

# Bhutan

- 20 districts, 4 Class A cities, 17 class B cities
- Thimphu – capital city
- 10 to 12% growth rate

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# THIMPHU VALLEY



JUL 21 2007

# SDG and other Development goals

- SDG 6: CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
- SDG 11: SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
- ✓ The SDGs, officially known as “transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, is a set of 17 inspirational global goals with 169 targets.
- ✓ 16 national key result areas of the 11<sup>th</sup> plan are also harmonized with 14 SDGs.
- ✓ More synergies are pointed out in the 12<sup>th</sup> plan as the 16 national key result areas are directly correlated to 16 out of 17 SDG goals.
- ✓ For Bhutan, GNH is clearly the way forward as it enables the country to work resolutely in realizing the SDGs.
- ✓ Bhutan’s development plans are closely integrated with the SDGs, which in turn are in resonance with the principles of GNH.

# Northern Thimphu



PLAN AND TARGETS FOR IMPROVED SERVICES	INCLUDE D IN PLAN	COVERAGE [%]	TARGET YEAR
Urban sanitation	x	100	2018
Rural sanitation	√	80	2018
Sanitation in schools	√	100	2018
Sanitation in health facilities	√	100	2018
Urban drinking water supply	x	100	2018
Rural drinking water supply	√	100	2018
Drinking water in schools	√	100	2018
Drinking water in health facilities	√	100	2018
Hygiene promotion	x	100	2018
Hygiene promotion in schools	x	100	2018
Hygiene promotion in health facilities	x	100	2018



# Southern Thimphu



## National water and sanitation institutions

**Four Ministries lead for sanitation and drinking water and three share the lead for hygiene promotion. The ministry of health plays a lead role in each area.**

LEAD INSTITUTIONS	SANITATION	DRINKING WATER	HYGIENE PROMOTION
Ministry of Health	√	√	√
Ministry of Works & Human Settlement	√	√	
Ministry of Education	√	√	√
Dratshang Lhentshog (Religion and Health)	√	√	√

Number of ministries and national institutions with responsibilities in WASH: Eight

Provincial Institutions	SANITATION	DRINKING WATER	HYGIENE PROMOTION
Thromdes (Cities/Municipalities)	√	√	√
Dzongkhags (Districts)	√	√	√
Local Agencies/NGOs	√	√	√

### Roles and Responsibilities of the institutions

Lead Institutions	
Thromdes (Cities/Municipalities)	
Dzongkhags (Districts)	
Local Agencies/NGOs	

# Policies/Projects

- ✓ Waste prevention and management act of Bhutan 2009
- ✓ The Water Act of Bhutan 2011
- ✓ Technology needs assessment and technology plans for climate change adaptation 2013
- ✓ National Integrated Water Resources Management Plan 2016
- ✓ Bhutan Drinking Water Quality Standard 2016



# Successes/Challenges

## Success

- ✓ Considerable progress in terms of coverage for both rural and urban water supply & sanitation in the last three decades. The goal to improve the health of the general public by reducing the incidence of water, sanitation & hygiene related diseases through the provision of safe drinking water and improved sanitation & hygiene facilities has largely been achieved.
- ✓ More than 50% of the urban population has intermittent water supply ranging from 6-12 hours per day and the quality of water does not fully meet the required standards. In rural areas only about 69% of the schemes are functional.
- ✓ In the capital city of Thimphu, the water supply coverage is 100%. However, treated water supply coverage is 70% and remaining 30% does not have proper treatment facilities. The quality of treated water conforms to required standards.
- ✓ With regards to sanitation, septic tanks are the most common sewage treatment facility in urban areas. However, the four main towns have sewage network coverage of more than 50% with proper treatment plants. Rural sanitation facilities consist of pit toilets and pour flush toilet.
- ✓ All the major towns are provided with landfills but none of the landfills qualify as sanitary landfills. Solid waste is becoming an emerging issue in rural communities and health workers are promoting proper disposal of solid waste.

# Successes/Challenges

## Challenges

- The proper development of water and sanitation infrastructure and maintaining it to optimal working condition has been limited to the following factors:
- Urban:
  - ✓ Lack of resources (human and financial)
  - ✓ Rapid Urbanization
  - ✓ Inadequate planning
  - ✓ Climate change
  - ✓ Lack of education and awareness on proper water and waste management
- Rural:
  - ✓ Providing water supply for the remaining unserved areas due to rugged terrain & settlements with no water source near the vicinity of their village
  - ✓ Water sources drying up due to factors such as climate change and human interference at the catchment area.
  - ✓ Ensuring the quality of drinking water supply is a low priority in communities
  - ✓ Lack of adequate sanitation policy

# Waste water treatment system



Thank you

Tashi Delek