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The development of the new wastewater treatment system in the Pannipitya Hospital, Sri Lanka



This project was implemented from 2007 to 2009.

The main target of this project was focused on the development of the new system for a wastewater treatment. Large volumes of hazardous substances, like solid wastes, wastewater, pathogenic biological materials etc., were annually disposed of without any type of treatment in hospitals throughout Sri Lanka. This situation negatively influenced the Sri Lanka ecosystem such as water sources, soil and health of patients and neighboring communities as well. There was a very vague legislation in Sri Lanka for the treatment of wastewaters from hospitals and medical facilities in general. Representatives of executive bodies were aware of the situation that untreated municipal wastewaters represented large quantity of pollution for drinking water resources.

The objectives of the project were divided into three years. The first year the detailed technical study on places of origin of wastewater, tubing and analyses of water were taken from various places in and outside the hospital. The second year, the building phase began, with strong involvement of the hospital management. After completion of the building phase the new technology for the wastewater treatment was installed in close assistance with the local company which was trained in installation and maintenance of water treatment systems.

During the third year, all project activities were focused on providing information on water management and good practices of the wastewater treatment to the relevant authorities. The target group contained workers from the hospital, experts from the Ministry of Healthcare and Nutrition, experts from



the Central Environmental Authority, students and independent consultants. The co-operation with the local Ministry of HealthCare and Nutrition and the Central Environmental Authority was targeted on the development of the new limits for discharging treated wastewaters from hospitals.



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- 1 The picture taken within the international exhibition Techno 2007, where we displayed the environmental technology for the wastewater treatment.
- 2 The practical training of locals in using software (remote control operation and monitoring) for the wastewater treatment plant in the dispatching centre Colombo.
- 3 Specialists of project's team within the field works in Pannipitiya hospital.
- 4 The evaluation quality of the wastewater samples in MicroChem laboratory, Colombo.
- 5 The introduction of the technology for a remote control operation and monitoring of wastewater treatment plant in Pannipitiya hospital.



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