

Attaining the MDGs: The Role of Water and Sanitation

Dr. Kallidaikurichi Easwaran **Seetharam**

ADB

Water and Sanitation MDG Goal 7, Target 10



Halve, by 2015,
the proportion of
people without
sustainable access
to safe drinking
water and basic
sanitation

What does it mean for Asia and the Pacific?

On access to improved drinking water

	Number of people in region lacking access (millions)	Share of all unserved living in indicated region (percent)
Eastern Asia	303	28%
South Asia	234	22%
Southeast Asia	115	11%
Western Asia	23	2%
Eurasia	20	2%
Oceania	3	<1%
Total	698	
Rest of the world	378	

65%

Source: WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Program 2004

On access to improved sanitation

	Number of people in region lacking access (millions)	Share of all unserved living in indicated region (percent)
Eastern Asia	779	29%
South Asia	938	36%
Southeast Asia	208	8%
Western Asia	38	1%
Eurasia	50	2%
Oceania	3	
Total	2,016	79%
Rest of the world	634	

Source: WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Program 2004

Why Invest in Water?

The Water MDG should be achieved first, and substantially by 2010, to achieve the targets for other MDGs

Water and Poverty

- | | |
|---|---|
| ■ Direct correlation between poverty and water security | 1.1 billion poor;
1.1 billion use unsafe water |
| ■ 2/3 of the world's poor are in Asia | Only 30% enjoy 24-hour access to water services |
| ■ Water is a basic human necessity | Imperative for health, welfare, human dignity, and environmental sustainability |

Source: Meeting the MDG Drinking Water and Sanitation Target: Mid-Term Assessment of Progress. UNICEF- WHO; August 2004.

Water and the MDGs

“If we can imagine human life as the light of a lamp, the eight MDGs can be compared to the eight directions in which the light shines.”

Safe drinking water and hygienic sanitation facilities....

...is a precondition for health and for success in the fight against poverty, hunger, child deaths and gender inequality.

... is central to the human rights and personal dignity of every woman, man and child.

Source: UN Joint Monitoring Programme

Relationship between Water MDG and other MDGs

Goal 4: Reduce child mortality

Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria & other diseases

- Better water management reduces incidence of diseases where poor water is a vector
- If Target 10 is attained...
 - 53 M cases of diarrhea in South & S-West Asia and 64 M in North & N-West Asia will be averted
 - Health cost offsets would reach US\$1.9 B per annum; could double to US\$3.9 B per annum with improved WSS for all

Source: Technical Background Paper on Water Supply and Sanitation, 2005

Relationship between Water MDG and other MDGs

Goal 2: Achieve universal education

Improved school attendance from improved health and reduced water carrying burdens

Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

Better water management reduces incidence of diseases where poor water is a vector

Source: Table 1.1- Final Report, UN Millennium Project Task Force on Water and Sanitation

Tracking the Progress of Water Supply and Sanitation Targets

Across Asia and the Pacific...

- progress in expanding water supply coverage is on track, with some countries ahead of target
- progress for sanitation is more problematic. For much of Asia, the starting point is very low, and speed of progress is slower than that needed to reach the MDG target

Water Supply Scenario

Regional Achievers

Nepal, Pakistan, Myanmar,
Indonesia, Thailand

Borderline Countries

Mongolia, Uzbekistan

Countries of Concern

Afghanistan, Brunei, Bangladesh, Cambodia,
Lao PDR, Maldives, Papua New Guinea,
Philippines, Viet Nam

Sanitation Scenario

Regional Achievers

- Bangladesh, Pakistan, Myanmar, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam
- Pacific Islands: Cook Island, Fiji, Kiribati, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, etc

Countries of Concern

Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, North and Central Asia, Turkey, Iran

The Big Two: India & PRC Water Supply

- Both will meet MDG Target 10
- PRC, on the average, extended access to improved water supply by 2.61% annually; still, 9 M people will remain without access to water
- India extended access to improved water supply by an average of 3.82% annually; if present rate continues, the entire population will have access by 2015

The Big Two: India & PRC Sanitation

- Current sanitation coverage is low (23% for PRC and 12% for India) but both will meet the sanitation target
- By 2015, the projected access to improved sanitation in these countries are
 - IND - 86.1 %
 - PRC - 92.8 %

Despite progress, much remains to be done

- Sheer number of people without adequate water supply and sanitation in the region
- Uneven picture: some countries & parts of countries are doing well, other lag behind
- Question of reaching the poorest of the poor: what about the 50% not reached by the MDGs?

Defining the Changes Needed

Growing acceptance that principal challenges will not be technological questions but “soft” issues:

- How can WSS programs be organized and financed?
- How can people be trained, organized and motivated to install, use and maintain the facilities?
- How can institutions develop incentives further and make improvements more sustainable?

Challenges

- Policy, legal and regulatory reform
- Planning and technology choices
- Financial mechanisms
- Institutional reform

Investment Requirements

Scenario	Description	Amount
1	Meet WSS MDGs	US\$ 8 B per year (US\$ 2 for each person living in Asia and Pacific)
2	Improved WSS for all	US \$ 16 B per year (US\$ 5 per person in the region)
3	Improved WSS for all + disinfection	US \$ 17 B per year
4	Piped WSS + primary treatment	US \$ 85 B per year

Who Should Do What?

- Apply WSSD principle of common but differentiated responsibilities
- Develop integrated approaches driven from below and involving different stakeholders
- Key stakeholder groups are:
 - People, communities and civil society
 - Governments
 - Private sector (focus on small and local entrepreneurs)
 - Relevant international stakeholders

Institutional Challenges: Links to Wider Reform Processes

- Valuing water as economic good and introducing user charges to foster accountability to clients among providers
- Separation of roles- policy making, regulation, service provision
 - Linking to decentralization and strengthening local government institutions
 - Building political will

Institutional Challenges: Links to Wider Reform Processes

- Empowering local people through participation, e.g. community-managed water schemes
- Using a livelihoods approach centered on analysis of assets available to people
- Consideration of gender and equity issues to identify impact of interventions on the vulnerability
- Strengthening the role of the private sector and civil society
- Improving education and awareness

What is ADB Doing Now?

WATER for ALL

ADB Water Policy

- Promote a national focus on water sector reform
- Foster the integrated management of water resources
- Improve and expand the delivery of water services
- Approval of water policy, January 2001
- In-house review of water policy implementation, 2003
- Comprehensive review of water policy implementation, 2005

Fostering Action on the Ground

- Establishing water partnerships to improve and catalyze financing for WSS, e.g. Water for the Poor, Water for Asian Cities
- Financing Water Program focusing on policy advocacy and good practice tools
- Empowering civil society for water reform
- Fostering subregional cooperation in Pacific, Central Asia, Southeast Asia, and Mekong
- Updating sector roadmaps and the CSPU for selected DMCs

Fostering of Water Awareness

- Pilot and demonstration activities to showcase good water practices
- Development of publications for policy and decision makers
- Development of multimedia products that promote water understanding to a wide range of audience, e.g. video, public service announcements, website and e-newsletter
- Increased media coverage of water issues

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For inquiries, contact:
water@adb.org