

Sadhana Clean Water Project Tax Receipt



CONFERENCE AND STUDY GROUP

**WHAT WE'RE DOING:
INTERACTIVE EDUCATION - NETWORKING - WATER FAIR-COLLABORATIVE WATER BOOK**

**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR SUPPORT OF
OUR PROJECT**

KEEP UPDATED AT:
www.whitmandirectaction.org

**IF YOU HAVE ANY
QUESTIONS OR
COMMENTS FEEL
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AT:
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Dear _____,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$ _____ to the Havurah for Whitman Direct Action. Our Tax ID Number is: 93-0895258

What you helped fund:

Safe and Sustainable Clean Water Access Conference:

On March 19th, 2008, WDA will sponsor a "Safe and Sustainable Clean Water Access" conference in Mumbai, India, in an effort to foster clean water development in rural India. The conference will have presentations by prominent NGOs, government officials and lawyers to train and educate organization representatives and community leaders on local and regional water issues and provide participants with the space and resources necessary in order to share their knowledge and experience. The event creates a public forum bringing together the community, NGOs, experts in the field, and other prominent figures with the hopes of facilitating the connections and the exchange of information necessary to addressing local challenges. Finally, WDA will endeavor to publish a book detailing all aspects of the project including appropriate water technology information, written collaboratively by organizations which have successfully completed water projects in India.

Appropriate Technology Study Group: With a focus on India, our mission is to better comprehend the complex nature of designing and implementing appropriate technology (AT) projects in marginalized rural communities. Many AT projects quickly fizzle and fail to raise a community's quality of life in the long-term. Many of the problems AT projects face are not simply technological obstacles; they are region-specific cultural, religious, economic, and political dynamics. For example, some communities are located a day's journey from town which makes obtaining a replacement part for a biogas digester (or some other piece of AT equipment) uneconomical and time consuming. Anecdotal evidence of this sort is endless and illuminates the need for a comprehensive study that examines these diverse impediments so we can begin to address them more effectively.

Our study group is comprised of Whitman Direct Action members, United World College (India branch) professors and students, and Sadhana Village employees (an India based NGO in Kolwan Valley). Together we are conducting a case study of AT impediments in the Kolwan Valley where Sadhana NGO has over 13 years of experience. We will carry out surveys, interviews, and participatory observation in order to gather information about the multifaceted socio-political systems that hinder the success of AT projects. With Sadhana and United World College, we will then evaluate the information we have collected and synthesize it into a report which will describe and assess our findings and provide recommendations for strategies to adequately address these obstacles.

Outcome of our study and report: (1) Clarification—and hopefully solutions—regarding impediments to AT projects' successes (2) a convincing and detailed case study that Sadhana Valley can use to solicit grants from governmental and non-governmental organizations and offices in order to fund a region-specific water AT project, rather than continuing ineffective directives from the government and large multinational NGOs (3) Free case study that NGOs can use as a reference to better understand similar dynamics (4) give Whitman College students the opportunity to deepen their understanding of being a socio-political agent of change and help them think more comprehensively about such issues