



3rd World Water Forum-
WATER AND POVERTY INITIATIVE

STATUS REPORT
November 2002

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to bring all interested partners in the Initiative up to date with recent developments in the Water and Poverty Initiative, including:

1. Arrangements for the Water and Poverty sessions at WWF.
2. The Asia-Pacific Regional Consultation Workshop, held in Dhaka in September.
3. Preparation of Thematic Papers.
4. Progress with Case Studies.
5. Developing a Rural Water and Poverty Action Program.
6. Water Development Partners Panel.

WATER AND POVERTY AT WWF

Following the regional consultation workshop in Dhaka, intensive consultations have taken place with the 3WWF Secretariat on the form, timing and size of the program for the Water and Poverty theme. The Secretariat has been very cooperative in responding to our requests for suitable rooms and time schedule for the Water and Poverty sessions, including opening and closing plenaries, and working sessions. The working sessions will be divided into two groups: (i) a series of sessions coordinated by the Water and Poverty Initiative team that build on the results of the regional consultation workshop in Dhaka and related work, and (ii) separate sessions that have been requested by conveners representing various organizations. The separate sessions will be organized by their respective conveners under their own responsibility, yet as part of the overall program of Water and Poverty theme sessions coordinated by ADB.

Key points that emerged from the Coordinators and Conveners Meetings held in Kyoto on 22-24 November are:

- The Water and Poverty Theme plenaries and working sessions will take place on 19 and 20 March. A draft program is attached for comments. Although we will need to balance the many proposals for the content of the core sessions, please indicate as soon as possible any suggestions that you have for who should be involved and what forms of presentation should be used.
- The Water Development Partners Panel will take place on the afternoon of the 21 March. WDPP will feature facilitated discussion with stakeholders on how development agencies are focusing on water and poverty challenges. ADB serves as secretariat to organize WDPP.
- The closing plenary of the Water and Poverty Theme sessions will present opportunities to present specific commitments for action, and to sign letters of intent for partnerships that will catalyze actions and investments. Please recommend what specific commitments can be presented. It would be good to present an interesting range of new commitments, from international to local and even individual.

ASIA-PACIFIC REGIONAL CONSULTATION WORKSHOP IN DHAKA

The Workshop was successful in presenting case studies, discussing issues, and recommending directions for action. Participation was very satisfactory, ranging from local practitioners to high-level representatives, from most of Asia (although not from the Pacific), and

with a better than usual age and gender balance. WARPO and BRAC did a great job in the logistical arrangements and hospitality, and the participants felt that Bangladesh was an effective and charming host for such a big event. The conference venue, the China-Bangladesh Friendship Hall, proved to be an excellent facility for the event. The workshop proceedings are being finalized and will be published and distributed soon.

Much of the success of the workshop reflected the combination of high calibre delegates and the focus on catalyzing actions. There was an overwhelming consensus on the need to move from “talking together” to “working together”. The response to the thematic framework and overall approach of the Water and Poverty Initiative was good. The working group sessions in the meeting went well and helped to create a platform for the further development of the thematic framework. Two issues that were underlined were the need to mainstream gender and to reach the poorest of the poor.

Many interesting case studies papers were presented in parallel sessions. The list of presentations is being collated for the Water and Poverty Initiative reports while a small number of case studies will be selected for presentation at WWF.

PREPARATION OF THEMATIC PAPERS

The thematic framework continues to provide a good basis as the emphasis of the Water and Poverty Initiative shifts towards catalyzing actions and partnerships. The framework will be further developed through short additional papers that elaborate on the individual key action areas (with some split into two papers). Some additional thematic papers are also being developed, to ensure coverage of specific important topics. The current list of papers with their expected key authors is as follows:

1. **Pro-poor governance** – Alan Hall (GWP)
2. **Improved services: domestic water supply** – Belinda Calaguas (WaterAid).
3. **Improved services: food security** - Intizar Hussain (IWMI)
4. **Livelihoods improvement** - John Soussan and Dirk Frans (WPI)
5. **Macro-economic development** - Diego Rodriguez (IADB)
6. **Community participation and empowerment** - Jennifer Francis (GWA) and Belinda Calaguas (WaterAid)
7. **Mainstreaming gender in community participation and empowerment** - Jennifer Francis
8. **Disaster management and mitigation** - Q.K. Ahmed (Bangladesh) and Marshall Silver (ADB)
9. **Ecosystems management** - John Soussan (WPI) and Ger Bergkamp (IUCN)
10. **Water, poverty and health** – Joseph Hunt (ADB) and Robert Bos (WHO)
11. **Reaching the poorest of the poor**: Dirk Frans and John Soussan (WPI)

John Soussan will also prepare a longer version of the thematic framework in which the inputs of the theme papers will be reflected. Together, these papers will form the ‘ideas bank’ of the Water and Poverty Initiative for WWF, and they will be compiled for publication in a volume of approximately 100 pages.

Progress with Case Studies

The development of the portfolio of case studies has a strong foundation, with four reports completed and several others in advanced stage of progress. They will provide a body of experience to support the presentations and discussions at WWF. The list of case studies is not

final yet, as a number of the case studies originally proposed faced uncertainties over the resources available to support their development. There are also some problems to ensure a representative geographical and thematic coverage. Many of the case studies to date are from South Asia, and most are focused on issues of service delivery, governance and community empowerment at the community level. There are as yet few case studies from Africa and the Americas. Similarly, few case studies deal with disaster management, ecosystems protection or macro-economic development.

The timetable for finalizing case studies is by the end of December at the latest if they are to be reflected in the synthesis (which will be pulled together in January). The following draft list of case studies will be expanded with further input from the partners:

ADB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bangladesh- small scale water management (to be confirmed- tbc) • PRC- Dalian urban water supply and sanitation (tbc) • East Timor- - Water Supply and Rehabilitation Project (tbc) • India- Punjab rural water supply project (tbc) • Lao PDR- water supply and sanitation sector project (tbc) • Nepal- 4th Rural water supply and sanitation project (tbc) • Papua New Guinea- 3rd Urban Water Supply Project (tbc) • Papua New Guinea- provincial towns and water supply project (tbc) • Philippines- rural water supply project (tbc) • Philippines- best practices in the use of alternate sources of water, such as groundwater, tanks, rivers, etc. by poor people (tbc) • Philippines- Umiray Angat Transbasin Project, which includes Tubig Para sa Barangay (Water for the Community) by the Manila Water Company (tbc) • Philippines- Kabulan Irrigation and Area Development (tbc) • Philippines- 2nd Irrigations Systems (tbc) • Philippines- Maynilad Water Services Inc Project (tbc) • Tajikistan – agricultural rehabilitation project (tbc) • Vietnam- community health improvement project (tbc)
Arcadis/Central Environment Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • community-based planning in Negombo Lagoon, Sri Lanka
AWARD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • productive uses of water at the household level, Bushbuckridge South Africa
CESS/RDT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • watersheds programme in Andhra Pradesh, India
Gender Water Alliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanitation in Africa
International Development Enterprises (IDE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • micro-irrigation for income generation in Asia • The Shapla arsenic removal filter: a low-cost household solution to arsenic contamination of drinking water
IUCN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the wetlands management programme in Uganda: sustainable ecosystems management by poor communities
IWMI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • impacts of water on state-level economic growth in India • multiple uses of water • waste water for food security • Livelihood impacts of small-scale irrigation: treadle pump in India and Bangladesh (existing working paper/ Tushar Shah)
IWMI Nepal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • community-based management of forests and water

IWMI Sri Lanka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walawe: development of pro-poor irrigation management in Sri Lanka
IWMI, Saleem Baloch/ NRSP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the role of the traditional water supply schemes in poverty alleviation in Turbat, Baluchistan
JICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pilot project on rural water supply & sanitation Improvement in the North-West Region, Lao PDR • improvement of living standard by community drinking water pumping system in Kamanggih Village, East Sumba District, East Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia • study on groundwater development for Altai City in Mongolia
Johnson Mountain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a rural Jamaican mountainous community: community – local government links
Ondeo Bolivia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • El Alto - innovative approaches and partnership, La Paz Bolivia
Ondeo Philippines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manila: Bayan Tubig Project
SEWA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gender and economic benefits from domestic water supply in semi-arid areas of Gujarat, India
WARPO/SEI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • coastal development policy in Bangladesh
WaterAid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • looking back: assessment of the impact of past WSS schemes (existing report) • Orangi Pilot Project in Karachi, Pakistan • complete sanitation program • Uganda: district-level water supply, including participation of the private sector and issues around the PRSP • water in PRSPs in Africa (existing paper) • land and water in Buenas Aries • impact of poor sanitation on macro-economic growth
WaterAid & DSK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • water supply and governance in Dhaka
WaterAid India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • total rural sanitation program
WaterAid Mozambique	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DRA approaches in poor rural areas

DEVELOPING A RURAL WATER AND POVERTY ACTION PROGRAM

The need for a shift in the direction and strategy of the Water and Poverty Initiative from “talking together” to “working together” in partnership to catalyze water and poverty actions and investments emerged from the experiences in the WSSD, and they were reinforced through the discussions in the regional consultation workshop in Dhaka. A draft discussion paper has now been developed on the envisaged Rural Water and Poverty Action Program and is available for comment on ADB’s water website <http://www.adb.org/water>.

The basic approach is to stimulate such rural programs in interested countries and to support these through funding agencies and knowledge and advocacy partners. The program would start in Asia with ADB support, and other regions would soon develop similar initiatives. It is suggested that the preparations for the proposed program will be a priority in further work, so that initiatives could be announced at WWF.

Initial discussions have been held on launching a national program in Bangladesh, with extremely positive results. An in-principle agreement to develop a framework for the program in

Bangladesh has been reached between the government, key donors and other stakeholders. These will be followed up with a sense of urgency.

WATER DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS PANEL

Follow-up consultations in the preparatory group in Dhaka and Kyoto have helped to finalize the approach for this session, which is scheduled for 21 March afternoon, the day before the Ministerial Conference. WDPP will offer development agencies an opportunity to explain how they are addressing water and poverty in their work, through a facilitated discussion involving discussants and the audience with representatives of major stakeholder groups. ADB is the secretariat for the WDPP preparation.

Water and Poverty Initiative: Sessions for Kyoto (re-structured recommendations 8 Dec 2002)

Date	Core WPI Sessions		Other Poverty Sessions				
19th March	1 9.00-11.00	Opening Plenary – The Multiple Roles of Water in Poverty Reduction					
	2 12.30-15.15	Securing Community Development and Sustainable Livelihoods for the Poor	San Francisco Public Utilities Commission	Building Partnerships for Development	Action Against Hunger Spain	IWMI	Stakeholder Forum for Our Common Future
	3 15.45-18.30	Water, the MDGs and PRSPs – mainstreaming poverty reduction in water management	SEWA India	Building Partnerships for Development	Agence de l'Eau Seine-Normandie	UN-ISDR	WaterAid
20th March	1 8.45-11.30	Reducing Vulnerability – Managing Water-Related Disasters and Ensuring Environmental Security	WWC and GAP-RDA				
	2 12.30-15.15	Changing Policies and Improving Governance for Water Security for the Poor					
	3 17.30-19.30	Closing Plenary – Building Partnerships for Action					
21st March	13.00-15.00	Water Development Partners Panel on Water and Poverty					