

## **IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre**

IRC is an interdisciplinary resource centre for knowledge development and exchange on community water supply, sanitation, and hygiene. It was established in 1968 and is an independent, non-profit organization supported by and linked with the Netherlands Government, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Bank and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council. IRC is located in Delft, The Netherlands. IRC works with partners and strengthens sector resource centres in the South to facilitate the sharing and use of this knowledge and information.

IRC facilitates the creation, sharing and use of knowledge so that sector staff and organizations can better support poor men, women and children in developing countries to obtain water and sanitation services they will use and can sustain. Using its web site, documentation, publications, training and experience-based learning activities, advisory and evaluation services, applied research and learning projects, IRC advocates change and aims to improve the information and knowledge base of the sector. Topics include: community management, gender and equity, institutional development, integrated water resources management, school sanitation, and hygiene promotion.

### **Staff involved in the study**

#### **Christine van Wijk-Sijbesma**

Sociologist with post-graduate diploma in health education.

#### ***Key qualifications***

- 31 years of professional experience
- Senior Programme Officer
- Has worked in management functions, training and research
- Water use studies in Tanzania and India
- Editor of an abstract journal and has assisted others in documenting participatory approaches
- PhD Research on participatory research methodology

#### ***Main interests and specializations:***

- social and health aspects of community water supply and sanitation programmes
- gender analysis and strategies
- institutional development/ integration of social and technical aspects

#### ***Selected publications***

Wijk, C. van (1995). Gender in community water supply, sanitation and water resources protection, a guide to methods and techniques. (Occasional paper no. 23). The Hague, The Netherlands, IRC.

Wijk, C. van, Lange, E. de, Saunders, D. 1996. Gender aspects in the management of water. *Natural Resources Forum*, vol. 20, no. 2, pp.91-103.

Wijk, C. van (1998). Gender in water resources management, water supply and sanitation: roles and realities revisited. (Technical Paper Series; no. 33-E). The Hague, The Netherlands, IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre.

Wijk, C. van and Walle, F. B. de, (1995). Environmental hygiene and human health. In Velden, K. van der; Velema, J.P., Walle, F.B. de; Wijnen, J.H. van; Ginneken, J.K.S. van, (eds.), *Health matters: public health in North-South perspective*. Houten, The Netherlands, Boom; Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Royal Tropical Institute.

Sijbesma, C. (forthcoming). The best of two worlds? Methodology for Participatory Assessment of Community Water Services. PhD Thesis. Wageningen, Wageningen Agricultural University.

***Languages:*** Dutch, English, French, Kiswahili, Spanish.

#### **Leonie Postma**

Tropical land and water management engineer with specialization in rural extension

#### ***Key qualifications***

- Seven years of professional experience

- Project officer in Senegal and Namibia
- Participatory evaluation using PRA/MPA for Plan International in West Africa
- Has worked in training and training development
- Manages an international project for applied research on school sanitation

***Main interests and specializations:***

- Hygiene and sanitation promotion,
- Community managed water supply and irrigation.

***Selected publication:***

Brikké, F. ; Postma, L. ; Campaoré, L.M. ; Mar, L. ; Yaro, J. ; Djoukam, J. ; and Blanchet, F. (2001). West Africa water programme : evaluation and advisory mission. Final Report. London, Plan International.

***Languages:*** Dutch, English, French and Spanish.