

Urban Water Supply; an overview from Bangladesh

WELCOME

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Bangladesh Profile

- ❑ Bangladesh is one of the largest deltas in the world with a total area of 147,570 sq.km and has a population of around 160 million.
- ❑ The country is covered with a network of rivers and canals.
- ❑ Around 72% of the population lives in rural areas.
- ❑ Urbanization has been rapid in the last few decades.
- ❑ Literacy rate is 71%
- ❑ Life expectancy is 70 yrs
- ❑ Per capita income is USD 1600



National Flag

Map of South Asia and Bangladesh



Introduction

Sources for drinking water in Bangladesh

- 96 % groundwater
- 3 % surface water
- 1 % rain water

Source: Wikipedia

Description of Urban Areas

- 28% (44 M) of total populations live in urban areas;
- Urban population growth rate is 3.5%
- 328 Municipalities;
- 64 districts towns;
- 8 Divisional towns;
- 4 Major cities;
- 10 % of total populations live in the Capital Dhaka

Agencies for Urban WSS

- Water & Sewerage Authority (WASA) in 04 major metropolitan cities;
- 07 city corporation;
- Municipal corporations in 53 district towns;
- Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE) is responsible to provide technical support to other municipalities all over the country.

Governing Policies and Framework .contd

- ❑ Bangladesh Environment Conservation Act 1995 and subsequent rules 1997;
- ❑ Water Supply and Sewerage act 1996;
- ❑ National Policy for Safe Water Supply and Sanitation 1998;
- ❑ National Policy for Arsenic Mitigation and Implementation Plan 2004;

Governing Policies and Framework

- ❑ Local Government (Amendment) Act 2010;
- ❑ Sector Development Plan 2011;
- ❑ Bangladesh Water Act 2013;
- ❑ National Strategy for Water Supply and Sanitation 2014.

National Problems, Issues & Concern.....contd

- ❑ 13% of the total population are yet to be brought under safe water supply coverage;
- ❑ 12.6% of water supplies are producing water that contain arsenic more than the acceptable limit;
- ❑ 21% of the total geographical areas are still lying in hard to reach or low coverage area;

National Problems, Issues & Concern.....contd

- ❑ Water table depletion in many parts of the country is hindering the progress;
- ❑ There are problem with salinity, iron and other chemical contamination in some parts of the country.

National Problems, Issues & Concern

- ❑ Population increment through rapid urbanization putting extra pressure on water supplies in cities;
- ❑ Improper hygiene practice is accounting for a considerable number of microbiological contamination in many households;
- ❑ Approaches followed by different stakeholder are not uniform and common.

Urban Water Supply

- 87 % of the urban population is covered by the improved safe water supplies;
- Around 32 % of the urban population is covered by piped water supply;
- Around 55 % of the urban population is covered by point water supply;
- Presently the contribution of surface water in urban water supplies is around 5 %;
- In Dhaka city only, the use of surface water is around 22 %, rest of Dhaka (78%) is supplied from ground water sources.

Source: Joint Monitoring Program, WHO-UNICEF 2015

Water Supply Coverage in Cities

- Average urban water use per capita per day is 88 lit
- Turn around program in WASAs;
- DWASA has planned to construct 3 additional SWTP by 2030, which will add 2800 MLD water to Dhaka city (99%);
- CWASA launched new SWTP (72%);
- KWASA is constructing SWTP (50%);
- RWASA has started to use one SWTP (77%).
- 102 Municipalities get intermittent water supply;

Source: Wikipedia

Source: WASAs, WB-WSP Benchmarking 2014

SDG indicators putting the situation more challenging

Urban Water Supply	
SAFELY MANAGED	45
BASIC	52
LIMITED	1
UNIMPROVED	1
SURFACE WATER	1

Source: JMP 2017 report

Challenges in Urban Water supply

- Pace of **population growth** in urban towns;
- **Chemical and microbiological contamination** in both ground & surface water sources;
- **Groundwater arsenic contamination** is posing extra threats in some urban towns in the country;
- **Insufficient surface water bodies** during the dry season, which makes the water supplies inoperative;
- **Inadequate human resources** for the sector;
- **Insufficient fund flow** for the sector.

Conclusions and way forward

- ❑ Working to achieve SDG Target 6.1 and 6.2 is a great opportunity;
- ❑ Mobilizing the financial and human resources is very essential;
- ❑ Capacity building of individual and strengthening institutional arrangement is a pre requisite;

Conclusions and way forward

- ❑ Regional, global cooperation and experience sharing will be very vital towards achieving the goal;
- ❑ Time bound action plan, sector coordination, active participation of community including woman is utmost important;
- ❑ Proper monitoring of the progress using appropriate indicator will make possible to achieve the target.

SAFE
WATER FOR
ALL



Thanks

