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GSSP Media Release



Australian Centre for Education & Training

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A SUSTAINABLE TOILET SOLUTION TO FIGHT THE GLOBAL SANITATION CRISIS

ACET-Global, a private Australian organisation, fights the world's sanitation crisis with a safe and sustainable toilet solution to benefit communities around the world.

2nd October 2017 1.00 PM, Melbourne, Australia.

ACET-Global announced today that the prototype of its environmentally-friendly toilet system is ready. The goal is to bring simple and effective hygiene solutions to the 2.4 billion people worldwide who currently lack access to basic sanitation facilities.

Sanitation, the safe disposal of human waste, is a basic human right. Yet a shocking one in three of the world's population still lacks access to fundamental sanitation facilities. As a result, 900 children under the age of five die every day. High drop-out rates for female students after reaching puberty are also common. Women and girls are at great risk of attack and serious assault, as they often wait until dark to go to open fields. The extensive health issues associated with poor sanitation perpetuate a cycle of endemic poverty in many communities.

Poor sanitation causes an estimated **global economic loss of over US\$100 billion annually**, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO). UN-Water (the United Nations' water and sanitation body) states that improving sanitation in developing countries yields a return of about **nine dollars' worth of benefits for every dollar spent**.

Sanitation is a major issue that must be addressed urgently. However, the safe toilet solutions common in developed countries feature flush toilets, extensive infrastructure, and centralised sewage treatment plants. These costly and water-intensive systems are rarely viable or sustainable in developing regions.

ACET-Global's sanitation solution harnesses innovative technologies and social enterprise models to empower local communities. The system is based on a low-cost, environmentally friendly, culturally-appropriate, dry, portable unit that minimises water usage. This comprehensive sanitation system creates multiple local jobs. It has been designed to work in all geographic regions and climatic conditions (including during earthquakes, monsoons and floods).

ACET-Global's Managing Director, Mr. Syed Shah, said that the solution is a revolution in waste management and can safely process both human and animal waste. The system also has widespread application within the eco-tourism sector and livestock industries.

Mr. Shah added that ACET-Global's innovative technologies and comprehensive solution offer major environmental benefits, which are in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). He stressed that humanity has reached a critical stage, where water needs to be considered as liquid gold and its use in managing sewage should be minimised.

Raising awareness of poor sanitation and generating support to implement the proposed toilet solution globally is ACET-Global's current focus. The final, tested system will be shared with governments and organisations around the world via a low-cost, not-for-profit franchise model.

ACET-Global began the Global Sanitation and Sustainability Project (GSSP) in 2016. The GSSP is an important part of the organisation's non-profit Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives, which aim to tackle major issues across the world.

Mr. Shah can be contacted directly via md@acet-global.com. Further information about this exciting project can also be accessed at <http://www.acet-global.com/global-sanitation-and-sustainability-project.html>, with an option to register for updates.