

Business Community Programme

The business community is an equally important target group under WATER Project apart from local communities and schools. In 2015, the famous “Wai Sek Kai” food court in SS2 which is situated within the Penchala river basin was chosen for the Business Community Programme upon fulfilling most of the selection criteria from the consultation with MBPJ.

Waste Auditing

An initial waste audit was conducted for four days from 30th October to 2nd November 2015 to obtain a baseline data and a platform for future initiatives. Labeled garbage bags were provided to 18 food operators and were weighed accordingly. Results showed that the highest and lowest total average waste was similar for food and drink stalls; total volume of waste was higher on weekends compared to weekdays and organic waste are the highest among waste composition.

Food Operators Training of Trainers (TOT)

Training of Trainers (TOT) for food operators was held in the basketball court near the food Court, attended by 7 members from GEC, 6 MBPJ staff and 21 food operators. The event includes the sharing of river and waste management issues plus future projects by GEC and MBPJ followed by the demonstration of waste segregation, composting and grease trap. The TOT served as a follow-up on the waste audit leading up to future initiatives on BMP by committed food operators.

Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Follow-up with sampled food operators commenced in early December and thus far 6 food operators agreed to participate in the BMP initiative which includes waste segregation, composting and selling used cooking oil. Initiatives are further supported by the plan to install a centralized on-site organic waste composting machine at the food court in 2016.



Waste audit & training for food operators at SS2 Food Court

“Boundaries don’t protect rivers. People do.” –Aristotle



Cleaning up in Sungai Way



(From top to bottom): Wetland nursery, herbs nursery and composting site at the Sungai Way Information Centre.

Public Events

The **Sungai Way River Clean Up and Education Activity** was conducted successfully on 31st January 2015, co-organized with Indah Water Konsortium (IWK) and The Star “Do Good, Volunteer Initiative” attended by 135 participants from the public, Star Do-Good volunteers, IWK communities and other stakeholders. The programme ran from 7.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. nearby Sungai Way Community Information Centre, focusing on river clean-up and educational elements including pollution mapping activity, wetland planting, water quality monitoring and an educational tour to the adjacent IWK sewage treatment plant. A total of 78kg of rubbish was collected and 28kg is made up of recyclables. The activity garnered vast amount of media attention, making greater success to Sg. Way project.



Sungai Way Clean-Up and Education Activity



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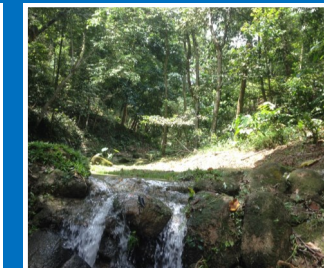
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SUNGAI PENCHALA RIVER EDUCATION PROGRAMME (2015-2017)



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Saving our rivers through the W.A.T.E.R Project

The W.A.T.E.R (Working Actively Through Education and Rehabilitation) Project is initiated by G.A.B Foundation in December 2007, in partnership with Global Environment Centre (GEC) and close collaboration among key stakeholders comprising of government agencies, corporate sector, non-governmental organisations and communities to educate the public about the importance of water and how we should conserve and protect its source: our rivers.

The **Sungai Way Rehabilitation Programme** under the W.A.T.E.R Project focuses on the Sungai Way basin, a tributary of Sungai Penchala which eventually flows into Sungai Klang. Its water quality has been classified as Class IV-V (with V being the poorest) and its main sources of pollution being solid and liquid waste from residential, commercial and industrial areas.

The project yielded success with its approach through a working model of Community Participation in River Management which is able to provide targeted groups hands-on education and opportunities that encouraged greater awareness, understanding and stewardship of their local rivers.



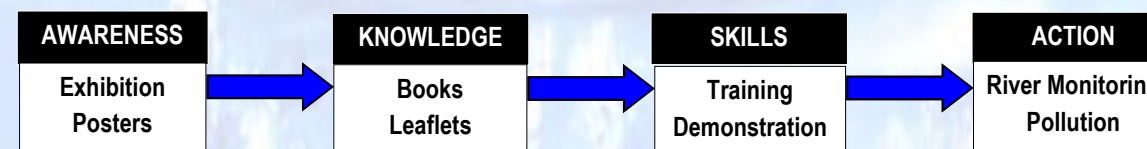
Sungai Way before (left) and after (right) the river rehabilitation programme.

2015 KEY MILESTONES

- Improved Sungai Way water quality from Class IV-V to Class III-IV
- Biodiversity improvement, biological treatment & river beautification
- Establishment of River Care Education Center (RCEC) and Mobile River Care Unit (MRCU)
- Major events — National Water Forum (2012); River Carnival (2009, 2010, 2012, 2013)
- Awards/recognitions for the project and stakeholders involved

Project Expansion to Sungai Penchala (2015-2017)

With the Sungai Way project now independent and ongoing initiatives are being sustained by all targeted groups, W.A.T.E.R Project currently expands to a newer focus: Sungai Penchala. Using the same successful model of Sungai Way Rehabilitation Programme, the Sungai Penchala Education Programme is a three-year project (2015-2017) aiming to protect and enhance Sungai Penchala through engagement of **four** main target groups: **local community**, **business community**, **youth groups** and **education institutions**. The project prominently adopts the “**Civic Science**” concept by GEC to educate target groups about caring for their own environment.



River Care Education Centre (RCEC)

The River Care Education Centre (RCEC) aims to organize river care activities and enhance larger community participation at all levels. There are currently two existing RCECs, Penchala River Information Centre and the newly launched Sungai Penchala Open Classroom in 2015.

Penchala River Information Centre

Two other activities were conducted at the RCEC in 2015 apart from Community TOT.

5th July 2015 – A total of 40 kids (aged 4 to 7 years) from **St Francis Church, Petaling Jaya** were accompanied by their parents and given a talk on water source safeguarding in addition to water quality monitoring and 4R2C concepts.

20th September 2015 – River Care We Care training was given to 40 students from **SEGI College**. The college is known to be keen in environmental activities and students are exposed to river water quality monitoring, composting as well as candle and soap making.

Sungai Penchala Open Classroom

The setup of an “Open Classroom” at the source of Sungai Penchala in Bukit Kiara was aimed to

promote hands-on learning and a long term monitoring site that can be utilized by the public.

River restoration works and biodiversity study were conducted at the proposed area leading up to the launching on 7th November 2015. The biodiversity study showed a high Biological Water Quality Index (BWQI) of 6.7 and showed the **water quality to be rather clean**.

Launching was officiated by National Landscape Department of Malaysia together with DID (Malaysia) and GAB Foundation, attended by 25 community participants and representatives from stakeholders. The activities of the open classroom launching include:

- RIVER Ranger activity: trained communities train the new participants on physical, chemical and biological monitoring of the river
- River walk: introducing participants to four stations: (i) Source of Penchala River; (ii) Voice of the stream; (iii) Meandering site and (iv) Biomonitoring site
- Gimmicks: Fish introduction and launching



Penchala River Information Centre



River Care We Care Training for SEGI College Students



Open Classroom Launching

“NOW EVERYONE CAN LEARN. IF YOU CAN'T REACH US WE WILL ENSURE TO REACH YOU”



Mobile River Care Unit (MRCU) Outreach Activities

W.A.T.E.R Project continues to use the Mobile River Care Unit (MRCU) to conduct mobile education programmes for targeted groups as well as government agencies and the public in Selangor especially within Sungai Way/Sungai Penchala basin in 2015. The outreach project aimed and successfully conducted **8 outreach activities in 2015**. The most notable outreach in 2015 was MRCU's involvement in Klang River video shooting by Canadian media.

2015 MRCU Outreach Activities:

Sg Way River Clean-Up and Education Activity
Sg Klang river video shooting by Canada media
World Water Day exhibition (National Zoo)
'Go Green' Campaign (Klang Central Mall)
'Green Carnival' Campaign (MMU)
Green Week Celebrations (Monash & UPM)
St. Francis Church (Petaling Jaya)

Educating Local Communities

Local communities within the Penchala basin are an essential part of the programme as their training and subsequent initiatives can potentially shape the future status of the river.

Community Engagement and Training of Trainers (TOT)

In total 10 communities were chosen based on the 3:4:3 ratio representing upstream, middle and downstream of Sungai Penchala respectively. They were consulted and engaged for TOT on river management incorporated with RIVER and SMART Ranger modules.

The TOT was successfully conducted on 19th September 2015 at Sungai Penchala Information Centre followed by practical training at Sungai Penchala Open classroom. A total of 12 participants from 6 communities attended the full-day training which exposes the community on the water quality monitoring and solid waste management activities.

Follow-up Initiatives were subsequently planned by the trained



Community TOT at Bukit Kiara Taman Tun Dr Ismail

communities based on their local issues or resources. The project team has been providing constant advice and assistance on proposed initiatives by each trained community. Four proposed initiatives including rainwater harvesting systems, water educational forums and river stretch beautifications are to be conducted in 2016.

Community Outreach

As one of the successfully outreached communities outside the Penchala basin since W.A.T.E.R Project establishment, pollution mapping and water quality testing was done for the Sungai Midah community for better river monitoring and management.

Education Institutions—Shaping the future generation

Students from educational institutions remain an essential group that is consistently engaged and trained. Education institutions were categorized into kindergarten, national schools (focusing mainly on vernacular schools), private/international schools and tertiary institutions (college and universities). The activities focused on environmental education trainings and follow-up initiatives based on school resources.

Schools

Despite having a total of 10 schools within the Penchala basin targeted for Training of Trainers (TOT) and follow-up initiatives, the activities has been postponed to 2016 due to technical issues. Consultations were still carried out in 2015 and one of the schools, **SJK(T) Vivekananda** has expressed their interest on environmental infusion into their school programmes.

A total of 41 teachers from the school located at Jalan Templer, Petaling Jaya were briefed about the W.A.T.E.R Project and the school TOT on 23rd December 2015. The school has pledged to get involved and undertake green initiatives and hopefully the WATER project initiative will lead towards a bigger achievement which is the 'Sekolah Lestari Award' (the highest environmental award for school). Overall, W.A.T.E.R Project (TOT will be the first step for them to begin their path) will be their platform for the journey to achieve the 'Sekolah Lestari' award.



TOT briefing for SJK(T) Vivekananda

Tertiary Institutions

Colleges and Universities

Multimedia University (MMU), Monash University and University Putra Malaysia (UPM) Shah Alam were outreached through Mobile River Care Unit (MRCU) during their respective “Green Week” or environmental day celebrations. More than 100 students from the universities were exposed on river monitoring and solid waste management activities.

MRCU at MMU's Green Week



“If a man fails to honor the rivers, he shall not gain the life from them.”—Anonymous

International Schools & Other Events

Eco-Schools Conference

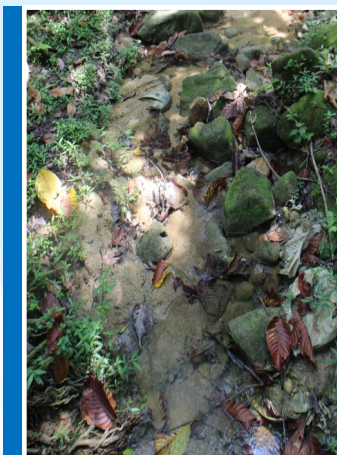
The International Eco-Schools Conference is an annual conference organized by WWF Malaysia which normally attended by all the eco-schools at national level as well as from other countries. The 2015 theme by Local Agenda 21 (LA21) & Climate Change focused on national level mitigation for schools from Malaysia only. W.A.T.E.R Project was engaged on 9th December 2015 during the 4th day of International Eco-schools Conference Malaysia 2015; where a total of 130 students with 30 teachers from 21 schools were outreached on W.A.T.E.R Project info, water footprint, water Quality testing and water quizzes.



W.A.T.E.R Project at the International Eco-Schools Conference

International School of Kuala Lumpur (ISKL)

The international school from **Ampang** was outreached on 15th December 2015 in conjunction with their annual symposium. From W.A.T.E.R. Project's perspective, river and water care have been emphasised while promoting the Sungai Penchala Open Classroom for them to explore different conditions of natural river ecosystems, as they usually visit the Sungai Klang Open Classroom for their previous activities.



The newly launched Sungai Penchala Open Classroom at Bukit Kiara, Taman Tun Dr Ismail. The site will be a prominent training location for schools and other target groups in the future.

Tenby International School

Belonging to one of the **Tenby Schools Group**, the Shah Alam campus was outreached on 10th June 2015 in conjunction with World Environment Day. A total of 87 international kids were exposed on talk, followed by water quizzes and water conservation activities.

Educational, Welfare & Research Foundation (EWRF) Malaysia

EWRF being a charitable arm for students' empowerment NGO has also been outreached on 9th December 2015. This particular outreach activity is different as the students were selected from a category of underachievers. A total of 40 kids were given environmental talk with social and economic values emphasised and followed by some interactive activities.