Water and Sanitation in the Philippines

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Country’s specific needs in water and sanitation

**Status of the Philippine MDGs**

**Goal 7**  
Ensure environmental sustainability

**Target 10:** Halve the proportion of people with no sustainable access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation by 2015

**Indicator 30:** Proportion of Households with Access to Safe Water Supply (%)  
Baseline (1990) : 73.0  

**Indicator 31:** Proportion of Households with Sanitary Toilet Facility (%)  
Baseline (1990) : 67.6  

 Philippine population 2007: 88 million

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Water District</th>
<th>LGU</th>
<th>RWSA/BWSA</th>
<th>COOP</th>
<th>MWSS</th>
<th>Private NGO</th>
<th>Total Population Served</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IV-A</td>
<td>2,286,823</td>
<td>215,957</td>
<td>101,339</td>
<td>2,836</td>
<td>15,818</td>
<td>239,807</td>
<td>2,862,580</td>
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<tr>
<td>VII</td>
<td>433,489</td>
<td>520,664</td>
<td>15,368</td>
<td>64,229</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,113</td>
<td>1,034,863</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6,851,487</td>
<td>1,511,680</td>
<td>296,886</td>
<td>100,216</td>
<td>15,818</td>
<td>286,007</td>
<td>9,062,094</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Philippine’s WATSAN Situation

- The Philippines has abundant water resources.
- Mean annual rainfall ranges from 1,000 to 4,000 mm.
- Those who do not have access to safe water supply and sanitation facilities ends up paying 10 - 15 times higher than those with piped water system.
- The same population rely on private water vendors or shallow/dug wells, often prone to unsafe water.
- There are about 1,000 waterworks run by LGUs.
- There are about 550 Water Districts financed and regulated by LWUA.
- The high costs and low efficiency have characterized public utility services across much of the country.
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- There are about 550 Water Districts financed and regulated by LWUA.
- The high costs and low efficiency have characterized public utility services across much of the country.
- Only 3.3% of the Philippines' 85 million citizens are connected to sewers, with only a small fraction of these households having acceptable effluent levels from on-site sanitation facilities.
- In Metro Manila, only 4% of the population in 2000 had sewerage services, making the city third to the last in a survey conducted by the Asian Development Bank of 18 Asian cities.
- Outside Metro Manila, only 3 of the 120 cities have sewerage systems but with only 3% of their respective populations connected.
Prioritized Measures

• Focusing on waterless areas

• Establishment of groundwater monitoring system including a database on yield potential and recharge rates to aquifers

• Provision of safe drinking water by installing low cost water supply like hand-pumps, gravity-fed systems, rainwater collection, shallow/deep/artesian tube wells and construction of infrastructures for potable water system in areas where there is poor access

• Conservation of water for sustainable water quality and supply (a) improving the system’s efficiency; (b) Improving the metering efficiency and monitoring the unauthorized use of water; (c) encouraging the use of saving devices, application of new technologies and recycling; and (d) conducting intensive public information, education, and communication programs on water conservation
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• Development/construction of low-cost sanitation facilities
The Dry Toilet Option

- Does not need water and septic tank
- Cost vary to type of materials

Feces and urine are separated

Urine Diversion & Dehydration Toilet

2-chambered vault: on-site treatment
### Recent country trends in the field

The country’s largest water service providers have adopted the following strategies and directions:

- **Groundwater protection and exclusive use of surface water**
- **Reducing water losses (non-revenue water) through efficient distribution systems**
- **Provision of sewerage and sanitation services, including free desludging of septic tanks**
- **Biosolids management (from wastewater treatment)**
- **Water recycling and waste water treatment**
### Implementation challenges encountered by projects

Challenges in reaching the MDG targets:
- Increasing price of potable water
- Inadequate water resource management
- Demand-management measures to minimize waste of water supply
- Sanitation is not popular
- Low awareness/low priority given to sanitations and technologies
- Social acceptance of new approaches and technologies
- Cost considerations
- Institutional mechanisms
- Technology options
- Monitoring and evaluation
Thank You

Maraming Salamat