



News from the PRODWAT (Productive uses of water) Thematic Group #1

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1) Welcome to our first e-mail update

The PRODWAT thematic group was set up in 2003 to work for better recognition of productive uses of domestic water supplies, and the improved delivery of multiple use water services at the household level. We are interested in supporting better provision of water for backyard gardening, livestock keeping and micro-enterprises because these small-scale activities are vital for poor peoples' livelihoods, and because they are frequently ignored by the water sector.

Over the past two years, group members have undertaken a wide range of activities from case study research to organising an international symposium. We have had regular meetings to share ideas and plan joint activities, but these are usually held in the Netherlands or the UK. We hope this e-mail newsletter will help the PRODWAT group to better share information with our wider membership group, especially those who cannot travel to Europe for meetings. The newsletter will regularly bring you brief updates on group activities and progress, as well other news on productive uses and domestic water supplies. The newsletter is linked to further information that is made available on the group website.

We would like to encourage everyone to contribute to the newsletter and website, and to get involved in group activities. Please send items you would like included to me at butterworth@irc.nl

John Butterworth, IRC

2) New PRODWAT website launched

A new website has been developed by the coordinating partners of the PRODWAT group (IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre, the Natural Resources Institute, the Overseas Development Institute, Plan International, and Cinara). Please visit www.prodwat.watsan.net and take a look.

You can find background information on the thematic group, details of group activities, publications and further links. Publications include case studies on small-scale productive uses of water from around the world, all the papers from the international symposium in 2003, documents from an electronic conference in 2004, and advocacy materials.

We would also welcome your feedback on the new site. Please send us your comments and suggestions (there is a ['contact us'](#) function on the website homepage).

Read more at www.prodwat.watsan.net

3) Request for case studies: award of €1000 open to all

The PRODWAT Case Study Award is open to researchers, practitioners and students from the South working on a theme within the areas of interest of the PRODWAT group. The award of €1000 will support further research on the best case study submitted to the PRODWAT website, and the author will be invited to present the results at one of the thematic group meetings.

Case studies should be on the multiple use of water services at the local scale: emphasising the negative or positive role of productive uses of water at the household/village/local level alongside traditionally recognised domestic uses. Possible topics might include the role of household water supplies in gardening and urban

