

Beyond the Gap: A Strategic Blueprint for WASH

Financing *Levelling Domestic, Private, and Multilateral Synergy in a Global Crisis*

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GLOBAL SOUTH WASH Financing & Sustainability Conference 2026

April 1-3, 2026 | Kathmandu, Nepal

GLOBAL EVOLUTION OF WASH FROM IDWSSD TO SDGs: 45 YRS JOURNEY

1981 - 1990

International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (IDWSSD)

1981



1st UN-led global Decade
improved drinking water for 1+ billion
Basic sanitation for millions
Exposed finance & capacity gaps
Path to New Delhi Statement (1990)

New Delhi Statement (1990):

shift to equity and basic services for all
World Summit for Children (1990):
WASH linked to child survival and public health

Dublin & Rio (1992):

IWRM, environmental focus, women's roles, stronger water governance

Global Monitoring (1990 baseline):

foundation for future MDG water & sanitation targets

1990

NGO/R&D/Advocacy



Equity & Foundations for MDG Targets

1990 - 2000

2000 - 2015

MDG Era – Target 7C



2000

UN System

MDG Target: Halve the population without safe drinking water and basic sanitation

2002 – WSSD (Johannesburg):

Reaffirmed water and sanitation as global development priorities

2008 – International Year of Sanitation:

Mobilized political commitment and public attention

2010 – UN Resolution: Human Right to Water and Sanitation formally recognized

2015

Philanthropy



SDG Era – Universal, Safely Managed WASH

2015 - 2030

2030 +

Shift from basic/improved to universal, equitable WASH and **ending open defecation**

2017: First WHO/UNICEF JMP SDG baseline; introduction of safely managed sanitation

2018–2028: UN Decade “Water for Sustainable Development” advancing SDG 6

2030



CWIS | A PUBLIC SERVICE SYSTEMS APPROACH - 2018



CORE CWIS OUTCOMES



EQUITY

Services reflect fairness in distribution and prioritization of service quality, prices, deployment of public finance/ subsidies



SAFETY

Services safeguard customers, workers and communities from safety and health risks by reaching *everyone* with safe sanitation



SUSTAINABILITY

Services are reliably and continually delivered based on effective management of human, financial and natural resources



CORE CWIS FUNCTIONS

RESPONSIBILITY

Authority(s) execute a clear public mandate to ensure safe, equitable and sustainable, sanitation services for all

ACCOUNTABILITY

Authority's(ies') performance against mandate is monitored and managed with data, transparency, and incentives

RESOURCE PLANNING & MANAGEMENT

Resources—human, financial, natural, assets—are effectively managed to support execution of mandate across time/space

PARTNERSHIP WITH MDBs TO INCREASE INVESTMENTS in FSM AND CWIS

speeding up Sanitation in Asia
Introducing ADB's New Sanitation Financing Partnership Trust Fund

The Asian Development Bank and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation are working together to speed up access to safe sanitation in the Asia and Pacific region.

A New Sanitation Trust Fund
ADB and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation have established a new Sanitation Financing Partnership Trust Fund to accelerate access to sanitation across the region. The Trust Fund will be administered under the Water Financing Partnership Facility (WFPF), ADB's facility that pools and coordinates financial and knowledge resources from development partners for ADB's development work in water and sanitation.

Increased Sanitation Financing
An investment of \$15 million from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation into the Trust Fund will leverage over \$28 million in investments from ADB by 2017 to expand "non-networked" (i.e., non-sewered) sanitation and septicage (i.e., fecal sludge) management solutions across Asia.

Innovative Sanitation Solutions
The Trust Fund will support identification, testing, and pilot implementation of innovative sanitation solutions—new policies, business models and technologies—to increase support for non-networked sanitation and septicage management projects.

What the Trust Fund Can Finance

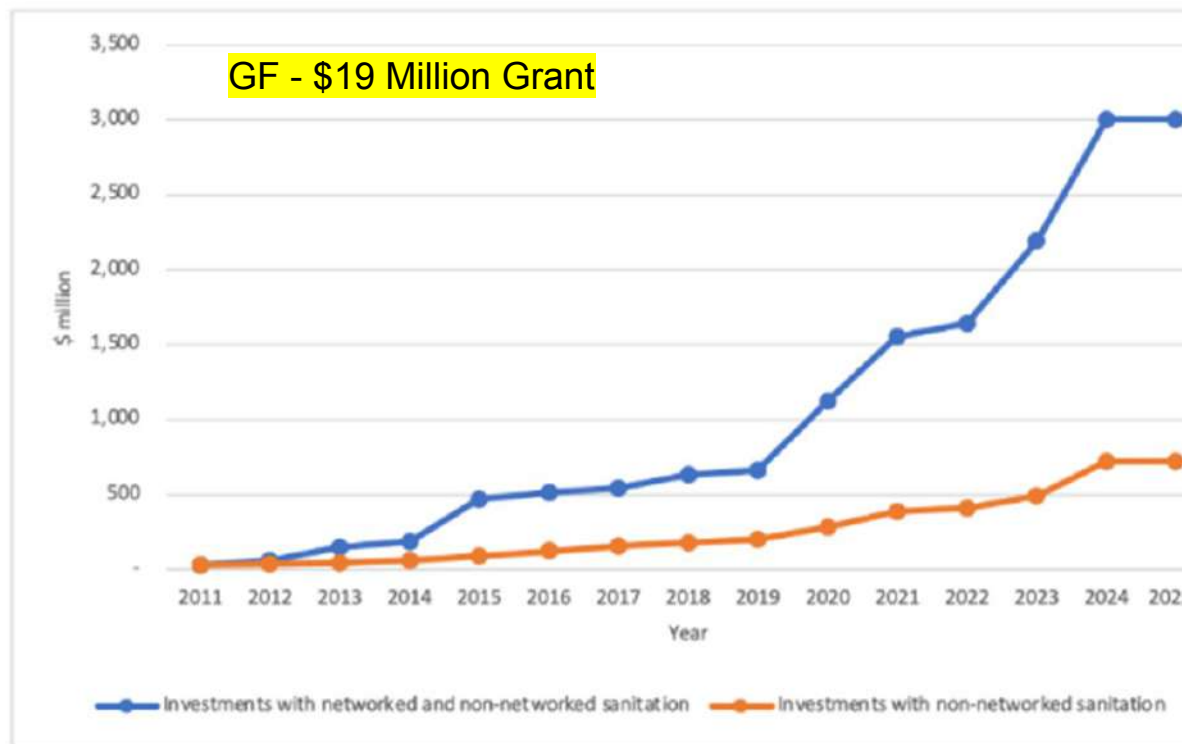
- Piloting innovations in sanitation and septicage management, including new technologies for septicage management and disposal in urban and peri-urban areas, and sludge treatment.
- Providing additional grant funds for innovations in ADB sanitation projects for septicage management and decentralized sanitation and wastewater management projects piloted in ADB's country partnership strategies.
- Supporting septicage management and sludge treatment policies, including policy and business innovations that improve the quality and coverage of septicage management.
- Supporting innovations in project delivery mechanisms, such as output-based aid for deployment of new technologies; and innovative financing models for sanitation systems, including maintenance and upgrades.

About ADB's Water Financing Partnership Facility
ADB's Water Financing Partnership Facility (WFPF) was established in 2006 to bring in additional financial and knowledge resources from various development partners to support the implementation of ADB's Water Financing Program. The Program aims to achieve the following targeted outcomes:

- 500 million people with safe drinking water supply and improved sanitation
- 93 million people with more efficient and productive irrigation and drainage services
- 170 million people with reduced risk of flooding

WFPF Trust Funds	
Multi-Donor Trust Fund:	US\$82.55 million
• Australia	• US\$ 24.21 million
• Austria	• US\$ 8.47 million
• Norway	• US\$ 4.67 million
• Spain	• US\$ 10 million
• Switzerland	• US\$ 5.2 million
Netherlands Trust Fund	US\$19.75 million
Sanitation Financing Partnership Trust Fund	US\$19 million

ADB **BILL & MELINDA GATES foundation**



*as of 30 June 2025



SANITATION JOURNEY IN INDIA SINCE 2014

National Policy Movement



National Workshop on Urban Sanitation, April 2016



MoUD at FSM4 February 2017



National FSSM Policy released at National Workshop, 28th February 2017



Primer on FSSM on City's Journey Beyond ODF - FSSM, September 2016

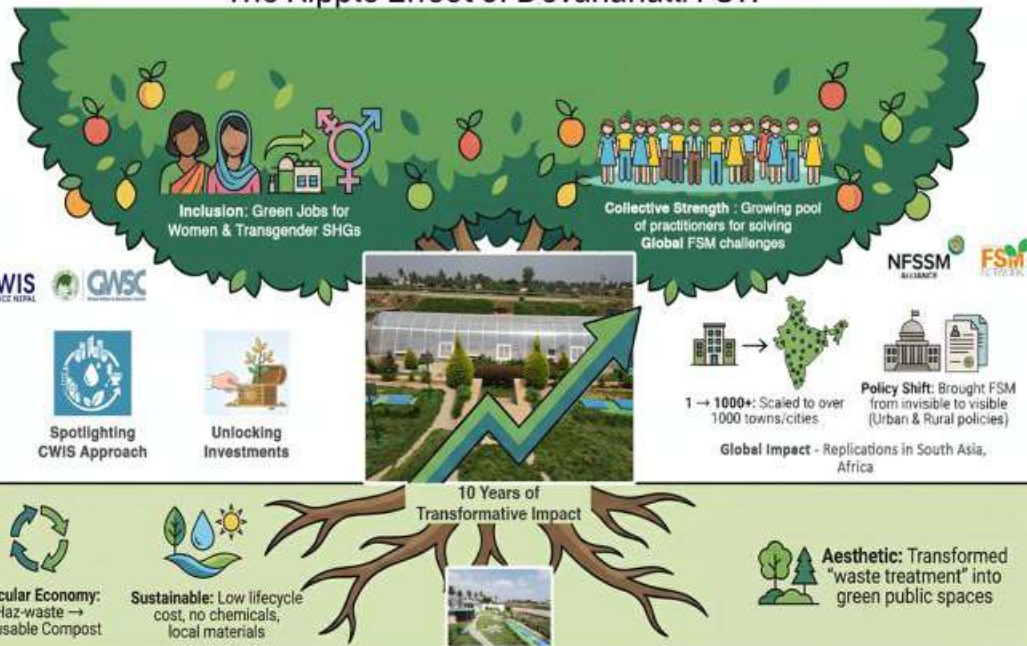


- Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation - AMRUT 2.0
- Cashless approvals for Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation - AMRUT 2.0
- First inclusive outlay of ₹5,75,000 crore
- Targets universal coverage of water supply by providing household tap connections in all 4, 216 statutory towns
- 100% coverage of household sewerage/sewage management in 500 AMRUT cities
- Provide 3.66 crore new tap connections and 3.54 crore



Scaling FSTPs from the first demonstration in 2015/16

The Ripple Effect of Devanahalli FSTP



PARTNER ECOSYSTEM IN INDIA | STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONAL VOICES



- **CWAS** has the voice and capacity to inform on inclusive sanitation through research
- Pivoting to next generation solutioning through research on Climate and Sanitation

Global South Academic Conclave on WASH and Climate 2025

1250 participants

- **WASHi** is a preferred knowledge and resource partner to MoHUA, offering govt. advisory, policy and implementation support
- Participating in State tenders for Used Water Management – UP, Odisha, AP, Kerala

WIH Platform working with multiple commercial and sector partners for **WASH Innovations in India**



Valuing water in developing countries
Dinesh Murthy
Value of Water Conference, Frankfurt
March, 2023
CWAS, CRDF

Odisha Urban Academy (OUA)

Sharing learnings of Odisha's urban development to nationals and regional partners. Institution strengthening process on; Payment framework available



GSCOE@ IIT Palakkad set up as platform
Recognized by PSA | Leading work on informing policy on Biosolids

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY PALAKKAD GLOBAL SANITATION CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE



GSCoE IIT Palakkad leading localization of ISO standards for India



COLLABORATIVE EFFORT IN NEPAL - CWISAN

CWIS Alliance Nepal City Wide Inclusive Sanitation Alliance Nepal

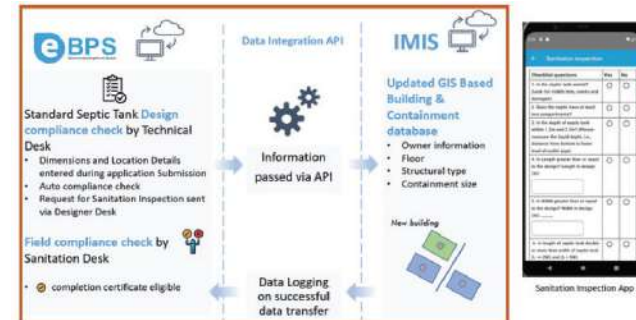
CWISAN

- Diverse members
- One collective vision voice and shared Mission
- UN-Habitat Secretariate
- Focus on three themes
 - Policy Influence and Monitoring
 - Advocacy
 - Capacity Building & practice

EXPERT INDIVIDUALS



27th December 2021



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FRAMEWORK TO SUPPORT MDBs

Strategic partners



Academic partners



- School of Engineering and Technology
- School of Environment, Resources and Development
- School of Management

Served areas



Global Sanitation Graduate School



Funding partners



Execution partners



SCALING REGULATORY MOMENTUM



If you want to go far- go together: Regulation at the heart of systems transformation

Inclusive Sanitation Regulation Framework and supporting guidelines developed and under implementation

Adopted and contextualized by countries:

Zambia, Kenya, Tanzania, Burundi, Zanzibar, Rwanda, Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique

Utility mandates extended to include non-sewered sanitation and private operators under formalisation

Utilities:

Zambia (11), Kenya (93), Tanzania (87), Malawi (5)
National: Burundi (1), Zanzibar (1), Rwanda (1), Botswana (1),

Formalised technical trainings introduced to enhance capacity of actors to execute mandates

WSS Regulation Training Centre launched in 2024 with over 500 sector actors trained in water supply and sanitation service provision and regulation

Partner collaborations – publications, webinars, trainings
UNICEF, WSUP, WHO, WIN, IWA



Digital Tools developed to enhance sanitation service provision and service resilience

Smart Sanitation



welcome to smart sanitation

Introduction of Service Provider+Regulator Platform in collaboration with ARIWASA and PASA to close loop between regulation and service provision



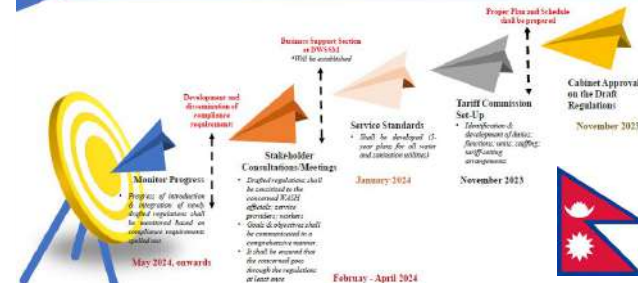
GUIDELINES FOR ONSITE SANITATION AND FAECAL SLUDGE MANAGEMENT FOR WATER AND SANITATION AUTHORITIES, 2020

Over 80mil gaining access to quality and affordable services through accelerated uptake

Nepal's Strides through Regulatory journey



Regulation ROLL-OUT



Bangladesh initiates its Regulatory journey

Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development & Cooperatives
Local Government Division
Policy Support Branch
www.lgd.gov.bd

Date: 17 Bhadra 1432
01 September 2025



OFFICE ORDER

The following Regulatory Council (RC) is formed to according to the Policy and Technical News/Briefs for supporting Water Supply and Sanitation Regulatory Mechanism Development in Bangladesh:

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| 1. Advisor/Minister, MoLGR&C | Chairperson |
| 2. Senior Secretary/Secretary, Local Government Division (LGD) | Member |
| 3. Senior Secretary/Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources | Member |
| 4. Senior Secretary/Secretary, Ministry of Industry | Member |
| 5. Senior Secretary/Secretary, Health Services Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare | Member |
| 6. Senior Secretary/Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change | Member |
| 7. One WASH sector specialist (to be nominated by the Search Committee)* | Member |
| 8. One Specialist from academia (to be nominated by the Search Committee)* | Member |
| 9. Additional Secretary, Water Supply Wing, LGD | Member Secretary |
- *Search Committee consists of three members: 1. Secretary, LGD, 2. Vice-Chancellor, BUET, 3. Any distinguished water sector expert nominated by the Chair.

Terms of Reference (ToR):

(1) Give policy directives in tariff setting, price regulation, service quality, competition, consumer protection, environment and public health.

BUILDING ACCOUNTABILITY| SOUTH ASIA'S DIGITALISATION JOURNEY

Strengthening of Public Data Systems for Sanitation Service Delivery (Bangladesh and Nepal)

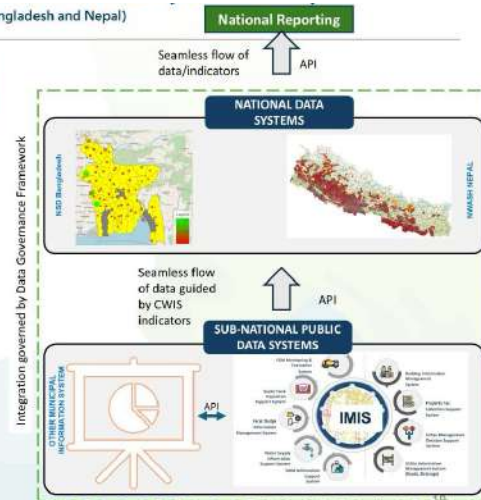
6 Cities
18 Partners
10 Million (approx.)

To integrate public data systems at both sub-national and national levels creating a unified ecosystem to catalyze Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 6.2 outcomes.

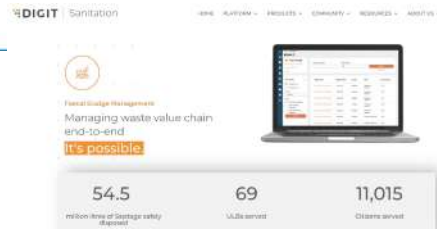
Enhancement and implementation of sub-national Public Data System:
Integrated Municipal Information System (IMIS)

Enhancement of National Public Data System:
National Sanitation Dashboard (NSD) - Bangladesh
NWSH Management Information System - Nepal

Integration of Public Data Systems



Achieving scale in India – journey from 2009, sustained and growing



CWIS Planning Tool: Towards Inclusive Sanitation



MAKING SANITATION WORKERS COUNT



Ensuring safety and dignity of sanitation workers in urban & rural India & Bangladesh

Garima Scheme, Odisha, 2020
Coverage – 115 ULBs



SWDS, Tamil Nadu, 2022
Coverage – 649 ULBs



NAMASTE, Pan India, 2023
Coverage – ~4800 ULBs



~185,000 Sanitation workers recognized across

Bangladesh national level integration of BMS app in 2024



Standard Operating Procedure – Safety and Dignity of Sanitation Workers in Rural India, 2024



Key components

- **Visibilising** sanitation workers- IT-enabled identification.
- Recognition as **highly skilled professionals**.
- Institutionalising **ERSU** for safe sanitation services.
- Promoting **mechanization** to eliminate manual cleaning.
- Ensuring fair **wage** systems with risk & hardship allowance.
- Enhanced access to **social protection schemes**.
- Ensuring provision of gender-specific **PPE**.
- Creating a **training ecosystem** for workers.
- Establishing **resting facilities** for sanitation workers.

Sanitation Worker Takes Center Stage at 6th FSM Convention in Bangladesh

By Practical Action in Bangladesh • 21.03.2024 WASH & waste Blog

View local news

Share this

Nasima Begum, a sanitation worker, delivered the keynote paper at the 6th FSM Convention held on March 2nd at the Institute of Architects Bangladesh (IAB) in Dhaka. The Faecal Sludge Management (FSM) convention brought together government officials, NGO leaders and sanitation workers to address the safety and dignity of sanitation workers, sanitation financing, and progress in implementing the City Wide Inclusive Sanitation (CWIS) Model in Bangladesh.



ADB Funded CB events for Sanitation Workers in Nepal



A Capacity Building Initiative for Safety, Dignity, and Well-being of Sanitation Workers



Developed Resource pool in 2 cities of Nepal

MENTORING THE MENTORS & CHAMPIONS

MALAYSIA:

1970's

Today

- Holistic governance
- Regulation
- Strong utilities
- Infrastructure
- Management



Model for many countries: exposure visits, twinning, mentoring

Malaysia is a model, and through various programs of the Foundation, officials and professionals from India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Indonesia as well as many other countries participated in learning and exposure visits to Malaysia, and numerous initiatives in these countries have been inspired from these visits.



Capacity Development of City Officials to Perform as Mentor

Capacitate the potential cities to function as hubs of knowledge mentoring other cities in BD & Nepal in sanitation adopting CWIS

The mentee cities will be able to-

- evaluate the applicability of innovative public sanitation facilities in their context
- foster stronger network within municipalities
- be encouraged for ongoing efforts in sanitation improvement

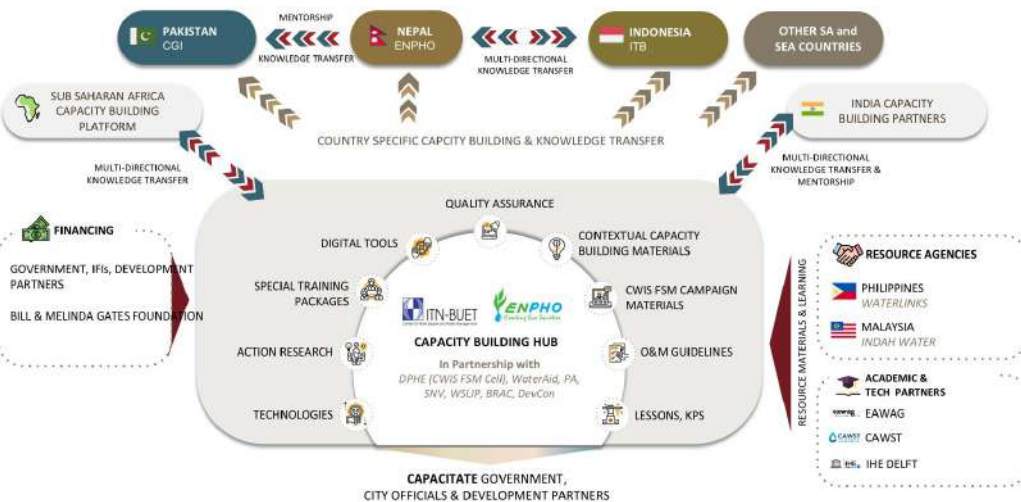


10 Mentor Cities from Bangladesh and Nepal

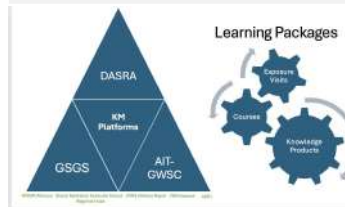


SOUTH ASIA'S CAPACITY BUILDING AND KNOWLEDGE NETWORKS

SCALING CWIS: REGIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING HUB



Dasra anchoring the knowledge hub for good practices



CREA Launched a Centre for Inclusive WASH



GSIS India and India Chapters led by CEPT University and AIT

NIUA is leading CB efforts as a Platform



EMBEDDING LEARNINGS IN ACADEMIA - GSGS



MOBILIZATION THROUGH MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATIONS

Mobilized Political Leadership

Activated 500+ mayors and city authorities across Bangladesh and Nepal to champion SDG 6.2 and inclusive sanitation

Mainstreamed SFDs

Pioneered large-scale adoption of 120+ Shit Flow Diagrams (SFDs), now formally integrated into national WASH data systems

Strengthened Local Government Associations

Elevated MuAN & MAB as nationally recognized voices driving sanitation reforms

Enabled Policy Breakthroughs

Contributed to IRF, National FSM policies, WASH policies, municipal by-laws, and updated national training modules

Scaled Peer Learning

Ensured every municipality in Bangladesh and Nepal gained foundational CWIS knowledge

Advanced Gender Inclusion

Engaged women leaders, triggering national attention to Safe Public Toilets for Women

Amplified CWIS Globally

Showcased local leadership at UCLG ExBu, WWF, APFSD, AMF, Asian Mayors Academy, FSM7, and COP

Regional Commitments

Secured Bandung Call for Action 2025 and Kathmandu Declaration 2023, focusing on CWIS innovation, inclusivity, and continuous regional cooperation



United Cities and Local Governments Asia-Pacific



MuAN
Municipal Association of Nepal



ACVN
Hội hội các đô thị Việt Nam



Federation of Sri Lankan Local Government Authorities

STRENGTHENING CIVIL SOCIETY NETWORK

FANSA AT A GLANCE



WASH CSO Network in **8** Countries
600 plus CSO members in
South Asia

VISION:

An inclusive, equitable, and climate resilient WASH facilities and services for ALL in South Asia



Image Source:
South Asia
for Region

Foundation Master Template (TO EDIT THIS TEXT: select Header & Footer on Insert tab)



Afghanistan
Pakistan
India
Nepal
Bhutan
Bangladesh
Sri Lanka
Maldives



Rising for the Rights:

Strengthening Civil Society Network in South Asia to achieve SDG 6

Call to Action: From Funding Gap to Action Gap

- **1. Shift the mindset.**

Stop obsessing over the *funding gap* — start focusing on the *how*. Money exists; we must tap into it differently.

- **2. Do “business as unusual.”**

Leverage new technologies, AI, improved communication, and South–South collaboration to optimize existing resources.

- **3. Strengthen public sector capacity.**

Support local governments and utilities with knowledge, systems, and accountability mechanisms — not just funds.

- **4. De-risk private sector investment.**

Use blended finance, philanthropy, and public funds to encourage small, medium, and large enterprises to enter the WASH business.

- **5. Redefine the roles of academia and non-governmental actors (Academia, INGOs, NGOs, Private Sector, and Civil Society)**

- **6. Build structured South–South collaboration.**

Turn dialogue into sustained, actionable partnerships across countries in the Global South.

- **7. Remember: The public sector is our boss. Work under their vision — but push for speed, accountability, and systemic change.**

“Let’s not worry about the \$\$ gap. Let’s close the action gap — together, now, with what we already have.”

GS
WASH
FINANCE
2026



THANK YOU ALL !!!!!





WORLD TOILET SUMMIT 2026

17–19 November 2026

■ **Safe Toilets. Reused Resources. Healthy Communities.**

A Global Gathering for:

- Public Sector Architects: Leaders, Mayors, Ministers, and Regulators.
- Private Sector Innovators: Manufacturers and Real Estate & Urban Developers.
- Financial Catalysts: IFIs, Development Banks and Private Equity.
- Community Partners: Water Utilities and Civil Society Organisations.

Be at the forefront of the 2026 Global Sanitation Agenda



T. BENJ

Asian Institute of Technology
Campus, Pathumthani, Thailand

Lessons Learned for Action!

- There was not a single city where we could demonstrate operational FSPT and the entire sanitation value chain.
- There was very weak capacity and understanding about the safe management of sanitation among development partners, sector players, and public officials.
- Sub-Saharan Africa was ahead on the FSM
- Unable to spend the funds that were already allocated.
- Coordination among development partners, both national and international, was poor.
- Institutions were fragmented, with no regulatory mechanisms or monitoring systems.
- There was limited investment in sanitation by development banks and a weak capacity in designing those investments.
- Great lessons to shape SDG indicators