Improving Policies, Practices, and Capacities for Better Water and Sanitation Services for the Poor
The Water and Sanitation Program (WSP) was established in 1979 as a cooperative effort between the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme to promote cost-effective technologies and models for providing safe water and sanitation in developing countries. Today, WSP has evolved into an international partnership to help the poor gain sustained access to improved water and sanitation services (WSS). The Program contributes to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for water and sanitation, which are to reduce by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation by 2015.

Administered by the World Bank, WSP is supported by the world’s leading donor agencies1. It works in partnership with governments at all levels, financial institutions, donor agencies, non-governmental organizations and the private sector. WSP headquarters are in Washington D.C. and its field offices operate in more than 20 countries in four regions: Africa, East Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and South Asia.

**WSP IN EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

In East Asia and the Pacific, WSP currently has country programs in Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, the Philippines, and Vietnam. The Program also supports selected activities with partners in other countries in the region.

WSP’s services include:
- Policy support: Promoting policy reform, adequate regulatory frameworks and strengthening governance mechanisms to aid countries in achieving the MDGs and national objectives.
- Knowledge management: Generating, validating and disseminating best practices and innovative solutions to water and sanitation problems to enhance sector knowledge at all levels.
- Sector networking: Assisting country and regional networks of professionals for sector development, strategic communication interventions and overall capacity building efforts; facilitating partnerships among governments, communities, the private sector, and civil society.
- Strategic investment support: Supporting investment programs and pilot projects for scaling up programs that seek to improve access, quality and sustainability of WSS service delivery to the poor.

WSP-EAP shares its skills and experience across the region to add value to country projects and policies. Through partnerships with donors and developing country clients, WSP helps countries scale up sustainable water and sanitation services and move toward achieving the MDGs. WSP-EAP influences sector investments in the region by bilateral and multi-lateral external support agencies by contributing to their country strategies, helping to prepare investment project designs and providing strategic support for project supervision, evaluation and action research to optimize links between water and sanitation interventions and poverty alleviation.

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1 WSP funding partners: The Governments of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland; the United Kingdom, the United States of America; the United Nations Development Programme, The World Bank, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

**PROFESSIONAL CAPACITY**

The WSP-EAP team currently comprises more than 40 professionals with a diverse mix of skills, working in partnership with governments, external support communities, the private sector and civil society. WSP-EAP team has:
- Established partnerships for supporting sector analysis and reform in focus countries with region.
- A wide range of donor and national partners.
- Ability to draw upon global, regional and country-based, professional skills and resources.
- A multi-disciplinary approach to water supply and sanitation.

WSP-EAP has full access to the skills and knowledge base of the World Bank Group. Managing a broad and deep sector-related knowledge through the World Bank Group’s thematic networks enables WSP to maintain a robust skill base and sustain the Program’s ability to respond to client demands for support in real time.
The WSP-EAP team currently comprises more than 25 professionals with a diverse mix of skills, working in partnership with governments, external support agencies, communities, the private sector and civil society. The WSP-EAP team has:

- Established partnerships for supporting sector policy analysis and reform in focus countries within the region.
- A wide range of donor and national partners.
- Ability to draw upon global, regional and country-based, professional skills and resources.
- A multi-disciplinary approach to water supply and sanitation.

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A SELECTION OF CURRENT WSP-EAP ACTIVITIES:

A diverse work program focused on a regional strategic theme “Sustainability with Equity”

WSP-EAP’s business follows four thematic areas:

- Achieving sustainable sanitation services at scale
- Sector financing to achieve the MDGs
- Communications for reform
- WSS policy reform, implementation, and capacity building

Outlined below are activities illustrative of WSP-EAP’s thematic business.

...in Cambodia: Mapping Public-Private Partnership (PPP) models in water and sanitation
WSP-EAP assists the Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy and the Ministry of Rural Development in:
- Mapping PPP scenarios in the water supply and sanitation sector in Cambodia.
- Identifying key learning points on what works and what doesn’t work in PPP in the sector.
- Formulating institutional framework to facilitate and implement PPP initiatives for the WSS sector in Cambodia.

...and developing and launching a sanitation marketing strategy for rural and urban areas

...in Indonesia: Formulating water and sanitation sector policy and operationalizing policy reform
In partnership with Australia’s Overseas Aid Program (AusAID), WSP-EAP supports an Inter-Ministerial Working Group chaired by the National Development Planning Agency (BAPPENAS) in:
- Operationalizing sector reform through local government adoption of a national policy framework for water supply and sanitation.
- Identifying and reviewing the lessons learned from government and external support agencies' WSS initiatives.
- Testing new approaches to reach the poor with improved services.

**Indonesia Sanitation Sector Development Program (ISSDP).** With support from the Netherlands, WSP is supporting BAPPENAS to execute a national sanitation sector development program, to improve the regulatory and investment framework for the sector in Indonesia, and build local government capacity to formulate and implement citywide sustainable sanitation improvement approaches.

**Design of a national rural WSS program and Sector Wide Approach (SWAp).** WSP provides technical support to the Government of Indonesia and the World Bank's Human Development Sector Department in East Asia for the preparation and strategic supervision of a program to operationalize the National Sector Policy for Community-based Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation (WSES) Services.

**and scaling up innovative approaches to accelerate sanitation and hygiene behavior change, with a rigorous learning agenda aimed at improving the cost-effectiveness of sector interventions by all funding agencies.**

**...in Lao PDR: Institutional and regulatory reform for the sector**
WSP-EAP works with the Government of Lao PDR, sector partners and civil society to:
- Develop programs that address the legal and institutional strengthening requirements to improve the enabling environment for effective water supply operations, particularly to the poorest members of society.
- Develop appropriate hygiene promotion materials for the urban and rural settings, with particular focus on supporting new promotional techniques responsive to the needs of the country's 47 ethnic minority groups.
- Raise the profile of sanitation at the national level and clarify the roles and responsibilities of sector stakeholders to encourage private sector involvement.

**...in the Philippines: Consolidating “best practices” for effective WSS development**
In cooperation with representatives from all key government WSS agencies, local governments, service providers, financing institutions and sector professionals, WSP-EAP supports the practical application of improved policies. Through complementary activities supported by AusAID, the United Kingdom’s Department for International Development (DFID), and Sweden’s International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and other partner agencies, WSP Philippines supports the Government of the Philippines to:
- Identify successful approaches in the provision of sustainable sanitation services for the urban and rural poor.
- Improve performance and access to financing of water utilities.
- Present sector professionals and decision makers with lessons learned on good practices for effective WSS development.

**...in Vietnam: Supporting large-scale rural investment project**
WSP-EAP provides technical support to the World Bank’s Urban Development Unit-East Asia and Pacific Region to prepare and supervise a rural water supply and sanitation investment project to operationalize the National Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Strategy. A number of principles set out under the Strategy are being tested at scale in the project, which is being implemented on a demand-responsive approach and is designed to develop national capacity in demand-responsive, multi-sectoral development of rural water supply and sanitation enterprises. The enterprises will operate on a sustainable commercial basis, with users represented through elected community water groups.

**...and forming a Public-Private Partnership with the Ministry of Health, the World Bank, and UNICEF to promote handwashing with soap in Viet Nam.**
...in Lao PDR: Institutional and regulatory reform for the sector
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- Develop programs that address the legal and institutional strengthening requirements to improve the enabling environment for effective water supply operations, particularly to the poorest members of society.
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- and forming a Public-Private Partnership with the Ministry of Health, the World Bank, and Unilever to promote handwashing with soap in Vietnam.

...in the Region: Structuring regional learning agenda and adding to global sector knowledge
At the regional level, WSP-EAP carries out a range of activities to clarify regional learning agendas, and synthesize and disseminate sector knowledge through:
- A network of regional and national partnerships for learning, capacity building, and knowledge management
- Linked national and regional thematic learning initiatives
- Integration of communication approaches into behavior change initiatives
- Multi-country studies using uniform methodologies for comparative and regional analysis.

...and organizing East Asia Sanitation 2007 (EASAN) Ministerial Conference.
Getting Messages Across Region Through Mass Media

100 Juta Penduduk Tidak Dapat Akses Air Bersih

Water supply models for small towns

VIENTIANE TIMES

Water access poor, disease widespread

Indonesia Menganjurkan Hibah
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WSP-EAP is always interested in hearing the views of water and sanitation practitioners and service providers. If you are interested in collaborating with us, supporting our work, or understanding our mission better, please contact us through our regional/country offices.