Wastewater Production, Treatment, and Use in ZANZIBAR

Presented by :

1.M.A.Mchenga , 2.S. M. Shaame and 3.Rashid H. Said

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Wastewater production and treatment

Zanzibar has a population of about 1,200,000

The average water use per capita is about 36 cubic meters annually.

It has been estimated that 80% of the water is being turned to waste water.
Therefore in Zanzibar the total waste water production annually is about 34 million cubic meters . The treatment of the wastewater in Zanzibar is less than 1%.

Wastewater use and/or disposal

- Most of the Wastewater in Zanzibar is being disposed into sewage system to the sea.
- In Zanzibar the Wastewater use is quite low less than 1% is being used for agriculture.

Regulations and implementation of guidelines

- So far in Zanzibar there is no regulations and proper guidelines for the wastewater use

Challenges

- The following are challenges for the wastewater use:

  - Formulation of policy, guidelines and regulation

  - Adequate knowledge for treatment and safe wastewater use

  - Adequate treatment structures

  - Low public awareness on wastewater use.

Government's approach to wastewater management

- In the National Environment Policy (1992) Section 14a the waster management has been stipulated that the institution responsible should embark on the following:

- Improve sewage treatment and disposal
- Regulate industrial effluents
- Improve storm water disposal
- Set water quality standard for freshwater sources and bathing areas.

Possible solutions

- To formulate regulation and guidelines
- Conduct Public Awareness(meeting, seminars and workshop)
- Avail information on the most appropriate cheap technology for safe wastewater treatment e.g. anaerobic ponds
- Develop strategies for safe wastewater use at national level
- Capacity building on individuals
- Capacity building on Institutions (Irrigation Department and Zanzibar Municipal Council, Zanzibar Water Authority)
- Promote research on wastewater disposal, treatment and use in agriculture.