

DEVELOPMENT COORDINATION

A. Major Development Partners: Strategic Foci and Key Activities

1. Major development partners in the water supply and sanitation (WSS) sector in Bangladesh include the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Danida, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and the World Bank. Details of projects and corresponding development partners are in the table.

Table: Major Development Partners

Development Partner	Project Name	Duration	Amount (\$ million)
World Bank	Bangladesh Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project	2012–2017	75.0
World Bank	Chittagong Water Supply Improvement and Sanitation Project	2010–2015	186.8
World Bank	Dhaka Water Supply and Sanitation Project	2008–2017	149.0
ADB	Khulna Water Supply Project	2012–2018	75.7
ADB	Dhaka Water Supply Sector Development Program	2007–2014	200.0
ADB and OFID	Secondary Towns Water Supply and Sanitation Project	2006–2013	41.0
ADB	TA Establishing a Regulatory Framework for Urban Water Supply and Sanitation	2013–2015	0.75
JICA	Khulna Water Supply Project	2012–2018	184.0
JICA	Small Scale Water Resources Development Project	2007–2013	79.5
JICA	Karnaphuli Water Supply Project	2006–2013	128.8
JICA	Chittagong Water Supply Improvement Project	2006–2010	179.6
JICA	Project for Advocacy NRW Reduction Initiative (PANI) of Chittagong WASA	2005–2010	...
Danida	Saidabad Water Treatment Plant Project Phase II	2010–2012	146.4
Danida	Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Program Support Phase III	2012–2015	34.9
Korea EDCF	Well Field Construction Project at Tetulzhora-Bhakurta Area of Savar Upazilla (Part 1)	2011–2015	45.0
Government of the PRC	Josholdia Water Treatment Plant Project	...	300.0

... = data not available, ADB = Asian Development Bank, Danida = Danish International Development Assistance, EDCF = Economic Development Cooperation Fund, JICA = Japan International Cooperation Agency, NRW = nonrevenue water, OFID = OPEC fund for International Development, PRC = People's Republic of China, TA = technical assistance, WASA = Water Supply and Sewerage Authority.

Sources: Asian Development Bank.

2. A number of development partners have focused on improving WSS in Bangladesh. In December 2007, ADB approved a program loan, a project loan, and a technical assistance (TA) grant to the government for the Dhaka Water Supply Sector Development Program.¹ The aim of the program is to contribute to sustained economic growth and improved health conditions in the urban centers of Bangladesh, particularly in Dhaka, by improving the water supply services

¹ ADB. 2007. *Report and Recommendation of the President to the Board of Directors: Proposed Loans and Technical Assistance Grant to the People's Republic of Bangladesh for the Dhaka Water Supply Sector Development Program*. Manila.

through reduction of the level of nonrevenue water (NRW) to 15% in five zones (out of 11) within service areas of the Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (DWASA). With the support of the program, as well as the DWASA's Turnaround Program, 2010–2013, important progress has been made on several key issues, including more efficient administrative and financial management of DWASA, strengthening of staff capacity with increased budget allocations for training, development of a comprehensive human resources strategy, and development of a 5-year business plan.

3. The objective of the World Bank-funded Dhaka Water Supply and Sanitation Project is to improve the sustainable delivery of storm water drainage, wastewater, and water services by DWASA to the population of Dhaka.² The project has five components: (i) rehabilitation and strengthening of the existing sewerage system, the rehabilitation and augmentation of Pagla sewage treatment plant, and the rehabilitation and replacement of trunk sewer mains and sewer lines; (ii) rehabilitation and strengthening of the storm water drainage system; (iii) implementation of environmental and social safeguards; (iv) supporting the pilot testing of several core approaches for DWASA to extend and mainstream service provision to low-income communities; and (v) project management, monitoring and evaluation, consultations, and communications.

4. The water supply sector development program and the WSS project are complementary to the Dhaka Environmentally Sustainable Water Supply Project. The NRW reduction, through the water supply sector development program, will make the increased water supply more effective and efficient, while the WSS project financed by the World Bank will strengthen sewerage management in Dhaka.

5. Outside of Dhaka, the World Bank and JICA are supporting improvement of water supply systems in Chittagong, and ADB and JICA are supporting the development of a new surface water treatment system in Khulna. The third phase of Danish support to the WSS sector comprises the sector policy support component and the hygiene, sanitation, and water supply fund component. The sector policy support is providing funding for implementation of the action plans derived from the Sector Development Plan (SDP) in terms of the policy, institutional, and regulatory framework. The Policy Support Unit plays a lead role in piloting, coordinating, and monitoring the SDP implementation. The hygiene, sanitation, and water supply fund component is supporting WSS activities in three districts in the southern coastal belt, five districts in the northwestern region, and three districts in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. The ADB-funded Secondary Towns Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Project aims to improve the living conditions and health standards in participating secondary towns, and improve the sustainability of water utilities at *pourashava* (municipality) level.³

6. New development partners are entering the sector. The project will be the first in the sector to be co-financed by the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and the European Investment Bank. The Government of France is supporting a feasibility study for the third phase of the Saidabad Water Treatment Plant Project. The Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Republic of Korea are also financing WSS projects, mainly for Dhaka.

² World Bank. 2008. *Project Appraisal Document on a Proposed Credit to the People's Republic of Bangladesh for a Dhaka Water Supply and Sanitation Project*. Washington, D.C.

³ ADB. 2006. *Report and Recommendation of the President to the Board of Directors: Proposed Loan to the People's Republic of Bangladesh for the Secondary Towns Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Project*. Manila.

B. Institutional Arrangements and Processes for Development Coordination

7. The partnership framework for urban WSS was signed on 10 November 2007 by the Government of Bangladesh and major development partners of the sector: ADB, Danida, the Government of Japan, the Government of the Republic of Korea, and the World Bank. The development partners are coordinating their support to water supply and sewerage authorities in large cities based on a unified policy matrix. ADB has taken the lead role in development coordination under the partnership framework.

8. Assistance from major development partners is coordinated by the Economic Relations Division of the Ministry of Finance. The Bangladesh Joint Cooperation Strategy (JCS), 2010–2015, aimed at improving the way development partners work together, was signed in June 2010.⁴ The agreed strategy presents a shared intention of the Government of Bangladesh and the development partners to find a more effective way of working together in the spirit of the Paris Declaration and the Accra Agenda for Action. The JCS has been aligned to the revised National Strategy for Accelerated Poverty Reduction II (Steps Towards Change), FY2009–FY2011 and the Sixth Five Year Plan, FY2011–FY2015.⁵ The JCS is expected to result in better harmonized and streamlined programs supporting Bangladesh's development plans and strategies by providing a common platform for inclusive partnership between all development actors, and holding each other accountable for making concrete and measurable progress toward greater aid effectiveness.

C. Achievements and Issues

9. In support of the JCS, regular dialogue at the sector and thematic level is held in joint government–development partner local consultative groups (LCGs). The objective of the LCGs, of which the WSS LCG is one, is to contribute toward effective and coordinated implementation of national policies, strategies, plans, and programs in Bangladesh through joint results and a monitoring framework. The WSS LCG is co-chaired by the additional secretary, Local Government Division, and the World Bank—with participation from all major development partners including ADB, Danida, German Development Cooperation, JICA, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, the United States Agency for International Development, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme, and the World Health Organization (WHO). It is a well-established mechanism that meets regularly and has proved a successful platform for dialogue and coordination.

D. Summary and Recommendations

10. It is recommended that the WSS LCG be fully utilized as a mechanism for coordinating work in the sector, and promoting harmonization and alignment of activities. Where appropriate, the LCG can provide a mechanism for development cooperation through joint fact-finding, and joint field review and/or evaluation missions. The LCG provides a forum for facilitating a common understanding and communicating lessons learned.

⁴ Development partner signatories were ADB, Australia, Canada, Denmark, the European Union, Germany, the Islamic Development Bank, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United Nations, the United States, and the World Bank. Government of Bangladesh. 2010. *Bangladesh Joint Cooperation Strategy: 2010–2015*. Dhaka.

⁵ Government of Bangladesh. 2009. *Steps Toward Change: National Strategy for Accelerated Poverty Reduction II: FY 2009–FY2011*. Dhaka; Government of Bangladesh. 2011. *Sixth Five Year Plan: FY2011–FY2015*. Dhaka.