

Meeting the Millennium Development Goals for water supply and sanitation: What will it take?

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- I. What are the Millennium Development Goals?
- II. How ambitious (realistic) are the goals?
- III. What is the UN's plan for achieving the MDGs?
- IV. Can the goals be met? What are the obstacles and how can we tackle them?
- V. Questions and discussion



I. What are the Millennium Development Goals?

- Set of semi-quantified, time-bound development targets
- Presented at the UN Millennium Summit (2000)
- Revised at Johannesburg WSSD (2002)
- Endorsed by all 191 UN members
- Commanding substantial attention among donors, developing countries, and development professionals



The Millennium Development Goals

www.un.org/millenniumgoals

- ❖ Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty & hunger
- ❖ Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education
- ❖ Goal 3: Promote gender equality & empower women
- ❖ Goal 4: Reduce child mortality
- ❖ Goal 5: Improve maternal health
- ❖ Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability
- ❖ Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, & other diseases
- ❖ Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development

Goal #7: Ensure environmental sustainability

Target 10 (with WSSD revision): “Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation.”

- ❖ Baseline is 1990
- ❖ Although expressed as a global goal, Target 10 has been operationalized as a national goal applicable to both urban and rural areas.



Progress toward W&S targets will foster progress in other areas



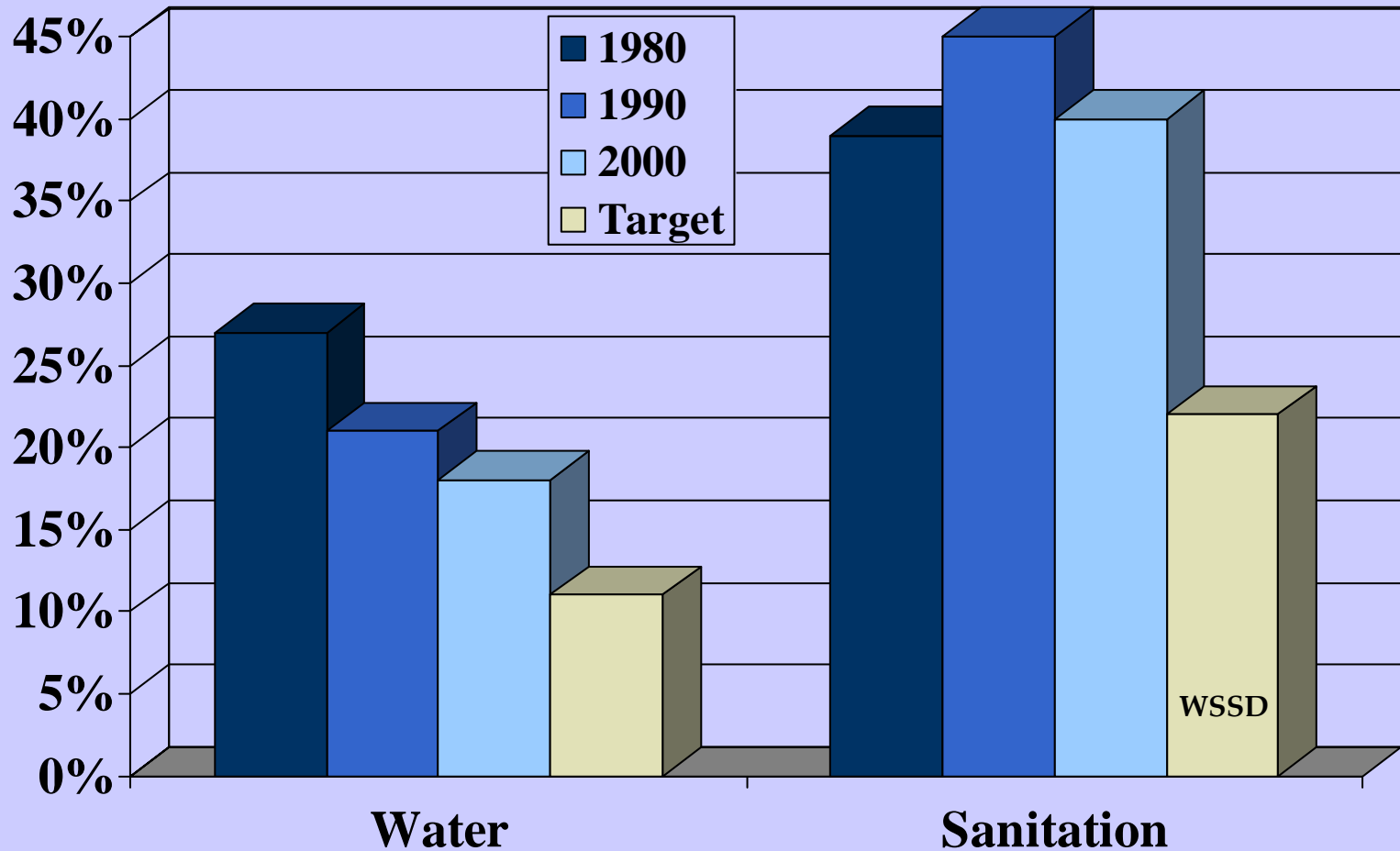
- Presence of sewers in urban Nicaragua associated with a 55% reduction in the under-5 mortality rate

- Girls' school attendance is an average of 15% higher in communities with W&S services at school in Bangladesh



II. How ambitious are these goals?

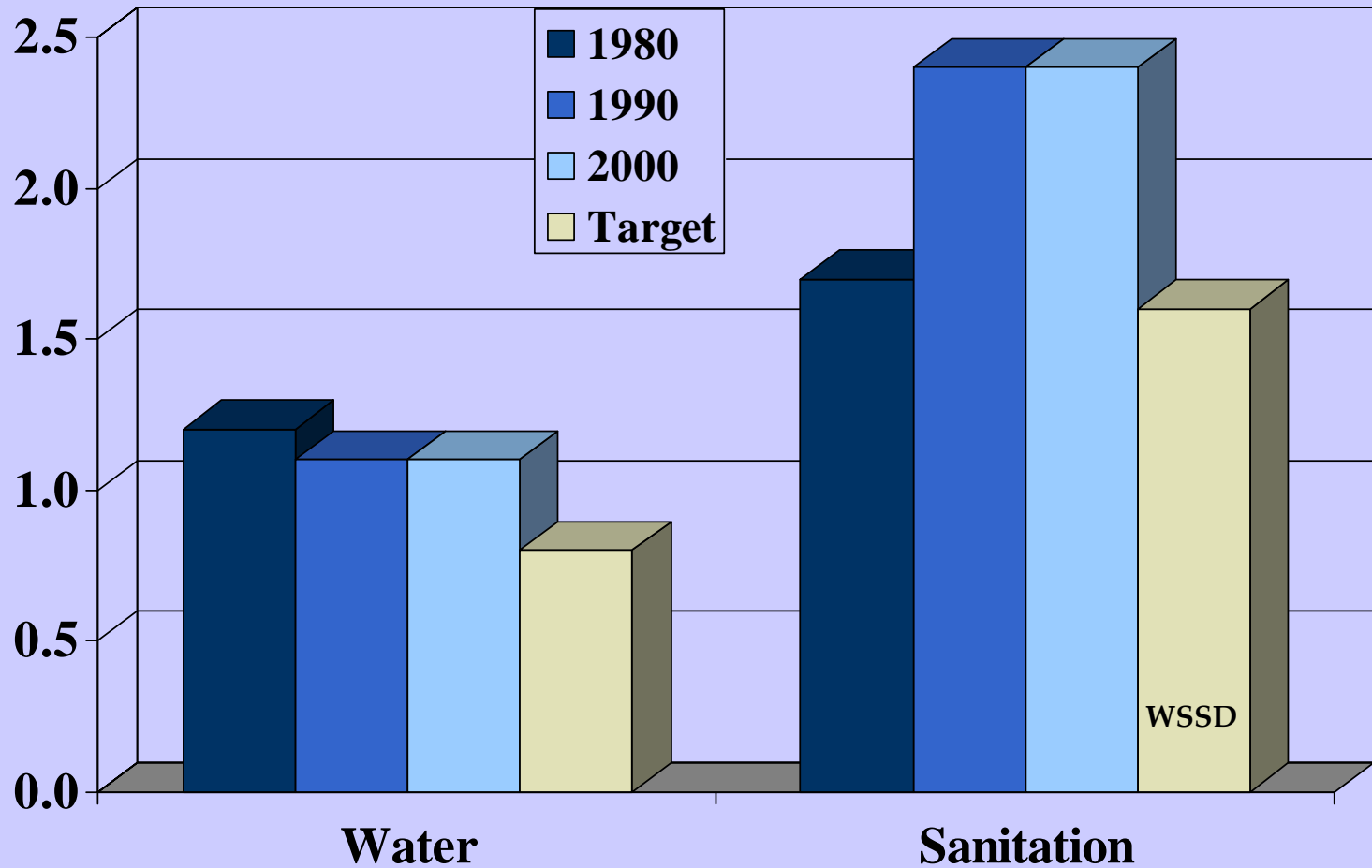
Global W&S access: percentage unserved



Data sources: Gleick 1993, IFPRI 2003, WHO 2003

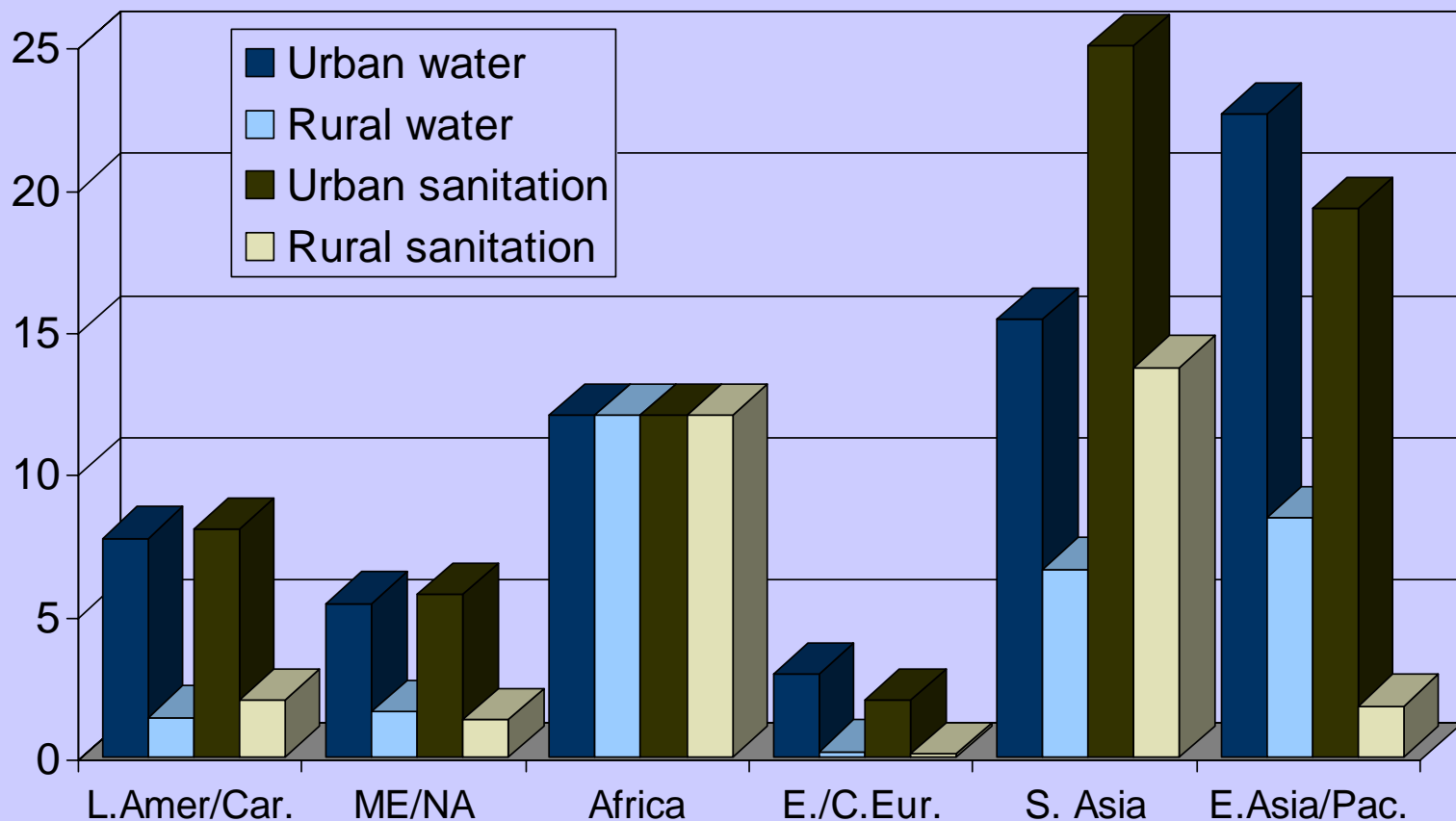
Breaking through the 1 billion mark

Global W&S access: number unserved (billions)



Data sources: Gleick 1993, IFPRI 2003, WHO, 2003

Incremental W&S coverage/year (millions of persons) needed to reach MDGs



III. What is the UN's strategy for achieving the Millennium Development Goals?

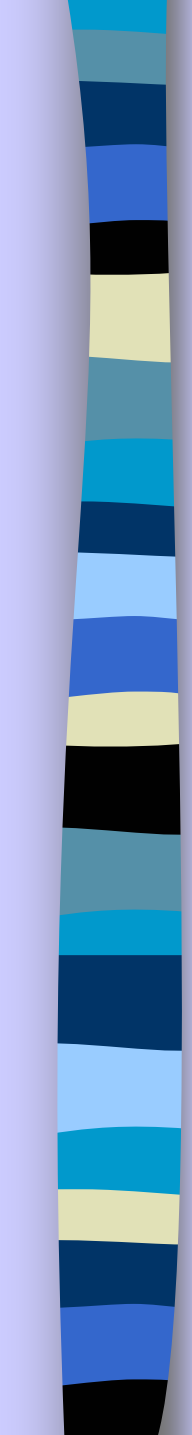
Millennium Project:
10 Task Forces + IAP
Analysis & support

Millennium Campaign:
UN-organized teams
Advocacy & fundraising

Millennium Reports:
UN + country teams
Monitoring & reporting

→ *Task Force 7:*

- 1) Understand the characteristics of communities with low W&S coverage
- 2) Identify bottlenecks to expanding access
- 3) Suggest concrete strategies to deal with constraints

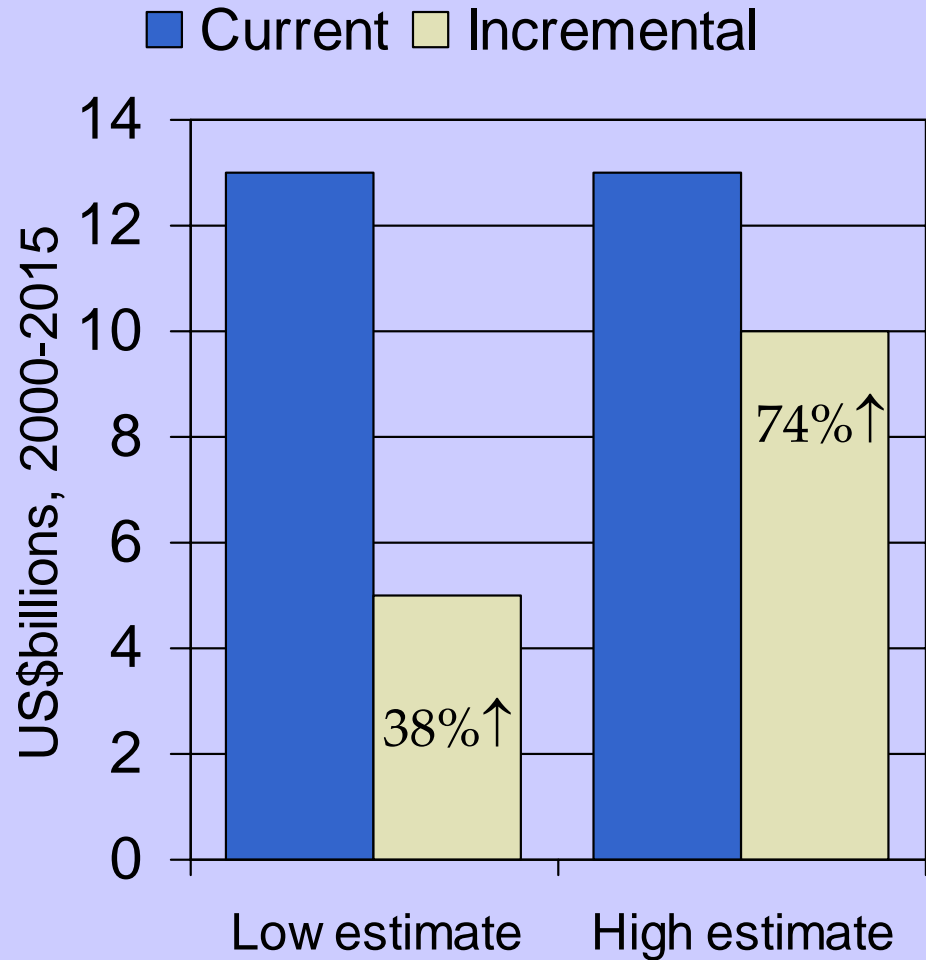


IV. What are the obstacles to expanding coverage, and how can we address them?

- Quantity of spending
- Quality of spending
- Lack of accountability between service providers and customers
- Weak/absent institutions to facilitate collective action among the unserved
- Low priority for sanitation in planning, policy development, and funding

Quantity of spending

- Current investment in developing-country W&S sector is ~US\$13b/yr.
- More than 85% of this amount is invested in water supply
- Estimated annual incremental investment for meeting MDGs ~US\$5-10 b./year*



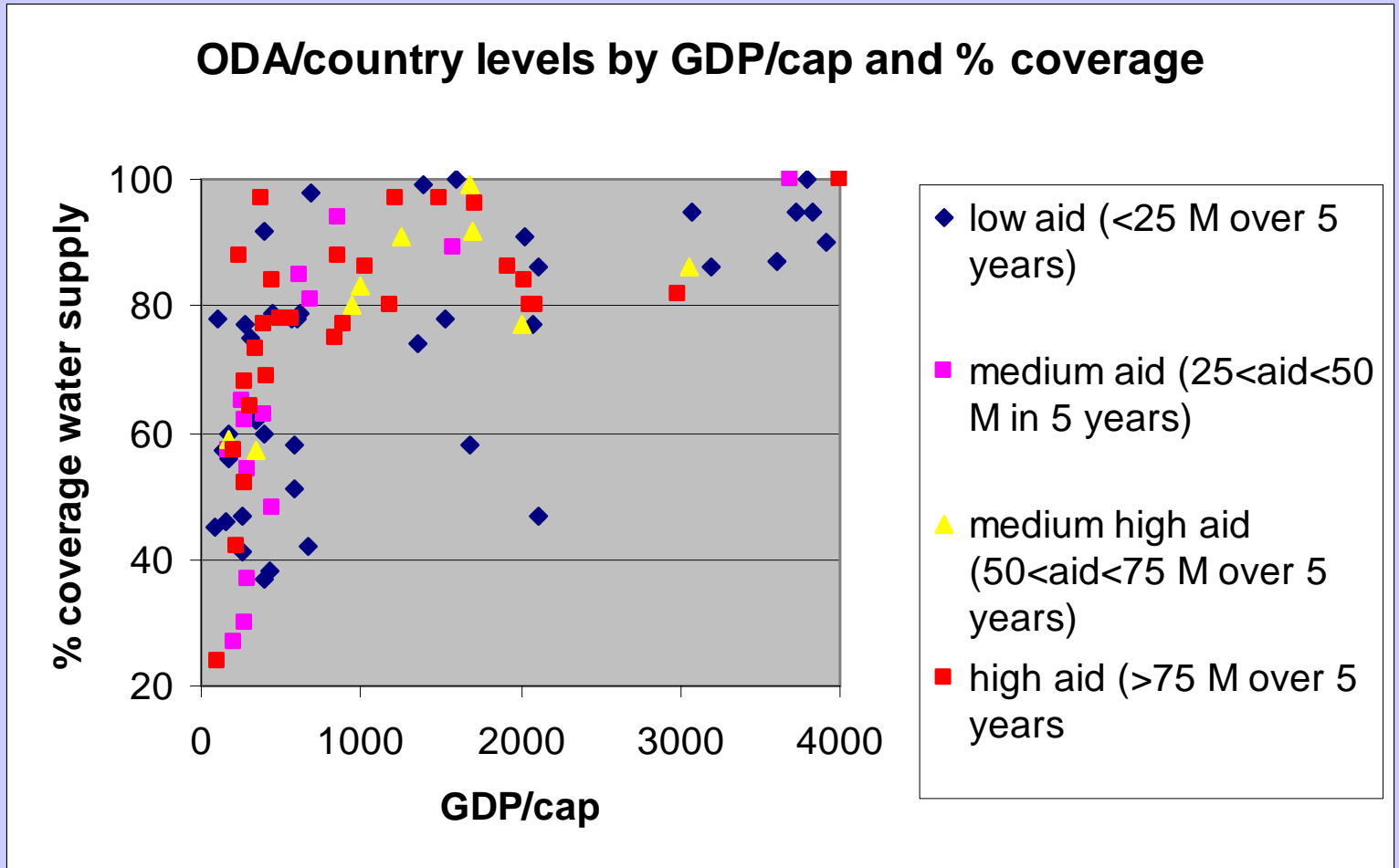


TF7 Key principle #1:

There must be a **deliberate** commitment by **donors** both to refocus their development assistance and to target sufficient aid to the *least developed countries*.

There must be a **deliberate** commitment by governments of *middle-income countries* that are not aid-dependent to reallocate their resources such that they target funding to the *unserved poor*.

World Bank W&S funding allocation





Case example: Republic of South Africa

- During the period 1996-2002, RSA dramatically increased budget allocations to the W&S sector, averaging more than US\$120m per year
- Coverage expanded from 62% in 1994 to 86% by 2000

Quality of spending



- Systems are often over-designed relative to demand or to capacity for operation
 - Sustainability is jeopardized
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- From sub-national to international levels, incentives favor new construction over O&M (not only a developing country phenomenon)



TF7 key principle #2:

Efforts to reach Target 10 must focus on sustainable service delivery, rather than construction of facilities alone.



Case example: Azad & Jammu Kashmir, Pakistan

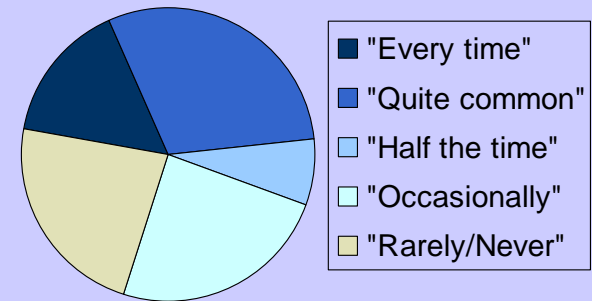
- Overseers in rural water supply project given 'portfolios' of projects that they follow from design to O&M
- Incentive for the design and quality construction of systems that communities can maintain

Lack of accountability between service providers and households

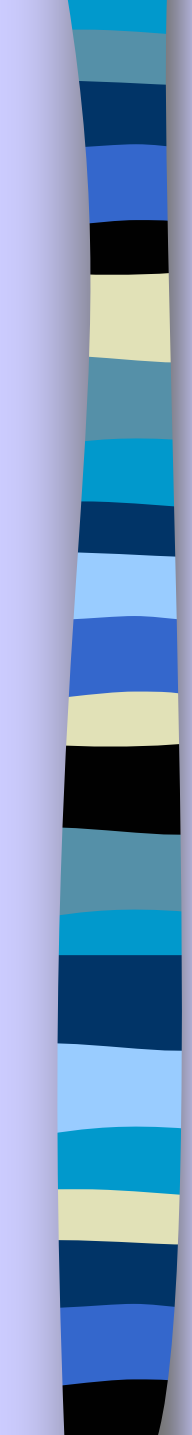
- In many public agencies, staff face no consequence either for outstanding or for poor performance.



Frequency of kickbacks from contractors to W&S institution staff (n=176)



- Political interference in service delivery, along with rent-seeking, erode both staff morale and public confidence



Few institutions to facilitate collective action are located where the unserved actually live

- Access to W&S services is positively associated with income, political influence, & access to institutions
- Many urban poor and rural residents have few avenues to express demands for service



TF7 key principle #3:

Governments and donor agencies must empower local authorities and communities with the authority, resources, and professional capacity required to manage water and sanitation service delivery.



Case example: Hyderabad, India

- In Hyderabad, a new toll-free hotline allows customers to report problems 24 hours a day
- Data from the hotline are used to generate 'efficiency ratings' for Board managers, which are publicly displayed on office terminals



Case example: Ahmedabad, India

- Slum Networking Project offers suite of infrastructure, development services at subsidized prices
- Local NGOs involved as equal partners with public agency, helping establish credibility and trust between municipality and urban poor

Sanitation remains a 'poor cousin' to water supply in policy, planning, and budgeting

- Links between sanitation and health are under-appreciated



- Demand for improved sanitation service is often low, from the household to the national level



TF7 key principle #4:

Governments and other stakeholders must move the sanitation crisis to the top of the agenda.

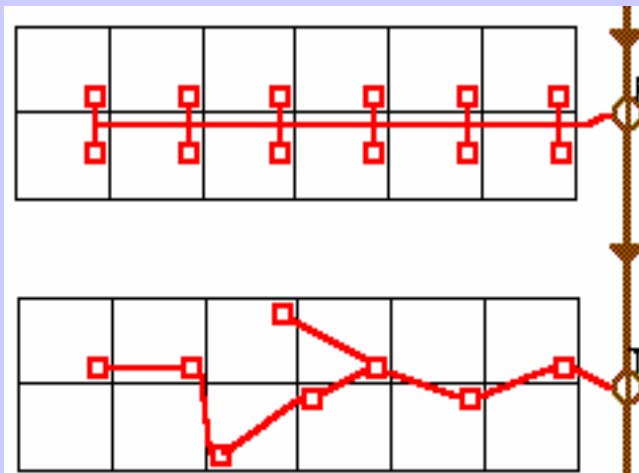
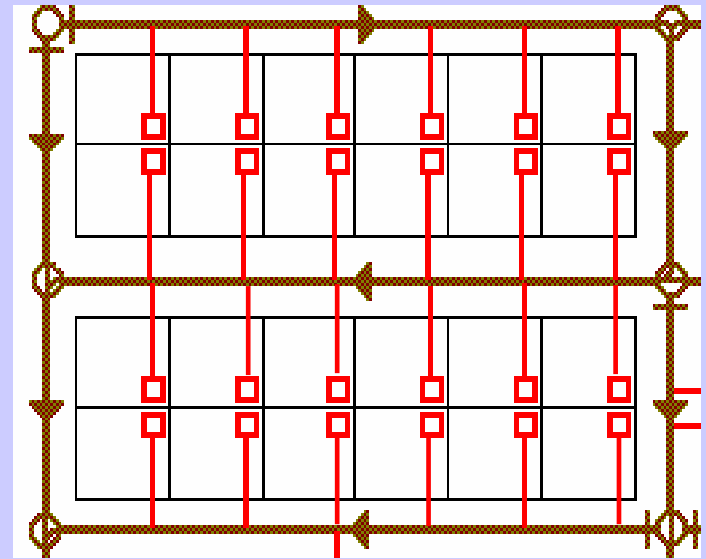


TF7 key principle #5:

Governments and their civil society and private sector partners must support a wide range of water and sanitation technologies and service levels that are technically, socially, environmentally, and financially appropriate.

Case example: Urban sewerage in Brazil

- 'Condominial' sewer developed as a lower-cost option by progressive Brazilian engineers
- Initially used to extend coverage to slums; evolved into new national standard



- Between 1980-1990, ~75,000 connections, serving 370,000 people, installed; Brazil's sanitation coverage rose from 22% to 37%



Summing up

The MDGs *are* ambitious, and serious challenges exist to meeting them, particularly (1) in Africa and Asia and (2) with regard to sanitation.

TF7 has issued 15 key principles for meeting these targets; we will dig more deeply into each of them during the class sessions ahead.