



Basic Water Needs Foundation: Affordable safe drinking water solutions for low income people

Basic Water Needs Foundation from the Netherlands has developed low cost safe drinking water solutions to be affordable for most low income groups in developing countries.

After a few years of research and pilot projects in India the following products have been developed:

1. An innovative ceramic water filter for family usage. Delivers 5 litres of safe drinking water per hour. Users friendly and low cost. Selling price to NGO's for a complete system is expected to be around € 3,75. A spare ceramic filter will be about € 1,35. Large scale implementation starts in India in the beginning of 2008. A special model of this filter has been developed to be used in areas with very turbid (mud) water. A consumer test of this model has been started in two villages in south India.

2. A water purification system for bigger villages, slum areas, etc. Locally available unsafe water is purified into good tasting safe drinking water. In Indian villages safe drinking water is sold for about 1 Eurocent per 20 litres. At 300 paying families the system is economic feasible and could be financed by (soft) loans.

Ceramic water filters and water purification systems are manufactured/assembled by Basic Water Needs India, located near Auroville (Tamil Nadu state) India. These safe drinking water solutions are introduced by NGO's in combination with a special awareness campaign about the importance of safe drinking water. This awareness campaign has been developed by Avalokita Foundation (www.avalokita.org).

Basic Water Needs Foundation