

Pakistan Projects

Year 1 of 3

SA/PAK/62: Improving rural water supply and sanitation services
Task Team Leader: Mark Ellery
Clients: Ministry of Environment, Ministry / Departments of Women & Social Welfare, Ministry / Departments of Local Government and Rural Development, Environmental Protection Agency / Departments
Country: Pakistan
Partners: Rural Support Programme Network, Khushhal Pakistan Fund, World Bank SDN, DFID, UNICEF

Desired Outcome: Improved water supply and sanitation service outcomes for all in rural Pakistan.

Project Description: An assessment of the rural water and sanitation sector in Pakistan reveals that access to ‘safe’ water supply and sanitation outcomes is extremely low. It is also revealed that the majority of the population in rural areas ‘self provide’ their own access to water, sanitation and solid waste services. Whilst this has enabled the rich relatively good access to improved water and sanitation infrastructure, the access of the poor to improved infrastructure remains very low. Seen together, this suggests a two-fold failure of government policy to ensure (1) improved ‘means’ of access to safe water and sanitation ‘for the poor’ and (2) safe water and sanitation outcomes ‘for all’.

The experience of Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) in India and Bangladesh suggests that this two-fold problem of ‘safeguarding inclusion’ and ‘delivering improved sector outcomes’ can be addressed by focusing on the non-rival and non-excludable aspect of sanitation (i.e. an Open Defecation Free jurisdiction). Focusing on the desired outcome of eradicating ‘open defecation’ has created incentives for the rich to support the poor to practice sanitary means of disposing of their excreta.

This project seeks to apply this outcome based approach to rural sanitation into the Pakistan context - with a special emphasis on a private enterprise model for scaling up. This model seeks to develop a cadre of bare-foot consultants that solicit business from local governments, NGOs and others to trigger rural communities to eradicate the risks of unconfined excreta. This project will also seek to draw out the corollaries of this particular approach to the delivery of safe drinking water and the safe removal of waste water and solid waste.

Assumptions:

- Continued political commitment to WSS MDG by the government of Pakistan
- Lead public institution to drive the process and involve stakeholders at all levels

Start Date: July 2008

End Date: June 2011

Project Milestones

- Barefoot consultants contracted by service providers/villagers for triggering ‘open defecation free’ villages – Jun 09
- Policy framework in at least one province introduces an institutional framework targeting outcomes – Jun 09

Indicators of outcome:

- At least 2 Unions Councils are declared ‘open defecation free’ – Dec 2010
- At least 2 villages are declared ‘litter free’ and ‘drinking water contamination free’ – Dec 2011

Project Update: N/A

Project Activities and Outputs:

Activities	Output(s) and their Deliverable Dates
Enabling Environment	
Support the development of guidelines for provinces to strengthen policies ensuring sustained rural water and sanitation services for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One national roundtable and one policy note that provides guidance on improved institutional arrangements for service delivery (e.g. water quality risk management, water resource management, poverty reduction strategies) – Nov 08 & Mar 09
Sector Transformation	

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Support the design of policies and projects that improve the incentives for municipalities to improve service delivery outcomes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One study report and one policy note that strengthens provincial policy / regulation / funding (e.g. provincial RWSS assessment, water quality framework, legal barriers to access of the poor, costs of inaction, municipal 'public good' targets) – Feb 09 & Jun 09
Service Delivery Improvement	
Support to providers to ensure inclusive service delivery for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two advisory notes developed to assist local government and service providers to better manage vulnerability to the poor (e.g. water management, water safety, barefoot consultant contract for ODF villages) – Sep 08 & Jan 09
Social Accountability	
Support to processes through which citizens strengthen the access of all to outcomes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two consultations supported and documented that prioritize inclusion (e.g. CLTS, demand management, minimum rights to services, corporate social responsibility, land tenure) – Aug 08 & Jan 09