WACDEP Project 3 COMMUNITY RAINWATER-HARVESTING FOR ENHANCING FLOOD AND DROUGHT RESILIENCE

REPORT FOR 2014

The project focuses on exploring ways to reduce flood, drought and other climate risks in a community in Kampung Kuala Sungai Baru, a village in Puchong, Selangor, and also increasing their resilience towards those hazards.

The selection of the community was based on information from some local authorities and also the Department of Irrigation and Drainage in the state of Selangor. Kampung Kuala Sungai Baru is one of the communities in Selangor affected by both floods and water-rationing.

The following are some of the activities which have been carried out to date:

1. Discussions with the local communities

Some discussions took place between MyWP and some members of the local community to exchange information and opinions about the project, the existing situation, issues, and the feasibility of the project. Site visits were also conducted comprising visits to a school, houses, the flood-prone areas and the waterways.

A larger consultation and briefing session with the locals is still in the pipeline. The delay is due to the unclear local administrative structure resulting from the change in the state ruling government.

2. Consultation with experts

A few discussions were held with some experts and contractors on the opportunities and best options for rainwaterharvesting system in the site. The experts include those from the Department of Irrigation and Drainage (DID) and National Hydraulic Research Institute of Malaysia (NAHRIM), environmental scientists, and universities.

3. Site visits to Maahad Tahfiz al-Muqri at Kampung Kuala Sungai Baru, Puchong

A few site visits to the selected school, Maahad Tahfiz al-Muqri at Kampung Kuala Sungai Baru, Puchong, was conducted to investigate the possibility of installing a rainwater harvesting system in the school and also conducting a series of awareness sessions with the teachers and students on water management and the project. The school management agreed to participate in the project and a set of options on the installation was discussed. The installation is still pending due to the ongoing renovation and upgrading of several of the school's blocks and plumbing system.

4. School awareness program

Two briefing sessions on sustainable water management and rainwater harvesting had been conducted with the students and the teachers. Subtopics included the importance of water, water issues and the contributing factors, individual water management, and water saving methods. At the end of the second session, a group discussion was held where the students were divided into a few groups and each group was assigned to discuss as many ways as possible to conserve water at their schools. At the end of the discussion, each group presented their findings.

The next awareness session will take place during the installation of the rainwater harvesting system at their where the teachers and the students will be briefed on the mechanism of the system *in situ*.