

***AP Session 3.1: Urban Water  
Security for Asia and the Pacific –  
Moving Towards Universal &  
Sustainable Access to Drinking  
Water for All***



MARSEILLE, FRANCE '12

TIME FOR **SOLUTIONS**

## **Target 3.1 : Urban Water Security for Asia and the Pacific – Moving Towards Universal & Sustainable Access to Drinking Water for All**

Despite the fact that over 1 billion more people are now using improved source of drinking water than in 1990, this increase has barely kept up with urban population growth. There are more urban dwellers without tap water today than a decade ago.

*The proposed target of universal and sustained access to drinking water and sanitation will be feasible only if we succeed to reverse this trend and double our effort.*

*There is a need to recognise the following steps as important measures for implementation of National and Local Action Plans:*

- *Reduction in Non-Revenue Water to meet the supply-demand gap by introducing demand management strategies to improve efficiency of water-use*
- *Reuse of Water through Waste Water Treatment: Need for informed choices about system selection based on cost, power consumption and water usage between decentralized and centralized systems*

## **Moving Towards Universal & Sustainable Access to Drinking Water for All – Steps for Implementing National & Local Action Plans**

- *Scaling-up sanitation provisions across cities through innovative public-private-NGO partnerships, promotion of Integrated urban environmental sanitation, and appropriate technical choices.*
- *Pro-poor water and sanitation governance*
- *Enhanced focus on education for behaviour change for all WASH related activities and building of Capacities at City, Country and Regional levels*
- *Partnerships for provision of services as well as for social media and also for protecting watersheds*

## ***Steps for Implementing National & Local Action Plans***

- *Innovative Financial Mechanisms for bridging the financial resource gap and Creating an enabling environment for pro-poor investments with emphasis on serving the urban poor with piped water and formal sanitation facilities*
- *Better City Planning for improved access to basic services.*
- *Recognition of the role of business community partnerships and those of Social Entrepreneurs in delivery of safe drinking water and basic sanitation*
- *Sharing of best Practices and learning from successful solutions that can be replicated, scaled-up and sustained*

### **3.1 Target - Action Plan**

*Lead Regional/International Organizations with national and international partners to assume responsibility for a follow-up to improve urban water supply through*

- 1. Regular engagement with national and City/Local governments in the entire region.*
- 2. Development of implementation support packages (tools and resources to support implementation),*
- 3. Disseminating experiences and sharing of replicable solutions for improving access to water at city level*
- 4. Encouraging regular monitoring by cities.*

### 3.1 Target : Action Plan

- *Preparation of National Action Plans Reflecting the Rights-based Approach*
- *Regional organisations to focus on the urban water supply challenge in their periodic deliberations*
- *Regular engagement with national and local governments in all the regions;*
- *Increased and long-term financial commitments to urban water supply by International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and Bilateral donors.*
- *IFIs should facilitate development of portfolio of financing mechanisms to support cities in realizing universal access to water services for all urban dwellers, with particular emphasis on the development of locally sustainable financial markets.*