IWA Drinking Water Safety Award Scheme

Celebrating achievements in the effective management of drinking water safety in low and middle income countries

Whilst globally we are on track to meet the drinking water component of MDG 7 Target c to reduce by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation, some regions, such as Sub-Saharan Africa are not. Furthermore, whilst the monitoring of this goal reports on access to improved sources, we do not have a clear understanding of the safety of drinking water by region or globally. Therefore the promotion of effective interventions to improve and maintain drinking water quality is an important effort in safeguarding public health through the provision of safe drinking water.

About the Award
The IWA Drinking Water Safety Award scheme recognises excellence in the management of drinking water quality. The award scheme is aimed at service providers in low and middle income countries who have made demonstrable progress in improving and sustaining the quality of water provided to urban or peri-urban populations.

In particular, the award scheme recognises the importance of Water Safety Plans (WSPs) as the most effective means to consistently ensure the safety of drinking water. Service providers who are actively implementing WSPs are encouraged to apply for this award and have their work globally recognised.

The award scheme seeks applications from service providers who are implementing WSPs and have made demonstrable improvements in delivering safe water, for example:
- Improved regulatory compliance
- Decrease in water quality incidences
- Increase in consumer confidence
- Improved operational efficiency
- Improved stakeholder cooperation
- Improved asset management
- Improved catchment management

Who is Eligible and How to Submit
Any organisation that is responsible for the delivery of drinking water in an urban or peri-urban context is eligible to apply for the award. The application must be made by a full-time employee of the organisation.

The submission includes a covering letter, a completed case study form, a letter of support and a release letter. Go to www.wsportal.org/DWSAward for full details on how to enter the award scheme.

Awards and benefits
All winners will be presented during an awards ceremony in November 2012 at the IWA/WHO Water Safety Conference in Kampala, Uganda. (see www.iwa-watersafety2012.org)

All winners will receive the following benefits:
- Award trophy and certificate
- Use the certificate for advertising purposes
- Winners entitled for a poster display at the IWA/WHO Water Safety Conference in Kampala, Uganda.
- Winners are recognized through IWA publications
  - Water 21
  - Members newsletter

IWA / EPA Award Scheme Bursaries for African Service Providers

In cooperation with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), IWA is coordinating a capacity building programme for WSP implementation in Africa. As part of this programme, there will be a special Bursary to be awarded to the African service provider who best demonstrates their progress and commitment to drinking water safety management. All applications from African service providers will be automatically considered for this bursary. For full details about this bursary, please visit www.wsportal.org/DWSAward.

Submit your award application by 31 of May 2012