

1st Workshop on Terra Preta Sanitation

TUHH, Institute of Wastewater Management, Hamburg www.tuhh.de/aww
at INEP international Oldenburg, Groß Ippener (near Bremen), Germany
27. to 30. September, 2010.

The recent discovery of the bio-waste and excreta treatment of a former civilisation in the Amazon reveals the possibility of a highly efficient and simple sanitation system. With the end product that was black soil they converted 10% of former infertile soil of the region into excellent land: Terra Preta do Indio (black soil of the Indians). These soils are still very fertile 500 years after this civilisation has disappeared. Deriving from these concepts, Terra Petra Sanitation (TPS) is in re-development. There is quite some knowledge already, it is applicable but there are still many pathways for development. Be part of the re-creation of the most successful sanitation system ever!



Photograph showing terra preta soils made by sanitation (Adapted from Günther, 2007)

This 3-day Workshop is organized by the **Institute of Wastewater Management and Water Protection, of the Hamburg University of Technology (TUHH)**. It is intended as an initial awareness raising on Terra Preta Sanitation with its link to (Urban) Agriculture and capacity building activity for practitioners and researchers in environmental engineering, city planning, agriculture/permaculture and more. The workshop structure will include a few presentations, round-table discussions, breakout-groups, hands-on-work and video shows. A seminar session in Hamburg with Terra Preta researchers from the Amazon can be visited there after. There will be sufficient time for walking, jogging, music (bring your instruments!) or meditation. Organic food will be self organised with volunteers for cooking and kitchen work on a shared cost basis.

The general objective is to **provide training and creative exchange** on Terra Preta Sanitation (TPS), urine composting and Terra Preta production from organic waste.

The specific objectives are:

- 1 To highlight the potential of TPS in the overall spectrum of ecological sanitation solutions
- 2 To provide training in TPS and discuss development options for rural and urban systems Toilets, Transportation and Treatment

- 3 Provide training in urine – TP-composting and terra preta production
- 4 Share concepts and knowledge on ecological sanitation, highlight current experiences in TUHH and debate the feasibility of implementing TPS as part of the package of available sustainable sanitation options.
- 5 Learn about the incredible opportunities for varieties in garden plants and plants for health

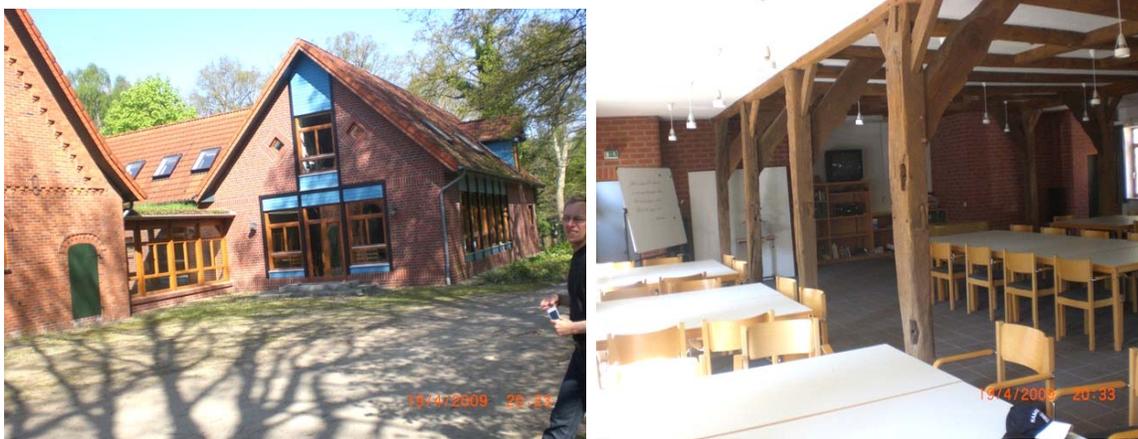
Resource people besides our the participants themselves are Prof. Dr. Ralf Otterpohl, Dr. Jürgen Reckin (10 years of experience with Terra Preta and one of the world's best experts in garden plant varieties), Christopher Buzie (years of research in ecological sanitation and vermicomposting, networker in West Africa, TUHH), Torsten Bettendorf and Horacio Factura (Terra Preta Sanitation researchers at TUHH). **A certificate of participation from TUHH will be available on request.**

We can organise small side activities as offered by participants. Available so far: Using divining rods, archery, walk through the neighbourhood

Training will include various topics on ecological sanitation spanning both local and international contexts, focusing on the emerging TPS. There will be small, face-to-face learning sessions in break-out groups which will draw from professional experiences in the field. The sessions will be designed to provide participants the opportunity to build and sustain a capable knowledge base on the new topic, and to expand upon their existing knowledge and skills in ecological sanitation. The workshop will provide a unique opportunity for those working at the intersections among water, sanitation and agriculture as it is intended on combining sanitation and organic agriculture.

Location

The workshop will be hosted by the **International Institute for Sustainable Energy-Management, Policy, Risk and Social Innovations (INEP)**.



INEP Institute Oldenburg

Situated on a quiet, beautiful scenery, with convenient access from Bremen and Hamburg cities, INEP Institute provides an ideal setting for the workshop. The building has a spacious meeting area that is equipped with a built-in audiovisual support system.

Accommodation

Accommodation with your own sleeping bag and mattress in shared rooms is free, guest house accommodation and hotels will be available but need to be paid by the participant. One of such guest houses is the nearby **Prinzhöfte Zentrum for Permaculture** where we will organize a group booking (limited space/ single or double rooms). Hotels can be booked directly, we can name a few possibilities and organize pick-up.

Transportation

Besides many other options participants could travel by Ryanair to Bremen. Ryanair's low cost flights to Bremen airport land 3.5 km from central Bremen, near Germany's north-west coast. An 11-minute tram journey after your direct Bremen flight brings you to Bremen, further directions will be given.

Registration

The registration fee is €150 for people from companies and research institutions and €50 for researchers on scholarships, students, NGOs or private persons. Once you have paid, the registration fee is refundable to 50% until 2 weeks before and non-refundable thereafter (only in case of proven emergencies). Registrations will be accepted until the workshop is filled (Maximum 60). Registrations will also be taken last minute, space permitting. Don't miss the opportunity to network with and learn from the unique team of TPS and Ecosan professionals attending the Workshop.

TUHH and the Institute of Wastewater Management and Water Protection

The Institute of Wastewater Management and Water Protection is a research team of about 20 people, mostly academics and led by the director Ralf Otterpohl. Our research interest is directed towards highly efficient solutions that preferably produce reusable material rather than waste. Our university institute is involved in teaching in the fields of civil, environmental and process engineering. Besides the regular courses for the German students we are involved in the international master program, environmental engineering'. In addition we lead some of the graduated students to a doctor degree (Dr.-Ing./PhD). Due to our interest in the situation in other parts of the world we increase the number of PhD-students from and in other continents. We try to keep a good balance between scientific and practical aspects also by cooperation with consultants, development organisations and industry. www.tuhh.de/aww

Programme

The program will be finalized in light of participants and speakers registered and announced in August 2010. You can get an electronic pre-print of our Terra Preta Sanitation Paper that will come in WS&T 10/2010 on request

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