

World Water Academy; didactical skills as the plus for a WOP

Water Operation Partnerships (WOPs) are one of the most important networks for cooperation and capacity development in the global water sector. WOPs concentrate on sharing peer-to-peer expertise and have been proven to be a first main step in developing the capacity of a (southern) partner organisation, to improve the (southern) organisation and its output. At the end of a WOP project, the partner organisations start to think on how to sustain the transferred expertise. Therefore, the World Water Academy can add the third step in the triad: *networking – expertise sharing – training*. Training is seen a south-to-south transfer of (local) know how and expertise, initially facilitated by north. Key: the combination of water expertise and didactics.

A WOP is a long-term commitment between a northern and southern organisation. The WOPs focus on the on-the-job development of individual staff and organisations. Goal is sharing and transferring practical knowledge, skills and experiences. But most of the WOP projects have a limited time horizon. That's why the question arises: "How can we sustain and maintain the efforts?". An answer can be a Training of Trainers approach; a package of essential water knowledge/experiences *and* didactics, with a focus on south-to-south transfer of knowledge and experience.

The concept Training of Trainers focusses on experienced (local) practitioners, who are enthusiastic and willing to transfer their knowledge and expertise to their colleagues. These practitioners will be trained to become trainer. Didactical knowledge contributes on how to transfer knowledge and skills. A dedicated training with a customised curriculum and a methodological package will give tools and confidence to train and inspire their colleagues while training on-the-job.

A WOP makes the main steps: building a comprehensive network and sharing knowledge and expertise. The World Water Academy is the plus for the WOP (WOP+) in introducing sustainable training programmes in south-to-south perspective.

In bullet points:

1. Theme, product or service presented
 - a. Training of Trainers, capacity development for grass root and middle management
2. What problem you solve or opportunity you build upon (in key words). Kindly refer to 'Core-processes of a water utility' below, which may be incomplete as it e.g. excludes water treatment and sanitation.
 - a. Capacity development to sustain implemented technologies/methods
3. USPs of the product or service
 - a. Cross-sector approach: water expertise and didactics
 - b. Use of local knowledge
 - c. Self-supportive capacity development
4. How you contribute to the overall NL USP 'Tailor made sustainable water solutions', if at all?
 - a. The local (southern) professionals will train their colleagues, using Dutch methods (and Dutch solutions)