demonstratio projects" should be established, which could be replicated later on.

A main aim of this demonstration project is to seek proper development strategy to establish , and manage community water supply through standposts with intensive popular/ community participation as a catalyst to generate broader development activities.

Since the fund, provided by the Netherlands Government through IRC to support this demonstration project, is only covering the software sides of the project, then for the hardware sides it is financed through various existing development projects , such as Capital of District Water Supply Projects, INPRES (Presidential Instruction Projects) for water supply, other projects within the Directorate of Water Supply- Ministry of Public Works, and community self-reliance projects, etc. etc.

Among others, the main objectives of these demonstration projects are:

- a. To develop a model of standard procedure for establishing a participatory project which provides room for bottom up planning.
- b. To develop an integrated planning of community water standposts, covering all vertical stages of one project from the initial stage to operation and maintenance stage, and related horizontal aspects of water supply such as health, education and sanitation.

To carry out this project at national level, a Project Management Committee (PMC) is established to provide support and ensure the coordination of approaches, strategies, objectives and programmes among ministries involved, and to provide guidelines for planning and implementation of the project.

The Institute of Human Settlements in Bandung, is then appointed as Project Coordinating Institution to execute and coordinate various participating institutions involved.

The locations for demonstration projects were to be selected on the basis of:

1. Geography : Different geographical set up has to be covered.
2. Socio economic factors : Different types of communities.
3. Mode of water supply : Different types of water supply systems.
4. Distance : The distance to the demonstration project has to be manageable from the Directorate of Building Research office, not too far and easy access.

TABLE 1: Information on Demonstration Schemes

(Taken from : Interim Evaluation, IRC)

District	Name of Village (Kaspong)	Nature of Area	Socio-economic position	No. of facilities	Population	No. of stand-posts	Type of System	Authority	Present stage	Remarks	
1.	Astenajakura	Gumulung Tonggoh	hilly	Rural agricultural community	184	482	4	Gravity		Completed and is being used	Bathing and washing facilities were provided along with drinking water. Community constructed with external and skilled labour support. Rp 100 per family for O and M.
2.	Cikijing	Jagasari	hilly	Rural mixed community	73	361	3 1 for mosque	Gravity		In planning stage - Health education and community participation being done	Planning stage materials found at site for construction. Expected to complete by December, 1985 Rp 100 per family for O and M.
3.	Cirebon Selatan	Karya Mulia	flat	Urban/mixed community	80	320	4	Extraction from PDAM supply	PDAM	In planning stage	Project taken up in June 1985 and is in planning stage.
4.	Babeken	Playangan	flat	Urban mixed (majority fishing) community		2500	Under consideration	Under consideration		In planning	Technological feasibility has to be decided. Different technical options are under study.

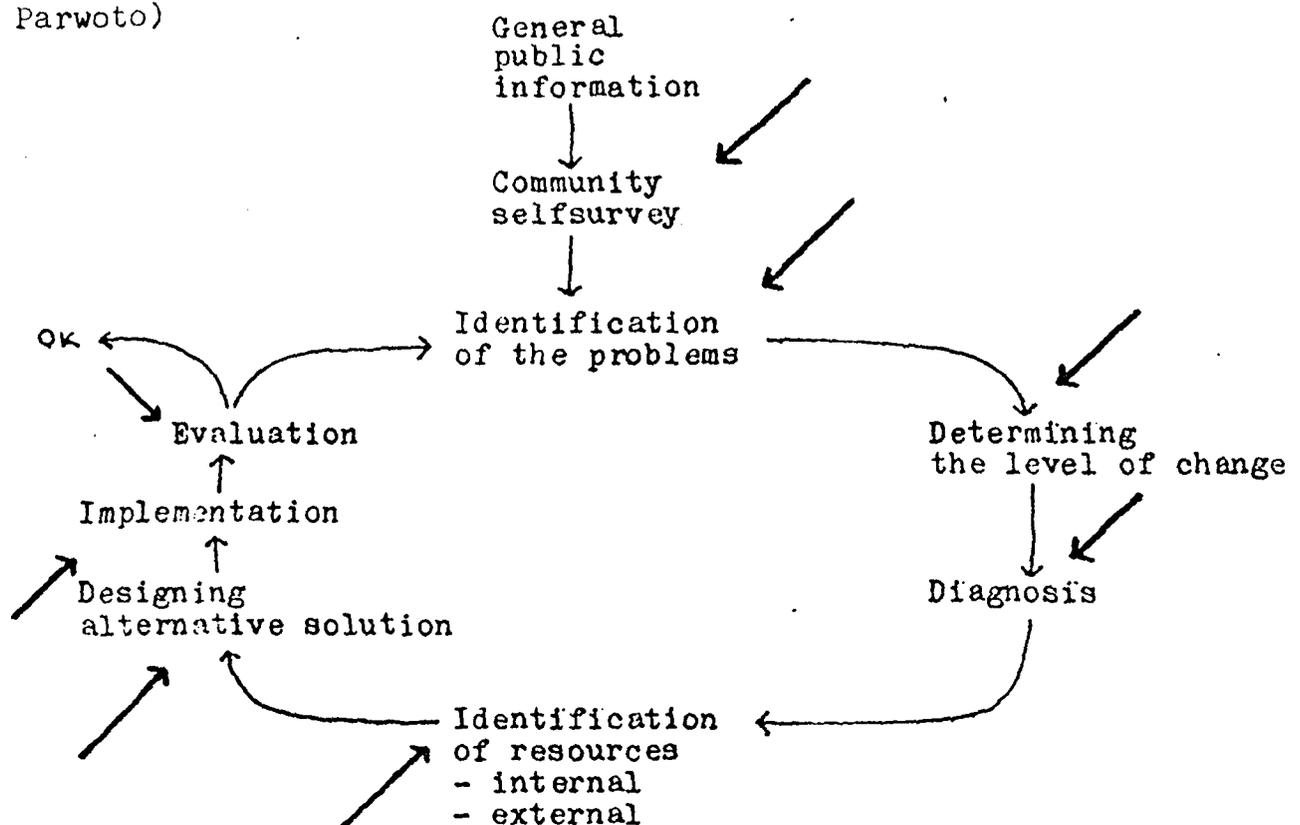
A national workshop was held to discuss the preliminaries and objectives of the IRC collaborated projects in the light of the country's objectives and national priorities in water supply and sanitation. Based on the criteria of selection mentioned above, the municipality of Cirebon, Regency of Cirebon and Regency of Majalengka were selected. These Regencies were requested to select districts and villages for the project and thus also the villages Gumulung Tonggoh and Playangan were selected in the Regency of Cirebon.

Trainers were selected from different institutions to assure the integrated approach (see next page). They were trained for participatory project planning and later became the development cadre to carry out the training programme for the cadre of the villages, sponsored by the project. Consultations with the village heads and selected communities were held. Local teams (cadres) were established to take care of the project.

The cadres were formed to condition the community and carry out the participatory project planning. This planning was made after organizing Community Self Surveys (a way to identify problems, obstacles and potentials of a community):

At Community Level

(Taken from : A model for community based management project by Parwoto)

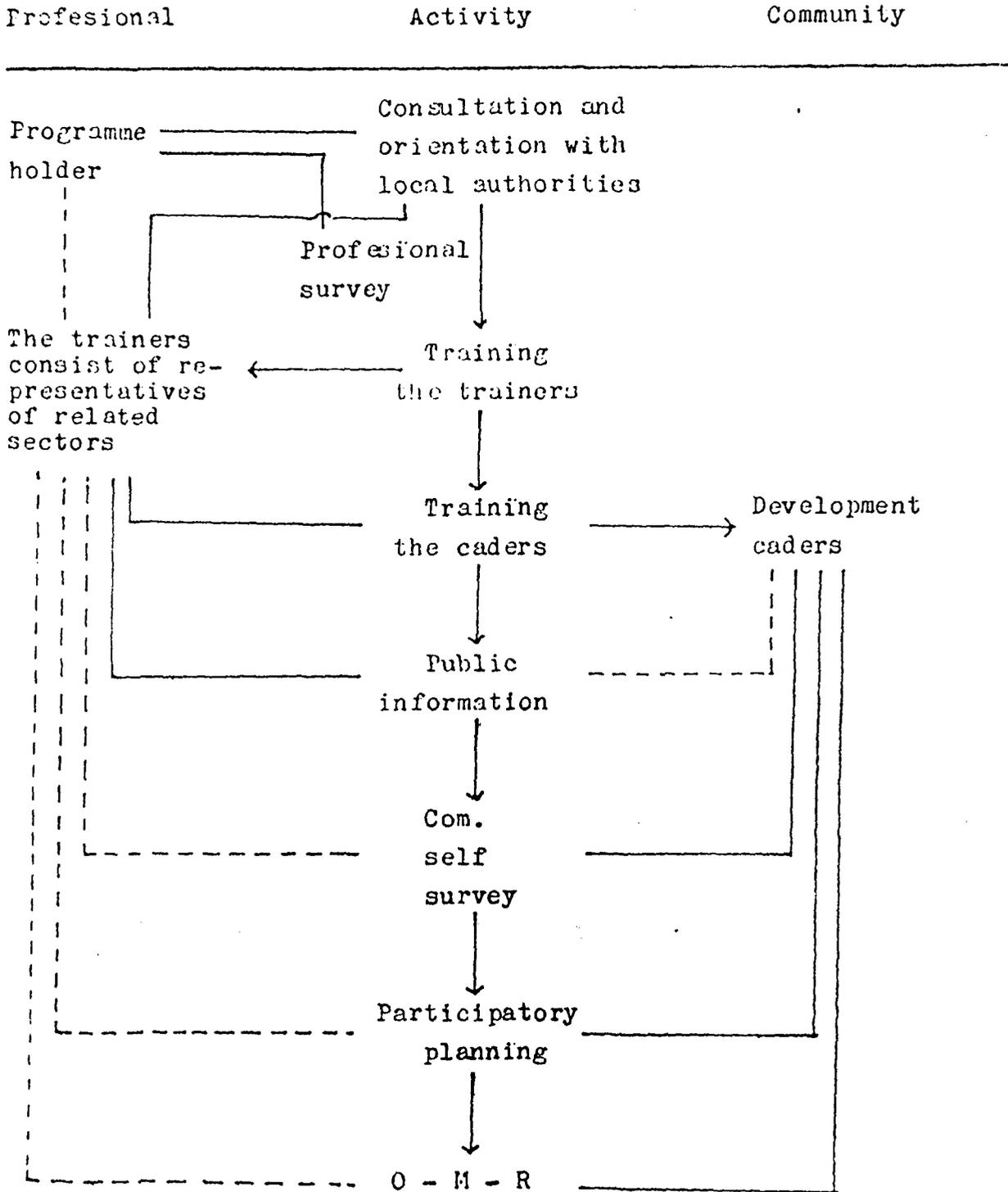


Guided Process for Participatory Planning

After the planning, the implementation took place, conducted by the cadre and supervised by the PSWS-IRC team, to prevent deviation from the project.

More detailed information of the implementation of the PSWS project in the villages Gumulung Tonggoh and Playangan can be found in the interim reports written by Yvette van Dok, added as supplements to this report.

(Taken from : A model for community based management project by Parwoto)



General Development Framework

INTRODUCTION

This report is written to give the Puslitbang Pemukiman a theoretical framework of ways how to organize meetings and discussions about solving problems in a community. As a part of the Public Standpost Water Supply project, training about these subjects will be given to the members of the cadres of the project villages Gumulung Tonggoh and Playangan. After this training the cadre will bring the information to the community. The community will be guided by the cadre to organize discussions to solve their problems, to be able to do this on their own in a later stage. To reach this stage the community will receive education and will educate themselves. Several methods are available to stimulate people to solve their own problems. Therefore I will give several alternative approaches of ways to discuss problems, with their possibilities and their restrictions. The people themselves can choose the most suitable one for them.

The meetings will be organized to discuss all kind of problems related to the watersupply project. This report will not give solutions to certain problems, but only give guidelines and advises on how to look for solutions. The community should formulate their goals about the PSWS project. This should be done in the beginning of the project: 'What should be the situation after the implementation of the project?' These goals may concern the health situation but also the convenience that should improve, the amount of water that should be available, etc.

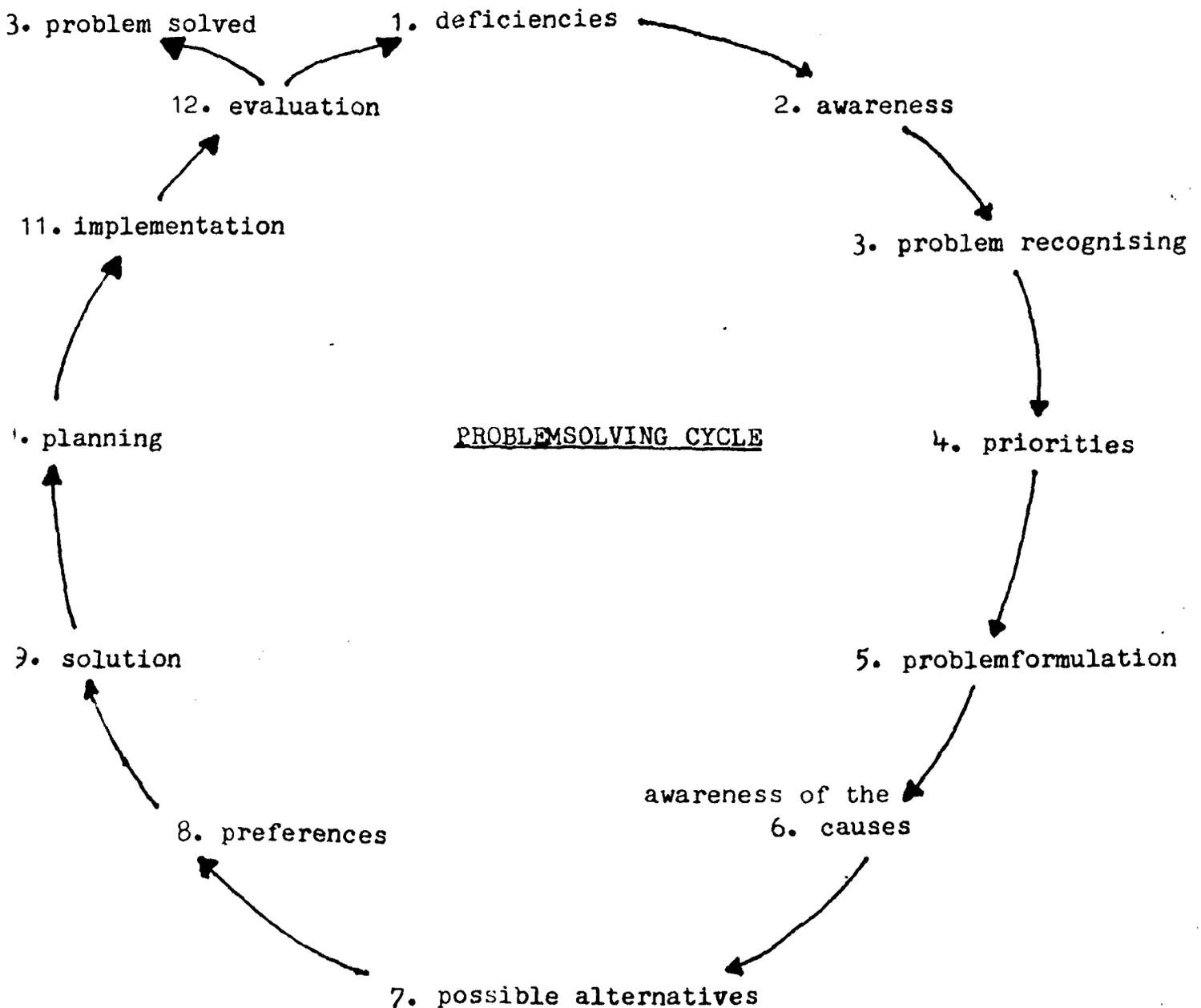
In this report a problem will be seen as a factor causing an undesired situation in comparison with the goals of a community. To solve this problem the situation has to be changed until the goals will be reached. These goals might be fixed goals but can also be adapted to changed wishes of the people.

To solve problems, people have to go through a problemsolving-process: a sequence of steps that have to be taken before coming to a suitable solution.

Here I will give a description of such a process. It can be used as a guideline in solving problems. When going through the steps described, all people will have the chance to participate in the discussion and all alternative solutions will be considered. The ways these steps are taken may differ. Several methods will be given of ways how to discuss and go through these step.

The intentions of the process described are;

- Stimulate the communities to solve their own problems by regular discussions.
- Motivating people to improve situations caused by problems
- Organising a well structured discussionsystem in the villages
- Stimulating inventiveness to find possible solutions to problem
- Making a well considered decision to which all participants can agree.
- Introducing a control system, by which problems will be recognised in earlier stages
- All people will be able to give their opinion



In the problemsolvingprocess, many decisions have to be made by the group. They should come to decisions as a unity .

All participants should agree to the decisions made. To come to such decisions the discussions should be well organized. Therefore a special chapter is written about the organization of meetings.

As already mentioned, I will also give some discussionmethods that can be used in problemsolvingdiscussions. These methods can be used to stimulate the discussion, to improve the participation of the people and to improve the organization of the discussion.

At last I will give some practical advises for the cases of Gumulung Tonggoh and Playangan about ways how they can organize their problemsolving related to the PSWS project, And the role of the cadre in this organization.

THE PROBLEMSOLVINGPROCESS

In this chapter a problemsolvingprocess will be described. It consists of several stages (steps), and can be used in meetings concerning decisionmaking. Taking all steps will improve the chance of making a well considered decision. Of course it is not a guarantee of making the right decision. Using this method implies taking care all steps in the problemsolvingprocess have been considered, discussed, evaluated and reported. By reporting all results in the discussion, it will always be possible to look up which decisions already have been made and what was the motivation to decide. By doing this it will be easier to find mistakes made in the problemsolvingprocess, during the evaluation step.

On the next pages I will give a description of each step made in this process and their stimulating conditions. During several meetings the members of the community will go through this process. On the next page you can see the "problemsolvingcycle" and its division in steps.

The situation

The following premises are made for implementing the process in practical situations:

- Community participation is possible
- People are motivated to participate in the meetings organised
- People are willing to improve their discussionmethod
- Discussions will take place in small groups
- The people are supported and guided by someone who had training and has knowledge about how to introduce the methods.

When these conditions are fulfilled, the methods can be tried out. Normally, people unconsciously also go through several stages when they make decisions. But the problemsolvingprocess described intends to give a systematic description of all stages, so no step will be forgotten.

1. Deficiencies

A problemsolving process often starts when an unnoticed undesired situation is coming up. In this first step the people are not yet aware of this because the situation is not too bad and not yet visible or noticeable.

2. Awareness of the deficiencies

The time this situation stays unnoticed, can vary from a few seconds to several years. People will only become aware of the situation when the situation worsens and the limit is reached above which the deficiencies can no longer stay unnoticed, because it has become visible or felt in one way or another. Deficiencies can be noticed by members of the community or by external organizations. These organizations may make the community aware of the deficiencies, show them that this is a problem and stimulate them to solve it. Step 1 and 2 are no steps that can be taken intentionally. They just happen. Only after these steps have taken place, the process of problemsolving can be started. Of course it would be better when the start of this process is not necessary at all, and the worsening situation is noticed in an earlier stage so that becoming a problem can be prevented. This can be done for example, by regular control and regular evaluations.

3. Problemrecognizing

In the former stage the people came aware of the situation, but did not yet realize the consequences of the ongoing of the situation. They only noticed something was going wrong.

Comparing this situation with the goals formulated in the beginning of the project (And if not yet formulated, they should be formulated as soon as possible), the people will realize that the situation is in contrast with their goals and see

that this is a problem that should be solved. When they realize the consequences of the ongoing of the situation, they also realize why the problem is a problem.

In this report I will only discuss problems concerning more people in a community and no individual problems. It is important all undesired situations are given notice to the rest of the community. Only then, individual people might notice they are not the only one who feel a certain undesired situation coming up, and their problem can become a joint problem that can be solved by all people together.

For recognizing community problems, it is important a good communications system is available. People should know where to go with their problems and how to give notice when they have a problem. Also, there has to be someone responsible for organizing meetings and regular discussions, to discuss the situations. Of course, there is always more than one problem, that has to be solved. Therefore a list has to be made of all problems or undesired situations that have been given notice about. Like this no people will be forgotten during the discussions of the problems and all problems will be taken seriously.

4. Selection

Because it will be impossible to solve all problems at once, people have to choose which problem they want to solve first. An analysis of the list of problems has to be made and discussed in a group of members of the community.

The advantage of making categories of problems concerning the same subject, is that it will sometimes be possible to solve more problems at a time, because a relation between two or more problems is clear. After making the categories the people have to decide which category is containing problems that have to be discussed and solved first. Herefore it is important that everybody joining the meeting can give her/his opinion and takes part in the final decision-making about which problem is chosen to be solved.

For example the decision can be taken by voting, making compromises, or by a special committee after hearing all opinions.

When the decision is made, it should be clear to all which decision has been made : Which problem(s) from which category are going to be solved.

To make the decision easier one can make a list of advantages and disadvantages of solving each problem. then it will become clearer which problem is the major one.

5. Problemformulation

After having decided which problem is going to be solved , the people who are going try to solve it should first make a clear formulation of the problem. This is important because it will be usefull to keep the total problemsolvingprocess under control. Regularly looking back at your basic point ,the problem-formulation, takes care people will stick to the right problem. The formulation should be written down and given to all participants in the discussion. Beside a formulation of the problem people should also make a list of all characteristics of the problem. This can later be used as a checklist after implementing a certain solution, to see to it also all characteristics have disappeared ,together with the problem.

Making the formulation can be done by one or two person after a discussion with the total group. The list of characteristics of the problem can be made by the group. After discussing the formulation made, all participants should agree to it.

6. Awareness of the ca...

Now that it has become clear to all participants what they are going to talk about, they have to look for the causes of the problem.

To come to a well motivated and realistic solution to solve the problem , the relation between the problem and its causes have to be clear.

There are many ways to identify the causes. Sometimes, when the people become aware of the deficiency the causes are immediately clear to everyone. But it is also possible one doesn't know where to start looking for them,

Problems concerning more people should be discussed within a group. Let everybody give his/her opinion on the problem and its possible causes and discuss all possibilities. By making a list of the most reasonable possibilities (in case it is not yet clear which are the causes) they should check them all. This can be done for example by observation, testing and control. If it's not possible to check them, they should choose the most reasonable one and try to solve the problem by removing this cause. Later in the process, when evaluating the total process, it will become clear whether this assumption was right or not. If this was a wrong assumption, they can start the process again .

The conditions necessary in this stage are a clear formulation of the problem, well motivated participants of the discussion, a skilled discussion leader, good reporting of the matters discussed and (often) some knowledge about the subject.

Especially the motivation of the participants can be of great influence on the results coming out of the discussion. When all are very concerned about the problem, they will all be motivated to take part in the discussion and will seriously think of and check all possible causes.

7. Looking for alternatives

After checking all possibilities for causes of the problem or choosing the most reasonable one, the participants know the causes of the problem and have to try to remove them, to solve the problem.

In this step, the participants will think about alternative ways to remove the causes,

All alternatives and ideas of people to remove the causes are welcome. Selection will be made later.

First people should make a list of the resources available like labour, money, time, materials, etc..

When looking for alternatives they should take care the alternatives will also be realistic and the community will be able to use them as a solution of their problem.

In the discussion all people are asked to give their opinion on possible solutions. After this, all suggestions will be discussed and the most reasonable alternatives will be chosen to be put on a list. These alternatives can be called "possible solutions".

Often, only by removing the causes the problem is solved. But not always! Sometimes the situation will only improve by removing the causes but the desired situation will not be reached and the problem will not be solved. For this reason we should not only think of removing causes of a problem, but also think of the consequences this will have for the situation. Maybe also other activities are necessary to accompany the implementation of a certain solution, like education, extension or training.

Removing the causes might not always be possible or the most successful solution. Sometimes completely different ways of solving a problem might give a more convenient solution. This is often a matter of imagination and inventiveness.

For example: When a community agrees to the fact that they have to pay 100 rp for using a new water supply system, because they think it will be enough for maintenance, and later they notice it was not enough after all, they will have to look for the cause of this problem.

How is it possible that 100 rp appears not to enough after all? Then they notice that about 80 people never paid at all because they were too poor.

One approach is to remove the cause and force the people to pay after all.

The alternative approach is not to let them pay with money, but for instance with labour by cleaning the system or other tasks benefitting the community.

People should be aware of the resources available in the communities. Like this it can be checked whether the alternative mentioned is a realistic one or not.

There are several ways to come to a list of alternatives: (also see discussion methods discussed later)

- After asking everyone's opinion discuss the possibilities of all the alternatives mentioned. The realistic ones will be written down to make a choice later. (see discussion method: brainstorming)
- Ask assistance of specialist from outside the villages and discuss their suggestion with the group. It would be better if this specialist is also present at this meeting to give an explanation on the advices given and to answer questions.
- Let the most skilled people of the village (2 or 3 people maximum) think of some alternatives and discuss these in the group. This will cost less time.

8. Weighing one alternative against another

Now that they have made a list of possible alternatives of how to solve the problem, they should choose the one which has the biggest chance to be successful from all points of view. In this choice all aspects have to be considered.

Besides considering the fact whether the problem will be removed or not , the participants should also consider whether people will be able to cooperate to the solution chosen, the time it will take to implement the solution etc, etc.

For example there might be an alternative which is likely to be very successful but the time it will take to become successful will be more than one year. When the problem has become very urgent it will be better to implement an alternative which is maybe less likely to be successful, but might become a success in a few weeks.

- Make a list of demands concerning the definite solution and its implementation. Comparing this with the list of alternatives ,the participants will be able to make a sequence of preferences of the alternatives.
- Discuss advantages and disadvantages of all alternatives after discussion, make a sequence of preferences of the group.

When making a sequence of preferences of the group, everybody should get the chance to give his/her opinion of which alternative will have the biggest chance to be successful and to give an argumentation. This can be done in small groups or with the whole group. When this discussion is made in smaller groups, all groups have to make a report of their discussion. In this report the preferences of the small group are included .After this the reports of all groups will be discussed with the whole group. The discussion leader will summarize the matters discussed in the small groups and a representative of each group can discuss their arguments for this preference. When all arguments are heard they can be discussed by the whole group. Now they will have to make the decision and indicate their sequence of preferences as a unity.

Therefore the procedure^{or} how to make the final decision as a group, should be clear to all participants before starting the discussion. Like this no

problems will come up about the procedure after making the decision.

To prevent problems coming up later about the decisions made earlier, and to be able to make a good evaluation afterwards, reporting of this step is very important. Somebody should write down all the matters discussed, the procedure should be described and all decisions made during this step should be written down. (More about the procedure of the discussion you will find in the chapter " Organizing discussions").

9. Choice of the solution

This step is just a formal procedure and concerning the definite decision as a group to implement the best alternative as a solution to solve the problem. Still this is quite an important step. Making the decision means everyone agrees to it and will cooperate to solve the problem with the solution chosen.

It is also possible to make compromises and decide to implement more solutions at once, if possible

After having made the final decision, it should be clearly reported, published and extended to the community. Everybody will get the opportunity to know what their representatives have decided.

10. Making a planning

Now that we have come to the stage of planning, how are we going to implement the solution to solve the problem?

This is mostly an organisational question. Which steps have to be taken in this step? Who is responsible for what? Which resources are necessary? What about timeplanning? How to stimulate the community to mentation? Where to go when problems come up during the imple- this stage? How to control the process?

The planning should be made by a smaller group of skilled people with experience in organising. This because many less important decisions have to be made. It would take too much time to make all these decisions by the whole group.

When the program is made, a new meeting has to be organized to discuss this program. The group can change it when they want to. When the group agrees with the program, they will have to decide about the responsibilities of people and who will have to control the process. The candidates should be well motivated volunteers, but also be skilled, have time, feel responsible for their task and have good contacts with the people. It should be clear to everyone who is responsible for what, and where to go in case of problems. Clear information about these subjects should be given to all members of the community.

When extra knowledge is necessary, an extension program should be started as soon as possible.

This may be education for many people, like health education, or special training for a few people chosen by the community, for instance about technical maintenance of the standposts.

When assistance from outside the villages is necessary, appointments should be made in an early stage to adapt the timeplanning to them. It is always better to ask the assistance of local specialists and local organisations, because the community knows and trusts them.

Local authorities should support the program. They have a higher status and can stimulate the people to cooperate. Also because of their knowledge of the local situation, they may know how to motivate them and their opinion will be taken seriously by the people.

After finishing the planning there will be a detailed program including timeplanning activity planning, inventarisation of resources necessary, responsibilities, control system, financial planning, etc. etc.

Of course the type of program will depend on the kind of problem and its outcoming solution.

11. Implementation

According to the program the people will try to solve the problem by implementation of the planning. Therefore regular control and interim evaluation is necessary.

The success of the implementation largely depends on the motivation of the people who have to cooperate. The motivation can be stimulated by regular visits of authorities to the location in case of a technical problem, regular discussions about the processing of the implementation. The advantages

the community after implementation should be stressed. To keep the process under control, it is important everybody immediately gives notice when things are not working the way they should.

Only in an early stage it is possible to change the program or to adapt it to the circumstances. Somebody therefore has to see to it that the programme is strictly followed out. Therefore regular meetings should be organized for interim evaluations. Sometimes people suddenly don't want to cooperate. The reason for this should be heard. Maybe it is possible to make some kind of an agreement or to motivate them in another way. But if they don't want to cooperate at all maybe it is necessary to force them.

12. Evaluation of the problemsolving process.

The main question in this step is: Is the problem solved and has the situation improved?

In fact they now look at the results of the implementation and compare them with the desired situation mentioned in step 3: problem recognizing.

To investigate whether the situation has improved or not, they can look at several items, depending on the kind of problem that had to be solved.

In case of a technical problem they can make observations, tests and take measurements. Regular control will also provide the participants with results to discuss during an evaluation.

Evaluation should take place in smaller groups of people. During meetings the results of the implementation should be discussed. Everybody can give his/her opinion and make remarks about the results and the total procedure and participation-process.

During this step it becomes clear whether the solution was sufficient to solve the problem or not.

During the meeting the groups make this conclusion and make decisions .what to do next.

In case there still are some little problems left they might decide to solve them and the whole procedure starts all over again.

In case the solution has been successful , still a report should be made of all the opinions , remarks and conclusions that have been made about the process. Also suggestions can be made about how to improve the process in the future. Also these should be carefully reported. They can be very usefull to improve the communicationsystem in the village.

During these meetings the discussionleader has an important task. He has to see to it that everybody is free to give his/her opinion without being interrupted by others. More about the role of the discussionleader you can find in the next chapter.

Chapter 3 : Organizing meetings

In the process of problemsolving, meetings will be organized. The success of the meeting depends on many factors concerning the organization of the discussion, the willingness of the people to cooperate, the amount of people taking part in the discussion, the qualities of the discussionleader, etc., etc.

In this chapter I will discuss these, and other factors influencing the success of a meeting, especially:

1. organizing discussions
2. the position of the participants
3. groupprocesses

Organizing discussions

When people become aware of certain deficiencies, they should know where to go to report them. One person should be responsible for collecting the complaints of the people. This should be a key person of the community, someone who is trusted by everybody and having organizing qualities. This is important because he/she will also be the one who organizes a meeting when complaints become serious.

Not all problems are worth a special meeting and thus should be discussed first within a smaller group of persons having knowledge about the situation in the village, for example members of the cadre or the village head.

When regular meetings are already taking place, the reported problems can also be discussed during these meetings (step 1,2,3 in the problemsolving cycle) before deciding to organize special meetings to solve the problem.

When no regular organization of meetings exists, the keyperson mentioned should determine the date, time and place where the discussion will take place. He should give notice to the people of the community

and also, when necessary, make appointments with people from local organisations, because sometimes it can be useful they attend the meetings concerning their own workingfield.

Early announcement of the time the meeting takes place, gives the participants the time to prepare themselves on the subjects to discuss.

As already mentioned, the organizer should receive all complaints of the community. Giving notice can be done in writing or by talking. When fixing a date, time and place for the meeting to take place, he/she should be aware:

- The people should be able to prepare themselves
- People have to work during daytime
- Some times people are more busy than other times
- The place should be large enough for all participants to sit down, and not causing conflicts.
- the meeting may not take too long and people may be very tired after working time.

Besides making an announcement of the time and place the meeting will take place, all participants of the discussion should get the agenda, the program of the meeting.

To be able to choose a time of the day the meeting should be organized, a study* can be made about the activities of the inhabitants of the village. The study should be about the different activities of the people, the time spent on these activities and the taskdivision between men and women. Results of this study should be obtained by observation and measuring time, and by interviewing. From the results one can learn which times of the day the people are most occupied and how much time they spend on which activity.

Also the differences can be seen between the kind of activities the men and women perform and the amount of time they are occupied by them. Often we see that women besides their daily tasks of working in the field, also have to take care of domestic tasks and the children. Because of this difference in taskdivision between men and women, one should be aware, when choosing a time of the day for organizing a meeting, the time chosen suits both men and women.

Still there will be the children who have to be taken care of, in case their mothers will attend the meetings. This should be considered when choosing a place where

the meeting will be taking place. Maybe other women are willing to take care of their children, but if this is not possible the female participants should be able to watch their children from the meeting place. Thus, it might be better to organize the meeting near to their houses.

Another way to choose a time of the day is to ask the people themselves which time of the day suits them best. This might be easier than the observation method but ^{not} always give better results. The observation method will be more objective and accurate for choosing a time of the day. The researchers maybe able to consider more influencing factors, especially when they observe the activities in the village in different seasons. Of course it should not be worth all the trouble if the results of the study were only to be used for choosing a time of the day a meeting should be organized, The most important reason to make a study about the activities and taskdivision of the inhabitants, is to get an idea of who are the users of the water, what is the water used for and how is it used. The result can for example be used to choose the participants of the meetings.

The organizer of the meetings should make an agenda, including:

- Time and place the meeting will take place
- Length of time the meeting will take
- Name of the discussionleader and name of the reporter
- Names of all participants
- Items to be discussed and a short introduction of these items
- Procedure of the meeting given by the announcement of the several stages of the discussion, for example:
 - Opening of the meeting
 - Discussion of the report of the former meeting
 - Discussion of the rules of the meeting
 - Introduction of the first item
 - Discussion of the first item
 - Decisionmaking/ conclusion
 - Introduction of the next subject
 - ect.
- Evaluation of the discussion
- Appointments for the next meeting

} For instance:
problemsolvingcycle
step 4-13

Not all these steps have to be taken during one meeting. It can be decided to postpone the subject to another time.

The importance of making an agenda and providing all participants with one, is that no subjects will be forgotten, everybody is able to prepare themselves before the meeting starts and the procedure is already clear to them.

Though the procedure given above is just an example, many agendas look like this one. Therefore I will discuss the most important stages mentioned:

1. Opening of the meeting:

The discussion leader will open the meeting by making clear to all participants they will now only discuss the subjects mentioned in the agenda. It also means from now on the discussion leader will lead the discussion and has the right to interfere and tell people to shut up.

2. Report of the former meeting:

Because everybody has to agree to the way the former meeting is reported, this report should be discussed briefly. When people object the report can be changed.

The importance of discussing the report of the former meeting, is that it prevents misunderstandings in an early stage. One of the problems when making a report, is that often the reporter writes down his/her own opinion instead of the opinion of the group.

3. Rules of discussion:

The participants have to make appointments about the ways how to discuss the subjects and how to make decisions. Also matters like the size of the groups in which all subjects will be discussed and whether the majority or all people have to agree to the final decision, will have to be discussed and written down in advance. Another important matter to make appointments about is the task of the discussion leader: Will he only lead the discussion or also join it? When will he interfere in the discussion? Other rules of discussion will depend on the preferences of the participants.

4. Introduction of the first subject:

The introduction will be given by the organizer of the meeting because he knows all about it and received the message from the person who gave notice of the subject to discuss.

The introduction at least will consist of:

- description of the problem/subject
- reasons for bringing it under attention

5. Discussion/ decisionmaking/conclusionmaking/evaluation

This will be done according to the problemsolving cycle from step 3 until step 13.

6. Eventually the same procedure from stage 4, for the second or third subject.

7. Appointments :

The last thing to discuss is when the next meeting will take place, who will be the discussionleader and who will be the reporter? Also everybody should know when they will receive the report of this meeting and the agenda of the next meeting.

Making appointments about this will improve the chance the report and agenda will really be there on that date. Also appointments about further activities can be made in this stage.

Who are taking part in the meetings?

The amount of people taking part in the meetings depends on the kind of problems to be discussed. In this case the problems concern the public standposts and are concerning all users of the system. Therefore the community should be divided in groups of users of one and the same standpost, and they should discuss the problems about their own standpost and their wateruse. The discussion can be done in a big or in some smaller groups, but the maximum of people discussing the problems of the users of one standpost , should not be more than about fifteen people.

These people will be representatives of the users of each standpost. They will be chosen by the users of the system. There are several criteria possible to choose the participants of the meetings. Here some criteria will be given with some of their (dis)advantages:

1. Income:

People having more income , also have more status and thus will often be the ones to be chosen to make the decisions. Poorer people often think themselves not important enough to make decisions concerning other people and therefore will choose the the richer ones to make the decisions.

The advantage of richer people taking part in meetings is that they are able to spend more time on community affairs without getting into financial troubles. Also because of their higher status they might be able to motivate the community to cooperate to the decisions made.

Disadvantages are that the richer people are no real representatives of the community and thus will not be able to give the opinion of them.

Another disadvantage will be that because of their higher status people are a bit afraid to go to them with their problems or to give their own opinion when talking with them.

2. Education:

People are selected to take part in the discussions because of certain skills they have.

The criteria can be : they should be able to read and write. But also people having more knowledge about certain aspects of the watersupply, can be chosen. For instance these can be people working at local organizations like the health department or people who had special training during the project.

The advantage of choosing skilled people is that the chance will be bigger the right decisions are taken and the solutions might be found easilier. Also it might be easier to organize meetings and discussions for people who can read and write, because they can read the reports and the agendas of the meetings.

A disadvantage is that these people will not be able to be good representatives of the users of the system, because of their professional view on the subject.

3. Age:

Older people are considered to be more experienced

the ones to take the decisions. Their long experience gives them more status.

The advantage is that because of their higher status they might be able to motivate the people to cooperate. Also their advises will be easier accepted. A disadvantage will be that it is absolutely no criteria to choose representatives of a new water-supply system.

4. Time:

People having more time available than others might be chosen to represent the users of the standpost. To know the advantages and the disadvantages, one should first know the reasons for having so much time.

5. Sex:

Often women are not allowed to take decisions concerning the community, and thus will not be able to join the meetings, or will not be heard.

"Advantages":

When women do not get the chance to give their opinion they had better do their daily work or use their time for other purposes than being neglected during a meeting they have to attend.

The disadvantage of not including women in the decisionmaking is that they are the ones who use the water by collecting it, cooking meals, cooking drinkingwater, cleaning and washing and thus are most experienced. With the help of the time- and activity study mentioned in the former paragraph, it can be proved the women play such an important role in the use of the system. With these results the men may get convinced of the importance of having the women represented in the discussions as well.

6. Confidence:

People are chosen as representatives because other people trust them. They have confidence in them because of their personal interest in people, kindness, feelings of responsibility for the community or other personal skills.

Advantages are that they will be good representatives because the people have chosen them because they trust them. Now, they people will feel free to tell the representatives their opinion on a

subject. Also people will go to them when they have a problem.

Disadvantages may be, for example when the person chosen doesn't have communicative skills.

Group processes

When meetings are organized, several people will take part in it to discuss and make decisions. These decisions should be made by the group as uniform decisions.

According to the definition given by Marvin E. Shaw (1976) "A group are two or more persons who are interacting with one another in such manner that each person influences and is influenced by each other person".

From this definition one can learn that people being a part of a group are interacting. This means they communicate and thus are having contact with each other. Contact means they react to each others sayings by listening and considering. It also means they influence each other and get emotionally involved by feeling some kind of relationship with the other members of the group. By communication between members of the group, individual's opinion and behaviour will be influenced. The strength of this influence will depend on the characters of the members of the group. This influence can have negative and positive consequences on the results of the meeting. For example the fact that people personally knew each other very well before the meeting was organized, possibly means they feel more at ease from the beginning. But it is also possible this may prevent them from openly giving their opinion on certain subjects. Even worse it is possible that some members of the group have personal conflicts with each other, influencing the way the group discusses in a negative way. People always adapt their behaviour, and thus their way of communication, to the group they are a part of.

To prevent these factors having too much negative influence on the way the people cooperate and thus on

the outcoming results of the meeting, certain rules have to be made about the way the discussion will take place and the ways the participants should behave. Their position as a representative of other members of the community should be stressed. The community will only be served by cooperation of all members of the group. The cooperation will be optimal when the group tries to solve the problems as a unity, and thus personal conflicts may not be of any influence on the quality of cooperation. The rules introduced will give the discussionleader the the right to interfere when people do not stick to them. For example these rules can be:

- All members of the group are equal
- All members can openly give their opinion
- One is not allowed to interrupt someone who is talking, except for the discussionleader.
- Decisions will be made after compromising.
- All participants should agree with the decision taken.
- Common interest should come in the first place
- Members should stick to the point.
- The procedure of discussing will be according to the agenda made.
- Ect. ect.

It is a human that some people are more dominate in groups than others. There are always people who like to hear their own voice as much as possible and do not listen to things other people say. As long as this is not preventing other people from giving their own opinion, the discussionleader should talk with this person in private and ask him to stick to the rules. When it is irritating more people the position of the dominate person had better be discussed within the group. By discussing it openly, serious conflicts within the group can be prevented.

To improve the relations between the members of the group and the ways they change, some of the discussion-methods given later can be tried out as an experiment. The unity of the group will be stronger when they have a clear goal to work for. This will motivate them to work together and improve the quality of the discussion. Being familiar with each other and having something in common will also strengthen the unity. Therefore it

could be wise to organise some activities they will do together like a training (for example the discussion-methods training) or an excursion.

Beside the processes mentioned, which are sometimes taking place in groups, many other processes can take place depending on the situation and the participants in the group

Chapter 4 : Discussion methods

In this chapter I will give some methods that can be used in discussions, to improve discussions. Distinction should be made between methods used in experimental situations and methods which can be used in real discussions.

In this report I will only give the methods and explain them. Also I will make some suggestions how to implement them in practical situations. When people use these methods, they first have to adapt them to local circumstances. The methods are not fixed and can be changed, extended or combined with other methods.

You will find the methods divided in two parts:

1. Stimulators
2. Discussion techniques.

The stimulators are methods to stimulate people to join the discussion. They make the people become emotionally involved and sometimes force the participants in one way or another, to take part in the discussion. People thus are stimulated to give their opinion. Stimulators serve as a sort of "starter" before the real discussion takes place.

The discussion technique methods are ways to organize the procedure of the discussion to improve the quality of the discussions and its outcomes and solutions.

The methods given are taken from the non-formal education strategy. This means that learning processes take place outside official schools or courses. The participants are learning by actively taking part in group discussions. By group discussions they will teach themselves.

The influence of the teacher will be reduced guiding the participants to conscientization: the participants should arrive at a new awareness of their own selfhood (and thus also of that of their community), and become able to look critically at their own situation.

By interaction and implementation of the methods the participants will learn about themselves and their problems, causes and possible solutions.

In the PSWS project the teachers should be members of the cadre who had training in guiding groups during problem solving processes and in using the methods given.

Using them, will give them ideas about improving the participation of the community in discussions and problemsolving. As already mentioned, they should not be dominating the discussion. They should behave like guides providing the participants with all information needed about the procedure of the methods and stimulate their imagination in finding solutions.

My opinion is that it is better to try out several methods in experimental discussions before choosing a method to use in real meetings. By doing this the participants can compare the results and choose the method they think most successful.

Therefore the experiments should be evaluated afterwards. The participants should discuss questions like: Did you have the chance to give your own opinion during the discussion? Were all participants equally taking part in it? What do we think of the leading capacities of the discussionleader? What was good and what was wrong about the ways we discussed? What kind of improvements should be made next time?

On the next pages you will find the methods described, accompanied by a short introduction. Careful preparations should be made before starting the experiments.

Some of the methods can also be used in real discussion making. Therefore I will indicate in which steps of the problemsolving cycle they can be used.

1. Discussionstimulators

The following methods can be used in experiments and trainings in discussionmaking. They are meant to stimulate people to reflect the present situation in their village and help them to become aware of the problems in the community.

An important goal of these stimulating methods is to make people think about their own opinion on a subject and take position when discussing it in the group. Another goal is to make the participants in a discussion familiar with each other and with joining a discussiongroup. Infamiliarity with the other participants can be a constraint for people to speak up freely. Therefore some games can be played to make the people well known with each other, so they will feel more at ease.

Before explaining the rules of each method or game, the purpose of trying it out should be made clear to the participants. When they know why they are using this method the chance it will be successful is bigger.

The methods given can be used alone or in combination with each other. Also they should be adapted to local circumstances, especially the materials used.

There should be at least one person guiding a group of people. These guides should get special training on the subject of problemsolving, discussions and decisionmaking. Before explaining it and trying it out with the groups, they should be familiar with the methods themselves.

Special attention will be paid to methods which can be used in situations in which the behaviour of people should be changed in order to solve their problems (especially health problems). These methods intend to make people aware of the problematic situation and its causes. Health problems will thus be solved by the people educating themselves through interaction and discussion.

The methods will be discussed here by first giving a short explanation of the intentions of the method and then giving the procedure of the method. When necessary the role of the "guide" or "teacher" and the role of the discussionleader will also be discussed separately.

1. Letterwriting

To stimulate the people to formulate their own opinion on a subject this method can be helpful. Also it might make the participants getting used to each other and to discussionmaking in groups.

A condition for using this method is that each participant is able to read and write.

A subject to discuss should be chosen in advance, and had better be taken from one of their own daily life experiences. Besides using this method in experimental situations, it can also be used as a starter to stimulate the discussion about a real problem that has to be solved.

To discuss a subject , the teacher should make a thesis about this subject in advance which the participants should comment.

Procedure:

1. Groups of about 5 persons should be made. One person of each group should be chosen as the discussionleader.
2. All participants get a piece of paper on which they can read the thesis they should comment.
3. The first participant writes down his opinion on the thesis , including a short motivation. To do this he/she gets 5 minutes.
4. Then the paper is given to the next participant who gives his/her reaction to the comment of the former participant, also including the motivation.
5. The note is given to the third, fourth and fifth participant all reacting to each others opinions.
6. The discussionleader reads all the writings aloud.
7. All participants may now react to the comments of the others and ask them questions.
8. The discussion can start.

Tasks of the teacher:

- Explain the method
- Formulate a confronting thesis
- Give a short introduction on the subject to discuss

Fishbowl discussion *

This discussion method stresses the importance of peer learning. The group will make an analysis of its own experience of interaction. After the discussion they will analyze how they discussed the topic, what happened in the discussion, why it happened and how they could change it by modifying their action.

This method is thus especially useful in experimental situations to exercise ways to discuss a subject and to make the participants aware of their position in a group. It will stimulate them to improve their behaviour and thus their position in the group.

Procedure:

1. The participants are divided into groups: an inner group which discusses a specific topic, and an outer "listening group".

For example, the inner group maybe a planning and evaluation team and the outer group is a steering committee which listens, analyzes and translates into action. The inner group together has to make a planning.

2. Couples are made: one participant from the inner group is assisted by someone from the outer group. Together they will decide which strategy to use in the discussion and which arguments and motivation the partner from the inner group will use in the discussion to convince the others.

3. The discussion takes place in the inner group. The people from the inner group try to discuss according to the strategy they agreed with their partners from the outer group.

The people from the outer group will make observations and analyze the behaviour of their partners from the inner group, and watch the effect of the used strategy on the development of the discussion.

4. After 10 minutes the discussion is stopped and the people from the outergroup tell the people from the innergroup about their experiences. They make suggestions about how to change the behaviour of their partner if necessary and together they decide how to continue their strategy or how to change it in the next 10 minutes.

5. The discussion is continued for another 10 minutes.

6. After 10 minutes both partners come together. They again discuss the proceeding of the discussion and decide which position they will take when the final groupdecision is made.
7. Final discussion. All participants from the inner group together should come to an agreement on which solution shall be implemented.

Task of the teacher:

- Explain the method
- Explain the purpose of this experiment
- See to it the method is implemented in the right way

Picture discussion

This method can be used to make people aware of the problems in their community, especially health problems, and stimulate them to think about alternative solutions to solve them. It can be used in experimental, as well as in real group discussions.

Procedure:

1. Provocative pictures are shown to the people. On the pictures they can see a certain problem and its consequences, with a few keywords as its caption.
2. All participants at a time gets the opportunity to tell what they see on the picture. All visions are written down and shown in front of the group.
3. All participants explain why they have this opinion.
4. Through questioning the teacher tries to find out if they really have understood the message of the picture.
5. If they really have understood the message shown by the pictures it should not be difficult for them to find solutions to solve the problem.

An example of implementation of this method is taken from the "Thai khit-pen" concept introduced in Thailand 1970:



Rationale

Normally, families with low incomes have many problems to deal with; one of the most serious problems is the cost of living. If they were also to have many children, their already serious problems might even get worse. The whole family might suffer additional hardships and this would result in the deterioration of the family's health both physically and mentally.

Objectives

To encourage the learners to consider the advantages and disadvantages of having children under each individual's own circumstances.

Topics to be discussed

Do you agree with the saying that "a family with many children will be poor?"

Why?

Mass media

Mass media like films, video, radio and slight might be used for diffusion of information on large scale, but also be used to stimulate people to reflect and discuss about the present situation in their village. By looking at examples of other villages or projects, the awareness of their own living conditions will be created.

Therefore it should be looked after that the right medium is chosen for the right targetgroup. This may depend on their educationlevel, activities and local characteristics.

Also the message and the method of discussion should be adapted to these characteristics of the targetgroup. When using mass media, one should be aware they are not widening the gap between lower and higher educated groups. One often easily adapts the message to the ones who easily adopt the message. This may cause serious problems within the community. It is often more important to reach the lower educated groups than the higher ones. The last group is normally able to rational thinking themselves. But the so-called "late adopters" are the ones that should be reached by the media, by understanding the message well.

Besides adaption to the education level, also the amount of information given at a time, should be restricted. People are not able to remember a lot of new information when it is given to them in a short amount of time. Especially people who are not used to learning, and listening for a long time will have difficulties to pick up the message.

To prevent people from missing certain topics discussed in the material, the program should be repeated at least once. This also because the first time the people might be more interested in the audio visual itself than in the message given.

To see to it the message is well understood, an introduction should be given before starting the program. Also the public should be able to ask questions at any time, and the program should be followed by a discussion. By questioning the teacher should find out whether the message is well understood or not. The questions should be answered by the people themselves, by creative thinking and interaction. The influence of the teacher should

be minimalized. In no way he /she should give the answers themselves if people don't know them.

Another important condition to make the use of audio visuals successful, is that the material shown is interesting to the public. They should be able to recognize the situations shown and see the relation with their own situation. Also there should be variation and humor in it.

Before using an audio visual it should be tried out to learn their possibilities and limitations. The try out of the material should be done in front of a few people from different backgrounds and education levels, taken from the target group.

Procedure:

1. The teacher introduces the program by telling about the its subject and its background and the time and place it was recorded. Also he /she may indicate what things the public should especially look for. Eventually the message of the program can be told in advance. The advantage of doing this, is that the public will look more critically at the material. A disadvantage is that a lot of information will not be heard or seen as important. Another disadvantage of telling the message in advance is that people will react less spontaneous in the discussion afterwards.
2. The program is shown for the first time.
3. Questions can be asked before showing it a second time and should be answered by the people themselves.
4. The program is repeated and may be interrupted by stopping it for asking questions or making special remarks.
5. The teacher asks certain people to give their opinion on the program shown. This person can give his/her spontaneous reactions on what they felt when watching it, what impressed them most and what they think is the message of the program.
6. By discussion the people themselves find out which was the purpose of the makers of the program. The teacher will learn from this discussion whether the message is understood or not. When he notices they did not understand it at all, he is allowed to intervene and try to lead them on to the right conclusions again.
7. The people compare the situation shown with their

own situation and try to find out which was the purpose of showing them this program. When they see the relation between the program and their own village, , it should not be difficult to discuss how to translate the message given in the program into a message given to themselves.

8. Discuss how to use this message to solve their problem.

Story telling *

As a discussion stimulator, this method can be used to promote creative problemsolving. The participants themselves will teach each other by using their knowledge to come to certain conclusions and solutions.

Critical incidents, based on the participants their own experiences, will be made into stories. The stories contain a poignant problem and leaves it unresolved, so that the participants can give their own interpretation of outcome. Each story presents enough controversy to stimulate the discussion. Each one covers a short period of time, focusses on one major point and contains characters that are believably human so that there can be reasons for siding with one of the characters. Because it is very difficult to make good stories, they should be well prepared in advance. For certain kind of problems already made up stories are available.

Procedure:

1. The teacher tells the story and leaves the solution open.
2. One person at a time finishes the story by using his/her imagination. After finishing the story, they explain the reasons for finishing the story the way they did.
3. Discuss which would be the most satisfying ending of the story providing the best solution to solve the problem.

Serialized posters*

The purpose of this communication tool is to demonstrate to the group that different people can perceive the same things very differently and also that each of these perceptions has its own validity. The tool incidentally gives participants, particularly the more timid or reserved ones, an opportunity to make their viewpoints heard. The fact that interpretations are somewhat different makes the exercise interesting, yet the differences are seldom so great as to make any one participant fearful of being way off the mark. This is a "safe" exercise in that respect. It should be seen however, as only a small step towards more open, creative involvement.

Sets of posters are prepared ahead of time, each set consisting of four scenes which can be mixed and put in any order to tell a story. To change the story one has only to change the order and to interpret the scenes from one's own personal viewpoint. The group needs to be assured that there is no "right" story. If participants are encouraged to use their imagination freely and not restrict their thinking just to what is in the poster set, the stories can be quite lively. If not, monotony is likely to set in after the third or fourth story-interpretation.

The scenes in the posters should come from village situations themselves or from the environment with which the participants are familiar. This may require observation interviews or other preparations.

Comment:

There are any number of variations which can be introduced into this exercise. For example, if the set contains some "given" pictures for everyone to use and some "options" from which to choose, the participants have more leeway to be creative. One such variation is to give three pictures (to be mixed up and arranged but all three must be used) for illustrating a problem situation for which a decision must be made. Three other pictures are given as optimal courses of action. The story teller has freedom to choose one of the three options as a means of continuing his story beyond the decision point. If participants are also allowed to improve "conclusions" or "outcomes" of the decisions made, the story endings can often be hilarious.

Entering your own space *

The purpose of this exercise was to help the participant first of all to assess his/her present life situation as well as possible by spontaneously listing his thoughts about good or poor aspects of his/her life just as they occurred to him/her. In the second square or "Space" he/she would then list his/her aspirations for a better life. By not disclosing ahead of time what the participant was to do with space two, a significant discussion may be expected of the differences in aspiration levels revealed by a simple (and subjective) comparison of the two spaces, after they have both been completed.

Procedure:

1. Participants are given the following instructions:
"On a sheet of paper draw two squares of the same size. In the first square put down as many phrases as you wish that best describe your current situation in life. These can include professional, personal, or economic characteristics- anything you choose to describe your current position in life."
2. After a few minutes, the participants are told:
"In the second square, write down phrases to describe how you would like to be five years from now. What situation would you like to be in five years from now?"
3. Again, after a few minutes, participants are instructed:
"Now look at both squares. Try to imagine yourself in the situation you described in the second square. Can you really visualize yourself being in that situation? Is it difficult to imagine? Was there a big difference between your current situation and the aspirations you described in the second square?"
4. Reactions to this exercise can be left for discussions within smaller groups.

Broken squares

This game was designed to demonstrate the importance of cooperation in achieving a group goal. Participants try to form six-inch squares by combining their squares as a group goal. Smaller squares can be made by combining other pieces but this does not contribute to the group goal. Cooperation is only attained when each member of the group tries to understand the other member's needs and recognizes each one's potential contributions to the realization of the group goal.

In a cooperative group all members are actively engaged in mentally putting the pieces together and are sensitive to the needs of others. Each member is willing to give parts of his/her own square to help others. In this way a group can quickly realize the goal of the group as a whole. If, on the other hand, participants are more interested in forming their own squares, the goal will be more slowly attained.

The observer notes who is willing to give away pieces, who seems to divorce himself from the struggles of the rest of the group, how many people are actively engaged in mentally putting the pieces together, and other characteristics of group behaviour.

Group discussion analyzes the effect of cooperation on problemsolving and shares group feelings about the game.

Procedure:

1. Participants are divided into groups of six: five game participants and an observer/judge.
2. Each game participant is given a set of Broken Square cards, each card an irregular shaped part of square.
3. Squares are formed by putting the cards together. The observer makes notes.
4. To evaluate the process of cooperation they make a discussion afterwards.

2. Discussion techniques

The following methods are examples of several discussion-techniques :ways to discuss a subject. The methods given can be used when solving problems.

Discussionmaking will be seen as a learningprocess in these methods. Guided by a "teacher" who had special training concerning discussions and problemsolving processes, the participants will become aware of their own position in a group and learn how to take part in a groupdiscussion. This might improve their self-confidence.

Another important goal of these methods , is to stimulate the participant's creativity in finding solutions to solve their problems.

Brainstorming* (can be used in the problemsolvingprocess
step 6,7,8,9)

Brainstorming helps to convince the participants, in a direct and often quite dramatic way, of the value of the whole group in the generation of ideas.

The more diverse the membership of the group, the more wide-ranging are likely to be the ideas contributed for problemsolution, provided the basic brainstorming rules are observed . The basic guidelines are simple:

1. All members of the group are encouraged to contribute ideas.
2. All ideas are accepted immediately without criticism or evaluation. This is vital to encouraging participation.
3. Contributions are recorded for all to see. This helps to establish what each member is thinking, feeling and perceiving, and it also convinces the individual of the worth attached to his/her contribution.
4. A large number of contributions is encouraged. Group members are asked to share all ideas that come to mind regardless of how appropriate they may seem. The assumption is that the more ideas spontaneously shared in the shortest possible time, the more likely is the group to arrive at a potentially useful idea to resolve the problem at hand.
5. Criticism or judgement is deferred until the group has practically exhausted itself of ideas. Then judgement and selectivity are exercised in a way that does not discourage any member from future participation in brainstorming(note: This can for example be done by first discussing the positive sides of a certain idea and then the negative sides. The one who shared the idea will be able to clarify the idea. When rejecting a certain idea the motivation for doing this should be clear. It is important that the participants see why certain ideas can be useful to solve their problems and others not.).
6. Participation is rewarded by recognizing that the final solution is the result of the entire brainstorming process in which all contributions have played a part.

Role of the discussionleader: -See to it no criticism is given during the discussion

Role of the teacher:

- Lead the discussion and selection of all ideas and let everybody explain his/her contributions.
- Explain the method.
- Stress the importance of not being afraid to give spontaneous ideas.

This technique is especially useful when discussing a subject with people coming from several positions in a community. It helps to remove constraints the lower educated participants may feel when discussing with people for instance being representatives of local authorities or organizations.

To make everybody feel at ease, all participants should be introduced to each other in advance. Also some of the discussionstimulating methods can be used to make the participants know each other.

In this method the participants are representatives of certain members of the community, for example representatives of the users of the standposts, representatives of the PKK, representatives of the LKMD and members of the cadre. These groups act as one party in the discussion.

Procedure:

1. Each group writes te down their problems related to the watersystem (This as an example of a subject to discuss) on a piece of paper.
2. Each group gives a presentation of their problems. The participants will thus become aware of the different problems related to the water use.
3. After hearing all problems and explanations, together they will recognize a common problem they will discuss.
4. Each group writes down its opinion on the problem on a piece of cardboard. These cards will be shown in front of all participants. Thus all groups are forced to give their opinion and to show it to the other groups. They now don't have to be shy because there will be no names on the cardboards, and the opinions will be anonymus.
5. All opinions are grouped according to common features after discussing the opinions.
6. When a certain opinion is not clear, the group who gave this opinion should give an explanation, and the participants later decide how to group it with the other opinions. By grouping the opinions, the participants will get a clearer view on the problems and it will be easier for them to find solutions.
7. Together they discuss a way to solve the problem.

Role playing

This is a method to make people look at a problem from different points of view. The participants will be divided in different groups each playing the role of representatives of a party in the community, having different interests in solving a problem.

Sometimes they should play a representative of a party having an opinion to which they themselves do not agree at all. Therefore it should be stressed that they are only playing roles and the things they say will not be taken as their own opinions.

Thus this method will make the participants get more understanding for people who have a different opinion on a subject and it will make them aware of the advantages and disadvantages a certain solution can have for the different parties. The participants may realize the importance of making compromising solutions sometimes.

This method may be used as a training in discussionmaking and creative problemsolving. The advantage of playing roles and not being themselves is that they now will be able to react more spontaneously and be more creative in using argumentations.

Procedure:

1. The group will be divided in two groups and each group will be given a description of a made up situation, in which they represent a party having a certain interest in implementing a certain solution. In the description the details will be given.
Besides the two groups, a neutral chairman should be chosen.
2. The two groups separate and each group discusses their strategy and arguments they later will use in the discussion, to convince the other party.
3. The groups sit opposite to each other. The chairman gives each party 10 minutes to give their opinion on the problem.
4. After both parties have given their presentation, Each party at a time gets the opportunity to ask questions to the other party.
5. All parties separate to discuss how they should come to a satisfying solution in cooperation with the other party, on which points they are willing to give in and on which absolutely not.

6. The discussion is continued and the parties should try to come to a solution to which they both can agree. They will get 30 minutes to do this.
7. The chairman summarizes the final decisions made and asks both parties if they agree to it.
8. Evaluation!

Role of the teacher: - Make up a conflict between two parties concerning a situation /problem well known to the participants, and describe it. Each group should be given a note describing the situation, which party they represent and which opinion they have.

Role of the chairman:- Lead the discussion .

- Mind the procedure
- See to it no one is interrupted
- Mind the time given

Improvements for Gumulung Tonggo and Playangan

At last I will give some practical advises which might be useful to consider when organizing meetings in the PSWS project villages Gumulung Tonggo (GT) and Playangan (PL). These advises are based on the content of the former chapters. Because I was only able to visit the villages a few times, I fully depended on the information gathered during these visits, information from reports of other people involved in the project and discussions I had with them. For this reason the matters discussed will only be general advises. A selection of the useful ones should be made by the members of the cadres or by the people of the Institute of Human Settlements (IHS or: Puslitbang Pemukiman), the members of the PSWS team.

First I will give a short description of each village, especially concerning the involvement of the community in the decision making and implementation concerning the project. Also some characteristics of the village and its inhabitants, important to consider when organizing discussions , will be discussed.

After considering the present situation, I will be able to give some practical advises. These concern the involvement of the inhabitants in decision making and problem solving and the organization of the discussions. Special attention will be paid to the roles of the cadre and the women during the discussions . The cadre has to play an important role in the organization of the meetings, discussion groups and introduction of the new discussion methods. They should join a training program in which they learn about problem solving processes and discussion making and also get familiar with all kinds of discussion methods.

Until now, the women are neglected in the decision making concerning the water supply project. Their opinion might only be heard through their husbands, but they themselves did not get much opportunity to join the discussions and give their opinions themselves. In this chapter the importance of involving them , will be stressed.

To make the discussions successful, the people should be motivated to cooperate . How to convince them of the use of the participation in discussion making and problem solving, is a question also to be answered in this chapter.

By giving this information I hope it can be used to improve the problem solving processes in the villages. Though it will

be difficult to reach the ideal situation, attempts should be made to introduce some organizational changes and try out some of the discussion methods given.

Hopefully these attempts will be successful and lead to further improvements.

Playangan (See appendix ..)

Desa Playangan
Kecamatan Babaken
Kabupaten Cirebon

Population:

	RT1	RT 13,14	Total
inhabitants	210	256	466
families	39	52	91
households	31	37	68
average family size	5,38	4,92	5,12
average household size	6,77	6,92	6,85

The village Playangan is divided in several RTs headed by the heads of the RTs. Three of these RTs are provided with two Public Standposts: RT1, RT13 and RT14.

The people of these three RTs are poor and low educated. They live in houses of poor quality which stand very close to one another. There are no toilets and everybody goes to the field to defaecate. Before implementation of the PSWS project there was no good water resources available, except for some wells.

The PSWS project was for a great deal initiated and organized by the Institute of Human Settlements . Also a very important role was played by the cadre, who organized and coordinated the implementation of the standposts (See chapter: Back ground).

The cadre (11 persons:9 men, 2 women) was selected by the village head and the secretary of the village. The criteria for selection was income: people who had enough income and thus were able to spend some time on extra activities.

Unfortunately no members of the cadre live in the RTs where the Public Standposts are built.

The following activities have taken place since the start of the project:

- The cadre was trained by trainers from Kecamatan level.
The program consisted mainly of health education on health problems related to water, and the intentions of the project.
- The cadre informed the inhabitants about the project.
Health education was given to the inhabitants on occasions they come together to collect the water from the water

resources present. This health education program has not been very successful when looking at the the amount of diseases and the kind of diseases present in the village after the implementation of the project. This may be caused by the ways the health education was given to the people, the contents of the messages, non-cooperation of the people, or other causes. Still until now the results of the health education given, are not sufficient.

- The village head chose the RTs which would be provided by a Public Standpost. The cadre determined the location on which the standpost should be built.
- The men of the cadre organized the technical and practical work that had to be done. The women of the cadre were active in administrative tasks. After the implementation, the women should take care of organizing health education programs.

The members of the cadre felt quite responsible for their tasks. There was a clear division of tasks related to their education level. The people of the RTs themselves were not involved in the planning. But they were involved in the stage of implementation by helping to dig the canal. After receiving the information about the project from the head of the RT, who got the information from the members of the cadre at his turn, they knew their tasks and where to go in case they needed information or assistance.

It seemed that the motivation of the people to cooperate was only to have a nearer tap providing them with more water, instead of being motivated to improve their health conditions. Contacts between the members of the cadre and the inhabitants of the three RTs are not so good. The members of the cadre do not live in the RTs and they transfer the information about the decisions they make via the head of the RT. Also there have been some incidents between members of the cadre and the inhabitants.

Also the head of the village does not keep regular contacts with the heads of the project-RTs. His tasks in the project were attending the official procedures and choosing the members of the cadre and the RTs in which the standposts should be built.

Decisions related to the project are made by the members of the cadre. Sometimes advises are given by the people of the PSWS team from the IHS. Because the inhabitants are not involved in the decision making, this sometimes gives problems because cadre and inhabitants have different ideas about the project. Between the members of the cadre also some problems

exist. Some of the members are rather own-minded .Especially the chairman does everything on his own.

Another problem is that their tasks and influences are not equally devided. For instance the influence of the women in making important decisions has been very small. The opinions of the women living in the RTs of the project are not heard at all. Until now, the influence of the women has only been restricted to the influence the two female members of the cadre had, which was very little .

All these factors and may be some others, prevent the cadre to form a unity. Still they worked quite hard to implement the the project and felt responsible for it.

Things to improve :

- Participation in decision making of the useres of the standposts.
- Functioning of the cadre.
- Involvement of the women
- Health education.

Gumulung Tonggoh (See appendix ..)

Desa Gumulung Tonggoh
Kecamatan Astanajapura
Kabupaten Daerah Tingkat II Cirebon

Population:

Desa GT	men	2374
	women	2283
	total	4657
	families	1219 (average family size 4,03)
	households	834 (average household 5,71)
Block Kaliwon	men	252
	women	234
	total	486
	families	121
	households	85

(march 1986)

The village GT is divided in 4 blocks. In one of the blocks, named Kaliwon, the PSWS project is implemented.

In GT 60% of the working population is working outside the village, in Jakarta or another city. This means most of the time these people do not live in the village.

The main resource of income for the village is agriculture.

The village Gumulung Tonggoh is not as poor as Playangan. Many women do not work and many households keep their own fruit gardens. Most of the houses are built of bricks. In some of the houses are toilets, but most of the people go to the fish ponds (panciligan) to defaecate. In some cases the people defaecate in their gardens.

Before the PSWS project was started, the people were already improving their water supply system, stimulated and organized by the village head.

When the village head heard about the PSWS project and the possibility to get it to his own village, he made a request to the government of Cirebon, for improving their own built spring capping. The motivation of the inhabitants was so strong that they did not want to wait for official permission. The project was organized by the village head, and a technician of the IHS supervised the technical implementation. This was possible because the money had already arrived.

In the case of GT the cadre was formed after the implementation of the project instead of before, like the intention of the PSWS project originally was.

Though the village head does not live in the block, his contacts with the inhabitants are good. He visits them often and is interested in the processing.

The people were very motivated to work on improving their water supply system. They worked hard on the implementation and feel responsible for the maintenance. They also had a voice in the decision making by attending discussion groups organized by the village head. After these discussions the location of the standposts were chosen. Since the cadre was not yet chosen, the members of the later cadre were just one of the community, working hard in the stage of implementation. The cadre was chosen by the village head and consists of 6 persons, all men. Three of them live in Kaliwon. The members were very active in the process of planning and implementation and most of them are a member of the LKMD. The village head is the head of the cadre.

Because the cadre was formed afterwards, they do not form such a tight group as was planned by the project. Now, they take care of the control of the system. A maintainer, living near the tap, is responsible for the maintenance.

Decisions related to the project are taken by the cadre and the village head. During the discussions the village head seems very dominate. Not all members of the cadre are equally taking part in the discussions. The village head has great

influence on them when decisions are made.

Things to improve:

- Influence of the inhabitants in the decision making and problem solving
- Functioning of the cadre
- Influence of the women in the decision making.

Organizing meetings in GT and PL

Organizing regular meetings to discuss problems and community matters by participation of the people, is a good way to prevent conflicts and recognize problems in an early stage. Depending on the amount of time available to join meetings, discussion groups should be formed to discuss problems. These groups can be specially formed to discuss problems related to the water supply, or they can be formed to discuss all kinds of problems.

For GT and PL I suggest to form one discussion group for each RT in which a Public Standpost is built. Selection of the participants should depend on local possibilities. People can be chosen by the other people, can be asked by the head of the RT or the cadre, but they should be volunteers and motivated and not being forced to join the groups. When standposts are used by more than one RT, each RT should first discuss the problem with their own group and afterwards organize a meeting in which both RTs take part. Together they should come to a final solution.

The meetings should be organized every few weeks. When only discussing about the water supply, once in three or four weeks will be enough. But when organizing discussions concerning all kinds of community affairs, they should take place once a week or once in two weeks.

The meetings should be organized by the head of the RT, who should also be a member of the cadre. He should fix the time and place the meeting will take place. Because the head of the RT is trusted by the people and well known with all inhabitants and the local problems, he will be able to collect the complaints and problems of the people and consider whether they should be discussed in the group or not.

It is important the head of the RT is also a member of the cadre because only then two-way communication is possible between the members of the cadre and the inhabitants.

People should give notice of their problems or complaints, for instance by writing a note and putting them in a complaint "problem-or-complaint-box" which should be put beside the standpost. Putting a note in a box will give the people the opportunity to stay anonymous when they want to give notice about their dissatisfaction about certain aspects in the community. This may also improve the chance women will use it, especially when the box is placed near the tap where they collect their water each day.

Because not all people are able to read and write in PL and

GT, people may also directly go to the head of the RT when they want to give notice of some problem which they want to be discussed during a meeting.

To stimulate the people to give notice of their problems or of their dissatisfactions in an early stage, the use of the "complaint-box" should be promoted by the cadre. This can be done for example by hanging posters on central places in the RTs, making announcements of placing the box near each standpost during a meeting or via local organizations like PKK and the Puskesmas.

As already mentioned, the head of the RT will make a selection of problems which will be discussed during the meetings. This can also be done after discussing them with the other members of the group, but this will cost more time. Problems which are not selected to discuss in the group, should be solved by personal assistance of the head of the RT or by assistance of a local organization.

After selection the head of the RT should make the agenda of the meeting and all participants should receive one. The time of the day the meetings are taking place should be carefully chosen by the head of the RT. Therefore he should be well aware of all activities the inhabitants are involved with.

At the time of day the people are least occupied, the meeting should take place. Often this will be in the early evenings. The people are often not used to sit down, listen and concentrate for a long time, especially after a whole day of hard working. Therefore a strict agenda should be made indicating the time available to discuss a subject. Also not too many subjects should be discussed at one meeting.

The participants themselves should decide who should become the discussion leader and whether he/she will stay the discussion leader for only once or for more meetings.

Participation of the users of the water supply system

In both villages the influence of the users on the final decisions made seems to be very small. The important decisions are made by the members of the cadre and/or the village head.

To change this situation, the importance of participation of the people in meetings should be stressed. The cadre as well as the users should be convinced of the advantages of involving the users themselves in discussing their problems.

Many arguments can be used:

- The people are the users of the water and thus much concerned with the well functioning of the water supply system.
- The users are the ones who first notice deficiencies
- The users have much practical knowledge about the system
- The users pay for the system
- The users are the ones to implement the solution to solve the problem.

To convince the people of the importance of taking part in the discussions, these arguments can be used by the members of the cadre when promoting the discussion groups. For instance they can make posters and spread them through the village. Also the kepala desa or the members of the cadre can have informal talks with the people in which they try to convince them to take part in the discussions. Maybe the cadre can also organize some demonstrations of the functioning of discussion groups for example by showing drama, wajang, or using mass media like video or films in which the message is: " Together we should solve our problems by discussing them. Together we are able to do this."

The participation of the users should be as well in the discussion- and decision making as in the organization and implementation of the solution found.

Who should participate?

When organizing discussions between members of a community, a selection of representatives has to be made, otherwise the group of participants will be too big. In PL and GT for instance, one discussion group can be made for each RT in which a standpost is built. Each group may consist of about 10 people living in the RT. How the selection is made depends on local circumstances, but the participants should be well motivated volunteers. Motivation is a nasty thing to check but at least the representatives should be willing to spend extra time on improving their village and see the importance of regular discussions about village life. Motives like " enlarging status" and "an opportunity to become more powerful" are obviously not the right ones to assure the participation to be successful.

After the selection, the following conditions should be fulfilled:

- The representatives are volunteers
- The volunteers are willing and able to spend some extra time on the discussions
- The representatives have good contacts with the other people living in the RT

The most ideal situation of selecting the participants would be by voting. All grown up people in the RT should vote and thus participate in the selection of their representatives. The people chosen often will be the informal leaders of the community and are trusted by them.

Sometimes voting will not work, because people think it is the task of the head of the village or the head of the RT to indicate the representatives. The confidence of the people in their knowledge might be so great, that the people are convinced they will be able to choose the right persons to perform this task.

But for the case of GT I think it will be possible the representatives are chosen by the people themselves. After having promoted the participation of the community in solving their own problems, names of volunteers should be put on a list and the community can give their votes. The voting should be organized by the cadre.

Representatives are often seen as people taken like a sort of "bulk monster" from a bigger group, representing the average village people. In developing countries this is often not possible because of traditional customs and norms. One of the reasons the average village people are not chosen, is that the lower status people are not represented. They often think they themselves are not skilled to discuss difficult problems and to think of possible solutions. They therefore will not report themselves as volunteers to join the groups. Another reason for this can be financial constraints.

Especially in PL very poor people are living who will not be able to spend much time on discussions, because time is money. Maybe this constraint can be overcome by a compensative bonus like Gotong Royong, for example : other people will give a small contribution to the representatives, like fish, rice or labour.

A third reason for the lower status not joining the meetings, might be because they often have had lower education and therefore do not see the use of "all the talking".

Thus, special attention should be paid to this group when promoting the discussion groups. The personal approach possibly will be most successful, because many people are not able to read or write. By personal confrontation they also easier get interested in the subject they are talking about, than when someone is talking in front of a group.

When it just doesn't work out and the lower status people will not join the groups, it will be very important they at

least will be able to choose their representatives.

Women

Another problem when choosing representatives, is that often only men are chosen. This might be caused by traditional norms and role patterns.

Because the women are the ones who collect the water, and thus use the public standpost most, they are the experts of the water use in the RT. Also they are the ones who store the water, cook, wash, and take care of the children. Thus they are able to recognize problems in an early stage.

For these reasons I will stress the importance of hearing the opinions of the women as well. The optimal situation would be that they also are chosen as representatives and are able to give their opinions in the discussions as well as the men. Maybe because of traditional norms this will sometimes not be possible and sometimes women are chosen but still not dare to join in the discussion or not taken seriously when discussing with men.

An alternative to the women joining the discussion groups together with men, is to organize special women discussion groups in which they discuss the same items, and give their opinion. The results of these discussions should be considered by the men when they make decisions and choose a final solution. When organizing special women discussion groups, this can be done in cooperation with the PKK. This organization is well known by the women and might be able to convince them to join the discussions, stressing the importance of the women in problemsolving and decision making concerning water supply and other community affairs.

Cadre

During the start of this new organization of discussions, the members of the cadre should attend the discussions to support the people in their ways of discussing and organizing meetings. The support can be given by organizing non-formal education on problemsolving processes (see chapter : Discussion methods). For example they can try out some of the exercises given. The sequence in which the exercises are given is very important. First I suggest the methods to improve the familiarity of the participants with each other and with the discussion making (discussion stimulating methods) will be tried out.

The members of the cadre (one or two for each discussion group), might be the "teachers" in a nonformal way. This sort of training will be based on peer learning. The " teachers " will only guide the participants in this learning process. To make the members of the cadre able to be "teachers" in

this learning process of discussion- and problem solving techniques, they should get special training in which they become familiar with all kinds of approaches to problem solving processes, discussions and with several methods/ exercises they can intröduce in their own community discussion groups.

This requires special skills of the members of the cadre and especially motivation and the convincement of the importancy of good discussions between the people.

In the present situation especially the cadre of PL does not function the way it should. This is caused by many factors, especially a lack of motivation and internal conflicts.

In my opinion a cadre should be a unity when they want to improve their village.

Another negative factor in the functioning of the cadre of PL is that they are not living in the RTs which are provided with the standposts. Because of this the contacts between the people and the members of the cadre are very poor . It might be wise to add at least one inhabitant of each RT to the cadre. In my opinion it would be best the heads of the RTs join the cadre. It might be wise to reconsider the functioning of all members of the cadre and eventually decide to form a new cadre, more skilled to perform their tasks and having better contacts with the people.

If this is not possible, I suggest a special group of " participation workers " is made who will receive the training on discussions and problem solving processes, instead of the members of the cadre. After receiving the training, they will be the ones to guide the non-formal education of the participants of the discussion groups. It would be wise these people are taken from local organizations like school teachers, health workers and other people who are used to work with people.

Another possibility is to ask people from outside the village, specialized in non-formal education methods, to assist the community for a short period in coming to good discussions.

A disadvantage of this last possibility is that later the people should be able to help themselves and then, no one in the village has special knowledge on this subject, because they did not receive the training themselves.

Local organizations

Another party which may join the groups, are representatives of he local organizations like the Puskesmas, LKMD, PKK, schools, etc. Thus, they may not be chosen by the people of the RT but attending the meetings to use their knowledge in the discussions, or to enlarge their knowledge on local problems

from the discussions.

Still, it would be better when these people live in the RT itself, because this means they are familiar with the people and the situation in the RT, and they are easier trusted by other inhabitants.

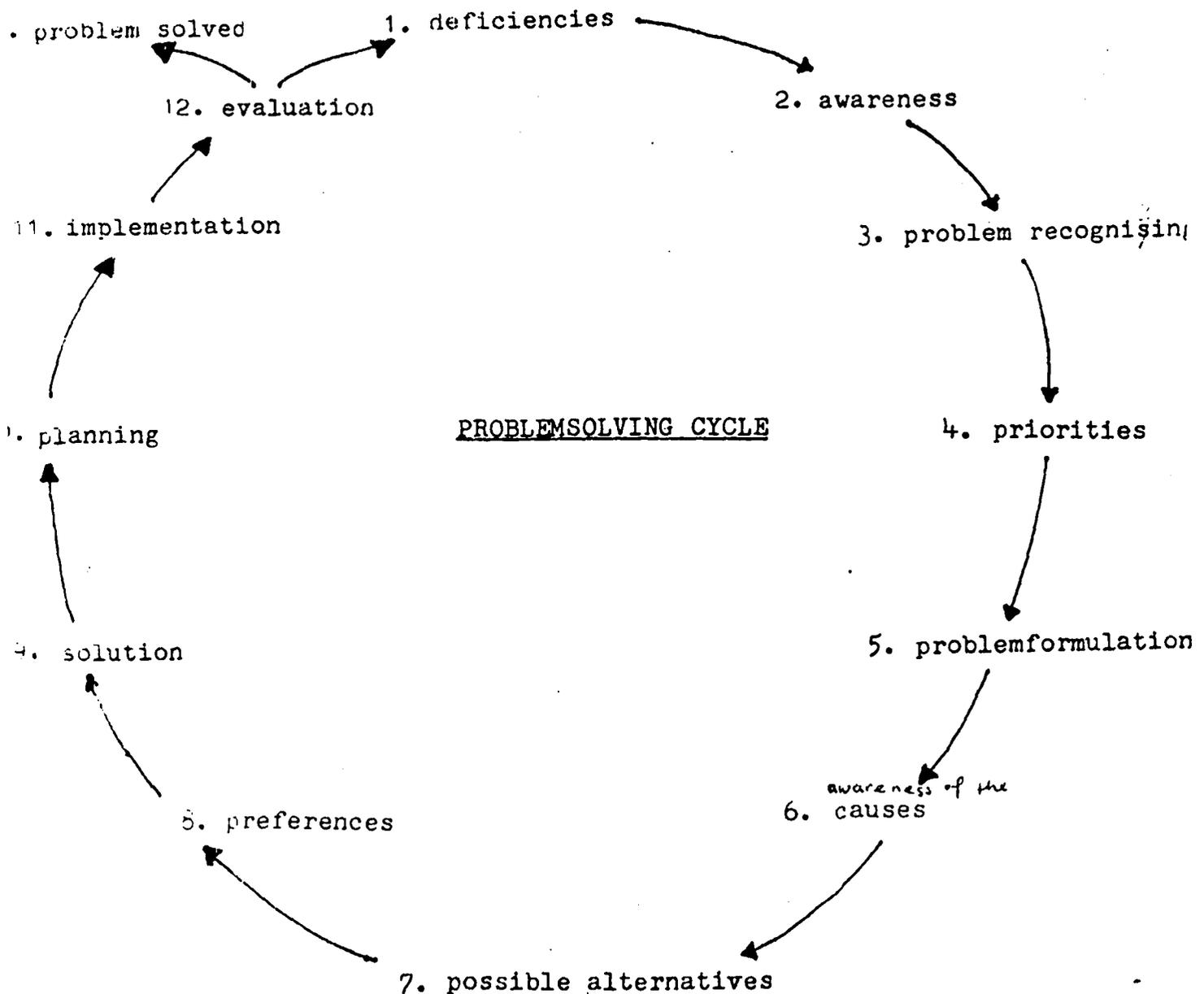
Of course, it is also possible that the members of local organizations just happen to be chosen by the other people, and then they will be both representatives of the RT and representatives of the local organization.

As already mentioned, local organization could also have the important task to organize the non-formal education for the discussion groups after receiving training. People joining these trainings should be used to work with people and interested in the subject of communication.

The discussions

When discussions about problems are made, the problemsolving cycle can be used as a guideline to check if all steps, necessary to come to a good solution, are taken.

Because the situation in the villages are so diverse and many types of problems may be there, I can only give some examples of how these problemsolving processes may look like:



example 1:

13. health improved

12. evaluate whether the health of the children has improved

11. The play ground is made

10. Plan to clear up a piece of land:
- who takes care
- who maintains
- who pays

9. Look for another play ground

8. According to the most likely causes:
b
a
c

c (or all at once)

- 7. ^a give children medicine
- ^b look for another playground
- ^c tell the children not to drink unboiled water
- ^d Be more careful with food preparation
- ^e give the children medicine

1.-Other deficiencies

-Children feel sick

2.-Other deficiencies

-Mothers notice the children do not feel well

3.- Other problems

- mother realizes children are ill, puts note in the box

4. meeting is organized. After discussion the illness gets priority

5. The children suffer from diarrhea and have pain in their stomachs

6. After talking with the mothers they notice the children often play in the fields where many people defaecate. With the assistance of the local health-organization they understand the transmission cycle of worms. Another cause may be they drunk water from the river or ate something wrong

example 2:

1.-Other deficiencies

-Pump rusts

13. Pump easy to handle

12. Evaluate:

- Is the pump easier to handle?
- After a few months: is the paint lasting and the pump not rusting?

11. Contributions are collected
paint is bought
pump is painted again

10. Plan: - who will control?
- who collects the money?
- who will buy the paint?
- when should this be done?

9. Control the contributions and buy other paint and paint the pump

8. -combination of a and b
- a
- c
- b
- f
- d
- e

7. a Use other paint
b Control the contributions of the users
c Stimulate the maintainer by giving him some money to perform his task
d choose another maintainer
e Change the pump for another one
f Let the men collect the water (!)

2. -Other deficiencies
-User notices it is getting hard to handle

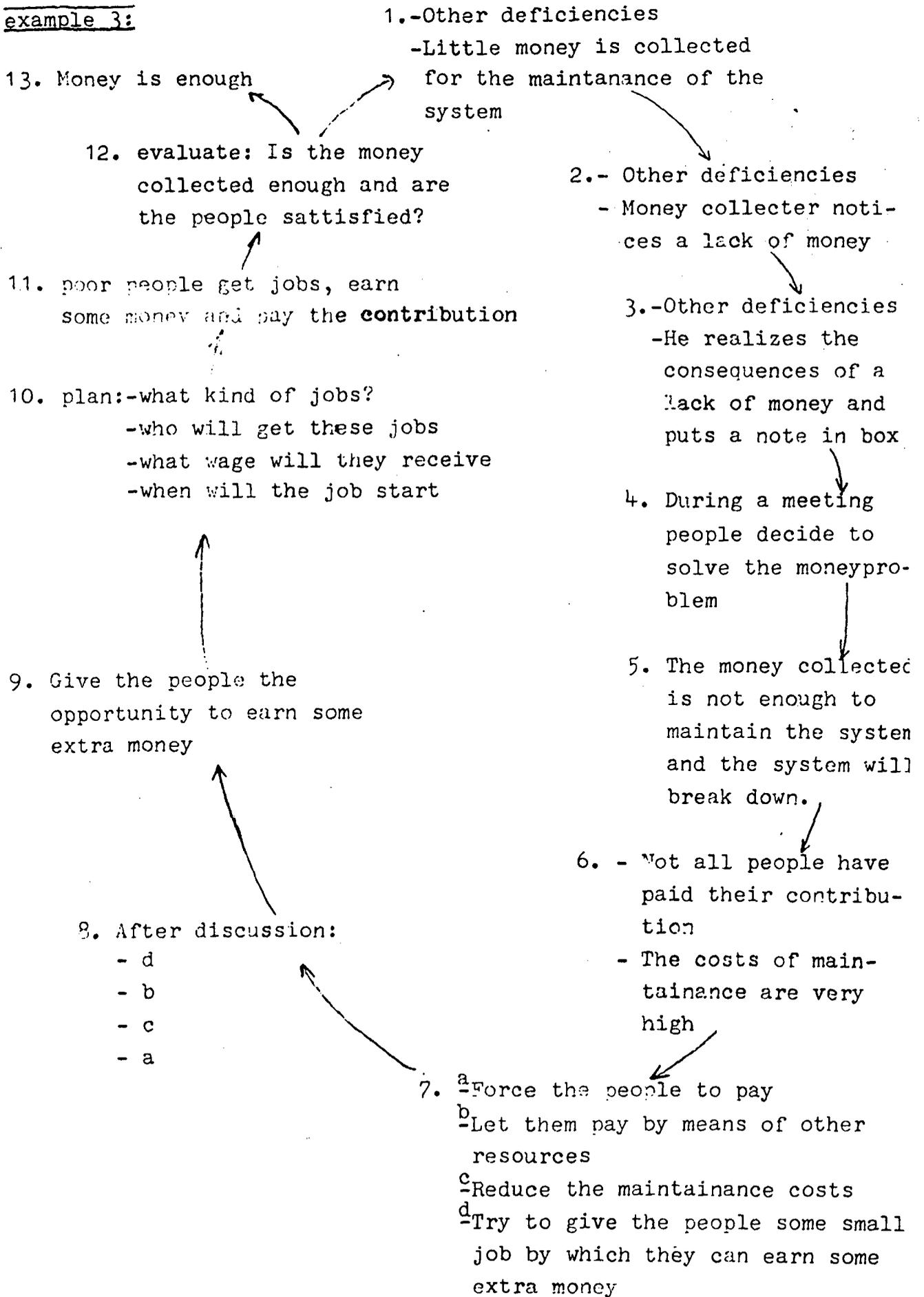
3.-Other deficiencies
-User realizes system will break down, puts note in box

4. Rusting pump gets priority

5. Pump is rusting and getting more difficult to handle for the women

6.The pump is not well maintained:
- The paint is no good
- There is no money
- The material of the pump is hard to paint
- Maintainer is too lazy

example 3:



How to continue in the future?

Because this report is written to stress the importance of a community to solve its own problems with a minimum of help from outsiders, there also has to be thought of ways to stimulate the continuity.

As already mentioned, a most important role will be played or should be played, by the members of the cadres in motivating and stimulating people to solve their problems. To continue the involvement of the inhabitants, the members of the cadre thus should stay devoted to their tasks.

For this this reason I suggest to pay the cadre a certain fee for being active in community work. This can be money, but also be food or labour paid by the inhabitants of the village.

Even better it would be when the cadre gets a kind of satisfaction from performing their tasks and therefore will stay devoted to their tasks. For instance, when giving them regular trainings (for example twice a year), from which they receive a lot of knowledge in which they are interested in and which they can also use for their work as a member of the cadre.

Also, by paying them some kind of fee, their task will be seen as something important and they will become more devoted to it. Of course not only the cadre should stay motivated to continue the participation of the people. Also the people themselves should be willing to continue. This will only be possible when they see the use of joining the discussions, see the results of them and thus get some kind of profit from it.

It will be the task of the cadre to promote the discussion groups and organize a promotion campaign. Good contacts between the cadre and the people is one of the most important conditions to make the discussion groups a continuous success.

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