

Water Sector Reforms

Tracking Progress in Asia and the Pacific

Phase 1- References

Questionnaire: Status of the Water Sector in ADB's Developing Member Countries

Please highlight the response (in columns headed A to D) that most closely describes the situation in the particular country. Additional brief comment is welcomed.

Country/province:	Sub-sector:	Completed by:
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Outcome of water policy action	A	B	C	D	Comment	
I. National policies and reforms						
1	Water-related policies have been adopted by the government	No policies have yet been written	Policies are in draft but not yet adopted	Policies in some areas of the water sector adopted	Comprehensive set of policies adopted	
2	The water sector (policies, institutional arrangements etc.) recently has been reviewed, and any changes/reforms needed have been identified	No review has yet been completed	A review is in progress but not yet complete	A review covers only some areas of the water sector	A comprehensive review has been completed and endorsed by sectoral agencies	
3	Coordination mechanisms (e.g. a sector "apex body") exist to facilitate cross-sectoral activity and oversee sector reform	Mechanisms do not exist or are wholly ineffective	Mechanisms exist only in some areas or are only partly effective	Comprehensive mechanisms exist but are only partly effective	Cross-sectoral coordination is fully effective	
4	Water-related legislation has been adopted by the government	Water-related law is old, incomplete, not enforced, or non-existent	Revision and modernisation of water-related law is in progress	A coherent and modern body of law has been adopted but is not enforced	A coherent and modern body of law has been adopted and is enforced	
II. Water resources management						
5	Information on national or key river basin water resources is available	The condition and trend of national water resources is poorly known	Water resources information is not adequate for project design or resource management	Information on the national water resource is fair, or covers only some rivers/aquifers	There is excellent information on the condition and trend of national water resources	

Outcome of water policy action		A	B	C	D	Comment
6	River basin organisations (RBO) are functional	River basin organisations do not exist in any basin	Establishment of RBOs is at an early stage, or in only one or a few basins	River basin organisations exist in only some basins and/or are only partly effective	River basin organisations are effectively implementing IWRM in all key basins	
7	Mechanisms for water allocation are functional	No formal or equitable mechanisms exist	No legally-based mechanisms exist but water generally is allocated equitably	Legally-based mechanisms have been established but allocation still is largely informal	Water is allocated equitably, efficiently, and with full stakeholder involvement	
8	Large water resources projects have been designed to take account of community aspirations and have strong community support	Recent projects are likely to have severe adverse social or environmental effects and were strongly opposed	Recent projects are likely to have some adverse social or environmental effects, and were strongly opposed	Recent projects avoid/mitigate most adverse effects but there was some opposition	Recent projects have wide support, and social/ environmental effects can be mitigated or avoided	
9	Environmental and social impact procedures are rigorously applied	The environmental/ social effects of recent projects were not assessed or planned for	Adverse social or environmental effects were poorly assessed, and/or ignored	Adverse social or environmental effects were assessed, but poorly planned for	Adverse social or environmental effects were well assessed, and fully avoided/mitigated	
10	Environmental and social effects of hydropower projects are managed satisfactorily	Recent projects are likely to have severe adverse social or environmental effects	Recent projects are likely to have some adverse social or environmental effects	Recent projects avoid/mitigate most adverse effects	The social and environmental effects of recent projects have been well managed	
11	Water sector programs pay due regard to management of water quality	Management of water quality is wholly neglected	Sector investment deals with water quality only as a secondary concern	Some investment specifically deals with water quality issues, but with limited effect	Sector investment programs successfully support the management of water quality	
12	Wastewater discharge permits and/or effluent charges are applied	There is no provision for discharge permits and/or charges	There is legal provision for discharge permits and/or charges, but they are not applied	Discharge permits and/or charges are applied, but they are not enforced consistently	Discharge permits and charges are applied and enforced	
13	Forestlands are protected and, where necessary, rehabilitated	No effort is made to protect or rehabilitate degraded forestland	Forestlands are protected, but degraded areas are not rehabilitated	Forestlands are protected, and some degraded areas are being rehabilitated	A comprehensive, effective program of forest protection and rehabilitation is implemented	
14	Wetlands are conserved and, where necessary, restored	No effort is made to conserve or restore wetlands	Existing wetlands are conserved, but degraded areas are not restored	Existing wetlands are conserved, and some degraded areas are being restored	A comprehensive, effective program of wetland conservation and restoration is implemented	

Outcome of water policy action		A	B	C	D	Comment
15	Flood response measures minimise economic losses and promptly restore infrastructure and services	There are no effective arrangements to restore infrastructure and services after floods	Post-flood arrangements to restore infrastructure and services exist but are slow to start	Post-flood restoration of infrastructure and services is moderately prompt but there are losses	Post-flood restoration of infrastructure and services is prompt and effectively minimises losses	
16	The effects of climate variability on water resources are understood and considered in project design and resource management	The effects of climate variability on water resources are wholly unrecognised	The effects of climate variability on water resources are recognised but not taken account of	The effects of climate variability on water resources are understood but not taken account of	The effects of climate variability on water resources are understood and taken account of	
17	Structural and non-structural measures for flood mitigation are used in a complementary way to maximise net benefits	No measures to avoid or mitigate the effects of floods are used	Measures to avoid or mitigate effects of floods are largely reactive and un-organised	Structural and non-structural measures are used widely, but not in an effective, complementary way	Complementary structural and non-structural measures provide effective flood mitigation	
18	Flood management projects reduce poverty and avoid adverse effects on the poor	Flood management projects largely ignore the interests of the poor	Flood management project designs refer to the interests of the poor, but barely address them	Adverse effects of flood management projects are largely avoided, but poverty is little affected	Flood management projects have no adverse effects on the poor, and reduce poverty positively	
III. Improving water services						
19	Water service providers are autonomous and accountable	Water service providers are not autonomous or accountable	Water service providers are only nominally autonomous and/or accountable	Water service providers are largely autonomous and accountable	Water service providers are wholly autonomous and accountable	
20	Public-private partnerships are used to manage water-related physical infrastructure	Infrastructure is managed wholly by the state and private sector involvement is opposed	Private sector management is being actively planned for or trialled	Public-private partnerships are being arranged in significant parts of the sector	Public-private partnerships are functioning successfully on an extensive scale	
21	Arrangements for user/ beneficiary participation ensure that service delivery is responsive, accountable and financially sustainable	Users/beneficiaries have no opportunity to influence how water services are delivered, and will not pay	Users/beneficiaries can influence service delivery, but are reluctant to pay for services	Expectations of users/beneficiaries are taken fully into account but costs are only partly recovered	Services are very responsive and accountable to users/beneficiaries and recover full cost of delivery	

Outcome of water policy action		A	B	C	D	Comment
22	The physical infrastructure and management of urban water supply & sanitation systems are able to provide acceptable service levels	Infrastructure and management are run down, with poor service and low UAW/NRW levels	Upgrading of infrastructure and management is at an early stage, with few impacts on service	Good progress is being made with upgrades, and consumers observe service improvement	Infrastructure and management providing good service and UAW/NRW levels	
23	Private sector investors are able to invest in water and sanitation service providers	There is no opportunity for the private sector to invest in water and sanitation services	Private investment is ad hoc, with few safeguards for any of the parties	There is significant private investment, and contractual arrangements protect investors	There is significant private investment, and investors' and public interests are fully protected	
24	O&M costs of public irrigation and drainage (I&D) systems are wholly paid by beneficiaries	Public I&D systems are heavily subsidized and beneficiaries pay little of the O&M cost	The principle of cost recovery from beneficiaries is accepted but poorly implemented	Cost recovery is being successfully extended to all I&D systems and rates of revenue collection are rising	The O&M costs of public I&D systems are wholly paid by beneficiaries and there is no public subsidisation	
25	Rights and responsibilities of irrigation system users, service providers and public agencies are agreed, with users responsible for O&M of distribution systems	Rights and responsibilities are ill-defined, users refuse to carry out O&M, and sustainability is low	User acceptance of O&M responsibility is growing and rights/responsibilities are agreed but still to be acted on	Rights/responsibilities are increasingly acted on, users are taking on O&M, and sustainability is growing	Rights/responsibilities are fully established, users carry out O&M, and sustainability is high	
26	Performance of I&D service providers is monitored and evaluated	There is no monitoring or evaluation of I&D service levels	Some aspects of I&D service level are monitored, but not evaluated against benchmarks	Key aspects of I&D service level are monitored, with evaluation against benchmarks	I&D service levels are monitored, evaluated against benchmarks, and are improving	
IV. Conserving water						
27	Water service tariff structures provide incentives for conservation and efficient use of water	There are no tariffs and no incentives for conservation and efficient use	Tariffs are in place but are not structured to encourage conservation and efficient use	Tariffs are designed to encourage conservation and efficient use, but not yet effective	Tariff structures are successfully encouraging conservation and efficient use	
28	Cost recovery is incorporated into water policy and strategies	There are no provisions for cost recovery in water policy and strategies	Cost recovery is included in limited areas of policy and strategy, but not implemented	Cost recovery is incorporated into water policy and strategies, but is weakly implemented	Cost recovery is fully incorporated into water policy and strategies, and consistently practiced	

Outcome of water policy action		A	B	C	D	Comment
29A	The poor are enabled to participate in design and implementation of water-related projects	There are no mechanisms for the poor to influence water-related projects	Policies to enable participation by the poor are being developed, but not yet implemented	Policies provide for the poor to participate in projects, but are not yet fully implemented	The poor have full opportunity to participate in and influence projects	
29B	Direct subsidies for access to basic water services have been phased out as affordability has risen.	Access to basic water services is heavily subsidized by the state	Basic water service levels are improving and consumers are informed of the need to pay for service	Service charges are being levied, commensurate with users' ability to pay, and subsidies reduced	Users pay for access to basic water services, with no subsidisation	
30	Regulatory systems are in place in the water sector	There are no provisions for regulation in any part of the water sector	Regulatory systems are being developed in some areas, but not yet implemented	Regulatory systems have been established in key areas, but are not yet fully effective	All parts of the water sector have fully functional regulatory systems	
31	Users are educated about ways of using water efficiently, and about the need for appropriate pricing of water use and effluent discharge/treatment	Users are ignorant of water use efficiency measures or the justification for pricing	User education on water use efficiency and pricing is at an early stage of development	User education on water use efficiency and pricing is well developed but has limited impact	Users adopt water use efficiency measures, and are willing to pay appropriate prices for services	
V. Promoting regional cooperation						
32	Awareness and understanding of water resources issues are promoted, especially through inter-country exchange	There is minimal stakeholder awareness and understanding of water resources issues	Means of promoting awareness and understanding are being developed but not yet implemented	Awareness and understanding are being promoted actively and with growing impact	There is widespread stakeholder awareness and understanding of water resources issues	
33	Joint projects and engagement with other countries are promoting management of shared resources	There are no joint projects or effective engagement with other countries	Engagement with other countries is at an early stage but is enabling common understanding to develop	Joint projects and engagement are well developed but resource management still is largely unilateral	Joint projects and engagement with other countries are enabling effective management of shared resources	
34	Collaborative frameworks with all riparian stakeholders in shared river basins are established	Projects in shared river basins have little or no regard for other riparian stakeholders	Collaboration is at an early stage of development and other riparian stakeholders commonly are overlooked	Collaborative frameworks are in place, and the interests of riparian stakeholders usually are considered	Collaborative frameworks are used to take full account of the interests of all riparian stakeholders	

Outcome of water policy action		A	B	C	D	Comment
35	International arrangements to manage shared waters are functional	There are no international arrangements to manage shared waters	International arrangements to manage shared waters are under development	Arrangements to manage shared waters have been developed but are not fully operational	International arrangements to manage shared waters are fully effective	
VI. Fostering participation						
36	Partnerships between government, and other stakeholders, and participatory management of water, are functional	There is little or no engagement of non-governmental stakeholders in water management	Partnerships and participation are at an early stage, with limited impacts on water management	Partnerships and participation are established, with some impacts on water management	Partnerships and participation enable responsive and sustainable water management	
37	Water projects incorporate the participation of civil society in needs analysis, design, monitoring, dispute resolution	There is little or no engagement of civil society in water projects	Mechanisms for civil society participation are being introduced but are not yet used consistently	Civil society participates in some aspects of projects	Civil society participates fully in project needs analysis, design, monitoring, dispute resolution	
38	Planning, implementation and monitoring of water sector activities incorporate gender-related elements	Water sector activities do not recognise gender-related issues	Gender-related issues are recognized to an extent in some phases of water sector activity	Gender-related issues are considered in most aspects of activity	Water sector activities take full account of gender-related differences and equity needs	
VII. Improving governance						
39	Institutional, national and regional arrangements for capacity building, skills development, and sharing of experience are functional	There is little or no provision for any form of capacity building at any level	Arrangements for capacity building are limited and benefit a limited number of people	Arrangements for capacity building are extensive, and are having a growing impact on capability	Arrangements for capacity building are comprehensive, cover all scales, and have large impact	
40	Networking is established with institutions in other parts of the region, in research and capacity building	There is little or no interchange with institutions elsewhere in the region	Networks with institutions elsewhere are being developed but have limited benefits	Good networks are in place and are providing growing inter-country support	Networking with other institutions provides strong support to research and capacity bldg	