

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This is to confirm that representatives from CAWST have trained the team leader in LAYA responsible for Biosand water filters (BSFs).

CAWST believes that BSFs are a viable option to provide safe drinking water to remote rural communities. As per the information received from the CAWST clients worldwide, there are more than 800,000 Biosand filters distributed in 55 countries. Many reputed organizations such as UNICEF, Save the Children, Aga Khan Foundation, Red Cross have implemented BSF projects in different countries in the world.

The World Health Organization (WHO) (http://www.who.int/household_water/en/) gives the following information on their website:

‘Household water treatment and safe storage (HWTS) interventions can lead to dramatic improvements in drinking water quality and reductions in diarrheal disease—making an immediate difference to the lives of those who rely on water from polluted rivers, lakes and, in some cases, unsafe wells or piped water supplies.’

During the CAWST/LAYA field visit conducted on 11th and 12th April, 2016 to the villages of Chammagedda, Nellikota and Buradakota in the indigenous regions of Andhra Pradesh, India, CAWST found that BSF users were very happy with the quality of water produced and all mentioned that their health improved after they started using BSFs. Before they had BSFs, they were suffering from a variety of illnesses including diarrhea and since using the filters they said that they did not fall sick with these diseases.

It is creditable that LAYA is outreaching tribal communities in remote areas with BSF filters and hence responding meaningfully to clean drinking water needs.



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