

# ADB's Water for All Policy Implementation

Half Full or Half Empty?

## Assessing Progress and Charting the Future of ADB's Water Investments

**Background.** In 2001, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) outlined its vision for integrated water management in the region in its "Water for All" water policy. The policy has seven main elements:

- Focusing on national water sector reform
- Managing water resources
- Delivering water services
- Conserving water
- Promoting regional cooperation
- Fostering participation and communication
- Improving water governance

In 2005, ADB launched a comprehensive review of its water policy implementation to gauge progress and set a course for the future. What works? What doesn't? What to improve? The review will provide ADB and its stakeholders with an assessment of progress, challenges, investment requirements, and opportunities for ADB to better help its clients achieve the vision of Water for All.

**Review Process.** The review is being conducted in a manner that ensures broad stakeholder participation, transparent proceedings and reporting, and wide dissemination of results and recommendations. The review process is led by an expert Review Panel commissioned by ADB and informed feedback gathered at consultations, water-related conferences, ADB staff workshops, surveys, and comments gathered on ADB's water website. Additional modalities include interviews, case studies, desk study of loan, project and agreement documents, and involvement in external research studies relevant to the review. ADB's water website [www.adb.org/water](http://www.adb.org/water) will continue to serve as a clearinghouse for information and comments throughout the review process.

**Review Panel.** The panel includes three leading experts from ADB's developing member countries (DMCs) and senior representatives from international NGO, private sector, and bilateral donor communities. The review panel is chaired by Ms. Erna Witoelar, UN Special Ambassador for Millennium Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific and former Indonesian Minister for Human Settlements and Development covering the water sector. The other panel members include:

- Mr. Li Yuanyuan (People's Republic of China)
- Mr. Gilberto Llanto (Philippines)
- Mr. Ravi Narayanan (India/UK)
- Mr. Pradeep Singh (India)
- Ms. Annelie Hubach (Netherlands)

**Consultation Schedule.** ADB has conducted five in-country consultations and two additional consultations on key topics to inform the comprehensive review. ADB has also participated in a number of regional consultations.

Consultations	
Cambodia	23-24 June 2005
Fiji	9-10 August 2005
Indonesia	25/27 August 2005
Kazakhstan	15-16 September 2005
India	28 September 2005
Private Sector Consultation (ADB HQ)	18 October 2005
Civil Society Consultation (ADB HQ)	17-18 November 2005
Regional Conferences	
2nd Regional Meeting of Apex Bodies in Bangkok	27-29 April 2005
SEAWUN Convention on Water and Wastewater in Southeast Asia	7-9 June 2005
2nd Southeast Asia Water Forum in Bali	29 August – 2 September 2005
2nd International Yellow River Forum	17-21 October 2005

**For more information, comments, and suggestions please contact:**

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