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### Master Thesis on Ground Water Issues

Within the SHAKTI project, one student from the Department of Applied Geology Karlsruhe was selected by the German Research Foundation (DFG) for a grant to carry out his master thesis in Hyderabad, India. The student will perform groundwater sampling at wastewater irrigated fields close to the Musi river. He will also set up mass balances to demonstrate the impact of alternative water management strategies on a peri-urban and an urban catchment area in comparison. For this project, tools from a recently concluded European Union project will be used (www.urbanwater.de). The thesis will be performed with strong local support from IWMI (International Water Management Institute) and Osmania University.

Leif Wolf

### Co-operation with Indian Partners continues

A small German delegation will come to Hyderabad in July for further exchange with the Indian partners. The main topics will be to strengthen the collaboration by preparing the neighbourhood pilot project, developing the future pilot projects in different sectors and the prearrangement for the international workshop in Karlsruhe. This time experts in the fields of transportation, energy and urban development will stay for one week in Hyderabad to meet partners from Universities, City Government and NGOs.

Bärbel Schwaiger

### Exchange with 2<sup>nd</sup> Hyderabad project in Berlin

In June a workshop on the other Megacity project located in Hyderabad entitled "Hyderabad as a Megacity of Tomorrow: - Sustainable Urban Food and Health Security and Environmental Resource Management" led by the Humboldt University take place in Berlin. One task during that workshop was the co-ordination with SHAKTI. While SHAKTI has the main focus on technical urban infrastructure in an special urban context the other project is dealing with food and health issues as well as governance. Both projects can bring a very broad range of knowledge for the urban development in Hyderabad and only a few topics in the water and transportation sector were identified for further co-ordination.

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**International Workshop in Germany**

An international workshop together with the Indian researchers, state and city government representatives and NGO partners will be invited to Karlsruhe. Plenary presentations, working sessions and fieldtrips focussing on the main issues of the SHAKTI-project – water and wastewater management, energy, transportation and urban planning. German research experts as well as representatives from city Governments will share their experiences with the Indian visitors and learn about new approaches in the Indian context. The workshop will take place beginning of October.

Bärbel Schwaiger

**SHAKTI at the UN-World Urban Forum (WUFIII)**

The UN-Habitat World Urban Forum in Vancouver, Canada, 18<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> of June, entitled “Our Future: Sustainable Cities –turning ideas into action” was the major event in terms of sustainable urban development in 2006. More than 10.000 participants coming from more than 100 countries worldwide were present during this week. Beside the conference 70 exhibitors presented their activities. All German Megacity programmes and projects were presented – including the SHAKTI-project. Beside others, key issues addressed by the activities of the WUF III were development of infrastructure, and new instruments in urban developments and management – which are also the main topics of the SHAKTI project. The importance of the German activities in the international cooperation was clear and acknowledged in some events.

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