WaSH Brochure

Who is WaSH-UP?

WaSH-UP is driven by a collaborative partnership between regional NGOs with connections to informal settlements, local government agencies, and a university in the United States that engages students and faculty in a shared learning and supporting role.

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Abstract: This document contains a brochure outlining the WaSH-UP Programme. It is an innovative program currently being operated in South Africa, specifically in the informal settlement of Langrug in the Stellenbosch municipality. This initiative is a unique approach as it involves the community to a much greater degree. In doing this, the community has a much greater sense of responsibility and ownership of facilities built and maintained through this programme. This is a programme that has the potential to be replicated throughout the world in informal settlements/poverty stricken urban areas. This flyer is a summary of how the programme came to be, the key members in starting the programme, the accomplishments so far and how it can be expanded.

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About the WPI CTPC Community Resources Series

Community Resources publications are designed to assist residents, community-based and non-profit organizations, local government, students, educators and others working toward sustainable community development in disadvantaged communities in South Africa and elsewhere.

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The Cape Town Project Centre (CTPC) is part of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) Global Projects Program offering WPI students project opportunities in two dozen centers around the world. Each year, about 26 CTPC third-year undergraduate students from our US university work closely in small groups with local Cape Town organizations and communities on issues posed by our local partners. This report is one of a number of project outcomes produced during two months of fieldwork in Cape Town. See the CTPC website for more information: http://wp.wpi.edu/capetown.

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What is WaSH-UP?

WaSH-UP, or Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Upgrading Programme, is an innovative solution to common health problems in urban informal settlements. It begins with the creation of a WaSH-UP facility created and operated by the community members. These facilities include access to important WaSH appliances such as sinks, laundry areas, toilets, and showers. Beyond the physical facilities, it becomes a key social space for community health, education and wellbeing development.

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**Why WaSH-UP?**

**A WaSH Crisis in South Africa**
- Access to basic sanitation facilities has been identified as a human right
- Limited health and wellness education leads to increased prevalence of disease

WaSH-UP provides opportunities for community members to address health and well-being issues such as **grey water management**, **early childhood development support**, **HIV/AIDS**, **teen pregnancy**, **disease**, **alcoholism**, etc.

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**What Next?**

**Continued Need for Support**
- Need for diversified revenue streams
  - Support from Local Governments
  - Support from Community Members
  - Collaborative Partnerships with Local Business
- Need to strengthen community management structures
  - Training and Continued Education for Community Leaders
  - Effective Community Participation
  - Mentorship for Caretakers in Career Development

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**WaSH Achievements**
- Facility built and upgraded
- Caretaker training
- Health, Education, Wellbeing Services
- Constructed Health Products Kiosk

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