



Identification and management of sewage effluent discharges to keep our rivers healthy: Comparative investigations in India and South Australia

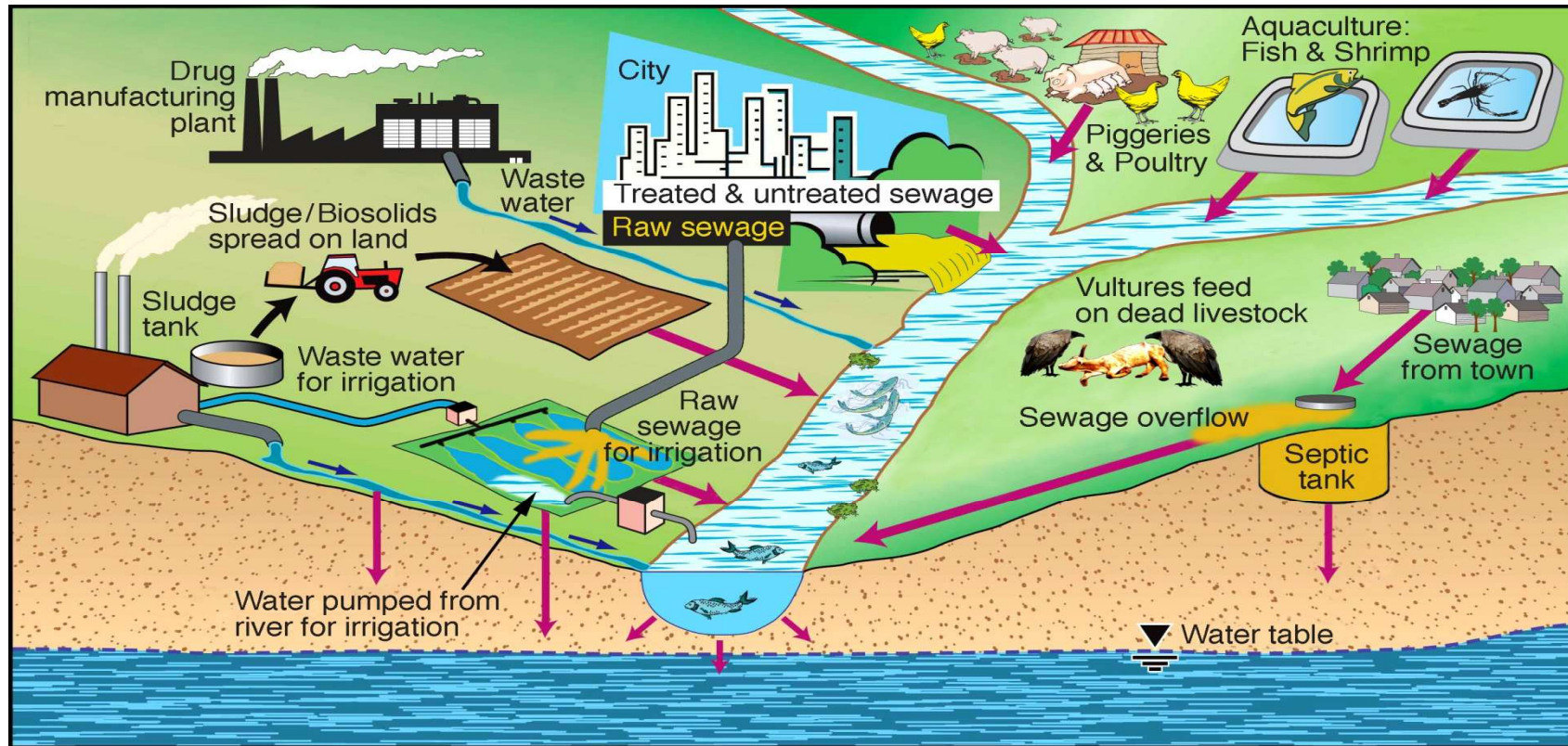
Anu Kumar, Peter Bain and Jenny Stauber, CSIRO Australia

Alok Pandey (CSIR-IITR), Mohana Mudiam (CSIR-IICT) and JK Jena (Fisheries-ICAR)

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Water carries hidden threats for wildlife...



Delivering knowledge and innovation needed for sustainable management of land and water resources

1. Sewage treatment plant- including emerging contaminants
2. Pulp and paper mill effluent
3. Winery wastewater
4. Storm water
5. Textile dyes
6. Cotton, sugarcane and rice growing pesticides
7. Acid mine drainage and acid sulfate soils

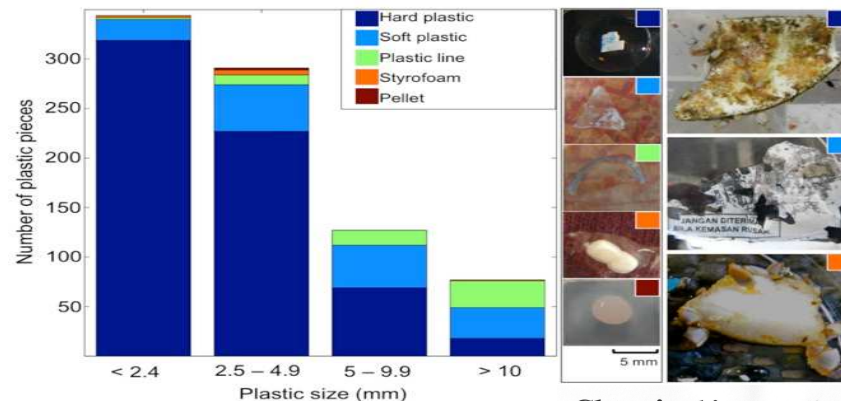
Evidence-based policy/guidelines development



Media reports on water pollution- emerging and legacy contaminants

Australian waters polluted by harmful tiny plastics

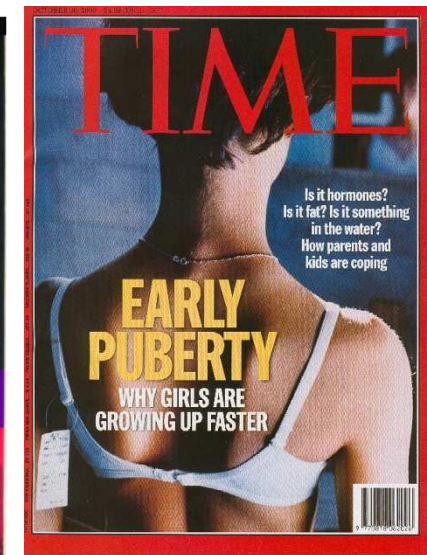
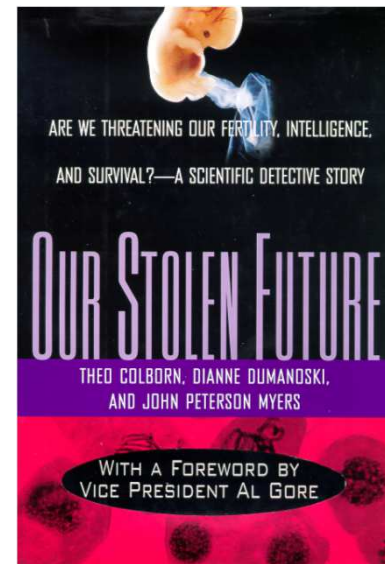
28 November 2013



Drugs including painkillers, anti-depressants found in tests on Sydney Harbour water

7 Jul 2015

Chemical is weeding out frogs



Media

More than 60 pesticides banned in other countries in use in India

ROY MATHEW



Six cities along Ganga's banks responsible for the sewage that empties into river

Vishwa Mohan, TNN | Apr 28, 2015, 03:21 AM IST

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118 towns to ensure 500 m area along Ganga becomes a litter-free zone

Now, Android app to track Ganga pollution

Study sounds SOS on river pollution

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Experts debate advisory during green emergency

NEW DELHI: More than half the total sewage discharged into Ganga every day comes from six big cities with Kolkata, Kanpur and Varanasi leading the pack. They are three of the total 118 towns that fall in the vast basin of the country's national river. The cities which figure at the top are Patna, Allahabad and Moradabad.

Together they present a gigantic task before the government which aims to bring these cities to a stage where each drop of sewage they generate can be used by different agencies\sectors including industries and municipal bodies after treatment.

The task, under the proposed 'zero discharge policy' of the Centre, however, looks much more difficult at a time when more than half of the sewage generated in these 118 towns get discharged into Ganga untreated.

A recent report, prepared by a team of experts from different government agencies, has shown these towns\cities - spread over five states - collectively generate over 3,636 million litres (MLD) of sewage as against the treatment capacity of approximately 1027 MLD.

Underlining the 'gap' between sewage generation and treatment capacity, the water resource ministry has already asked all five states - Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and Jharkhand - to take steps to reduce the sewage generation.

118 towns to ensure 500 m area along Ganga becomes a litter-free zone

Vishwa Mohan, TNN | Apr 19, 2015, 05:09 AM IST

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NEW DELHI: Urban local bodies in all 118 towns on banks of the river Ganga in five states will maintain the 500 metre area along the river and connecting drains as a 'litter-free zone'. Unemployed youth in these urban areas will be hired to ensure the upkeep of the zone.

The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), an autonomous body under the ministry of water resources, will soon enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with each of the 118 urban local bodies in this regard and work with the civil authorities to achieve overall objective of rejuvenating the country's national river.



Unemployed youth in these urban areas will be hired to ensure the upkeep of the zone.

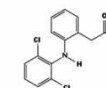
CURBING RIVER POLLUTION

Centre to help urban local bodies of 118 cities\towns in five states

➤ To maintain 500m distance



Diclofenac in Gyps vultures: A molecular mechanism of toxicity



Vinny Naidoo
2007



Department of Paraclinical Sciences
Faculty of Veterinary Science
University of Pretoria
South Africa

Efforts In India- “Safe water”



280 rural women and 150 children
50 academics through hands-on training over workshops over 12 days
Exchange visits of scientists and joint publications



Score card approach- The Ganga River Development of framework

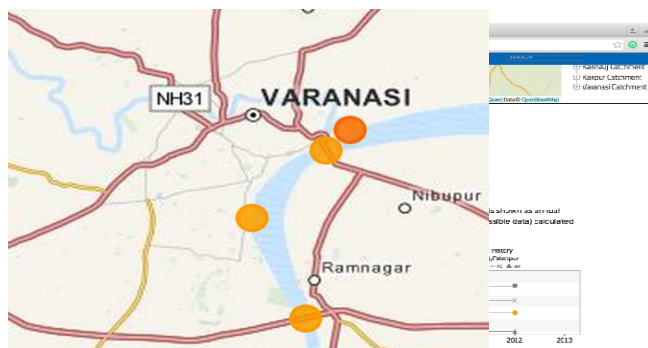


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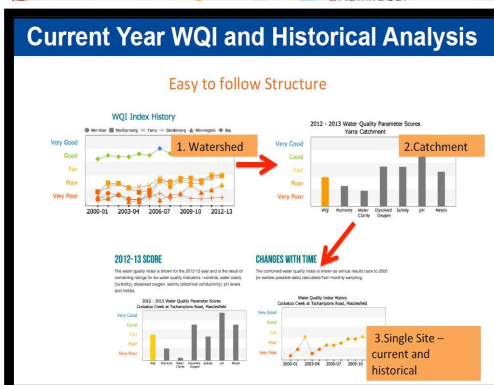
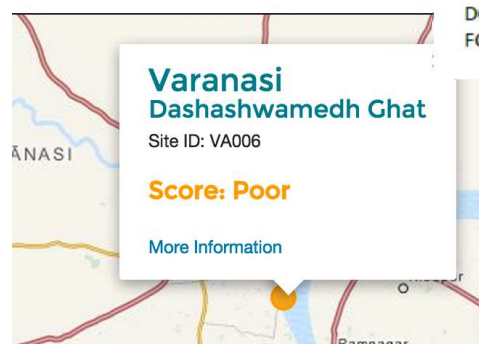
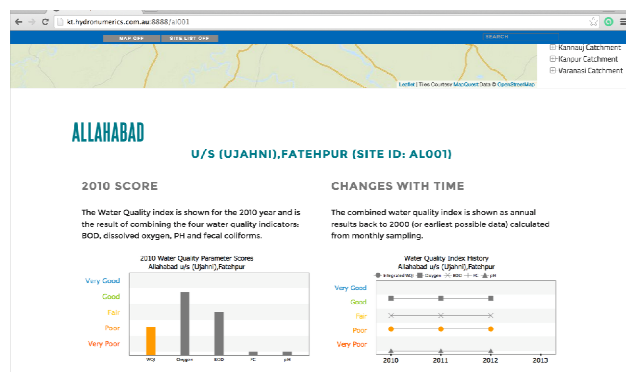
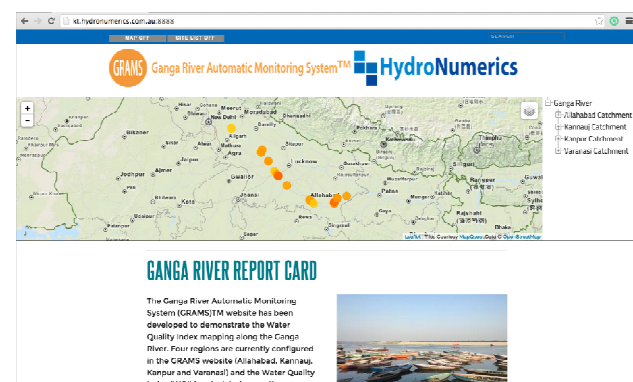
Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade





Mapping Water Quality Parameters WQI

Visualisation by Hydronumerics
Fair to Poor- Water quality



Status	DO	BOD	pH	FC
Excellent (5)	>10	<2	6.6 - 7.5	≤10
Good (4)	8.5-10	2 - 3	6.2 - 6.6	7.5 - 7.9
Fair (3)	7 - 8.5	3 - 7	5 - 6.2	7.9 - 9
Poor (2)	4 - 7	7 - 9	3 - 5	9 - 11
Very poor (1)	<4	>9	<3 and >11	>10000

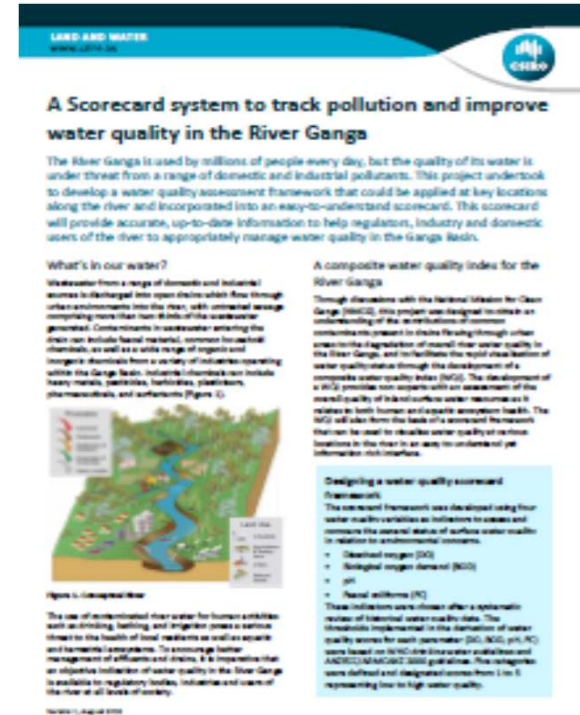
DO, Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L); BOD, Biochemical Oxygen Demand (mg/L); FC, Faecal Coliform count, (MPN/100 mL)



Score card based on Water quality index

The Vision for Ganga Rejuvenation constitutes restoring the wholesomeness of the river defined in terms of ensuring “Aviral Dhara” (continuous flow), “Nirmal Dhara” (unpolluted flow), and geologic and ecological integrity.

Organisation of workshop in Sep 2015 with representatives from NMCG, CWC, IITR, NBFGR, WWF and CSIRO



Metal Pollution

- The pollution of aquatic environment by heavy metals has assumed serious proportions due to their toxicity and accumulative behavior.
- Heavy metals added to an aquatic system by natural and anthropogenic sources during their transport are distributed between different compartments of aquatic ecosystems, such as water, sediment and biota.
- Lead, chromium, cadmium, zinc and copper above WHO drinking water and ecosystem health guidelines even in **Haridwar**
- Tyagi (NEER) said “a large number of villagers were suffering from stomach ailments, brain disorders and even cancer”

Pesticide issues – India and Australia

Detection organochlorines in Ganga Basin

Mutiyar and Mittal, 2013

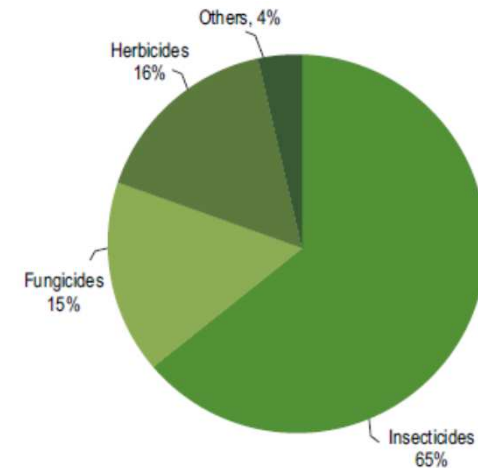
Pesticide use in India mainly Insecticides

Banned pesticides in EU are still used in Australia.

Broad-spectrum pesticides are some of the cheapest chemicals in Australia costing only A\$1.50 per hectare

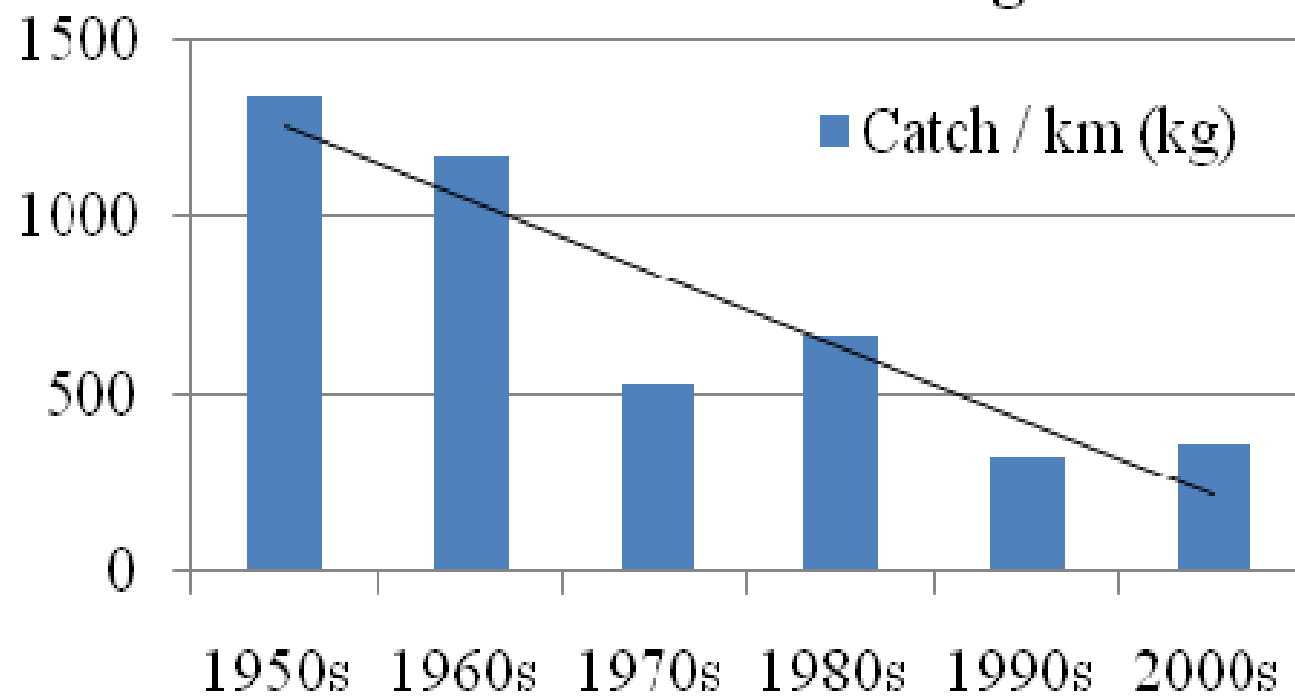
Pesticides running into the Great Barrier Reef

“Pesticides are silent killers; they can’t be seen in reef waters, but we know they are there”.

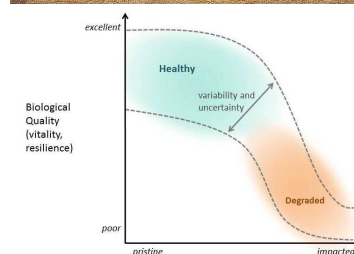


Source: Industry reports, Analysis by Tata Strategic

Decadal changes in fish catch at Allahabad in river Ganga



Source: CIFRI, Allahabad



Source: CIFRI, Allahabad



Potential indicators for future score card

- Include contaminants such as **heavy metals, pesticides** and emerging contaminants
- **Toxicity** can provide information on the cumulative impact of **sources of contamination** and is recommended for inclusion in both- river and drain score cards.
- **Biodiversity** as an indicator of river health is more suitable for the river score card.
- ***Social and cultural and Economic aspects*** are also critical





AISRF Funded project

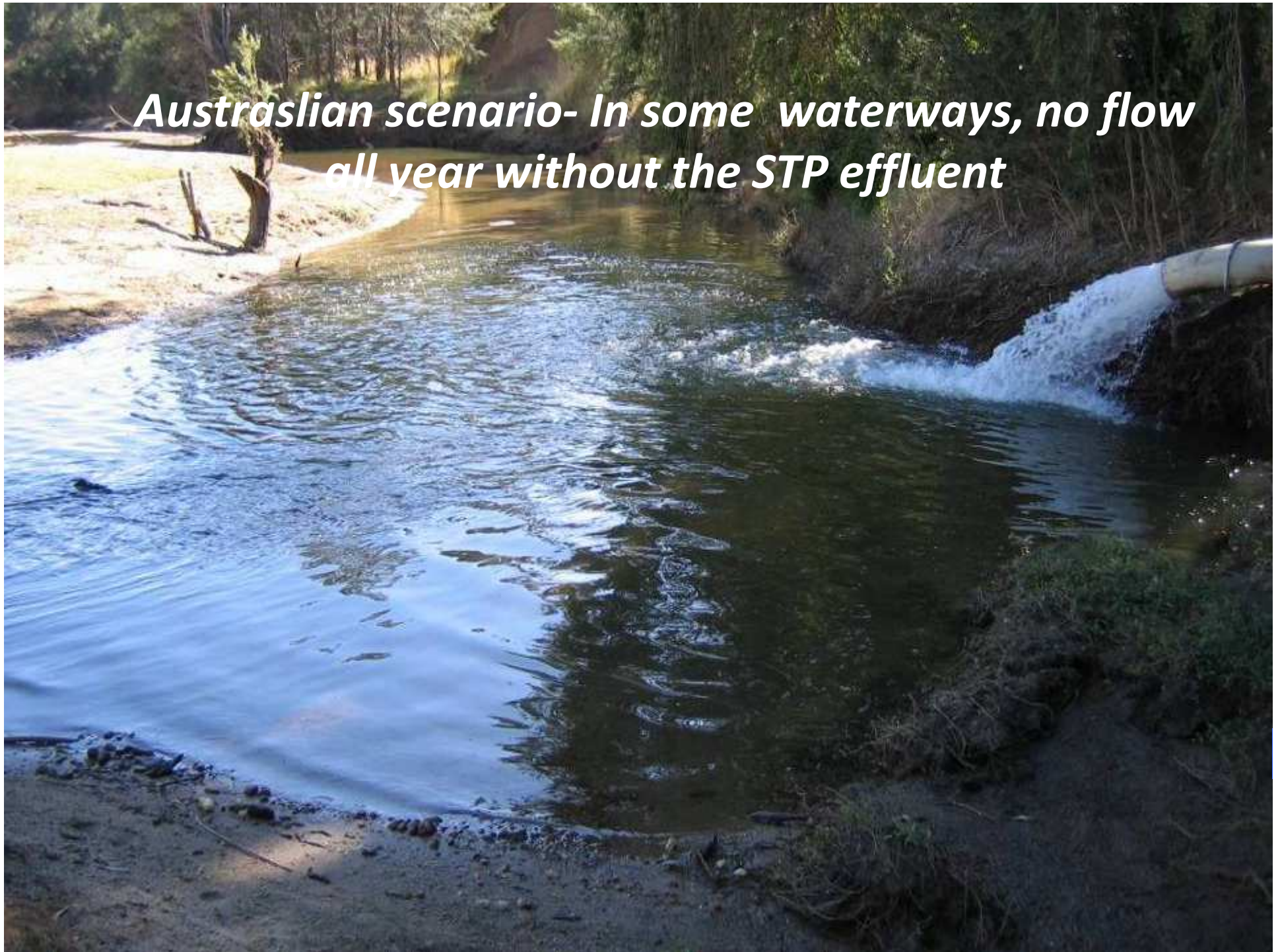
Collaboration between IITR,
IICT, NBFGR and CSIRO



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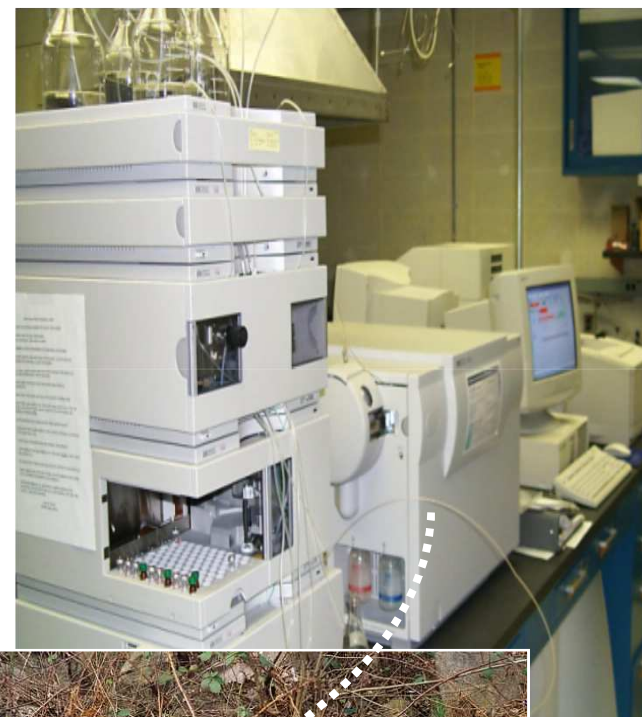


*Austrasian scenario- In some waterways, no flow
all year without the STP effluent*



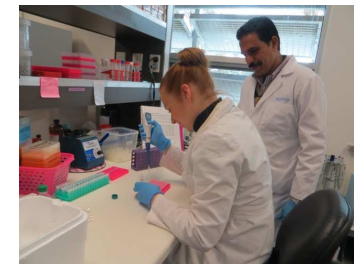
For better understanding info required:

1. Occurrence
2. Sources and Source Pathways
3. Transport and Fate
4. Ecological Effects



Project objectives and methodology

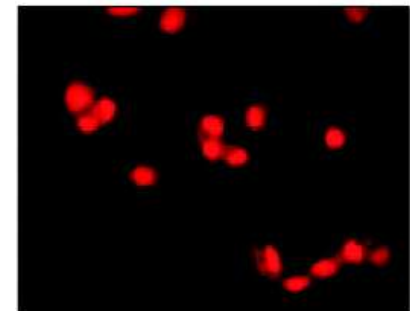
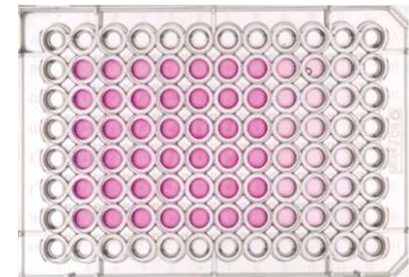
- A risk-based approach combining both biological and chemical assessment to identify and determine the impact of selected micropollutants discharged via sewage effluent into Indian and Australian rivers
- Sampled 14 sites (drains, upstream and down stream locations) in Allahabad and Varanasi.
- Sampled 12 sites in South Australia



Application for river and effluent monitoring

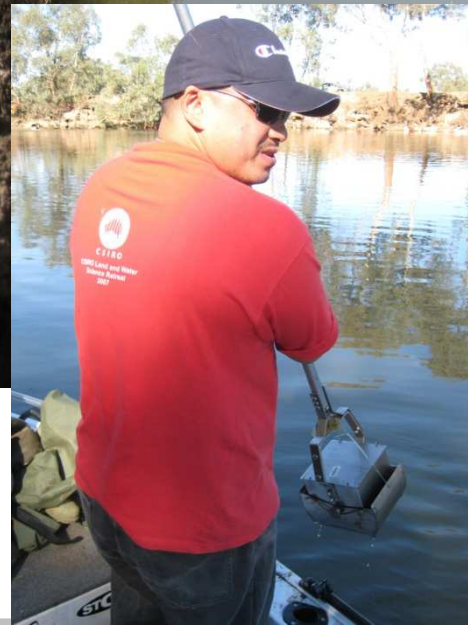
- A battery of *in vitro* tests can provide very good estimates of river water quality and effluent quality:

Non-specific/specific cytotoxicity	Cell lines: liver-derived; immune system cells; intestinal epithelial
Endocrine activity/disruption	BDS CALUX, E-Screen, MCF-7 etc.
Reactive toxicity	Genotoxicity, i.e. DNA damage (comet assay, micronucleus formation)
Adaptive stress responses	e.g. Oxidative stress responses, compensatory mechanisms (AREc32)



- **Replacement, reduction, refinement of animal testing**

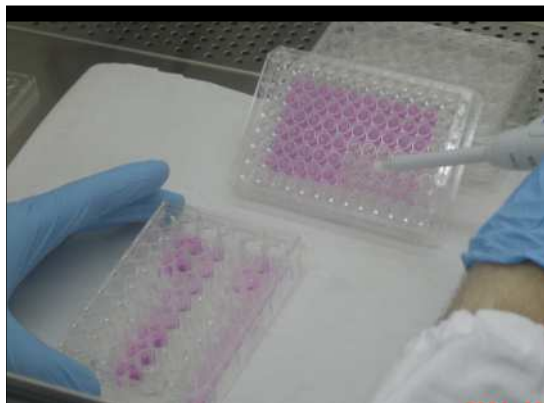
Longitudinal Sampling of Water and Sediment in Australia



Upstream
Outfall
Downstream (10, 50, 100, and 1000 m)

Results so far- Australia

- EDCs detected at low concentrations
- Pharmaceuticals were also detected but at much lower concentrations than in comparison to Indian sites.
- Fish caging studies suggest low risk to environment- tertiary treated STP discharges into river
- Rural STP had higher EDC levels- potential risk to the environment

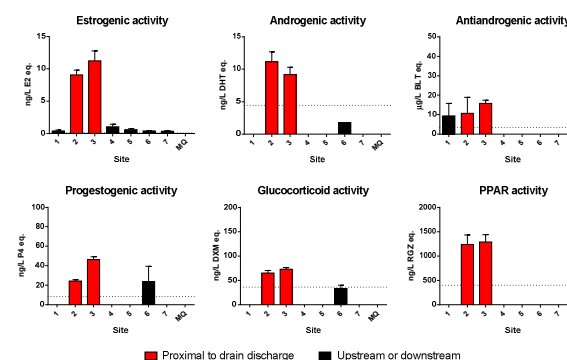


Allahabad and Varanasi

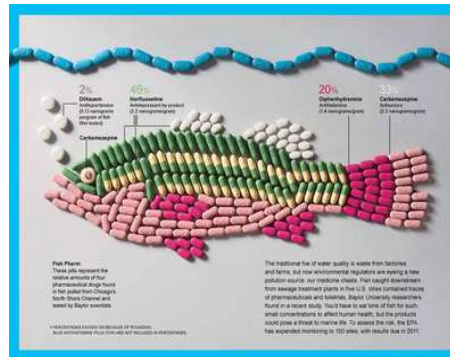
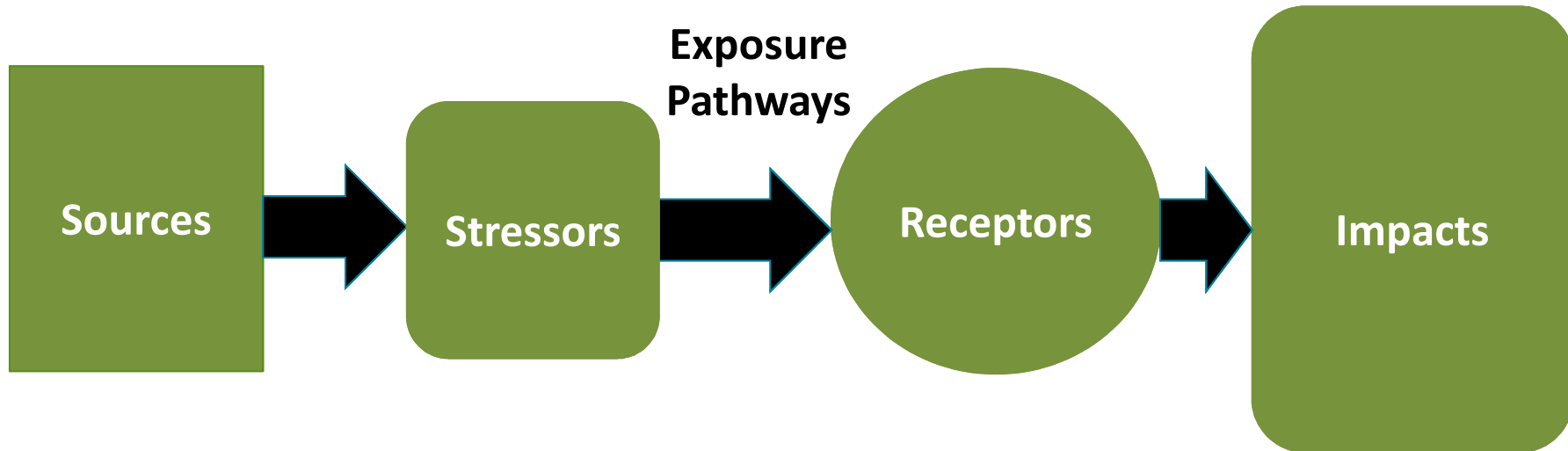
- Detection of pesticides including pyrethroids and organophosphate pesticides.
- Concentration greater in drains in comparison to the river upstream and downstream locations.
- Metals detected in the drains and river water
- Some metals above ecosystem and WHO drinking guidelines.
- Endocrine disrupting chemicals detected including pharmaceuticals and plastics



What does it mean?
Are these threatening fish species and biota in the river?
Fish caging studies are planned.



Water quality conceptual model



Safe Water and Food Security for all of us

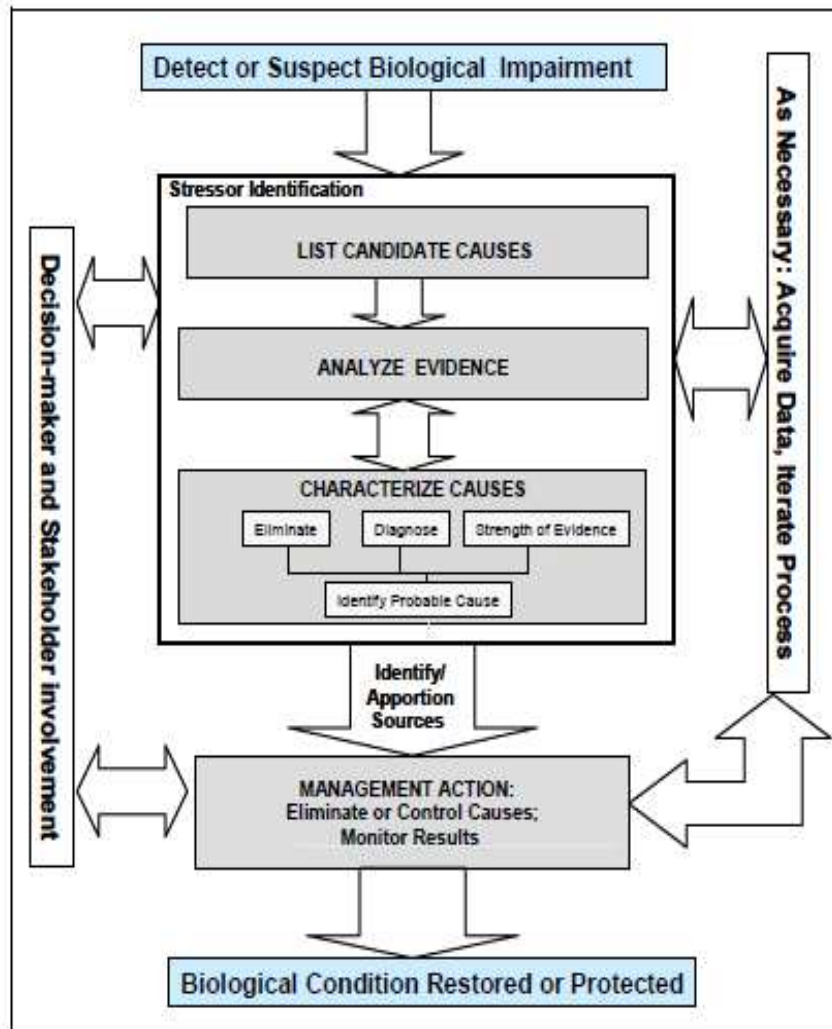
Political will is there



Ganga getting polluted: Aug 20, 2016

Union minister of water resources, river development and Ganga rejuvenation- Ms **Uma Bharti**

Ganga is not polluted by flowers, 'Poojan Samagri' and the mortal remains instead the plastic waste, sewage discharge from untapped nullahs (drains) and effluents from the leather tanneries do pollute it.



- Adoption the principle of Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD)
- Reuse treated water for gardening and for purposes. Reuse of wastewater by railways and refineries
- ZLD will be applied to the Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) also“.

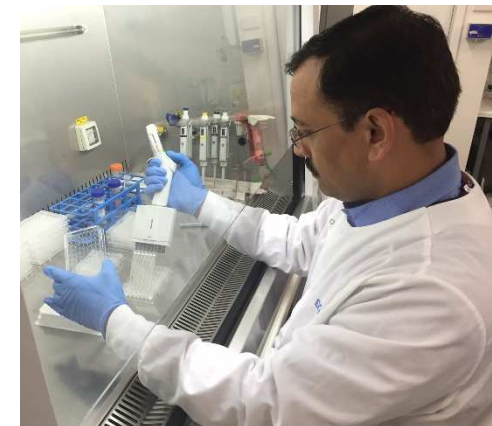
Impact and Outcomes

Scientific cooperation, technology transfer and capacity building.

Sharing of Australia's expertise in water quality monitoring to guide management decisions- learning from each other.

Improved decision making, which will help to support sustainable development and safe water for ecosystem and human health

Ensure effective abatement of pollution and rejuvenation of the river Ganga by adopting a river basin approach to promote inter-sectoral co-ordination for comprehensive planning and management mandate of National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA)





Thank you

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