



RBC Blue Water Project Advisory Panel



George Yap,
Program Director, WaterCan and Coordinator,
Sanitation and Water Action Network Canada

George Yap is an international development worker and natural resource management specialist with more than 16 years of professional experience in project/program planning, monitoring and evaluation, developing local capacity building initiatives, and supporting organizational development processes. He has worked with Canadian, British, African, and Asian non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

Mr. Yap is Program Director for WaterCan, a Canadian charity dedicated to providing clean drinking water, basic sanitation, and hygiene education to the world's poorest people. Working with partner organizations in Africa, WaterCan supports small-scale, community-driven projects that dramatically improve the quality of life of vulnerable people living in rural and urban communities.

A member of WaterCan's senior management team, Mr. Yap's main responsibilities and duties include overseeing the organization's operations in Africa, and directing policy and advocacy initiatives in Canada.

Prior to joining WaterCan in 2001, Mr. Yap worked for various international and indigenous development NGOs including Canadian Physicians for Aid and Relief, West Nusa Tenggara Development Studies Centre in Indonesia, Concern Universal, and CARE Canada.

In 2004 and 2005 respectively, Mr. Yap served as advisor to the Canadian government delegations attending the 12th and 13th sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development (Water, Sanitation and Human Settlements) at the United Nations in New York. More recently, he was an invited expert to speak at a special Global Water Issues Roundtable convened by Foreign Affairs Canada (March 2006), and a Human Right to Water Seminar organized by Foreign Affairs and International Trade and the UN Association in Canada (March 2007).

Mr. Yap is also Coordinator for Sanitation and Water Action Network Canada. SWAN Canada is a new and growing coalition of Canadian non-governmental organizations united in the belief that improving global access to safe, affordable, and sustainable water supply and sanitation services must be a foreign aid priority for the Canadian government.

Mr. Yap's volunteer activities have included serving as Treasurer and board member for the Riverdale Community Business Centre in Toronto, and board member for the Merrickville and District Historical Society.

Mr. Yap holds a B.Sc. in International Development Studies (Resource Management) from the University of Toronto, and a Master of Environmental Studies in Geography (Resource



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Management) from Wilfrid Laurier University. He and his wife live near Ottawa with their two children.