

BRIEF REPORT OF THE PROGRESS ON WACDEP STATUS IMPLEMENTATION

Community Rainwater-Harvesting for Enhancing Flood and Drought Resilience

1. The selected village: Kampung Kuala Sungai Baru

Kampung Kuala Sungai Baru (KSB) is a village in Zone 8, Puchong, Selangor which have experienced both water rationing and flooding to a quite severe extent. Located about 40 km from Kuala Lumpur, KSB is accessible by the Lebuhraya Damansara – Puchong (LDP). It is also very near to the MRT line under construction which is reportedly causing more severe flooding in certain parts of the village causing damages to some houses and community buildings such as the community hall.

2. The process: consultation and site visits

The Zone Coordinator, Pn Azizan, was consulted at her office at Majlis Perbandaran Subang Jaya (MPSJ) who verbally agreed to the project. She suggested that we contact her assistant, En Faizol, who is based at the village.

Through En Faizol, a few informal discussions with some villagers were conducted at a food stall resulting in a general agreement to participate in the program provided that all costs will be born by MyWP. However, a larger consensus may be needed for for the actual implementation of the project.

No detailed survey was conducted on the number of houses and the households. However, it is estimated that there are about 100 houses in the village. Other buildings apart from the houses include a surau, community hall, a religious school, a small shop lot, and two schools (primary and secondary).

A total of three preliminary site visits were conducted together with some community members. A few premises were identified: a few houses in the flooding zone, a three-storey religious school with an occupancy of about 100 people, and a surau, which can accommodate about 150 worshippers.

Some members of the management of a local religious school, Sekolah Agama Al-Mukti, were also approached in an informal discussion to gauge their agreement in participation. Verbally, some of the members were agreeable but the management board is yet to reply officially.

The chairman of the local surau was also consulted and informed about the project. Personally, he saw no problem with the idea. However, MyWP will discuss the idea with the surau committee to obtain its official agreement. It was also gathered that the monthly water bill is about RM80 but never reaching RM100.

Except for one house owner, no discussions were held with the owners of the identified houses.

Further consultation through discussions and meetings with the local authority and community members particularly the owners of the premises will have to be conducted to obtain a clearer picture and direction of the project and to guarantee a stronger stakeholder participation.

Due to some technical – and internal - problems with the status of the JKKK, a formal discussion with a “legal” village governing body cannot be held yet. However, based on the discussion with the community, this should not be seen as a problem since the installation of a rainwater harvesting and other water-saving system can be considered as personal agreements of the house owners or the school’s management and does not require any legal endorsement of the JKKK.

3. Potential rainwater harvesting and other water-saving products

A few consultants including engineers, architects and university lecturers who have been involved in rainwater harvesting projects were approached to obtain their opinions especially on the type of products and costs.

The information gathering process is still going on, however, a few rainwater harvesting products have been identified. They are:

3.1 Monier Ecorain;

3.2 Fibre Ecorain;

3.3 AuroLite; and

3.4 Carat

A detailed analysis and costing is being carried out. A realistic costing will be figured out once the detailed layout and measurements of the potential premises are obtained.

Amlir Ayat