

Bimonthly Publications Review

Produced by the UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC), this review brings you every two months the latest publications produced by United Nations agencies and programmes on issues related to water and sanitation. Publications presented here in alphabetical order are freely accessible from the web.

Issue N° 5. July 2011

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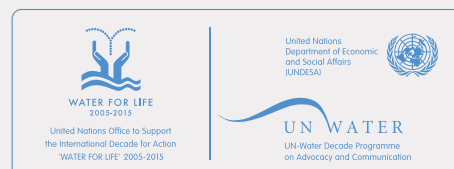
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A Decade for Water, a Decade for Life

United Nations Office to Support
the International Decade for Action
'Water for Life' 2005-2015



Latest publications

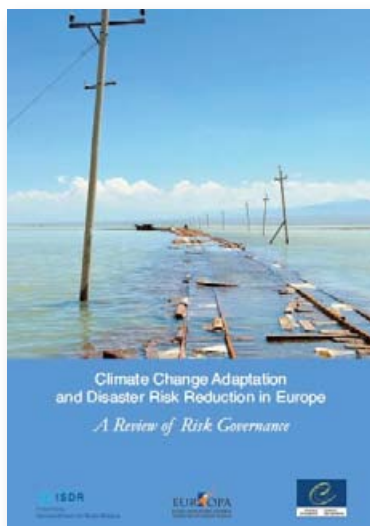


Assessing Direct Economic Effects of Reallocating Irrigation Water to Alternative Uses: Concepts and an Application

World Bank. June 2011

<http://bit.ly/iCXpFp>

This study reviews the experience with irrigation water transfers, including the involvement of the World Bank. It then discusses the problems of assessing the direct economic effects of reallocations, with a focus on the foregone direct benefits (FDB) in irrigated agriculture. The study reviews the methodologies and model specifications used for estimating FDB; illustrates the impact of different model specifications on the magnitude of FDB estimates based on an application with a case example; and draws conclusions with regard to future efforts in assessing reallocation effects, including calculating adequate compensation for farmers.



Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction in Europe. A Review of Risk Governance

United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR). June 2011

<http://bit.ly/ni7t4U>

This study aims to analyse climate related disasters risk reduction governance in the European context. There is a particular focus on the flow of information from researchers to policy makers and the way in which the decision-making process in climate adaptation and risk reduction is commonly managed. The study looks into practical cases of European regional and national adaptation strategies. The paper is divided into three sections: (1) An overview of the climate-risks and disaster risk reduction field(s); (2) An analysis of the current governance structure (studying the flow of information and decision-making processes); (3) Recommendations for the enhancement of these practices in regional and international organisations. Floods and droughts related issues are particularly covered.



Climate change, water and food security

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). June 2011

<http://bit.ly/k6gvol>

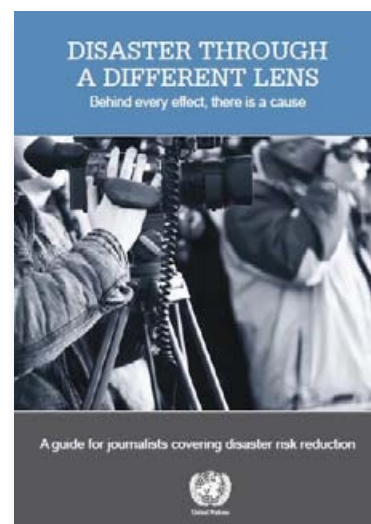
This report summarizes current knowledge of the anticipated impacts of climate change on water availability for agriculture. The implications for local and national food security are examined; and the methods and approaches to assess climate change impacts on water and agriculture are discussed. The report emphasizes the need for a closer alignment between water and agricultural policies and makes the case for immediate implementation of 'no-regrets' strategies which have both positive development outcomes and make agricultural systems resilient to future impacts. The conclusion focuses on action needed to assist countries, in particular developing countries, in assessing probable climate change impacts on irrigated agriculture and on food production, and in adapting agricultural water management to cope with the range and depths of anticipated impacts.

Disaster through a different lens. Behind every effect, there is a cause. A guide for journalists covering disaster risk reduction

United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR). May 2011

<http://bit.ly/iGgFTa>

This manual is intended for journalists and the media who are interested in learning more about disaster risk reduction issues. On chapter 1, the manual introduces the basics about disaster risk reduction (DRR), illustrates the issue with some facts and trends, summarizes the most frequently asked questions and provides various key messages. On chapter 2, the role of the media in DRR is addressed together with some examples of DRR reporting. Chapter 3 provides different lessons from disasters, while Chapter 4 offers useful information on natural hazards including droughts and floods. Chapter 5 contains a bunch of DRR resources, including information on resources centres, publications, experts and media contacts.

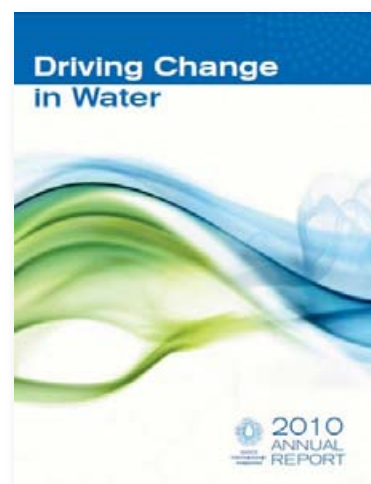


Driving Change in Water. Water Partnership Programme (WPP) Annual Report 2010

World Bank Water Partnership Program (WPP). June 2011

<http://bit.ly/jSOJBT>

The Water Partnership Programme (WPP) 2010 Annual Report provides an overview of the Program's accomplishments and outlines its future direction. The report provides examples of how the WPP enables the World Bank to respond to the emerging needs of its client countries and bring innovative solutions and transformative knowledge to help them resolve complex water challenges.

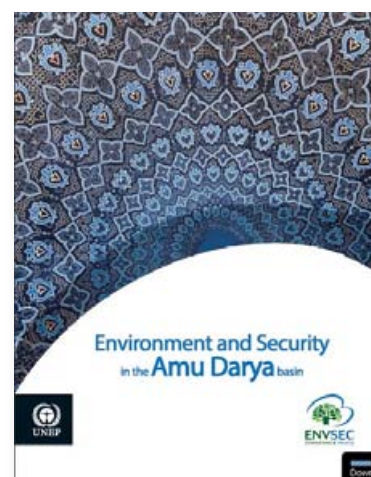


Environment and Security in the Amu Darya Basin

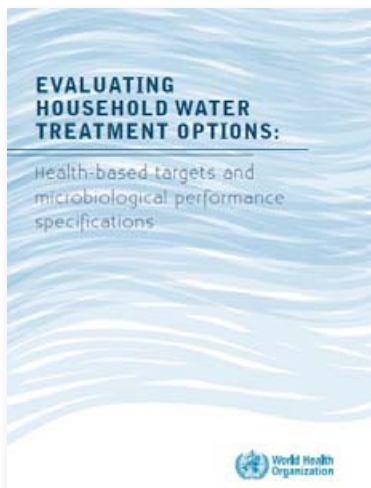
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Environment and Security Initiative (ENVSEC). July 2011

<http://bit.ly/rjBrCb>

The prime aim of this report is to identify the environmental stress points in the Amu Darya basin which have, or may have, security repercussions for the states and population. The report takes a close focus on issues of climate change, water, energy and agriculture in the Amu Darya basin, and reveals that it is vital to maintain cooperation in these fields, since neglect for these important areas means intensified security risk. The report then suggests solutions to the challenges identified during the assessment. The assessment report is based on a process comprising missions and consultations with state authorities, representatives of the media and civil society in Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan in 2007-2010.



Latest publications



Evaluating Household Water Treatment Options: Health-based targets and microbiological performance specifications

World Health Organization (WHO). July 2011

<http://bit.ly/q5TRJ2>

This document sets forth global criteria to evaluate whether a household water treatment (HWT) option reduces waterborne pathogens sufficiently to protect health. Through use of a risk-based framework and by emphasizing the philosophy of incremental improvement, it is intended to provide implementers and policy-makers with an evidence-based and pragmatic approach to select options suited to local conditions. The document provides a range of technical recommendations, including: a step-by-step overview of how to evaluate HWT microbiological performance; elaboration of health-based water quality targets ranging from interim to highly protective, including establishment of default targets for use in data-scarce settings; description of technology-specific laboratory testing protocols and guiding principles considerations relating to developing national technology evaluation programs. This document is especially intended for resource-scarce settings where water quality laboratories may have limited capacity and incremental improvements of HWT performance could have a substantial, positive impact on public health.

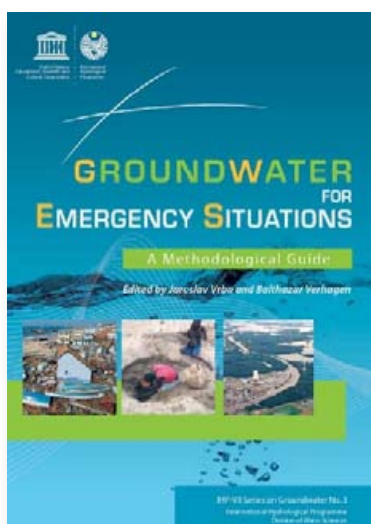


Gender Mainstreaming Impact Study

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). 2011

<http://bit.ly/qUgAiy>

This impact assessment identifies how the water and sanitation initiatives implemented under the Water Sanitation and Infrastructure Branch of UN-HABITAT, have strategically mainstreamed gender aspects in its various initiatives and to identify achievements and impact, challenges, lessons learned and provide recommendations. The study has looked at global, regional and country activities. The country programmes reviewed are implemented in Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya and Nigeria in Africa; India, LaoPDR, Nepal and Vietnam in Asia and Nicaragua in the Latin America and Caribbean region



Groundwater for Emergency Situations. A Methodological Guide

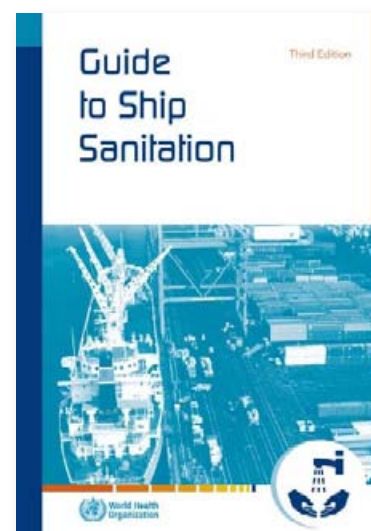
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). May 2011

<http://bit.ly/iNj5wb>

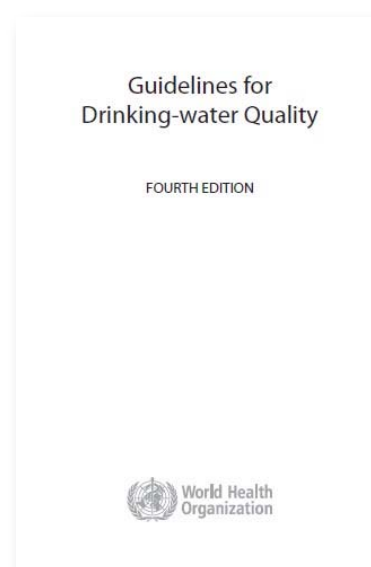
This Methodological Guide provides background information on groundwater protection with particular reference to its use in emergency situations as result of natural hazards and hydrological extremes. It also outlines the governance policy framework in which groundwater as an emergency resource may be integrated into overall emergency management and service provision. To illustrate the principles and techniques presented in the Guide, a varied number of real world case studies from widely differing regions is presented.

Guide to ship sanitation. 3rd edition**World Health Organization (WHO). April 2011**<http://bit.ly/mByssG>

The primary aim of the revised Guide to ship sanitation is to present the public health significance of ships in terms of disease and to highlight the importance of applying appropriate control measures. The guide is intended to be used as a basis for the development of national approaches to controlling the hazards that may be encountered on ships, as well as providing a framework for policy-making and local decision-making. The guide may also be used as reference material for regulators, ship operators and ship builders, as well as a checklist for understanding and assessing the potential health impacts of projects involving the design of ships. Chapter 2 addresses water-related issues, Chapter 4 deals with recreational water environments, Chapter 5 covers the issue of ballast water, while Chapter 6 addresses issues related to waste management and disposal.

**Guidelines for drinking-water quality. 4th edition****World Health Organization (WHO). July 2011**<http://bit.ly/lpBsWH>

This 4th edition of the World Health Organization's Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality builds on over 50 years of guidance by WHO on drinking-water quality, which has formed an authoritative basis for the setting of national regulations and standards for water safety in support of public health. The Guidelines are addressed primarily to water and health regulators, policymakers and their advisors, to assist in the development of national standards. This edition of the Guidelines further develops concepts, approaches and information introduced in previous editions. It considers: drinking-water safety, including minimum procedures and specific guideline values and how these are intended to be used; approaches used in deriving the Guidelines, including guideline values; microbial hazards, which continue to be the primary concern in both developing and developed countries; climate change, which results in changing water temperature and rainfall patterns, severe and prolonged drought or increased flooding, and its implications for water quality and water scarcity, recognizing the importance of managing these impacts as part of water management strategies; chemical contaminants in drinking-water, including information on chemicals not considered previously, such as pesticides used for vector control in drinking water; revisions of existing chemical fact sheets, taking account of new scientific information; those key chemicals responsible for large-scale health effects through drinking water exposure, including arsenic, fluoride, lead, nitrate, selenium and uranium, providing guidance on identifying local priorities and on management; the important roles of many different stakeholders in ensuring drinking-water safety; guidance in situations other than traditional community supplies or managed utilities, such as rainwater harvesting and other non-piped supplies or dual piped systems.

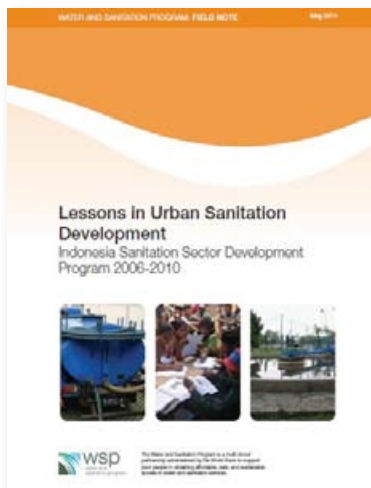
**Kenya Country Impact Study****United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). 2011**<http://bit.ly/oFNkaJ>

This document is an internal Kenya country impact study of initiatives supported by UN-HABITAT's Water and Sanitation Trust Fund (WSTF). The impact study reviews WSTF's strategic intentions, examines the Kenya country context and UN-HABITAT's country strategy and undertakes an impact study of specific projects.

The projects selected for review were two complimentary projects in Kibera focusing on improving water supply and sanitation services to the urban poor including infrastructure investments, strengthening of governance and community management that can be applied to other informal settlements in Kenya; the Kenyan projects of the Regional Lake Victoria Water and Sanitation Initiative, with a specific focus on Homa Bay; the Maji Data Project.



Latest publications

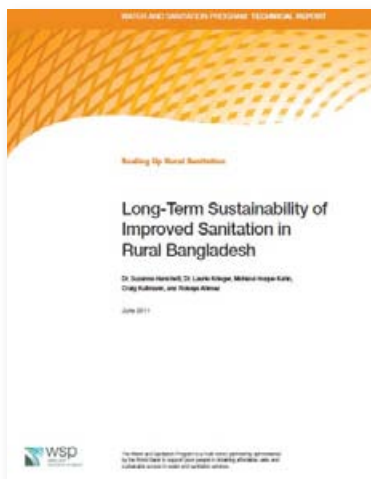


Lessons in Urban Sanitation Development. Indonesia Sanitation Sector Development Program 2006-2010

World Bank Water and Sanitation Program (WSP). May 2011

<http://bit.ly/mJXyJ7>

This field note explores key design and implementation lessons in urban sanitation development from the Indonesia Sanitation Sector Development Program (ISSDP), including, among others designing to suit local circumstances; adopting a holistic view of technical assistance; using a range of measures for creating an enabling environment; promoting strategic planning as a management tool; ensuring quality in advocacy and communications; or adapting capacity building strategies to respond to changing needs.

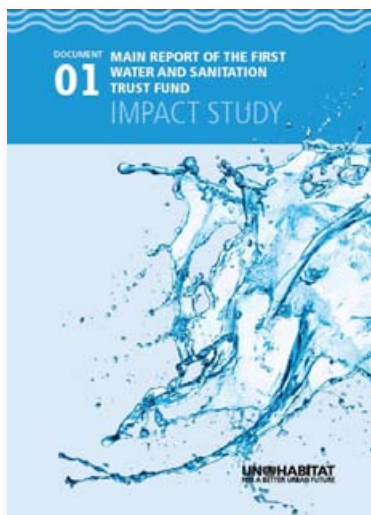


Long-Term Sustainability of Improved Sanitation in Rural Bangladesh

World Bank Water and Sanitation Program (WSP). June 2011

<http://bit.ly/ieKWNu>

This technical report presents the key findings from a research aimed at identifying the degree to which sanitation behaviors and facilities has been sustained in Union Parishads that were declared open defecation-free (ODF) at least four and a half years ago; the level of sanitation programming that has been sustained in these Union Parishads; if there are perceived benefits of being ODF and have they contributed to sustained latrine use; the degree to which private sector sanitation service providers have been sustained, and whether household access to them contributes to sustained latrine use; and lastly, identifying other factors that might work in favor or against sustained sanitation behaviors and facilities. The document extracts some lessons from the Bangladesh experience that could inform sanitation strategies in other countries, particularly those struggling to increase access to basic sanitation in rural areas.



Main Report of the First Water and Sanitation Trust Fund

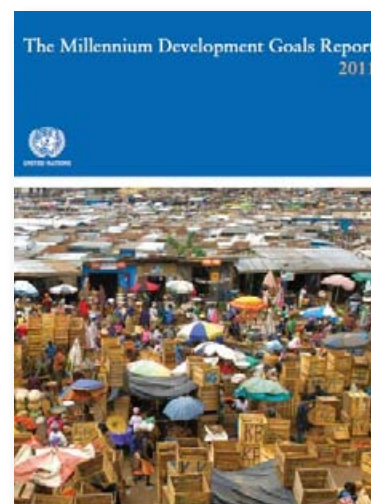
United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). 2011

<http://bit.ly/qpa0g4>

This document presents the overall summary and synthesis of the first impact study of initiatives supported by UN-HABITAT's Water and Sanitation Trust Fund (WSTF). The WSTF, which was established in 2003, aims to leverage new investment and ideas to expand the water and sanitation (WATSAN) service coverage for poor urban dwellers and help build momentum for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

(The) Millennium Development Goals Report 2011**United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA). July 2011**<http://bit.ly/mSLHsm>

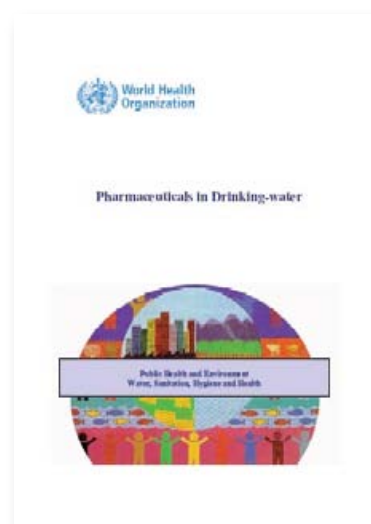
The Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Report, an annual assessment of regional progress towards the Goals, reflects the most comprehensive, up-to-date data compiled by over 25 UN and international agencies. The Report shows that although significant strides have been made, reaching all the MDGs by 2015 remains challenging because progress has failed to reach the most vulnerable. An estimated 1.1 billion people in urban areas and 723 million people in rural areas gained access to an improved drinking water source over the period 1990-2008 but, at the same time, advances in sanitation often bypass the poor and those living in rural areas. More than 2.6 billion people still lack access to toilets or other forms of improved sanitation; and where progress has occurred, it has largely skipped the poor. In Southern Asia, for instance, sanitation coverage for the poorest 40 per cent of households has hardly increased between 1995 and 2008.

**Nepal Country Impact Study****United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). 2011**<http://bit.ly/p498Vb>

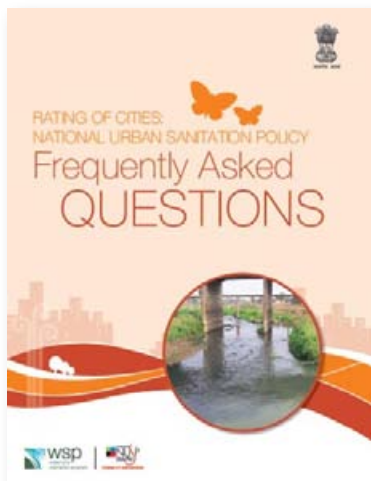
This document is an internal Nepal country impact study of initiatives supported by UN-HABITAT's Water and Sanitation Trust Fund (WSTF) undertaken by a team of international consultants. The document presents the achievements and impact of a sample of 16 selected projects which are considered representative of the Nepal project portfolio of 48 projects and provides some recommendations.

**Pharmaceuticals in drinking-water****World Health Organization (WHO). June 2011**<http://bit.ly/kujz90>

This technical report aims to provide practical guidance and recommendations in managing concerns over pharmaceuticals in drinking-water, taking into consideration the available scientific knowledge and evidence. It emphasizes the importance to prioritize this emerging issue in the overall context of water safety management, which includes microbial and other chemical risks that may threaten the safety of drinking-water. This report focuses primarily on reviewing the risks to human health associated with exposure to trace concentrations of pharmaceuticals in drinking-water. It does not discuss the potential impacts on aquatic ecosystems or the broader physical environment.



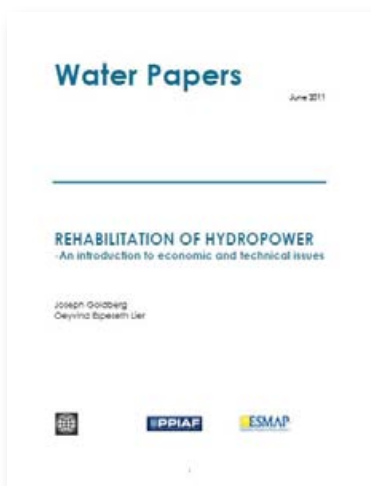
Latest publications



Rating of Cities: National Urban Sanitation Policy. Frequently Asked Questions
World Bank Water and Sanitation Program (WSP). June 2011

<http://bit.ly/jR9lQw>

This document presents a set of frequently asked questions about the 'National Rating for Cities' exercise launched by the Government of India to achieve the goals of the National Urban Sanitation Policy (NUSP). The exercise rated 423 cities (with population greater than 100,000) for their performance across various aspects of sanitation. This was measured through indicators that included physical infrastructure, systems, processes, and outcomes related to achievement of total sanitation. The first national rating was carried out in 2009 and results were published in May 2010.



Rehabilitation of hydropower. An introduction to economic and technical issues

World Bank. June 2011

<http://bit.ly/kxyhWZ>

This paper analyses the market for rehabilitation of hydropower for two regions (i) Continental Africa (including Madagascar) and (ii) Central America including Mexico. The paper also offers an introduction to the technical components that might be rehabilitated in a typical hydropower plant and analyses the economic gains of each. These factors have then been applied to the universe of hydropower plants identified to estimate the economic benefits of rehabilitating these hydropower plants for two scenarios (i) Life extension, or (ii) Upgrade. Finally, an analysis of nine case studies is presented and some lessons on how to successfully execute hydropower rehabilitation projects have been identified.



Resilience to climate change-induced challenges in the Mekong River Basin. The role of the Mekong River Commission (MRC)

World Bank. May 2011

<http://bit.ly/kbmJVI>

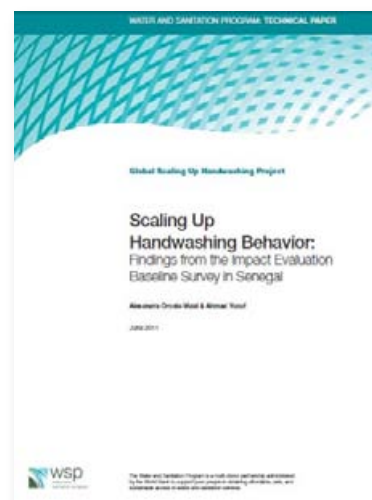
This paper examines the 'adaptation capacity' of the Mekong River Commission (MRC), which manages the Mekong River Basin, a river basin particularly vulnerable to challenges related to climate change as well as to human-caused change. Several key points have been identified regarding the contribution of the MRC to increasing resilience to environmental and human-caused change in the Mekong River Basin. The aim of the paper is to assess the adaptation capacity of a particular River Basin Organisation (RBO), the MRC, and the related resilience of the Mekong River Basin with regard to climate change but including other challenges such as hydropower development and the related change induced in the basin.

Scaling Up Handwashing Behaviour: Findings from the Impact Evaluation Baseline Survey in Senegal

World Bank Water and Sanitation Program (WSP). June 2011

<http://bit.ly/n5Dacx>

This impact evaluation study utilizes a series of data collection activities to measure the impacts of the WSP Global Scaling Up Handwashing intervention, including baseline and post-intervention household and community surveys and longitudinal monitoring of diarrhea prevalence. In Senegal, the baseline survey, conducted between June and August 2009, collected information from a representative sample of the target population living in four regions. The survey comprised a total of 110 clusters and 1,600 households within 88 communes and rural communities. The survey results offer data on the characteristics of household members, access to water, sanitation and handwashing facilities, handwashing behavior, prevalence of child diseases such as diarrhea and respiratory infection, child growth and development, anemia and parasites prevalence. In addition, community questionnaires were conducted with key informants at the village level in all sample locations to gather information on community access to transportation; commerce; health and education facilities; and other relevant infrastructure; contemporaneous health and development interventions; and environmental and health shocks. The main findings of the Impact Evaluation baseline survey in Senegal are presented here.

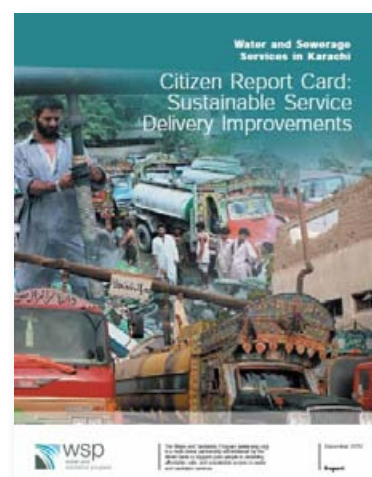


Water and Sewerage Services in Karachi Citizen Report Card: Sustainable Service Delivery Improvements

World Bank Water and Sanitation Program (WSP). June 2011

<http://bit.ly/ILMWuK>

This report discusses the key findings and recommendations emerging from a pilot Citizen Report Card (CRC) on water, sanitation, and sewerage services in Karachi. The CRC, pioneered by the Public Affairs Center (PAC), Bengaluru, provides public agencies with systematic feedback from users of public services. CRC gains such feedback through sample surveys on aspects of service quality that users know best, and enable public agencies to identify strengths and weaknesses in their work.



Water for Food. Innovative water management technologies for food security and poverty alleviation

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). May 2011

<http://bit.ly/mTFnbh>

This paper sets out the water and food security challenges in Least Development Countries (LDCs) and developing countries. The document explores the rainfed-irrigation nexus in different regions of the world, looks at the technology's role and suggests some action actions that can be undertaken to improve food security and alleviate poverty.



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www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/unpublications.html

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