

Water and Sanitation 2013

Improving the human right to clean water and basic sanitation

Access to safe drinking water and sanitation is crucial not only for people's health and wellbeing, but also for poverty reduction and economic development. Sweden promotes efficient, fair and sustainable water use and management as well as improved access to basic sanitation and hygiene facilities. Sida's financial support to the water sector amounted to SEK 868 million in 2013, accounting for approximately 5 percent of Sida's total disbursements that year.



MAIN AREAS OF SUPPORT

Safe drinking water and sustainable sanitation are essential for human survival, health and dignity. Careful management of increasingly scarce water resources is vital to ensure environmental safety and sustainable development. Sida's support to the water sector focuses on two main areas:

- Water supply, sanitation, hygiene and waste management
- Water resource management

Sida's work with water supply, sanitation and hygiene, aims at improving access to services, primarily by encouraging more democratic and effective institutions. Support to waste management concentrates on setting up municipal services based on principles such as prevention, re-use, recycling and environmentally safe disposal. Sida's support to water resource management focuses on establishing sustainable, equitable, participative and accountable management regimes. Since the majority of the world's water resources are shared by two or more countries, conflict prevention and cooperation are essential in Sida's work within the sector. Climate change and

recurrent water-related disasters make risk reduction, adaptation and enhancing resilience, critical and integrated aspects in the water and sanitation portfolio. Within the programs supported, the application of a pro-poor and a rights-based approach to water program has received a special focus during 2013.

Support to global initiatives amounts to almost 70 percent of the total funding within the sector (see table 2). Compared to 2012, the share of allocations to global programmes has more than doubled. This increase can be attributed to Sweden's strong commitment to support global joint efforts for achieving universal access to water, sanitation and hygiene, as well as reduced child mortality and improved maternity health (Millennium Development Goals 4 and 5). Among many global programs, Sida supports UNICEF's Water Sanitation and Hygiene program (WASH) with a total of 800 Million SEK during the period 2013-2017. The program aims to ensure that all schools have adequate child friendly and gender sensitive sanitation, hand-washing facilities as well as hygiene education programs.



RESULTS

DEVELOPMENT IN THE WORLD

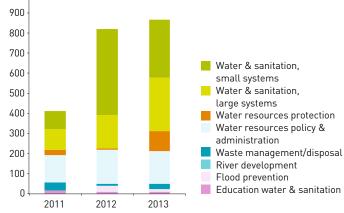
Since 1990, almost 2 billion people have gained access to an improved sanitation facility, and the millennium development goal on halving the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water was met already in 2010. Although progress has been made within the area of water and sanitation, approximately 2,5 billion people still lack access to an improved sanitation facility of which 1 billion of the world population still practise open defecation. The fact is that today more people have a mobile phone than a toilet, and every ninth person in the world, approximately 750 million people still lack access to clean water.

The same people who lack access to improved water and sanitation are also likely to lack access to electricity and rely on solid fuel for cooking. Sida recognizes that water and energy is tightly interlinked and that poverty reduction policies must address the interconnected challenges that are intensified by a growing demand on freshwater and energy, especially in emerging economies where agriculture, industry and urban development are quickly evolving.

1 000 900 800 700 Water & sanitation

TABLE 1: DISTRIBUTION PER SUBSECTOR WITHIN

WATER AND SANITATION, MILLION SEK





3,4 million people die each year from water related diseases. That is more than the entire population of Stockholm, Gothenburg, Malmö and Uppsala together.

SWEDISH SUPPORT

More than half of Sida's overall support to water and sanitation goes to provision of clean water, sanitation and toilets, as well as management of sewage and waste disposal. In Bangladesh, WaterAid is implementing a Sida funded project called Promoting Environmental Health for the Urban Poor (PEHUP). Since 2011, the project has reached 53 775 people with access to safe drinking water and 52 084 with access to hygienic toilets. These beneficiaries were reached through the instalment of 427 community managed water and sanitation facilities.

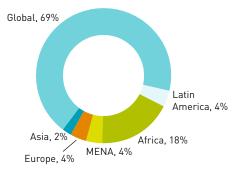
In Afghanistan, Sida supports the non-governmental organisation DACAAR which works with increasing the access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation facilities. Swedish support is used for sanitation and hygiene education to vulnerable communities, aiming to improve the quality of life by bringing down the incidence of water-borne

STORY OF CHANGE

Lack of adequate sanitation can be a source of increased vulnerability to gender based violence. In Bolivia, Swedish support has contributed to the instalment of 900 ecological dry toilets in the La Paz region which has made the women in the project area to feel safer.

diseases and reducing the burden of water collection. During 2013, a total of 7168 families or 49 096 people (24 403 women and 22 693 men) benefited from the project.

TABLE 2: GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION, PERCENT



- Before one had to look around the river for empty places, behind walls. We women we were afraid, but it was the only option because most people didn't have bathrooms and had to go to the river. Now with the bathroom it's safer and easier.

Isabel, El Alto, La Paz, Bolivia

