Changa Pani Program (CPP): A clean water and sanitation solution

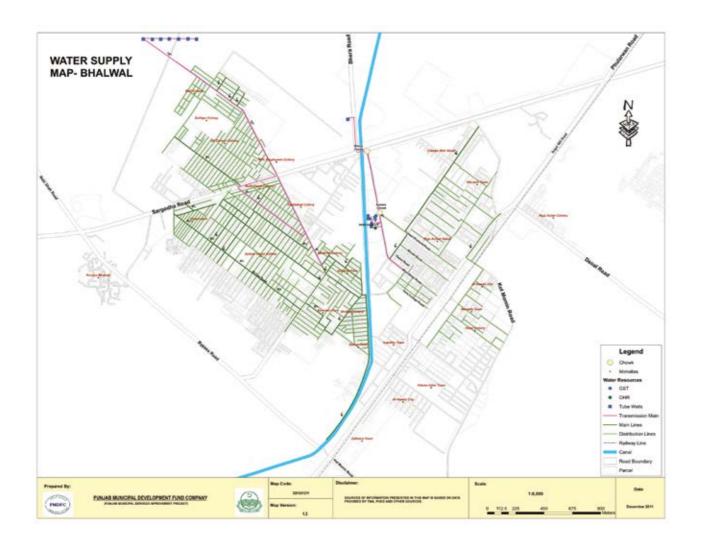


Country: Pakistan

City/region where project is based: Bhalwal, District of Sargodha Population (of area where the project is based): 3500 houses with approximately 21 000 beneficiaries

Key organisations /stakeholders involved in the project: A public private partnership. Local Bhalwal community members, Bhalwal Municipal Committee (MC), WASCO and NGO Anjum Samaji Babood (ASB).

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safe drinking water to the community. An overhead tank with a capacity of 100 000 gallons stores water transferred through 8 tube wells. Water meters were also installed on buildings at a cost of 3000 PKR (\$25 USD), which may be repaid in instalments of 50 PKR (\$ 0.5) per month.

Results and next steps

Water challenge

Due to the absence of safe drinking water and lack of proper disposal of solid waste via sewerage, water borne diseases top the list of ailments prevailing in Bhalwal, Pakistan. Water needs to be brought in from a far, making the domestic water expensive and unsafe. Another challenge this project addresses is water conservation by keeping a track on water usage.

Project approach

The project began with mobilizing the Bhalwal community to form a steering committee, to ensure that each house would be provided with safe drinking water uninterrupted. Groundwater served as the primary source for drinking water in the project. A set of 16-inch pipelines stretching at a distance of 7 km from the Lower Jhelum canal were installed to transport

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An average household pays approx. 300-350PKR (\$3USD) per month for water delivery. Despite no previous culture of bills payment, 90% of covered users reliably pay their bills. An appropriate pricing strategy promotes customers' confidence, necessary for proper water conservation and management.

Outcomes achieved:

• The water quality improved, and subsequently the health of people in the community also improved

- significantly;
- Conservation of water by communities has resulted in a 50% reduction of water loss;
- There is a 90% rate of recovery for bills from customers; • 2500 out of a planned 4000 meters have been installed; • The project provides technical training and employment opportunities to the inhabitants.

Outcomes to be achieved:

• Scaling up the project, through effective social

- mobilization, advocacy and partnership with relevant government departments;
- Fixing faults in the metering system and late detection of leakages.

SWM: Potential and barriers

The project managers are interested in adding smart technology to the water distribution system in Bhalwal. This would help address the system's shortcomings by:

- Reducing the maintenance cost;
- Improving the efficiency of meter readers.

Currently, limited financial and technical resources hinder the transition to SWM. Once SWM is able to be implemented, it will require proper capacity building of communities and staff. Thus, there is the need for community training to overcome technological barriers.