



CHITTAGONG WATER SUPPLY IMPROVEMENT AND SANITATION PROJECT

IMPROVING WATER AND SANITATION SERVICES IN CHITTAGONG

BASIC INFORMATION

APPROVAL DATE:
**June 23
2010**

END DATE:
**March 31
2020**

TOTAL COMMITMENT:
\$202.99 million

IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES:
Chittagong Water Supply and Sewerage Authority

OVERVIEW

Chittagong is the second largest city of Bangladesh with a rapidly swelling population- currently estimated at 2.9 million and expected to reach 3.7 million by 2030. The **Chittagong Water Supply Improvement and Sanitation Project (CWSISP)** aims to improve water supply, sanitation and drainage services in Chittagong city. The project will also help strengthen institutional capacity of Chittagong Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (CWASA). Currently, CWASA has about 75,000 active connections that provide direct treated piped water to households.



CHALLENGE

The water supply situation has improved in Chittagong. Currently the city's water production capacity is 90 percent of the estimated demand but the pipe network needs to be updated. A small percentage of the city still uses tube wells. The underground water quality in the city is questionable, with high salt and iron levels, which poses health risks to the public.

However, very little investment has been made into sanitation and storm water drainage since the late 1980s. The Chittagong city lacks sanitation infrastructures: it is not connected to any form of sewerage system or effective storm water drainage service. Hence, most of the population typically utilizes septic tanks and pour-flush sanitation systems. Septic tank effluent disposal is generally sporadic and septic sludge not collected on a regular basis. It does not have sludge treatment facilities. Hence, both domestic and industrial waste are discharged to open water bodies creating environmental concerns. To initiate sewerage system and with a target of gradually bringing the entire city population under modern sewerage system, CWASA has developed a comprehensive sanitation improvement strategy with the World Bank's support and a master plan to bring the city under planned sanitation system. To implement the proposed sewerage investments Program (2017-2065), an estimated cost of \$1032.01 million will be required.

APPROACH

To provide access to safe water to around 650,000 residents in the city, the project is helping construct a water treatment plant in the Modunaghat area. It is also helps rehabilitate and extend the storage and distribution facilities, especially in the under-served areas. Furthermore, the project supports the updating of Chittagong's sanitation and drainage master plans, which will help identify priority investments in the city's drainage and sewerage networks, and for initiatives aiming to improve the city's urban environment. The project also supports CWASA's pilot expansion of water supply and sanitation services in selected Chittagong slums, bringing better services to the urban poor. Finally, CWSISP aims to support CWASA by improving the sustainability and accountability of operations, and improving coordination for water, sanitation and drainage services between key stakeholder agencies in Chittagong.

TOWARDS THE FUTURE

A two-phase restructuring was carried out to this project and the revised objective aims to increase access to safe water supply and improve CWASA's institutional capacity and investment planning for sanitation and drainage in Chittagong city. Since then, several large works contracts have been initiated and a subsequent restructuring extended the project period to allow to complete a water treatment plant, the Sanitation and Drainage Improvement Strategy and Master Plan, network transmission and distribution rehabilitation works, and key CWASA institutional strengthening initiatives. Implementation of the recommendations of the utility modernization plan is expected to bring further improvements in utility capacity and management.

EXPECTED RESULTS

650,000 people provided with access to improved water sources

89% of CWASA operational costs are covered from direct water sales revenue

CWASA achieves utility **maturity level 3**

\$500 million worth of priority sanitation and drainage investments identified, prepared and ready for financing