A loud cheer rents the air. Children run helter-skelter screaming and running up and down the hilly track. Water is finally flowing from the tap installed in their homes, they shout excitedly. Welcome to Methgharkila village, 40 km from Nasik in Maharashtra. A five km hilly track off the main road brings us to this sleepy village. Trudging to and from the nearest water body has been part of the daily grind for the residents of this village for as long as they can remember.

“In my own lifetime this is the first time that I am seeing running water from a tap. I’m so happy. I no longer have to tread nearly two kilometers of dangerous hilly road to fetch water,” says 50 year-old Lakshmi Bai.

Jalswarajya Project: Easing the burden of water for villagers in rural Maharashtra
Jadav her voice choked with emotions. Until now, Lakshmi Bai had to repeat her trip to fetch water up to three times a day.

Lakshmi Bai was not alone. With water hard to come by, the women of the region invariably have to make the rounds of the village well to fetch water for their families to drink and bathe, fill their kitchen pots, and do the family laundry. Finding enough water for family chores in the dry summer months was even harder.

Methgharkila village is one of the last few remaining villages under the Jalswarajya project still getting its water connection. Piped water was to reach their homes two years ago, but an inaccessible terrain with no road made logistics difficult. That’s when the villagers came together and built a road making it easier to transport equipment and material to lay the pipeline.

What is true of Methgharkila is also true of 26 of the 33 districts in rural Maharashtra where a change is sweeping the countryside brought about by the Jalswarajya project, the Maharashtra government’s innovative rural water supply and sanitation program,
which began in the middle of 2003. The World Bank supported the project with $181 million.

**Tap water reaches village homes**

“Over the years we have taken great pains to get water to our homes. The village well does not have enough water. We have to wait for it to recharge after midnight and only then can we fetch water. I even fell into the well once while drawing water. Now we shall save so much time and effort,” says Chandrabhago Jhole of Methgharkila village.

Now, for the first time ever, village homes in large parts of rural Maharashtra are not starved for water even during the dry summer months. Today, some 1.2 million households in the region receive clean drinking water in their homes; more than half a million of these families live below the poverty line.

In a tribal village the villagers contributed 5 percent of the cost, while the Jalswarajya project provided the rest. Whereas in a non-tribal village, the villagers contributed 10 percent and the rest was from the project.
Access to sanitation has also improved

Not only has the project achieved many firsts in the area of providing access to water but has also been recognized for its initiatives in the sanitation sector.

Most of the houses in the project area now have both a water connection as well as a toilet. More than 1800 Gram Panchayats in the project area have been declared free of open defecation.

Bhargurdi village some 60 km from Nasik had no toilets till only five years ago. The water source would invariably get contaminated during monsoon leading to a number of health problems for villagers. “We helped villagers build low cost toilets and used children and schools to influence people to make healthy changes,” says Santosh Yadav, a government employee and also a sanitation ambassador of the project.

“Today teachers regularly talk about cleanliness and the importance of washing hands. Thanks to the availability of water, our school is now growing vegetables in its own compound which are cooked for us for the midday meal,” says Dhamshree Deore, a class 9 student. The village has also introduced an incentive system - Rs 51 as award for those who identify offenders of open defecation and a fine of Rs 250 for the offender.

Community-owned water scheme

The project has made everyday life much easier for families, especially saving the womenfolk hours of backbreaking labor to fetch water each day. The project has brought water to village homes by putting local communities in charge of managing their own water supply schemes.

The project achieved this by empowering villagers to plan, operate and maintain their own water supply systems, reversing the age-old ways of the top-down centralized bureaucracy deciding and delivering on local schemes.

“Earlier, people would start their day with fights over water. Women would get up at 4.00 am to queue up for water and there would be many fights. Today there is a total change. When the Jalswarajya project came to the village they wanted villagers to participate in executing the project. People realized the importance of coming together. Women too started participating in gram sabha meetings,” says Santosh Yadav.

Households have come together to identify sites for village wells with the help of local NGOs. Local contractors have been hired to dig the ground and lay pipes and pumps.
Very early in the phase of the project, villagers realized the importance of maintenance.

“The distance between the well from where water is drawn should not be far from the water tank so that time taken to fill the tank is less. This brings down the cost of maintenance,” Santosh adds, reflecting the project’s focus on issues related to maintenance of such water supply schemes.

The project has raised the level of local leadership. Several women are actively involved in the operation of the water supply systems. The gram sabhas (village assembly) in the project area have been galvanized by the active participation of women brought out on the vital issue of water.

“Our village has been shortlisted for a Nirmal Gram Award given by the President of India. This is a salute to the women of our village. Not so long ago they wouldn’t even come out of their houses, but today they actively participate in village meetings,” said Bagul a school teacher in Bhagurdi.

Villagers now willingly pay for water

The Jalswarajya project has also shown that the poor are able and willing to pay for water. Vaishali Barve, a 24-year-old post-graduate student from Thergaon village some 30 km from Nasik travels to the city everyday for college. “Earlier, we had one standpost for at least 7 homes and it would take us an hour to fill water. I would fetch water before going to school. Today, I’m able to save a lot of time and instead concentrate on my studies. We don’t mind paying a nominal fee for getting this water,” said Vaishali with a smile.

The World Bank first piloted this community driven approach in water and sanitation services under the Swajal project in 12 districts of Uttarakhand between 1996 and 2003.
The project receives People First Award

The project has also received the World Bank’s Social Development unit’s “People First Award for the year 2010”, for its excellence in inclusion, innovation and results.

“The project has shown remarkable achievements in improving the water and sanitation services in the villages of Maharashtra, by involving the community in the decision making process. We faced numerous challenges during implementation – the geographical spread across 26 districts of Maharashtra, covering a milieu of regions from hilly terrains to drought prone plains. Despite this, the Government of Maharashtra and the World Bank took on the challenges to ensure that even the last tribal person on a remote hill had access to sustainable water and sanitation services,” says N.V. V. Raghava, senior infrastructure specialist and the World Bank team leader for the project.

All photographs taken by Michael Foley
If we falter, we will lose the wild tiger

The roar of a wild tiger could soon be replaced by silence. Illegal poaching; illegal wildlife trade; loss of habitat through conversion, encroachment, and land degradation is causing the decline in numbers of wild tigers. But the good news is we have also found that tiger populations can recover. For them to do so, we have to target the illicit demand that drives tiger decline, says World Bank Group President Robert B. Zoellick

As Rudyard Kipling’s The Jungle Book begins, Mother and Father Wolf are troubled to learn that the tiger, “Shere Khan, the Big One”, has shifted his hunting grounds. The wolves fear the tiger’s presence in their midst may anger local villagers and cause man to seek revenge, threatening animal and land alike.

In 1894, when this collection of short stories was published, 100,000 tigers roamed the wild. Today, that number has plummeted to 3,200. And Shere Khan’s hunting grounds – the habitats in which all wild tigers live – are vanishing. Tigers now occupy only 7 percent of their original range. We are fast approaching a time when the roar of a tiger in the wild will be replaced forever by silence.

The extinction of the wild tiger would be an extraordinary tragedy. It would be a tragedy not only because of the appalling loss of these animals, but also because it would pose a threat to the health of the habitats in which they live and the prey that support them. Tigers are an umbrella species – their health reflects the health of surrounding plants and animals.

We know what is causing the decline in numbers of wild tigers: illegal poaching; illegal wildlife trade; loss of habitat through conversion, encroachment, and land degradation. But the good news is we have also found that tiger populations can recover. For them to do so, we have to target the illicit demand that drives tiger decline – because the illegal trade in wildlife is nothing more than organized crime. In fact, it’s the third largest form of organized crime, after the arms and drugs trades.
The year, 2010, was the Year of the Tiger. From 21-24 November, the Global Tiger Summit in St Petersburg, Russia, brought together the 13 countries that still have wild tigers, along with the World Bank Group, Smithsonian Institution, the WWF, National Geographic and other conservation and development partners and stakeholders. The summit was a historic occasion, where world leaders signed the St. Petersburg Declaration reaffirming their resolve to save wild tigers from extinction.

To succeed, it will take a partnership of national governments and organizations pooling their expertise and passion.

Central to all these efforts, however, must be strong ownership of the conservation agenda by tiger range countries, because it is those who live with the tiger who will determine the great cats’ fate. This is why it is critical to engage and empower these governments’ leaders, bring them together on a single platform of action and develop national policies tailored to individual country needs. This is why the global tiger summit offers the chance to be a game-changer in contrast to previously failed efforts.

The task will not end in St Petersburg. We will need to ensure robust implementation and regular stocktaking in the next three to five critical years to ensure success. Success would mark a turning point, where countries secure wildlife and biodiversity, and their very valuable but fragile natural wealth.

The plight of tigers casts a spotlight on the broader biodiversity crisis that often goes unnoticed amid the many actors debating climate change. If we falter, the tigers’ loss would be a dramatic indication of our failure to safeguard biodiversity and balanced development.

By working to save the wild tigers, we’re protecting a majestic animal so it can continue to stir our imagination, just as it did in Kipling’s day. At the same time, we’re arousing attention about all the biodiversity of our planet.

In Kipling’s story, Mowgli, the man-cub, was rescued from a tiger. It is critical that we come together now to save the last of the great wild tigers — from man.

This article was originally published in the Sunday Guardian on 21 November 2010
ICR Update

This is a short summary of the Implementation Completion Report (ICR) of a recently-closed World Bank project. The full text of the ICR is available on the Bank’s website. To access this document, go to [www.worldbank.org/reference/](http://www.worldbank.org/reference/) and then opt for the Documents & Reports section.

**Gujarat State Highways Project**

Context

This Project was approved at a time when Gujarat’s economy, and India’s as a whole, was growing at 6-8 per cent per year and demand for road transport was projected to double in a decade. The Government of India (GOI) and the State Government of Gujarat (GOG) embarked on large road development programs, to meet the growing demand for road transport infrastructure, via the National Highway Development Plan (in the case of the GOI) and various state-level initiatives to improve and upgrade the state-managed road network.

Capacity of the State Road Network: At the time of appraisal, Gujarat, with an area of 196,000 sq. kms, a population of about 48 million (1999 estimate), had one of the most developed and congested road networks in India. Gujarat’s then road network consisted of 1,570 km of National Highways (NH), 19,655 km of State Highways (SH), 20,364 km of Major District Roads (MDR), 10,355 km of Other District Roads (ODR), and 18,665 km of Village Roads (VR). The rapid growth of vehicle ownership in Gujarat (14

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percent per year during the last 15 years) coupled with the poor quality and condition of the road network, led people to expect that congestion would increase and the quality of road transport services would deteriorate.

The Gujarat State Highway Project (GSHP) was designed to address several key sector issues by:

(a) strengthening the institutional capacity of the Roads and Buildings Department (R&BD) to better manage the State road network, through the development and implementation of a comprehensive institutional strengthening action plan;

(b) improving the capacity and structural quality of key segments of the core State road network, by widening and strengthening of about 800-900 km of SHs; and

(c) reducing the maintenance backlog, by funding the periodic maintenance of about 1,000 km of high priority State roads.

**Project Development Objectives**

The main development objectives of the Project are to enhance the capacity of the Government of Gujarat (GOG) for the effective and efficient planning and management of road infrastructure, while concurrently maximizing existing road infrastructure asset utilization through priority investments and increased maintenance funding.

**Project components**

The project consisted of the following components:

- **Widening and Strengthening of State Highways:** The carrying capacity and structural strength of part of the core State road network was to be increased through the widening and strengthening of about 800-900 km of high priority state highways.

- **Land Acquisition and Relocation & Resettlement Expenditures:** The land acquisition costs and cash compensation paid under the land acquisition act and the replacement value of the assets acquired (which were to be paid in the form of assistance), infrastructure facilities and resettlement sites, R&R entitlements including allowances, training, and monitoring and evaluation expenditures, were to be funded by the Bank loan.

- **Periodic Maintenance of State Highways:** This component was to help reduce the periodic maintenance backlog by funding theOverlaying, resealing and minor rehabilitation of about 1,000 km of State highways. It aimed to support three annual periodic maintenance programs.

- **Design and Supervision of Civil Works Contracts:** Internationally experienced supervision consultants were to be procured to supervise the Widening and Strengthening component of the project.

- **Institutional Strengthening, Technical Assistance, Training and Equipment:** This component was to fund consultant services and technical assistance required to implement the Institutional Development Study and institutional strengthening action plans designed to strengthen the R&BD’s role as the “manager” of Gujarat’s road network.

- **Pre-investment Studies:** Technoeconomic feasibility and detailed engineering studies required for a possible follow-up project was to be funded under this component.

**Other significant changes**

**Scope of works.** Six earthquake-damaged bridges were added to the Road Widening and Strengthening component after a historic earthquake struck the state of Gujarat on January 26, 2001. The fourth annual periodic maintenance program was added to the Periodic Maintenance component, and 22 km of roads were added to contract GSHP-12. All newly-added works were funded from the project savings as a result of lower-than-expected civil works unit costs and slight depreciation of the Rupee against the US dollar during the early part of project implementation.

**Schedule.** The loan closing date was extended twice, for twelve months each.
time, and the loan finally closed on December 31, 2007. The first extension was required because of the need to complete the 2001 earthquake-damaged bridges, while the second extension was required because of the delays in civil works construction caused by the unusually prolonged monsoon rains in the summers of 2005 and 2006.

Achievements

The institutional strengthening component under the Project has considerably enhanced the State government’s capacity for effective and efficient road infrastructure planning and management. The ‘learning by doing’ of implementing a large externally-aided project and exposure to international practices has also been beneficial. Utilization of the existing road infrastructure assets has been maximized.

The state government has been able to successfully prepare the 2007 and 2008 budget plans for the department by using the computer-based GRMS, which is quite a noteworthy achievement for effective and efficient road planning and management, compared to the past practice by which all the budget plans were prepared manually. The Social and Environment Management Policy and Guidance, a statewide sector policy prepared under the Project, is now applied to all investment projects undertaken by the R&BD.

The average speed of a car, truck or bus has increased from 50 km an hour to 60 km an hour on the roads supported by the project, thereby reducing travel time by about 16 percent. The maintenance backlog has been reduced from 10,000 km at the baseline to 5,000 km, a 50 percent decrease, including 1,900 km reduction contributed by the project.

More than 1500 staff has been trained in the project’s training schemes, which is a three-fold increase from its original target. The state has also set up a training college, which puts Gujarat well ahead of other states in India in this field.

The Project also achieved its target of maintaining 972 km of roads as well as increasing its annual maintenance funding by 10 percent.

Lessons Learnt

Contract Management Aspects:

- Careful design and cost review at the pre-bidding stage will lead to lower costs of the works. The contract price is a result of competition in the bidding, but the robustness of its design will attract more bidders. Contractors see risks in bidding on a poorly designed project and will raise their prices to cover the risk, whereas a well designed project avoids such risk premiums.
Agency’s strong commitment will also lead to cost reductions. When the bids for contract GSHP-9 Phase II came in above the engineer’s estimate, R&BD made a big effort to have the works re-bid. This sent out a powerful message to all interested bidders that R&BD would not tolerate bids above the engineer’s estimate. As a result, the re-bid contract was awarded at a price 20 percent below the estimate. Also, R&BD was required to submit justification for planned expenses to the Finance Department, which closely controls spending to ensure the efficient use of money.

Safeguard Management Aspects

The success of the Environmental Management Unit (EMU) was due to consultant’s guidance in the preparation stage and repeated training programs during implementation. The well-functioning EMU was one of the most positive outcomes of the project. The strategic creation of new organizational units needs such careful institutional support to manage the change process.

Repeated consultations are likely to bring about stakeholder satisfaction and contribute to the project success. The repeated stakeholder consultations achieved a number of satisfactory arrangements, particularly in matters related to land acquisition and compensation for project affected people.

Project Management

A strong continued leadership and commitment of the implementing agency’s top management is a key factor. Strong commitment and leadership of the implementing agency’s top management largely inspired their performance.

Continuity of the implementing agency and the Bank team was a positive contributing factor to successful implementation of the project. Both the government and the World Bank maintained quite high degree of continuity in its project management team, which ensured a high degree of readiness at the start and stronger ownership.

Supervision of periodic maintenance by the implementing agency is a good hands-on technical capacity building opportunity. When the project started, the implementing agency did not have high technical capacity for construction and supervision. The supervision of more complicated works under the widening and strengthening component was contracted out to the supervision consultant, while the R&BD gradually enhanced its capacity through engagement in the periodic maintenance and supervision. This practice also enabled R&BD to gain confidence, and led to better control and stronger ownership of the road network.

Road safety measures need to get a stronger focus upfront with firmer conditionality in order to achieve substantive results. Road safety was a relatively small element in this project. The Road Safety Council was established early in the project period but thereafter was inactive, and it was beyond the R&BD’s ability to influence. The project-funded road safety audit and improvement study undertaken during 2005-2006 was comprehensive, and presented viable and realistic interventions, but only the physical road safety improvement measures within the R&BD domain were taken up.

Monitoring and Evaluation Aspects

Performance indicators for measuring the outcome of institutional capacity enhancement need careful attention to capture the essence. Positive results were observed in the institutional strengthening component, but its outcome indicator did not capture them well. How best to measure such results, needs to be considered holistically at the design stage.
Recent Project Signings

Tamil Nadu Empowerment and Poverty Reduction Project

The Government of India and the World Bank signed a Credit Agreement of $154 million for additional financing of the Tamil Nadu Empowerment and Poverty Reduction Project.

The Agreement was signed by the representatives from the Government of India, the Government of Tamil Nadu, and the World Bank. The signatories to the Agreement were Venu Rajamony, Joint Secretary, on behalf of the Government of India; K. Allaudin, Principal Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, Government of Tamil Nadu; Dheeraj Kumar, Project Director, Government of Tamil Nadu; and Roberto Zagha, Country Director, World Bank, India.

The objective of the Tamil Nadu Empowerment and Poverty Reduction Project – called “Vazhndhu Kaattuvom” locally, meaning “Let’s show how to live” is to create economic opportunities and build social capital in the poorest communities. So far the Project has reached 2,500 villages covering an estimated 1.5 million people. Assessments of the ongoing project have demonstrated that over 87 percent of households have shown an improvement in their economic status, with mean incomes of $668 against the project baseline of $469. In addition, 53,810 young people have been trained for employment in areas such as the construction industry, service sector, telecommunications, and garment production.

NHAI Technical Assistance Project

The Government of India and the World Bank signed a $45 million technical assistance loan to finance actions aimed at strengthening the institutional capacity of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to efficiently manage and operate its growing program.

The agreement was signed by Mr. Venu Rajamony, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, on behalf of the Government of India; Mr. Atul Kumar, Chief General Manager (Planning and Information System) on behalf of NHAI; and Mr. Roberto Zagha, Country Director India, on behalf of the World Bank.

Forty percent of the total road traffic in India plies on the National Highway (NH) network, and this share is likely to increase with vehicle growth touching 10 percent per annum in recent years. However, about 30 percent of the total NH network is still single-laned, 53 percent double-laned, and only 17 percent is four, six, or eight-laned.

The project will support training to enable NHAI to improve its project management, research and capacity building, asset management and resources planning, Public-Private Partnerships, socio-economic and environment impact evaluation, safety, HIV/AIDS prevention, and governance through adopting appropriate approaches and practices.
Recent Project Approvals

**PMGSY Rural Roads Project**

The World Bank has approved a $1.5 billion Credit and Loan for the Prime Minister's Rural Roads Program, or the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) to continue improving rural accessibility of roads for hundreds of millions of residents especially in lagging regions.

The program was established in 2000 to address the challenge of poor rural accessibility at a time when almost 40 percent, or 300 million people in the country lacked access to all weather roads and a large part of the existing 2.7 million km of the rural road network were in poor condition. While the PMGSY has since added 274,000 km of new roads, vast parts of the country, especially in economically weaker and hilly areas, continue to remain inaccessible.

The new project will concentrate on the states of Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Meghalaya, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh. Over the next five years, the project will aim to provide these states with an average connectivity of around 91 percent by constructing 24,200 km of all-weather roads to benefit an estimated 6.1 million people. The project will also develop a system for maintaining these roads in good condition over the long term.

**Rajasthan Rural Livelihoods Project and Uttarakhand Decentralized Watershed Development Project**

The World Bank has approved an IDA credit of $162.7 million to help improve livelihood opportunities for some 400,000 village households in 17 districts of Rajasthan. The Bank also approved a credit of $7.98 million additional finance for an ongoing watershed development Project in Uttarakhand that is helping rural communities increase agriculture productivity as well as rural incomes through a decentralized watershed management approach.

The funding for the Rajasthan Rural Livelihoods Project will help improve economic opportunities for rural communities, especially women and marginal groups, in 9000 villages of the state. It will channel financing for income-generating activities through some 33,000 SHGs; link selected SHGs to markets; and also help develop skills for unemployed rural youth.

The additional funding of $7.98 million for the Uttarakhand Decentralized Watershed Development Project will sustain support for ongoing activities like helping farmers set up small agribusinesses.
Inadequate sanitation is causing India considerable economic losses, equivalent to 6.4 per cent of India’s GDP in 2006 at US$ 53.8 billion (Rs. 2.4 trillion), according to The Economic Impacts of Inadequate Sanitation in India, a new report from the Water and Sanitation Program (WSP), a global partnership administered by the World Bank.

The study analyzed the evidence on the adverse economic impacts of inadequate sanitation, which include costs associated with death and disease, accessing and treating water, and losses in education, productivity, time, and tourism. The findings are based on 2006 figures, although a similar magnitude of losses is likely in later years.

The report indicates that premature mortality and other health-related impacts of inadequate sanitation, were the most costly at $38.5 billion (Rs.1.75 trillion, 71.6 percent of total impacts), followed by productive time lost to access sanitation facilities or sites for defecation at $10.7 billion (Rs. 487 billion, 20 percent), and drinking water-related impacts at $4.2 billion (Rs. 191 billion, 7.8 percent).

“For decades we have been aware of the significant health impacts of inadequate sanitation in India,” said Christopher Juan Costain, WSP Regional Team Leader for South Asia. “This report quantifies the economic losses to India, and shows that children and poor households bear the brunt of poor sanitation.”

More than three-fourths of the premature mortality-related economic losses are due to deaths and diseases in children younger than five. Diarrhea among these children accounts for over 47 percent ($18 billion, Rs.824 billion) of the total health-related economic impacts.

At 75 percent more than the national average and 60 percent more than the urban average, the poorest 20 percent of households living in urban areas bear the highest per capita economic impacts of inadequate sanitation. Rural households in the poorest quintile bear per capita losses 8 percent more than the average loss for households in rural areas.

Data on incidence (e.g. diarrheal diseases, deaths, etc.) were compiled from national sources (National Family Health Survey, WHO Demographic and Health Surveys, and other Govt. of India sources). Based on scientific literature, attribution factors were used to estimate the populations impacted by inadequate sanitation. Economic valuation was carried out using costs/prices based on secondary studies.

The study underlines that substantial investments are needed in improving sanitation – as the Government of India’s national rural sanitation flagship Total Sanitation Campaign has been providing and as the National Urban Sanitation Policy 2008 has espoused.

The report further recommends a new monitoring framework – one that measures not just toilet coverage and use, or coverage of sewerage and number of wastewater treatments, or number of sanitized communities and cities, but also improvements in the overall health, water-related, environmental, and other welfare indicators that result from inadequate sanitation.

The report estimates that comprehensive interventions (use of toilets, hygiene promotion, improved access to safe water, and proper waste management) can save India $32.6 billion (Rs.1.48 trillion) or $29 (Rs.1321) per capita.

REPORT LAUNCH
Inadequate sanitation costs India the equivalent of 6.4 per cent of GDP
20 December 2010 • New Delhi
Public Service Delivery in India: Understanding the Reform Process

By Vikram K. Chand
Available: On-line
English; Paperback; 390 pages
Published October 2010 by World Bank and Oxford

Improving the quality of public service delivery is a crucial step towards achieving the overarching objective of inclusive growth in India. This book examines processes of change and reform in public service delivery in a range of states, sectors, and time periods. Understanding how change takes place is a key objective of this work. What emerges from the seven studies of reform processes included in this volume is a picture of considerable complexity, the importance of context, the role of leadership in fashioning a strategy that seizes opportunities for change, and the presence of unpredictability, uncertainty, and contingency.

Of Taps & Toilets: Evaluating Community Demand-Driven Projects in Rural India

By Sustainable Development Dept, South Asia Region, WB
Available: On-line
English; Paperback
140 pages
Published October 2010 by World Bank

This publication reports the findings from empirical studies of the effectiveness of water and sanitation interventions in rural India. The goal is to inform water and sanitation policy and the practice of monitoring and evaluation in the sector. This report describes intervention-based evaluations of two programs in rural India. The main objective of these
The Economic Impacts of Inadequate Sanitation in India

By Water and Sanitation Program, the World Bank, ADB, AusAID, UKaid
Available: On-line
Published December 2010

Inadequate sanitation causes India considerable economic losses, equivalent to 6.4 per cent of India’s GDP in 2006 at $53.8 billion (Rs.2.4 trillion).

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WPS5463
Energy poverty in rural and urban India: Are the energy poor also income poor?
By Shahidur R. Khandker, Douglas F. Barnes and Hussain A. Samad

Energy poverty is a frequently used term among energy specialists, but unfortunately the concept is rather loosely defined. Several existing approaches measure energy poverty by defining an energy poverty line as the minimum quantity of physical energy needed to perform such basic tasks as cooking and lighting. This paper proposes an alternative measure that is based on energy demand. The energy poverty line is defined as the threshold point at which energy consumption begins to rise with increases in household income. This approach was applied to cross-sectional data from a comprehensive 2005 household survey representative of both urban and rural India. The findings suggest that in rural areas some 57 percent of households are energy poor, versus 22 percent that are income poor. For urban areas the energy poverty rate is 28 percent compared with 20 percent that are income poor. Policies to reduce energy poverty would include support for rural electrification, the promotion of more modern cooking fuels, and encouraging greater adoption of improved biomass stoves.

WPS5475
Working with the market: A new approach to reducing urban slums in India
By Patricia Annez, Alain Bertaud, Bimal Patel and V. K. Phatak

This paper examines the policy options for India as it seeks to improve living conditions of the poor on a large scale and reduce the population in slums. The authors show that government programs that directly provide housing would cost, in conservative estimates, about 20 to 30 percent of GDP, and cannot solve a problem on the scale of India’s. Using two case studies, for Mumbai and Ahmedabad, the paper offers a critical examination of government policies that shape the real estate market and make formal housing unaffordable for a large part of the population. It illustrates how simple city level market diagnostics can be used to identify policy changes and design smaller assistance programs that can reach the poor. The linkage between chronic infrastructure backlogs and policies makes housing unnecessarily expensive. Increasing the carrying capacity of cities is essential for gaining acceptance of real estate policies suited to Indian cities. The authors propose approaches for funding major investments to achieve this.

WPS5504
Barriers to household risk management: Evidence from India
By Shawn Cole, Xavier Gine, Jeremy Tobacman, Petia Topalova and et. Al.

This paper uses a series of randomized field experiments in rural India to test the importance of price and non-price factors in the adoption of an innovative rainfall insurance product. The analysis finds that demand is significantly price-elastic, but that even if insurance were offered with payout ratios similar to US, widespread coverage would not be achieved. The paper identifies key non-price frictions that limit demand: liquidity constraints, particularly among poor households, lack of trust, and limited salience. The authors suggest potential improvements in contract design to mitigate these frictions.
Microinsurance: A case study of the Indian rainfall index insurance market
By Xavier Gine, Lev Menand, Robert Townsend and James Vickery

This paper describes basic features of rainfall insurance contracts offered in India since 2003, and documents stylized facts about market demand and the distribution of payouts. The authors summarize the results of previous research on this market, which provides evidence that price, liquidity constraints, and trust all present significant barriers to increased take-up. They also discuss potential future prospects for rainfall insurance and other index insurance products.

Migration and Remittances Factbook 2011: Second Edition

By World Bank

The Migration and Remittances Factbook 2011 updates the 2008 edition of the Factbook with additional data for 71 countries collected from various sources, including national censuses, labor force surveys, population registers, and other national sources. The Factbook attempts to present numbers and facts behind the stories of international migration and remittances, drawing on authoritative, publicly available data. It provides a snapshot of statistics on immigration, emigration, skilled emigration, and remittance flows for 210 countries and 15 regional and income groups.

Some interesting facts emerge: More than 215 million people, or 3 percent of the world population, live outside their countries of birth. Current migration flows, relative to population, are weaker than those of the last decades of the nineteenth century. The top migrant destination countries are the United States, the Russian Federation, Germany, Saudi Arabia, and Canada. The top immigration countries, relative to population, are Qatar (87 percent), the United Arab Emirates (70 percent), Kuwait (69 percent), Andorra (64 percent), Cayman Islands (63 percent), and Northern Mariana Islands (62 percent).

The United States is likely to have seen the largest inflows of migrants between 2005 and 2010, despite the global financial crisis. The expansion of the European Union led to a surge of migrant flows to Spain, Italy, and the United Kingdom, with a large share from Eastern Europe.

Challenges for African Agriculture
By Jean-Claude Deveze
Price: $35.00 English; Paperback; 292 pages Published October 2010 by World Bank ISBN: 978-0-8213-8481-7 SKU: 18481

The issue of feeding the planet has once again become crucial. The first challenge for these farms is consequently to produce more and better in order to feed Africa’s growing population. They can achieve this by developing a huge natural potential, exploiting the margins made possible by agricultural progress and fighting to obtain secure agricultural prices.

With an ever-increasing agricultural population, the second challenge is to promote the available human capital within the smallholding farms. This capital is currently wasted due to the lack of training opportunities, innovation and a favourable social, economic and regulatory situation.

With the threat of a lack of employment, food-related problems, conflicts, exoduses and desertification, the third challenge is how to make these efforts sustainable. This requires implementing coherent agricultural, social and environmental policies and integrated regional management.

African farmers and the leaders of their organizations are key players in terms of meeting these three challenges. This collective work will have met its objective if it helps change the way we view the
potential of Africa's smallholding farms and if all those needed to promote it are given incentives to make long-term commitments.
Post-crisis Growth and Development: A Development Agenda for the G-20

By Shahrokh Fardoust, Yongbeom Kim and Claudia Paz Sepulveda
Price: $39.95 English Paperback; 390 pages
Published November 2010 by World Bank

This volume compiles the papers and proceedings presented at the Korea-World Bank High Level Conference on Post-Crisis Growth and Development, held in June 2010, which was attended by a mix of delegations from international organizations, high-level government officials, and eminent academics and practitioners. The conference covered a number of areas that are critical to the global development agenda and central to the G20’s mandate to foster “strong, sustainable, and balanced growth.”

The volume makes a strong case for integrating development into the G20 agenda and the need to bring non-G20 developing countries on board to ensure their participation in the global recovery and sustained growth and to enhance the legitimacy and credibility of the G20 process.

Investing in Young Children: An Early Childhood Development Guide for Policy Dialogue and Project Preparation

By Sophie Naudeau, Naoko Kataoka, Alexandria Valerio, Michelle J. Neuman and Leslie Kennedy Elder
Price: $30.00 English; Paperback; 320 pages
Published November 2010 by World Bank

The World Bank created this Early Child Development (ECD) Guide to help policy makers make and implement relevant choices on how to best invest in ECD in the context of their country’s economy and national priorities.

This Guide fills a gap in the literature by
(i) distilling existing information in a user-friendly format,
(ii) providing practical information on topics that have recently become particularly relevant in ECD (e.g., measuring child development outcomes through the identification and adaptation of relevant instruments, conditional cash transfers for families with young children, etc.), and
(iii) assessing the quality of the latest evidence on each topic and identifying the knowledge gaps/remaining questions for which additional experimentation and evaluation are required.

Natural Hazards, UnNatural Disasters: The Economics of Effective Prevention

By World Bank and United Nations
Price: $39.95 English Paperback; 276 pages
Published November 2010 by World Bank

Natural Hazards, UnNatural Disasters looks at disasters primarily through an economic lens. Economists emphasize self-interest to explain how people choose the amount of prevention, insurance, and coping. But lenses can distort as well as sharpen images, so the book also draws from other disciplines: psychology to examine how people may misperceive risks, political science to understand voting patterns, and nutrition science to see how stunting in children after a disaster impairs cognitive abilities and productivity as adults much later.

It asks not only the tough questions, but some unexpected ones as well: Should all disasters be prevented? Do disasters increase or decrease conflict? Does foreign aid help or hinder prevention? The answers are not obvious. Peering into the future, it finds that growing cities and a changing climate will shape the disaster prevention landscape. While it is cautious about the future, it is not alarmist.

Malnutrition in Afghanistan: Scale, Scope, Causes, and Potential Reponse

By Emily Levitt, Kees Kostermans, Luc Laviolette and Nkosinathi Mbuya
Price: $25.00
Directions in Development: DID – Human Development English; Paperback 236 pages
Published November 2010 by World Bank

Malnutrition in Afghanistan provides the background analysis for the development of a comprehensive nutrition action plan. The timing of this report is propitious. The international communities’ interest in the developmental benefits of nutrition programming is high. This analytical report is part of a broader effort that recognizes good nutrition as important to economic growth and development. Investing in well-
This book presents the findings and recommendations of the evaluation of the World Bank’s Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Pilot Program. It shows that SEA can contribute to improving development policy and sector reform by calling attention to environmental and social priorities, strengthening constituencies, enhancing policy capacities, and improving social accountability. It also provides guidance for undertaking SEA in policy and sector reform.

Although it acknowledges the need for tailoring SEA to the context of specific sectors and countries, the book discusses in detail—and illustrates with examples—the analytical work and participatory processes required for effective SEA at the policy level. It suggests that the time is ripe for scaling up SEA in development policy and sector reform and recommends the establishment of a global alliance on environmental and climate change mainstreaming to support developing countries’ efforts for achieving sustainable development. The book concludes by arguing that SEA applied to sector reform and development policy is a critical step for these efforts to be successful.

Uganda’s Remittance Corridors from United Kingdom, United States and South Africa: Challenges to Linking Remittances to the Use of Formal Services

By Isaku Endo, Jane Namaaji and Anoma Kulathunga

Price: $20.00

Paperback; 212 pages
Published November 2010
by World Bank
SKU: 18430

This report analyzes and compares three bilateral remittance corridors. The comparison highlights similarities and differences and the significance of the remittance-sending countries to Uganda in terms of volume, corridor formality, risks, and vulnerability to money laundering. It also describes Uganda as a remittance-receiving country and outlines the remittance flows, market players, distribution network, access and usage of remittance, regulatory framework, and measures taken toward anti-money laundering and combating financing of terrorism. The issues and challenges faced by Uganda are identified and policy recommendations are made for both Uganda and remittance-sending countries.

Gender-Sensitive Approaches for the Extractive Industry in Peru: Improving the Impact on Women in Poverty and their Families

Price: $20.00

English
Paperback; 212 pages
Published November 2010
by World Bank
ISBN: 978-0-8213-8208-0
SKU: 18208

Large amounts of ‘development assistance’ in the form of infrastructure and social programs are annually made available to communities across Peru due the presence of extractive industry companies. These investments however do not always achieve the social development impact anticipated.

The impact on women could be significantly improved by taking simple steps with little additional effort or cost – disaggregating data by sex, strengthening consultations with women, investigating issues of risk to women, improving women’s access to benefits.

Additionally this report challenges the “development industry” (those non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, universities, research centers, think tanks, funders, foundations and training organizations for whom the development of theories and practices to alleviate poverty is a primary objective) to work more closely with local government and companies, sharing its knowledge on thematic issues such as gender (and other areas such as Rights-Based Approaches or Community-Driven Development) and on programs (such as maternal health, bi-lingual education, or productive chain development) to achieve what the NGOs, civil society and local government have within their mandates to deliver.

Strategic Environmental Assessment in Policy and Sector Reform: Conceptual Model and Operational Guidance

By the World Bank, the University of Gothenburg, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences and the Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment

Price: $25.00

English
Paperback; 248 pages
Published November 2010
by World Bank
SKU: 18559

This book presents the findings and recommendations of the evaluation of the World Bank’s Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Pilot Program. It shows that SEA can contribute to improving development policy and sector reform by calling attention to environmental and social priorities, strengthening constituencies, enhancing policy capacities, and improving social accountability. It also provides guidance for undertaking SEA in policy and sector reform.

Although it acknowledges the need for tailoring SEA to the context of specific sectors and countries, the book discusses in detail—and illustrates with examples—the analytical work and participatory processes required for effective SEA at the policy level. It suggests that the time is ripe for scaling up SEA in development policy and sector reform and recommends the establishment of a global alliance on environmental and climate change mainstreaming to support developing countries’ efforts for achieving sustainable development. The book concludes by arguing that SEA applied to sector reform and development policy is a critical step for these efforts to be successful.
The World Bank Public Information Center in India participated in a conference on “Knowledge dissemination through libraries and information centers: Sharing vision for the future” in Jaipur from November 22-24, 2010.

PIC Conference
Knowledge dissemination through libraries and information centers:
Sharing vision for the future
22-24 November 2010 • Jaipur

It was jointly organized by the Institute of Health Management Research (IIHMR), Jaipur and Management Libraries Network, New Delhi.

This conference provided the World Bank an opportunity to reach to practicing librarians from world class management institutes, information scientists, research scholars, academician, corporate sector and students to exchange and share World Bank’s on-line resources, Open Data Access and Apps for Development.
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The new report, published on the new Doing Business webpage, provides this year’s data and rankings for all 183 economies covered. Features include Kazakhstan as the most improved business reformer, Singapore as the top ranked economy, and a new measure of the change in business regulation over the last five years.

Visit: http://www.doingbusiness.org/

World Bank Group Investment Climate website

The new website consolidates key information about the World Bank Group’s work supporting Investment Climate Reform in developing countries. The new site is our primary platform for sharing investment climate related knowledge products and will be regularly updated with fresh content.

The site provides access to relevant data portals including Doing Business, Investing Across Borders indicators, Business Environment Snapshots, Investment Climate Assessments, and Enterprise Surveys. Visitors also have access to project information and results stories that convey impacts of investment climate reform.

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