



Development of the sustainable water and sanitation systems in CAREC region

TAJKISTAN National report

General overview of the WASH challenges



Published figures vary and do not present a definitive trend: improvements driven mainly by the use of different definitions.

Common sector challenges constitute a vicious cycle: systemic underperformance, management constraints, poor sustainability and service failure.

Financing of the National Program 2007-2020 (Drinking WS): between 40-60% at any particular year.

National Policy and regulatory framework: lacking implementation mechanisms - ownership and management rights transfer, information and monitoring, duplication of roles (policy, regulation, service delivery), unified guidelines in establishment of Water Trust Funds, application of full-cost recovery tariffs, integration of HRBA, norms and standards for sanitation, construction and etc.

Institutional set-up inconclusive: duplication of roles, substantive lack of professionals, technical and resources base to conduct effective development policy.

Innovative financial mechanism for WASH sector



Programme for improvement of access to safe drinking water for the population of the RT for the period 2007-2020” (02 December 2006, #514): Distribution of financing – 70% outside funding, 15% national budget, 10% local budget, 5% consumers/economic activity. Financing target of ~USD1bln has not been met. Implementation between 40-60% (without consideration of USD exchange rate)

Concept for Reform of Housing and Communal Services Sector of the RT for the period 2010-2025 (01 July 2010, #321): Financing target of ~USD2bln (in part including DWS). Not well coordinated in light of parallel Program above.

Full-Cost Recovery Tariff Policy – HRBA as a catalyst: application of good governance principles (transparency, accountability and consumer participation) demonstrated significant positive impact on (a) tariff schemes changing moderately towards full-cost recovery and (b) overall water fee collection rates for more than 20 target water schemes (public, private, community). Willingness-to-pay can actually improve as HRBA application progresses. Affordability issues must be addressed through pro-poor tariff schemes and service set-up.

Water Trust Fund – Financing Distribution: Designed as an implementation mechanisms for the Programme (2007-2020) in few target districts with development partner support, under general oversight of District Chair. Found to be effective in speedy implementation of WASH projects – administrative and approval procedures, contracting, legal processing, etc. Allocation of funding from state budget (15%) not implemented, from local budgets (10%) partly implemented, consumers (5%) almost fully provided.

Community-based WASH schemes



Popular Community-Based Schemes include: Water Users Associations/Water User Committees, Village Organizations, Jamoat-led Communal Organizations, and Private Companies/Agents (LLCs, Individual Entrepreneurs): responsibilities range from ownership to O&M (full and partial).

Challenges faced by Community-led Schemes: (a) largely insufficient technical and institutional capacity with regards to O&M, (b) poor organizational management and (c) financing literacy (full-cost recovery tariffs, access to finances, water fee collection). **O&M capacity** is the most challenging. Access to technical professionals are highly limited at district level and almost not available in rural settlements.

Public Private Partnership: Rural WASH operators are advised to have **contract-based arrangements** with SUE KMK on O&M – public-private partnership arrangement. While such model is not yet practiced in rural Tajikistan, development partners and authorities are encouraged to develop mechanisms to implement such a partnership model.

Knowledge, technology, and experience sharing



Policy Dialogue and Coordination Platforms: (a) Donor Coordination Council on Water, DRR and Climate Change, (b) National Policy Dialogue (NPD) on Integrated Water Resources Management and Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation, (c) Inter-Ministerial Working Group (IMWG) on Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation, (d) TajWSS Network of Stakeholders, and (e) Consumer Rights Protection Platform (ConsTaj).

Knowledge and Technology Transfer not well documented: Technology transfer, in its strictest definition, is not maintained through existing platforms. Targeted technology transfer platforms could be initiated in Tajikistan. **Focus areas may include** – (a) billing mechanisms for WASH services, (b) sanitation and hygiene promotion, (c) sewerage systems development in rural settlements, (d) solid waste management in health facilities, (e) effective O&M arrangements for rural service providers, and etc.

Main recommendations



National Financing Programme and Strategy: must be developed beyond 2020 period and consider realistic targets. While financing burden falls largely on outside support, internal sources (consumers, private agents, communities) must be well exploited with relevant enabling policies.

Policy and Regulatory Framework: must be supported with comprehensive implementation mechanisms that help enforce newly accepted by-laws, regulatory processes and service provision standards.

Institutional Framework: technical capacities must be strengthened at systemic basis with clear vision articulated through a comprehensive capacity building programme.

Knowledge and Technology Transfer: successes and lessons learned must be well documented on applied business models for community-based water schemes to better inform policy environment towards further scaling-up across regions.

Public-Private Partnerships: The policy has not well materialized on the ground. The Government may encourage development partners in seeking suitable arrangements. Pilot projects could be launched to further feed into the reform agenda.



Development of the sustainable water and sanitation systems in CAREC region

Thank you!