



Sanitation for Millions

IMPROVING ACCESS TO SAFE AND ADEQUATE SANITATION

Background

Sanitation for Millions is a multi-donor programme which was set up in 2016 by the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) to contribute to safe and adequate access to sanitation. It operates worldwide focusing notably on the needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups such as children, women and girls, refugees and internally displaced people as well as persons with disabilities and indigenous communities. Measures are currently being implemented in Africa (Uganda), Asia (Jordan, Pakistan), Latin America and the Caribbean Region.

The BMZ is the lead donor, furthermore the *Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation*, the UK-based solidarity fund *Water Unite*, and the *Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade* are contributing to the funding. On behalf of the *Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)*, *Sanitation for Millions* executes activities within the

Global Environment Facility (GEF) funded project “*CRew+ - An Integrated Approach to Water and Wastewater Management Using Innovative Solutions and Promoting Financing Mechanisms in the Wider Caribbean Region*”.

Goals and Approach

The main objective of *Sanitation for Millions* is to achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all with a special focus on vulnerable and disadvantaged people and communities.

Sanitation for Millions' approach contains both the construction and rehabilitation of sanitary facilities and wastewater treatment plants, as well as capacity building and establishing an enabling institutional environment for sustainable management and operation of the facilities. The programme fills gaps in the sanitation service chain and promotes integrated water and wastewater resource management policies. The development of adopted financing mechanisms and business models at various levels complements the advisory services offered.

The following guiding principles are applied:

- Achievement of universal coverage and sustainability
- Building high quality infrastructure
- Implementation based on best-possible evidence and in accordance with a performance-based approach
- Protection of resources and the environment
- Applying a child- and gender-friendly, inclusive, and equitable approach
- Working towards harmonisation, partnership and leadership
- Implementation based on sound planning.

Implementation

Sanitation for Millions started implementation in three countries (Jordan, Pakistan, and Uganda) with the objective to expand into further countries where need on the ground meets willingness to act. Since August 2020, the programme has extended its regional outreach in cooperation with the IDB to the Wider Caribbean Region, namely to Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.



From top to bottom: Students learning hygienic practices at a school in Union Council Baleli; Teaching on menstrual hygiene management, Pakistan



From left to right:

New school sanitary facilities in Kampala; Faecal sludge emptying at the newly constructed treatment plant in Apac district, both Uganda.

In order to efficiently use the available budget and comply with the aid effectiveness agenda of the international donor community, *Sanitation for Millions* applies a performance-based approach for resource allocation, benchmarking between:

- relevance
- impact
- efficiency
- effectiveness and
- potential for transformational change

Sanitation for Millions cooperates directly with schools, public authorities, local and international civil society as well as with local enterprises. The close coordination with other



Muezzin repairing a water tap in a mosque in Mafraq, Jordan

bilateral programmes of German development cooperation facilitates effectiveness and fast progress at local level in the partner countries.

Highlights 2017-2020

- More than 300,000 people have gained access to safe sanitation through the construction of sanitation facilities in schools, health care facilities and mosques. All measures are inclusive, i.e. designed to be barrier-free and gender-sensitive.
- Over 500,000 people benefit through the training of more than 1,000 professionals in operation and maintenance of sanitation facilities.
- Around 50,000 girls received information to improve menstrual hygiene through campaigns and educational measures.
- More than 50,000 students are benefitting directly from 200 installed group handwashing facilities.
- Over 500,000 people were reached with hygiene messages through a media-based approach in collaboration with religious actors during the Corona pandemic, thus actively providing pandemic protection.



Ritual washing in a mosque in Amman, Jordan



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