Gender plays a crucial role in developing countries’ ability to ensure improved water and sanitation services are delivered to all citizens. According to the World Bank’s 2012 World Development Report, when services fail, women and girls are disproportionately affected.

The worst disparity is the rate at which girls and women die relative to men. Each year, an estimated 3.9 million more women under the age of 60 die in low- and middle-income countries. The economic impact of inadequate access to water and sanitation facilities is profound. Girls and women in rural areas are often responsible for fetching water, which can take up to 4 hours or more each day. This reduces their time available for other activities, such as education and work.

This year, the World Bank/Water and Sanitation Program’s cartoon calendar depicts water and sanitation challenges from a gender perspective to call attention to some of the social norms that exacerbate the differences. The sustainable solution, therefore, is not to tackle the disadvantages faced by women and girls, but to render those disadvantages irrelevant by improving institutional quality. For example, if schools are equipped with safe, private sanitation facilities, girls are more likely to attend school, which can lead to improved educational outcomes and economic opportunities.

Congratulations to the winners of our first cartoon contest, whose ideas were adapted for this year’s calendar. And a special thank you to the talented artists from around the world who helped us craft these very critical and important messages with creativity and passion, while staying true to the calendar’s tradition of raising awareness through humor.

Jose-Luis Irigoyen
Director
Transport, Water, and Information & Communications Technology
Sustainable Development Vice Presidency
The World Bank

Jaehyang So
Manager
The Water and Sanitation Program
Vladimir Kadyrbaev
Vladimir Kadyrbaev is a well-known cartoonist from Kazakhstan. Trained as a physicist, he began his career as a schoolteacher, later being drawn more exclusively to creative arts. Since 1985, his cartoons have been published daily in many newspapers in Kazakhstan and Russia. He also produced an animated cartoon movie in 2006. He has won multiple prizes at international cartoon exhibitions in Belgium, Canada, Italy, Poland, Turkey, and more.

Jesus Felix-Diaz
Jesus Felix-Diaz, a young Peruvian illustrator, studied Arts at University Catolica of Peru. Jesus has published many covers and illustrations for famous Peruvian magazines such as Poder, Dedo Medio, and Moda. His best artworks can be found in the blog www.poloverde.blogspot.com

Sudhir Dar
Sudhir Dar is one of India's most eminent cartoonists and lives in New Delhi. He has delighted millions of readers for almost four decades with a pocket cartoon called “This is it”. Dar is a winner of several national and international awards and has featured in The New York Times, The Washington Post and several other prestigious publications worldwide. MAD magazine called him a ‘Tasty Indian Nut’.

Wisnoe Lee
Wisnoe Lee is a Jakarta-based artist whose cartoon characters and illustrations appear in a gamut of ads from sleek cars to mobile phone service providers. While Wisnoe has created a number of different comic strips, his pet project is an online series, Gibug, which features a corrupt official who has lost everything and is given a second chance — living a simple life as a whimsical bajaj (tricycle) driver roaming around the notorious streets of Jakarta with his cat, Oncom.

Frank Odoi
Frank Odoi lives in Kenya and his career spans three decades. Currently, his work is being published simultaneously in Kenya, Ghana, Uganda and the United Kingdom. His work has gained international recognition and his comic books Golgoti and Akokhan have been published as albums in Finland and Sweden. Odoi has also been featured in several exhibitions in Lagos, Sao Paolo, Algiers and the Nordic countries. He has also worked as a resource person in several workshops for promoting comics on development in Africa. Frank Odoi was Cartoonist of the Year in 1985, 1996, 2004 and Best Strip Cartoonist in 2008 in Kenya. He was also awarded Cartoonist of the Year 2005 in Ghana.

GENDER IN WATER AND SANITATION

The Water and Sanitation Program (www.wsp.org) is a multi-donor partnership administered by the World Bank to support poor people in obtaining affordable, safe, and sustainable access to water and sanitation services.

GENDER IN WATER AND SANITATION

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GENDER IN WATER AND SANITATION

The Water and Sanitation Program (www.wsp.org) is a multi-donor partnership administered by the World Bank to support poor people in obtaining affordable, safe, and sustainable access to water and sanitation services.
Less than 20% of seats in national parliaments are held by women.

Cartoon based on an idea by B. Mommen, UNICEF.

The Water and Sanitation Program (www.wsp.org) is a multi-donor partnership administered by the World Bank to support poor people in obtaining affordable, safe, and sustainable access to water and sanitation services.
A study in 44 developing countries found that women carry water more often than men by a ratio of nearly 2 to 1. Cartoon based on an idea by Rosenleaf Ritter, Project WET Foundation.

The Water and Sanitation Program (www.wsp.org) is a multi-donor partnership administered by the World Bank to support poor people in obtaining affordable, safe, and sustainable access to water and sanitation services.
Giving power to women at the local level through political representation has led to increased provision of public goods, especially in water supply and sanitation.
In Nepal, reducing the time it takes to fetch water by just one hour could increase girls' school enrollment by over 30%.

### April 2012

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© The World Bank
Research shows that when women participate in household and community decisions, the water supply and sanitation projects perform better.

**May 2012**

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The Water and Sanitation Program (www.wsp.org) is a multi-donor partnership administered by the World Bank to support poor people in obtaining affordable, safe, and sustainable access to water and sanitation services.
Women are responsible for 60 to 80% of all housework and childcare.

The Water and Sanitation Program (WSP) is a multi-donor partnership administered by the World Bank to expand access to affordable, safe, and sustainable services to water and sanitation users.

June 2012

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© The World Bank
During the summer months, women in Haryana, India fetch up to 23 vessels of water per day.

Cartoon based on an idea by Nitika Surie, WSP.

**July 2012**

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Globally, women account for 50% of informal employment and 58% of unpaid employment.
In rural Pakistan, more than 50% of girls leave school before the fourth grade due to a lack of sanitation facilities.

September 2012

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Poor sanitation and hygiene contributes to chronic illness, poor nutrition, extra time spent care giving, and missed days at school or work. In India, the economic costs of poor sanitation and hygiene amount to US$53.8 billion annually (2006 prices).

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The Water and Sanitation Program (www.wsp.org) is a multi donor partnership administered by the World Bank to support poor people in achieving affordable, safe, and sustainable access to water and sanitation services.
In Africa, an estimated 40 billion working hours per year are spent carrying water. In rural Kenya, each household may make up to seven trips a day—usually by women or girls.
Providing full household coverage with water and sanitation infrastructure could lead to a total reduction in child mortality by 2.2 million child deaths per year in the developing world.

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The Water and Sanitation Program (www.wsp.org) is a multi-donor partnership administered by the World Bank. Its explicit goal is to expand affordable, safe, and sustainable access to water and sanitation services.
These cartoons were reproduced in WSP’s Calendar for the year 2011.

Sources

January: National parliaments data compiled by the Inter-Parliamentary Union as of 30 November 2011.


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www.wsp.org

For comments on the calendar, please write to us at: wsp@worldbank.org

Gender plays a crucial role in developing countries’ ability to ensure improved water and sanitation services are delivered to all citizens. According to the World Bank’s 2012 World Development Report, when services fail, women and girls are disproportionately affected.

By 2015, it is estimated that 700 million girls and women will be affected by the lack of safe drinking water and sanitation in developing countries. This affects school attendance, employment opportunities, and health outcomes. For example, in sub-Saharan Africa, girls spend an average of two hours per day fetching water, leaving less time for school and other activities.

Inadequate water and sanitation facilities also contribute to gender inequality. Women and girls often bear the burden of collecting water, which can result in missed schooling days and reduced productivity. This is particularly true in low-income countries where the economic activities and reinforces employment segregation, limiting women to the lowest paying and most unstable jobs. The sustainable solution, therefore, is not to tackle the disadvantages faced by women and girls, but to render those disadvantages irrelevant by improving institutional quality. For example, if schools are equipped with safe, private sanitation facilities, girls are more likely to stay in school.

This year, the World Bank/Water and Sanitation Program’s cartoon calendar depicts water and sanitation challenges from a gender perspective to call attention to some of the social norms that result from, and reinforce poor service quality.

Congratulations to the winners of our first cartoon contest, whose ideas were adapted for this year’s calendar. And a special thank you to the talented artists from around the world who helped us craft these very critical and important messages with creativity and passion, while staying true to the calendar’s tradition of raising awareness through humor.