



Development of the sustainable water and sanitation systems in CAREC region

Regional report

General overview of the WASH challenges



- Poor technical condition of WASH infrastructure due to the lifetime of more than 50 years (Tajikistan, Uzbekistan);
- Population growth requires construction of new systems;
- Level of living standards is decreasing in rural areas due to the inequitable access to WASH between urban and rural areas;
- Lack of human capacity for proper operation of WASH systems;
- Insufficient financing of WASH systems' O&M and development of new WASH systems

Detailed information on the access to WASH systems in selected countries (JMP full report, 2019)



Country / Main indicators	China	Mongolia	Tajikistan	Uzbekistan
% of population with access to safely managed drinking water				
- urban	92,3%	No data	no data	86.1%
- rural	No data	No data	no data	31.1%
- total	No data	23,7%	47.9%	58.9%
% of population connected to piped systems				
- urban	92,2%	34,5%	90,8%	88%
- rural	53,8%	5%	54,5%	52%
- total	76,1%	25,1%	64,3%	70%
% of the rural population using improved sanitation facilities by types:				
- Latrines and other	38%	62%	99,1%	55%
- Septic tanks	5,5%	0%	0,1%	less than 1%
- Sewer connections	38,5%	3,1%	0,2%	45%
% of total population using hygiene facilities:				
- with basic conditions	No data	71%	72,7%	90%
- with limited conditions (without water or soap)		7%	22,6%	29%
- no facilities		22%	4,7%	less than 1%.

*jmp-2019-full-report. (<https://www.unwater.org/publications/whounicef-joint-monitoring-program-for-water-supply-sanitation-and-hygiene-jmp-progress-on-household-drinking-water-sanitation-and-hygiene-2000-2017>)

Innovative financial mechanism for WASH sector



- **WASH sector financing:** Available financial support of the sector is still not enough. Countries pay more attention to application of different financial mechanisms for WASH sector development;
- **Tariffs for water supply and sanitation:** Water supply tariffs do not fully cover O&M of the water supply systems
- **Governments pay more attention to innovative approaches and new financial instruments:**
 - ✓ Government subsidies and loans – more developed in the countries
 - ✓ Bonds – China plans to apply (the “14th Five-Year Plan” (2021-2025))
 - ✓ Revolver funds – new mechanism, not applied yet in the countries
- **Public-private partnership:** Countries pay more attention to the involvement of private sector to maintenance and development of the WASH systems. But this approach is still not developed enough.
- **Mobilizing investment:** International investments are still required in all countries.

Community-based WASH schemes



- **Bottom-up approach:** Involvement of the local communities to decision making process can support development of the WASH sector, especially in rural areas;
- **Introduction of different schemes:** There are several different management schemes implemented in the countries, but there is no unified scheme. All countries have centralized and decentralized schemes, and different community-based schemes (only in China there are 5 types of local community-based schemes);
- **Capacity building for WASH systems management:** Capacity building of the local communities is one of the main conditions for development of WASH systems on local level;
- **Dissemination of the best practices:** Most of the community-based approaches and practices are piloting on local level as part of the international development projects.

Knowledge, technology, and experience sharing



- **Human resources:** Countries have national development strategies and try to develop the constant capacity building and retraining systems;
- **Awareness raising:** Countries do not have a wide information campaigns, which can help to implement the WASH reforms and promote the WASH approaches;
- **Scientific base for innovations introduction:** So far, scientific base for WASH systems is developed and functioning only in China. Such scientific base can support identification and introduction of innovative approaches considering peculiarities of different territories;
- **Establishing the platform for technologies exchange:** There are no unified resources allowing the exchange of information on the most available and effective technologies at the regional level.

Main recommendations



- Development of **long-term strategies/plans/schemes** and dividing country into the different WASH zones according to (i) suitable water sources, and (ii) sanitation systems and (iii) geographic conditions of the settlements;
- Identification of **optimal systems of the WASH governance and management** and strengthening the institutional structures are needed;
- Establishment of **intersectoral and interdepartmental platforms** on both national and local levels should become the basis for more effective and transparent decision making and management of WASH related projects;
- Countries need to pay more attention to **constant coordination between different sectors** (NEXUS approach), using water for dual or multi-purpose systems and to identify benefits for each sector;
- **Improving the tariffs**, both setting up realistic ones and collection mechanisms will be crucial for financial sustainability of WASH schemes;
- **Role and rights of the private sector** players in WASH have to be clearly outlined in legal documents;
- Development of the **regular capacity building programs**, staff planning for WASH schemes should be a priority for the governments. Awareness campaigns and promoted innovations should bring benefits to vulnerable population

Recommendation to next steps



- **Legal areas focus:** identification of legislation gaps on national level and support of countries in development of the laws, by-laws, and other legal documents for improving access to WASH;
- **Scientific area support:** helping countries in establishment of scientific centers aimed at the development, adaptation and promotion of technologies, know-how and best practices for introduction of the WASH systems (Regional knowledge hub on WASH);
- **Capacity building support:** assisting countries in development of capacity building and retraining systems for specialists and technical staff who are responsible for WASH system management and operation;
- **Knowledge and experience exchange:** helping countries in development of the platform for exchange of experience, knowledge, and lessons learned. Such platform can be based on Chinese experience with possibility for further development;
- **Sustainability of WASH projects of partners:** development of international projects more focused on joint “hard” and “soft” parts. This can help WASH systems to become more institutionally sustainable and financially efficient.



Development of the sustainable water and sanitation systems in CAREC region

Thank you!