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WATER AND SANITATION TRUST FUND

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WATER AND SANITATION TRUST FUND
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

Annual Report 2009



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A Note From the Director

The year 2009 marked the second year of implementation of the UN-HABITAT Water and Sanitation Trust Fund (WSTF) Strategic Plan for the period 2008 to 2012. The overall focus of the Plan is on consolidating the existing portfolio of the Trust Fund combined with modest expansion.

Four key programme areas continue to guide the activities of the Trust Fund:

- delivering sustainable services to the poor;
- ensuring synergy between the built and natural environments;
- monitoring the internationally agreed water and sanitation goals; and
- integrating infrastructure and housing provision.

The success of the Trust Fund is measured against three key outcomes defined in the logical framework of the Strategic Plan:

- i) increased institutional capacity in partner countries for pro-poor water and sanitation initiatives and policies;
- ii) increased flow of investment into water and sanitation sector catalyzed by WSTF interventions; and
- iii) improved Millennium Development Goals (MDG) monitoring mechanisms for water and sanitation in partner countries, with improved benchmarking of water and sanitation service providers.

Although results accomplished in the previous year have been impressive in a number of areas, diminishing financial resources make it increasingly difficult to deliver against these expected outcomes of the programme. The funding challenges did not have a direct impact in 2009, but they prompted the Trust Fund management to take a more cautious and less ambitious approach for the future and commence a process of achieving savings, notably in terms of project staffing. Fortunately, the Government of Spain has pledged a substantial contribution of Euro 7 million. Additionally, in the beginning of 2010 the Government of Norway and the Abu Dhabi Water and Electricity Company have formalised their contributions.

2009 has also been the second operational year of the UN-HABITAT's Medium Term Strategic and Institutional Plan (MTSIP) for 2008 to 2013. The MTSIP reflects the mandate of the Habitat Agenda, the Paris Declaration, reforms in the context of 'One UN' as well as the need to accelerate progress in meeting the Millennium Development Goals. Within UN-HABITAT, implementation of the MTSIP entails a strong focus on programme alignment and coherence and a priority on Results-based Management. Significant efforts were undertaken during the reporting period to align the activities supported by the Trust Fund with the MTSIP Focus Area 4 on "Environmentally sound basic urban infrastructure and services".

In response to an increasing emphasis of UN-HABITAT on documenting results rather than activities, an impact study on the activities supported by the Trust Fund was commissioned in the reporting year. Undertaking a comprehensive analysis of the WSTF's impact in two sample countries (Nepal and Kenya) and of WSTF activities globally on the theme of "Gender Mainstreaming", the study marks the first phase of a plan to regularly assess the impact of the WSTF. In the following pages, we invite readers to accompany the Watsan Trust Fund in its 2009 journey.

Bert Diphorn
Director, Human Settlements Financing Division
UN-HABITAT



The Big Picture

A Laos schoolgirl walks to a trash bin area, selects the right recycling bin and throws her can. Meanwhile, far away in another continent, a Kenyan woman makes her way through the crowded lanes of a Nairobi slum to a toilet complex for a few minutes of essential privacy. In neighbouring Gusii, a group of municipal officers listens attentively while an experienced engineer from another utility explains the importance of reducing non-revenue water. About the same time, Nepalese community members gather to understand the benefits of installing a simple water filter in their households.

While these sounds like isolated activities happening in different parts of the globe, there is a common thread binding them - UN-HABITAT's Water and Sanitation Trust Fund (WSTF) Strategic Plan for the period 2008 to 2012.

In the midst of the gloom of the global economic crisis, consolidating the gains achieved in the regional

operational activities in Africa and Asia was the overarching strategy for 2009. Thus, there was a thrust to complete pilot phases as well as to expand the Lake Victoria Water and Sanitation Initiative (LV-WATSAN) and Mekong Water and Sanitation Programme (MEK-WATSAN). At the same time the Water for Latin America and Caribbean Cities Programme (WATSAN-LAC) was successfully rolled out.

As any development professional would affirm, the real challenge is not in building the hard infrastructure. It is building the capacity of institutions, utilities, professionals, community workers and empowered women that requires the most painstaking effort. Throughout 2009, WSTF launched myriad training programmes aimed at improving capacity. The Global Water Operators Partnership Alliance spread its arms further, helping to strengthen partnerships between utilities.

A core task of the Trust Fund has been to support the water and sanitation

sector with norms, standards and good practices gathered from experiences around the world. Several publications, toolkits and sourcebooks on excreta, wastewater and bio-solids were compiled and disseminated during the year.

The Trust Fund also did not lose sight of the importance of advocacy and active engagement with political processes and events throughout 2009. The process of raising the profile of pro-poor water and sanitation issues as well as seeking to integrate them with sector policy and practices continued vigorously.

Ensuring financial sustainability of programmes continued to pose the most pivotal challenge to WSTF in 2009. Efforts are on to attract more contributions from various sources and through counterpart funding from governments as well as other partners. Meanwhile, every available dollar is being squeezed out to work harder for water and sanitation.





Building Capacity Layer By Layer

Capacity building remains one of the most critical components of a development programme. The history of development funding is littered with examples of ‘benefits’ given before people were ready and ‘solutions’ offered before the community was trained.

Accordingly, the WSTF initiated capacity building and training programmes at various levels from community members to service providers to policy makers during 2009. A variety of publications and normative tools were

developed in significant areas such as waste management and resource recovery. Aided by them, good practices in pro-poor water and sanitation initiatives were demonstrated in training sessions.

Key events and political processes were utilised to engage with decision-makers, journalists and the general public to convey the important messages about pro-poor urban water and sanitation.

Yanking Utilities Up to Standard

The poor performance of most water utilities in the developing world has long been a stumbling block in achieving water and sanitation for all. Heavy water losses, poor customer service, intermittent supplies, lack of metering, untrained staff and a litany of other woes have become so entrenched that people have often resigned themselves to their fate.

While the central areas of big cities have access to water and sanitation, the urban poor are usually not covered. The urban squatter settlements often languish under the most unhygienic conditions imaginable.

Many WSTF activities in 2009 focussed on providing training and technical assistance to water and sanitation utilities. These include:

- development of strategic business plans;
- preparation and implementation of performance improvement plans;
- water demand management;
- billing and revenue collection;
- customer care and block mapping

A total of eight utilities in three East African countries: Kenya, Tanzania

and Uganda have benefited from our capacity building initiatives," informs Robert Goodwin, who is heading the Lake Victoria Water and Sanitation Initiative (LV-WATSAN). "We have adopted a targeted programme of mentoring, technical assistance and on-the-job training," he says.

Mr Goodwin points out that sometimes, a simple reorientation of the management rather than injection of funds can help in making utilities perform better. "In Bukoba utility of Tanzania we found that they did not have any interaction with customers," he narrates. "We worked with them on the theme of customer care and helped them to divide the town into 25 districts. Every month someone from the utility would visit the representative of each district and have a community interaction."

Mentoring utilities to help them reduce their non-revenue water (NRW) has shown dramatic results in Kenya. For example, Gusii Water Company has reduced NRW from 61.6% to 40.7% and the

South Nyanza Water Company has reduced it from 65% to 45%, which has contributed to increased revenues of 65% and 48% respectively.

"Often we find that the poor, who are not connected to the water mains are paying ten times more than those who are connected," says Mr Goodwin. "Meanwhile, the utilities sit back with their arms folded."

Through UN-HABITAT's initiatives, these utilities have set up revolving funds enabling the poor to get loans to connect to the water supply.

"The loan for the connection fees are eventually paid back by the poor over a period of time," explains Mr Goodwin. UN-HABITAT's capacity building programmes for utilities are meshing well with the bigger institutional plans of East African governments to overhaul the water sector.

In Nepal, improved water billing software has been developed for nine small towns, while water and sanitation users' committees have

PROGRESS IN POVERTY MAPPING

The importance of poverty mapping or the spatial representation of poverty in order to facilitate pro-poor interventions is beyond doubt. Poverty maps are powerful tools to increase the effectiveness of investments.

In Nepal, a poverty mapping exercise piloted in ten municipalities with the support of the Trust Fund has

encouraged the Government to allocate resources for the expansion of the exercise in all 58 municipalities of the country. Similarly in Vietnam, detailed poverty maps are facilitating pro-poor connections. As a result of this work, more than 15,000 poor people have benefited from improved water supply and/or sanitation facilities.

been trained to increase efficiency in managing service delivery. The improved billing system will soon be expanded to 29 more towns. Water and sanitation master plans of three municipalities were drafted and are under a stakeholders' consultation process for finalisation.

A water demand management culture is beginning to take root in the operations of utilities thanks to interventions by UN-HABITAT. "Following the Water Demand Management Strategy in the Indian state of Madhya Pradesh, the municipal corporations of Gwalior and Jabalpur have established operational leak detection units," says Roshan

Shrestha, Chief Technical Advisor of Water for Asian Cities Programme. "We have reduced losses to the extent of 15% in the target areas of the two cities and about 5,000 households are benefiting from the improved water supply," he informs.

In China, similar programmes for capacity building of utilities in the realm of water conservation and demand management have been successful.

To achieve enhanced capacity in managing utilities, exposing water utility managers and key personnel to best practices in utility management and operations through workshops

and peer-to-peer exchanges has been a major focus of the Trust Fund's activities.

Over 300 utility managers and operators were trained during the year at workshops held in Mexico, Bolivia, Jordan, Bulgaria, the U.S Virgin Islands and Uganda. Topics covered included water demand management, wastewater treatment plant operations, water safety planning, non-revenue water, energy efficiency and utility management for change agents.

The linkage between energy and water is also gaining recognition. "When we first did a survey of utilities in Africa, we found that 80% of their costs were

RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH

The Rights-based approach to water and sanitation was successfully implemented in Nepal in 2009. Through the intervention of water and sanitation service delivery to poor clusters, two municipalities institutionalised the pro-poor water and sanitation governance by increasing the allocation to water and sanitation in the annual municipal budget and programme.

This initiative also encouraged the Nepal Water Supply Corporation to expand its services to informal poor settlements where formal services are not usually provided due to land-tenure issues. In Kenya, communities have made recommendations based

on human rights standards to the Nairobi Water and Sewerage Company. These have led to the company's adoption of a policy to extend water supply to informal settlements. In Laos, a survey of current law and policy was received positively by key government officials who expressed support for reflecting rights-based approaches to water and sanitation in the new law on water supply.

The collaboration between UN-HABITAT and COHRE has also produced country case study reports evaluating attempts to implement the right to water and sanitation in Brazil, Kenya, South Africa and Sri Lanka.



RAINWATER HARVESTING GATHERS MOMENTUM

“Let not even a drop of rainwater go to the sea without benefiting man,” said Parakrama Bahu, a great king who ruled Sri Lanka in the 12th century. As demand for water is growing, rainwater harvesting (RWH) is re-emerging from the shadows of history. However, there is a considerable lack of knowledge about RWH at the community and household level. Also, not many governments have promoted RWH or provided incentives to popularise its use.

The Trust Fund has successfully assisted governments and local authorities in developing the necessary policies and guidelines and in implementing demonstration projects. These projects are being used in the training of community groups, small local contractors and artisans in the technology of designing and constructing rainwater harvesting facilities, especially low-cost storage tanks.

Nepal provides a good example of the impact of UN-HABITAT’s assistance at the policy level. “As a result of our support to the Ministry of Physical Planning and Works in developing RWH Guidelines, the Government is now leading by example,” says Roshan Shrestha, Chief Technical Advisor of Water for Asian Cities Programme. “It has made the installation of RWH infrastructure mandatory for all new government buildings.”

The Government of Nepal has also made specific allocations in the national budget to promote rainwater harvesting. A manifold increase in the use of RWH at the household level and in institutional buildings is now evident as the result of these measures. UN-HABITAT supported the South Asia Regional High level Rainwater Harvesting Meeting

in Nepal to raise the issues at policy level and share regional experiences.

In 2009, demonstration projects in rainwater harvesting were implemented in over 17 towns in six countries in Asia and Africa with several new projects under preparation. As a key feature of these projects, they also aim to provide safe drinking water for school children and the most vulnerable groups, such as HIV/AIDS orphans, the elderly and children suffering from albinism.

Projects were implemented in 16 schools in four project cities in Madhya Pradesh and in 11 schools in five districts in West Bengal. Demonstration projects were also implemented at six social service institutions in Harar and Dire Dara in Ethiopia. Under the Lake Victoria Water and Sanitation Initiative, over 120 facilities were constructed in six towns in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania for HIV/AIDS orphans and children suffering from albinism.

These demonstration projects are effectively helping the dissemination of knowledge and skills in rainwater harvesting technology and are also providing direct benefits in terms of access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation and hygiene. The demonstration activities have benefited over 31,000 clients, mainly children and vulnerable groups.

Over 180 schools in West Bengal, Nepal and Kenya have been earmarked for assistance in 2010 through support from Coca Cola (for the projects in Asia) and the Government of Italy (for the project in Kenya). In Uganda, the NGO which implemented the WSTF-supported project has been able to secure funding from the private sector to scale up the project.



INCREASING KNOWLEDGE ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change has also been on the radar screen of WSTF. Activities have mainly contributed to the knowledge base and advocacy programmes on the impacts of climate change on water and sanitation infrastructure in urban settings.

In addition, the WSTF emphasis has been on assisting water utilities and local authorities in vulnerability assessments so that they are incorporated into infrastructure planning systems.

A study undertaken in the Andean Region has shown that a gap exists in applying scientific advances to the local context. UN-HABITAT has applied a regional approach to address this matter and has been exploring partnerships with regional organizations that target adaptation to climate change in Peru, Bolivia, Colombia and Ecuador.

As an intermediate result of these efforts, preparatory work has been finalised towards a study that will synthesise available knowledge on climate change impacts and possible adaptation measures. The expected outcome is to contribute to enhancing the capacity of the population living in the Junin region to adapt to the effects of climate change.

“Vulnerability assessments are a first step towards mainstreaming water adaptation to climate change at a local level,” says Román Gómez, Chief Technical Advisor to the Water for Cities in Latin America and the Caribbean Programme.

In the Lake Victoria Region, a climate change vulnerability study of small water utilities was launched during 2009. The study will also seek to model the impact of climate change on the Lake and will provide a tool kit to facilitate further such studies.

actually the cost of energy,” reveals Vincent Kitio, who leads the Energy Section of UN-HABITAT’s Water, Sanitation and Infrastructure Branch. “This is directly affecting the cost of access to water and is therefore our starting point for optimising energy consumption in utilities,” he says.

Energy audits were carried out for three utilities in Africa (Ghana Water Company Ltd, Addis Ababa Water and Sewerage Authority and Plateau State Water Services Board) and resulted in immediate action. In Ghana, several priority recommendations are being implemented by the management of the Ghana Water Company Ltd.

These measures are expected to produce annual savings in energy costs of about US\$0.52 million/year, accounting for 18% of the total energy cost for the utility. The savings are expected to be partly transferred to the end users through reduced cost of WATSAN services.

Based on the audits of the three utilities, an Energy Audit Manual for Utilities in Developing Countries has been developed to be further used as a tool to reach out to more utilities to focus on regular energy audits in their operations.

“In 2009, we laid the groundwork for investments in renewable energy applications by undertaking a number of feasibility studies,” says Mr Kitio. “These studies have provided a pre-investment tool to enable local institutions to seek funding for project implementation.”

Micro-hydropower was identified as a feasible option in Kisii, Kenya. “Our report showed that a 200 KW plant could provide a stable and clean source of energy for water pumping and reduce electricity costs for the water utility by over 79%,” says Mr Kitio.

The Trust Fund is currently working with the Kisii Municipal Authorities

to identify a financial partner for the implementation of this project.

A number of utilities in the Caribbean have embarked on intensive energy audits within their own operations with assistance of the IDB. This engagement is the result of an intensive training and experience exchange on energy efficiency in utilities held in the U.S Virgin Islands in October 2009 with support from the Global Water Operators Partnership Alliance.

Feasibility studies have also been undertaken to evaluate the potential for generating biogas in seven African countries. As a result, a total of 29 project profiles have been developed. Five potential biogas plants in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda have been identified to be implemented as pilot projects and the Trust Fund is working with local authorities and other partners to mobilise funds to implement the pilot projects. In Laos, biogas digesters at community level and market place are being piloted in ‘cluster villages’.



Solid Steps Towards Waste Management

Solid steps towards waste management
Much of the filth and unhygienic conditions endured by the urban poor is due to the absence of waste management. While the big cities are able to put their waste out of public sight, the small urban centres in secondary towns struggle.

WSTF was involved in many activities that helped to build capacity in solid waste and wastewater management. These included the supply of hardware, project preparation and implementation of pilot demonstration projects, assistance in preparing solid waste management strategies and action plans, the training of personnel and setting-up community-based solid waste management systems.

“We have achieved a balance of technical assistance on hardware provision together with new and novel approaches to capacity-building and training,” says Graham Alabaster, UN-HABITAT focal point for waste. “There are also opportunities for income generation through recycling and reduced environmental impacts including climate change,” he adds.

“Recently, we have completed a range of publications specifically on waste management, covering bio-solids use, refuse collection,” informs Mr Alabaster. “Similar information is being collated on recycling and disposal. Our flagship report, launched at World Urban Forum 5 in Brazil in

BIKES FOR WATER, SANITATION AND INCOME

An innovative project called the “Non-Motorised Transport Project for Solid Waste Management” is making news in Kenya slums. “We have made bicycles available to transport wastes from informal settlements and this has actually become a means for generating income for the poor,” says Christian Schlosser of the Human Settlements Financing Division of UN-HABITAT.

“We are working in three Kenyan settlements of Kibera, Mirera-Karagita and Kamere to demonstrate that non-motorised transport (NMT) can offer an efficient and sustainable alternative for providing water and sanitation,” elaborates Dr Schlosser. “Many of these places do not even have proper roads to enable motorised vehicles to enter,” he added.

A utility bicycle workshop has been set up for the design, production, and sale of NMT load-carrying vehicles. Self-sustaining solid waste management and water vending businesses and enterprises have been developed, and transport has become more accessible for the residents. Plans have been prepared to replicate the model in other informal settlements.





March 2010 presented data on waste management from 20 pilot cities around the world.” [See section titled “Showing the way through normative activities”]

Significant progress was also made in putting up a working model of a solid waste management system for small urban centres in seven towns in the Lake Victoria Water and Sanitation Initiative. “First, equipment was delivered and put into operation in three pilot towns,” says Mr Goodwin who oversees the initiative. “A capacity-enhancement programme in solid waste management was started to assist the municipal councils in the seven towns and for promoting

community-based approaches to waste recycling and resource recovery.”

In the two Kenyan towns of Kisii and Homa Bay where the programme has been completed, there is a noticeable impact towards improved environmental sanitation, especially in the market areas of the towns.

“Demonstration projects can go a long way in promoting effective approaches to wastewater management,” says Andre Dzikus who leads the Water for Asian Cities Programme. “For example, we have used them to promote waste-to-energy generation in communities,” he explains.

“In the small towns of Laos, China, Cambodia and Vietnam, we have laid an emphasis on community-based approaches for waste management just as we do in other parts of the world,” says Mr Dzikus. “At the regional level, we organised an expert group meeting at our office in Fukuoka to spread awareness about different options available for solid waste management in cities.”

In Pakistan, technical assistance has been provided to demonstrate, promote and build capacity in decentralised wastewater management for Nawabshah and Sanghar districts of Sindh province.

RECOVERY OF STRUVITE FROM URINE AT COMMUNITY SCALE IN NEPAL

Phosphorus is an essential nutrient for all plants and animals and is also one of the three key components (together with nitrogen and potassium) of fertilisers that are crucial for the world's food supply. With rising demand for food and bio-fuels, the need for phosphate fertilisers to increase crop production is also increasing.

Reserves of phosphate rock, which are mainly found in China, the United States and Morocco, are the main source of phosphorus used in fertilisers. However, at current rates of extraction, global reserves will get depleted in 75 to 100 years. Phosphorus cannot be manufactured from alternative sources, but it can be recovered and reused. Some can be recovered from human, animal and organic waste, but there have hardly been any initiatives to promote recycling.

In a conventional sanitation approach, urine, faeces and greywater is mixed and flushed away by water. The urine diverting dry toilet is a sanitation option that allows separate collection and usage as an alternative to chemical fertilisers. However, there are several practical problems for its application like storage, transportation and social acceptance.

As an alternative, urine may be converted into powder, concentrating some of its beneficial values in white, odorless dust. The resulting powder, called Struvite, contains about 95% of the phosphorous initially found in the urine and roughly 5% of the nitrogen. By using Struvite as a fertiliser, the nutrient recovered from urine can be recycled locally, reducing the ever-increasing use of synthetic fertiliser.

Eawag (Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology) and UN-HABITAT recently initiated a project to study the potential of Struvite production at community scale in the Kathmandu Valley. Using simple technology, the results so far have been very promising and showed the possibilities of establishing small-scale Struvite production systems. Encouraged by this result, the project is now exploring the possibility of establishing a larger reactor of 500 litres using mobile or public toilets and in partnership with educational institutions. Demand and supply analysis will be undertaken and local sources of magnesium be explored. It is envisioned that Struvite can be recognised as an important option for supporting sanitation coverage, resource recovery and food security.

In Nepal, the WSTF has assisted in strengthening the policy framework for solid waste management.

“We have helped in preparing a draft Solid Waste Management Act, which has been approved by the Ministerial Cabinet and is under review by the Ministry of Law and Justice,” says Roshan Shrestha, Chief Technical Advisor of Water for Asian Cities Programme.

Also, wastewater volumes have been reduced by 10% through the use of

small treatment plants in Kunming, China thanks to UN-HABITAT-supported initiatives. Similar initiatives have been implemented in the towns of Puer, Jinghong and Shuangjiang with participation from the utilities and communities, resulting in significant environmental improvements.

Meanwhile, in Nicaragua, support was given to the municipality of Managua to improve solid waste management in the city and to identify a strategy to promote increased waste recovery and

recycling. “The preparatory activities for the investment phase of the project such as baseline studies and strategic planning which we undertook with the municipality are almost complete and the plans to scale up the project are taking shape,” informs Victor Arroyo, the Regional Coordinator for WSTF's programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean. “A positive outcome we had in Bolivia was the creation of a municipal water company (ECORES) to improve solid waste management and encourage best practices in solid waste disposal by the project clients.”



Gender Mainstreaming and Micro-credit

Gender inequalities have long been a manifestation of women's lower status, income, power to make decisions, opportunities, and access to education, services and resources. When it comes to water and sanitation, it is well-known that women bear the brunt

of the lack of services, whichever part of the world they are in. Thus, mainstreaming of women into water and sanitation programmes continues to be of utmost urgency to UN-HABITAT. During 2009, advocacy, training workshops as well as pilot

projects were used to demonstrate how women and vulnerable groups can be integrated into development programmes as decision-makers and clients. Micro-credit through revolving fund schemes was applied as a means to empower women.





WHEN A LITTLE MONEY GOES A LONG WAY

The slow progress in meeting the MDGs for sanitation continues to frustrate international organisations. In Africa, for example, the latest information provided by the JMP monitoring programme indicates that it will take another 30 years for Africa to attain the sanitation MDGs. Given the severe impact poor sanitation has on public health and productivity, this ongoing problem calls for a major international effort to reverse the current trends.

The lack of viable models for providing sanitation in urban areas poses a serious constraint, especially in low-income areas where conventional sewerage systems are not feasible. In the day-to-day struggle for existence, the finance for improved sanitation facilities is beyond reach for most households.

In 2009, UN-HABITAT launched an innovative programme aimed at providing revolving funds to poor households, mostly headed by women. "Rather than sitting back and waiting for donors and NGOs to come with funds, we want to mobilise savings from communities," says Angela Hakizimana who oversees the initiative. "People are now having community bank accounts that are growing shilling by shilling," she says.

The programme has been launched in ten towns in Africa as well as nine towns in Nepal. The programme includes a substantial social marketing component, as well as the construction of demonstration toilets, community mobilisation and the training and empowerment of community based organisations. A key feature of the programme is the establishment of solidarity groups at the community level as well as "community banks" which provide a facility for households to accumulate savings in order to meet the requirements to access loans from the revolving fund.

While these are still early days, over 800 families have already been able to construct improved sanitation facilities. In Nepal, several families are also using the waste from their improved toilets to generate biogas and it is planned to replicate this practice in Africa.

The concept of micro-credit for sanitation has immense potential to help poor families. "The projects have already shown significant results by getting people to save as a community, training local groups and artisans in building affordable toilets, as well as by strengthening local partnerships," says Ms Hakizimana.

Gender training workshops were organised in Beira and Dondo, Mozambique and in Jos, Nigeria to target project steering committees, policy makers, politicians, women groups and potential implementing partners.

"We developed a number of project proposals for women-headed households in various African cities," says Graham Alabaster, who leads the Water for African Cities initiative. "The idea is to provide revolving funds through local micro-finance institutions to enable poor and mostly women-headed households to access funds to improve their household sanitation," he says. "The cities targeted in 2009 were Dire Dawa and Harar in Ethiopia, Yaoundé in Cameroun, Dakar and Lac des Guieres in Senegal, Accra in Ghana; Bamako in Mali and Ouagadougou in Burkina Faso.

The project in the Nigerian town of Jos commenced in June 2009, and is expected to provide improved sanitation to 600 households through a micro-credit revolving fund scheme. Based on the availability of funds, these initiatives will enable 49,000 persons to have access to improved sanitation facilities. Similar proposals are currently under consideration in Nairobi and Kisumu, Kenya, Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, Kigali, Rwanda and Beira and Dondo in Mozambique.

"In India, continuous efforts have resulted in the adoption of a Gender Mainstreaming Strategy and Action Plan by four cities in the state of Madhya Pradesh," informs Andre Dzikus, Chief of Water and Sanitation, Section II. "The strategy and action plan, which was developed by UN-HABITAT in 2006 to facilitate

pro-poor governance, was adopted in response to the directives from the Government of Madhya Pradesh and will be operationalised in 2010," he adds.

A gender resource book is also being prepared jointly with the World Bank.

In the Mekong Region, gender mainstreaming was a part of the "training of trainers" programme in the three countries of Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam as well as in the national training programmes targeting the water utility staff. More training will follow in 2010 and 2011.

As Kofi Annan, former UN Secretary General once said, "When women thrive, all of society benefits, and succeeding generations are given a better start in life."

When the Whole is Greater than the Sum of the Parts

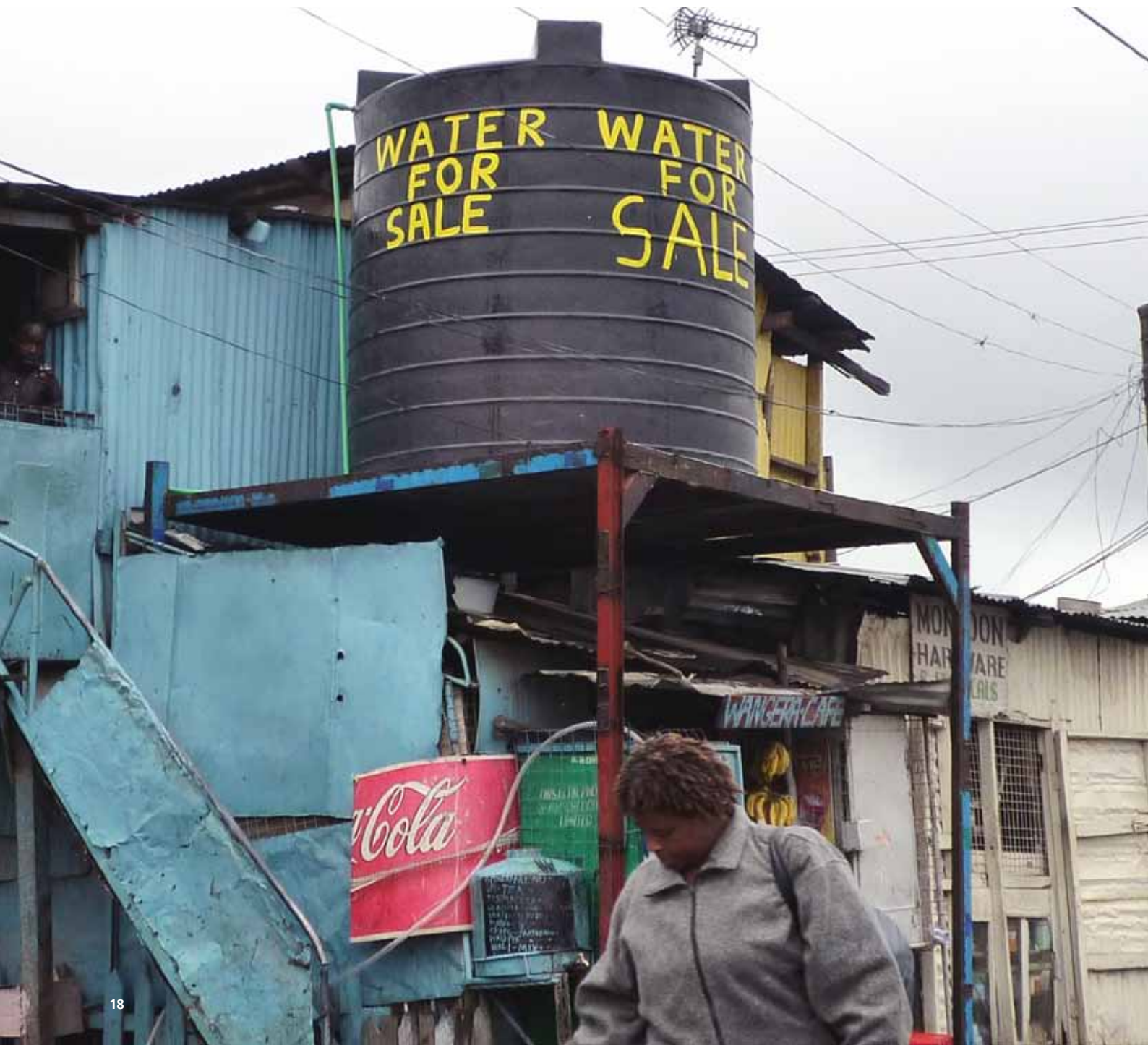
An empowered community driving its own development gives credence to the saying that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.

By the end of 2009, the cumulative number of people in communities that benefited from the interventions under the Water for African Cities

Programme was over 200,000 (up from 150,000 in mid- 2009).

In Africa, the year was spent on establishing community-based structures and to create formal links between the communities, service providers and local authorities. As a key outcome, the community

management committees set up in the process have been very useful in running WATSAN facilities. They have also helped in transferring knowledge to the people on water, sanitation and hygiene and the effective use of the services provided. The participating communities contributed land and labour for the project activities. People



WE HAVE NOT VISITED THE RIVER IN A LONG TIME

"Now that we have round-the-clock water on tap, we have not visited the river in a long time," says a smiling resident of Xieng Ngeun in the Luang Prabang province of Laos.

It was not always like this. Somdy Douangpasith, District Governor recalls the time when there was no formal water supply. "It was really hard for women and children," he says. "Since they had to go down the steep banks of the Nam Khan River, some of them often got injured, including pregnant ladies. There have been some serious accidents in the past."

The District Governor says the Nam Khan River got progressively polluted, and more so when the flows were low in the dry season. "We realised we needed investments in water and sanitation," he reminisces.

"We are grateful for the US\$250,000 contributed by UN-HABITAT under the MEK-WATSAN programme, which has leveraged funding from our government," says Mr Douangpasith. The project has brought water and sanitation to 7,200 people in eight villages in Xieng Ngeun.

"After completion of this project, we saw a large number of businesses springing up here," remarks Mr Douangpasith. "Bottling factories, ice-making factories, guest houses, fuel stations – none of these were here before and now there are so many!" he exclaims. Indeed, the migration of people from other villages to the water and sanitation –enabled towns is quite visible.

The success at Xieng Ngeun has spurred demand for an expansion to six more villages in the second phase.

"This project has benefited local architects and engineers immensely," says Soulith Chindamany, General Manager of the water supply utility at Luang Prabang. "Instead of hiring expensive consultants from abroad as we see in the projects funded by other agencies, we used local resources," he explains. "By participating in these projects, the capacity of our professionals got built."

An important aspect about UN-HABITAT's projects in Laos is the community involvement and also the strong bonding between the people and members of Nampapa Nakhonluang (Lao Water Supply State Enterprise).

"The community has understood Nampapa's activities," says Mr Chindamany. "Now they know the complexities of our work and the need for conserving water as well as the need to pay their bills," he shares.

His views are echoed by Mr Douangpasith. "The people feel a sense of ownership for the pipelines laid because they have dug the trenches themselves; this makes them very active in reporting leaks," he says. "When we completed the preliminary work for future expansions and conducted a workshop to involve the community, the people were so enthusiastic that they actually wanted to start digging trenches right away!" he reports with a smile.

This is the first project in Laos in which the community has been actively involved in all stages from project planning to implementation.

According to Mr Chindamany, the fact that UN-HABITAT's funds were disbursed directly to their agency rather than from the central down to the provincial governments made a huge impact. "UN-HABITAT's fast-track model is very flexible; it allows quick access to funds and therefore quick implementation," he says.

"With the money we received, we have put up a treatment plant at Xieng Ngeun which has a capacity of 2,000m³/day. Only 50% of the capacity is being used now, so we have the buffer to expand when the second phase covers more villages," he elaborates.

Extolling the virtues of fast-tracking of projects, Mr Chindamany says, "Another funding agency we are working with in a different town from the last seven years is providing a far lower capacity of treatment at a much higher cost, and it is still not ready!"



GETTING COMMUNITIES TO VALUE WATER QUALITY IN NEPAL

None of the hospitals in the Kathmandu Valley have registered a single case of cholera in 2009. This did not happen by chance. A widespread public awareness campaign initiated by UN-HABITAT and Coca-Cola to caution people about the dangers of waterborne diseases and to highlight the need to adopt household water treatment has worked wonders.

“In previous years, at least a dozen of my family members were hospitalised every year due to various water-borne diseases but we have not had a single case this year after the initiative,” says Krishna Laxmi Barahi, Chairperson of a local women’s group.

Thousands of women and youth volunteers, local authorities, journalists and health workers have all been trained on various household water treatment options. Newspapers, radio and TV have all been used to spread the message about water quality.

Working closely with local organisations, the initiative has ensured that communities feel a sense of ownership about water quality issues. *“Nobody would boil, filter or chlorinate water or use the SODIS method,”* says Krishna Maya Awale, member of a local mother’s group. *“However, after declaring our locality a safe water zone nearly six months back, our mothers’ group has been conducting random checks to the households to ensure they are using at least one method of water treatment.”*

Communities were also sensitised on issues of groundwater pollution as part of an activity to test 445,757 shallow wells for arsenic contamination (of which 3% were found to be contaminated).

“Reaching out to schools has proved to be one of the effective entry points to reach out to target communities,” says Roshan Shrestha of UN-HABITAT.

INVOLVING THE COMMUNITY IN KIBERA

Densely packed shacks along dirty wastewater streams and plastic litter stretching endlessly tell a grim story about the life of its inhabitants. A walk through the lanes of Nairobi's Kibera slums exposes the unnerving realities of unplanned urbanisation. It is here that "flying toilets" or polythene bags filled with urine and excreta and thrown from doorways make a mockery of sanitation. Since 2007, UN-HABITAT, along with the Government of Kenya has been working to build the capacity of Kibera residents to improve the situation. The Kibera Integrated Water, Sanitation and Waste Management Project aims at improving the livelihoods of the urban poor in Soweto East village of Kibera slums by supporting community-based initiatives in water, sanitation and waste management.

The pilot project has increased the number of community toilets and bathrooms as well as water

supply and storage. Seven modern sanitation facilities have been installed at different points in the village that are each fitted with 10,000 litre storage tanks and managed by groups from neighbouring households. The shower areas allow bathing facilities.

A nominal fee is levied on the users to meet daily operation requirements and other costs. Each facility is visited by at least 200 people per day, which increases to about 800 during weekends. Financial data shows that each facility records average monthly collection of USD 500. All the savings are eventually ploughed back to the community as an investment in their housing cooperatives.

For the beneficiaries, the toilet and shower facilities could well be called an oasis in the harsh desert.

are keen to be fully involved in the planning process to expand services.

In the Lake Victoria towns, formation of Multi-Stakeholder Forums (MSFs) helped to institutionalise community participation. MSFs are playing a key role in all project activities, especially those related to women and vulnerable groups, which involve an extensive amount of sensitisation, organisation and mobilisation of communities. MSFs have supported the delivery of projects which have to date provided over 170,000 persons with access to safe drinking water and 65,000 clients with access to improved sanitation.

Community participation has been embedded in WSTF's Asian water and sanitation projects too with over 150,000 to be benefited.

"Community-led initiatives have progressed remarkably in several countries," says Andre Dzikus, the chief of Asian operations. "Several of these initiatives are led by women's groups which are acting as true agents of change." According to Mr

Dzikus, the challenge is to evaluate all the experiences and to find ways of upscaling them in partnership with local governments.

Under the MEK-WATSAN Initiative, a community-based water supply and sanitation project in Sayabouly town of Laos was completed and handed over while projects were ongoing in another ten towns. Fast-track projects are in full swing in three towns of Cambodia and eight towns of Vietnam. Water classrooms have been constructed by several utilities in the Mekong region to bring about a positive attitude in the communities they are serving.

Jinghong, Shuangjiang and Kunming in China are also benefiting from community-based water and sanitation projects.

An innovative micro-finance scheme has also been implemented, which is playing a catalytic role in the provision of services to the poor.

A similar scheme in Nepal has assisted over 1,000 households in connecting

to the town water system. In India, the community-managed water purification scheme in Jabalpur has become operational.

"There is immense opportunity for mobilising untapped local resources through innovative partnerships that could result in better care for the investment and a greater willingness to pay for the services," says Mr Dzikus.

Meanwhile, under the Latin American programme, three community-based projects are seeing the light of day in partnership with Plan International and Water for People in Patacamaya and Cochabamba in Bolivia. Community steering committees have been organised to harness public participation. In Mexico, an MoU with the Ministry of Social Development (SEDESOL) is in the final stages of negotiation to provide high level technical assistance for supporting public participation in community-based WATSAN projects

Showing the Way Through Normative Activities

The normative work of WSTF centred on waste management in 2009. This is now well-acknowledged as the starting point for tackling environmental pollution and also for recovering and reuse of resources.

Two path-breaking publications were produced and widely disseminated during the year. The first: *A Global Atlas of Excreta, Wastewater Sludge and Bio-solids Management* provides a global picture of the current status of information and opportunities for wastewater bio-solids/ sludge disposal and reuse, including trends and regional comparisons.

The second book was an expanded and revised *Collection of Solid Waste*

in Developing Countries which also contains the most up-to-date information and practical examples on waste management from around the world.

Progress was also made towards compiling the third global report on the state of water and sanitation in the world cities - *Solid Waste in the World's Cities* to enable its launch during the World Urban Forum in 2010. Expert Group meetings were held in the Netherlands in May 2009 and Cairo in October 2009. The publication includes profiles of urban solid waste and recycling systems in 20 cities as well as a comparative analysis of over 20 'reference cities', a decision-maker's guide to integrated sustainable waste

management, outlines of available technologies with guidance on selecting appropriate technologies and a generic 'assessment protocol' for assessing solid waste management issues in cities.

Toolkits to help in the practical implementation of projects were also developed by WSTF on a regional basis. A *Manual on Energy Audits for Utilities in Developing Countries* was prepared. Other manuals that were released included:

- *Entretien et hygiène autour des bornes fontaines* and *Manuel de gestion et de consommation en eau d'une borne fontaine* developed in collaboration with CREPA Burkina

CONFRONTING CORRUPTION

Long under-estimated, the impacts of corruption are finally being acknowledged as not only costing billions of dollars in wasted funds and lost revenue, but also as responsible for perpetuating poverty and harm to the environment.

In the year 2009, UN-HABITAT has engaged with the issue of corruption and has developed several publications that address this problem. The community-based water and sanitation projects, across Africa, Asia and Latin America, while not aimed at directly addressing corruption, have empowered communities and have made local authorities more accountable to them.

It has also been observed that these projects bring about an attitudinal change in utility staff and

promote a greater sense of service amongst them, thereby reducing corruption risks. Mapping initiatives combining Information Technology and participatory approaches in monitoring services are also amongst the innovative strategies that UN-HABITAT is implementing, partly with support from google.org.

UN-HABITAT is also engaged with Transparency International and WIN in developing an innovative response to fight corruption in the water and sanitation sector. Starting with country risk assessments, it is planned to carry out multi-stakeholder workshops to develop strategies for engagement and identify focal points or "champions" in selected countries. The capacity of these focal points and champions would be developed through training and action plans for specific water integrity actions developed.



Faso and training conducted on its usage for informal water vendors as part of the programme activities in Ouagadougou:

- *Manual de Gestion des Ordures Menageres* developed in Dakar, Senegal and training conducted for 27 waste collectors and 11 municipal stakeholders for utilisation.
- Training Guidelines on Rainwater Harvesting, developed in Ethiopia;
- Design and Management Manual for public toilets, developed in Ethiopia.
- More visibility for pro-poor water and sanitation

Engaging with political processes and targeted events can greatly help to bring visibility to important water and sanitation issues.

In early 2009, the WSTF contributed to UN-Water Africa's role in the preparation of the AMCOW-led African regional position paper on water and sanitation. This was launched during the Africa Day session at the 5th World Water Forum in Istanbul. The Trust Fund also helped to prepare and organise the 2nd Africa Water Week under the auspices of AMCOW in Johannesburg in November 2009.

At the Fifth World Water Forum in Istanbul, UN-HABITAT coordinated the widely attended discussions on the theme of Governance. Themes related to the Water Operators' Partnerships were also discussed during the Forum. In addition, the Global WOPs Alliance Secretariat participated at the 12th Meeting of the UN Secretary General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation in Sofia, Bulgaria in May 2009.

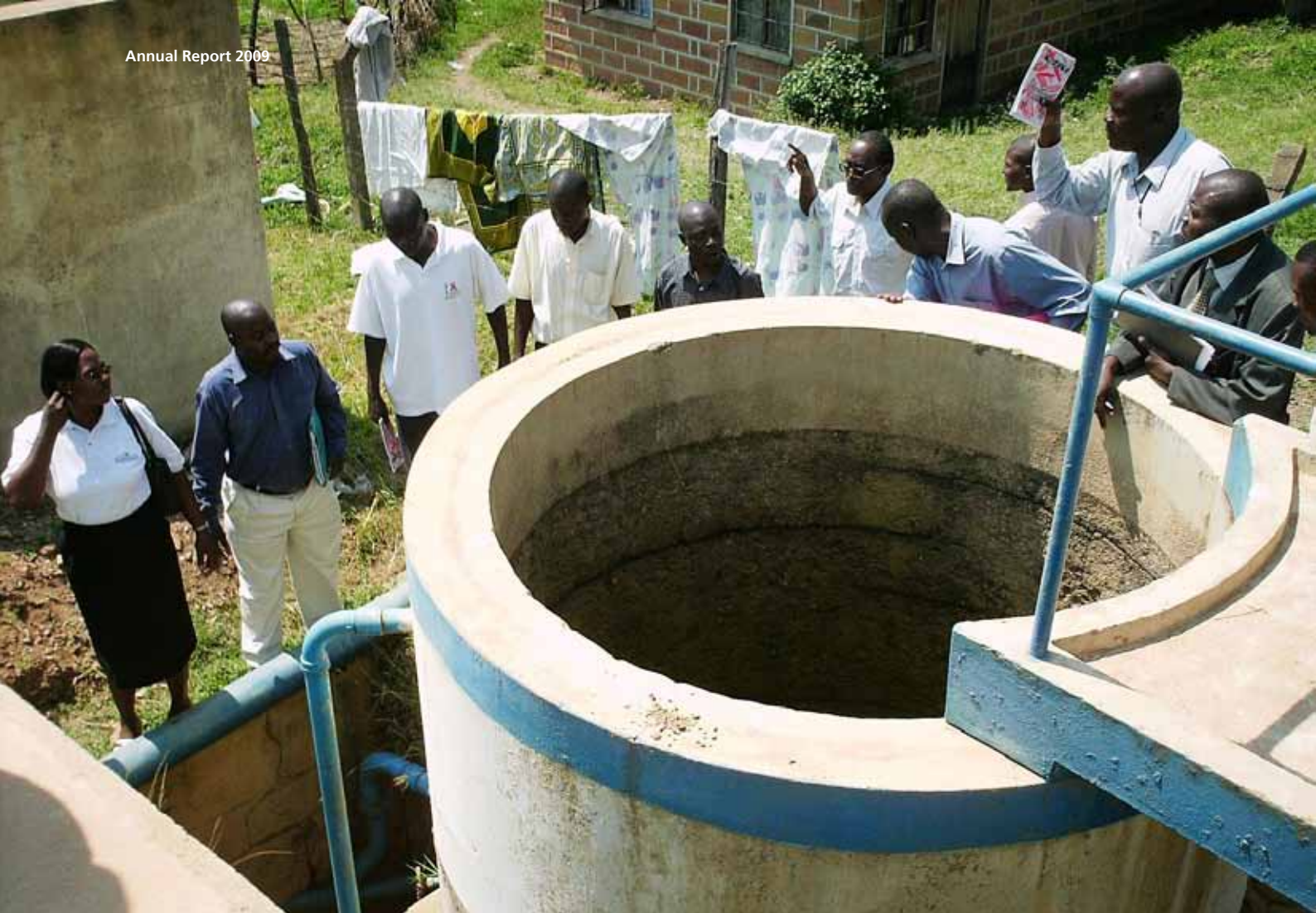
High-level decision-makers from the governments of Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam were brought together for consultations on the Mekong Water and Sanitation programme (MEK-WATSAN) in April 2009. The "Hanoi Declaration" that followed this regional consultation provides the basis for implementation and robust sector policy dialogue in these countries.

A project with the South East Asia Ministers Education Organization (SEAMEO) has been completed successfully and has generated enhanced awareness within the Ministries of Education and educators within the ASEAN countries. Some other events that WSTF participated in were:

- The 2nd Ministerial Meeting of East African Ministers of Water in April in Entebbe, Uganda, under the LVWATSAN Initiative: This aimed to strengthen the regional dimensions of the programme at the political level. It also promoted a common understanding of the investment and capacity building needs for a scaling up of the LVWATSAN Initiative to large urban centres around Lake Victoria and to endorse a new strategic partnership with the European Investment Bank.
- UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development: Here, through the WAC programme, the role of Human Values-Based Water Sanitation and Hygiene Education was highlighted.
- ADB-Developing Member Country Sanitation Dialogue
- High level regional conference on rain water harvesting in East Asia:

This resulted in the formation of a South Asia Networking Centre to promote rainwater harvesting.

- Singapore International Water Week: In his opening speech, HRH the Prince of Orange, Chair of the UN Secretary General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation (UNSGAB) spoke about the baby of UNSGAB - the Water Operators Partnership or WOPs. "We have handed over this baby to UN-Habitat who is now in charge of administering the Global WOPs programme but UNSGAB intends to stay a strong advocate of WOPs," he said. "The reason is very simple; improving utilities' effectiveness (especially in serving the poor), their efficiency and sustainability is at the heart of the global water supply and sanitation challenge," explained the Prince.
- A national conference on sanitation in Pakistan: Following this, UN-HABITAT has been invited by the government to join a team that will provide support in formulating a national policy on sanitation in Pakistan.
- Conference on "Water Integrity": This was in cooperation with Transparency International and Water Integrity Network.
- World Toilet Summit in Singapore
- International Water Association Development Conference in Mexico: During this event, a high-level panel on the "Role of the Media in Water Resources Management" was organised in partnership with the Water Advisory Council, the Inter-American Development Bank and the International Water Association.



Growing the Global Family of Water Operators

The ancient Indian saying *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* (The world is one family) could well apply to the Global Water Operators' Partnerships Alliance (GWOPA). This Alliance hosted by UN-HABITAT's WSTF aims to scale up peer-to-peer support between water operators around the world.

"No one has all the answers, but residing within the water utilities of the world is the practical knowledge and expertise that water operators need today," says Faraj-El-Awar, Programme Manager of GWOPA at UN-HABITAT. "Sharing this living library of knowledge to bridge capacity gaps is

what Water Operators' Partnerships or WOPs are all about," he explains. In 2009, the Alliance provided significant support to establish or strengthen regional and national platforms to facilitate WOPs. In Africa, a WOP-Africa business plan was developed, which secured Euro 500,000 from the African Development Bank's African Water Facility. The Alliance was also successful in encouraging USAID to contribute additional significant financing to support WOPs activities in Africa. Platforms were established and anchored within long-standing

institutional structures in South East Europe and the Caribbean, responding to demand from operators and strong support from the regional development banks. Beginnings were made in Pakistan and India as well as in the South Pacific. Links were strengthened with existing platforms in Asia and the Arab Countries. GWOPA also participated in the launching of AEOPAS, the platform of Spanish Public Operators, where it will play an important role brokering WOPs between the new platform and Latin American operators. "For utilities caught in a trap of low revenues, disinvestment and

THE POWER OF ONE

Can a single training activity have substantial impact? The answer is yes, when structured the right way. In 2009, UN-HABITAT along with Cap-Net and IWA organised a training activity on Water Safety Plans for nine utilities from Zambia, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Ghana, Namibia and Malawi.

Water Safety Plans (WSP) ensure the safety of drinking water through the use of a comprehensive risk assessment and risk management approach that encompasses all steps in water supply from catchment to consumer.

Following the training in South Africa, eight out of nine utilities set up WSP teams. Such was the extent

of commitment from the management and staff that four utilities secured funds for their WSPs in the 2010 financial budgets and two utilities began an awareness campaign for communities residing in the catchment areas.

The most comprehensive response came from Uganda's National Water and Sewerage Corporation.

"The impact of the training was maximised because the trainees took ownership of the methodology and even trained their colleagues back in office," says Anne Bousquet of GWOPA. "Some trainees were even able to train staff from other utilities, so it made an impact at the national level as well," she adds.

infrastructural decline, reversing the cycle can seem overwhelming," says Mr El-Awar. "Witnessing first-hand how challenges have been surmounted can provide the catalyst for real change. Perhaps more than merely spreading knowledge, WOPs spread the inspiration to do things differently."

The GWOPA Secretariat continued its advocacy and alliance building activities during the year. Chief among these was the formation of its international steering committee and subsequent adoption of the GWOPA Charter, including its Guiding Principles and Code of Conduct.

The Alliance is actively expanding its organisational membership and is identifying partners who can bring in their expertise and resources. Collaborations were initiated in 2009 with the International Water Association (IWA), Cap-Net, Transparency International, IB-Net,

UNESCO-IHE, and UN-Water - DPC.. Through these partnerships, the Alliance is developing knowledge tools, delivering training, facilitating brokering and identifying financing.

"Informal twinnings have been taking place from a long time but we have provided a global mechanism which facilitates, supports and coordinates the partnerships," clarifies Mr El-Awar. "We fund some regional partnerships with seed money only but we help to leverage funds and set the stage to make things happen."

According to Mr El-Awar, the beauty of WOPs is that each partnership is tailor-made to meet the specific needs of its partners. "The issues to tackle, the level of commitment and the duration of exchange, are up to the partners to decide. In this way, WOPs are truly demand-driven," he asserts.

For example, in June 2009, UN-HABITAT along with partners IDB

and IWA facilitated a meeting at Colombia between 26 water operators. The meeting helped to match the operators, enabling them to choose the role of mentor or recipient to cooperate within 16 shortlisted areas of utility operations.

High profiling of WOPs at international water sector events during 2009 such as the World Water Forum in Istanbul, World Water Week at Stockholm, Singapore Water Week and the IWA Congress in Mexico were successful in building a brand name for WOPs. At the UN Secretary General's Advisory Board meetings in 2009, the WOPs programme was recognised as a very successful outcome of its Hashimoto Action Plan. Other key events are also helping GWOPA build the credibility needed to achieve financial independence from the WSTF in the coming years.



Bigger Bang For The Buck

The need to increase the flow of investment to the water and sanitation sector continued to be a primary focus of Trust Fund activities in 2009. Attracting more contributions from various sources such as banks and through counterpart funding from governments helps to ensure that more and more people benefit from

programmes. Partnering with regional development banks (African Development Bank, Asian Development Bank, Inter-American Development Bank) has been the key for ensuring that pre-investment activities supported by the Trust Fund are linked to substantial investments in the

countries.

“In Africa, the programme continued with pre-investment capacity support to utilities to facilitate more rapid and effective utilisation of funds for expanded access to water and sanitation as part of an existing MOU with the African Development Bank,” says Graham Alabaster of the Water for

African Cities initiative. (See Box 13 ‘Leveraging in Africa’)

“When we work on pre-investment activities, we are able to significantly reduce the project preparation and appraisal period of the banks,” says Robert Goodwin of the Lake Victoria Water and Sanitation (LVWATSAN) Initiative.

A major step forward for the LVWATSAN Initiative is the development of a project formulation study, funded by the African Water Facility and currently nearing completion, to scale up the programme to another 15 towns in five countries. A total funding package of over US\$150 million is envisaged with the African Development Bank that is expected to take the lead role in providing the necessary financing for follow-up investments.

“A big highlight of 2009 has been our progress in partnering with the European Investment Bank (EIB), which will also lay the groundwork for increasing investment flows to the

SYNERGY WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR

With corporate social responsibility being increasingly integrated into the business models of companies, UN-HABITAT has been looking at areas of synergy with the private sector. The joining of forces between UN-HABITAT and Coca Cola in Nepal led to a successful “Partnership for Safe Water” campaign. This helped to improve water management, sanitation and hygiene in five municipalities in Nepal.

Recently, additional funds for upscaling rainwater harvesting and groundwater recharge have been mobilised from Bottlers Nepal and Bentley University, USA. The collaboration with Coca Cola India has introduced rainwater harvesting in 16 schools across Madhya Pradesh and created awareness among school children on environmental issues. These achievements will provide the basis for future investments.

Global chemical company BASF funded a Euro 100,000 project to improve access to water and sanitation for communities in Nepal and Bihar affected by floods in the River Kosi. The project also demonstrates an approach to develop resilience and capacity of communities to adapt to climate change impacts. Meanwhile, in Laos, the cooperation between WSTF and the local mining company, Oxiana Limited/Lane Xang Minerals Limited is progressing well with a second tranche of US\$100,000 expected for the early half of 2010.

Also in Laos, a business plan for a community-based financing project is being developed to mobilise private and public investment in water and sanitation besides housing-related infrastructure. It is expected that the local financial institution will complement UN-HABITAT’s US\$ 0.55 million contribution with a US\$ 0.5 million investment.





larger cities around Lake Victoria in Africa,” elaborates Mr Goodwin. An agreement has been concluded with the EIB under which resources will be provided to UN-HABITAT to oversee a project formulation study for the expansion of LVWATSAN to Kisumu in Kenya, Mwanza in Tanzania and Kampala in Uganda.

In Nepal, UN-HABITAT’s pro-poor interventions in municipalities have encouraged government entities to allocate additional funds of US\$ 200,000 for this fiscal year (up from US\$ 30,000 in the previous year) for replicating the poverty mapping exercise in all 58 municipalities of the country.

“We capitalised on the ‘International Year of Sanitation’ to sensitise Nepali policy makers and this has resulted in their allocating US\$1.0 million to a fund exclusively earmarked for sanitation,” says Andre Dzikus. “This will result in a stronger focus on sanitation unlike the previous practice of combining the budgets for sanitation with water supply.” Also in Nepal, the “Bagmati Action Plan” supported by UN-HABITAT and UNEP has induced the National Government to prepare investment plans for environmental improvements on a catchment-wide basis.

In India, the partnership with Water Aid Australia to support the initiative

of the Government of Madhya Pradesh has facilitated the mobilisation of additional funds for improving water and sanitation services for the poor in four cities of the central Indian state.

“A remarkable development was the awarding of US\$120,000 to us by the UN Emergency Response Fund,” says Avi Sarkar, Regional Technical Advisor for WSIB’s South East Asian operations. “It reinforced the UN Country Team’s confidence in our ability to deliver emergency support to the affected people,” he says. “It enabled us to rehabilitate water supply systems in three flood-affected provinces and provide improved sanitation facilities to many poor households.”

LEVERAGING IN AFRICA

The African Development Bank (AfDB) and UN-HABITAT have been identifying areas of collaboration which have led to the following key achievements:

- 1) Pre-investment capacity support has enabled fast-track approval of an AfDB loan of US\$71.15 million to the Kenya Water Service Board support programme. In 2009, UN-HABITAT continued with technical assistance support to the Athi Water Services Board to develop detailed designs for scaling up of the Kibera integrated Water and Sanitation project to three more villages in the slum, and to the Lake Victoria South Water Services Board for a diagnostic study on Sanitation and Hygiene within the Board's area of jurisdiction comprising 43 districts.
- 2) Close collaboration with AfDB for a US\$52.35 million Zanzibar Water and Sanitation Project resulted in pre-investment capacity enhancement for the Zanzibar Water and Sanitation Authority (ZAWA). Achievements included the development of a strategic business plan and implementation modalities. UN-HABITAT continued to assist ZAWA with technical support to further enhance its technical and procurement functions capacity. The assistance helped to professionalise the working of ZAWA.
- 3) Based on the Zanzibar experience, UN-HABITAT worked with the Harar Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (HWSSA) to develop a post-investment business plan, undertake a change agent/ benchmarking training and prepare a performance improvement plan (PIP) for the Authority. These engagements have enhanced the capacity of the authority to manage, operate and maintain the new US\$ 42.62 AfDB-financed system.
- 4) Demonstration of appropriate sanitation facilities in Niono to complement the US\$15.72 million AfDB project in Mali have led to an increase in sanitation coverage from 49% to 52% by the end of October 2009. The coverage in Niono is expected to reach 56% by 2011 when the demonstrations are scaled up in the town (and other localities) under the RWSSI project. Biogas generators installed on the larger sanitation facilities are being utilised and are expected to minimise the use of fuel wood in the town.

As a result of the WAC programme activities in Accra, additional funds to the tune of about US\$ 4.8 million have been mobilized for further WATSAN improvements. These include: contributions from WaterAid Ghana Ltd and from the Netherlands Government to complement the integrated WATSAN activities in Sabong Zongo. Furthermore, the Ghana Government committed GH¢ 6.4 million for the Construction of a 64 km wire fence along the perimeter of Weiija Reservoir Acquisition Area to prevent encroachment to the banks of the reservoir.

In Bolivia, UN-HABITAT initiated first steps in 2009 towards a peri-urban project in the cities of La Paz, Cochabamba, Santa Cruz and Tarija in collaboration with Inter-American Development Bank. In Mexico, UN-HABITAT is collaborating with the Ministry of Social Development

to hasten investments of the national poverty alleviation programme towards affordable and appropriate water and sanitation.

Finally, UN-HABITAT has also managed to raise funds from NGOs and professional organisations. A

contribution of US\$ 50,000 received from the Fukuoka Habitat Institute will support work in Myanmar and China. A contribution of US\$105,000 from the Japan Habitat Association will benefit the project on water and sanitation for vulnerable groups in the Lake Victoria towns.

Improving Monitoring Mechanisms

Monitoring, or the lack of it, can make all the difference between a good and a bad programme. As the saying goes, what you cannot monitor, you cannot control. To achieve maximum results from the limited resources, WSTF has made monitoring an important priority.

“UN-HABITAT is focussing on improving the quality of WATSAN monitoring data so that it can contribute more effectively to MDG monitoring while at the same time informing local decision-making and project evaluation,” says Graham Alabaster, Chief of Water and Sanitation, Section 1. “The relevance

of collected data can be improved by including geo-referencing, socio-economic indicators, physical features, citizen feedback and other ways,” he adds.

With a strong case for making data more publicly available and to enable people to apply it to decision-making,

GRUBS – THE NEW FACEBOOK FOR UTILITIES

A benchmarking exercise carried out for 134 utilities in sub-Saharan Africa has laid the foundation for an exciting new initiative called GRUBS or Geo-Referenced Utility Benchmarking System. With the help of Google Earth’s geo-referencing capabilities, the benchmarking data can be visually accessed and dynamically charted.

“This will help in analysis. Benchmarking indicators can be connected to socio-economic data and thus be used as a tool for pro-poor investment planning,” elaborates Mr El-Awar. “The indicators can be charted with respect to time, so it will be a dynamic chart.”

When fully operational, GRUBS can also be used as a matchmaking tool enabling utilities to search from potential partners online, and initiate contact with each other, independent of formal brokers or funding institutions.

“It can be used like Facebook with utilities profiling themselves, putting up their pictures and anecdotal information apart from quantitative data,” says Julie Perkins of GWOPA.

Clearly, the utilities of the future will have some smart tools at their disposal.



FUSION TABLES FOR WATER AND SANITATION DATA

A recently launched Google product called "Fusion Tables" is presenting itself as a powerful tool for compiling and viewing water and sanitation data. At a meeting in December 2009, it was decided that fusion tables was the platform of choice for bringing together the various component methodologies of the h2.0 consortium for sharing and viewing.

The new and free online Google product is similar to conventional database programmes but is innovative in its capacity to handle large data sets, to facilitate searching and merging as well as to enable visualization and mapping, all in real-time.

The model presents a step forward in efforts to enable individual project monitoring data to contribute to greater national/regional coverage and monitoring of objectives. It sets the stage for a longer-term vision in which coverage information can be procured through the collation of piecemeal sources of data, rather than relying exclusively on top-heavy methodologies that are expensive, infrequent and difficult to scale-up.

Working closely with Google to maximise the full potential and newest features of Fusion Tables, the h2.0 initiative stands to make a significant contribution to improving the way water and sanitation data is collected, shared and used.

it was natural for Google.org to get involved.

In 2009, under the Google-supported *H2o Monitoring Services to Inform and Empower* initiative, a number of innovative monitoring methodologies were developed and piloted. Improvements were made to the Urban Inequities Surveys (UIS), WOP-Africa benchmarking and Citizen Report Card methodologies piloted in Zanzibar and considerable efforts made to harmonise sampling frames to enable comparison between these datasets.

Majidata, a pro-poor mapping exercise was refined with UN-HABITAT's input as a fast and inexpensive survey of the WATSAN services in urban 'hotspots', and has now collected data for 2.3 million people across Kenya.

In Zanzibar, the Human Sensor Web, an innovative tool to improve utility responsiveness to service delivery problems on their networks, was successfully tested. A prototype of the interactive online platform that will be used to host and visualise the component h2.0 datasets was also developed using Google Earth, maps and fusion tables.

Results were also achieved in building capacity within national and local

institutions to carry out regular monitoring and use data for decision making. Training carried out in 2009 has enabled the National Statistical Bureaus, NGO partners and the water operators in the pilot areas of Zanzibar and Lake Victoria to carry out Urban Inequity Surveys, apply Citizen Report Card (CRCs) and benchmarking methodologies and finalise h2.0 pilot data collection.

For the MajiData initiative, national teams were trained and manuals developed to enable local stakeholders to replicate the surveys. In a series of national 'Data for Decision Making' workshops held in November 2009, about 150 key decision makers (mayors, planners, town clerks, water utility managers) from small towns around Lake Victoria were presented with an interactive, geo-referenced database of Urban Inequities survey data and trained in its use. The data will form an important input into the training and capacity building activities.

GWOPA also initiated work on its Geo-referenced Utility Benchmarking System (GRUBS), in partnership with the International Benchmarking Network, which aims to make benchmarking both easier and more enticing for utilities to engage in.

In many regions, UN-HABITAT worked with governments and local partners, to institutionalise monitoring. In Laos, an MDG monitoring initiative has been initiated with the Department of Statistics. The survey questionnaire based on UN-HABITAT's Urban Inequality Surveys has been finalised and surveying is currently on-going. Similar interventions are being developed in Vietnam and Cambodia.

In Nepal, technical support for management of WATSAN data surveyed by the Department of Water Supply and Sewerage is ongoing. The country is also preparing its MDG Progress Report 2010 and developing a planning and monitoring strategy.

In Mexico and Bolivia, UN-HABITAT has been working with the Water Advisory Council to institutionalise WATSAN Citizen Observatories in Morelos, Xalapa, Veracruz and another in Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas. "We believe that informed and empowered citizens can help to make service providers more transparent and accountable," explains Román Gómez who advises the Water for Cities in Latin America and the Caribbean Programme.

Reflections 2009

The main challenge still facing the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund is to achieve long-term financial sustainability. The wish-list includes more multi-year funding from donors, greater compliance in counterpart-funding from governments and other partners and ensuring that core funds for cross-cutting activities are used as effectively as possible. The global economic crisis has had some impact on WSTF activities.

Discussions with donors have broadened beyond traditional bilateral and multi-lateral partners to include foundations and the private sector. With multi-lateral institutions, the possibility of WSTF being involved and tendering for contracts, albeit sole-source tenders, is being explored and presents a possible way forward for partnership with the development banks in particular.

Over the past year the WSTF has undertaken a review of its communication strategy. Advocacy has been focussed on selected international events to cut costs and increase impact.

A clear communication and marketing strategy is essential for spreading good practises as also for soliciting support from host governments and donors.

One issue is the level of autonomy WSTF can exert in its marketing with respect to UN-HABITAT as a whole. On the one hand, support is attracted to WSTF and specific activities, like the special initiatives in Lake Victoria and Mekong and the Global Water Operators Partnerships Alliance. On the other hand, UN-HABITAT's MTSIP looks to further synergies between branches and units with individual projects and programmes which may entail losing individual "identity" in favour of a unified UN-HABITAT approach.

It has been pointed out that the communications strategy should go beyond the water and sanitation sector.

WSTF has been instrumental in producing the messages for the International Year of Sanitation and should carry this forward in the health, environment and other sectors.

The rapid assessment undertaken during 2009 pointed out the need to include WSTF projects and programmes into national government strategies. While success varies across regions, more could be done to improve knowledge and stewardship of activities, not only amongst line ministries in charge of water, but the ministries for local government, finance and urban development. This would improve aid-effectiveness through enhanced donor coordination, thus avoiding duplication and overlap. Increased involvement of ministries of finance would also put WSTF in a strong position vis-à-vis the development banks.

WSTF has ensured greater synergy within UN-HABITAT divisions, with the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific taking the lead, resulting in joint programming. In Latin America and the Caribbean, a decentralisation model has been developed providing greater autonomy and flexibility for the region. On several occasions, the network of UN-HABITAT Programme Managers has worked



effectively to incorporate UN-HABITAT activities into UN country programmes.

The relationships with the Development Banks have clearly reached a mature stage. The banks are now seeing WSTF as a means to improve project preparations. In addition to contributing to the conceptual design of projects, the work could be extended to financial and economic analyses of potential projects. For example, the understanding of the water and sanitation utilities and their level of robustness has a significant impact on the types of financial mechanisms needed. This is especially pertinent with small and medium-sized utilities, which could provide a real investment opportunity. Possible models for collaboration are being developed where WSTF can provide capacity-building activities to support large-scale investments in physical infrastructure.

It is important to highlight attention on the need for complementarity rather than competition in WSTF's partnership with other development partners as well as within UN divisions themselves. It would be prudent to regularly hold consultations with partners and UN divisions to benefit from synergies in programme planning.

WSTF has been actively promoting linkages between the Global WOPs and the regional programmes. Even

though WSTF is currently hosting the Global WOPs Alliance, it can be expected that it will turn into an autonomous initiative in the future. The initiative could be hosted by partners already on the scene and provision should be made to make linkages beforehand. WSTF has played a key role in bringing implementing partners together and it is highly likely that when resources flow into the Global WOPs, they can effectively be utilised through the existing regional programmes.

The WSTF Strategic Plan foresaw the importance of integrating energy and transport into water and sanitation activities within the wider human settlements perspective. Although significant advances have been made, there is a whole range of possible projects which can be developed. UN-HABITAT's MTSIP provides the framework for such a broader scope and for enhanced cooperation with other projects and programmes of UN-HABITAT. Working in this direction could give the entire organisation a strategic advantage in directing investments to the housing and infrastructure against the background of the ongoing climate change debate.

Perhaps the most significant challenge is the concept of moving to scale and designing an exit strategy for WSTF interventions. As new approaches or designs are tested in the field, the challenge becomes more focussed on making the transition from

implementation by WSTF to other partners. This is evident from the LVWATSAN initiative and how the concept is being embraced by financial institutions.

It is essential that WSTF does not expand activities to become like an NGO or consultancy company. One possible way to continue engagement is the role WSTF plays in monitoring both service coverage and project implementation. There have been indications from the development banks that they would be interested in exploring these opportunities.

A pertinent question is the issue of climate change and how WSTF can accommodate the topic in its work. Over the past year, the regional programmes and special initiatives have undertaken some activities, which address energy efficiency, greenhouse gas emissions and other related topics.

Many WSTF interventions constitute a follow-up to the Copenhagen Conference of Parties Meeting. There will be funding opportunities available to support such interventions and WSTF will have to see how it positions its activities to take full advantage of the situation. This area of the WSTF work also provides an opportunity for closer collaboration with UNEP. As an initial activity, UNEP and UN-HABITAT are collaborating on a new publication on managing wastewater, which has been launched on World Water D



The Path Forward

In the year 2010, the Water and Sanitation Trust will continue its successful programme components and regional initiatives across the globe.

Water for African Cities

The key activities planned under the Water for African Cities Programme in 2010 are to complete the ongoing projects in the two complementary tracks of: (a) city level operations in the participating countries to deliver sustainable access to water and sanitation services for the urban poor, and (b) region-wide activities to share information and build capacity between cities within the region.

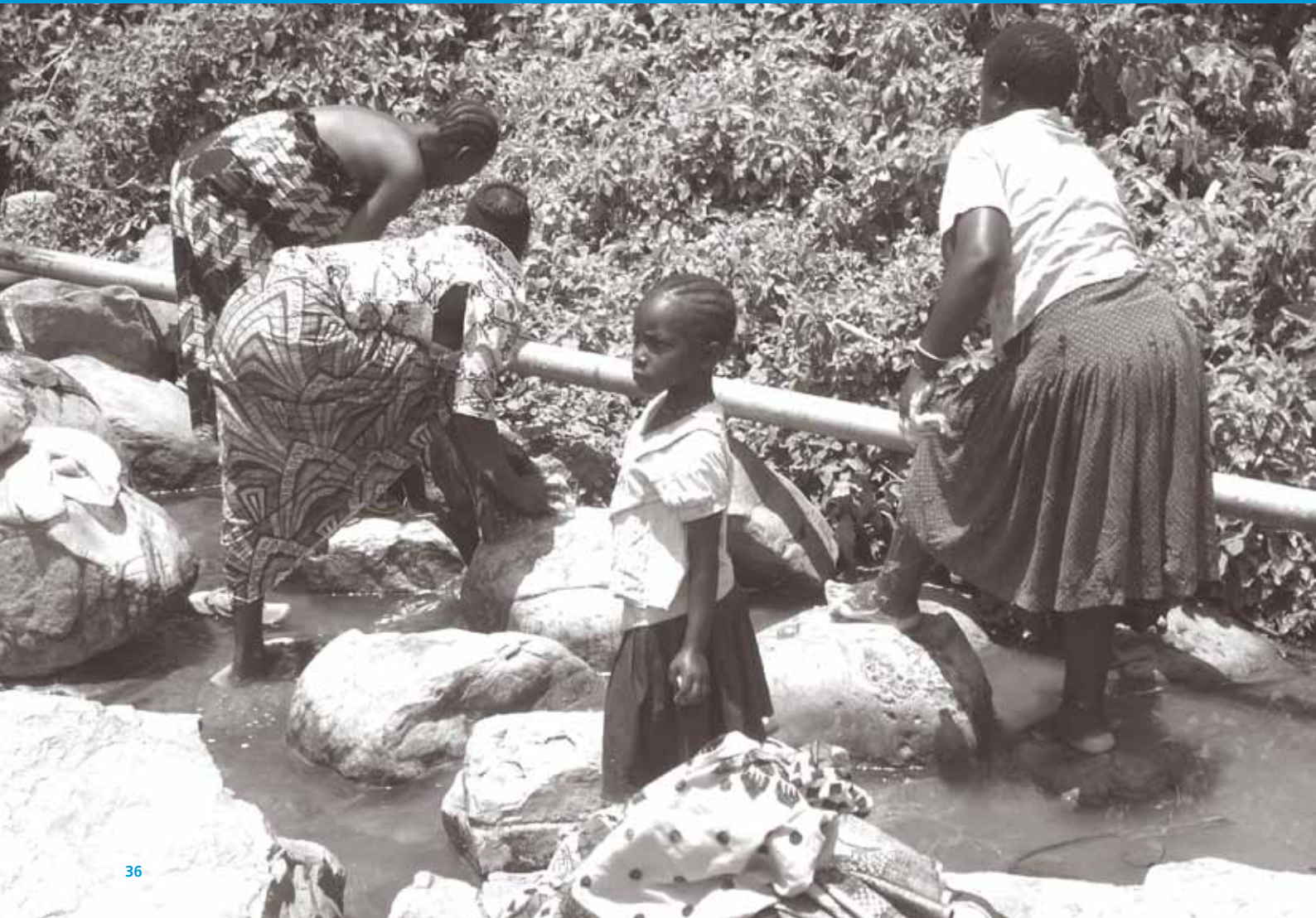
Other priorities include:

- Focusing on post-project monitoring/evaluation of completed projects;
- Documenting lessons learned;
- Transitioning to a new phase to build on past achievements;
- Greater emphasis on urban sanitation;
- Pre and post-investment capacity building activities in collaboration with AfDB and others;
- Contributing to climate change mitigation/adaptation through water/energy conservation;
- Improving monitoring tools to link WATSAN and urban planning;
- Continuing with participation and contribution to Africa regional policy dialogues in the WATSAN sector through the UN-Water Africa and AMCOW processes;

Lake Victoria Water and Sanitation Initiative (LV-WATSAN)

Under the Lake Victoria Water and Sanitation Initiative, efforts will be directed towards completing the physical infrastructure in the ten pilot towns and to further strengthen the capacity of the utilities, local authorities and community organisations. The capacity building programme which, so far, has focused largely on utility management and solid waste management, will be expanded to include urban catchment management, pro-poor governance, gender mainstreaming and local economic development.

Another key objective of the work programme for 2010 will be to provide the necessary technical and management support to the East African Community, the African Development Bank and the European Investment Bank, to complete all pre-investment studies and project appraisal for the scaling up of the Programme to 15 secondary towns and three large towns.





Water for Asian Cities Programme

Depleting financial resources are constraining implementation against country support strategies and mandates agreed with partner governments. In this environment, the programme in 2010 will have the following focus:

- Monitoring, evaluation and follow-up of ongoing projects;
- Limited number of strategic and innovative interventions, which will be taken up on a selective basis;
- Strengthening of existing collaborations with private sector partners and regional banks and exploring new partnership opportunities;
- Normative activities will include papers presented at the Singapore International Water Week, facilitating brainstorming sessions for the World Water Development Report 2012 and Water and Sanitation in the World Cities 2012 Reports. A source book on community and household water treatment options is also planned. A review of UN-HABITAT's work on HVWSHE will be conducted. Work will also focus on a rights based approach, as well as on ethics and corruption.
- Regional activities will cover engagement with APMCHUD to advocate for pro-poor urban water and sanitation; mainstreaming in water and sanitation projects gender through regional training; trainings on Water Demand Management and Human Values Based Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Education; establishing capacity building nodes, producing water and sanitation tool kits in local languages and mainstreaming HIV and AIDS awareness in water and sanitation service provision.
- Country-level activities will include evaluation of completed projects in India and continuing ongoing work.
- In Nepal, work on complementing ADB-supported projects will continue. Rainwater harvesting, services in poor clusters, solid waste management and supporting government in strengthening sector wide approaches will also be some focus areas of work in Nepal.
- In Pakistan, support for decentralised waste water system and water education will continue. Complementing an ADB-assisted loan project in China will be considered together with the continuation of ongoing work.
- In Indonesia work on the SWM project in Medan will continue with efforts to scale up in collaboration with UNEP.

Mekong Water and Sanitation (MEK-WATSAN) Programme

With the launch of the roll-out phase, work is now in progress in 30 towns. The focus in 2010 will be on the implementation of ongoing work.

Simultaneously, efforts will be made to explore new partnerships in scaling up to the next phase to achieve the overall target of improving water and sanitation for 1.04 million people in small towns of the Mekong region. To achieve this, collaboration will be strengthened with the Greater Mekong Secretariat and partnerships explored with donors such as Finland and KOICA.

Water and Sanitation for Latin America (WATSAN –LAC) Programme

During 2010, operational activities will follow-up the projects signed in Bolivia, Colombia, El Salvador, Mexico and Peru. The country programmes will be consolidated and the regional programme will be designed to improve water and sanitation access in Mexico, the Andean Region (Bolivia, Peru and Colombia) and Central America (El Salvador and Nicaragua).

Mexico

An MoU with the Ministry of Social Development is expected to support pro-poor WATSAN technologies and the launching of distance-learning for water utilities. Also, UN-HABITAT will seek to establish a network of WATSAN Citizen Observatories. One capacity-building workshop will be organised for journalists.

Bolivia

UN-HABITAT will continue projects with municipalities of Cochabamba, and La Paz as well as Plan International and Water for People. An MoU with the Ministry of Water is expected. Support will be provided for the establishment of a new sector agency: Servicio Nacional de Apoyo a la Sostenibilidad en Saneamiento Básico (SENASBA). In collaboration with IADB, UN-HABITAT will support the development of the Water and Sanitation Master Plan for four Cities (La Paz, Cochabamba, Santa Cruz and Tarija). The WSTF will also give support to the Sanitation Node, the Water and Health Observatory in Santa Cruz in collaboration with WHO and to EMAPAS (Sacaba Water service provider) in sustainable sanitation. Two capacity building workshops will be organised aiming to promote Water Safety Plans.

Colombia

A project to improve the living conditions in neighbourhoods of the Qubdo Municipality is expected to start in collaboration with IADB and the Department of National Planning. UN-HABITAT plans to work with Action Against Hunger Spain.

Peru

UN-HABITAT will support the Regional Government of Junin and the water service provider of the city of Huancayo in climate change adaptation strategies in collaboration with CARE international. The Government of Peru and IADB have manifested the feasibility of carrying out a joint project to improve the wastewater treatment sector of Peru.

Central American Region

WSTF will seek to coordinate with inter-governmental entities such as Sistema de Integración Centroamericana and regional sector networks to support promotion of HVWSHE, adaptation to climate change, promotion of new technologies and exploring new financing mechanisms.

Global Water Operators Partnerships' Alliance

Sustainable WOPs platforms are now in place to facilitate twinning and training in most of the world's regions. Thus, GWOPA will move its attention to bolstering the regional platforms with the knowledge and financial tools necessary to carry out WOPs more often, and more effectively.

Drawing on the resources of Alliance partners, GWOPA will develop and make easily accessible some essential tools and resources to facilitate operators' entry into the practice of WOPs. GWOPA will need to ramp up its communications and advocacy efforts in 2010 to build on WOPs' growing reputation as a sensible and cost-effective mechanism for building needed capacity amongst the world's water operators.

GWOPA will also work as a broker between IFIs and the regional platforms to help develop confidence amongst financial institutions to support WOPs on the one hand and prepare fund-worthy proposals on the other. In 2010, GWOPA shall also work more closely with the regional programmes and model-setting initiatives of the Trust Fund to see peer-support playing a bigger role in UN-HABITAT's capacity building work.

With WSTF's backing, GWOPA has built a strong base and will move towards financial independence from UN-HABITAT by seeking a longer-term host for its secretariat.

h2.0 Monitoring Services to Inform and Empower Initiative

2010 will see the completion of the h2.0 Initiative's Phase I activities and the emergence of new proposals for continued collaboration with Google.org on innovative monitoring. Data collection is being finalised for Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. By June 2010, all data will be compiled and uploaded into the public domain using Google's Fusion Tables, a new programme that facilitates data sharing, analysis and viewing. The h2.0 data will be presented in a mapped platform with the primary objective of showing the contribution of these community-level data sources to national and regional coverage data.

The maps and other visualisations overlaying the different datasets will indicate where data is available and lacking. This will help in analysis and decision-making. The results of the pilot will be written up in a high-profile article and disseminated broadly at different WatSan conferences during the last quarter of 2010.

2009 Budget and Expenditure

In 2009, the Water and Sanitation programme supported initiatives implemented under the following four broad budget categories:

- general water and sanitation trust fund;
- replicable model setting initiatives (the Lake Victoria and the Mekong Region Water and Sanitation Initiatives);
- earmarked funds channeled through the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund for specific activities under the regional operational programmes; and
- earmarked funds for emergency support initiatives

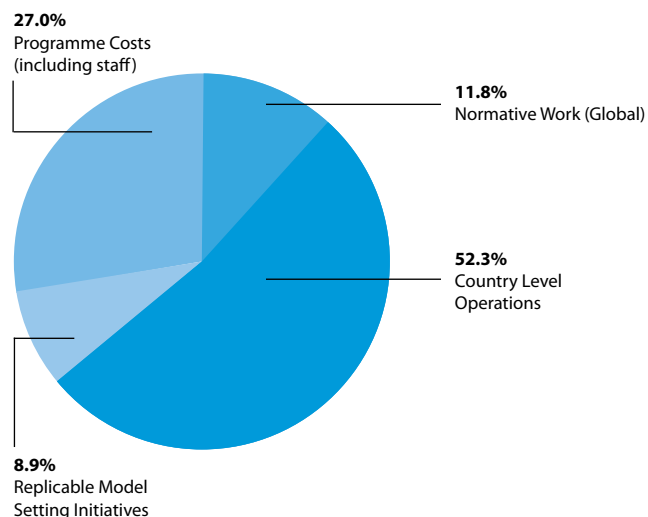
General Water and Sanitation Trust Fund

The general water and sanitation trust fund budget supports implementation of global normative work and regional operational activities in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Caribbean.

Actual funding available in 2009 for the General Water and Sanitation Trust Fund was US\$17.4 million, with the final working budget being set at US\$15.4 million, based on the actual opening balance at the beginning of 2009, and funding received from the Governments of Spain and Norway. The contribution of NOK14 million from the Government of Norway was less than anticipated due to exchange rate loss. Uncertainty about future funding led to a more cautious approach, with the roll over of US\$2million into 2010 reducing the 2009 budget accordingly.

At the end of the 2009 financial year, expenditure on the General Water and Sanitation Trust Fund amounted to US\$14.5 million, which stands at 94.2 percent of budget.

General Water and Sanitation Trust Fund – 2009 Expenditure by Category

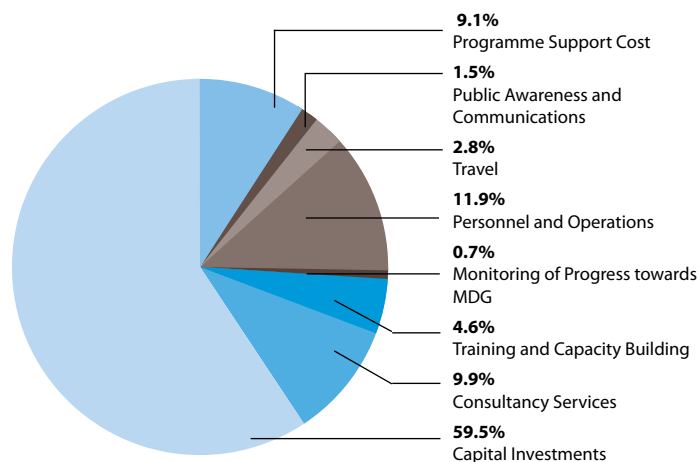


Replicable Model Setting Initiatives

Lake Victoria Water and Sanitation Initiative

The Lake Victoria Water and Sanitation Initiative (LVWATSAN) has so far received earmarked funds from the Government of the Netherlands amounting to US\$20.7million for the period 2006 to 2010. In 2009, the projected expenditure was US\$4million. The actual expenditure for 2009 was US\$4.8million, representing delivery of 120 percent.

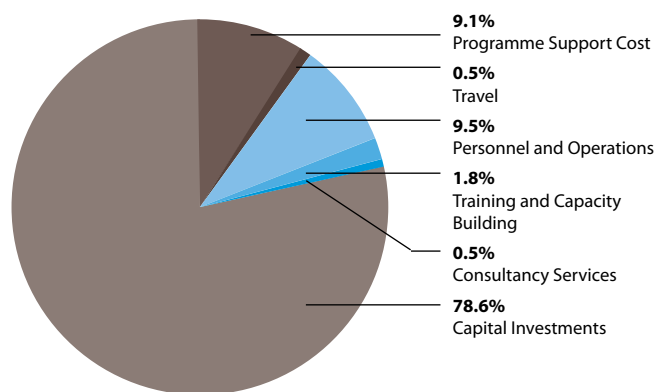
LVWATSAN – 2009 Expenditure by Category



Mekong Region Water and Sanitation Initiative

Under the agreement with the Government of Netherlands for the total of sum of US\$6.6million, the Mekong Region Water and Sanitation Initiative (MEK-WATSAN) commenced activities in 2009. During 2009, a sum of US\$2.3 million was spent on the planned activities of this initiative. This was within the budget allocation of US\$2.5 million for the year, representing 92.4 percent of budgeted expenditure.

MEK-WATSAN – 2009 Expenditure by Category



Water and Sanitation Trust Fund Ear-marked Activities

2009 expenditure for earmarked activities funded by the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund was US\$1.9million, representing 98.4 percent of the US\$1.93 million budgeted for the same period.

Earmarked Activities

H2.O Monitoring Services to Inform and Empower

This monitoring project, designed to track progress towards achieving MDG targets for water and sanitation and improving benchmarking of water and sanitation service providers is fully funded by Google.org with a total allocation of US\$1.8 million. Delays in implementation experienced in the first quarter of 2009 resulted in a request to Google.org for a no-cost extension which was granted, extending the project completion date to 31 July 2010. The 2009 budget was revised to US\$1.56 million to correspond with the implementation plan. The project recorded expenditure of US\$1.44million, representing 92.4 percent of budget as at 31 December 2009.

Community-based Water Supply Project in Vilabouly Town, Lao PDR

This activity, which was funded by Oxiana Limited and Lane Xang Minerals Limited with a total allocation of US\$208,000, commenced in June 2008. The funds have been fully utilized.

Coca Cola funded Activities in Asia

Coca Cola India, Pvt Ltd support for activities in India and Nepal commenced in 2007 with a budget of US\$150,000. The funds committed between 2007 and 2009 amounted to US\$150,474, of which US\$474 was an exchange rate gain. Project activities were completed in April 2010. A grant of US\$10 000 from Coca Cola Nepal Pvt Ltd to support a demonstration project in community rain water recharge techniques in Patan, Nepal was fully utilized in 2009.

Lake Victoria Urban Schools Water and Sanitation Project

The Government of Italy provided a grant of Euros 250,000 (equivalent to US\$329,381) in 2009 to improve the health and learning environment for primary school pupils in the Lake Victoria region through the provision of safe water supply, improved sanitation facilities and enhanced hygiene education. The expenditure of US\$320, 000 in 2009 represents 98 percent of budget.

Water and Sanitation Projects in Myanmar and China

The Fukuoka Habitat Institute supported water and sanitation projects in Myanmar and China with a grant of US\$50,000. The UN-Habitat Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific is implementing the project in Myanmar, with the Water, Sanitation and Infrastructure Branch of UN-HABITAT implementing activities in China which commenced at the beginning of 2010.

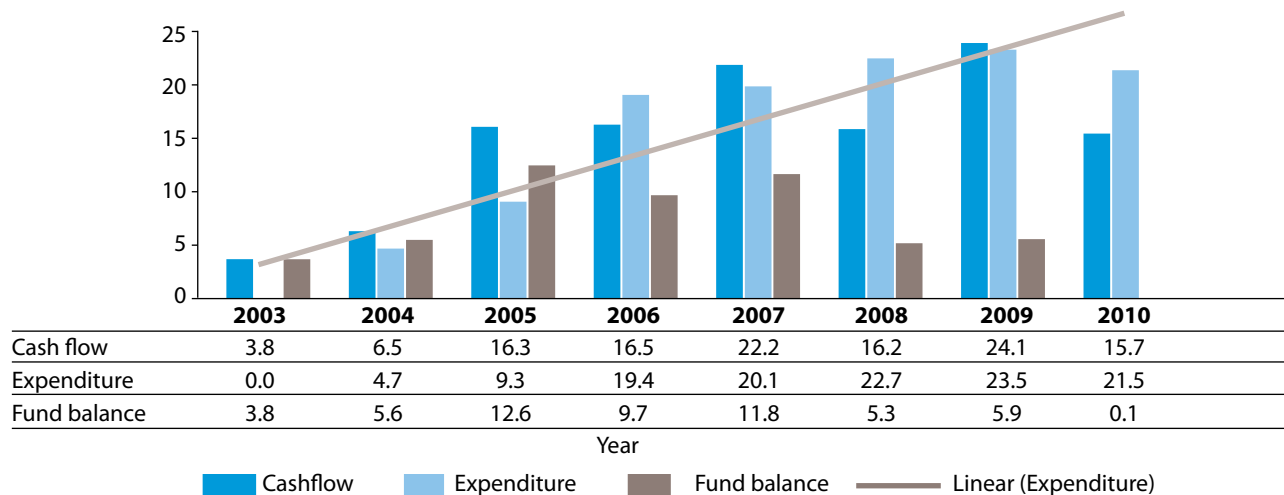
Project "H2O" in Nepal

Students at Bentley University raised a sum of US\$10,836.21 to support initiatives for clean water supply in Nepal. The funds were fully utilized in 2009 in the implementation of rainwater harvesting and groundwater recharge projects in Lalitpur Municipality.



Overview of the Overall Water and Sanitation Trust Fund Financial Flows

Overall Water and Sanitation Trust Fund Financial Overview (US\$ millions)



Other Ear-marked Funded Water and Sanitation Programme Activities of Emergency or Humanitarian Nature

In a humanitarian response to save lives, the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (UNCERF) contributed US\$114,062 for emergency water and Sanitation assistance to populations affected by Typhoon Ketsana in Lao PDR from October 2009 for a duration of three months.

BASF Social Foundation provided two grants for water and sanitation activities in India and Nepal in 2008 and 2009 respectively. In December 2008, the Foundation provided US\$301,000 (equivalent Euros 215,000) for Post Tsunami Water and Sanitation Reconstruction in Cuddalore, India. The US\$245,421 budgeted for 2009 had been fully utilized as at 31 December 2009, with the balance earmarked for 2010. In December 2009, BASF Social Foundation provided an additional grant of US\$145,000 (equivalent to Euros 100,000) to provide water and sanitation facilities for people affected by Koshi floods in Bilhar India and Sunsari District of Nepal. The activities, which commenced in 2010, will be completed within twenty-four months.



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