

Title:

‘Social relevance of decision making’ – A case study of water supply and waste water management in Mangalore, Coastal Karnataka, India.

Name, Country and discipline:

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**Brief description of the following issues:
Topic (Case study and its importance):**

Karnataka is a state in South India with Maharashtra, Andhrapradesh, Tamilnadu and Kerala as neighboring states. The coastal Karnataka is located between the Arabian Sea and the Western Ghats (one of the World's Bi-diversity Hotspots), is considered as an important growth zone.

Mangalore, being one of the important cities on Karnataka Coast is a central location for economic growth via industrialisation and urbanisation. The growing demand for providing water to the residents, industries and other groups has been rapidly increasing. The present responsibility to supply water vests with Mangalore City Corporation (MCC). There is a new project taken up by the Karnataka Coastal Environment Management and Urban Development Project (KCEMUDP) which is implementing Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Development and Finance Corporation (KUIDFC) (since 2001). The project comprises urban environmental improvements, urban transport, poverty alleviation, coastal environmental management and capacity building of Ten selected towns including Mangalore. The municipalities have agreed to borrow the loan and KUIDFC as implementing agency.

This proposed study looks into the Water supply, Underground drainage and Septic waste management, the existing system in MCC. This study also looks into the way in which the proposed development plan on Water supply, Underground drainage and Septic waste management under KCEMUDP is prepared. This study aims to understand the social relevance of decision making on issues like Water supply, Underground drainage and Septic waste management, the existing system.

Importance:

As the city of Mangalore is growing, the exploitation of water sources has also been increasing. The investments on drawing water from a reservoir / river (which is away from city) though is a long term, it becomes necessary to find out how the existing urban local government is working on it.

And the KCEMUD Project is developed and implemented by a State government agency. The project claims to contribute to improved health and hygienic conditions. The project aims to achieve improving the safe water supply systems, reducing leakage and losses in the distribution system and increasing water pressure at the consumer end. The waste water management system will have the effect of protecting the shallow ground water from contamination. Improvement of the storm water drains will eliminate stagnant water in the existing channels and low level sites, thus reducing insect breeding grounds and improving environmental sanitation in these areas.

The process of decision making by the urban local government and when the state agency is involved brings forward the issues of control, involvement, top-down approach, high cost planning, loans, repayments, increase in the consumption of natural resources -Users and the pollution.

This case study would understand the process of decision making and its relevance (by the state agency and the corporation) in implementing the infrastructure projects, specifically related to Water supply, Underground drainage and Septic waste management. It would be important to understand whether the present system is working on a conservation plan to protect the source, distribute and treat the waste water. It would also be important to understand on how the proposed development plan under KCEMUD Project is being prepared.

The study aims to understand how the planning is beneficial to the citizens, how the natural resources like water is utilized and how the process of decision making when state agencies are involved. The case study would also try to understand the impact on social wellbeing of people and the availability of water due to urbanization, its impact on coastal environment and decision making by the state and local governments at the backdrop of urbanisation & industrialisation.

Objectives of the Case study are:

1) To identify the roles and impact of Municipalities and State agencies in decision making (prioritizing, deciding, allocating, implementing, administering) on water supply and waste water management for the city.

2) To study the impact of political decision making process-

① On water supply and waste water management on the social well being of people (accessibility, quality, health).

② On the use of water on the environment (exploitation, treatment, pollution\river-coastal water = deterioration).

3) To understand the impacts of politics of water management (in urbanization context) on Coastal environment.

4) To understand the role of International agencies in influencing planning process of cities related to natural resource use.

Methodology:

The details of collecting primary and secondary data are given below:

The primary data :

a) On conception, planning, follow-up and implementation of the project and the process, the information will be obtained through open ended interviews and questionnaires. The respondents will be the Elected Representatives, Officials, Citizen groups & NGOs and Critics at local and state level.

b) On the allocation, accessibility, impact on people, the information will be obtained through the study of selected locations through interviews and group discussions. The respondents will be the Community, Citizen groups, NGOs, Engineers, Officials...

c) Regarding the resource use and impact on environment, the information will be obtained through the study of water source, distribution, treatment with interviews. The respondents will be the Community, Citizen groups, NGOs, Engineers, Officials...

The Secondary data :

a) Analyze the Government orders; proceedings of Mangalore City Corporation council meetings, the documents with NGOs, the analyses prepared by citizens groups, Similar case studies and the reports & statistics of technical studies from University and Engineering colleges...

Data **Used:**

Social **Data:**

The social data is available with the District Administrative setup, social work colleges in Mangalore, NGOs in Mangalore, Mangalore University, District Gazetteer's office.

Environmental **Data:**

Considerable data is available with the Mangalore City Corporation, KUIDFC, Department of Forests, Ecology and Environment (DFEE), Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), Dakshina Kannada Parisarasaktha Okkuta, NGOs, etc.

Urban **Data:**

The Karnataka State Urban Policy, West Coast Policy and the process of urbanization with the urban development department, Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Bangalore; Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore; Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore; Citizens Voluntary Initiative for City (CIVIC), Bangalore; Public Affairs Centre (PAC), Bangalore; TIDE, Bangalore etc.

Expected **Results:**

A) Diagnose the roles of local, state, national and international institutions in water management.

B) Develop an understanding of the driving forces influencing decision making process on water management.

C) Measure the consequences of water management on the social well being and the environment and

D) Analyze the influence of International agencies in urban resource planning.