

**NGO Forum
for Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation
National Resource Centre**



**Report on
Grassroots Consultation Meetings**

February 2005

Executive Summary

Billions of dollars have been spent on an unsuccessful search for weapons of mass destruction in Iraq; yet the most deadly biological weapon of mass destruction ever known, is human excrement which, along with a lack of safe water, is the world's number one health problem. The problem has been around, and known, for decades. So why has so little progress been made? Why does a lack of safe water and sanitation continue to kill 6,000 children everyday and cause half the world's poor to be sick at any given moment?

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) represent a firm political commitment by all 191 United Nations member states to work together to eradicate global poverty by the year 2015. The Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) endorses the MDGs and believes they offer a viable and effective framework to combat global poverty. WSSCC recognises the political importance of the MDGs and seeks to achieve the MDG target of halving, by 2015, the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation facilities. Streams of Knowledge (STREAMS), the global coalition of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) focused resource centres, promotes the partnership approach at country level and works through a global understanding with WSSCC.

In line with the MDGs, WASH-STREAMS aims to focus people's knowledge, energies and financial resources towards the common goal of a clean and healthy world by 2015. The WASH-STREAMS initiative is a partnership, that promotes multi-stakeholder and people centred approaches to produce tangible improvements in water supply, sanitation and hygiene for marginalised people. The first step of WASH-STREAMS' initiative in Bangladesh was the grassroots consultation that made grassroots voices more audible at higher levels. This initiative contributed as a stepping stone towards improved health and livelihoods, and a better quality of life.

Grassroots consultation is a process, which is instrumental in organising a grassroots voice as a response to the set target. In this situation, it has been used to explore the challenges that the grassroots people are facing in meeting these targets. This process is a strong guarantor and key to achieve 100% sanitation coverage in the foreseeable future in Bangladesh.

Building Partnership

- *NGO Forum is the coordinator of STREAMS-ASIA. As per WSSCC and STREAMS global understanding, NGO Forum for DWSS initiated the formal communication with WSSCC-B in Bangladesh.*
- *A core group has been formed comprising of lead NGOs, donor agencies and GoB departments.*
- *To implement the actions on the ground, Guidelines, Terms of Reference (ToR) and a Fundraising concept note was drafted by the secretariat of WASH-STREAMS initiative (i.e. NRC, NGO Forum).*
- *The core group members reviewed and finalised the above documents.*
- *With mutual interest by the parties, countrywide grassroots consultation meetings were designed and the involvement of many NGOs was ensured.*
- *Divisional level responsibilities were divided to share gains, where they exist, for the partners involved.*

- *The grassroots consultation took place through Village Focus Group Discussions, Union level and Divisional level meetings followed by National Convention and formal WASH-STREAMS launching ceremony.*
- *A total budget of € 20,000 was collected through a fund raising initiative, 10 shares of € 2,000 each were donated by the sponsoring agencies.*
- *Concept notes were pitched to the donors and further communications established that raised interest for searching shares by UNICEF, IRC, STREAMS, WSSCC, WaterAid, Plan International & UPI, WHO & DANIDA also committed support to the program.*
- *NRC, NGO Forum was responsible for documentation of the entire initiative through reporting and documentary film.*

The consultation meetings were conducted at Village, Union and Divisional level. The grassroots consultancy was facilitated by lead NGOs, at the Division level, along with the PNGOs in respective areas. The consultation meeting took place in 6 (six) Divisions, 10 (ten) Unions in each Division were selected and 3 (three) group discussions were conducted in each Union. The group discussions comprised of hardcore poor, men and women.

The meetings were conducted as per the guidelines (Annex – I). The outcomes of the discussions in the meetings are presented in tabular form. A Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis has been done for each Union. The SWOT analysis indicates which issues to concentrate on (i.e. micro credit, awareness raising, shelter, low cost technology, adequate WatSan materials, leadership skills etc.) in the next steps under WatSan and hygiene promotion program in each Union.

The Division level meetings were scheduled from 5th to 12th September 2004, to allow enough time for the Union level meetings to be carried out in each Division. Outcomes from the Union level meetings and group discussions were presented at the Division level meetings, ensuring the voices of the grassroots were heard by the participants. Mayors of City Corporations, Divisional Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners, local Ward Commissioners, Civil Surgeons, Union Parishad (UP) Chairman, WatSan representatives, NGO representatives, representatives of civil societies and the grassroots people participated. Combining the results from the Union level meeting and the group discussions, a Divisional statement was prepared and read out at the meetings. The Divisional grassroots statement reflects the difficulties and aspirations felt by marginalised people in trying to achieve 100% access to WatSan services.

Barisal Division shows the highest sanitation coverage in the country. It is mentioned that some Unions of Barisal Division aim to achieve the target of 100% sanitation coverage by December 2005. It would be very interesting to know how this level was achieved and learn which indigenous skills contributed in this Division, in order to replicate these mechanisms in other Divisions.

In Rajshahi Division, the sanitation coverage is the lowest. Despite that fact the Kushumba Union of Rajshahi Division has already achieved 100% sanitation coverage! It would also be interesting to investigate how strong leadership and enthusiasm of the community makes thing happen.

A National Convention of Grassroots Consultations on WatSan was organised at the Institute of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB) on 21 September, 2004. A grass root representative chaired the National Convention. Mr. Md. Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, MP, Honourable Minister, Ministry of LGRD&C of People's Republic of Bangladesh, high GoB officials, representatives of donor agencies, Executive Directors and representatives of many NGOs, and 400 grassroots people took part in the National Convention. The objective of the convention was to raise the voices of the grass root people to the National level. A consolidated National Statement was presented to focus the collective

recommendations from different Divisions. The National Statement aims to provide proposals to be considered in formulation of the National Sanitation Policy.

The WASH-STREAMS launching ceremony took place in the afternoon session of the National Convention. The Secretary, Ministry of LGRD&C, Director, IRC, the Netherlands, WSSCC – Country Coordinator, Coordinator of STREAMS-Asia, representatives from donor agencies and officials from GoB and NGOs were present at the launching ceremony. The launching ceremony included a hand washing event and the staging of popular theatre on WatSan.

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ADP	Annual Development Program
BCC	Barisal City Corporation
BRAC	Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee
BWP	Bangladesh Water Partnership
CBO	Community-Based Organisation
CCC	Chittagong City Corporation
CHDP	Community Health and Development Program
DASCOH	Development Association for Self-reliance, Communication and Health
DANIDA	Danish International Development Assistance
DC	District Commissioner
DCC	Dhaka City Corporation
DG	Discussion Group
DPHE	Department of Public Health Engineering
DSK	Dushtha Shasthya Kendra
DWASA	Dhaka Water and Sewerage Authority
DWSS	Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation
ESA	External Support Agencies
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GO	Government Organisation
GoB	Government of Bangladesh
GWP	Global Water Partnership
IEB	Institute of Engineers, Bangladesh
IRC	International Water and Sanitation Centre
LCG	Local Consultative Sub-Group
LDC	Least Developed Countries
LGD	Local Government Division
LGI	Local Government Institution
LGED	Local Government Engineering Department
LGRD&C	Local Government Rural Development and Cooperatives
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MP	Member of Parliament

NGO	Non Government Organisation
NRC	National Resource Centre
NWMP	National Water Management Plan
PNGO	Partner NGO
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
PSF	Pond Sand Filter
PSTC	Population Service and Training Centre
RWHS	Rain Water Harvesting System
SACOSAN	South Asian Conference on Sanitation
SCC	Sylhet City Corporation
STREAMS	Streams of Knowledge
SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats
TNO	Thana Nirbahi Officer
ToR	Terms of Reference
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNO	Upazila Nirbahi Officer
UP	Union Parishad
UPI	Unit for Policy Implementation
UST	Unnayan Sahojogy Team
VDC	Village Development Committee
VDP	Village Defence Party
VERC	Village Education Resource Centre
VSC	Village Sanitation Centre
WASA	Water and Sewerage Authority
WASH	Water Sanitation Hygiene
WatSan	Water and Sanitation
WSS	Water Supply and Sanitation
WSSCC	Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development
WHO	World Health Organisation

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National Convention

1.0 National Convention

Declaration of Grassroots National Convention in Bangladesh

Divisional Representative, Dhaka Division

Ms. Shuchitra Mullick

In order to achieve the target of 100% sanitation coverage by 2010 as set by the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) and Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), WASH-STREAMS partnerships gave grass root people an opportunity to speak out. They initiated meetings & discussions at Village and Union level, followed by Divisional workshops in the six Divisions of Bangladesh. The grassroots people, non-government organisations (NGOs), representatives of Local GoB Institutions, donor agencies and others representatives were present at those meetings and workshops. Finally, at the National Convention, 400 grassroots participants and other stakeholders were present to exchange and share the final outcome.

Background:

- In the social context of Bangladesh, it is considered that the number of poor and hard-core poor people is innumerable, and they are powerless and disorganised.
- It is felt that the poor are being deprived of sanitation. In order to attain the target set by the GoB, in achieving 100% sanitation by 2010, active and spontaneous participation of the poor is essential. This process should be poor-centred.
- It is important to ensure participation of the poor people in Water and Sanitation (WatSan) movement of Bangladesh and in the perspective of poverty reduction.
- It is considered necessary to enhance participation of the central people in the WatSan programs instead of applying top-down approach.
- The process should be matured through support from strong and visible organisations, and the network of poor people.

It is recommended that the consolidation of findings from different meetings and workshops should be made. At the same time GoB is requested to implement these findings in order to attain the National target and WASH related MDGs:

1. Propelling Social Movement

To ensure WatSan for the mass population especially for rural poor and urban slum-dwellers commitment is being made to implement the following:

- a) To set up a sanitary latrine in each household and to ensure its use.
- b) To activate inactive tube-wells and to select proper sites to install new tube-wells.
- c) To assist Gram Sarkar (lowest local GoB body at Village level).
- d) To initiate sanitation programs in Char (isolated land) areas.
- e) To arrange discussions / orientations on sanitation in the light of religion.
- f) To set up signboard with sanitation related messages in Villages.
- g) To arrange exhibitions showing different hygienic latrine technologies at Ward/Union level.
- h) To bring the disabled people under sanitation coverage.
- i) To make the landlords and managers aware and make rules for them so that they ensure provision for sanitary latrines for each household.

2. Strengthening Social Infrastructure

To attain water supply & sanitation related target, the grassroots people, are calling on all grassroots people at all levels to participate, in a united and organised manner, in implementing the program of GoB.

It is recommended that GoB develops a specific and distinct policy to make the initiatives of the grassroots a success and to ensure their rights.

3. Proper Utilisation of Technology and Ensure its Availability at Grassroots Level

- a) Set up proper technology / water points that are able to discharge water throughout the year.
- b) Ensure sanitation for the floating people.
- c) Improve drainage and sewerage facilities.
- d) Innovate low-cost technology and ensure its use.
- e) Establish several sanitary latrine production centres in each Union.
- f) Ensure availability of resources.

4. Ensuring Water Supply and Sanitation for the Urban Slums

- a) Arrange permanent residence facilities.
- b) Arrange an allocation in the National Budget for rehabilitation programs.
- c) Provide 6-months notice to the slum dwellers before eviction and if possible rehabilitate them.
- d) Arrange for a legal safe water connection to the slum.
- e) Arrange different sanitation block in the slum areas for young girls and women.
- f) Adopt necessary measures in preventing eviction, or setting of fire (by exit doors) in the slum.

5. Ensuring Sanitation Facilities at All Important Places

- a) Set up sanitary latrines in all schools, colleges and madrassa (religious educational institutions).
- b) Establish public toilets in markets, bus/train stations, launch terminals etc.
- c) Arrange for proper maintenance of public sanitation facilities by grass root people.
- d) Establish sanitation for hawkers, tea-sellers etc.

6. Provision of Grants and Financial Assistance

- a) Provide sanitation materials on interest-free loans.
- b) Generate financial assistance provisions to the hard-core poor to build sanitary latrine.

7. Expansion of water supply and sanitation programs through co-ordinated efforts of GoB and NGOs. Grassroots people are committed to participate in the joint programs.

8. Grassroots people are also committed to participate in all government and non-governmental initiatives to mitigate Arsenic contamination in Bangladesh.

9. Undertake motivation programs, for creating awareness building, in each level of rural and urban communities.

10. Development of reward program so that a person / community can be recognised for remarkable contribution to safe water supply and sanitation.

11. Grassroots people also recommended in having this kind of National Convention every year, in order to update people on the progress towards reaching the National sanitation target and WASH related MDG.

Lastly, the grassroots people, would like to show their gratitude and thanks to the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC), Streams of Knowledge (STREAMS), donor agencies, non-governmental organisations and GoB, for arranging such a great program.

They wished a grand success of the grassroots consultation of stakeholders' "National Convention."

1.1 Summary of Speeches

1.1.1 Welcome Address by WSSCC Representative in Bangladesh Executive Director, Dushtha Shasthya Kendra (DSK) Dr. Dibalok Singha

Dr. Dibalok Singha welcomed all at the convention and thanked them for being present at the ceremony. He disclosed that at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg 2002, MDGs were set. One of the MDGs is to halve the number of people in the world who do not have access to sanitation. Additionally, GoB declared that Bangladesh will achieve 100% sanitation coverage by 2010.

In Bangladesh the sanitation coverage is 33% and people deprived of proper sanitation is 67%. Hence the declaration to bring everyone under sanitation coverage is now a challenge for all. In the country 25% of the people use unsanitary latrine, 20% of which are hard-core poor. Therefore, means have to be developed in order to achieve 100% sanitation.

He disclosed things that are required to be adopted include:

- Change in behaviour,
- Subsidy for sanitary latrine,
- Latrines made sustainable,
- Natural calamities considered,
- Financial assistance and free ring-slabs provided to the poor.

Therefore, to ensure people's basic rights, their participation at each level is necessary. Decisions taken at the central level would not be fruitful unless they are agreed with the target groups. Bottom-up approach should be adopted. WSSCC and WASH-STREAMS assisted to organise 6 Divisional level and 200 Union level meetings to carry out a situational analyses.

The aims of these meetings were to assess what the problems are, and to listen to the opinions and suggestions of grass roots people regarding sanitation issues. More than 50 National level NGOs took part in conducting the meetings. The recommendations from the meetings would assist the GoB in attaining its goal.

He hoped that, all would work hard together to make a better world for the future generations.

1.1.2 Divisional Representative, Barisal Division Mr. Mosharraf Hossain

Mr. Mosharraf Hossain was optimistic about the local people's efforts & capabilities. He affirmed that in the MDG, it is stated that number of sanitation-deprived people will be halved by 2015. Additionally, the GoB has declared to achieve 100% sanitation by 2010.

He then made some recommendations.

- There needs to be enough manpower and time
- The people can be categorised into 3 income levels, high-income, middle-income and lower income group.
- There should be a hard and fast rule that all NGOs should work with sanitation.
- There should be a mass campaign on sanitary latrines
- There should be discussions in different religious institutions
- The hard-core poor should be given free ring-slabs

- Setting up of sanitary latrine should be compulsory in houses that have tube wells
- The local leaders must have sanitary latrines

Lastly, he wished for the program to be a great success.

1.1.3 Divisional Representative, Chittagong Division Ms. Shova Rani Das

Ms. Shova Rani Das welcomed all participants to the meeting; she expressed her gratitude for their presence. She said that ordinary people are always busy with their day-to-day activities. They are not aware of the WatSan issues, due to lack of education. She then acknowledged DSK for conducting so many meetings at grass root level in Chittagong.

However, she identified some weaknesses that should be noted and overcome. The weaknesses are

- Lack of space
- Poverty
- Ignorance
- Lack of awareness
- Unwillingness of landlords to provide sanitary latrines

In order to overcome these conditions, awareness should be generated. She stated that people want interest free loans so that 4/5 families would be able to set up a latrine together. In Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) area, the communication system is not good and there is lack of latrines. Therefore, the people need assistance from GoB and NGOs.

1.1.4 Honourable Minister, Ministry of Local Government Rural Development and Cooperatives (LGRD&C), GoB Mr. Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Member of Parliament (MP)

Mr. Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan was happy to be present at the meeting & expressed his satisfaction with the achievement of the convenors. He thanked WSSCC and the concerned authorities for arranging such a convention.

He stated that at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg 2002, it was declared to halve the number of people in the world who do not have access to sanitation. Regarding this declaration, he considered why only half of the people should be ensured sanitation. Why should sanitation not be ensured for 100% people? From this consideration, a decision was taken to achieve 100% sanitation coverage in Bangladesh by 2010.

Initially, he was unsure whether Bangladesh would be able to achieve 100% sanitation coverage as per National target. Later he discovered that NGOs had congratulated the declaration; everyone supported the program. Before the declaration of the target, people did not know the importance of sanitary latrines. If the target of 100% sanitation coverage is achieved, people would become financially more solvent and the environment would be cleaner and safer.

He referred to Mr. A. Y. B. I. Siddiqui, former Secretary of Local Government Division (LGD) who stressed this issue, and conducted a baseline survey throughout the country to identify the real causes of insufficient sanitation coverage. The objective of the survey was to detect the main problems faced by the people such as lack of money, lack of space or lack of resources.

Conducting the survey did not cost the GoB any money. It was carried out by using local manpower at Union level. United Nations Development Program (UNDP) assisted GoB by providing survey sheets.

Mr. Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan perceived that the latrine production centres were about to close. However, sanitary latrine production centres are now running due to this initiative and generating employment opportunities; 20% of the Annual Development Budget at Upazila level is allocated for the sanitation sector. Different NGOs have accepted the declaration very cordially. They have undertaken many significant initiatives for improvement of the sanitation condition. They have brought many Unions and Villages under sanitation coverage. They have considered it as a social movement and created public opinion regarding sanitation. At the Upazila level, Upazila Nirbahi Officer and at the Union level, Union Parishad Chairman and Members are very cordial in performing their duties regarding sanitation. Various programs have been planned at district and Upazila level. Many sanitary latrines have been destroyed due to recent floods. The damaged latrines should be rehabilitated by GoB. The households with latrine should not be considered for any GoB assistance in future.

He was happy that WSSCC has organised 200 Village level meetings and 6 Divisional level meetings as part of grass root level consultation.

He remarked that sanitation coverage has increased due to initiatives taken at both GoB and non-GoB level. Last year, hygienic sanitation coverage was 33% and 25% used unsanitary latrines. About 20% are hard-core poor who could not afford to set up sanitary latrine. GoB and NGOs should assist in setting up sanitary latrines for the hard-core poor. The rest are from middle-income group, and they would be able to set up sanitary latrines if they were properly motivated.

He stated that all suggestions made in the convention are important. He believed that with people's coordinated efforts, they would be able to achieve the target of 100% sanitation by 2008 and the remaining two years would be left for sustainable maintenance of sanitary latrine.

1.1.5 Chairperson, Local Consultative Sub-Group (LCG), Water Supply and Sanitation (WSS)

Mr. Carel de Groot

Mr. Carel de Groot considered it a pleasure to be at the important event. He stated that he would like to start by extending his heartfelt thanks to the organisers for inviting him as a special guest. He was invited as current Chairperson of the LCG for WSS which, he considered as another important acknowledgement of the priority given to the partnership. The partnership is addressing and resolving one of the major challenges in the sector. He considered that it would require joint efforts of all concern to attain GoB's target of 100% sanitation by 2010.

While as LCG Chair, Danish International Development Assistance (DANIDA) Water Sector Coordinator and also a Sector Professional, he has had the honour of being part of many important meetings, deliberations and initiatives in the past two years, in particular at National level. He expressed his contentment in having the opportunity to be at the convention and listening to the grass root voices.

He stated that voices of those of whom were there as beneficiaries, or recipients, should reverberate the voices of those who were not present. People should consider as being the key problem identifiers, the key planners, the key implementers, and in most cases also, the key financiers for achieving set targets. This is particular in case of sanitation and hygiene promotion.

He remarked that, many of those present know that, in September 2002, at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg a strong interest in promoting sanitation was voiced. This was in the implementation plan of the Summit, and within the overall context of the earlier adopted

MDG. Nations agreed to pursue a specific sanitation target, to halve the total number of some 2.4 billion people who do not have access to basic sanitation facilities by 2015. In line with this International commitment, and going even several steps further, the GoB and its development partners, in 2003, undertook to achieve 100% sanitation by 2010.

However, for this objective to be successfully achieved, the country must accelerate the annual increase in sanitation coverage from the present 1% to an estimated, and very ambitious, 11%. This, he stressed is without even considering the huge additional efforts and investments required to offset the loss and damages incurred by, for instance, the serious floods and excessive rains experienced in the past few months.

It goes without saying that this type of progress cannot be achieved by any stakeholders alone. It requires of support from all, GoB and non-government organisations, development partners, civil society, private sector, households and individuals themselves. Everyone needs to join hands and make a genuine collaborative effort to tackle this enormous challenge.

He then spoke highly of the strong leadership shown by the Honourable Minister Mr. Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, MP in bringing, for the second year in a row, the important subject of WatSan to the top of the National agenda. The current year's Sanitation Month is about to commence and would, provide good impetus and fresh energy to all new and ongoing, programs and initiatives at National, Divisional, District, Upazila, Union and Village level.

It is with respect to the latter, the Village level, that the present WASH-STREAMS initiative had been important and timely. The initiative, led by WSSCC and NGO Forum and actively supported by a range of other partners in the sector, has provided an additional platform. This would raise further awareness on the importance of sanitation and hygiene. In particular this would collect, organise and compile people's own views and ideas on how to tackle the problems faced by them in their day-to-day lives.

Although he still has this practical but non-unimportant problem of not being able to follow all that is being said, he followed the proceedings and deliberations in the morning with great interest.

He stated that before attending this convention, many of those present have already participated in the other events that took place at Village, Union, District and Divisional level. In most of those meetings they had a chance to discuss, in detail, what problems people are facing, and which strategies should be adopted to achieve the National sanitation target.

He had full confidence that those consultations and today's convention would assist all people to jointly develop a workable and realistic, strategy and implementation plan. This would achieve the challenges and at the same time very important goals and targets set by the core group.

He finished by extending his thanks to the organisers for forging the important partnership and for making the consultative process a success.

1.1.6 Speech of the Special Guest, Director, IRC, International Water and Sanitation Centre Mr. Paul van Koppen

Mr. Paul thanked the convenor for inviting him to the dais. He stated that it is an honour for him and for the IRC to attend the Convention. In Water Supply and Sanitation Sector it is one of the first National events with such a large representation of ordinary people from urban and rural communities.

The grassroots voices were heard in a direct way. Those who were there and many others who have participated in the consultations prior to this meeting have expressed their opinions and given their

views on how to achieve the improved conditions. This has been a great learning experience for all concerned.

It is a great satisfaction for him personally, that IRC has been given the opportunity to contribute to this process, which has been characterised by the strong participation of NGOs, local GoB entities and External Support Agencies (ESAs).

In achieving this, he stated, many organisations and people have already joined in an effort to find the right path for achievement of National sanitation targets in Bangladesh. They are striving to establish one of the most vital conditions for the achievement of the MDGs and for combating poverty. He then quoted Mr. Nelson Mandela, who is a strong supporter of the WASH campaign, by saying: "For me it is the issue".

The International Water and Sanitation Centre is a member of the STREAMS of Knowledge Coalition of Water and Sanitation Resource Centres. It is also supporting NGOs and resource centres in countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America in their efforts to make a difference in their countries. These organisations have all participated in the Global WASH Campaign aiming to put drinking water, sanitation and hygiene higher on the political agenda, not only at National, but also at local levels.

He then continued that it is now more generally recognised that water, sanitation and hygiene are essential conditions for poverty reduction, for better quality of life and for the overall development process. The outcomes of the grassroots consultation confirms this once again. They also confirm that quicker progress can be made by building on people's energies.

Sharing knowledge between stakeholders at different levels makes a great difference, but this must happen in the right policy and institutional climate. GoBs can assist to ensure that those who have the knowledge, the technologies and who can provide additional financial support join hands and work in partnership. It is therefore appreciable to note how, here in Bangladesh, GoBs, the NGOs and ESAs are joining hands to make things happen.

He also stated that his organisation and he personally, is committed to support to the best of their abilities, such efforts. He would continue to do so in partnership with the WSSCC and the STREAMS Coalition Partners represented here in Bangladesh by the NGO Forum for Drinking Water Supply & Sanitation.

He specifically acknowledged the facilitating leadership provided by Dr. Dibalok Singha who is representing the WSSCC in Bangladesh.

He stated that two huge challenges confront the sector, challenges that have been clearly phrased in the MDG and Vision 21.

The first is ensuring that community projects are sustainable and that adequate institutional arrangements are put in place to support community management in the long term.

The second is finding ways to increase coverage from the current pockets of success to larger areas; in other words, scaling up from projects to populations.

Though additional external and internal investments are needed, the people who are the local actors who hold the real key to the success. With adequate support, he considered this to be achievable.

The outcome of the grassroots consultations here in Bangladesh as well as the National Convention, demonstrate that GoB, the NGOs and the people in the communities are motivated to meet these two challenges.

He concluded, wishing everyone a success in their endeavours, on behalf of the IRC and its partner resource centres, and saying that he hoped to learn from their experiences and that Bangladesh would be an International showcase of success. He had no doubt that the country would inspire other countries to join the important movement, which is referred to as Vision 21.

1.1.7 Ward Commissioner, Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) & Divisional Representative, Dhaka Ms. Mahmuda Begum

Ms. Mahmuda stated that she spoke as a representative of the grass root people, not as a commissioner of DCC. She said people have to change their focus of attention; they should make decisions incorporating the ideas and views of grass roots people. Then they would be able to achieve 100% sanitation coverage within 2008 as declared by the honourable Minister and one of the grass roots representatives of Barisal.

She then shared some of her opinions. Many times people state that they would remove the hanging latrines. But the fact is that the people who use the hanging latrines are also floating people. To remove the hanging latrine, it is necessary to relocate the floating people. Otherwise these people would go to another place and create the same situation in that place. Hence, she recommended relocating the floating people and providing them some permanent accommodation where they can practice sanitation in a proper way.

There are many NGOs working at Village and Urban levels. However, people should develop their mentality in such a way that the NGOs are providing them not on charity; these are their achievements. They should be motivated in such a manner that the under-privileged people are organised and aware of their rights. She continued with her belief that in WatSan issues, awareness is the prime requirement and the women especially should be involved. The primary users of the water sources, for example, tube wells are women; hence, they should be trained on the maintenance from an early stage.

She then continued to offer solutions along with the problems. In the Village and Urban areas there are many homeless people. When the people do not have places for accommodation, then it is impossible for them to make latrines. She mentioned that among the basic needs, provision for housing should come first. The grass roots people are not bankrupt, they always repay the loans on time. So to promote sanitation, there should be a provision for housing loans.

She also emphasised that there should be a National Management Policy specifying the required maintenance and supervision of any facility.

Lastly she concluded by saying that all these discussions should not finish in the National Convention; necessary steps should be taken to make them fruitful in near future.

1.1.8 Divisional Representative, Khulna Division Mr. Md. Golam Hossain

In Khulna, in August 2004, in 10 Villages the grassroots people arranged consultative meetings with hard-core poor males and females, and people from the local GoB institutions and other organisations.

They also arranged for a meeting at the Union and Divisional levels. In those meetings, they planned the guidelines to achieve the National target of total sanitation by 2010.

On behalf of Khulna Division, he presented some recommendations to achieve the targets:

1. To conduct a proper survey.
2. To form various levels of committees; from neighbourhood committees to Village committees, and from Village committees to Union committees.
3. To categorise people according to income of their level, like lower income, middle income and upper income groups.
4. To generate awareness through motivational programs and posters, rallies, miking, meetings, discussions in the religious institution and mini-cinema shows.
5. To conduct a meeting with elite people in the society, Union Parishad members and Chairman, and social workers to implement the action plans.
6. To have mutual co-operation between organisations.
7. To have specific GoB policies.
8. To have the information related to project implementation submitted to the Union Parishad.

Mr. Hossain was very grateful for the opportunity to say something at the venue on behalf of Khulna Division. NGO Forum is working in sanitation sector in his area, Village Gangarampur, Union Batiaghata. There are 314 households in the Village where he lives and only 5-7 people have sanitary latrines. A team of social workers went from door to door in the Village to observe whether the latrines are sanitary or not. The Public Health Engineers at the Upazila level do not properly inspect the sanitary latrine; they do not even instruct the ring-slabs buyers on how to install these. Many people break the water seal because it requires a lot of water and Villagers are not aware of the necessity of the water seal. The workers of NGO Forum educated them on sanitary latrine and they learnt that sanitary latrines are as important as their living rooms.

He explained that the quality of the ring-slabs is very poor. They are broken down while being transported from the Upazila Parishad to the houses. The Upazila Assistant Engineers should check out the quality of ring-slabs and instruct people not to break the water seal. There should be ring-slab production centres in every Union.

The rich people should assist their neighbours to build sanitary latrines. He concluded stating that if all GoB and NGOs work together, 100% sanitation coverage would be achieved much earlier than 2010.

1.1.9 Divisional Representative, Rajshahi Division Mr. Makbul Hossain

Mr. Makbul at first thanked the grass root people of his Union who elected him as a local representative and gave him the opportunity to be present at the convention to share their ideas.

He also thanked the Village Education Resource Centre (VERC) NGO which helped the people of Kushumba Union to achieve 100% sanitation. The NGO worked productively there, and the local people were very devoted to achieve 100% sanitation coverage. This is why it has achieved 100% sanitation within 2004, significantly before GoB's set target.

Bangladesh has its glorifying history of patriotism. People achieved their independence after a 9-month liberation war. GoB's set target is 2010; but he believed that if the 12 Union Parishad members and Chairman motivate the local people, like it happened in his Union, then it would be a very easy task to attain the target.

He then quoted from the Holy Quran, "the nations which endeavours for themselves are assisted by Allah". Sanitation and cleanliness should be discussed from religious perspectives. The religious leaders and local leaders should motivate the local people, like in his Union, where only people's willingness contributed to achieve 100% sanitation coverage. He also submitted the copy of attaining 100% sanitation coverage in Kushumba Union as approved by District Commissioner (DC) of Naogaon, to the honourable guests.

He expected that the people in other areas would be able to achieve 100% sanitation by 2007 if they work together.

1.1.10 Divisional Representative, Sylhet Division Mr. S. A. Hamid

Mr. Hamid introduced himself as the grass root representative from the Sylhet Division. He initiated by saying that there is a misconception that all the people in Sylhet are rich and their standards of living are high. But this is not the fact. There are many poor people who cannot provide ring- slabs.

There were many meetings at the Village and Union level. From these meeting it was learnt that, the Villagers are not poor or ignorant. They work by themselves; they have knowledge, skills and experience. According to the Villagers they are not poor, they are just asset less people; and people with the least assets are those who are disabled or have no ability to work. Therefore, from an ethical view they should not be called poor.

At the Village level meetings there were extensive discussions on the National target and recommendations were made. The representatives of the grass roots people were present at the Union level meeting along with the Union Parishad Chairman, Members, elite people, school teachers, doctors, social workers, NGO workers etc. It was agreed at the meeting that the grass roots people could explore their problems and solutions properly.

He then summarised the weaknesses as identified by the grass root people themselves.

1. Lack of Co-ordination

- During the election, the Chairman and representatives of Union Parishad promised to give them tube well and sanitary latrine, but now they are not giving these saying that there is lack of GoB funds.
- The grass root people have the eagerness to build sanitary latrine. However, the problem is that they do not have the technical knowledge to build or maintain the latrines.
- In addition to campaigning in the media, if the local representatives came to the Villages to motivate the people and co-ordinate them regarding sanitation issues, the Villagers would then feel interested.

2. Lack of Education.

The grass roots people are themselves the planners, implementers and beneficiaries of these programs; they should be aware of their rights. The grass roots people should be included in all National committees. There should be transparency regarding the expenditure of the 20% of the Annual Development Budget allocated to sanitation.

He concluded by saying, that there would be 100% sanitation coverage in his Village within 3 to 4 months as the people are now motivated.

1.1.11 Chief Engineer, Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE) Mr. Md. Khorshed Alam

Mr. Alam thanked all the participants for being present at the workshop. He remarked that the presence of the honourable minister has undoubtedly inspired all participants, as they heard about his commitment and appreciated his instructive speech.

He stated that that about 80% of diseases in Bangladesh are related to water and sanitation, and one augments the other. The honourable minister stated that, about 98% of the people were provided with water supply. However, because of arsenic contamination, the status of water supply has been lowered. Arsenic contamination lowers the quality of the water and steps have been taken to seek a remedy.

For Bangladesh, sanitation is treated as a challenge. In all developing countries, sanitation does not receive as high a priority as water supply. At the International declaration in Johannesburg, it was stated that by 2015 the number of sanitation-deprived people should be halved from the current 2.4 billion to 1.2 billion. In this perspective GoB has declared to achieve 100% sanitation by 2010. It is a very significant step considered to be a timely initiative.

Under last year's budget, in September-October, 2003, GoB conducted a baseline survey without any external or GoB funds. It was conducted through people's participation with the assistance of Union Parishad and administration. Before the survey GoB had no concrete information on sanitation coverage in the Rural and Urban areas, or reasons for absence of sanitary latrine. From the survey it was found that, in Villages 29% people have sanitary latrines, and at the National level it is 33%. Hence, the coverage of sanitation is much lower than that of water supply. Mr. Alam then cited an example illustrating how 80% of diseases are related to water and sanitation. Diarrhoea is the most common disease in Bangladesh; it is related to 4 things- food hygiene, water supply, sanitation and personal hygiene. About 25-30 years back people did not know that cholera and dysentery were water-borne diseases. Personal hygiene should be maintained to remain healthy. That is why sanitation is an important concern for everyone. Authorities are defining sanitation through existence of sanitary latrine but actually sanitation includes more things; however, in a poor country like Bangladesh where not everyone uses sanitary latrine, considerations for solid waste management and environmental sanitation are ruled out.

To achieve 100% sanitation coverage by 2010, GoB has decided that 20% of Annual Development Budget of Upazila should be expended in the sanitation sector; this is a good decision. Similar decisions regarding Pourashava and City Corporation should be taken.

He mentioned from the baseline survey, it was found that, 1 crore and 48 lakhs sanitary latrines are required to meet the 100% sanitation coverage by 2010. Under this project 74 lakhs sanitary latrines need to be built, and the remaining 74 lakhs to be built by individual initiatives and through assistance from NGOs. Therefore, he said it is easy to understand the extensiveness of the project. Different people have discussed the important issues which should be given due consideration.

People should know about the use and maintenance of sanitary latrine. In 1962, sanitation in the form of sanitary latrine was initiated as a pilot project, and in 1975 it was initiated as a project. Gradually its acceptance has been increased. If sanitation is not provided for all, then the objective of sanitation would not be achieved. The rich people should help their poor neighbours for environmental improvement. This concept is known as cross-subsidy.

The technological options should also be considered. The people should be introduced to the systems, which are low-cost; the options should also be designed for disabled people and for natural calamities.

He continued that GoB alone is not able to provide sanitation for all. GoB, donor agencies, NGOs and private organisations should all participate equally. Representatives from all organisations were present at the National Convention which is a very hopeful effort.

He thanked WSSCC and Streams of Knowledge for organising such a convention. NGO-GoB should work in co-operation with one another. He wished a grand success to these initiatives.

1.1.12 Former Secretary, Ministry of LGRD&C, GoB Mr. A. Y. B. I. Siddiqui

The former secretary was very concerned about the GoB-NGO initiatives. He stated that two years back GoB initiated the sanitation programs, under the leadership of the honourable minister Mr. Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, for the grass roots people's evaluation. On average, almost 342 children die every day in Bangladesh. The people who suffer from water-borne diseases are mainly the grass roots people who are not organised or strong enough. Hence, these issues are not given importance. Therefore, GoB decided to initiate a sanitation campaign to ensure good health of the poor.

If the grass roots people are not advanced, then the whole country would be lagging behind. Gradually, many donor agencies and NGOs have joined with GoB. The present secretary and joint-secretary all are very industrious and devoted to achieving 100% sanitation coverage by 2010. All donor agencies present today are with GoB from the very beginning, and would remain with them in the future.

He was very disheartened to observe that there is a lack of communication between GoB and local people. It was advised to categorise people according to their income level. The work has already been done. While conducting the baseline survey the core-group identified the hard-core poor and recorded their names on red cards. At another International conference it was decided that GoB would assist the hard-core poor by giving free latrines. The assistance should not be misused.

There is a policy of GoB, signed by the secretary, that 20% of the ADB of each Upazila should be utilised in the sanitation sector. This 20% fund should be used such that firstly the people are motivated. Secondly, there should be an arrangement for a competition at Village level, Ward level and Union level. This competition should be held in the sanitation month of October and thirdly the winners would be rewarded in October in Dhaka.

People are still not informed of these decisions; they should be informed accordingly. He considered the challenge to be, that the people should know about GoB policy and GoB should know the condition of the people.

In the policy it is said that the hard-core poor would be provided with free ring-slabs. The ring-slabs should be given to the Union Parishad and then Union Parishad Chairman and Members can identify the hard-core poor correctly. The 20% budget of Annual Development Program (ADP) along with funds from donor agencies would assist to achieve the target before 2010; this would cite an example in the world. The baseline survey was conducted in 21 and 33 days, in Rural and Urban areas respectively, which is a feat recognised by other countries in the world.

To achieve the target of total sanitation by 2010, it is essential to develop public opinion. Many committees and task forces have been formed. It is his advice to include the grass roots people in these committees. Wishing success for the National target of total sanitation, he thanked all concerned.

1.1.13 Joint Secretary, Ministry of LGRD&C, GoB Mr. Mokhlesur Rahman

Mr. Rahman was happy to be at the convention in the presence of so many participants from grassroots level. On behalf of the Ministry of LGRD&C, he thanked the delegates from different parts of the country. There were many meetings at the grassroots and Divisional level; he suggested the findings from these meetings should be included in the National policy to be formulated in the following month.

Through these meetings their voices, opinions and ideas were raised to the National level. The focus of the development is the Villagers. The target of total sanitation was not set to be achieved depending on funds from GoB or donor agencies. The Villagers themselves should be aware and motivated to achieve the targets and GoB should support them. For example, the EPI programs and female education program have experienced success. The key to these successes were Union Chairman and Members, members of different committees, different NGOs working at the grass root level and the Villagers working together. From the National level, policy can be formulated; however the success of the programs depend upon public participation with proper co-ordination and appropriate leadership. The wards of the Union should be the lowest unit for such type of programs. The Union Chairman, its 9 male members and 3 female members should co-ordinate with all GoB-NGO activities and motivate the local people.

These programs should be made successful and sustainable. This program should not be run as a pilot project. GoB-NGO drive should run the program nationwide, in the 4500 Unions simultaneously, under the supervision of Union Chairman and the 12 Union members.

The UNO should take the responsibility to run such a program. He believes that if this is accomplished then within 2007 or 2008 the country would be able to achieve 100% sanitation coverage. He thanked WSSCC and STREAMS for their support in organising such a program.

1.1.14 The Chairperson of the Convention Ms. Fatema Akter

Ms. Fatema, the Chairperson of the convention was very pleased with the words spoken at the convention. She inquired whether all present are unanimous on the declaration that was presented at the beginning of the National Convention, and everyone raised their hands in agreement. She continued by saying that it is a very good initiative to discuss water and sanitation; it is very fruitful for the poor people. People do not understand sanitation issues well.

GoB has promised to attain 100% sanitation coverage by 2010. The stakeholders hope the target is achieved significantly before the declared time, and believe it would be so if GoB demonstrates effective cooperation. The program should be implemented incorporating the poor people. As the people are the focus of such programs, they should participate in every step of project implementation. When the poor are involved in the projects, they can share their ideas and views and then the feeling of ownership grows. She thanked the organisers on behalf of the poor people for this initiative.

About 42 lakhs people living in Dhaka lead a very poor quality of life. She would therefore ask GoB, how can people practise sanitation when their place of living is uncertain. They are always afraid of eviction. If her house were subject to eviction without any notice, then she would not place any importance on sanitation; GoB should consider this issue seriously. The contribution of the low-income group to economic activities is the highest, though the people of this income group are the most neglected. Through the consultations and at the convention many of these people have talked about their problems; and they can take part in making GoB policy and focusing the issues.

Many donor agencies are contributing by implementing various programs. She would like to request that the donor agencies and concerned GoB organisations make provision for housing loans for the poor people. People have heard from the GoB that there are about 1200 acres of khas land in Dhaka. If GoB provides them with a small piece of land to live in, they would be able to make their standard of living better and contribute more to the country's development.

Program on water and sanitation is a good initiative; people need water and sanitation. Besides this they need accommodation; GoB should take care of this issue. The real estate developers are making flats for the upper income group. In the sector of micro credit, the poor contributes 100% to its success. Hence, if GoB and other NGOs assist them with housing, then they would be rehabilitated and would be able to understand and apply water and sanitation issues. She concluded by thanking everyone for being involved in the event.

1.1.15 Executive Director, NGO Forum for Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Mr. S. M. A. Rashid

Mr. Rashid expressed his wholehearted gratitude for the presence of everyone concerned. With the effective participation of all, the organisers have finished the National Convention. Through everyone's hard work the situation is improving rapidly and, he personally believes that thanks are not enough for showing appreciation.

He stated in brief that at the convention everyone heard some effective and thoughtful suggestions from all levels of speakers i.e. from grass root representatives to the honourable Chief Guest. He requested of everyone to work together so that the recommendations and findings of the convention do not stay at the convention; rather that they were implemented.

Everyone has discussed the MDG and the National target set by GoB. In working towards these, he said, the targeted people for whom sanitation is to be arranged, by 2010, should actively participate in the whole process. If any development goal is set without the active involvement of the target group, it cannot be achieved perfectly. This has been proven many times previously. It is also proven that if people themselves take into account the ideas and views of the poor, consider their problems, then the programs would be 100% successful. Bangladesh has many success stories in the field of the EPI, literacy campaign. These programs became successful through the active participation of people at all levels in the society.

At the grass root level, 200 meetings were conducted, and the recommendations from these were presented at the National Convention.

The grassroots consultation National Convention was organised by WSSCC and STREAMS. In Bangladesh DSK, a National NGO is working as the Bangladesh Chapter of WSSCC and as the National Co-coordinator. NGO Forum for DWSS is the National Co-coordinating agency for Streams of Knowledge. NGO Forum is the only NGO, which works with safe drinking water and environmental sanitation at the National level. Already, about 1 crore and 70 lakhs people have been provided with safe water supply and proper sanitation.

He thanked the following people and organisations for making the National Convention a success.

The Chief Guest Mr. Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, MP
Honourable Minister
Ministry of LGRD&C

Mr. Mokhlesur Rahman
Joint Secretary/ Director General
Ministry of LGRD&C

Mr. A. Y. B. I. Siddiqui
Former Secretary
Ministry of LGRD&C

Mr. Md. Khorshed Alam
Chief Engineer
DPHE

Mr. Carel de Groot
Co-ordinator of SPS program of DANIDA as representative of donor agencies

Mr. Paul van Koppen
Director
IRC, the Netherlands

He thanked everybody for his or her invaluable speeches.

He also thanked those who participated on behalf of their Divisions as representatives of the grass roots people, NGOs that assisted in conducting the meetings and the media people.

The NGOs who played a leading role in conducting the Divisional meeting and the members of the core group who assisted as advisors of the process and provided financial support WSSCC, Streams of Knowledge, IRC, the Netherlands, DANIDA- Unit for Policy Implementation, WaterAid Bangladesh, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), DPHE-DANIDA and Plan Bangladesh. More than 50 NGOs and representatives of Local GoB Institutions who assisted in conducting the grass root consultation.

He hoped that there is mutual cooperation to achieve the National target by 2010 as per the pledges made by all concerned.

In the entire program, National Resource Centre (NRC) of NGO Forum from DWSS functioned as the Secretariat. He acknowledged their efforts.

He also thanked the development organisations that worked under the structure of NGO Forum and DSK.

WASH – STREAMS Launching Ceremony

2.0 WASH-STREAMS Launching Ceremony

2.1 Summary of Speeches

2.1.1 Senior Program Officer, IRC, the Netherlands Mr. Teun Bastemeyer

Mr. Teun Bastemeyer expressed his satisfaction with the initiative taken by NGO Forum and DSK in arranging the ceremony. Firstly, he introduced himself; as a professional working with IRC. However, at the launching ceremony he represented Ms. Rory Villaluna, who is the Executive Secretary of Streams of Knowledge, as she could not attend. She was in Zimbabwe in Africa attending another important meeting. However, he conveyed her wishes on the success of this meeting, which she had intimated through him.

He welcomed all to the August gathering. He recollected the morning session, where there were some recommendations made by the grassroots people. The voices of the grassroots must be heard and then actions need to be taken. It is a pleasure for STREAMS with Resource Centre partners to work with WSSCC in the WASH-STREAMS initiatives. He mentioned that he had very little idea about the audience in the ceremony and wanted to learn more about participants of the meetings. There are participants from the Villages, who are representing the grass roots people. There are representatives from local NGOs, Local Government Institutions (LGIs) and private sectors. He considered that there is a lot to discuss about partnership. Partnerships at local level are essential for achieving success in the water supply and sanitation sector.

He declared that there would be two speeches from Mr. S. M. A. Rashid and Mr. Dibalok Singha who are Country Coordinators of STREAMS of Knowledge and WSSCC respectively. There would also be speeches from Director of IRC and other guests. At the end of the program there would be an official launching ceremony of WASH-STREAMS.

In the end, he welcomed all the people who attended and participated in the ceremony, and thanked everyone.

2.1.2 Chief, NRC, NGO Forum for DWSS Ms. Shirin P. Biswas

Ms. Shirin Biswas, member secretary of the core group of the grassroots consultation process gave her speech followed by a presentation. She stated WASH-STREAMS is a partnership of leading networks that support National resource centres to work with NGOs, and GoB and LGIs to improve drinking water supply, hygiene & sanitation. It supports National and local partnerships for local action.

The Networks

The WSSCC is a UN mandated, multi stakeholder forum taking leadership for the WASH campaign and organising the Global WASH Forum. Streams of Knowledge is a global Coalition of Water and Sanitation Resource Centres, others may join.

What is it about?

The partnership is about reaching more people and local players to help them acquire and use knowledge to gain sustainable access to safe water; have improved sanitation; and to continue to apply hygiene measures. The main emphasis is on knowledge sharing, information management and capacity building, with advocacy and resource mobilisation to achieve impact in numbers.

Helping to reach the MDGs

WASH-STREAMS aims to help accelerate achievements of the Water and Sanitation related MDG to contribute towards attainment of social development, human welfare and dignity.

WASH-STREAMS is working in the following countries:

Africa

- Burkina Faso
- Ghana
- Kenya
- Madagascar
- Mozambique
- South Africa

Asia

- Bangladesh
- The Philippines
- Nepal
- Columbia
- Other countries are coming
- Bulgaria

Latin America

- Columbia
- Other countries are coming

Europe

- Bulgaria

It works on the principal that country partnerships are making a difference:

- ✓ Identify countries based on needs and opportunity.
- ✓ Develop National WASH-STREAMS initiatives linking up with global networks
- ✓ Encourage open partnership: no competition, we have work to do
- ✓ In Bangladesh: UNICEF, WSSCC, IRC, STREAMS, WaterAid, DPHE-DANIDA, PLAN- INT. & Union for Policy Implementation (UPI) already provide support

Towards a joint strategy and plan

- ✓ To make the voices of the people heard
- ✓ To create an enabling environment
- ✓ To improve coordination and cooperation between organisations involved in the WASH sector.
- ✓ To create momentum to be taken forward by the WASH-STREAMS initiative
- ✓ To prepare a plan to support local strategies
- ✓ To mobilise additional resources: knowledge, human energy and funds.

Overview of the process

A core group was formed. Local NGOs were chosen to carry out the grass root consultation. There were meetings at Village and Union level. Then there was a National Convention and the official launching ceremony of WASH-STREAMS initiative.

The grass roots consultation results

- Good participatory assessments in specific local situations are essential
- There is potential for stronger local partnerships and greater ownership
- Policy and legal environment can be made more responsive to local demand and initiatives

- Different rural and urban conditions must be addressed with pro-poor focus
- Awareness raising events must target specific groups or actors
- There is a great need to strengthen local institutions
- Communication and training must be given high priority
- Mixes of different technical and organisational solutions are possible
- Follow-up must be ensured!

GoB has set a target to achieve 100% sanitation coverage by 2010. The grass root level consultation would influence the decision-makers to formulate policy in October 2004. There are also workshops and other activities initiated by GoB regarding sanitation. Now coordination and partnerships are required to achieve 100% sanitation by 2010.

WASH STREAMS Action Themes

- Participatory monitoring and assessments
- WATSAN strategic action planning at local level
- Scaling up community management of WATSAN
- Capacity building for advocacy and support mechanisms at local level
- Facilitating local access to resources
- Advocacy
- Knowledge management

Phasing WASH-STREAMS

- National grass roots consultation and WASH STREAMS Launch
- WASH-STREAMS planning and resource mobilisation towards Global WASH forum that will be held in November 2004.
- Help achieve National sanitation target 2005-2010
- Sustainability and continued improvements towards MDG (2010-2015)

Extending partnership to others

- Make use of existing partnership networks like STREAMS.
- Share experiences and develop joint programs in the region
- Share problems and solutions
- Act local, but think global
- Join WASH and hurry, because billions are still waiting!

All concerned groups have to work together to create a healthy and better world for the new generation. Lastly, she thanked all concerned.

Questions

Mr. Teun Bastemeyer inquired of the audience to raise three questions regarding the presentation.

Question 1. How partnership works at local level?

Ms. Biswas replied that in the grass root consultation first a core group was formed which, acted as an advisory committee. The formation of core group is the first example of partnership. LGIs supported by partner NGOs (PNGOs) which helped to carry out the consultative meetings. The aim of the meetings was to raise the voices of the poor up to National level. The group worked at Village and Union level. In this way, the partnership is working at local level.

Question 2. Were the grass root level meetings in the urban and rural areas?

Ms. Biswas replied grass root level consultations took place both in urban and rural areas. As it is an initiative, it had to be adopted in a long way.

Question 3. There are 11 NGOs in the core group. Why not more NGOs?

Ms. Biswas replied, primarily 11 NGOs were selected to form a core group. However, it was open to all. The group welcomes more NGOs to join the initiative at each and every stage.

2.1.3 Executive Director, NGO Forum for DWSS & Coordinator, STREAMS-Asia Mr. S. M. A. Rashid

Mr. Rashid was very happy that the launching ceremony was conducted at the conclusion of the grassroots consultation process. The grass root consultation National Convention was very important for the people who were engaged in the water supply and sanitation sector. In 2002, there was the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg. Nelson Mandela and Kofi Annan inaugurated the WASH launching program at that meeting with the initiative of Collaborative Council. Those who were present there, were very moved and motivated to launch such type of initiative. This has been replicated in Dhaka and it is very important for all concern.

In Bangladesh, about 96% people have access to water. However after the exposure of arsenic contamination, the coverage of safe water has been lowered to about 70%. In the country about 65-70 lakhs of hand tube wells have been installed. GoB set about 1 million of the tube wells and the rest were installed by the development agencies or through individual initiatives. In this case people's participation ensured the success of water supply facilities. There are 9 indicators that were pointed out in human development report of UNDP. In spite of undertaking many initiatives in the development sector, people are lacking behind. Even though 96% people have water supply coverage, but the rate of morbidity is very high in the country. Each day about 600 children die of diarrhoea.

About 240 crores of people in the world have no access to sanitation. In Bangladesh the sanitation condition is also deplorable; it is only 33% coverage. From this it is understood that there are some planning problems. The sector should make provision for safe water supply and sanitation at the same time. WASH-STREAMS initiative is very important from this perspective. The sector has to arrange for sanitation and hygiene promotion for the 96% people who already have access to water supply. Among the MDG, safe water supply and sanitation has been given due priority. Through the WASH-STREAMS campaign the sector should promote sanitation and hygiene. All of those working in the development and sanitation sector should be involved in that initiative and work to fill the gaps in the sanitation sector.

DANIDA is contributing a lot in this sector. DANIDA is thinking to rename the program that has been designed for sanitation sector for the next five years. DANIDA intends to name it HYSAWA-hygiene, sanitation and water supply. The aim of WASH-STREAMS is coalition development. In Bangladesh only 3% rural women maintain proper hygiene practice in food preparation and management. Rest of the women use only water for washing hands. All NGOs and GoB agencies should work together to attain the National target of 100% sanitation coverage.

He thanked those who contributed to the grass root level consultative meetings, believing they should play complementary role in developing the water supply and sanitation sector. GoB-NGO should ensure basic sanitation and hygiene promotion is delivered to the target group alongside water supply. Lastly he thanked every body for participating in the launching ceremony.

2.1.4 Executive Director, DSK, Co-ordinator, WSSCC Dr. Dibalok Singha

Dr. Dibalok thanked all the participants for being present at the ceremony. He stated that from his professional background he realises that the public health issue should be given more emphasis in Bangladesh. Public health and hygiene promotion has never been given importance in the past. In the Bangladesh Chapter of WSSCC, he is currently working as the National coordinator.

He continued, on the International conference of WASH-STREAMS initiatives that would take place at Dakar in Senegal in November 2004. On behalf of WSSCC, the group is performing two activities. The first one is to reduce the number of people who do not have access to water supply and sanitation. The second one is to ensure a target group oriented planning approach. At present, the world has attained advancements in science and technology. However, it is a matter of regret that millions of people do not have access to water supply and basic sanitation. These all are focused in the MDG. Therefore, WSSCC aims to ensure basic human needs, by focusing on the deprived people.

To fulfil the basic needs, there should be a multi-stakeholder approach. People from different sectors should work together. In this process, there would be different opinions and different ideas. Also, there should be proper coordination and people should sacrifice their egos to achieve the target. There should be no poverty in the world.

He considered that although the official launching of WASH-STREAMS initiative is taking place on the day, the group has already started working under this initiative. All concerned should contribute to attain the target.

2.1.5 Chairman, Local Consultative Group, Water Supply and Sanitation Mr. Carel de Groot

Mr. Carel expressed his satisfaction at the activities, including the meeting of the morning, which have taken place. The grass root people have presented their problems. WSSCC, STREAMS, NGO Forum and other PNGOs jointly organised the grass root consultation. He looks forward to the continuing partnership that has started for working towards the sanitation targets, and working towards complementing the sanitation program.

In closing, he thanked everyone.

2.1.6 Director, IRC, the Netherlands Mr. Paul van Koppen

Mr. Paul was very enthusiastic about the joint initiative being launched formally. He initiated by mentioning the initiative and IRC's perspective.

IRC was founded in 1968 in Delft, The Netherlands. Since its foundation, the IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre (IRC) has facilitated the sharing, promotion and use of knowledge so that GoBs, professionals and organisations can better support poor men, women and children in developing countries to obtain water and sanitation services they would use and maintain.

Key elements of IRC are as follows

- To work with the poorest section of society, that is a poverty-focused approach.
- To improve and keep in a sustainable way the water and sanitation facilities.

- To work in collaboration and adopt a partnership approach.
- To promote information sharing and learning.

Streams of Knowledge, a global coalition of water and sanitation resource centres, were founded at IRC 6 years ago. Over time, it has matured through its various partnership activities. He was very glad that through the program the official launching of WASH-STREAMS initiatives has taken place.

Similarly, IRC is very committed to work in conformity with the works of WSSCC in Geneva. IRC is one of their partners in many of their programs and it is also working towards achieving Vision 21. IRC also follows the people-centred approach that Dr. Dibalok of DSK mentioned.

He stated that from the morning session, the participants have learnt that in Bangladesh especially, people are lagging behind in sanitation and hygiene. He welcomed initiatives that include the sanitation and hygiene sector along with water supply, and emphasised IRC's commitment to the initiative. He is very happy that the country partnership has now taken off and welcomes all water and sanitation related activities, which will help to attain the MDG. In this respect, the partnership can be a way of sharing experiences, overcoming problems and attaining successes. Finally, he wished for a lot of success and lot of outputs.

2.1.7 Chief Engineer, Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), Ministry of LGDRD&C, GoB Engr. Shahidul Hassan

Mr. Hassan gave a very vivid representation of the situation in the local GoB. He stated that water is life. Without proper utilisation of fresh water, it is not possible to lead a healthy life. In Bangladesh poverty is the main hindrance to development. To eradicate poverty, everyone needs to lead a healthy life and for this, water and sanitation are essential. People should also maintain personal hygiene to be freed from diseases. For example, everyone should wash hands before taking food.

In 2003, GoB conducted a baseline survey. From the survey it was found that a major portion of the population does not use sanitary latrine. Hence, a large number of people are affected by various water-borne diseases thus becoming sick and having their other daily activities disturbed. To improve any other activities in life and to have a sound health, water and sanitation is essential. There should be strong leadership to deal with water supply and sanitation sector.

He welcomed the initiatives taken by WSSCC and believes that everyone concerned should cooperate with their initiatives. He hoped the MDG and National target for sanitation would be achieved on time.

2.1.8 Managing Director, Dhaka Water and Sanitation Authority (DWASA) & Honorary General Secretary, Institute of Engineers Bangladesh (IEB) Engr. A. N. H. Akhter Hossain, PEng.

Mr. Hossain reflected more on the situation in the Urban areas. He stated that he was very glad to be present, however, he had a question. Here the main focus is on the rural population. In the South Asian Conference of Sanitation (SACOSAN) the main focus was on Villages, Unions and Districts. However, the Municipality or City Corporations were excluded from the coverage. But, he considered that as about 20% of the population live in urban areas, and this percentage is increasing day by day, the study should have had included the urban areas in this coverage. Now the number of municipalities is 300; and this number would increase in the future.

He also included the point here that, maintenance of sanitary latrine is crucial in rural areas. The people should be trained and motivated regarding maintenance of sanitation. As Bangladesh is a flood plain, in the rainy season, it is difficult for sewage to decompose. As a result, tube well water may become polluted. The authorities should think of the near future and plan accordingly, by considering the obstacles and problems.

In Dhaka city about 30% of the area has sewerage system coverage, which serves 20% of the city dwellers. No other city is served by piped-line sewerage system. When hygiene is discussed, sanitation, septic waste disposal and drainage systems also need to be considered. The unplanned urbanisation in most of the cities leads to scarcity of fresh drinking water and relates hazard to sanitation.

He believes that the WASH-STREAMS initiative would complement the work of NGOs and GoB and assist to achieve the National target of 100% sanitation coverage by 2010 and to attain the MDG.

2.1.9 Chairperson, Global Water Partnerships (GWP) South Asia & Bangladesh Water Partnership (BWP) and Former Secretary, GoB Engr. Quamrul Islam Siddiqui PEng.

Mr. Siddiqui a veteran professional with wide experience was very positive about the initiative. He commended NGO Forum on their work in the sector and suggested that their collaborative works on water supply, sanitation and hygiene could be an example to others. NGO Forum are aware of the objectives of the MDG and the target decided at Johannesburg Conference on sustainable development. Water, health, environment, agriculture and biodiversity – these are the elements, which have to be monitored for sustainable development. Within this framework the NGO-GoB have to look into the role of water, and water and sanitation together. In this context, all initiatives globally, regionally and within Bangladesh should work together in addressing these issues.

All NGOs and stakeholders in the development process should be involved in this sector. However, GoB should give the real thrust to determine the direction. Fortunately, in Bangladesh, there is an extraordinary initiative that GoB has taken on water supply and sanitation to reach the MDG. A poverty eradication strategy is being considered through a very dedicated process for the next five years, and the water and sanitation issue is considered at top of the agenda.

Similarly the National Water Management Plan (NWMP) provides major coverage for water supply and sanitation. Above all Bangladesh has the most comprehensive and conscious civil society. It can really boast on two major elements of poverty reduction and sustainable development, that is, one on micro-credit and the second on coverage of girls' education. Water supply and sanitation cannot be looked at in isolation from overall development. In this way, Bangladesh is very much on track and leaders like Rashid and Dibalok are highly motivational. Bangladesh wishes to achieve the target of total sanitation by 2010, which shows a great commitment of GoB. Through this declaration people can understand how serious GoB is. In order to achieve this target, total support and commitment from everyone is required. It should be a combined effort.

The country is also looking at this globally, and particularly with GWP, the major stakeholders at the Johannesburg Conference. A few months prior to the grassroots consultation National Convention, the South Asian Water Forum was conducted. At the forum about 400 people from Sri Lanka, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Bhutan were present and Bangladesh's current achievements in the field of water supply and sanitation were shared. One of the major obstacles now faced by Bangladesh is arsenic contamination, but NGOs and GoB have already shown how the issue can be overcome. Additionally Bangladesh has shown what the country has done in the South Asian Cooperation on

Sanitation by launching SACOSAN. Bangladesh is really coming out with a clear example on how steps are to be undertaken.

Mr. Siddiqui believes that with the combined effort of everyone in the sector, Bangladesh would be able to show the world how it can move forward. He believes that the initiative of the people should not be forgotten and the grass roots are the main focus. The country needs resources; hence, there is an urgent need for resource mobilisation. Recently GoB has channelled its own resources and also those of its development partners into sanitation improvements. He considered this to be an area, where through everybody's cooperative effort the country can solve its water and sanitation related problems. He wished the best of effort in such undertaking.

He concluded, stating that the work towards achieving the MDG and National target has already initiated, and at the National Convention of the WASH campaign was officially launched. Everyone should provide support to this sector.

2.1.10 Secretary, LGD, Ministry of LDRD&C, GoB Mr. A. H. M. Abul Quasem

Mr. Quasem was very optimistic about the outcome from the collaborative initiative. He feels that the convention is very important for the WatSan sector. Globally the WatSan sector has been given due priority. About 240 crores of the people in the world do not have access to basic sanitation. GoB is committed to achieve the target of total sanitation by 2010.

A hanging latrine pollutes the environment even for others having sanitary latrine. Cleanliness is also a prime requisite. GoB cannot make improvements to sanitation on their own, currently they act as a facilitator, identifying various problems and offering possible solutions. Now there are about 1800 organisations in the country, that work through donations from foreign agencies and about 2600 clubs. Different NGOs, development agencies, volunteer organisations and Community Based Organisations (CBO) then try to solve the problems.

He stated that the grass roots consultations would be very useful for attaining the targets of total sanitation. There are different activities and committees at Union, Upazila, district and Divisional level. Some NGO representatives are included in these committees. It is a matter of pleasure that some of the Unions and Upazilas have already attained 100% sanitation coverage and some LGIs have declared that they would be able to attain the target of 100% sanitation coverage by December 2005.

GoB can provide all necessary assistance to this sector. The month of October has been declared as "Sanitation month." People should be accustomed to maintain proper sanitation conditions. There should be an awareness generation and motivation program. School-teachers, religious leaders, local leaders and influential persons of the society can play an important role in this sector. There should be a campaign through mass media.

He thanked the organisers for arranging such an important meeting.

The Chief Guest then officially launched the WASH-STREAMS initiative in Bangladesh.

Dhaka Division

3.0 Division: Dhaka

At the onset, Mr. Abdul Mannan, the convener of Dhaka Metropolitan Slum Dwellers' Right Preservation Committee, welcomed everybody on behalf of the grassroots people.

3.1 Summary of Speeches

3.1.1 Convener, Dhaka Metropolitan Slum Dweller Right Preservation Committee Mr. Abdul Mannan

Mr. Mannan thanked the participants for being present at the meeting. He stated that there were many grass root level meetings through which the opinions of the grass roots have been reflected. The outcome of these meetings work towards fulfilling the National target set by GoB and the MDG. Honourable Minister Mr. Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan MP, Ministry of LGRD&C has set a target to attain 100% sanitation coverage by 2010. If the donor agencies, NGOs and all people of GoB departments cooperate in a well-organised manner, it is possible to achieve the target by 2010.

The situation in Dhaka city is different from other cities. In Dhaka city, there is lack of space, i.e. the concentration of people is very high. Therefore the LGIs, City Corporation and NGOs together should arrange for interactive meetings to identify the problems and solutions regarding sanitation. He considered that people would be able to achieve 100% sanitation by 2008 if everyone works together.

In slum areas, the WatSan condition is worse. The drains are not cleaned regularly. The concerned authority should take care of these issues. The concerned authorities should look after the rural areas of Dhaka Division. He thanked the organisers for arranging this meeting.

3.1.2 Program Officer, SPS-DANIDA Mr. Alok Majumder

Mr. Majumder was very happy to be present at the Divisional meeting, and welcomed the grassroots people present. The grassroots people presented their ideas and views at the grass root level meetings.

He presented the goals and objectives of the Divisional meeting. According to water supply and sanitation related MDG, there is a goal to halve the number of people who do not have access to safe drinking water and sanitation by 2015. An additional policy regarding hygiene promotion and sanitation was formulated at the WSSD. GoB has committed to attain the targets of the WSSD by 2025. About 240 crores people in the world do not have access to sanitation. The MDG states to halve the number of people who do not have access to sanitation by 2015. GoB set a target to attain 100% sanitation by 2010.

He continued that the GoB-NGOs must determine the existing situation of sanitation in Bangladesh. In 2003, there was a survey conducted at Union level. It was found that only about 33% of the total population uses sanitary latrine, about 25% use unsanitary latrine and 42% do not use any type of latrine. In case of Dhaka Division, the highest percentage of sanitary latrine users are in Dhaka district, other areas have very low percentages. In this respect, the main aim should be to increase awareness and ensure people's participation. GoB is conducting various workshops at Divisional and District level. Upazila Parishad, Union Parishad and Gram Sarkar (Government body at Village level) should motivate the people to use a sanitary latrine and provide raw materials for sanitary latrines to the hard-core poor. There should be journalist conferences at different levels; there should be rallies and meetings.

In addition to GoB initiatives, different NGOs are conducting grass root consultations to raise the voice of the poor people to the National level. The main objective of the grassroots consultation is to reflect the ideas and views of the grassroots at the National level. The reasons for the consultation are to initiate a bottom-up planning approach instead of a top-down planning approach; to ensure human rights of all people; to generate awareness; and to ensure people's participation.

He stated that at first there were focus group discussions (FGD) at Village level. There the grassroots representatives shared their views regarding sanitation. They discussed what they know about the National and International targets; they exchanged their opinions regarding sanitation and cleanliness etc. At the Union level there were meetings, where in groups they discussed the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) of the people. At the Divisional level meeting the findings and some of the recommendations were presented. In the future there would be an International conference followed by a National Convention.

This initiative was taken by WSSCC and STREAMS. WSSCC is a leading International organisation that enhances collaboration in the water supply and sanitation sector. Its activities are directed towards attaining universal coverage of water and sanitation services for poor people around the world. STREAMS is a global coalition of resource centres actively involved in addressing the global crises in the water, sanitation and hygiene sector. Many National NGOs are working together to conduct the meetings. NRC of NGO Forum is functioning as the secretariat for the grassroots consultation process.

3.1.3 Representative of Grassroots people, Mohammadpur Slum Dwellers Right Preservation Committee Ms. Selina Begum

Ms. Selina was very encouraged by the overwhelming participation in the initiative. She stated that in the slum area there are no WatSan facilities. As a result, diarrhoea, pneumonia, cholera and other water-borne diseases are common. Hence the productivity of the slum-dwellers were lowered. In the past, the grass roots people did not know what to do to prevent diseases like diarrhoea. Now they were aware of safe drinking water.

GoB should identify the hard-core poor and provide them free sanitary latrines. All NGOs and representatives of local GoB institutions should take steps to build awareness and develop motivational programs. The landlords should provide sanitary latrines and safe drinking water.

3.1.4 Chairman, Durgapur Union, Netrokona Mr. Shahinur Alam

Mr. Shahinur, who came from far, was very happy to be present at the meeting. He thanked everyone for being present at the Divisional meeting. Then he considered that, with the cooperation of all it would be possible to achieve 100% sanitation. In Netrokona district, the sanitation coverage is only 11%. Due to the physical features and natural constraints, the sanitation coverage in the area is the lowest. It would be difficult to attain 100% sanitation in Durgapur Union by 2010. Only two ring-wells were provided for the hilly areas of Netrokona, which is inadequate. He also believes that GoB officials; local representatives, NGOs, CBOs and local leaders should plan how to achieve 100% sanitation in Durgapur Union.

3.1.5 Inhabitant of Ward No. 81, DCC Mr. Mohammad Yasin

Mr. Yasin firstly thanked the organisers for inviting him to the meeting. He said that sanitation should be considered as one of the most important National issues. In his area, most people are poor and WatSan problems are very severe. People should be made aware of sanitation. NGOs should take the responsibility for raising awareness and developing a motivation program. GoB's set target is a good initiative. People should cooperate to develop an environmentally friendly sanitation system. The main problem of the area is poverty. Many of the people live in slums where they are always afraid of eviction. If they get permanent accommodation, he believes that they would then be able to practice sanitation properly.

3.1.6 Chief Engineer, DPHE Mr. Md. Khorshed Alam

Mr. Alam thanked the organisers for inviting him to the meeting, and clarified that he was present as a participant of the meeting not as a Chief Guest. He continued that the meeting has been arranged at a good time. Representatives of the NGOs, grass roots people and GoB officials were present to share their ideas and views. In the slums, sanitary blocks should be developed. Sanitation in a broader sense refers to many other relevant activities. But for a developing country like Bangladesh consideration is made for only sanitary latrine in sanitation.

Some areas in Dhaka are well developed like Dhanmondi and Banani. In these areas, the sanitation is quite good. However, there are many slums in Dhaka where lot of people live. Planners have to think about these people.

The GoB set a target to attain 100% sanitation coverage by 2010. The Minister himself is very committed to achieve the target. It is decided that 20% of the Annual Development Budget of Upazila would be allocated to the sanitation sector. It is a good initiative indeed. Sanitary latrine is required for health and environmental reasons. The hard-core poor should be provided with financial assistance. The accommodation of slum dwellers should be improved. Sanitation and hygiene practice would assist the people to keep in good health and this would in turn help to develop a prosperous nation. There should be proper awareness raising and motivational programs. There should be good coordination among GoB and NGOs. He believed that through the participation of grass roots people it is possible to attain the target of total sanitation by 2010.

3.1.7 Program Coordinator, Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC) Mr. Milon Kanti Barua

Mr. Barua reflected his views on the issues at the meeting. He stated that in Bangladesh, about 60% of the people are poor and a large section of the poor, are hard-core poor. As a Program Coordinator, he observed discrimination among poor and rich in many social affairs. About 10 years ago, people were unaware of the causes of diarrhoea. He considered that if all the development partners, planners, donor agencies, NGOs and local people work together it would be possible to achieve 100% sanitation coverage before 2010. There are 2 lakhs mosques in the country with at least one religious leader working in each. If the religious leaders motivate the people, it would be possible to make a lot of households aware about sanitary latrines. As a citizen of this country, the aware people should motivate and assist his neighbour to set up a sanitary latrine from the religious perspective. He hoped for the best success of the sanitation program.

3.1.8 Program Director, WaterAid, Bangladesh Mr. Khondakar Zakir Hossain

Mr. Zakir Hossain reflected on the organisational issues in the sector. He stated that all development programs whether at government or non-government level should incorporate the beneficiaries of the program. The grass root level consultation was very appropriate from this context. It should be ensured that the recommendations from the Divisional meetings are considered while making decisions at the National level. WSSCC and STREAM have initiated the consultations. Through the meetings the voices of the grass roots people are to be raised to the National, Regional and International level. He thanked the organisers for arranging such a meeting today. The policy makers and the professionals all should listen to the opinions of the poor. NGOs should assist in generating awareness. With proper coordination, people would be able to achieve 100% sanitation coverage by 2010.

3.1.9 Representative of Grassroots People, Ward No. 5, DCC Ms. Khaleda Akhter

Ms. Akhter revealed the situation in urban areas of Dhaka. She stated that she lives in a place where people do not have any security of accommodation. People are always afraid of eviction and live in a very densely populated condition. 10 households have to live in a place, which is suitable for 2 households. The sanitation situation is deteriorating in the slum. The number of sanitary latrines is inadequate and sometimes people have to wait for a long time to use the latrine. The slum dwellers want to get rid of the present situation. GoB should provide facilities for sanitary latrines; there should be sanitation blocks in the slums. If GoB and NGOs work together, it would be possible to have sanitary latrines for all by 2010. She also suggested stopping evicting people without proper rehabilitation. Finally, she thanked the organisers for giving her the opportunity to share her views.

3.1.10 Representative of Grassroots, Ward No. 6, DCC Ms. Jahanara Begum Benu

Ms. Jahanara gave a detailed account of urban sanitation issues. Firstly, she thanked everybody for giving her the opportunity to say something on behalf of the residents of Ward No. 6 of DCC. She reiterated that it is known that there should be 100% sanitation coverage by 2010.

As part of grassroots consultation there were 3 FDGs in particular slums and a Ward level meeting. At the meetings, the following issues were discussed

- The demands.
- The problems.
- The means to solve the problems.

In the discussions, the concerned Ward commissioner and Representatives from some NGOs took part. Ms. Jahanara then presented the findings related to the population and sanitation situation in 3 slums in Ward no. 6.

- In Arambag slum, 848 household live and they have no sanitary latrine.
- In Duari Para slum, 986 household live and they have only 8 sanitary latrines.
- In 6 Ta –Block slum, 1000 household live and they have no sanitary latrine.

She summarised the problems associated with setting up sanitary latrines in the slums as the following:

- There is fear of eviction, so the slum-dwellers do not want to set up sanitary latrine.

- Two slums are located on jheel (a long pool of water), so it is not possible to set up sanitary latrine.
- Because of the high population density, there is a lack of space.
- Poverty is rampant and the major concern.
- There is a lack of initiatives from individuals, GoB and NGOs.

The measures to solve the problems were the following:

- Slums should not be evicted without arrangements for rehabilitation.
- There should be notice of eviction at least 6 months before eviction.
- There should be grants from GoB for setting up of sanitary latrine.
- A drainage system should be developed.
- GoB land should be provided for sanitation.
- There should be income-generating activities for the poor.

She reflected that people want cooperation between GoB Ward commissioners, NGOs and the rich people of the area.

3.1.11 Ward Commissioner (Vashantek Area), DCC Ms. Mahmuda Begum

Ms. Mahmuda presented another account of urban issues in water supply and sanitation. She initiated by thanking the organisers for arranging such an important meeting and stating that the problem of sanitation is a National issue. GoB has set a target to attain 100% sanitation coverage by 2010. However, it is not possible to achieve the target through only GoB efforts. Hence all NGOs and local representatives should join to attain the targets. There should be more awareness and motivation programs. Awareness should be generated through meetings, mass media, rallies etc.

She considered that one of the most important issues for the slum dwellers is rehabilitation. In Dhaka City, there is scope for housing loans for the rich people. There should also be provision for proper housing for the poor. If the poor are provided with housing, they could promote hygiene and sanitation practice. She suggested there should be places near Dhaka to have accommodation for the poor; the slum dwellers should be informed at least 6 months before their eviction; there should be water supplied by WASA, because currently the slum dwellers have to pay a high price for water.

Recent floods have destroyed many of the sanitary latrines throughout the country. The effects of natural calamities on sanitation have to be considered in the planning stage. She mentioned that the people were willing to the remove the hanging latrines. However, it was not possible because most of the people who were using the hanging latrines were floating people. To remove the hanging latrine, it was necessary to relocate the floating people. Otherwise these people would go to another place and create the same situation in that place. Hence, she recommended relocating the floating people and providing them with permanent accommodation where they could practice sanitation in proper way.

3.1.12 Commercial Director, Dhaka Water and Sewage Authority (DWASA) Mr. Md. Nurul Huda Zia

Mr. Zia discussed the issue from the viewpoint of services providers. He stated that GoB has set a target to achieve 100% sanitation coverage by 2010. The grassroots consultations have been undertaken to acquire the ideas and opinions of the local people. There were about 30 lakhs slum-dwellers in Dhaka city. About 2-3 lakhs people daily commute to Dhaka. The overall condition of sanitation in the country was deteriorating. GoB, donor agencies and NGOs were trying to overcome the problems. There was acute shortage of water in the slums of Dhaka. Using money from GoB, DWASA has set up 200 water sources in the slums. Before this, there were no legal means for the

slum-dwellers to access a water supply. It is also planned that within next five years, there would be no illegal water sources in the Mirpur slums. There would be legal water sources made available through the assistance of CBOs, NGOs and Ward commissioners. To hasten the program DWASA have to identify all the slum areas.

He believes that rehabilitation of the slum-dwellers was essential to ensure basic human rights. GoB should educate the people. There should also be awareness raising and motivational programs regarding sanitation. The grassroots should be organised. He then considered that it would be possible to attain the target of total sanitation by 2010.

3.1.13 Project Director, DPHE-DANIDA Mr. M. A. Bari

Mr. Bari was very happy to be invited to the meeting. He thanked the organisers for arranging such a program and giving him the opportunity to say something. He reflected that some speakers said that before sanitation people need housing. He believes that this is very important, for in cases when the people have no security of housing, it is impossible for them to practice hygiene and sanitation.

The grass roots people should be made aware. A behavioural change of the mass population was essential. In Dhaka city, each year, a huge amount of money is being spent on various projects. But it is a matter of regret that the majority of the projects are for the idle and upper income people. Though about 30-35 lakhs of people live in the slums, little money is being spent for them. The country is burdened with a large population. GoB-NGOs should turn the population into useful manpower. Through the declaration alone, no target can be achieved. The first requirement of attaining the target is to make the people aware.

There were many programs planned by GoB regarding sanitation. All CBOs, NGOs and donor agencies should complement GoB program. GoB and NGO should try to fulfil the duties regularly and sincerely. He concluded by thanking everyone present.

3.1.14 Grassroots Representative, Agargaon, Mohammadpur, Dhaka Mr. Abdur Rashid

Mr. Rashid presented a vivid account of problems faced by the urban dwellers. He presented the recommendations as identified through the grassroots level meetings. To achieve 100% sanitation, participation of all GoB and non-government organisations should be ensured. The recommendations are as described following:

- Arrange permanent housing.
- Provide subsidy for the hardcore poor from GoB.
- Deliver required assets.
- Develop drainage systems and connection with the sewerage systems.
- Raise awareness of the landlords that they can ensure hygienic sanitation to the borders of their house.
- Organise grass root level people in order to establish their basic needs.
- Establish good sewerage systems to remove household waste and water.
- Provide 6-month notice to the slum people before uprooting the slum and if possible then have a rehabilitation program for them.
- Develop, plan and keep funds for rehabilitation program under the National budget.
- Arrange for safe and legal water connections to the slum dwellers.
- Make different sanitation blocks for the girls and women in the Villages or slums.
- Arrange for hygienic latrine and safe water in the schools.
- Ensure civic and human rights for the Villagers and the slum people.

- Make public toilets in public places like market, bus/train station etc.
- Disseminate health and hygiene messages in primary schools, madrassa and health centres.
-

3.1.15 Chairperson of Divisional Meeting Ms. Fatema Akter

Ms. Fatima was very grateful for the opportunity to be present, and to give her speech as the Chairperson of the Divisional meeting.

The issue of WatSan should be considered with the active participation of GoB, NGOs and grass roots people. As the grass roots were the sufferers of the problem, their involvement is a must. About 42 lakhs people of the people who live in Dhaka lead a very poor quality of life. She would therefore inquire of GoB, how people could practise sanitation when their place of living is uncertain. They were always afraid of eviction. If one's house is subject to eviction without any notice, then he/she would not give importance to sanitation. GoB should consider this issue keenly.

Water supply and sanitation are required for all. Sometimes some latrines are set up in slum areas, but the opinions of slum dwellers were neglected while setting up the latrines; they were not informed about the issue. But the fact is users should participate in the whole process of the WatSan program in order to make it a success. The poor people should be organised. Rehabilitation of the slum-dwellers is the foremost requirement. She requested that the donor agencies and concerned GoB organisations provide housing loans for the poor people.

A program on water and sanitation is a good initiative. People need water and sanitation. In addition to this, they need accommodation. GoB should take care of this issue. The real estate developers are making flats for the upper income group. In the sector of micro-credit, the poor contribute 100% for its success; this concept is known throughout the world. Like this, if GoB and other NGOs could assist them with housing, they could be rehabilitated and would be able to understand water and sanitation issues.

She concluded by saying that if all people are organised and motivated in proper manner, it would be possible to attain 100% sanitation coverage by 2010.

3.2 Discussion Groups at Village Level:

In each considered village, two or three discussion groups were facilitated with the support of a local NGO. The local NGO's were responsible for the consultations, and for gathering background information on the village and data on state of sanitation now and 10 years ago. During the discussions, the grass roots people were taught about the MDG for water and sanitation and about the National sanitation target. They were then given the opportunity to express their views on what the targets mean to them, how they will go about achieving them and what problems they are currently facing. The following tables contain the results from these discussions.

Table 3.1: Village / Area: Salna, Union: Kaultia

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know that much and so they did not practice.	They know it but do not practice it properly.	Sustainable latrines are required to achieve National target.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Sanitation coverage and use	5%	15%-20%	Everyone should know the proper use of sanitary latrines, including hygiene messages.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness, lack of education, lack of space, lack of initiatives from the LGs, idleness, less priority, unavailability of ring-slab production centre. 2. There should be enough ring-slab production centres in the area; people should be made aware of the benefits of hygiene practice. GoB initiatives should be taken.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance and cleanliness should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness, habit, lack of willingness, financial problems, low priority. 2. To clean up the latrines, germicides should be used.

Table 3.2: Village: Potabari Purba Para, Union: Prahladpur

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know that much and so did not practice.	100% people know about diarrhoea. They know how to make oral saline.	People should have their own latrines.	1. Lack of awareness, lack of education, lack of sanitary latrine. 2. Mass awareness generation program. Introduction of hygiene practices.
Sanitation coverage and use	3%	70%	100% coverage is required to achieve National target.	1. Lack of financial support, lack of awareness, lack of initiatives from LGIs, idleness. 2. People should be aware of the benefits of hygiene practice. There should be provision for interest free loans.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be adopted by the people.	1. Lack of awareness, habit, lack of raw materials to maintain. 2. Awareness generation, more priority.

Table 3.3: Village: Wrishipara, Union: Netaigonj

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know that much and so did not practice.	Many people still do not know how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea.	Awareness is required to prevent diarrhoea.	1. Poverty, lack of awareness, lack of education, lack of sanitary latrine. 2. Mass awareness generation program. Introduction of hygiene practice.
Sanitation coverage and use	0%	Negligible: only two hanging latrines for 150 families. Others use open latrine.	Every household must have at least one sanitary latrine.	1. Lack of financial support, Lack of awareness, lack of initiatives from LGIs. 2. GoB should assist to install at least two sanitation blocks in this slum. People should be made aware of the benefits of hygiene practice. There should be provision for interest free loans.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	People should be made aware of proper maintenance.	1. Lack of money, poverty, lack of places, lack of awareness, lack of unity. 2. Financial assistance, awareness generation program, more priority.

Table 3.4: Village: Chanmary, Union: Fatulla

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know that much and so did not practice.	Many people still do not know how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	Donors should provide support in order to reduce the prevailing knowledge gap.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Sanitation coverage and use	0%	Negligible, many people use open latrine.	Everyone should know the proper use of sanitary latrines, including the hygiene messages.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poverty, ignorance, lack of sanitary latrine. 2. Mass awareness generation program. Introduction of hygiene practice.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Should be appropriate so as to have a safe environment.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poverty, lack of awareness, lack of initiatives from LGIs. 2. GoB should assist to install a latrine for every 5-7 families in this slum. People should be made aware of the benefits of hygiene practice.
				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of money, ignorance, poverty, lack of space. 2. Financial assistance, awareness generation program, more priority.

Table 3.5: Village: Arambag Slum, Ward No.: 6

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know about prevention of diseases like diarrhoea.	Many people still do not know how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea.	Sustainable latrines are required to achieve National target.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Sanitation coverage and use	0%	10%	100% coverage should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poverty, ignorance, lack of sanitary latrine. 2. Mass awareness generation program, promotion of hygiene practices.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	All the latrines in the slum are unsanitary.	Local level expertise is required to repair and maintain latrines.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poverty, population increase, unsanitary open drains, temporary inhabitants, lack of awareness, lack of initiatives from LGIs. 2. There should be a latrine for every 5-7 family in this slum installed with GoB assistance. People should be made aware of the benefits of hygiene practice.
				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poverty, eviction of slums, temporary inhabitants, lack of initiatives, ignorance. 2. Financial assistance, awareness generation program, more priority.

Table 3.6: Village: East Bariali, Union: Bashan

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know about prevention of diseases like diarrhoea.	Many people know how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea but do not practise properly.	Safe sanitary practices should be encouraged.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Sanitation coverage and use	10%	15%	There should be one sanitary latrine in every household as well as in every public place.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poverty, lack of awareness, lack of initiatives from LGIs. 2. Interest free loans should be provided. People should be made aware of hygiene promotion.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Should be appropriate to achieve 100% sanitation.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poverty, idleness, ignorance. 2. Financial assistance, awareness generation program, training and motivation program, more priority.

Table 3.7: Village: Tek Nagapara, Union: Bashan

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	20% people knew about this.	Many people know how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea but do not practise properly.	Safe hygiene behaviour should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Sanitation coverage and use	10%	20%	Active monitoring by the NGOs as well as the LGIs regarding the proper use of sanitary latrines should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poverty, lack of awareness, lack of initiatives from LGIs. 2. Interest free loans should be provided. People should be made aware of hygiene practice.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Latrine should be well maintained.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poverty, lack of awareness, idleness, ignorance. 2. Financial assistance, awareness generation programs, training and motivation programs, more priority.

Table 3.8: Village: Duaripara Slum, Ward No.: 6

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	About 33% people knew.	100% people know but they do not practise properly.	It is possible to attain National goal, if the people are well aware.	1. Poverty, ignorance. 2. Mass awareness generation program. Promotion of hygiene practice.
Sanitation coverage and use	Only a few of the families had sanitary latrines.	12%	Proper use of sanitary latrine and hygiene behaviour should be ensured.	1. Population increase, unhygienic open drains, poverty, temporary inhabitants, lack of awareness, fear of eviction. 2. Ensuring secured place of living, provision of drains, awareness generation programs, teaching about benefits of hygiene practice.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	All the latrines in the slum are open and unhygienic.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Poverty, eviction of slums, temporary inhabitants, lack of initiatives, ignorance. 2. Financial assistance, awareness generation programs, more priority.

Table 3.9: Village: Gajaria, Union: Rajabari

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	Few people knew but did not practise.	Many people know how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea but do not practise properly.	National goals may be achieved with strong efforts on awareness drive.	1. Lack of awareness, idleness, ignorance. 2. Promotion of hygiene practice, awareness generation program through GoB and NGOs.
Sanitation coverage and use	5%	15%	100% coverage is required to achieve National target.	1. Poverty, lack of awareness, lack of habit, ignorance. 2. Interest free loans, introduction of low-cost technology to build sanitary latrine, People should be made aware of hygiene promotion.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Poverty, lack of awareness, idleness, ignorance. 2. Financial assistance, awareness generation programs, training and motivation programs, higher priority.

Table 3.10: Village: Noagaon, Union: Rajabari

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know.	Many people know how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea but do not practise properly.	National goals could be achieved with an effective awareness drive.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Sanitation coverage and use	0%	10%	Every household must have at least one sanitary latrine.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poverty, lack of awareness, lack of initiatives from LGIs. 2. Interest free loans should be provided. People should be made aware of hygiene promotion.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poverty, lack of awareness, idleness, ignorance. 2. Financial assistance, training and motivation programs, higher priority.

3.3 Union Level Meetings:

At the Union level meeting the results from the village level meetings were presented and the current situation assessed. The grassroots people then had the opportunity to explore the areas that require action and discuss the strategies needed to achieve 100% sanitation coverage. They then identified their capacities and resources that would be useful in working towards the targets, and considered what outside resources they would need. The results from these meetings are presented in the following tables.

Table 3.11: Ward No: 5 (Pallabi, Mirpur)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masons are available. • The people are industrious. • There is a community resource centre in the area. • There are development committees. • There are shops selling sanitary materials. • There are different CBOs in the area. • There are many trained people in the area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of accommodation. • Lack of space in the slum. • Lack of financial solvency. • Absence of sanitary latrine. • Lack of potable water. • Absence of electricity. • Lack of education, medical care and security. • Lack of employment. • Inadequate drainage system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are local commissioners and chairman. • Assurances from NGOs are available. • There are scopes to connect water sources legally. • There are many NGOs to provide training. • Different organisations can provide loans for sanitation. • There are Village Development Committees (VDCs). • The hard core poor may be provided with free sanitary latrine. • GoB can increase its funding. • There should be enough funding for education, medical care and security. • There should be separate funding for sanitation in the National Budget. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threat of eviction. • Hoodlum attack. • Presence of drug smugglers. • Harassment by local police. • Financial problems. • Lack of initiatives.

Table 3.12: Ward No: 2 (DCC)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People can provide labour. • People can be organised. • People will help GoB and NGOs work on sanitation. • People themselves will be the initiator. • Aware people can inform others about sanitation. • People will participate in sanitation related meetings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People are not aware. • There is shortage of potable water. • Financial problems. • Lack of space. • Presence of open drains. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GoB should create legal accommodation for slum dwellers. • Financial assistance from GoB is required. • Assurances from NGOs are required. • Education regarding sanitation using assistance from GoB and NGOs. • City Corporation can provide help. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People are still unaware of sanitary latrines. • There is a lack of GoB and non-government initiatives. • For maintenance of sanitary latrine there is no sweeper. • People are ignorant. • Sanitary sewages are carried through open drains.

Table 3.13: Ward No: 10 (DCC)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All community people can be organised. They will work hard. People will provide some money if required. Landlord and the community may interact in weekly meetings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of material & resources. There is a shortage of potable water. The sewerage system is not well developed. The drains are not covered. The landlords do not emphasise sanitation issues. In the slums, presently there are many open and hanging latrines. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The landowners of the slums can provide land to build sanitary latrines. The slum-dwellers should be provided loans from the bank to build sanitary latrines. The local commissioners will provide necessary assistance. NGOs can inform the people about cleanliness and hygiene practice, they are willing to learn. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The accommodation of slum dwellers is temporary. The slum-dwellers use open and hanging latrines. The people do not know about cleanliness and maintenance of sanitary latrine. The children defecate here and there. People are ignorant.

Table 3.14: Union: Prahaladpur (Sripur, Gazipur)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The soil in the area is hard. So it is easy to put rings in the hole. Bamboo, which can be used for posts, is available at low cost. Local materials, which can help to make roofs for latrines, are available. People want to help in building sanitary latrines. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People are poor. There is a lack of skilled masons. People are not aware. People are not educated. They do not have knowledge about sanitary latrine. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People need financial assistances as interest free loan basis. GoB assistance is required. Hygiene promotion training is required to generate awareness. People should be trained how to build latrines at low cost. There should be trained masons to help the villagers. There should be CBOs to monitor the sanitation program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some seasonal problems arise due to excessive rainfall. There should be active CBOs. People are accustomed to traditional habits. The communication system is not good.

Table 3.15: Ward No.: 81 (DCC)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are some permanent committees. People are organised. The people are skilled in their work. In some cases, individual initiatives are observed. There is enough space to build sanitary latrine. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is lack of appropriate leadership. The people are not adequately trained. The people are not financially solvent. There are no committees to look after the solid waste management system. Lack of coordination. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The railways may provide them with temporary help. The Ward commissioner can assist the people. Local people can help themselves. Population Service and Training Centre (PSTC) can provide loans for installation. Workers of DCC & BRAC can help to train the people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sometimes DCC poses some problems. Hoodlum attack. Eviction of slums.

Table 3.16: Ward No.: 7 (DCC)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drains are present. • There are adequate roads. • There are some tube wells in the area. • There is piped water supply by DWASA. • There are already a few sanitary latrines. • Enough manpower. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is lack of skilled manpower. • The people need financial assistance. • There is no sweeper to clean the drains regularly. • The materials of existing sanitary latrines are not sustainable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a DWASA piped line, which just requires water supply. • The roads can be repaired. • There can be one latrine for every 3 families. • The Ward commissioners should provide help. • Different NGOs working in this area should provide training on sanitation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The area is very congested. • There are a few sanitary latrines. • There are no separate sanitary latrines for males and females. • Water supply is inadequate. • The ring-slab latrines are inappropriate for this area. • There are a few dustbins in the area. • The drains are not cleaned regularly. • There are unauthorised establishments on the drains.

Table 3.17: Union: Bashan (Gazipur)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The people are industrious. • There are raw materials such as bamboo to build sanitary latrine. • People have the will to make sanitary latrine. • Idleness can be overcome through awareness generation and motivational programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People do not want to participate in meetings and discussions. • The hard-core poor cannot buy ring-slabs. • The people do not have technical ability to build a sanitary latrine. • There is a lack of financial support. • The Chairman and Members are not cordial enough. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGOs should provide loans. • People should be made aware through mass media. • Technical assistance should be provided by GoB and NGOs. • The hard-core poor should be provided with free sanitary latrines. • A tube-well should be set up for potable water. • The people should be made aware through meetings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gram Sarkar Chairman and Members are not well informed about sanitation. • There are no specific rules regarding sanitation. • People do not know about the benefits of sanitary latrine. • There is lack of mutual cooperation. • NGOs do not discuss sanitation outside their specific intervened areas. • DPHE is not totally responsible regarding sanitation.

Table 3.18: Union: Raja Bari (Sripur, Gazipur)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People have the raw materials such as bamboo, wood, etc. • There are some ring-slab production centres. • The traditional ideas and habits can be given up. • The male members can emphasise more on sanitation. • The religious leaders can discuss sanitation in the mosques and temples. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The people are not aware of sanitation. • The people are not educated. • The hard-core poor cannot buy ring-slabs. • The people do not have the technical knowledge to build a sanitary latrine. • The people have the mentality to receive charity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are some committees in the area like Market Committee, Village Committee, Ward Committee. • The people of civil society can inform the people about sanitation. • The field workers of NGOs and GOs can train the people. • There are ring-slab production centres. • NGOs/ banks can provide interest free loans. • NGOs can provide financial assistance and other raw materials for sanitary latrine. • NGOs and GoB organisations may provide necessary training. • The hard-core poor can be provided with sanitary latrine free. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is lack of mutual co-operation. • NGOs do not consult with the people outside their organisation. • DPHE do not play important role regarding sanitation in most cases. • The hard-core poor are in need of financial assistance. • There is no discussion on sanitation in the neighbourhood.

Table 3.19: Union: Kaultia (Joydevpur, Gazipur)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is availability of bamboo, wood etc. • Land is available. • People are industrious. • People are interested to know about sanitary latrine. • Everyone knows about the harmful effects of sanitation through meetings, rallies etc. • The religious rituals should be obeyed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People do not want to participate in the discussions and meetings. • The standard of the ring-slabs is not good. • People do not have much interest in knowing about sanitary latrine. • Ring-slabs are not easily available. • People do not show interest in participating in development works. • There is a lack of skilled mason to build sanitary latrine. • There are no discussions in the mosque regarding sanitary latrine. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There should be provision for interest free loans. • The hard-core poor should be provided with free ring-slabs. • Tube wells should be set up to get potable water. • The people can be made aware through NGOs. • There should be training on construction of sanitary latrine carried out by GoB and NGOs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many people use open and hanging latrines. • Many people do not have space for accommodation. • Many people are hard-core poor. • People do not know about hygiene practice. • There is a shortage of workers to inform people about sanitation. • The school teachers do not teach sanitation. • The religious leaders in the mosques do not discuss sanitation.

Table 3.20: Ward No.: 15 (DCC)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are many development committees in the area. • The people are organised. • People are industrious. • There are shops selling sanitary goods. • There are skilled masons. • The people have the mentality for males and females to work together. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is lack of permanent accommodation. • The people are not well off. • People are unemployed. • There are an inadequate number of sanitary latrines. • There is shortage of potable water. • People are ignorant. • There are no discussions in the mosque regarding sanitary latrine. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GoB should provide financial assistance. • There should be training on sanitation and environment. • The hard-core poor should be provided latrine measures free. • People should be provided training on low-cost sanitary latrine technology. • NGOs should provide connection to legal water supply. • Different organisations should provide financial assistance for sanitation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fear of eviction. • Grabbing of the slums illegally. • Hoodlum attack. • Harassment by the local police.

Sylhet Division

4.0 Division: Sylhet

4.1 Summary of Speeches

4.1.1 Regional Officer, Sylhet Regional Office, NGO Forum for DWSS Mr. Md. Ashraf Hossain

Mr. Ashraf welcomed all participants to the meeting. He stated that NGO Forum is a NGO working in safe water supply and sanitation sector at the National level. As an expansion of its activities, NGO Forum started its programs in Sylhet region in 1992. The overall condition of sanitation in Sylhet region is very bad compared to the rest of the country.

He then presented the basic information on Sylhet district. The data was obtained from the baseline survey carried out in 2003: Total number of households reported is 360,051 out of which 114,371 use sanitary latrine (31.25% of total population). In the countryside, 40% of the population use sanitary latrines. The condition of sanitation in Sylhet District is better than any other districts in Sylhet Division.

He also stated that there were meetings at the grassroots level. The people themselves identified their problems regarding the use of sanitary latrines and also gave their suggestions. Findings from these meetings were presented at the workshop through posters. This would assist in making the National Convention a success.

4.1.2 Chief, NRC, NGO Forum for DWSS Ms. Shirin P. Biswas

Ms. Shirin in her speech stated that sanitation is one of the prime focal areas of the MDGs. She also pointed out that people are aware that Bangladesh is committed to the agreements from the WSSD. Presently 240 crore people in the world do not have access to sanitation and by the year 2015 half of these people should be provided with sanitation facilities. In this respect, GoB set a target to achieve 100% sanitation by 2010.

She then discussed the current situation of sanitation in Bangladesh. She stated that about 33% people use sanitary latrines, 25% use unsanitary latrines and 42% do not use latrines at all; they defecate in open spaces. To attain the target of 100% sanitation by 2010, a taskforce and some sub-committees have been formed by the GoB. There are coordination meetings of these sub-committees; workshops are held at Division, District, Upazila and Union level. The unsanitary latrines are to be replaced by the members of Union Parishad and Gram Sarkar. There are also motivation programs and journalist conferences.

She stressed that the main objectives of the grass root consultation were to ensure the participation of grass root people to attain 100% sanitation; to reflect their voices during planning at the National level; to practice a bottom-up approach for planning; to assist the hard-core poor; to realise the ideas and views of the grass root people; and to make them aware regarding sanitation.

Through the WASH-STREAMS initiative the voices of the grassroots were raised. To achieve this, meetings were conducted at Village and Union levels and workshops were held at Divisional level. The findings from these would be developed at the National Convention and then taken to the Regional and Global Forums. In the grassroots consultation process, ten Unions in each Division were selected, and three FGD were held at each Union. She mentioned that the National Convention was scheduled to take place in the third week of September '04 which would be an attempt to complement GoB policy regarding sanitation.

With the support of WSSCC and STREAMS, donors and other NGOs, the initiative was being undertaken. WASH is a global campaign of WSSCC, and STREAMS is a global coalition of water and sanitation resource centres – both are supporting these consultative works. NRC under NGO Forum for DWSS was providing the secretariat services for this initiative. She mentioned about the methodological aspects of carrying out the grass root consultation. She stated that core group comprising of some NGOs was formed. It was expected to provide input through the consultations process to complement the policy formulation of GoB. Lastly, she thanked everybody at the meeting.

4.1.3 Executive Engineer, DPHE, Sylhet District Mr. Md. Sadek Hossain

Mr. Sadek thanked the participants for being present at the meeting. He stated that as part of the WASH-STREAMS initiative there were many meetings at Village and Union level. Through the FGDs poor people discussed WatSan problems. They also suggested techniques and possible solutions. The Divisional meetings would also draw some recommendations that need to be articulated at the National Convention. He mentioned that the month of October had been declared as National Sanitation month. The GoB had set a target to achieve 100% sanitation by 2010. He hoped that all would join hands with the GoB to achieve the target. Lastly, he thanked NGO Forum for organising such a timely program.

4.1.4 Civil Surgeon, Sylhet District Dr. Ahmedur Reza Chowdhury

Dr. Reza was happy to be present at the meeting. He referred that water is life. Most of the diseases in the country are water-borne. At first GoB desired to carry out all the sanitation related works alone. However, because of its budget constraints different NGOs are now complementing this program. Though the sanitation condition in Sylhet district is good but the scenario of Sylhet Division is very bad compared with the National level.

He stated that grassroots consultation was a good initiative to complement GoB in formulation of National policy. There must be good coordination among GoB and NGOs. The people should be aware of sanitation. The aim of the Divisional meeting should be achieved through active participation of all.

4.1.5 Mayor, Sylhet City Corporation (SCC), Sylhet Mr. Badaruddin Ahmed Kamran

Mr. Kamran thanked everyone who was present at the meeting. He stated that he considered sanitation as a National issue for Bangladesh. The socio-economic condition of people influences the sanitation situation. He also stated that about 42% of the population do not have any latrines at all. He considered that the reason behind this lies with their socio-economic background. GoB considered sanitation as a challenge and declared to achieve 100% sanitation by 2010. He said that people are working to complement GoB program.

He also heard that the core-group conducted meetings at Village and Union levels. He praised the organisers for arranging such meetings and hoped that the meeting at Divisional level would be lively, easy to understand, and assist in defining directions for the future. The recommendations from these meetings should be considered in the formulation of GoB policy at the National level.

He stressed that people have suffered severe floods in the years; many latrines were destroyed, this has also to be taken into account. All private and public organisations should come forward to solve the problems regarding sanitation. There should be some social movements. For example, the EPI

program has become successful because of people's participation at all levels. Let everyone involved work together to make a healthy and wealthy nation.

4.1.6 Executive Director, NGO Forum for DWSS Mr. S. M. A. Rashid

In his speech Mr. Rashid said, Safe water supply and sanitation are very important matters for human development. The UN has declared safe water supply and sanitation as basic human rights. Now it is of great concern how people address these human rights.

In the developing countries, about 240 crore people lack sanitation facilities and about 120 crore people are deprived of safe drinking water. It is a matter of regret that more than half of these people live in the developing countries of Asia. In the last year, GoB has declared the month of October as "National Sanitation Month." Last year a baseline survey was conducted throughout the country to collect information on sanitation.

According to the survey, about 30% people use sanitary latrines and about 40% from the remaining 70% use hanging latrines that are unsanitary. Every year about 20,000 metric tons of faeces are deposited on the ground leading to environmental degradation and public health problems. Every day about 700 children less than 5 years of age die of diarrhoea. If people became aware, they could overcome this situation.

A major portion of the country's income is spent on health care. Adopting precautionary measures could prevent this or people could take medicine after getting ill. Everyone should put emphasis on prevention. If people want to remove the causes of these diseases, they should use sanitary latrines. Defecation in open places is uncivilised. Legal action could be taken against open defecation. In the MDGs it is stated that the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and sanitation should be halved by 2015. Additionally, GoB has declared and is committed to achieve 100% sanitation by 2010.

In order to achieve these targets the core-group consulted the grassroots level people, from Village level to Divisional levels a number of meetings were held. The focal point of these meetings was the grassroots people. They themselves identified all their problems, difficulties, strengths and opportunities/scopes. The recommendations from these meetings would be shared at the National Convention. Last year there was an International seminar on sanitation. At the seminar NGOs and GoB determined the steps required to attain 100% sanitation by 2010. To complement GoB goals, all should work together. It is now declared that 20% of the ADP is allocated to bring the hard-core poor under sanitation coverage.

The aim of grassroots consultation was to share the common issues of sanitation in order to reduce mortality due to water-borne diseases. There would be Regional and International Conferences and these would help the donor agencies involve themselves in such type of activities.

In Sylhet Division, about 60% of the population do not have access to sanitation. Each household should possess a sanitary latrine. All PNGOs and donor agencies should assist to set up latrines. Public participation should also be employed. NGO-GoB should motivate the general people through awareness raising programs.

He thanked every body for being present at the workshop and hoped that everyone would try their best to achieve the target of 100% sanitation.

4.1.7 Executive Director, MAC Bangladesh, Srimangal, Maulavibazar Mr. S. A. Hamid

Mr. Hamid described several of the meetings that took place at Village and Union levels. In these meetings the grass root people pointed out their requirements, problems and solutions regarding safe water and sanitation issues. They presented all their findings on posters. The findings are as below:

The **first group** discussed the resources that the grassroots people have:

- About 95% of the population have enough space to construct sanitary latrines.
- People have access to safe drinking water.
- People have the mentality for mutual cooperation.
- About 30% people have the ability to construct sanitary latrines.
- They have raw materials (such as bamboo, wood) to construct latrine.
- The communication system is good enough to carry ring-slabs.
- Religious leaders and school teachers are available to generate awareness.
- There are NGOs to motivate people on sanitation.
- 75% people have the ability to construct latrines if they get ring-slabs.
- There are ring-slab production centres in the area.
- Local leaders are available to help the people.

The **second group** discussed the problems the grass root people face:

- Poverty.
- Lack of awareness.
- Lack of skilled manpower.
- Ignorance.
- Lack of nutritious food.
- The rich people do not want to help the hard-core poor.
- Absence of good leadership.
- Lack of space.
- The religious leaders do not discuss sanitation issues.
- Lack of sustainable and low-cost technology.
- Lack of funds from GoB at the Union level.
- The sanitation issues are not included in the school text books.
- Absence of public latrine in markets.
- Lack of unity.
- Lack of income enhancing activities and employment.
- Gender inequity.
- Undisciplined development works.

The **third group** discussed the resources that the grassroots people require of outside people or agencies:

- Ring-slabs.
- Skilled manpower to construct sanitary latrine.
- Administrative monitoring.
- Grants and interest free loans.
- Training on construction and maintenance of sanitary latrines by the NGOs.
- Mutual cooperation.
- Rewards for good performance.
- People's participation at each level of work ensured.
- Ring-slab production centres established.

The **fourth group** discussed on the activities that pose threats:

- People do not get latrines from GoB in time.
- There are no proper initiatives for awareness raising from the local GoB institutes.
- Lack of coordination among grassroots people.
- Lack of long-term planning to eradicate poverty.
- Lack of monitoring to ensure that the 20% of ADP is properly utilised.
- Lack of specific GoB policy regarding hard-core poor.
- Low prioritisation of sanitation during natural calamities.
- Lack of coordination between GoB and NGOs.
- Lack of funds from Union Parishad.

Additionally different local newspapers focused on the meetings of Watsan issues and published news about the meetings.

4.1.8 Chairman Nijpat, Jaintapur, Sylhet

The Chairman of the Union presented the general information on Tilagaon Union.

1. Number of Villages: 44
2. Population: 43,722; Male: 23,233 and Female: 20,489
3. Literacy: 27.90%
4. Occupation:
 - Agriculture: 45%
 - Business: 10%
 - Service: 7%
 - Unemployed: 13%
 - Labourers: 25%
5. Number of CBOs: 3 (In the Village)
6. Number of NGOs working in the Union:
 - Local NGOs: 3
 - National NGOs: 5
7. Number of Clubs: 4
8. Sanitation condition of the Union:

Now the sanitation condition of the Union has been improved. The sanitation coverage of the Union is about 20%; 10-years back the sanitation situation was dreadful. People did not hesitate to defecate on roadside or in open spaces. It is doubtful whether the sanitation coverage was 1% or even less.

In the past, Gram Sarkar did not have any scope to participate in development programs. Gram Sarkar did not play any significant roles in dealing with WatSan issues. At present Gram Sarkar has been involved in many WatSan cases on behalf of GoB.
9. Involvement of NGOs in WatSan sector: At present, no NGOs are fully involved in WatSan sector except for NGO Forum for DWSS.
10. Steps taken by GoB in WatSan sector: Recently through the assistance of 20% of ADP and the personal initiative from the Chairman of Union Parishad, 52 sanitary latrines have been provided to the poor people.
11. Non-government entrepreneur: There are no non-government entrepreneurs in the Union.
12. Number of Union health complex: 1

13. Community clinic:	2
14. Tea-garden:	3
15. Markets:	4
16. Railway station:	1
17. Play field:	3
18. Rice mill:	24
19. Saw mill:	2
20. Canal:	3

The findings from the FGDs are presented below:

1. Key points of discussion:
 - National and International targets regarding WatSan.
 - Techniques for motivation.
 - Gaining knowledge on diarrhoea and cleanliness.
 - Activities to be done by civil societies and different organisations.
2. Activities to be done at Village level to achieve National and International target:
 - The Villagers should be informed about the goals.
 - There should be awareness generation programs.
 - The VDC should be involved in the awareness activities.
3. Key action areas from the group discussions:
 - GoB and NGOs should take initiatives in cooperation.
 - There should be extensive motivation programs.
 - There should be legal action for open defecation.
 - GoB should provide free latrines to the hard-core poor.
 - Micro-credit programs should compel the borrowers to set up sanitary latrines in their houses.
 - The UP should be accountable and transparent.
 - There should be effective coordination among different NGOs and local GoB institutes.
 - There should be ring-slab production centres in the villages.
 - There should be a supply of safe water.
4. Key action areas as defined at all the Union meetings are summarised below:
 - Have a mass campaign focusing on National target.
 - Carry out extensive awareness raising programs.
 - Initiate a motivation program.
 - Run a training program for GoB health workers, field workers of NGOs, teachers, doctors and religious leaders.
 - Have active WatSan committees.
 - Create specific laws regarding open latrines.
 - Provide hard-core poor with free latrines.
 - Ensure a ring-slab production centre in every village.
 - Facilitate an exhibition showing different types of sanitary latrine technologies.
 - Ensure safe water for all.
 - Establish enough public toilets in railway stations, markets and other gatherings.
 - Introduce a reward system for improved performance in the sanitation sector.
 - Provide training on operation and maintenance of latrine, using assistance from NGOs.

4.1.9 Assistant Engineer, DPHE, Sylhet Sadar, Sylhet Mr. Md. Nazrul Islam

Mr. Islam expressed his pleasure for being present at the meeting. He stated that water & sanitation plays a very important role in Bangladesh as well as in rest of the world. All the presentations, surveys,

opinions demonstrated the same conclusions. If people could follow all the recommendations, it would be easy to achieve the National target. According to DPHE survey, about 90% people of Bangladesh have water in their proximity. He considered that awareness generation and motivation programs are very important. All should commit to use sanitary latrines. The religious leaders and influential local people should be orientated to discuss sanitation. Sanitary latrines should be made mandatory for people receiving loans from NGOs. The families, which receive scholarships for secondary education of girls, must establish sanitary latrines. There should be specific laws regarding sanitation. Union Parishad Chairman should be cordial enough to set up sanitary latrines.

He thanked the organisers for giving him the opportunity to speak at the August gathering on such an important issue like water and sanitation.

4.1.10 Regional Officer, NGO Forum, Sylhet Mr. Md. Ashraf Hossain

Md. Ashraf Hossain presented the Divisional statements. These are given below:

- Ward WatSan committees should be more active and responsibilities should be properly distributed among them.
- Union WatSan committees should be more active.
- There needs to be improved coordination between GoB and working NGOs.
- Sanitation training should be provided to all GoB employees at Union level.
- A mass awareness building program / campaign / advertisement should be conducted.
- Discussions on WatSan should occur within the local organisations / Clubs etc.
- Sanitation should be mandatory for all NGO programs.
- Interest building and inspiration programs should be conducted.
- Providing sanitation training to the Gram Sarkar to speed up the village based sanitation program.
- Legal action for open defecation and the law implemented.
- Safe water should be arranged through participatory approach.
- Orientation and discussions on sanitation in light of religious perspective.
- Set-up signboards on sanitation within the village.
- Make sanitation mandatory to sub-stipend beneficiaries from GoB and provide this responsibility to the school authority.
- An exhibition showing different type of hygienic latrines and associated technologies for the Ward/Union level people.
- Stop the use of the open latrines in the trains in Bangladesh, to prevent pollution on rail lines.
- Set-up enough latrines in the railway stations.
- Start a reward system for proper sanitation.
- Provide sanitation coverage for the hawkers, tea sellers etc.
- Make sure sanitation materials are available.
- Use simple arsenic testing kits.
- Bring disabled people within the sanitation coverage.
- Provide interest free loans for sanitation equipments / materials.
- Set-up sanitary latrines in the schools / colleges / madrassas where necessary.
- Bring the tribal people under the WatSan coverage.
- Set-up more than one Village Sanitation Centre (VSC) in each Union.
- Give priority to arrangement of sanitary latrines during the natural calamities.

4.2 Discussion Groups at Village Level:

Table 4.1: Village / Area: Aamtail, Union: Rampasha (Male Group)

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know much and so did not practice.	They know about diseases and preventive measures but sometimes fail to follow it.	National goals could be achieved through community mobilization.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Sanitation coverage and use	0%	10%	100% coverage is required to achieve National target.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness, lack of education, lack of sanitary latrine. 2. Food should be kept covered. Mass awareness generation program to be introduced.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness, habit, unwillingness, financial problems, less priority. 2. Latrines should be cleaned with germicides.

Table 4.2: Village / Area: Jamsherpur, Union: Rampasha

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	20 % people knew about prevention of diarrhoea.	They know about diseases and preventive measures but sometimes fail to follow it.	National goals could be achieved through community mobilization.	1. Ignorance, less priority, lack of awareness. 2. Cleanliness should be practiced; there should be awareness-building programs.
Sanitation coverage and use	0%	20% (approx)	Every household must have at least one sanitary latrine.	1. Poverty, lack of awareness, less priority. 2. Provide sanitary latrine free to hard-core poor; engage volunteers, provide interest free loans, involve NGOs to set up sanitary latrine.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Lack of awareness; less priority, recent floods have damaged latrines. 2. People should clean the latrine regularly using germicides. There should be an awareness generation campaign and a motivation program.

Table 4.3: Village / Area: Aamtail, Union: Rampasha (Female Group)

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They knew about diarrhoea.	They know about diseases and preventive measures but sometimes fail to follow it.	National goals could be achieved through community mobilization.	1. Lack of awareness, ignorance, less priority. 2. Mass awareness generation programs. Introduction of hygiene practice.
Sanitation coverage and use	0%	10%	Everyone should know the proper use of sanitary latrines, including hygiene messages.	1. Poverty, lack of awareness, less priority. 2. Financial assistance should be provided by GoB and NGO, establishment of ring-slab production centres, provision of interest free loans, and involvement of NGOs in setting up of sanitary latrines.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Lack of awareness, less priority, recent floods has damaged some latrines. 2. People should clean the latrines regularly. There should be an awareness generation campaign, motivation program and volunteers should be involved.

Table 4.4: Village: East Birgaon, Union: East Birgaon

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They knew about diarrhoea	They know about diseases and preventive measures but sometimes fail to follow it.	Safe practise of sanitation should grow in the community.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness, ignorance, less priority. 2. Changing of attitudes through awareness building.
Sanitation coverage and use	0%	25% (approx)	100% coverage should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poverty, insufficient space to set up latrine, lack of awareness, less priority. 2. Arrangement of motivation programs, establishment of VSCs, provision of interest free loans, provision of free sanitary latrines from GoB, involvement of NGOs to set up sanitary latrines.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance and cleanliness should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness, less priority, recent flood damaged latrines. 2. People should clean latrines regularly. There should be mass awareness generation and motivation program and volunteers should be involved.

Table 4.5: Village: Fandrail, Union: 5 No. Shankhola

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know about diarrhoea.	They know about diseases and preventive measures but sometimes fail to follow it.	Safe practise of sanitation should grow in the community.	1. People's habit to use open latrines, lack of awareness, ignorance, less priority. 2. People taking initiative, active participation from the people, volunteers involved. There should be more social responsibility.
Sanitation coverage and use	0%	8% (approx)	There should be one sanitary latrine in every household as well as in public places.	1. Idleness, poverty, lack of awareness. 2. There should be meetings at house level to promote awareness, financial assistance provided by GoB and NGOs, provision of interest free loans, enough ring-slabs, a Village Monitoring Team should be formed.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Lack of social pressure, lack of willingness, lack of awareness, idleness. 2. Keep clean & hygienic, campaign on maintenance involving all local level leaders; all latrines must have a roof; latrines should be kept clean, provision for proper sanitation system.

Table 4.6: Village: Lalpur, Union: Tilagaon

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know much and so did not practice	They know about diseases and preventive measures but sometimes fail to follow it properly.	Safe practise of sanitation should grow in the community.	1. Lack of awareness, ignorance, lack of time, idleness, lack of importance, not habituated, extreme poverty. 2. Need to be more cautious, more social movements, courtyard meetings/Union level meetings, theatre/folk songs and awareness generation programs on the adverse effect of diarrhoea.
Sanitation coverage and use	0%	Now the number of sanitary latrine users remarkably increased.	Active monitoring on proper use of sanitary latrines should be ensured.	1. Poverty, lack of space to set up latrine, lack of awareness. 2. Sanitation materials should be provided free to the poor, arrangement of motivation program, latrines and tube-well installation should be provided by NGOs.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Lack of awareness, less priority, recent flood damaged many latrines. 2. There should be more training programs and awareness generation programs on sanitation. Motivation programs on maintenance should be in the media.

**Table 4.7: Village: Munipuri para, Union: Asidrone
(FGD of male members)**

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know much and so did not practice.	They are aware of the disease and try to follow preventive measures.	Safe practise of sanitation should grow in the community.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Sanitation coverage and use	0%	Now the number of sanitary latrine users significantly increased.	Proper use of sanitary latrines as well as hygiene practice is required.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Extreme poverty, lack of awareness. 2. There should be meetings to generate awareness, with an emphasis placed on hygiene promotion.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of ring-slab production centres, lack of funds, lack of importance. 2. Awareness generation programs for all levels, sustainable development should be initiated, sanitary initiatives should come from GoB and NGO level.
				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness, idleness. 2. Local people should be motivated to maintain the latrines properly through an awareness program like meetings, rallies etc.

**Table 4.8: Village: Munipuri para, Union: Asidrone
(FGD of tribal female members)**

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know that much and so did not practice.	They are aware of the disease and try to follow preventive measures.	Safe practise of sanitation should grow in the community.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Sanitation coverage and use	0%	Now the number of sanitary latrine users increased.	100% coverage is required to achieve National target.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of motivation, ignorance, poverty. 2. Need to be more conscious, more social movements.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper cleanliness and maintenance should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of funds, unavailability of ring-slabs, poverty, and lack of motivation regarding sanitation. 2. Free ring-slabs to be provided to the hard-core poor, awareness campaigns on sanitation, setting up of VSCs, latrines to be supplied.
				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness, ignorance. 2. There should be training programs to inform people about maintenance of latrines.

Table 4.9: Village: Kalapur, Union: 5 No. Kalapur

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know that much and so did not practice.	They are aware of the disease and try to follow preventive measures.	Safe practise of sanitation should grow in the community.	1. Lack of awareness, poverty, lack of time, ignorance. 2. People need to take initiative, need active participation, and volunteers.
Sanitation coverage and use	0%	Now the number of sanitary latrine users has increased.	Every household must have atleast one sanitary latrine.	1. Lack of funds to make sanitary latrines, lack of motivation. 2. Fund raising, action plan development, set-up factory for latrine production.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Poverty, lack of awareness, idleness, ignorance. 2. Financial assistance, awareness generation programs, training and motivation program should be the priority.

Table 4.10: Village: Bahula, Union: Jakiganj

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know that much and so did not practice.	They are aware of the disease and try to follow preventive measures.	Safe practise of sanitation should grow in the community.	1. Lack of awareness, ignorance, lack of time, idleness, lack of importance, not habituated, extreme poverty. 2. Need more consciousness, more social movement, Union level court-yard meetings, theatre/folk songs and a mass awareness program on the adverse effect of diarrhoea, broadcasting through TV/Radio etc.
Sanitation coverage and use	0%	Number of sanitary latrine users increased significantly.	Everyone should know the proper use of sanitary latrines, including hygiene messages.	1. Lack of funds to make sanitary latrine, lack of motivation. 2. Set-up new latrines for free or at low cost.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Habitual practice, lack of awareness. 2. People should clean latrines regularly using germicides. There should be awareness generation program and motivation program as well.

4.3 Union Level Meetings:

Table 4.11: Union: Kalapur (Srimangal, Maulovi Bazar)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 95% of the population have the space to build sanitary latrine. • 50% of the population have sources of safe water near to them. • 30% people can help their neighbours. • 60% of the population have capacity to build sanitary latrine. • The raw materials to build sanitary latrine bamboo, wood etc. are available. • The communication system is adequate for carrying ring-slab. • There are enough potential people to motivate others. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of skill and knowledge. • Lack of money. • Raw materials for pit latrines are unavailable. • Lack of skilled manpower • Lack of education. • Lack of nutritious food. • Lack of mutual Cooperation. • Lack of leadership. • Lack of sustainable technology. • Lack of opportunity to raise the voices of the grassroots people to the top level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial assistance, grants with interest-free loans. • Increase the skills of the people through training. • Produce ring-slabs locally. • Rewards for good work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial assistance from GoB is inadequate. • Sanitary latrines are not properly supplied by GoB. • No appropriate initiatives and arrangements for awareness generation. • Lack of coordination among grassroots people and local government. • No guarantee that 20% of the ADP is used for sanitation. • Improper enforcement of the laws. • Lack of policy to identify hard-core poor. • Lack of hygiene practice.

Table 4.12: Union: Sultanpur (Jakigonj, Sylhet)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are some health workers, agricultural extension workers and family planning workers who can help. • 75% of the population can make latrine without outside mason if they get ring-slabs. • 42.5% of the population in the area are educated and can make others aware. • There is a ring-slab production centre in the Union. • There are local leaders and Gram Sarkar leaders. • 50% area of the Union is flood-free. • There are enough motivated people to motivate others. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absence of health care facilities in Union level. • Lack of latrines in schools/ madrassas. • Lack of public toilets in the markets. • There is no VDC in the village. • Lack of unity among the villagers. • Lack of cooperation from GoB. • Lack of income-generating activities. • Lack of gender equity. • Lack of sustainable technology. • Lack of opportunity to raise the voices of grassroots people to the top level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGOs can cooperate through consultation. • Bamboo, wood, cane etc. are easily available. • Ensure the participation of the grassroots people for all. • There should be a Village Monitoring Team. • Continuous production of ring-slabs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political pressure to identify hard-core poor. • Non-prioritisation of sanitation during disaster period. • Lack of institutional coordination. • Lack of resources of Union Parishad. • Lack of expertise of Union Parishad. • Union WatSan committee is inactive.

Table 4.13: Union: Nijpat (Jaintapur)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is enough bamboo and sand. • About 60% people have the capacity to build sanitary latrine. • People can work hard. • The people who are aware of sanitary latrine can inform others. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The raw materials for sanitary latrine like stone chips, rod, cement and mason are not available. • The communication system is not developed. • Carrying the pre-fabricated sanitary latrine is expensive. • People of the area are poor. • People are not interested in sanitary latrine. • People are used to using open latrines. • People are unaware of the required maintenance. • Ring-slabs are broken while being transported to remote areas. • Lack of space in the case of hard-core poor. • Lack of knowledge on how to build sanitary latrines. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The hard-core poor people require employment. • Tube or ring wells are necessary for safe drinking water. • The people should participate in awareness generation programs to change their habits. • There should be a latrine exhibition in the village. • Awareness generation campaigns in the villages. • Religious leaders should educate people about sanitation. • Students of schools, colleges and madrassas learn about sanitation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of money. • Lack of GoB funds. • Carrying goods is troublesome work. • Mentality to get things free from Upazila Parishad/ Union Parishad • Ignorance. • Lack of enforcement of sanitation related laws. • Lack of coordination among different GoB departments for implementation of programs. • Lack of follow up and monitoring related to sanitation. • Lack of money in field supervision, monitoring and follow up actions. • Lack of interest of Gram Sarkar Chairman in sanitation related work.

Table 4.14: Union: 5 No. Shankhola (Chunaru ghat, Hobigonj)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80% of the population have the space to build latrine. • 70 % of the population have the capacity to build latrine. • About 75% of the villagers are educated. • People who are aware of sanitary latrine can inform others. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About 20% people do not have space to build latrine. • Some people with the capacity to build sanitary latrine are unaware of the importance of them, for their health and the environment. • Ring-slabs are not easily available. • There is a lack of skilled manpower. • There is no discussion in mosques regarding sanitation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There should be awareness generation program run by the NGOs. • People should be educated. • There should be financial assistance from GoB. • The enforcement of law should be ensured. • Gram Sarkar should be provided with specific responsibilities and these should be monitored. • Set up ring-slab production centres through DPHE/Union Parishad in places where ring-slabs are not available. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poverty. • Lack of awareness. • Concerned people from public health engineering do not motivate others. • Lack of coordination among different governmental departments at field level. • There are no committees focusing on sanitation.

Table 4.15: Union: Fatehpur (Jaintapur)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who are aware can consult with others and make them aware. • People should acquire knowledge on the benefits of sanitary latrine. • People want to learn about sanitary latrine. • The religious leaders should discuss sanitation in the mosques and temples. • Natural calamities like floods and cyclones create awareness about sanitation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of knowledge and education. • Inadequate potable water. • Absence of ring-slab production centres. • Lack of mass campaigning. • There is no coordination between local administration & local people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field workers from GoB should organise motivation program. • Hard core poor should be provided with free latrine. • There should be an extensive awareness generation program. • Safe water should be ensured for all. • Union WatSan committee should be mobilised. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of grants from GoB • Lack of Ward/ Village based ring-slab production centres. • Lack of education focusing on sanitation. • Lack of training. • Natural calamities like floods and cyclones. • Lack of exhibitions on low cost technology in each area.

Table 4.16: Union: Bhunabir (Srimangal)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who know about sanitary latrine and related problems can inform others. • Education can inform people of harmful effects of open latrines. • Discussions on sanitation can be held by the religious leaders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of financial support. • People do not have the technical knowledge about sanitary latrines. • Ring-slabs are not easily available. • People do not understand sanitary latrine. • People are not aware. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Banks/ NGOs can provide financial assistance. • NGOs and GoB officials can educate people about sanitary latrine. • GoB can provide financial assistance to the poor. • Ring-slab production centres should be established by GoB in places where there are no centres. • GoB should formulate specific laws regarding sanitation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific rules or laws on sanitation issues. • People do not know the benefits of sanitary latrine. • Chairman and Members do not make people understand the necessity of sanitary latrines. • Lack of mutual cooperation. • NGOs do not work outside their specific intervened areas. • DPHE is not totally responsible regarding sanitation.

Table 4.17: Union: Ashidron (Srimangal)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People are industrious. • They can provide bamboo, wood etc. • People can learn about sanitary latrines. • Religious leaders can discuss sanitation at the mosques & temples. • Aware people can inform others about sanitation. • There is already a ring-slab production centre. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of financial capacity to buy sanitary latrine. • Lack of extensive awareness generation programs. • Lack of unity. • Lack of participation in motivation program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There should be WatSan committees in secondary schools. • There should be good VDCs. • Financial assistance should be provided by GoB, NGOs, donor agencies & personal initiatives. • There should be effective arrangements to remove open latrines. • There should be laws against open latrine. • There should be a ring-slab production centre established. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of grants from GoB. • Lack of Ward/ Village based ring-slab production centre. • Insufficient campaigns focusing on sanitation. • There are hard-core poor who cannot buy ring-slabs. • Lack of awareness campaigns in the media. • Lack of training and motivation programs.

Table 4.18: Union: East Birgaon (Shunamgonj)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People are industrious. • Communication systems are good. • People are interested in building sanitary latrine. • There are already courtyard meetings. • There are religious leaders who can motivate others. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People are not educated. • Poverty. • Absence of awareness generation program. • Lack of ring-slab production centres at village level. • In mosques & temples, there are almost no discussions on sanitary latrine. • The people have the mentality to take charity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial assistance should be provided by GoB and NGOs. • The hard-core poor should be provided with free latrines. • There should be an awareness campaign in the media. • Safe water should be available for all. • There should be training & motivation programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of co-ordination among people & official workers. • Lack of grants & subsidies from GoB • Recent 2004 floods destroyed many latrines. • Chairman & Members of Union Parishad (UP) are not cordial. • Lack of mutual co-operation.

Table 4.19: Union: Tilagaon (Srimangal)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aware people can inform unaware people on the harmful effects of open latrines. • People can give up idleness. • People can gain technical knowledge. • Chairman and all other aware people can discuss sanitation in their neighbourhood. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of money. • Lack of hygiene practice. • Lack of education. • Lack of mutual cooperation. • Lack of sustainable technology. • People cannot give up their traditional habits. • People are not cordial enough. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Banks/ NGOs can provide financial assistance. • NGOs & GoBs can talk about sanitary latrine. • GoB can provide financial assistance to poor. • Ring-slab production centres should be established by GoB where there are none. • GoB should make laws on sanitation. • People can gain technical knowledge on sanitation through GoB and NGOs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of initiatives from NGOs & GoB • People are not aware. • There are no ring-slab production centres in some areas. • People are not well informed about sanitary latrine. • Shortage of workers to inform people about sanitation. • School teachers do not discuss sanitation.

Table 4.20: Union: Rampasha (Srimangal)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For mass awareness, rallies, miking & meetings are arranged. • People with ideas on sanitary latrine can educate others. • People can acquire knowledge about latrines from the people who know about it. • School teachers & guardians can motivate people on the importance of latrines. • People can buy latrines from places that have goods of a high standard. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hard-core poor cannot buy latrine materials. • The raw materials are not easily available. • People are ignorant about sanitary latrine. • They do not get loans to build sanitary latrine. • People are not interested in development works. • There is lack of skilled masons to build latrines. • There are no discussions in mosques on sanitation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GoB and NGOs should provide financial assistance through loans/grants. • Ensure enforcement of laws from GoB. • Gram Sarkar can be provided with specific responsibilities & these should be monitored. • Standard of the ring-slabs from latrine production centres should be tested by DPHE. • Set up ring-slab production centres through Union Parishad/ DPHE where ring-slabs are not easily available. • Health workers should be more cordial. • NGOs should consult on sanitation at grass root level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latrine production centres are not available in all areas. • People have little idea about sanitary latrine. • There should be more workers to inform people about sanitation. • Lack of enforcement of the law. • NGOs do not discuss with people who are not included in their circle. • DPHE is not duly responsible for sanitation. • Most of the NGOs do not provide loans to build sanitary latrines.

Chittagong Division

5.0 Division: Chittagong

5.1 Summary of Speeches

5.1.1 Grassroots Representative Mr. Sarkar Dulal Das

Mr. Das expressed his notion that proper coordination between GoB and NGOs would pave the way to achieve the National target of 100% sanitation by 2010. To ensure sound health for all, there should be a provision for sanitary latrines. It is known that the current situation in WatSan sector is deteriorating. The poor people should be motivated on hygiene promotion and sanitary latrine. In the slums, GoB should take special initiatives to set up sanitary latrines. He thanked all for being present at the meeting.

5.1.2 Grassroots Representative Mr. Faizullah

Mr. Faizullah expressed that the situation of water supply and sewerage at grassroots level is dreadful for the hard-core poor. Most of the poor people live in relatively low land that is covered with waste, hanging toilets, bees and insects that lead to an unhygienic environment. They use unhygienic hanging toilets and sometimes they dispose of their leftovers in the open land. In most families someone is suffering from water and insect-borne diseases like diarrhoea, dysentery, chicken pox, skin diseases, influenza, fever, jaundice, pneumonia, typhoid or malaria etc. Most of the people living here are day labourers who earn less due to these diseases and hence become poorer.

The grassroots poor people did not know how to prevent diarrhoea 10 years ago. Now they are aware about these diseases and know that they have to take oral saline when they have these diseases. As a result, death due to diarrhoea is greatly reduced. However, there is no proper water supply system here, so they normally collect water illegally and at a higher price. Sometimes, women have to go far to use a toilet and collect water, in these places they sometimes lose their honour or face hazardous situations.

In this situation, to ensure sanitary latrine for all by 2010, the main obstacles are:

1. Identification of landless people.
2. Identification of hard-core poor.
3. Lack of funds.
4. Fear of eviction of the slums.
5. Fires in the slums.
6. Terrorist attacks in slums.
7. Presence of drug dealers.
8. Emergency sanitation arrangements.
9. Lack of required assets and facilities.

5.1.3 Program Coordinator, BRAC Mr. Milan Kanti Barua

Mr. Barua stated that he would discuss the objective of the grass root consultation. At the WSSD in Johannesburg 2002, it was decided to halve the number of the people who do not have access to proper sanitation. Through the word proper sanitation it is meant, setting up of sanitary latrine and ensuring the use and maintenance of sanitary latrine.

In Bangladesh, about 60% people are poor and a large part of the poor are hard-core poor. As a program coordinator, he observed discrimination among poor and rich in many social affairs. About 10 years back people did not know about the causes of diarrhoea. Diarrhoea, cholera, dysentery are all diseases related to WatSan. These diseases affect poor people and as a result they lose their income. By practicing proper sanitation, Tk. 500 crore can be saved. He considers if all the development partners, planners, donor agencies, NGOs, local people work together it would be possible to achieve 100% sanitation coverage before 2010.

There are 2 lakhs mosques with at least 2 lakhs religious leaders working with them. If the religious leaders motivate the people, it would be possible to make them aware on sanitary latrine. As a citizen of this country, the aware people should motivate and assist his/ her neighbour to set up sanitary latrines from the religious perspective. He wished the success of GoB's sanitation program.

5.1.4 Grassroots Representative Mr. Rabiul Hossain

Mr. Hossain stated that the National target of Bangladesh is to achieve 100% sanitation by 2010. In order to achieve the National sanitation target, grassroots consultation meetings have been organised throughout the country. In Chittagong Division 6 districts were covered under the WASH-STREAMS initiative. There were grassroots consultative meetings in 20 wards and in 15 Unions. In the meetings the people identified their problems and needs, and also pointed out their resources and strengths.

It is known that safe drinking water and sanitary latrines are essential for all. But in his area there are no sanitary latrines; all the latrines are unsanitary. People have to collect drinking water after much hardship. To achieve the National and International targets, all GoB and NGOs, donor agencies, local influential people and the general people should work together. The slum dwellers urge GoB for security of accommodation and rehabilitation. They would all try to practice proper sanitation if they are provided with adequate sanitation.

5.1.5 Grassroots Representative Ms. Shahnaz Begum

Ms. Shahnaz stated that in order to lead a healthy life, safe water supply and sanitation is the foremost requirement. In their area there are about 550 households living, but less than 10% of the families have sanitary latrines. Other people defecate in open spaces. As a result water borne diseases are very common for the people, and are increasing every year.

Presently their life in the slums is threatened; they are always afraid of eviction. This is why they cannot practice sanitation in a proper manner. GoB and non-government officials should be cordial enough to rehabilitate them. This would enable them to lead a healthy life and contribute to the economy of the country. Therefore, they request GoB officials to provide them with proper accommodation.

5.1.6 Grassroots Representative Ms. Shova Rani Das

Ms. Shova stated that the grassroots people would always remain busy with their day-to-day activities. They were not aware of WatSan issues because of lack of education. She acknowledges DSK for conducting so many meetings at grassroots levels in Chittagong.

But there are some weaknesses that should be traced and overcome. The weaknesses are:

- Lack of space.
- Poverty.
- Ignorance.
- Lack of awareness.
- Unwillingness of the landlords to provide sanitary latrines.

To overcome this condition, awareness should be raised. People want to seek interest free loans so that 4/5 families jointly would be able to set up a latrine. In the CCC area, the communication system was not well and there was lack of latrines. They need assistance from GoB and NGOs.

5.1.7 Chief, NRC, NGO Forum for DWSS Ms. Shirin P. Biswas

Ms. Biswas stated that grass roots consultation is an initiative of WASH-STREAMS. WASH stands for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, and it is a collaborative program of WSSCC, and STREAMS is a global coalition of water and sanitation resource centres that helps to enrich the knowledge of the people regarding water and sanitation. Through the consultation process the core-group come to know about the sanitation problems faced by the grass root people and as a result they have prepared their work plan accordingly. It is a bottom-up approach where the voices of the poor people are raised at the National level and then at the Regional and International forums.

She also stated the aim and objective of the meeting. Bangladesh is committed to the policies of World Water Summit and the MDGs. Presently, about 240 crore of people in the world do not have access to safe sanitation. One of the MDGs is to halve the number of the people who do not have access to safe sanitation. GoB set a target to achieve 100% sanitation coverage by 2010. In the MDG there are also some indicators like water sanitation hygiene, environmental hygiene etc.

In Bangladesh, about 33% people use sanitary latrine, 25% use unsanitary latrine and 42% do not use latrines at all. In order to attain total sanitation, GoB formed task forces and sub-committees, and arranged various meetings and workshops from the National level to Union level. There were motivation programs at Union and Village levels to encourage people to replace the unsanitary latrines with sanitary latrines. The aim of grass root level consultation was to ensure the active participation of the grass root people to attain the target of total sanitation. The aim of the WASH-STREAMS initiative is to raise the voice of the hard-core poor, to practice the bottom-up planning approach. The grass roots people themselves should identify their problems. For this purpose, there were 3 FGDs in each Union and 10 Union level meetings in each Division. Following the six Divisional meetings a National Convention in Dhaka would be held. At this convention the recommendations from grassroots would be presented. At the end of November, there will be an International Conference in Dakar, Senegal where the opinion of the grassroots people will be discussed. WSSCC and STREAMS are assisting the local people; NRC of NGO Forum is providing the secretariat support to WASH-STREAMS. Additionally there were some core group members who have assisted the program by giving their suggestions from time to time.

GoB has declared to achieve 100% sanitation by 2010. The MDG states to halve the people of the world who do not have access to sanitation. The core-group considers that it is possible to make 100% sanitation coverage by 2010. The NGOs are working in coordination with GoB agencies to attain 100% sanitation coverage. She thanked everyone for being present at the meeting. She thanked the organisers of Chittagong region, PNGOs and grassroots people who participated in the Divisional meeting.

5.1.8 Chief Medical Officer, CCC Mr. Sarfaraz Khan Chowdhury

Mr. Choudhury opined that GoB officials and NGOs should work together in proper coordination to achieve the National sanitation target. Water supply and sanitation involves vast activities. Many years back there were very few buildings in the area. Now there were thousands of buildings in the Division, but the sanitation situation has not improved significantly. Many people are still homeless. They live in the slums where they do not have permanent accommodation. They are always afraid of eviction.

The grassroots consultation is a very timely initiative. The water supply and sanitation condition should be improved. What the grassroots are sharing is vital information for their survival. The poor people suffer from various diseases due to WatSan problems. He thanked the organisers for arranging such a consultative meeting.

5.1.9 Ward Commissioner, CCC Ms. Rabeya Rahman

Ms. Rahman thanked the ladies and gentlemen attending the program on “Sanitation for all”. There are lot of problems that poor people are facing every day. The main problem for the grassroots people is lack of adequate sanitation. At the Divisional meeting the stakeholders came to focus on this problem and to find a concrete solution to this problem. GoB alone cannot solve this problem – all have to be united to find the solution to this problem in a coordinated manner. A large portion of the population is lacking adequate sanitation. For this Ministry of LGRD&C have taken separate steps to achieve sanitation coverage on a top priority basis. The main objective is to ensure safe drinking water and adequate sanitation for all by 2010 and not 2015. To achieve this target GoB-NGO has to provide different types of support to the grassroots people. In this context, they have to arrange health programs for men and women at grassroots level. For example, they have to motivate them to wash their hands, after defecation and before taking food. Additionally, everyone should be motivated to use sanitary latrines to achieve better health and a safer environment.

In the country about 80% people do not use sanitary latrines. People dispose of trash here and there; they are not aware of personal hygiene. For this reason GoB-NGO have to organise a social movement against all odds. One thing they should not forget is that the mere use of sanitary latrines is not enough; people also have to maintain it properly and keep it clean. For instance, they have to use enough water to flush it; they should keep an eye on their children so that they do not eat spoils and not defecate here and there; they should make sure their hands are washed with soap or ash after defecation.

5.1.10 Ward Commissioner, CCC Mr. Shahidul Alam

Mr. Alam considered the meeting regarding WatSan issues to be very important given the present situation. In Chittagong, most of the slums have grown beside the rivers and canals. As a result human faeces from the latrines is being directly discharged into the rivers and polluting the water. So the riverside should be always protected from having latrines. Chittagong WASA has made arrangements for water supply to the city. However, centrally there had been little significant contribution in the field of sanitation.

There should be planning at the National level. The grassroots people should be involved in the process of planning. The slum-dwellers are leading a very poor life. In general, in the entire slums only 2 or 3 latrines are available for more than 500 households. The people with sound health can lead the country to a rich economy. Safe water supply and sanitation are basic human rights. They all should work cooperatively to make a healthy nation.

5.1.11 Executive Director, DSK Dr. Dibalok Singh

Dr. Dibalok stated that through this meeting they attempted to explore the ideas and views of the grassroots people towards attaining the National and International target regarding sanitation. In the country, all GoB initiatives are planned and implemented centrally. A few days back, there was a project implemented by UNICEF and DPHE. However, the project was not implemented by the slum dwellers (target group) rather it was implemented in accordance with the will of the local influential people. If GoB wants to undertake any project for an area, the beneficiaries of the project should be involved from the very beginning of the project. All the central offices of DPHE, WASA, and LGED are located in Dhaka. So it is not possible for them to supervise and monitor all the development projects in the villages or slums. Thus, there should be local organisations to ensure the people's participation.

In the consultative meetings, the grassroots representatives shared their views. He expected that at the National Convention, the concerned GoB officials would be able to learn more about the recommendations of the grassroots regarding WatSan issues. If the poor people were involved in the development process and motivated properly, then all projects would be successful. In the country, each year about Tk. 400 crore is being spent on water-borne diseases. Sanitation should be considered as one of the most important issues for promoting hygiene practice and environmental improvement.

The month of October has been declared as sanitation month. The Divisional consultative meeting should provide the concerned officials with necessary information regarding the sanitation situation at the grass root level. The users themselves would identify the needs and problems, their ideas and views. There should be a political commitment from the local leaders, and the local people should be motivated. In the sanitation sector the minimum targets, as identified, regarding sanitary latrine are the following:

- A person should have a fixed place of defecation.
- 25% of the unsanitary latrines should be converted into sanitary ones.
- There should be provision of free latrines to the hard-core poor, which constitute 20% of the total population. 20% of the Upazila budget should be allotted for this purpose.
- There should be monitoring teams.
- There should be mass campaigning regarding sanitary latrine and cleanliness.
- There should be an awareness generation and a motivation program.

The suggestions of the grass roots people would assist the decision makers to plan and formulate policy successfully. There should be good coordination among GoB and NGOs. He believed that through the participation of grassroots people would be able to attain the target of total sanitation by 2010.

5.1.12 Grassroots Representative Ms. Anjoli Das

Ms. Anjoli, a grass-root representative presented the Divisional declaration regarding sanitation. To achieve 100% sanitation, participation of all GoB-NGOs should be ensured. The recommendations are described below:

- Arrange permanent housing.
- Subsidy for the hardcore poor from the GoB.
- Delivery of required assets.
- Develop drainage systems and connect with sewerage systems.
- Conduct an awareness generation program for the landlords so they ensure hygienic sanitation to the boarders of their house.
- Organise the grass root level people to establish their basic needs.

- Establish good sewerage systems to dispose of household waste and wastewater properly.
- Provide a 6-month notice period to the slum people before uprooting the slums and if possible, then carry out rehabilitation for them.
- Develop plans and maintain funds for a rehabilitation program under the National budget.
- Arrange safe and legal water for the slums.
- Make different sanitation blocks for the girls and the women in the villages or in the slums.
- Arrange hygienic latrines and safe water in the schools.
- Ensure the human right of safe water and sanitation for the villagers and the slum people.
- Build public toilets in the public places like market, bus/train station etc.
- Disseminate health and hygienic messages in the primary schools, madrasa and health centres.

5.1.13 Chairperson of the Meeting & General Sectary, Chittagong Chhinnamul Mr. Shahidul Islam Shahid

Mr. Islam stated, "Water is life"; however, polluted water can destroy life. WASA supplies water to its specified customers. The slum dwellers cannot get connection to water sources from WASA. The low-income people live in the slums and contribute significantly to the economy of the country. However, they are deprived of civic amenities offered by GoB. They have to buy water at a very high rate, from the vendors, for their daily needs such as drinking, bathing, clothes washing, etc. Most of the grass root people in Chittagong are slum-dwellers and they always face the threat of eviction. While they do not have any security of accommodation or enough space to live, it is very difficult for them to practice sanitation properly.

He considers if all the concerned GoB departments, NGOs, donor agencies and the local influential people think cordially of the poor, then their sanitation situation would be improved. The religious leaders should take an initiative in this respect. There should be mass awareness generation and motivation programs. There are some very poor people who live on hand to mouth basis. They should be provided with free latrines from GoB. In the slums, sanitation blocks need to be build. GoB has allotted 20% of the Upazila budget to the sanitation sector. Proper use of the budget should be ensured.

If everyone works together, people would be able to achieve the target of total sanitation before 2010.

5.2 Discussion Groups at Village Level:

**Table 5.1: Village / Area: Syed Shah Road, Ward No.: 17
(Male group)**

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	People did not know about diarrhoea prevention.	They still do not know much about prevention of water borne diseases.	Awareness in the community should be ensured.	1. Lack of awareness. 2. There should be an awareness raising & motivation program implemented through courtyard meetings, co-ordination meetings, FGD, participatory rural appraisal etc.
Sanitation coverage and use	Data not available.	People know about sanitary latrine but there is inadequate number of them.	100% coverage is required to achieve National target.	1. Lack of awareness, lack of coordination between GoB & NGOs, isolation of the hard-core poor from different development activities. 2. Presence of motivation programs. People should be educated. There should be training programs on low-cost technology for sanitary latrines.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Lack of awareness, habitual practice, financial problems. 2. There should be awareness generation programs.

**Table 5.2: Village/ Area: Syed Shah Road, Ward No.: 17
(Female group)**

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	People did not know about diarrhoea prevention.	They still do not know much on prevention of water borne diseases.	Safe hygienic behaviour should be ensured.	1. Ignorance, lack of awareness. 2. There should be awareness raising & motivation programs.
Sanitation coverage and use	Data not available.	Data not available.	Everyone should know the proper use of sanitary latrines, including hygiene messages	1. Lack of awareness, less priority, landlords do not want to set up latrines. 2. People should be made aware of sanitation; landlords should be motivated to set up sanitary latrine. There should be at least one latrine for every 8 households.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Less priority, idleness, lack of awareness, habitual practice. 2. There should be awareness generation programs; landlords should be motivated to maintain latrines.

**Table 5.3: Village / Area: West Bakalia Residential Area, Ward No.: 17
(Mixed group)**

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	People did not know about diarrhoea prevention.	They still do not know much about prevention of water borne diseases.	Safe hygienic behaviour should be ensured.	1. Ignorance, lack of awareness. 2. There should be awareness raising & motivation programs.
Sanitation coverage and use	Data not available.	Data not available.	Everyone should know the proper use of sanitary latrines, including hygiene messages.	1. Less priority, lack of awareness, commercial nature of the landlords. 2. There should be provision of sewerage systems; there should be more ring-slab latrines; landlords should be motivated. CCC should monitor sanitation coverage
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Lack of social pressure, lack of willingness, lack of awareness, idleness. 2. There should be more training programs and awareness generation programs (like rallies, miking, meetings etc.).

**Table 5.4: Village / Area: Bau Bazar, Ward No.: 19
(Male group)**

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	People did not know about diarrhoea prevention.	They still do not know much about prevention of water borne diseases.	Safe hygienic behaviour should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Sanitation coverage and use	Data not available.	Data not available.	100% coverage should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poverty, lack of awareness, habitual practice, less priority, landlords are unwilling to set up sanitary latrines. 2. Landlords and NGOs should set up latrines; LGIs should supply raw materials for sanitary latrine; rich people should provide financial assistance; there should be proper coordination among GoB & NGOs.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ignorance, less priority, idleness, 2. There should be awareness generation programs; latrines with septic tanks & a pipe for emission of sewage gas should be made.

**Table 5.5: Village / Area: Bau Bazar, Ward No.: 19
(Female group)**

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	People did not know about diarrhoea prevention.	They still do not know much about prevention of water borne diseases.	Safe hygienic behaviour should be ensured.	1. Ignorance, poverty, lack of awareness, lack of tube wells, lack of sanitary latrine. 2. There should be awareness raising & motivation programs. Safe drinking water supply should be ensured.
Sanitation coverage and use	Data not available.	Data not available.	There should be one sanitary latrine in every household as well as in public places.	1. Poverty, lack of awareness, illiteracy, presence of hanging & open latrines. 2. There should be awareness generation programs conducted through courtyard meetings, rallies, films, shows, posters etc.; tenants should collectively set up sanitary latrine; no one should use hanging latrine.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Ignorance, less priority, idleness, 2. There should be sense of ownership; people should clean the latrines in turn, they should collectively plan to maintain the latrine.

**Table 5.6: Village / Area: Bau Bazar, Ward No.: 19
(Mixed group)**

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	People did not know about diarrhoea prevention.	They still do not know much about prevention of water borne diseases.	Safe hygienic behaviour should be ensured.	1. Ignorance, poverty, lack of awareness, lack of tube wells, lack of sanitary latrine. 2. There should be awareness raising and motivation programs. Availability of safe drinking water should be ensured.
Sanitation coverage and use	Data not available.	Data not available.	Active monitoring by the NGOs as well as LGIs regarding the proper use of sanitary latrines should be ensured.	1. Illiteracy, less priority. 2. There should be mass campaign on sanitary latrine; landlords should be motivated to set up more latrines. Officials of CCC, local commissioners & dwellers all should work together to set up latrine,
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Ignorance, less priority, idleness, 2. There should be awareness generation programs; latrines with septic tank should be set up; all tenants should collectively plan for maintenance of latrine.

Table 5.7: Village / Area: Gofran Uddin Munsy Colony, Ward No.: 18 (Male group)

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	People did not know about diarrhoea prevention.	Now people know about prevention of illnesses, like diarrhoea.	Safe hygienic behaviour should be ensured.	1. Lack of initiatives from GoB regarding hygiene practice of sanitary latrine, lack of potable water, lack of training programs. 2. Mass awareness generation programs, motivation of people about hygienic practice, proper initiatives from GoB.
Sanitation coverage and use	0%	There are 18 latrines for 138 households.	Proper hygiene behaviour is required.	1. Illiteracy, poverty. 2. There should be mass campaigning on sanitary latrine; there should be provision for interest free loans; GoB should provide free latrines to the poor.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Lack of mutual understanding, lack of unity, lack of education, lack of consciousness. 2. People should know about latrine maintenance; each household should clean latrines in turn.

Table 5.8: Village / Area: Mohammad Yousuf Colony, Ward No.: 18 (Female group)

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	People did not know about diarrhoea prevention.	Now people know about prevention of illnesses, like diarrhoea.	Safe sanitation practise should be adopted by the community.	1. Lack of GoB initiatives regarding hygiene practice of sanitary latrine, inadequate potable water, lack of training programs. 2. There should be mass awareness generation programs, people should not defecate in open places, and they should promote hygiene practice.
Sanitation coverage and use	0%	There are 10 latrines for 66 households.	Every household must have at least one sanitary latrine.	1. Illiteracy, lack of awareness, less priority, poverty. 2. There should be an awareness generation program; unity in community should be improved, there should be provisions for financial assistance, there should be initiatives from local GoB institutions.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured	1. Inter group colony, illiteracy, lack of mutual understanding, lack of unity, ignorance, poverty. 2. Financial assistance, awareness generation programs, more priority.

**Table 5.9: Village / Area: Giasuddin Munsy Colony, Ward No.: 18
(Mixed group)**

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	People did not know about diarrhoea prevention.	Now people know about prevention of the illnesses, like diarrhoea.	Safe sanitation practise should be adopted by the community.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Sanitation coverage and use	0%	There are 12 latrines for 72 households.	100% coverage is required to achieve National target. Need 10 more latrines for the 72 households.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness, less priority, poverty. 2. There should be awareness generation programs. LGIs & local leaders should provide financial assistance to set up sanitary latrines.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Satisfactory.	Maintenance is found to be satisfactory but should be increased to be as per the manual.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Users do not feel a sense of belonging to the area. 2. There should be a motivation program regarding maintenance of latrine. People should develop a sense of ownership and unity within the colony.

5.3 Union Level meetings

Table 5.10: Ward No.: 13 (CCC)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The people have mental strength. • Ample manpower. • They are conscious about their health care. • Unity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of money. • Lack of space. • Lack of mutual co-operation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There should be arrangements from NGOs to help give them training. • Publicity in media to change behaviour and to build a positive message. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fear of eviction. • Threats of gangsters. • Lack of clean drainage systems. • WASA does not fulfil its responsibilities.

Table 5.11: Ward No.: 26 (CCC)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They have mental strength. • Ample manpower. • Unity. • Have training opportunities on “how to keep good health”. • Commissioner helps them. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of money. • Lack of space. • Illiteracy. • People are habituated to defecate in open spaces. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There should be a strong committee. • GoB can provide space to build up sanitary latrine. • 5-10 families can build a sanitary latrine. • Benefits of sanitary latrine can be taught through the media, rallies, meetings etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is difficult to determine where to build sanitary latrine. • Sometimes, terrorists pose threats. • Fear of eviction.

Table 5.12: Ward No.: 11 (CCC)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental strength. • They are conscious about their health. • Unity. • Willingness. • Commissioner helps them. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of training. • Lack of space. • Lack of money. • Lack of literacy. • Lack of mutual co-operation. • Inferiority complex. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Support. • GoB & different NGO's can help them. • Publicity through media. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is difficult to determine where to build sanitary latrine. • Threats of terrorist. • Concern about eviction. • NGO's do not help them.

Table 5.13: Ward No.: 27 (CCC)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unity. • Mental Strength. • Manpower. • Desire for improvement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of money • Lack of space. • Sometimes lack of mutual co-operation. • Lack of awareness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrangement for training & workshops through help of NGOs. • There should be a provision for loans or grants through GoB or NGOs. • Implementation of the law should be ensured. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern about eviction. • Lack of cooperation between the influential people. • Threats of gangsters. • Lack of drainage system. • WASA does not fulfil their responsibility.

Table 5.14: Ward No.: 34 (Monohorkhali, Chittagong)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will-power. • Mental Strength. • Manpower. • Mutual co-operation. • Collection of money from property-owner. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of money. • Lack of space. • Sometimes lack of mutual co-operation. • Lack of awareness. • Lack of water. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landlord can help them. • Commissioner should help them. • GoB & NGOs can help them. • Wealthy people can help them. • GoB can provide space & different facilities. • Relaxing rules & regulations regarding loans. • Long lasting technology. • Donors should help them. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern about eviction. • Lack of cooperation between the influential people. • Threats of gangsters. • Lack of drainage system. • WASA does not fulfil their responsibility.

Table 5.15: Ward No.: 18 (East Bakolia, Chittagong)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management & beneficiaries are good. • Ample manpower. • Landlords of colony are more co-operative. • Local health centre. • Donor support. • Skilled & experienced staff in WaterAid Bangladesh. • Fund collection is possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of hygiene promotion, sanitation & safe water. • Social difference between beneficiaries & project staff. • Long working hours & low self-confidence lead to mental fatigue. • Poor financing. • Lack of literacy. • Ignorance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community people are interested. • Woman participation. • Greater involvement of NGO's. • Special emphasis on WatSan. • Wider focus on environment & health programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political instability. • Natural disasters. • Slum dwellers have no legal tenure. • Corruption/ terrorism. • Overpopulation. • Religious mindset.

Table 5.16: Ward No.: 33 (Shahajipara, Noapara, Takepara, Chittagong)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will-power. • Mental Strength. • Manpower. • Mutual co-operation. • Easy labour. • Unity. • Fund collection. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of water. • Lack of money. • Poor financing. • Lack of literacy. • Excessive ignorance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GoB should provide financial assistance to the poor. • Commissioner should help them. • Helping tendency of neighbourhood leader. • Provision of interest free loans. • Wider focus on environment & health programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political instability. • Natural disasters. • Slum dwellers have no legal tenure. • Corruption/ terrorism. • Overpopulation. • Religious mindset.

Table 5.17: Ward No.: 14 (CCC)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manpower. • Willingness. • Labour is available. • Organisations are present. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of water. • Lack of money. • Poor financing. • Lack of literacy. • Excessive ignorance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance from GoB • Provision of interest free loans. • Assistance from NGOs • Assistance from landlord. • Sustainable technology. • Laws made by GoB. • Financial assistance from donor agencies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political instability. • Natural disasters. • Slum dwellers have no legal tenure. • Corruption/ terrorism. • Overpopulation. • Religious mindset.

Table 5.18: Ward No.: 17 (CCC)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People are aware of arsenic & want to have arsenic free water. • Sometimes, experienced people can repair tube wells. • People are interested in forming WatSan committees. • People have recently become aware about cleanliness. • People can design low cost latrine technology • People are interested in participating in training on cleanliness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local people are of temporary tenure, so cannot engage in WatSan management. • Because of low economic status, people are compelled to stay houses that lack of civic amenities. • People are not organised and also not enough skilled economically. • People are not organised enough to influence landlords regarding sanitation. • People are not aware of the harmful effects of open latrines. • Most of people do not have their own space. • People do have technical knowledge about sanitary latrines. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any development organisation or NGO can work hard. • If a landlord is motivated, he can solve many of the problems. • Landlords sometimes repair tube wells & latrines. • Latrines can be set up at low cost. • People will be interested in using sanitary latrine if they are properly motivated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of sanitary latrines is negligible. • Landowners are not interested to set up sanitary latrine because the slums can be evicted at any time. • As the number of sanitary latrines is few, males & children defecate in open drains. • As landlords live outside the slum, they are not interested in repairing the infrastructure.

Table 5.19: Ward No.: 19 (CCC)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unity. • Cost sharing. • Labour easily available. • Interest in awareness. • Assistance from landowners, NGOs, commissioners, local development committee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local people are of temporary tenure, so cannot engage in WatSan management. • Because of low economic status, people are compelled to stay in houses that lack of civic amenities. • People are not organised and also not enough skilled economically. • People are not organised to influence landlords regarding sanitation. • People are not aware of the harmful effects of open latrine. • Most of the people do not have their own space for building latrines. • People do not have technical knowledge about sanitary latrines. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landowners, NGOs' & local commissioners can provide necessary assistance. • Local organisations & landlords can provide help for infrastructure set-up. • Landlords should provide space to set up infrastructure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of sanitary latrines is negligible. • Land owners are not interested to set up sanitary latrine because the slums can be evicted at any time. • As the number of sanitary latrine is few, males & children defecate in open drains. • As landlords live outside the slum, they are not interested in repairing the infrastructure.

Rajshahi Division

6.0 Division: Rajshahi

6.1 Summary of Speeches

6.1.1 WatSan Coordinator, Plan-Bangladesh Mr. Enamul Haque Mandal

Mr. Mandal expressed that while the people in the world are exploring the universe, people left on earth are engaged in propelling the social movement against open defecation. They should use and maintain the sanitary latrine properly. The coordinated effort of GoB, NGOs and the grassroots people together is required to ensure the achievement of the National target of total sanitation by 2010.

6.1.2 Deputy Executive Director, VERC Mr. Yakub Hossain

Mr. Hossain stated that at the National level there is a target to attain 100% sanitation coverage by 2010. To complement the National target, NGOs are undertaking sanitation related programs. In Bangladesh, about 33% people use sanitary latrine, 25% use unsanitary latrine and the remaining 42% do not use any type of latrine. In Rajshahi Division, Dinajpur district shows the best condition in the sanitation sector. In Dinajpur about 34.2%, and in Bogra about 33.20% of the people, use sanitary latrine, which is above the National level.

Following the water supply and sanitation related MDG, GoB has declared to achieve 100% sanitation coverage by 2010. To achieve the National target, the GoB and NGOs are working together. Through the Village level discussions, the problems and needs of the grassroots people were pointed out and recommendations developed. These recommendations would help the decision makers in policy formulation.

In order to undertake the consultative meeting at the grassroots level, VERC, Unnayan Sahajogy Team (UST), BRAC, Development Association for Self-Reliance Communication and Health (DASCOH) and Plan-BD worked together. There were consultative meetings at Village level and at Union level in Rajshahi, Rajbari, Chapainawabganj, Naogaon districts of Rajshahi Division. There should also be Divisional meetings in Dhaka, Chittagong, Barisal, Khulna and Sylhet. On the 21st of September a National Convention is to be held where different GoB and NGO officials and grassroots representatives would take part. Following the convention there will be Regional and International conferences. The initiative is to be organised by WSSCC and STREAMS; some donor agencies are supporting by conducting the meetings and producing proper documentation.

People should be aware when using the water in the rural areas. In villages, people collect water from rivers and canals, but if people defecate in open places and do not use sanitary latrine, the surface water becomes very polluted and various water-borne diseases affect the people. Through the meetings, the grassroots people have become aware of the demerits of open defecation. In order to implement any project, raising awareness and motivation within the target groups is essential.

He hoped that they would be able to attain the target of 100% sanitation much before the deadline set by GoB. Finally he concluded by thanking everyone present.

6.1.3 Superintendent Engineer, DPHE, Rajshahi Circle Mr. Md. Mustafijur Rahman

Mr. Rahman stated that in Bangladesh about 33% people use sanitary latrines. In the MDG, it is stated to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation. In this respect, GoB has committed to achieve a target of 100% sanitation coverage by 2010. In order to achieve the National target, different NGOs are working together to form an extensive network throughout the country. Everyone should be aware of the adverse effects of unsanitary latrine. Recently the ground water has been found to be contaminated by arsenic. This should be taken into account when designing water systems.

In the country, many children die due to water-borne diseases. A lot of money has been spent in the health sector. People should maintain hygiene practice and cleanliness. Many diseases are spread in faeces. If defecation is done in the open space, the diseases spread easily.

He believes that the target of 100% sanitation coverage is a very good initiative. Through the grassroots consultation, the voices of the poor would be raised to the National level.

6.1.4 Commissioner, Rajshahi Division Mr. Md. Mosleh Uddin

Mr. Mosleh Uddin expressed that the National target of 100% sanitation coverage by 2010 is a good initiative. Responsible and skilled manpower is needed to make this program successful. Last year there was a baseline survey throughout the country to ascertain the current situation. The poor should be provided with financial assistance.

He considers that if the people are aware about health and sanitation, then they would try to set up sanitary latrine themselves. There are initiatives taken by GoB. There are meetings and workshops at the district and divisional level. Very often the opinions of the large populations in the villages are neglected when making plans and taking decisions. But it should be emphasised that no development project would be fruitful without the participation of the target group. NGO-GoB efforts need the cooperation of grassroots people to make the sanitation program a success. The use of unsanitary latrines and hanging latrines lead to environmental pollution. Through the consultative meetings on the current situation of sanitation, the opinion and views of the grassroots people regarding sanitation have been identified. These would help to make decisions and design work plans.

The elected local representatives of the area, with the help of GoB and NGOs, should take the responsibility of making the people aware. Religious leaders and local influential people should cooperate cordially to make the program success. There should be motivation programs regarding the use and maintenance of sanitary latrine.

He considered that with the coordinated effort of concerned people, the country **can** achieve the target of 100% sanitation coverage by 2010.

6.1.5 Executive Director, VERC Shaikh Abdul Halim

Mr. Halim stated that some of the NGOs, health workers, and concerned GoB officials are working for improvement of sanitation condition. Their goal is to achieve 100% sanitation coverage by 2010 and in order to achieve this they have to work sincerely. For example, Kushumba Union of Naoga district has attained 100% sanitation by 2004. In Rajshahi Division, VERC, Plan-Bangladesh, DASCOH, UST and

BRAC were in charge of organising the FGD and Union-level meetings. The findings from the FGDs and Union-level meetings are presented on the poster. He thanked everybody for being present at the Divisional level meeting.

6.1.6 Grassroots Representative, Satgaon, Upazila-Bogra Sadar, District-Bogra Ms. Mukta Begum

Ms. Mukta presented the problems that were identified at her Union level meeting. These are as follows:

- Lack of awareness.
- Less priority on sanitation.
- Mentality to have anything for free.
- Inadequate water sources.
- Poverty.
- Natural calamity.
- Inadequate ring-slab production centres.
- GoB officials not performing their duties regularly.
- People are not aware of the harmful effects of open latrines.
- Lack of provision for loans.
- People habituated to the tradition of open defecation.
- Lack of willingness.
- Lack of knowledge on hygiene practice.
- Lack of mass campaigning.
- People do not know about sanitary latrine.
- The quality of ring-slab is poor.
- High density of population.
- Inadequacy of GoB assistance.
- Illiteracy.
- Idleness.
- Ignorance & negligence.
- Tendency to defecate in open spaces.
- Lack of specific rules regarding sanitation.

The grassroots people opinion on what is required to attain 100% sanitation coverage:

- People should be made aware.
- People should be informed about environmental pollution.
- Campaigns in different media should be ensured.
- Ring-slabs should be provided by Union Parishad.
- Raw materials for sanitary latrine should be provided at low cost.
- Administrative assistance should be ensured.
- Interest-free loans should be arranged.
- Neutral distribution of ring-slabs should be ensured.
- A monthly work plan should be proposed.
- Grassroots people should be by religious, political & influential people.
- There should be discussions in mosques & temples on sanitation.
- The hard-core poor should be provided with free latrines.
- There should be specific rules regarding sanitation.
- All GoB organisations and NGOs should be properly coordinated.
- DPHE and LGED should perform their duties sincerely.
- Union Parishad should assist cordially.
- Ring-slab production centres should be made.
- The local GoB institutes should be involved in sanitation.
- Hygiene education should be introduced in schools.

She summarised the needs as felt by the people:

- Financial assistance.
- Sanitary latrine production centres in each village.
- Assistance from NGOs and local GoB institutes.
- Safe water supply ensured.
- Promotion of hygiene education.
- Interest-free loans provided to the poor.
- To test for arsenic in tube well water.
- Political willingness.
- People inspiration on sanitation related issues.
- Information on sanitation laws and their enforcement.
- Awareness on WatSan issues.
- More volunteers to be involved.
- Mass campaigning to be introduced.

What the people have themselves or strengths:

- Gram Sarkar, Village Development Committee & NGOs are presently working in the area.
- Rich and influential persons in the community.
- Enough space to set up sanitary latrine.
- Enough skilled labour.
- Peoples' willingness.

Outside help that the people can get easily is from:

- NGOs.
- Upazila Parishad, Union Parishad & Gram Sarkar.
- Influential people in the community.
- Teachers, doctors.
- Health workers.
- DPHE/LGED
- Ring-slab production centres.
- Workshop, micro credit.
- GoB grants and subsidies.

The weaknesses that are difficult for the people to change by themselves:

- Poverty.
- Political influence.
- Lack of coordination.
- Lack of employment.
- Natural calamities.
- Mentality to get things for free.
- Large population.
- Behavioural trends.
- Lack of awareness.
- Idleness.

6.1.7 Regional Coordinator, VERC Mr. Tapan Kumar Saha

Mr. Saha from VERC presented the recommendations, which came out as follows:

1. Be united and organised.
2. Survey current situation.
3. Arrange meetings with grassroots people.
4. Form active committees.

5. Plan and distribute duties.
6. Implement and monitor sanitation.
7. Identify laborious and motivated people.
8. Involve religious leaders (Imam), teachers and students.
9. Form strong organisations.
10. Set-up sanitary latrines in each family and ensure its use.
11. Convert unhygienic latrines to hygienic latrines.
12. Promote low-cost latrine technologies.
13. Increase bilateral help like land, labour, money, raw materials for latrines etc.
14. Ensure safe water for all.
15. Fix inoperative tube wells.
16. Ensure arsenic tests in all tube wells.
17. Carefully select sites for set-up of tube wells
18. Ensure cement-layered basement and water availability throughout the year.
19. Set up tube wells from which water is available throughout the year
20. Ensure the maintenance of tube wells and enable proper sewerage systems.
21. Preserve and update ponds and shallow wells in arsenic prone areas.
22. Raise awareness on the personal and environmental benefits of sanitation.
23. Raise awareness on WatSan through cultural programs, courtyard meetings and discussions, in tea stalls and with the children.

6.1.8 Field Officer, DASCOH Ms. Ishrat Jahan

Ms. Ishrat came up with additional suggestions which would help to achieve the target of 100% sanitation coverage. These are given below:

1. Ensure Cooperation from LGIs (Gram Sarkar).
2. Movement for social respect/status.
3. Involve all NGOs working on WatSan.
4. Have Advertisements.
5. Expand sanitation related education.
6. Exchange views with civil society.
7. Ensure sanitation for floating people.
8. Give Extra attention to tribal people.
9. Have Advertisements and implementation of sanitation laws.
10. Provide free latrines to hard-core poor.
11. Set-up public toilets in public places like bus stations, markets etc.
12. Provide Technology suitable for disabled people.
13. Ensure sanitation during natural disasters.
14. Ensure monitoring & evaluation.

6.1.9 Grassroots Representative Mr. Abdul Malek

Mr. Malek, a grassroots representative stated that in the country there are many mosques and temples for different religious people. If the religious leaders discuss sanitation in mosques and temples, sanitation works would receive a great impetus. The students should be motivated to practise safe sanitation in their houses. Safe sanitation practice should be considered prestigious for the household. He thanked the organisers for arranging such an important meeting.

**6.1.10 Senior Health Coordinator, BRAC
Mr. Tapan Kumar Ghosh**

Mr. Ghosh from BRAC stated that one of the MDG is to halve the number of people who do not have access to sanitation by 2015. GoB has declared to achieve 100% sanitation coverage by 2010.

Each Union Parishad should be responsible for sanitation works. There should be extensive campaigns and programs to raise awareness and motivation. There are some tribal people in Rajshahi Division. Sometimes the tribal people are neglected. The disabled people should also be given priority, to ensure sanitation for all. Natural calamities are very common in Bangladesh. Sanitation should be planned considering natural disasters.

There should be proper coordination among GoB, NGOs and donor agencies. People would be able to achieve the target of total sanitation by 2010 if every concerned works together.

6.2 Discussion Groups at Village Level:

Table 6.1: Village: Kittoli, Union: Kushumba

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state at what it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They were not aware of about the problem; so did not practice.	They are now aware but do not practice regularly.	People should be aware of diseases and thereby follow preventive measures strictly.	1. Lack of awareness, workload, less priority, idleness. 2. Promotion of hygiene practice, awareness generation programs run through GoB and NGOs.
Sanitation coverage and use	2% - 5%	From women : 45% From men : 40%-45% From VDC : 20%-25%	100% coverage is required to achieve National target.	1. Lack of awareness, lack of initiatives from LGIs. 2. Interest free loans should be provided; people should be aware of hygiene.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Lack of awareness, poverty, population increase, workload, less priority, idleness. 2. Financial assistance, awareness generation program should be priority.

Table 6.2: Village: Dogachhi, Union: Nejmpur

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state at what it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They were not aware of about the problem; so did not practice.	They are now aware but do not practice regularly.	People should be aware of diseases and thereby follow preventive measures strictly.	1. Lack of awareness, idleness, ignorance. 2. Promotion of hygiene practice, awareness generation programs run through GoB and NGOs.
Sanitation coverage and use	At best 10%.	Almost 20%.	Additional 80% coverage required to achieve National target.	1. Poverty, lack of awareness, temporary inhabitants, unsanitary open drains. 2. Interest free loans should be provided; people should be aware of hygiene practice.
Maintenance of latrines	Below Standard.	All the latrines in the slums are unsanitary.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Poverty, eviction of slums, lack initiatives from GoB, workload, less priority, idleness. 2. Financial assistance, awareness generation program should be priority.

Table 6.3: Village: Bashantapur, Union: Mougachhi

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	20% of the people knew about this.	Many people know how to prevent illness, like diarrhoea but do not practice properly.	People should be aware of diseases and thereby follow preventive measures strictly.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state at what it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Sanitation coverage and use	At best 10%.	Almost 20%.	An additional 80% coverage required to achieve National target.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of financial support, lack of awareness, lack of initiatives from the LGIs. 2. People should be aware of the benefits of hygiene practice. There should be provision for interest free loans.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of initiatives, less priority, idleness, lack of raw materials to maintain latrines. 2. Financial assistance, awareness generation program should be priority.

Table 6.4: Village: Barigram, Union: Shuvadanga

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea.	They were not aware of how to prevent diseases like diarrhoea.	Many people know but do not practice properly.	People should be aware of diseases and thereby follow preventive measures strictly.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state at what it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Sanitation coverage and use	10%.	25%.	An additional 75% coverage required to achieve National target.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poverty, lack of habit, ignorance. 2. Introduction of low cost technology to build sanitary latrines, interest free loans.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	All the latrines are open and unhygienic.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Temporary inhabitants, lack of initiatives from LGIs, eviction of slums, ignorance. 2. Financial assistance, awareness generation program should be priority.

Table 6.5: Village: Bhoanipur, Union: Boalia

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state at what it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea.	They had no knowledge about how to prevent diseases like diarrhoea.	Now many people know about this and try to follow preventive measures.	Safe hygienic behaviour should be ensured.	1. Poverty, ignorance, idleness, lack of money. 2. Awareness generation and motivation programs about hygiene practice, specific rules on sanitation.
Sanitation coverage and use	Very few people used sanitary latrines.	A number of people now use sanitary latrines but still the percentage is not satisfactory.	An additional 90% coverage required to achieve National target.	1. Lack of cooperation by male members, poverty, ignorance. 2. Mass publicity, introduction of low cost technology to build sanitary latrine.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	All the latrines are open and unhygienic.	Immediate interventions by community people should be adopted.	1. Transportation problems, lack of money, eviction of slums, ignorance. 2. Training and motivation programs, interest free loans should be priority.

Table 6.6: Village: Domanpukur, Union: Majhira

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state at what it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea.	They did not know much about this.	Now many people know but do not practice properly.	People should be aware of diseases and thereby follow preventive measures strictly.	1. Lack of awareness, illiteracy, idleness. 2. Awareness generation and motivation of people about hygiene practice.
Sanitation coverage and use	Very few people had sanitary latrines and they did not use them regularly.	The percentage of users is not satisfactory.	100% coverage is required to achieve National target.	1. Lack of proper education, less priority, unavailability of VSCs. 2. More VSCs should be formed with monetary support from the GoB/ NGOs, There should be mass motivation program.
Maintenance of latrines	Below Standard.	Below Standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Lack of initiatives, idleness, lack of volunteers. 2. Provision of interest free loans, institutional assistance from Union Parishad.

Table 6.7: Village: Amtoli, Union: Fulbari

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state at what it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea.	Very few people knew about these diseases and did not know how to prevent it.	Now people are aware about the problem but still not improving their sanitary practices.	Proper use of sanitary latrines should be ensured.	1. Over population, floods, lack of awareness, illiteracy, idleness. 2. Discussion sessions by the religious leaders in mosques and temples to generate awareness, strong initiatives needed by the LGIs.
Sanitation coverage and use	10% coverage.	22% coverage.	An additional ~80% coverage required to achieve National target.	1. No loan facilities, tendency to get everything for free. 2. Extensive motivation programs, loan facilities, introduction of low-cost sanitation technology.
Maintenance of latrines	Below Standard.	Below Standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Lack of initiatives, inadequate GoB assistance, and idleness. 2. Program on maintenance should be focused and made public, provision of interest free loans, more LGI involvement.

Table 6.8: Village: Bhanduria, Union: Gunahar

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state at what it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea.	They did not have ideas about these diseases, so they took it lightly.	People are still reluctant though they are now aware of the problem.	Safe sanitation practice should be adopted by the community.	1. Lack of knowledge, over population, floods, illiteracy, idleness, lack of mass awareness building programme. 2. Mass awareness generation program, strong involvement of the LGIs.
Sanitation coverage and use	Very few people used to use sanitary latrines.	The coverage is still not satisfactory.	Proper use of sanitary latrines should be ensured.	1. Lack of grant and subsidy for sanitation materials, VSCs are unavailable. 2. Interest free loan facilities, introduction of low-cost sanitation technology, mass awareness building program.
Maintenance of latrines	5%.	Below Standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Less priority, lack of initiatives, reluctant to change practise, idleness. 2. Training programs on O&M, more LGI involvement, awareness program by the local leaders.

6.3 Union Level Meetings:

Table 6.9: Union: Nezampur

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People can work hard. • Willingness to work. • Raw materials to set up latrine are available. • People interested in educating others. • People have mentality for mutual cooperation. • There are masons to set up tube wells. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some people are poor. • Some people do not have space to set up latrine. • People are not aware of hygiene. • Lack of education. • Inadequate tube wells. • Few people discuss sanitation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNO can provide tube wells. • NGOs can support sanitation work. • LGED can provide latrine & tube well. • Influential people in the area can provide financial assistance & raw materials. • People may know about cleanliness from Upazila health workers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of awareness. • Poverty. • Lack of space. • Inadequate tube wells. • People are habituated to defecate in open places.

Table 6.10: Union: Shuvadanga

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People have space. • Raw materials like bamboo, wood are available. • Willingness to work. • Enough manpower. • People have unity • It is possible to locate safe water sources locally. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discrepancy between poor and rich regarding sanitation. • Local leaders are not cordial enough to set up sanitary latrine. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GoB should provide financial assistance. • NGOs should help to generate awareness. • DPHE should arrange training. • There should be VDCs in the villages. • LGIs should be active. • Proper implementation of National management plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of education. • Lack of technical skill. • Lack of money. • Lack of proper management of local resources. • Lack of awareness.

Table 6.11: Union: Mougachhi

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People have space & money to set up latrine. • Those who know about latrines can give advice to others. • People are willing to work in unity. • Most people have raw material like bamboo, wood etc. • Scope to communicate with UP, GoB & NGOs. • People are willing to partially pay for tube well installation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rich people do not want to help others. • Due to resource constraints, people can not install tube wells alone. • Local GoB institutes cannot work independently due to budget constraints. • No scope to communicate with high officials. • Lack of awareness. • Lack of ring-slab production centres in the area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is GoB khas land in the Union. • Different NGOs can help to generate awareness. • Union Parishad can help to construct roads. • Different NGOs can provide training on sanitation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bureaucratic problems. • Lack of equal distribution.

Table 6.12: Union: Kushumba

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People are interested in setting up sanitary latrine. • People can form different committees. • People can conduct surveys. • Local raw materials such as bamboo and wood are available. • People can work on cooperative basis. • Presence of technical knowledge to set up sanitary latrine. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of awareness. • Lack of money (in some cases). • Ignorance. • Lack of training. • People are habituated to defecate in open places. • Lack of unity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GoB can provide financial & technical assistance. • DPHE can monitor. • Different NGOs can make people aware of sanitary latrine & motivate people to use it. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poverty. • Traditional habit to defecate in open places. • Lack of knowledge on hygiene practice. • Many sanitary latrines are destroyed due to floods. • Ignorance.

Table 6.13: Union: Varatkhali and Muktinagar

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labour. • Willpower. • Bamboo, spades & rags. • In some cases, space. • Different service providing NGOs. • UP & LGED present. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of funds. • People are not always united. • Sometimes space is needed. • Mass publicity is required. • Lack of raw materials to build sanitary latrine. • Absence of training and VSC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UP represents local people. • LGED & DPHE can work together. • Rich people of the society can help the poor. • Thana Nirbahi Officer (TNO), DC & MP can motivate people. • Gram Sarker can help a lot. • UNICEF & other donor agencies can help. • School teachers & students can also motivate many people. • Mosques & temples can play a significant role in terms of motivating people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of finances. • Problem with supply of raw materials. • Communication problems. • Lack of education. • Natural calamities. • Unemployment. • High cost of external help. • Lack of consultancy by appropriate agencies. • Lack of co-operation by male members. • Transportation problems.

Table 6.14: Union: Boalia

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every UP member can formulate an advocacy team, at Ward level, to support with WatSan issues. • People can help VDCs by listing the present condition of their Village/Ward. • Elite people can link with potential teachers such as Imam & school teachers. • People can select 1 or 2 people to develop their skills on various latrine making techniques. • People can link with DPHE office at Thana level. • People can easily provide motivation to grant holders. • UP can set up a ring-slab production centre at UP complex. • UP can install 1 or 2 latrines. • UP members can support VDC's plan. • UP complex can be used for conducting meetings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People need financial help. • People are not always united. • Sometimes space is needed. • Large-scale publicity is required. • Lack of raw materials to build sanitary latrine. • Absence of training and VSC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training to develop locally skilled people on sanitation technology. • Financial support to set up ring-slab centre at UP complex. • Latrines supplied by GoB to the Union Parishad. • Funds for latrine demonstrations at UP complex. • Strengthen the present UP capacity. • Have Union level person from NGO & GoB at UP on a monthly basis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of finances. • Problem with supply of raw materials. • Communication problems. • Lack of education. • Natural calamities. • Unemployment. • High cost of external help. • Lack of consultancy by appropriate agencies. • Lack of co-operation by male members. • Transportation problems.

Table 6.15: Union: Majhira

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gram committee has been formed. Manpower is available. Gram Sarkar will help people. NGOs are present here. Different sources of micro credit are available. Space is available. Willingness to work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poverty. Lack of volunteers. Scarcity of raw materials for sanitary latrine. Lack of good communication systems. Lack of knowledge about specific rules and regulations regarding loan facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UP should provide institutional help. NGOs can train people on sanitation. Rich people can help the poor. School teachers can motivate the students & guardians on sanitation. Religious leaders should discuss sanitation in mosques & temples. Village doctors should instruct people on sanitation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Political hindrance. Asset less people. Hard-core poor people. Hostile attitude of LGIs. Lack of employment. Non-cooperation among people.

Table 6.16: Union: Fulbari

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enough space is available. People are educated. Manpower is available. Bamboo for construction is available. Ring-slabs are available. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of awareness. Absence of loans. Poverty. Tendency to accept charity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UP should provide administrative support. NGOs should run awareness generation & motivation programs. Religious leaders should discuss sanitation with people. Clubs can provide volunteer services. Different CBOs and influential persons should motivate people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poverty. Political problems. Overpopulation. Floods. Hostile attitude of people.

Table 6.17: Union: Gunahar

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manpower is available. Presence of ring-slab production centre. Provision for interest free loans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poverty. Lack of awareness. Lack of mutual help. Lack of mass education campaigns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NGOs can assist in sanitation. UP can provide assistance. Individual initiative. Gram Sarkar can provide necessary assistance. Religious leaders can discuss sanitation in the mosques. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People are habituated to traditional sanitation practices. People are dependent on others. Lack of education. Ignorance. Lack of initiative. Idleness. Lack of knowledge on hygiene practice.

Table 6.18: Union: Kundagram

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skilled manpower is available. • People have willingness to work. • Chairman and Members of UP can help people. • Ring-slab production centres are available. • Bamboo & tin for construction are available. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of space. • Lack of provision for loans. • Lack of grants & subsidies. • Poor communication systems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DPHE should provide technical assistance. • Civil society should motivate people regarding sanitation. • Gram Sarkar & UP members should instruct the local people. • CBOs should help to set up sanitary latrine. • NGOs should arrange for training & motivational programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of space. • Poverty. • Lack of specific laws regarding sanitation issues. • Political problems. • Ignorance. • Inadequate GoB assistance.

Barisal Division

7.0 Division: Barisal

7.1 Summary of Speeches

7.1.1 DPHE-DANIDA Ms. Khorsheda

Ms. Khorsheda stated that when the NGOs started DPHE-DANIDA project in 1997, sanitation was not given importance. Their aim was that those who are provided with water supply facilities should be motivated to practice proper sanitation; however, the benefits from sanitary latrine would not be achieved if the neighbours do not have a sanitary latrine. Taking this into account it was decided that an extensive campaign on sanitation was required in order to achieve GoB sanitation target. DPHE-DANIDA currently has sanitation projects in 20 Upazilas of Barisal, Patuakhali, Pirojpur, Jhalakathi, and Barguna districts in the Barisal Division. They expected to expand their sanitation activities in other Upazilas of the 5 districts from July 2005.

Through grassroots consultation and fieldwork it has been found that there were many significant aspects of sanitation, but the people should be motivated to utilise the most effective aspects. Ms. Khorsheda considers in this respect, schools should be given high priority. If school authorities provide necessary support, then it would be easy to achieve the National sanitation target. Union Parishad should be very cordial in performing their duties regarding sanitation. In 2003, Union Parishad conducted a baseline survey that required no extra cost or manpower. Through proper coordination of all GoB agencies and NGOs, it would be possible to achieve the target of 100% sanitation by 2010.

7.1.2 Deputy Commissioner, Barisal District Mr. Syed Abul Kalam

Mr. Kalam reflected that health, education and housing are the basic needs. Sanitation should be considered as a prerequisite for proper housing. There are poor people in the community; they should be provided with financial assistance. Everyone should be motivated to use sanitary latrine. There should be awareness raising programs. Water supply and sanitation should be given high priority. The hazardous effects of using open latrines should be pointed out to the people. Open latrines spread germs and pose a threat of diseases to everyone, including those who use a sanitary latrine. Irrespective of income level, sanitary latrines should be made compulsory for all. The hard-core poor should be given free ring-slabs. There should be a mutual understanding between the people. GoB, NGOs and the grass root people should work together to attain the National sanitation target.

Recently, 20% of Annual Development Program has been allocated for sanitation. However, it is not sufficient; the rich people of the society should assist the poor through donations. He thanked the organisers for arranging a timely meeting.

7.1.3 Commissioner, Barisal Division Mr. Abdul Quddus

Mr. Quddus stressed that the policy of the present GoB show how committed they are towards ensuring safe water supply and sanitation for all. GoB has declared to achieve the target of 100% sanitation coverage by 2010. GoB should provide financial assistance to the poor. The villagers are interested to use sanitary latrine but they do not have the technical knowledge to build a sanitary latrine, and sometimes they are not aware of sanitary latrine. Through workshops, the grassroots people should be informed about the use and maintenance of sanitary latrines. The very first step when planning sanitary

latrines for all should be surveyed determining which households have sanitary latrine and which do not. The GoB conducted a baseline survey in 2003, through which the commitments could be realised. GoB has also made guidelines to provide financial assistance to the people depending on their income category. Through the coordination of GoB, NGOs, developing agencies and International donors, it would be possible to achieve the target of total sanitation by 2008.

He considers that it is first required to make the poor villagers aware of sanitation. There should be awareness raising events like meetings, rallies, and campaigns regarding hygiene and sanitation. Union Parishad and Gram Sarkar should cooperate cordially. Both urban and rural areas should be given the same priority. He considered that if everyone concerned works together they would be able to achieve the National target of sanitation by 2010.

7.1.4 Gender Consultant, Dhaka Ahsania Mission Ms. Rubina Islam

Ms. Rubina stated that GoB has declared to achieve 100% sanitation coverage by 2010. GoB agencies, NGOs and grassroots people should work together to attain the target. As a part of this program, grassroots consultations were arranged throughout the nation. WSSCC and STREAMS have taken the initiative of having grassroots consultation; WSSCC is a networking organisation in water supply and sanitation. NGO Forum is acting as the coordinator of STREAMS in Bangladesh. Additionally there was a core group to organise the activities of the NGOs at the field level.

One of the MDGs is to halve the number of people who do not have access to safe sanitation by 2015. In Bangladesh, GoB has set a target to achieve 100% sanitation by 2010. Currently in Bangladesh, 33% people use sanitary latrine, 25% use unsanitary latrine and 42% defecate in open places. In Barisal, the sanitation condition is better than the National scenario. The National work plan for sanitation includes the following: formation of a task force and sub-committee; arrangement of district and Divisional workshops; planning at Union and Upazila level; replacement of unsanitary latrine by Union Parishad and Gram Sarkar. The working schedule has been made for both National and grassroots level. There should be motivational programs, courtyard meetings, publicity in the mass media, rallies, meetings, sanitation exhibitions, etc. The objective of the grassroots work plan was to ensure people's participation and to attain the sanitation target of MDG and the National goal.

The ideas, opinions and voices of the grassroot people would be raised to the National and International level through these grassroots consultation meetings. There were FGDs at Village level, and then there were consultative meetings at Union and Divisional level. The people should be properly motivated. Bangladesh is a developing country and about 80% people live in rural area. So the voice of the villagers should be given due priority. The policy makers at the central level will be able to learn the needs and potential of the grassroots people, and hence, the decisions at policy level will be appropriate for the target group. In the meetings, the needs and potentials of the grass root people were identified and their recommendations documented. She thanked everybody for being present.

7.1.5 Grassroots Representative Mr. Kazi Golam Mostafa

Mr. Mostafa considered that through the coordinated effort of people, at all levels, it is possible to achieve 100% sanitation before 2008. Awareness generation and people's participation is the foremost condition for ensuring sanitation for all. He presented the weakness as felt by the grass root people in his Union. They are as follows:

1. Lack of financial support.
2. Lack of technical knowledge on low cost sanitary latrine.

3. Ring-slabs are not easily available.
4. People are not aware.
5. People cannot give up their traditional habits.
6. People are not cordial enough.
7. Lack of institutional support from GoB and NGOs.

7.1.6 Executive Director, CHDP, Golachipa, Patuakhali Mr. Md. Omar Faruk

Mr. Faruk from CHDP (Community Health and Development Program) opined that there should be good coordination among GoB, NGOs, donor agencies and development organisations. The local representatives should discuss sanitation; there should be discussions on sanitation in the mosques, temples and schools. There should be awareness raising and motivational programs. The hard-core poor should be provided with free ring-slabs. There should be training on building and maintenance of sanitary latrines. In the slums, sanitation blocks should be built to ensure sanitation. He considered that people would be able to attain the National target of total sanitation coverage before 2010, and concluded by giving thanks to all.

7.1.7 Representative, BRAC, Barisal Division Shah Alam

Representative from BRAC, Barisal gave an account of his own experience. He stated that the Union Parishad should be responsible for coordination of all GoB and NGO activities at the grassroots level. All NGOs should be involved in order to achieve the target of 100% sanitation coverage, as set by GoB. The NGOs should be responsible for raising awareness and motivation works. The NGOs should always be ready to provide necessary help, as requested by the local GoB institutes. There should be monitoring committees to inspect the sanitation works. He considered that Bangladesh would be able to attain the target of 100% sanitation by 2010.

7.1.8 UNICEF Mr. Tarique

Mr. Tarique from UNICEF gave an account of his experience. He stated that the aim of the meeting is to raise the voice of the grassroots to the National level. According to the MDG, it is declared to halve by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation. Furthermore GoB has declared to achieve 100% sanitation coverage by 2010. To complement GoB activities, NGOs are working sincerely. There were grass root consultations at Village and Union level. Through these meetings, the ideas and concepts of the local people regarding sanitation were shared. People identified their needs and opportunities. He considered that if all the people work together, it is possible to achieve the target of total sanitation coverage, in Barisal Division, much before 2010.

7.1.9 Project Officer, UNICEF Ms. Afroza Ahmed

Ms. Afroza from UNICEF commenced by saying that she was very glad to participate at the Barisal Division meeting. The sanitation condition in Barisal Division was better than the other Divisions of Bangladesh, and the condition was worst in Rajshahi Division. The sanitation situation was the best in Jhalakathi district. The grassroots consultations on sanitation were a very important and timely

requirement. In Jhalakathi, 92% people use latrines; sanitary or unsanitary. She considered this as a great achievement because at least people are motivated to use latrines. Through proper awareness and motivational programs, all latrines would be converted into sanitary latrines. People should learn how to achieve 100% sanitation coverage from the Villagers who became successful in this respect. The local people are the leaders, who implemented the program of total sanitation. She thanked everyone for participating in the Divisional meeting.

7.1.10 Chairperson, Press Club, Barisal Ms. Mehrunnesa

Ms. Mehrunnesa reflected on the status of Barisal Division, which was best compared to other Divisions in the country; she felt proud of this. She also expected that people would be able to achieve the National target, of total sanitation coverage, much before 2010. If every concerned works together, they would be able to succeed; therefore they all should contribute as much as possible. She said that everyone in the society, irrespective of their status and level, should participate in the sanitation program. The people of Barisal Division would become an example to others by achieving the 100% sanitation coverage within a very short time. She wished success of the program.

7.1.11 Chief Executive, Barisal City Corporation (BCC), Barisal Mr. Nuruddin Kamal

Mr. Kamal stated that the Divisional meeting was very important because it provided the required feedback to achieve the National target of total sanitation by 2010. In Barisal City there are 10,000 unsanitary latrines, as found by the baseline survey conducted in 2003. He considered that it is difficult for the City Corporation alone to supply raw materials for sanitary latrines. GoB departments and different NGOs should provide both financial and technical assistances. The month of October has been declared as "Sanitation month". The people are now becoming aware of sanitation. Everyone should work together to achieve the target of 100% sanitation coverage.

7.1.12 Member of Union Parishad, Upazila-Betagi, District-Barguna Ms. Peyara Begum

Ms. Peyara a local representative spoke on behalf of the 5,500 people in her Union. She stated that the participants discussed different aspects of sanitation in the meetings; hence, she gained many important ideas. All people concerned should share ideas and views from the meetings and inspire the people to practise safe sanitation.

She discussed a specific guideline of GoB. There is provision for one tube well for every ten households. She considered that this is suitable for urban areas, but it is not appropriate for rural areas. In rural areas, sometimes the houses are widely spread out. Ten households may be situated over more than two miles. So, in such cases a distance factor should be taken into account. Safe water supply should be secured first. Gram Sarkar should be efficient in performing their duties. There should be good coordination among Union Parishad, Upazila Parishad and different NGOs. The local leaders should motivate the people. Recently GoB has allocated 20% of the ADP for sanitation. There should be a monitoring committee to inspect the sanitation activities.

Realising the significance of sanitation, GoB has set a target to attain 100% sanitation coverage by 2010. Wishing success of the sanitation program, she thanked everybody for arranging such an important consultative meeting.

7.2 Discussion Groups at Village Level:

Table 7.1: Village: Vairampur, Union: Kadamtala

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know about diarrhoea prevention.	Now many people know about preventive measures.	Proper use of sanitary latrines should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be target?
Sanitation coverage and use	Very few people used sanitary latrine.	Now many people use sanitary latrine. The number is not up to satisfactory level.	100% coverage is required to achieve National target.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness, poverty, lack of education, lack of skilled masons, less priority, low standard of ring-slab production, inadequate communication system, lack of specific rules & regulations regarding sanitation. People are accustomed to traditional behaviour. 2. There should be discussions in mosques & temples, LGIs should give more priority to sanitation, there should be mass awareness generation & motivation programs, people should be aware about the benefits of hygiene practice. Financial assistance should be provided.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness, idleness, workload. 2. There should be training programs and awareness generation program on sanitation. Monitoring teams should inspect sanitation conditions. Motivation programs on maintenance should be presented in the media.

Table 7.2: Village: Chakha, Union: Chakhar

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know about diarrhoea prevention.	Now many people know about preventive measures.	Safe sanitation practice should be adopted by the community.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ignorance, poverty. 2. Literacy, mass awareness generation program, motivation of people about hygienic practice.
Sanitation coverage and use	Very few people used sanitary latrine.	Now many people use sanitary latrine, however the number is not up to the satisfactory level.	Every household must have at least one sanitary latrine.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. People can not give up traditional habits, lack of awareness, lack of initiatives from LGI; idleness, lack of specific rules & regulations regarding sanitation, local leaders are not cordial enough. 2. There should be mass awareness generation & motivation programs, NGOs should work on sanitation; GoB should provide financial assistance, sanitation should be prioritised.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ignorance, poverty, idleness. 2. Motivation program on maintenance in mass media. There should be specific laws & a monitoring team for inspection of sanitary latrines.

Table 7.3: Village: Haridrapur, Union- Guthia

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know about diarrhoea prevention.	Now many people know about preventive measures and try to follow.	People should be aware of diseases and thereby follow preventive measures strictly.	1. Lack of awareness; ignorance, lack of money. 2. Specific rules on sanitation, generate awareness & motivate people about hygiene practice.
Sanitation coverage and use	Very few people used sanitary latrine.	Now many people use sanitary latrine, however the number is not up to satisfactory level.	Everyone should know the proper use of sanitary latrines, including hygiene messages.	1. Poverty, ignorance, tendency to accept charity, lack of skilled masons, unaware of benefits of sanitary latrine, local leaders do not emphasise sanitation. 2. There should be a mass awareness generation and motivation program. GoB and NGOs should provide financial assistance, local and religious leaders should discuss sanitation with people.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Workload, idleness, lack of awareness, less priority. 2. There should be mass media campaign to make the people aware; monitoring teams should be formed to inspect the condition of sanitary latrines.

Table 7.4: Village: Kagashura, Union- Char Baria

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know about diarrhoea prevention.	Now many people know about preventive measures and try to follow.	Safe sanitation practice should be adopted by the community.	1. Lack of awareness, ignorance, lack of time; idleness, lack of importance, not habituated. 2. Mass awareness generation program; motivation of people towards hygiene practice. Needs to be more committees, more social movements.
Sanitation coverage and use	Very few people used sanitary latrine.	Now many people use sanitary latrine, but still not up to satisfactory level.	100% coverage should be ensured.	1. Lack of funds to make hygienic latrine; lack of importance; lack of awareness. 2. Set-up new latrines for free or at low cost, fund raising, develop an action plan, set-up factory for latrine production.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Hard poverty, lack of awareness, lack of social pressure, idleness, lack of desire to change habits. 2. Keep clean for hygienic environment, campaign on maintenance; involve local leaders at all levels.

Table 7.5: Village: South Taktabunia, Union: Haldia

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know that much and so did not practice.	They know about diseases and preventive measures but sometimes fail to follow it properly.	People should be aware of diseases and thereby follow preventive measures strictly.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Sanitation coverage and use	Very few people used sanitary latrine. Some people had sanitary latrine but they only used it occasionally.	Now the number of people using sanitary latrines has increased; but it needs to be further increased.	There should be one sanitary latrine in every household as well as in public place.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness, lack of education, lack of space, lack of initiatives from LGs, idleness, less priority, lack of availability of ring-slabs 2. There should be enough ring-slab production centres in each area, people should be aware about benefits of hygiene practice. GoB initiatives should be taken.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness, workload, less priority. 2. There should be more training programs as well as awareness generation programs.

Table 7.6: Village: Vangra, Union: Aamkhola

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know that much and so did not practice.	Now they are becoming aware of these matters but do not practise sincerely.	Proper use of sanitary latrines should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be
Sanitation coverage and use	Very few people had sanitary latrine.	Now the number of sanitary latrine users have been increased.	Active monitoring by the NGOs as well as the LGIs regarding the proper use of sanitary latrines should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness, lack of money, lack of education, lack of initiatives from LGIs, idleness, lack of understanding regarding sanitary latrine, inadequate ring-slab production centre. 2. People should be aware of the benefits of hygiene practice. There should be enough ring-slab production centres in the area. There should be initiatives from GoB.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard..	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness, lack of education, less priority. 2. There should be more training programs and awareness generation programs (like rallies, miking, meetings etc.).

Table 7.7: Village: Middle South Hosnabad, Union: Hosnabad

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know about diarrhoea prevention.	They are becoming aware of these matters through NGOs.	Safe sanitation practice should be adopted by the community.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Sanitation coverage and use	Very few people had sanitary latrine.	Recently due to several NGOs in the area many people use sanitary latrine.	Proper use of sanitary latrines with hygiene behaviour should be followed.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness, lack of money, lack of education, lack of initiatives from LGIs, idleness, lack of understanding regarding sanitary latrine, inadequate ring-slab production centres. 2. People should be aware of the benefits of hygiene practice. GoB should provide financial assistance. There should be enough ring-slab production centres in the area; there should be initiatives from GoB.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Less priority, lack of awareness, lack of education, 2. There should be more training and awareness generation programs (like rallies, miking, meetings etc.).

Table 7.8: Village: West Subidkhali, Union: Subidkhali

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know much and so did not practice.	Now many of them know, through mass media and NGOs, but they still do not practice properly.	Safe hygienic behaviour should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Sanitation coverage and use	Very few people used sanitary latrine.	Now many people use sanitary latrine, however the number is not up to the satisfactory level.	100% coverage is required to achieve National target.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness, ignorance, lack of money, idleness. 2. Mass awareness generation program, proper laws on sanitation, motivation of people about hygiene practice.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness, ignorance, lack of space, lack of initiatives from LGIs, idleness, improper communication systems, no ring-slab production centres, lack of specific rules and regulations regarding sanitation. 2. There should be mass awareness generation and motivation programs, enough ring-slab production centres, people should be aware about benefits of hygiene practice. GoB initiatives should be taken.
				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness, workload, less priority. 2. There should be more training and awareness generation programs on sanitation. Motivation program on maintenance should be publicised in mass media.

Table 7.9: Village Middle Vandaria, Union: Vandaria

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know about diarrhoea prevention.	Now many people know about preventive measures and try to follow.	Safe sanitation practice should be adopted by the community.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Sanitation coverage and use	Very few people used sanitary latrine.	Now many people use sanitary latrine, but the number is not up to the satisfactory level.	Every household must have at least one sanitary latrine.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness, low quality ring-slabs, lack of initiatives from LGIs, idleness, improper communication system, no ring-slab production centres, lack of specific rules and regulations regarding sanitation. 2. There should be mass awareness generation and motivation programs, enough ring-slab production centres, people should be aware about benefits of hygiene practice. GoB initiatives should be taken.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness, high workload, less priority. 2. There should be more training and awareness generation programs on sanitation. Motivation programs on maintenance in mass media.

Table 7.10: Village: West Aaura, Union: Kathalia

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know about diarrhoea prevention.	Now many people are well aware of preventive measures but fail to follow properly.	Safe hygienic behaviour should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be
Sanitation coverage and use	Very few people used sanitary latrine.	Now many people use sanitary latrine, but the number is not up to the satisfactory level.	Everyone should know the proper use of sanitary latrines, including hygiene messages.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness, ignorance, lack of money. 2. Mass awareness generation program, motivation of people about hygiene practice.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness, workload, less priority. 2. There should be mass awareness generation and motivation programs and enough ring-slab production centres. People should be aware about benefits of hygiene practice. GoB initiatives should be taken.

7.3 Union Level Meetings:

Table 7.11: Union: Haldia

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aware people can educate others on benefits of sanitation. • Can give up idleness. • There can be discussion before the prayer of 'Jummah'. • The people can gain technical knowledge from the people who have it. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The hard-core poor people cannot afford sanitary materials. • People do not have technical knowledge on sanitary latrine. • The raw materials are not available in the area. • People are ignorant about the adverse effects of open latrines. • Lack of education. • The Chairman and Members do not take effective initiatives. • Absence of distinct rules. • There are no discussions in the mosques and temples. • Not all the NGOs educate on sanitary latrine. • The day labourers do not participate in the meetings. • The production centres do not make good quality ring-slabs. • People cannot easily change their habits. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GoB and NGOs can provide financial assistance. • The Chairman and Members should be cordial enough to make the people understand. • Information about sanitation can be taught by house to house campaign. • DPHE should specify the standard value for ring-slabs. • There should be a production centre in each Ward, under the supervision of Union Parishad. • The teachers should be instructed through the Ministry of Education and relevant authority to discuss sanitation with the students and guardians. • GoB should subsidise or exempt taxes from the raw materials of sanitary latrine. • There should be policies so that NGOs inform the people outside their organisation. • There should be formulation and implementation of specific laws from GoB. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chairman and Members do not inform the people. • Gram Sarkar does not give the issues of sanitation importance. • Negligence of teachers. • Lack of education. • Lack of women's participation in motivation programs meetings. • The Chairman and Members do not play any effective roles. • There are no discussions on sanitation in mosques and temples. • Ring-slabs are not easily available. • There are no rules or laws regarding sanitation related issues.

Table 7.12: Union: Aamkhola

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness can be generated through courtyard meetings and other types of meetings. • Idleness can be overcome through awareness and motivation. • For mass awareness, rallies, miking and meetings can be arranged. • The people who know about sanitary latrine can inform others. • People are willing to learn. • School teachers can educate students and guardians about the importance of the latrines. • Imams (religious leaders) can discuss sanitation in the mosques, madrassa and moktabs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most of the people in the area are poor. • The labourer villagers generally do not join in the meetings or discussions. • The interest of the villagers in development activities is low. • The grassroots people are not interested in bringing sanitation materials from distant places. • Everybody is interested in buying things at low-cost. • People are not interested in sanitary latrine. • People are not interested in participating in discussions. • Lack of technical skills • Few grassroots people attend the mosques and moktabs. • The villagers are not exposed to the media. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The poor people need financial assistance/ subsidies from GoB/NGOs. • Building up of awareness regarding sanitation through Union Parishad, Gram Sarkar & NGOs. • GoB & UP should be more motivated. • Gram Sarkar should be cordial. • The latrine production centres should be established on area-specific basis through DPHE, the UP or GoB. • Quality control of production centres is required. • Education on sanitary latrine is required. • UP and Gram Sarkar should be instructed by GoB to hold awareness discussions in the neighbourhood. • Equivalent motivation programs should be under taken in all areas. • Teachers should be instructed through the Ministry of Education and relevant authorities to discuss sanitation with the students and guardians. • Discussions on sanitation in the mosques and moktabs should be compulsory. • Need definite laws regarding sanitation issues. • GoB needs to promote awareness campaigns. • Special arrangements from GoB for sanitation works in remote areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poverty. • Lack of education. • Lack of knowledge. • Lack of initiatives from GoB, Union Parishad and Gram Sarkar. • Mass awareness programs are not arranged properly. • Lack of latrine production centres • DPHE, UP and Gram Sarkar are reluctant to make grassroots people sanitation issues. • Lack of aware people to educate others about sanitary latrines. • The school teachers do not inform the guardians about hygiene. • The religious leaders are not oriented about sanitation. • Some of the NGOs show apathy regarding sanitation related issues. • Lack of proper laws regarding sanitation related issues. • Advertisements on sanitation are not productive. • Lack of interest of UP, DPHE and Gram Sarkar in sanitation related works.

Table 7.13: Union: Hosnabad

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The people can buy sanitation materials. • People can overcome idleness. • People can learn how to build sanitary latrine. • They can buy good quality raw materials. • People can hire a mason to build 10-12 latrines at a time. • They can buy ring-slabs at low cost from private producer of sanitation materials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The hard-core poor cannot buy latrine materials. • The people do not understand about the importance of sanitary latrine. • The raw materials are not easily available. • The people are ignorant about sanitary latrine. • They can not get loans to build sanitary latrines. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GoB and NGOs should provide financial assistance. • The Chairman and Members should be more cordial. • GoB should help the hard-core poor. • People of all strata should be involved. • Technical knowledge should be taught through door to door campaign. • DPHE should define the required standard of ring-slabs. • In each Ward of UP, sanitation material production centres can be developed. • GoB officials should consider sanitation as priority. • Teachers should go for door-to door campaign to inform the guardians on sanitation. • The doctors should educate people on water and sanitary latrines to prevent disease. • The health workers should perform their duties regularly. • Sanitary latrines should be included in the syllabus. • GoB should subsidise or exempt tax from the raw materials of latrines. • NGOs should inform the people outside their organisation. • Motivation programs should be in popular media. • Women's participation in motivation programs & meetings should be ensured. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chairman and Members are not cordial enough. • The banks and NGOs do not provide loans to construct latrines on easy terms and conditions. • Gram Sarkar does not put enough importance on sanitation. • The rich and influential people should be more cordial in sanitary works. • The doctors do not inform all their patients regarding the adverse effects of open latrine and impure water. • In the syllabus, there are no chapters regarding sanitation.

Table 7.14: Union: Subidkhali

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People can overcome idleness. • People can learn about sanitation. • People can buy latrine materials from the places where better standard are available. • People can hire a mason to build 10-12 latrines at a time. • Expensive raw materials can be substituted by other cheaper materials. • There can be discussions on sanitation before the “Jumma” prayer. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The hard-core poor cannot buy latrine materials. • The people do not understand the benefits about sanitary latrine. • The raw materials are not easily available. • The people are ignorant of sanitary latrine. • They do not get loans to build sanitary latrine. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GoB and NGOs should provide financial assistance. • The Chairman and Members should be more cordial. • GoB should help the hard-core poor. • People of all strata should be involved. • People should go for door to door campaign to educate others. • DPHE should define the standard quality of sanitary latrines. • Ring-slab production centres can be developed in each Ward of UP • GoB officials should be instructed to place importance on sanitation and should inform others. • Teachers should explain the importance of sanitation through classes and door to door visit. • Doctors should educate people on safe water and sanitary latrine to prevent disease. • Health workers should perform their duties regularly. • Sanitary latrines should be included in the syllabus. • GoB should subsidise or exempt tax from the raw materials of latrines. • NGOs should inform the people outside their organisation. • Motivation programs should be in popular media. • Women’s participation in motivation programs and meetings should be ensured. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chairman and Members are not cordial enough. • The banks and NGOs do not provide loans to construct latrines on easy terms. • Gram Sarkar does not put enough importance on sanitation. • The rich and influential people should be more cordial in sanitary works. • Doctors do not inform all their patients on the adverse effects of open latrine and impure water. • In the syllabus, there are no chapters regarding sanitation. • There are no discussions in the mosques and temples regarding sanitation.

Table 7.15: Union: Vandaria

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Idleness can be overcome through awareness generation and motivation program. • Good work related to sanitation can be encouraged. • The traditional ideas and habits can be given up. • The male members should place importance on sanitation. • Through the media, rallies and meetings the adverse impacts can be illustrated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People do not want to go to the meetings. • The ring-slabs are of low quality. • People do not know about sanitary latrine. • Ring-slabs are not easily available. • People are not interested in development works. • There are insufficient skilled men to build latrines. • There are no discussions in the mosques regarding sanitation. • In the villages a very few people are familiar with radio, television and newspaper. • Many people are ignorant. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GoB and NGOs should provide financial assistance through loans or grants. • Laws on sanitation should be practised. • Gram Sarkar can be provided with specific responsibilities and these should be monitored. • DPHE should test the standard of the ring-slabs from the production centres. • UP/ DPHE should set up ring-slab production centres where ring-slabs are not easily available. • The health workers should be more cordial. • NGOs should consult at the grass root level on sanitation. • There should be discussions in the neighbourhood through UP and Gram Sarkar regarding sanitation. • Teachers should discuss sanitation with the students and guardians. • There should be publicity in the media. • Sanitation programme should also be taken in the isolated islands of the country. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The people of the locality are not educated or aware. • GoB and NGOs do not work extensively on sanitation. • There is insufficient awareness. • There are insufficient latrine production centres in every area. • People do not know about sanitary latrine. • There should be more health workers to inform the people on sanitation. • School teachers do not discuss sanitation with the students. • Imams in the mosques do not discuss sanitation. • There are no specific rules regarding sanitation. • DPHE and Gram Sarkar do not perform their duties regularly.

Table 7.16: Union: Kathalia

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People can buy sanitary latrine through gradual deposits. • Idleness can be overcome. • People can learn about the benefits of sanitary latrine from those who know better. • Everyone can be aware and change their mentality of expecting charity every time. • The religious leaders can make arrangements for discussions on sanitation in the mosques and temples. • There should be inspection teams to inspect sanitary latrine. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The hard-core poor cannot buy ring-slabs. • The people do not have the technical knowledge to build sanitary latrine • The raw materials are not available in the locality. • People are ignorant of the sanitary latrine. • The village people do not want to go to the discussion meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GoB and NGOs should provide financial assistance through loans or grants. • NGOs and GoB should inform the people about the benefits of sanitary latrine. • GoB should provide financial assistance to the hard-core poor. • GoB should establish ring-slab production centres where ring-slabs are not available. • There should be specific laws regarding sanitation. • People should learn to build sanitary latrines through training conducted by NGOs and GoB. • School-teachers should discuss sanitation with the guardians. • The UP Chairman and the members should perform their duties. • DPHE should perform their duties regarding sanitary latrine properly. • All NGOs should educate people about sanitary latrines. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is not enough money. • The people are not aware of the benefits of sanitary latrine. • The Chairman and Members are not cordial enough to deal with sanitation issue. • The law is not implemented. • NGOs do not work outside their intervened areas. • DPHE is not duly responsible regarding sanitation. • NGOs do not provide loans to build sanitary latrines. • There are no inspection teams.

Table 7.17: Union: Kadamtala

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Idleness can be overcome through raised awareness & motivation. • Sanitation related good works should be encouraged. • The traditional ideas and habits can be given up. • Men can place more importance on sanitation. • The harmful effects of open latrine can be taught through the media, rallies, meetings etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People do not want to participate in meetings and discussions. • The ring-slabs are not of a good standard • People have little interest in knowing about sanitary latrines. • Ring-slabs are not easily available. • Lack of skilled manpower. • There are no discussions in the mosques regarding sanitation. • In villages, few people read the newspaper or see television. • Many people are not interested in participating in development works. • Many people are illiterate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GoB or NGOs should provides loans or grants. • Laws on sanitation should be practised. • Gram Sarkar should be provided with specific responsibilities and these should be monitored. • DPHE/UP should set up ring-slab production centres in the places where ring-slabs are not available. • DPHE should test the quality of the ring-slabs of the VSCs. • The health workers should discuss sanitation. • All the NGOs should discuss sanitation at the grass root level. • UP and Gram Sarkar should have discussions on sanitation in the neighbourhood. • Teachers should be instructed by the ministry of education to discuss sanitation with the students and guardians. • There should be awareness campaigns in the media. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The people are illiterate and ignorant. • There are a few initiatives from GoB and NGOs. • Lack of awareness. • Latrine production centres are not available in all the areas. • People do not know about sanitary latrine. • The school-teachers do not discuss sanitation. • There are no discussions on sanitation in the mosques. • There are no specific rules regarding sanitation. • There are not enough sanitation campaigns from GoB. • DPHE and Gram Sarkar are not aware of their duties.

Table 7.18: Union: Guthia

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those who are aware can teach others. • People can learn about the benefits of sanitary latrine. • The religious leaders should discuss sanitation in the mosques and temples. • An inspection team, involving those who know about sanitary latrine, can be formed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The hard-core poor cannot buy ring-slabs. • The people do not have the technical knowledge to build sanitary latrines. • The raw materials for sanitary latrines are not easily available. • People are ignorant about sanitary latrines. • Not everyone knows about sanitary latrines. • In the mosques and temples, there are almost no discussions about sanitary latrines. • The transportation system is not good, so it is costly to carry the ring-slabs to houses. • The people have the mentality to accept charity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGOs/ bank may provide loans. • People should be informed about sanitary latrines through NGOs and GoB • GoB should provide financial assistance to the poor. • GoB should establish ring-slab production centres where there are none. • GoB should formulate specific rules regarding sanitation. • GoB initiatives should teach people about sanitary latrine. • The school teachers should discuss sanitation with the guardians. • The UP Chairman and the members should perform their duties. • DPHE should play an extensive and important role regarding sanitary latrines. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no specific laws regarding sanitation. • People do not know about the benefits of sanitary latrines. • The UP Chairman and the members are not cordial. • Lack of mutual co-operation. • NGOs do not consult with the people outside their intervened areas. • DPHE do not play any important roles regarding sanitation. • The hard-core poor need financial assistance. • There are no discussions on sanitation in the neighbourhood.

Table 7.19: Union: Charbaria

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those who know about sanitary latrine can teach others. • There can be discussions on sanitation, held by the religious leaders, in the mosques and temples. • People can learn about the harmful effects of open latrine. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of financial support. • People do not have the technical knowledge to build a sanitary latrine. • Ring-slabs are not easily available. • People do not understand the benefits of sanitary latrines. • People are not aware. • People cannot give up their traditional habits. • The people are not cordial enough. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Banks/ NGOs can provide financial assistance. • NGOs and GoB officials can inform people about sanitary latrines. • GoB can provide financial assistance to the poor. • Ring-slab production centres should be established by GoB, in the places where there are no centres. • GoB should formulate specific laws regarding sanitation. • The school teachers should discuss sanitation with the guardians • The UP Chairman and Members should perform their duties properly. • DPHE should be more responsible regarding sanitation. • All NGOs should discuss sanitation. • The Chairman, Members and other elite people of the society should be trained on sanitation. • DPHE should test the quality of the ring-slabs. • There should be training provided by GoB and NGOs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no specific rules or laws regarding sanitation related issues. • People do not know about the benefits of sanitary latrine. • The Chairman and Members do not teach people about the need of sanitary latrine. • Lack of mutual cooperation. • NGOs do not work outside their specific working areas. • DPHE is not totally responsible regarding sanitation. • There are hard-core poor who cannot buy ring-slabs. • There are no awareness campaigns in the media. • There are insufficient training and motivation programs.

Table 7.20: Union: Chakhar

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Idleness can be overcome through awareness and motivation. • Good works regarding sanitation can be acknowledged. • People can give up their traditional ideas and habits. • The male members of the family can place importance on sanitation. • Everyone can learn about the harmful effects of sanitation through meetings, rallies etc. • The religious rituals should be obeyed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People do not want to participate in the discussions and meetings. • The ring-slabs are not of good quality. • People do not want to know about sanitary latrines. • Ring-slabs are not easily available. • People are not interested in participating in development works. • There is a lack of skilled mason to build sanitary latrines. • There are no discussions in the mosque regarding sanitary latrines. • The villagers are not familiar with newspaper or television. • Many people are ignorant. • There are some family disputes which delay the setting up of sanitary latrines. • The fish cultivators do not know about the harmful effects of open latrines. • The male members of family do not place importance on sanitation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGOs/ banks may provide loans. • People should be informed about sanitary latrine through NGOs and GoB. • GoB should provide financial assistance to the poor. • The standard of ring-slabs should be checked by the DPHE. • GoB should establish ring-slab production centres where there are none. • GoB should formulate specific rules regarding sanitation. • The people should learn about sanitary latrines as a GoB initiative. • The school teachers should discuss sanitation with the guardians. • The Chairman and the members of VDC should perform their duties. • DPHE and Gram Sarkar should perform their duties properly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of initiatives from NGOs and GoB. • The people are not aware. • There are no ring-slab production centres in some areas. • People are not well informed about sanitary latrine. • The people are ignorant. • There is shortage of health workers to teach people about sanitation. • The school teachers do not discuss sanitation. • The religious leaders in the mosques do not discuss sanitation. • There are no specific laws regarding sanitation related issues. • There are no campaigns on sanitation in the media.

Khulna Division

8.0 Khulna Division

8.1 Summary of Speeches

8.1.1 Regional Officer, NGO Forum for DWSS, Khulna Mr. Ayub Khan

Mr. Khan thanked everybody for participating in the Divisional meeting. He described the WASH – STREAMS initiative which deals with water, sanitation and hygiene. The objective of grass root consultation process is to raise voices of the poor to National and International level. One of the MDGs is to increase access to safe water and sanitation, through which people could improve their standard of living. Everyone aspires to a better standard of living and thus WatSan is a challenge for all. NGO-GoB efforts could ensure better living for all if they ensure participation of people in the country in delivering better sanitation and safe water supply. NGO Forum for DWSS aims to fulfil this target.

At National level, GoB has set a target to achieve 100% sanitation coverage by 2010. All grass root consultations from the WASH-STREAMS initiative would complement in achieving the National target. Through proper coordination of GoB-NGOs, people would be able to achieve the target.

8.1.2 Project Coordinator, UNICEF Mr. Md. Shahidur Rahman

Mr. Rahman reflected on the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg in 2002. At the summit, there was special emphasis on environment. Many representatives of GoB and NGOs were present. NGO-GoB should be committed to ensure adequate sanitation and promote hygiene practice in the Union, Upazila and District levels. They should consider sanitary latrine as prime for ensuring sanitation means.

The joint effort should prepare a work plan on how to achieve the International sanitation target. One of the MDGs is to halve the number of people who do not have access to sanitation by 2015. In line with this GoB has declared to achieve 100% sanitation by 2010. NGO-GoB efforts have to address the commitment of GoB and they should plan accordingly on how to complement this initiative.

Mr. Rahman presented some slides on the existing condition of sanitation. According to the target set by GoB the country have to achieve 100% sanitation by 2010. For this purpose people have to point out the available resources, the problems and the remedial measures for improving their situation.

In last year, Ministry of LGRD&C, with the cooperation of LGIs and general people conducted a baseline survey through out the country. GoB-NGO effort should formulate the future plans based on the survey findings. The objective of this survey was to determine the current situation of sanitation at Village, Union, District and Division level. It was decided to achieve the sanitation target in 3 phases: 2005, 2008 and 2010.

He then presented some data on sanitation condition in Bangladesh more specifically in the Khulna Division. At the National level about 33% people use sanitary latrine, 28.77% in rural areas, 59.77% in urban areas, 59.92% in City Corporations and 53.90% in Pourashavas. There are also some unsanitary latrines that are unhygienic. The sanitary latrine should have the following characteristics: faeces should be covered; they should not spread bad smell; and they should not pollute the environment.

Sanitation condition in Khulna District is average compared to the remaining part of the country. In Khulna Division sanitation coverage is about 40%. The reasons behind the unsatisfactory condition of sanitary latrines are:

- Poverty
- Lack of space and
- Lack of awareness.

There are two important things to consider, first, people should be made aware of hygiene promotion and sanitation, and second, there should be low-cost technology and supply of raw materials. Though different GoB agencies and NGOs are working together on sanitation, the advancement in sanitation sector is discouraging. If advancements continue at this speed, people would not be able to achieve the target of total sanitation by 2010. To achieve the target, joint efforts are needed to ensure the supply of raw materials, introduce low-cost technologies and generate awareness on sanitation.

As the communication system in Khulna Division is better, and there are few rivers and canals, NGO-GoB should set a target to attain 100% sanitation by 2008. The next 2 years would remain for follow-up of the sustainable development plan. All concerned people and agencies should plan together on how to achieve the target.

8.1.3 Deputy Director, Islamic Foundation, Khulna Mr. Md. Alamgir Sikdar

Mr. Sikdar reflected the survey completed by different organisations; he commented that it is observed that people are lacking behind in the WatSan sector. GoB has declared a target to achieve 100% sanitation by 2010. In the southern part of the country, many people still use hanging latrines and some people defecate in open spaces.

If NGO-GoB efforts consider that the poor people would arrange their sanitary latrines themselves, it would be a mistake. If they defecate in open spaces, it would pollute the environment, and everyone would be subject to health hazards. People should therefore cooperate with each other for their own sake.

All NGOs and local representatives should support GoB agencies to attain 100% sanitation coverage.

8.1.4 Deputy Civil Surgeon, Khulna Mr. Daud Ali Mir

Mr. Daud reflected that many common diseases are water-borne. To prevent these diseases people should drink safe water, use sanitary latrine and promote hygiene practice. NGO-GoB efforts have to build up awareness and motivate the people to use sanitary latrines.

8.1.5 Additional DC, Education and Development, Khulna Mr. Monirul Islam

Mr. Islam stated that Bangladesh is a developing country. Most of the people in developing countries do not have sanitary latrines. In the constitution of Bangladesh, health care has been prioritised. In order to ensure health for all, importance of sanitation has been emphasised at the National level. GoB considers it a very significant responsibility.

GoB has set a target to attain 100% sanitation through the Ministry of LGRD&C. GoB agencies and NGOs should participate actively to achieve the target. The hard-core poor should be provided with free latrines by GoB and NGOs. Religious values should play an important role when improving the condition of sanitation. He believes that as a religious man, it is the responsibility of everyone to promote good sanitation. As a citizen, and as a man, everyone should assist in advancement of the country. He thanked NGO Forum for arranging such an indispensable workshop.

8.1.6 Executive Engineer, DPHE, Khulna Mr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed

Mr. Ahmed stated that through the grass-root consultations, NGO-GoB efforts were to learn about the ideas and views of the grass root people regarding sanitation. Mankind is the best creation of God. Through his supremacy, man has to improve his standard of living. Defecation is important like taking food. In Bangladesh, not everyone knows about sanitation. This is very shameful. Realising this fact, the GoB has planned to attain 100% sanitation by 2010 rather than 2015. Mr. Ahmed considers that GoB has taken the right decision. To attain 100% sanitation is not an easy task. GoB has allotted 20% of Annual Development Budget for sanitation.

UNO and DCs have to submit a report on sanitation in the Upazila and District respectively. NGOs should submit their development report to the UNO at the beginning of each year. The report should be submitted to the Ministry of LGRD&C after monitoring by DPHE.

He thanked WASH-STREAMS for this initiative and NGO Forum for arranging such a meeting. GoB, NGOs, donor agencies would be able to prepare their work plans using the recommendations from the grass root people. In this way it would be possible to achieve 100% sanitation coverage. Due to recent floods, a large number of sanitary latrines have been destroyed. NGO-GoB efforts have to consider this. He hoped that people would achieve 100% sanitation coverage within a very short period.

8.1.7 Chief, NRC, NGO Forum for DWSS Ms. Shirin P. Biswas

Ms. Biswas stated that grassroots consultation is an initiative of WASH-STREAMS. WASH stands for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, and it is a collaborative program of the WSSCC. STREAMS is a global coalition of water and sanitation resource centres that assist in enriching the knowledge of people regarding water and sanitation. Through the consultations, NGOs could come to know about problems faced by the grass root people, enabling them to prepare the work plan accordingly. It is a bottom-up approach; the voices of the poor people are raised to the National level and heard at Regional and International forums.

In this regard she stated the aims and objectives of the meeting. Bangladesh is committed to the targets of World Summit and MDG. Presently, about 240 crores of people in the world do not have access to sanitation. One of the MDGs is to halve the number of people who do not have access to sanitation. GoB set a target to achieve 100% sanitation coverage by 2010. In the MDGs there are some indicators like water, sanitation, hygiene, environmental hygiene etc.

In Bangladesh, about 33% people use sanitary latrines, 25% use unsanitary latrine and 42% do not use latrines at all. In order to attain total sanitation, GoB formed task forces and sub-committees, and arranged various meetings and workshops from National to Union level. There were motivation programs at Union and Village levels to encourage people to replace the unsanitary latrines with sanitary ones.

The aim of grass root level consultation is to ensure the active participation of grass root people to attain the target of total sanitation. The aim of WASH-STREAMS initiative is to raise the voice of the hard-core poor, to practice the bottom-up planning approach. The grass root people themselves should identify their problems. For this purpose, there were three FGDs in each Union and ten Union level meetings in each Division. Following these, six Divisional meetings and a National Convention in Dhaka would be held. At this convention, recommendations from the grass roots would be presented. At the end of November, there would be an International Conference in Dakar, Senegal where the opinions of the grass root people would be discussed. WSSCC and STREAMS are assisting in this; NRC of NGO Forum for DWSS is providing the secretariat support to WASH-STREAMS. Additionally there are some core group members who are assisting the program by giving their suggestions from time to time.

GoB has declared to achieve 100% sanitation by 2010. The MDG states to halve the people of the world who do not have access to sanitation. She considered that it is possible to make 100% sanitation coverage by 2010. The NGOs are working in coordination with GoB agencies to attain 100% sanitation coverage. She thanked the organisers of Khulna region, PNGOs and grass root people who were present in the Divisional meeting. Lastly she thanked everybody for participating in the meeting.

8.1.8 Village: Gangarampur, Union- 3 No. Gangarampur Mr. G. M. Hossain

Mr. Hossain, a grass root representative presented the findings of FGD held at village Gangarampur. The FGD consisted of hard-core poor male members.

- Recommendations to prevent diarrhoea:
 - Cleanliness.
 - Build awareness.
 - Ensure sanitary latrines for all households.
 - Ensure proper use of potable water.
 - Use oral saline in diarrhoea.
- Recommendations to achieve sanitation target:
 - Identify hard-core poor and provide them with free ring-slabs.
 - Local GoB and NGOs should assist to provide ring-slabs to the poor on easy terms.
 - Provide ring-slabs at subsidised rate.
 - Assist through administration.
 - Motivate the religious leaders.
 - Organise the students regarding sanitation campaign.
 - Take individual and social initiatives.
 - Have mass campaigns.
- Maintenance of latrines should be as following:
 - Not to break the water seal.
 - Use enough water.
 - The latrine should be set up in a place where it does not get wet.
 - Latrine should be cleaned once daily.
 - Latrine should be set up near bedroom.
 - The roof of latrine should be in good condition.
 - There should be soap, ash and slippers in the latrine.
- The reasons for inappropriate maintenance of latrine:
 - Ignorance.
 - Lack of awareness.
 - Lack of willingness.
 - Poverty.
- The local resources available are:
 - Space for sanitary latrine.
 - Raw materials like bamboo, wood, roof etc. to build sanitary latrine.

- Manpower with knowledge.
- Outside help that the people need
 - To set up VSC through the help of GoB and NGO:
 - To ensure the standard of ring-slabs.
 - The ring-slabs should be cheap.
 - To ensure security and maintenance of ring-slabs.
 - To assist financially.
 - To provide financial assistance to run the motivation program.

8.1.9 Chairman, Union-Maharajpur Mr. Sadruddin Ahmed

Mr. Ahmed presented the findings of the Union level meeting held at Maharajpur Union.

Strengths or local resources available at the community:

1. Small place to set-up latrine.
2. Strong intention and enough manpower to make hygienic latrine.
3. Rapport with GoB/ different organisations.
4. Capability for social movement on specific issues.
5. Similar mentality among the people.

Weaknesses or the resources the people do not have:

1. Lack of funds.
2. Lack of land for some of the hardcore poor people.
3. Lack of raw materials.
4. Lack of advocacy techniques.
5. Lack of safe water sources.
6. Lack of ability for local initiatives.

Opportunities or the resources and needs that are required from outside:

1. Finance / investment or subsidy from GoB/Donor/NGO.
2. Coordination between GoB/NGOs.
3. WatSan fundraising.
4. Introduce micro credit for WatSan.
5. Technical assistance from GoB/NGOs.
6. Training on WatSan.

Threats:

1. Improper utilisation of GoB facilities.
2. Most of the NGOs working in the area do not have WatSan program.
3. Lack of coordination between GoB and the NGOs.
4. Un-planned cultivation of shrimps destroying water sources.
5. Raw materials are not available here.

8.1.10 Assistant Engineer, Dumuria, Khulna Shuruz Alam

Assistant Engineer, LGED (Dumuria) addressed the meeting to clarify his notions regarding the issue. He stated that to attain 100% sanitation coverage by 2010 all GoB and NGOs should work together. There should be good cooperation between all concerned agencies involved in sanitation sector. There should be an awareness generation program. At the Upazila level, GoB officials, NGO representatives and grass root people should work together in order to plan future work and he considered that people

would be able to achieve 100% sanitation coverage by 2010. He thanked NGO Forum for arranging such a significant meeting.

Another Assistant Engineer of DPHE, a Member of Union Parishad also spoke on the grass root level meeting.

8.1.11 Chief, NRC, NGO Forum for DWSS Ms. Shirin P. Biswas

Ms. Biswas at this point clarified that the Divisional level meeting was a very timely requirement where GoB target of “sanitation for all” has been addressed. WASH-STREAMS initiatives have assisted in raising the voice of grassroots people. This initiative would complement to achieve the sanitation goals set by GoB. The needs of the grassroots people were determined through 10 Union level meetings and 30 FGDs. All participants at this Divisional meeting were committed in aiding, GoB in attaining the sanitation target. Through proper coordination NGO-GoB efforts would be able to attain the target. She thanked all those who were present there.

8.1.12 Executive Director, Baniful, Khulna Ms. Zakia Akhter Hossain

Ms. Hossain stated that objective of the meeting was to raise the voice of the poor to the National level. Many of the programs were not implemented due to inadequate coordination. Hence, all concerned must emphasise the need for coordination of concerned personnel and authorities. GoB has set a goal to attain total sanitation by 2010. 20% of ADB of Upazila has been allotted for the sanitation sector. Various NGOs should generate awareness programs and motivate the people regarding sanitation issues. Local representatives, GoB officials, NGOs and the local people all together should try to attain 100% sanitation and she believed that people would be able to achieve it before 2010.

8.2 Discussion Groups at Village level:

Table 8.1: Village: Jordia, Union: Fingree

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know much and so did not practice.	They know about diseases and preventive measures but sometimes fail to follow it properly.	Community should adopt more all out efforts.	1. Lack of awareness, workload, less priority, idleness. 2. More committees and more social movements; generate awareness.
Sanitation coverage and use	2%-7%	From women: 35% From men: 40%-45% From VDC: 20%-25%	100% coverage is required to achieve National target.	1. Lack of awareness, workload, less priority, idleness. 2. Set up new latrines in each house with a roof near the bedroom and using highland.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Lack of awareness, workload, less priority, idleness. 2. Latrines should be cleaned everyday using bleach; proper ventilation system should be there.

Table 8.2: Village: Subarnabad, Kamot para, Union: Kulia

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know that much and so did not practice.	They know about diseases and preventive measures but sometimes fail to follow it properly.	Community should adopt and work hard together.	1. Hard poverty, lack of awareness. 2. More committees and more social movements; generate awareness.
Sanitation coverage and use	0%	From women: No data From men: 40%-45% From VDC: 40%	100% coverage is required to achieve National target. VDC is working very hard to achieve this (need 209 more latrines set up).	1. Lack of raw materials to make hygienic latrine, hard poverty, lack of space. 2. Set up new latrines in each house, near the bedroom and use highland. Should be a shed for each latrine.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Hard poverty, lack of awareness. 2. Latrines should be cleaned everyday using bleach; proper ventilation system should be there.

Table 8.3: Village: Ramkrishnapur, Union: Rangpur

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know much and so did not practice.	They know about diseases and preventive measures but sometimes fail to follow it properly.	Community should adopt and work hard together.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Sanitation coverage and use	From women: 4-5% families had access From men: 8-10% had hygienic latrines. From VDC: 10-12% had hygienic latrines.	From women: 40-50% families. From men: 50-55% hygienic latrines. VDC: 65-70% hygienic latrines.	100% coverage is required to achieve National target. Need 155-160 more latrines.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of funds to make hygienic latrine, lack of importance. 2. Set up new latrines in each house with a roof near the bedroom and using highland.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hard poverty, lack of awareness, lack of social pressure, idleness, lack of intention to change habits. 2. Latrines should be cleaned everyday using bleach; keep soap/ ash with latrine; proper ventilation system should be there. There should be campaign on maintenance; all local leaders should be involved.

Table 8.4: Village: Gongarampur, Union: Gongarampur

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know that much and so did not practice.	They know about diseases and preventive measures but sometimes fail to follow it properly.	Community should adopt and work hard together.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Sanitation coverage and use	From women: no one that they are aware of had access to hygienic latrine. From men: 5-7% hygienic latrines. From VDC: 8-10% hygienic latrine.	From women: 40-50% families. From men: 50-55% hygienic latrines. VDC: 70-75% hygienic latrines.	100% coverage is required to achieve National target. 165-170 more latrines need to be installed.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of funds to make hygienic latrine, lack of importance. 2. Install new latrines for free or at low cost; set up new latrines in each house with a roof near the bedroom, use highland and land away from ponds.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Not bad, but should be better.	Proper maintenance and cleanliness should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hard poverty, lack of awareness, lack of social pressure, idleness, lack of intention to change bad habits. 2. Latrines should be cleaned everyday using bleach; keep soap/ ash with latrine; proper ventilation system should be there. There should be a campaign on maintenance; all local leaders should be involved.

Table 8.5: Village: Biralakhi, Union: Atulia

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know much and so did not practice.	They know about diseases and preventive measures but sometimes fail to follow it properly.	Community should adopt and work hard together.	1. Lack of awareness, ignorance, lack of time, idleness, lack of importance, not habituated. 2. Need more committees, more social movements, and awareness generation.
Sanitation coverage and use	Very few people used sanitary latrine.	Now many people use sanitary latrine, but the number is not up to satisfactory level.	100% coverage should be ensured.	1. Lack of funds to make hygienic latrine, lack of importance. 2. Set-up new latrines for free, at low cost or with loans, and have subsidies for latrines. Each family should have a latrine. There needs to be increased awareness and fundraising.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Hard poverty, lack of awareness, lack of social pressure, idleness, lack of intention to change bad habits. 2. Latrines should be kept clean and hygienic. Campaign and training on maintenance, low cost maintenance, all local leaders should be involved for awareness generation.

Table 8.6: Village: Shrirampur, Union: Moharajpur

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know that much and so did not practice.	They know about diseases and preventive measures but sometimes fail to follow it properly.	Community should adopt and work hard together.	1. Lack of awareness, ignorance, lack of time, idleness, lack of importance, not habituated. 2. Take initiatives, have active participation, volunteer. Have VSC. Awareness should be generated. Area should be cleaned to remove domestic dust.
Sanitation coverage and use	14%	40%	There should be one sanitary latrine in every household as well as in every public place.	1. Lack of funds to make hygienic latrine, lack of importance. 2. Fund raising, action plan development, Set-up factory for latrine production.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Not bad, but should be better.	Proper maintenance and cleanliness should be ensured.	1. Hard poverty, lack of awareness, lack of social pressure, idleness, lack of intent change bad habits. 2. Keep clean and hygienic, have campaign on maintenance, involve all local leaders.

Table 8.7: Village: Sonakhali, Union: Mithakhali

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know anything about this and so did not practice.	They know about diseases and preventive measures but sometimes fail to follow it properly.	Community should adopt and work hard together.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be
Sanitation coverage and use	From women: no one that they are aware of had access to hygienic latrines. From men: No hygienic latrine. From VDC: 3/4 hygienic latrines.	From women: 28 families. From men: 25 hygienic latrines. VDC: 20-25 hygienic latrines.	100% coverage is required to achieve National target. Need 215-225 more latrines.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of funds to make hygienic latrine, lack of importance. 2. Set-up new latrines for free, at low cost or with payment in instalments. Set up new latrine in each house, near the bedroom, on highland and away from ponds.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Not bad, but should be better.	Proper maintenance and cleanliness should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hard poverty, lack of awareness, lack of social pressure, idleness, lack of intent to change bad habits. 2. Keep clean and hygienic, have campaign on maintenance, involve all local level leaders. Keep roof on latrine, clean it everyday using bleach, have soap/ash available, and have proper ventilation system.

Table 8.8: Village: Tetultola, Union: Jolma

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know anything about this and so did not practice. They knew only, in case of diarrhoea, they have to provide oral saline.	They know about diseases and preventive measures but sometimes fail to follow it properly.	Safe hygienic behaviour should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Sanitation coverage and use	From women: So far they know, no family had access to hygienic latrines. From men: No hygienic latrine. From VDC: 3-4 hygienic latrines.	From women: 100 families. From men: No fully hygienic latrines. VDC: 10 hygienic latrines.	Proper hygiene behaviour is required. Need 250-260 more sanitary latrines.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Insufficient pure water, lack of funds to make hygienic latrine, lack of importance. 2. Set-up new latrines for free, at low cost or with payment in instalments. Set up new latrine in each house, near the bedroom and on highland.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Not bad, but should be better.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hard poverty, lack of awareness, lack of social pressure, idleness, lack of desire to change bad habits. 2. Keep clean and hygienic, have campaign on maintenance, involve all level local leaders. Keep roof on latrine, clean it everyday using bleach, and ventilation system should be ensured.

Table 8.9: Village: Baradal, Union: Dhulihor

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know anything about this and so did not practice.	They know about diseases and preventive measures but sometimes fail to follow it.	Community should adopt and work hard together.	1. Lack of awareness, ignorance, lack of time, idleness, lack of importance, not habituated, hard poverty. 2. Have to change bad habits & use latrine, make children use them too. Everyone needs to be clean and keep his or her environment clean & hygienic. Awareness needs to be generated.
Sanitation coverage and use	15%	30%.	Active monitoring by the NGOs as well as the LGIs regarding the proper use of sanitary latrines should be ensured.	1. Insufficient safe water, lack of funds to make hygienic latrine, lack of importance. 2. Set-up new latrines for free, at low cost or with payment in instalments. Set up new latrine in each house, near the bedroom and on highland.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Not bad, but should be better.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Extreme poverty, lack of awareness, lack of social pressure, idleness, lack of desire to change bad habits. 2. Set up new latrine in each house and use highland.

Table 8.10: Village: Kharam khali, Union: Char Baniara

	Step 1			Step 2: Action Areas
	What was the WatSan status 10 years ago?	What is the status now?	What should be the status to achieve the goals (MDG and National target)?	1. Why is it not at the state that it should be? 2. What needs to be done to improve it from what it is now to what it should be?
Knowledge on how to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea	They did not know that much and so did not practice.	They know about diseases and preventive measures but sometimes fail to follow it.	Community should adopt more all out efforts.	1. Raw materials regarding sanitation are not available. 2. Ensure enough raw materials for sanitation, ring-slabs, tube-wells etc.
Sanitation coverage and use	2% - 7%	From women : 35% From men : 40%-45% From VDC : 20%-25%	Proper hygiene behaviour is required. 185-195 more latrines need to be installed.	1. Skilled masons are unavailable. 2. Mason training program to train unskilled mason.
Maintenance of latrines	Below standard.	Below standard.	Proper maintenance should be ensured.	1. Lack of GoB support and assistance. Lack of awareness. 2. GoB assistance, support and commitment are needed. Awareness needs to be generated through training programs; local authority should be involved.

8.3 Union Level Meetings:

Table 8.11: Union: Fingree

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raw materials for fences are available. Manpower for rallies and miking is available. NGOs, UP, Anser VDP (Village Defence Party), Teachers, Imam, Gram Sarker, VSC, can volunteer to facilitate mass-awareness activity. Schools, Mosques, Temples, Madrasas are available for awareness-building programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of funds. Lack of awareness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pipeline set-up to provide arsenic free water. Funds to make hygienic latrines for the poor. Funds and training for the village committees to facilitate programs. Set-up a signboard / billboard in crowded place. Shows on TV/cinema showing impact of bad hygiene. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a communication gap between GoB and local people. Lack of proper advertisements regarding sanitation issues. Non co-operation from local elected representatives. Free distribution of sanitation materials by only a few organisations. Lack of co-ordination between organisations.

Table 8.12: Union: Rangpur

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enough spaces to set up latrine. Strong intention and enough manpower to make hygienic latrine. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of funds. Lack of awareness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fund investment or subsidy from GoB/Donor/NGO. Awareness generation. Set-up sanitation centre. Allotment may increase. Quality assurance of tools for latrine. GoB/Donor/NGO to ensure the price of equipment is kept within the reach of the people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improper utilisation of GoB facilities. Most of the NGOs working in the area do not have WatSan program. Lack of coordination between the GoB and the NGOs. Un-planned cultivation of shrimps is destroying the water sources. Raw materials of sanitary latrines are not available here.

Table 8.13: Union: Gongarampur

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small place to set up latrine. • Strong intention and enough manpower to make hygienic latrine. • Raw materials for latrines are available. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of funds. • Lack of awareness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fund investment or subsidy from GoB/Donor/NGO. • Awareness generation. • Set-up sanitation centre. • Allotment may increase. • Quality assurance of tools for latrine. • GoB/Donor/NGO to ensure the price of equipment is kept within the reach of the people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improper utilisation of GoB facilities. • Most of the NGOs working in the area do not have WatSan program. • Lack of coordination between the GoB and the NGOs. • Un-planned cultivation of shrimps is destroying the water sources. • Raw materials for latrines are not available here.

Table 8.14: Union: Atulia

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grass root level organisation/Co-operative available to mobilise GoB. • Saving scheme/loan from co-operatives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of funds. • Lack of awareness. • Lack of land. • Decrease in savings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fund investment or subsidy from GoB/Donor/NGO. • Awareness generation and technical training on maintenance. • Assistance by GoB/NGOs training on the problems with hanging latrines. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal clash among the villagers. • Mismanagement of the authority. • Non cooperation from the wealthy and powerful community members of the village.

Table 8.15: Union: Moharajpur

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enough spaces to set-up latrine. • Strong intention and enough manpower to make hygienic latrine. • Connection with GoB/ different NGOs. • Capability for social movement on specific issue. • Common mentality among the people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of funds. • Lack of land. • Lack of raw materials. • Lack of techniques to acquire advocacy. • Lack of safe water sources. • Lack of ability to take local initiatives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fund investment or subsidy from GoB/Donor/NGO. • Coordination between GoB/NGOs. • WatSan fund raising. • Introduce micro credit for WatSan. • Technical assistance from GoB/NGOs. • Training on WatSan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improper utilisation of GoB facilities. • Most of the NGOs working in the area do not have WatSan program. • Lack of coordination between the GoB and the NGOs. • Un-planned cultivation of shrimps is destroying the water sources. • Raw materials for latrines are not available here.

Table 8.16: Union: Mithakhali

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Container to preserve rainwater. • Strong intention and enough manpower to make hygienic latrine. • Awareness generation program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of awareness. • Lack of education. • Lack of safe water. • Lack of experience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fund investment or subsidy from GoB/Donor/NGO. • Awareness generation program. • Set-up sanitation centres. • Quality assurance of tools for latrine • GoB/Donor/NGO to ensure the price of equipment is kept within the reach of the people. • Training on sanitation, use and preservation of water. • Micro credit for WatSan from LGIs/NGOs. • Create interest in the wealthy people. • Organise the local leaders, students, and religious leaders. • Use popular media to generate awareness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Few programs in popular media. • High level people are not interested in sanitation. • Lack of coordination between the GoB and NGOs.

Table 8.17: Union: Jolma

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enough spaces for latrine. • Strong intention and enough manpower to make hygienic latrine. • Awareness generation programs. • Raw materials for latrines are available. • Proper work force to make hygienic latrine. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of awareness. • Lack of education. • Lack of cooperation between LGIs/NGOs. • Lack of communication. • Lack of funds. • Insufficient land. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fund investment or subsidy from GoB/Donor/NGO. • Set-up sanitation centre. • Tube-wells for sufficient safe water. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bad communication. • Political favouring from LGI elected representative. • Lack of coordination between the GoB and NGOs. • Lack of courage to express the actual situation.

Table 8.18: Union: Dhulihor

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enough spaces for latrine. • Strong intention and enough manpower to make hygienic latrine. • 20% people have ability to purchase latrine materials for installation. • Raw materials for latrines are available. • Proper work force available to help if any crisis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of awareness. • Lack of proper knowledge. • Difficult to change bad habits. • Some people do not have land for latrine. • Lack of funds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fund investment or subsidy from GoB/Donor/NGO. • Set-up sanitation centre. • Form a pressure group that will make persuade others to make latrine. • Micro credit in WatSan. • Free materials for the hard-core poor. • Easy access to the required tools of quality assurance. • GoB should make specific WatSan policy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resistance from people who can afford to buy a ring-slab as some NGOs are providing ring-slabs for free and the UP will provide 20% of the costs when required. • Lack of coordination among LGI elected representatives. • Lack of coordination between the GoB and NGOs. • GoB has no specific and proper WatSan policy.

Table 8.19: Union: Char Baniara

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities/Scope	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Man power is available • There are many NGOs, GoB agencies, Madrasas, institutions available for generating awareness. • Raw materials and places are available for low cost latrine construction. • Ponds are available for pond sand filter (PSF) construction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of awareness. • Illiteracy. • Raw materials of pit latrines are unavailable. • Lack of funds for latrine construction. • Lack of communication between Union Parishad and Gram Sarkar. • Low cost ring-slabs are unavailable. • Trainers for awareness building program are unavailable. • Trained masons are unavailable • Teachers from the schools, colleges and Madrasas are reluctant to teach about hygiene and sanitation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing hardware and monetary support to the local VSC for producing low cost sanitation materials like ring-slabs etc. • Installation of PSF, Rain Water Harvesting System (RWHS), deep tube-well. • Mason training program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a communication gap between GoB and local people. • Lack of proper advertisements regarding sanitation issues. • Non co-operation from local elected representatives. • Free distribution of sanitation materials by only a few organisations. • Lack of co-ordination between organisations.

9.0 Analysis

Water supply and Sanitation plays a vital role in improving the standard of living in a country. The more developed a country is in the water sanitation sector the higher is the country's standard of living index. In addition to this, the development index also takes into account the education level, social and economic factors and longevity. A third world country has a very low index in the WatSan sector.

Social mobilisation, awareness and cooperative operation are positive indicators for the development of a country. Involving stakeholders of the sector, starting from individual level to a segment of a society, village, district and division level establishes the propagation of good will, sound understanding and positive initiatives. By validating the grass root voices, a positive sign of social mobilisation for achieving the MDGs is established.

Bangladesh is one of the poorest of the Least Developed Countries (LDC); with a very low literacy rate and education level it suffers the suspicion of donors/ support agencies. In the new Millennium, the need to assess the level of basic services available to the society was identified as a crucial element in the global perspective. There was an urgency to reach out to the grass root people and communicate with them; to evaluate their status regarding water and sanitation; willingness to adopt changes and their ideas and initiatives to implement them. The new Millennium was opened with the adoption of the MDGs, which emphasise the importance of listening to the true situation in the global villages. In order to achieve this, a thorough evaluation process was essential. In Bangladesh, the grass roots stakeholders' voices were thoroughly explored by all agencies, GoB and NGOs.

The grassroots voices were heard in 180 village level discussions held through out the country. The findings from these were taken to the Union, Divisional and finally to National level. At each level they were transmitted, to create a combined grass root level voice, and shared, for enabling the grassroots voices to be heard at a higher level. At the National Convention, GoB officials, decision makers, NGO representatives and grassroots representatives were all present to listen to the opinions from the villages. The findings revealed the state of situation in all corners of the country and the proactive nature of the people, reverberated through their spontaneous responses.

It was discovered, through the consultations, that the overall sanitation situation in the country is not satisfactory. At present only 33% people are using sanitary latrines whereas 25% are using unsanitary latrines; the remaining 42%, are without means! In Barisal division the situation is better compared to the other Divisions in the country, with 54.5% (March 2005) already adopting hygienic practice. Hence it is anticipated that by 2005 there would be 100% sanitation coverage in these districts.

In Rajshahi division the situation is grave, however surprisingly the Kushumba Union, an isolated pocket has already achieved 100% sanitation coverage. It can be said that this Union is the torchbearer of this Division and has paved the way for others to reach the target. The sanitation coverage in Dhaka district is also not satisfactory. This is attributed to the huge population which is resident in the district. People from all over the country migrate to this mega city for a better standard living. The city is not expanding, however, the continuous flow of people leads to the creation of slums, producing problems for others as well as for themselves. The slums are full of hanging latrines which requires of replacement by sanitary latrines.

Additionally, through the Village and Union level discussions the characteristics and situation of the people were identified. The people have the will power and motivation for change; they are industrious in nature and could provide labour to install and maintain sanitary latrines; the educated people could assist others to learn on hygienic practice and its benefits, and they are willing to learn. However, currently many are ignorant, illiterate and poor, and some suffer from inability or lack of desire to change habits thus impeding the spread of sanitary practice. Additionally, while some areas have sufficient resources to

build sanitary latrines other areas require mason training, ring-slab production centres, additional space, materials and improved communication systems to import ring-slab technology to the required areas.

Furthermore the following issues were identified in all the Divisions as a common demand in the action areas:

- Funding is required from GoB, NGO's and donor organisations to supply free sanitary latrines for the hard core poor; provide interest free loans; and subsidies or remove tax from materials for sanitary latrines.
- Awareness generation and motivational programs specifically targeted at different groups in society are essential. They should involve religious leaders, school teachers, doctors, NGOs and GoB including LGIs, Union and Ward level committees and the Gram Sarkar to ensure widespread coverage and implementation of the knowledge. Special attention needs to be given to reach out to the hard core poor, many of whom have limited access to media/education to learn about sanitation.
- Training on the technical aspects of sanitary latrine installation and maintenance needs to be conducted.
- Low-cost technology should be developed.
- Laws against hanging latrines and open defecation should be developed.
- Latrine facilities to be developed in public places, e.g. railway and bus stations, markets, schools, madrassas and on the street for hawkers, tea sellers etc.
- Ring-slabs should undergo quality testing to ensure that they are of good standard.
- Housing for the hard core poor needs to be addressed; when people feel uncertain about where they would live, it is difficult for them to invest in sanitation.
- Landlords need to be responsible for providing latrines in slum areas, which they rent out.

While the following events/ situations were believed to jeopardize the spread of sanitation:

- Natural disasters e.g. floods.
- Eviction of slums.
- Temporary inhabitants in slum areas.
- Lack of co-operation and information sharing between LGIs, NGOs and local people.

In accumulating this information close interactions between all WatSan agencies NGOs, GoB, LGIs and local people was required; funding was provided by the core-group; and coordination by the secretariat - altogether it was a massive effort executed in a span of only 3 months. It demonstrated how the combined efforts of the GoB, NGOs, donor agencies and development partners could have a visible impact in changing the status of safe water supply and hygiene sanitation. However, more GoB-NGO-grass root people coordination and continuous efforts would be required to narrow down the gap between the grass root situation and the policymakers, and to improve the current WatSan situation in the country.

Following the grass root consultation, the people are aware about their problems and benefits of using hygienic sanitary latrines. They are now not reluctant to spend money for sanitary purpose. However, it can be seen that the overall sanitation coverage still needs to be improved in order to achieve the GoB target of "Sanitation for All" by 2010, and the MDG. Achieving both these targets is possible if a coordinated effort between all stakeholders, GoB and NGOs is ensured; Bangladesh will be able to emerge as a healthy and prosperous country. The new generations will have sown the seeds for their better future in a safer environment.

10. Conclusion

The grassroots level consultancy is a unique method of exploring the situation in determining the prevailing WatSan situation in the country. It is both “target group” and area oriented. The reverse hierarchal tree oriented strategy used to focus on the WatSan issues is a method of obtaining the areas that require attention and focus as felt by people, from various levels, themselves. The documentation process of the problems and solutions by audio-visual facilities is also a way by itself. This reporting scheme is an attempt to focus the issues and requirements from grass root level to the National stage and explore the priorities that need to be addressed.

The consultation was a joint initiative of WSSCC and STREAMS – the global coalition of Resource Centres. It was aimed to focus on compiling the voices from the rural communities of Bangladesh; and thereby to accelerate the process of achieving the Millennium Development Goals. As it is widely known, Bangladesh is one of the least developing countries, and in this regard it deals with many problems including the struggle to ensure safe water and adequate sanitation facilities to its people. Thus a stronger focus should be given to these basic needs. In order to achieve this, the actual and the practical situations of the communities are needed to be highlighted. Hence top priority should be given to the people speaking out on their needs. As part of this, NGO Forum along with other NGOs and stakeholders adopted the grassroots consultation initiative. NRC, NGO Forum played a major role in holding all Village, Union and Divisional level meetings with the help of local level PNGOs and other sector players.

The results of these consultations were brought to the National Convention on grassroots consultation, where 400 representatives of the grassroots communities along with other stakeholders, International organisation representatives and a Senior Minister of GoB heard the news. The aim of the convention was to increase people’s awareness on the problems of inadequate sanitation in various part of the country. The emphasis was on identifying the needs for the rural communities to meet the challenges of “100% sanitation coverage” in Bangladesh by the year 2010 – the target set by the GoB in-line with the MDGs. The initiative received huge support from all walks of life and is a significant milestone in working towards achieving the MDGs.

Annex – I

Guidelines / Guiding Principles For The Grass Root Level Consultation

A WASH-STREAMS initiative

Introduction

Grassroots level consultations in the WatSan sector evaluate the requirements of the people, and investigate the current condition and initiatives that can be taken at Village level. Consultation meetings at grassroots level indicate the status of the rural situation and therefore can act as an orientation tool for planning purposes.

Under the circumstances, such meetings should be carried out in a random but coordinated fashion so as to reflect the true rural condition. Consultation through interactive meetings should take place; hence, for unified actions a set of guidelines is felt to be essential. Moreover, a questionnaire needs to be devised to enable analysis of the situation to occur in a uniform manner. Hence the guideline development is very important.

Approach

The consultation meetings will be conducted at Union and Divisional level in the six Divisions of Bangladesh. Within the Divisions, the facilitating organisation will select at least ten (10) Unions, which will be the basis for the grass root level consultancy.

Within the Union, at least 1 Village will be selected.

In the Village, 2 or 3 **Discussion Groups** will be organised from within the selected Village

- a. 1 with the hard core poor
- b. 1 with a women's group
- c. If possible, 1 with a VDC or related group (care should be taken so that disabled people are also represented in this group)

The results will be presented and discussed in a meeting at Union level. In this meeting, representatives from the Discussion Groups, women from the Ward level, Union Parishad members, DPHE mechanics operating at local level, representatives from level NGOs etc. will participate.

Following the different Union level consultations, stakeholders will participate at the **Divisional Consultation Meeting**. In this meeting they will be able to explore the outcomes from the Union level meetings and collect the voices from the grass root level.

The output of the grass root and Divisional level consultations will be presented and discussed at a **National Convention** in Dhaka.

In the different Divisions, the meetings will be conducted by different organisations. This guideline is meant to ensure uniformity in the consultation process executed by different organisations and to ensure comparable and compatible outputs. It gives guidance of how Group Discussions, Union level meetings and Divisional level meetings should be facilitated, what outputs are expected from each meeting and how the information from the different meetings will be collected for documentation purposes.

Methodology of Activities

Discussion Groups (DG)

Objectives of the DG:

- Make grass root people aware of Internationally and Nationally set WatSan targets (like MDG, etc).
- Allow grass root people to express their views and share ideas on these targets, and how they think they can be achieved in their situation.
- Share views on the difficulties the grass root people face in achieving these targets.

Preparation:

The facilitating organisation will collect information on:

- Background of the Union (the variety of age groups, gender, poor people and general education of the Villages, etc).
- State of sanitation in the Union, 10 years ago and now.
- People's representation for various development issues in the past and present, under Gram Sarker, with emphasis on the WatSan issues.
- NGO activities present in the area relating to WatSan sector.
- GoB initiatives in the area relating to WatSan sector.
- Private sector actors relevant for the WatSan sector in the Union.

It is assumed that the facilitating organisation has been active in the Union for some time and can access this information easily.

The facilitating organisation will select (at least) 1 Village in the Union and will organise 3 Discussion Groups in the selected Village.

Number of participants:

10-12 participants per Discussion Group. The 3 Discussion Groups will differ in composition.

- 1 Discussion Group with hard-core poor people. It is assumed that the facilitation organisation and the community itself will know who the hard core poor in the Village are.
- 1 Discussion Group with women. The women's group will be a mixed group, including women of different ages (15+ years old), wealth and education.
- 1 Discussion Group with a Village level organisation involved in WatSan activities in the Village, for example a Village Development Committee (VDC) or a Ward WatSan committee.

Materials:

- Large wall papers.
- VIPP cards, large coloured rectangles for noting parts.
- Markers (about 10).
- (Tape recorder, if perceived useful by the facilitator. The tape recorder can only be used if the participants of the Group Discussion trust the facilitator and are not reluctant to speak out because of the tape recorder).

Procedure: Steps toward execution of DG

Total Time: 2 hours

Step 1: Introduction (about ¾ hour): what do the targets mean for the Village?

The facilitator explains the MDG, National targets etc. to the Discussion Group.

MDG: between 1990 and 2015, the portion of the population without access to safe water and proper sanitation should be halved.

National Target: By 2010, 100% of the population should have access to adequate sanitation facilities.

The facilitator asks the participants to discuss what this means for their own Village: what needs to be done to achieve these goals? To get this information, the following questions can be asked and discussed in the group:

- What actions do you know to prevent illnesses, like diarrhoea?
 - Did you know about these 10 years ago? And did you practice it?
 - Do you practice it now? If not, why not?
-
- How many households had sanitary latrines 10 years ago?
 - How many households have sanitary latrines now?
 - How many households still need sanitary latrines to achieve the targets?
-
- What is the current maintenance of the latrines?
 - What is the required maintenance of the latrines?
 - Why is the maintenance not as it is supposed to be?

Box 1: Background on the MDGs and WSSD for facilitator

The MDGs are a set of goals and targets devised to help eliminate global poverty, aimed at accelerating global and national economic, social and environmental development. They represent a firm political commitment by all 191 United Nations member states to work together to eradicate global poverty. In September 2000, during the Millennium Summit, all of the 191 United Nations member states unanimously adopted the Millennium Declaration – a declaration of political commitment to work together to combat poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy, environmental degradation and discrimination against women. Following consultations among International agencies, the UN General Assembly recognized the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as part of the road map for implementing this Millennium Declaration.

There are eight MDGs in total. For each Goal one or more specific targets have been set, most for 2015, using 1990 as a baseline. Goal 7, on ensuring environmental sustainability includes access to safe water. Two years later, at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in September 2002, it was agreed to add to this water target a target on sanitation.

Step 2: Action Areas: Identification of action areas (about 1 hour)

- The facilitator explains the purpose of the exercise
 - the purpose of the exercise is to help people assess what kind of action will be needed in order to address the targets as mentioned above.
- The facilitator enquires of the people what are or will be the actions needed from the grass root people.
- The actions are written down separately on cards and taped on a wall paper, so that they are visible for all

Notes:

 - if it is not possible to tape the cards to a wall paper, the cards can also be displayed on the ground
 - in addition to cards with written text, drawings can also be used.
- Together with the participants, the facilitator should group the cards with actions into “action areas”, and discuss these.
- The facilitator asks the participants to discuss for each “action area” what kind of support they would need from outside.

Step 3: Selection of a representative (about ¼ hour)

The participants select 3 or 4 representatives from the group, who will represent the findings of the group at the Union level consultancy meeting.

Reporting

A reporter from the facilitating organisation will make notes on the discussions and observations.

The facilitator and reporter make a report containing the following issues:

- Name of the Village, name of the Union.
- Type of discussion group (women / hard core poor / Village level organisation involved in WatSan).
- Outcome of what needs to be done to achieve the National and International targets for the Village.
- Main action areas identified by the discussion Group.
- Main points of discussion / controversy within the Discussion Group.

Together with the facilitator, the selected representatives prepare a small presentation (about 10 minutes) on their findings, for the meeting of Union level.

Union Level Meeting

Objective of Union level meeting:

- Share results from Discussion Groups to learn from each other
- Provide grass root people with the opportunity to jointly assess the current situation with respect to the MDG and National Sanitation targets, and explore strategies and action areas to achieve them.
- Identify the resources (focus on human resources, knowledge etc.) and capacities of the grass root people and identify what kind of outside support would be needed.

Preparation:

The facilitating organisation will organise the meeting and will invite the participants.

Number of participants:

About 30: Around 10 representatives from the DGs, selected Ward members, Union Parishad representatives, local DPHE mechanics and mason, local NGO workers.

Procedure: Steps towards execution of Union level meeting

Timing: 2.5 hours

Step 1: Welcome by facilitator and personal introductions (10 minutes)

The facilitator explains the purpose of the meeting. He or she makes it very clear that the objective of this consultation initiative is to collect grass root voices and make them heard. In order to do this, the facilitator should stress the importance of an open discussion environment during the meeting.

All participants provide their names and organisations / Villages.

Step 2: Action Areas: Presentations of the action areas (45 minutes)

The representatives from the Discussions Groups present the action areas they have identified. After 3 presentations, there shall be room for Q&A guided by the facilitator.

Step 3: Selecting key action areas (20 minutes)

Based on the presented action areas, the participants should be asked what they consider to be the key action areas for the grass root people to achieve the targets (MDG, National targets etc.)

Step 4: Identifying resources (1 hour)

The participants will be split up in 4 different groups. Each group will deal with one of the following questions.

- What are the capacities and resources (focussing on human resources, knowledge etc.) that the grass root people **have** for addressing the key action areas?
- What are the capacities and resources (focussing on human resources, knowledge etc.) that the grass root people **lack** for addressing the key action areas?
- What outside factors enable the grass root people to address the key action areas? What outside resources are available and what outside resources are needed (focussing of human resources, knowledge etc)?
- What outside factors hamper the grass root people from addressing the key action areas?

The groups will present their findings to each other.

Step 5: Selection representatives (15 minutes)

Select 2 grass root representatives from the grass root participants (one man, one woman) to present the findings of the Union level meeting at the Divisional level meeting.

Reporting:

During the Union level meeting a reporter from the facilitating organisation will be present and will take notes. After the meeting, the facilitator and the reporter compile a small report on the meeting, comprising the following elements:

- Basic data on the Union (see issues raised under “preparation” of the Discussion Group).
- The reports from the 3 Discussion Groups
- Main action areas, as presented by the DG representatives and the selection of key action areas as selected by the participants at the Union Level meeting (and major points of discussion between the participants in coming to these)
- Summary of what resources are present at grass root level and what assistance and additional resources (focussing on knowledge, human resources, etc.) are needed from outside.

This report will be submitted to the secretariat, who will compile the reports. The secretariat will keep the Core Group updated on the process.

The selected representatives from the Union level meeting will prepare a poster on their findings to be presented at the Divisional level meeting. The facilitator will give assistance in making the poster, if required.

Divisional Level Meeting

Objectives of the Divisional level meeting:

- To bring together grass root level voices from all over the Division and make them heard at Divisional Level
- To prepare a grass root statement at Divisional Level

Preparation:

The facilitating organisation will collect information on:

- Demographic issues of this Division with special emphasis on WatSan sector
- Main NGO activities in the Division (coverage, extent and response of people to accept them).

- Main GoB initiatives within the Division related to the WatSan sector

The facilitating organisation will organise the meeting and will invite the participants. To prepare for the meeting, the facilitator shall go through the reports from the Union level meetings and identify common points (action areas, resources and knowledge that the community have and lack, and resources and knowledge that they need from outside). The facilitator will summarise these points into a draft Divisional Grass Root Declaration.

Number of participants:

Around 100 (grass root people, Divisional officials, representatives from organisations involved in WatSan in the Division (DPHE, National and International NGOs etc)

Procedure: Steps towards implementation of Division Level Meeting

Total time: about 3-4 hours

Step 1: introduction (1/2 hour)

Opening by a Division level official GoB representative. This will ensure his presence, so he can listen to the voices of the grass root people.

The facilitator will explain the objectives of the meeting. It will be important to stress that it is a *grass root* consultation. The higher officials shall be made aware of that and will be asked to listen rather than to speak.

Step 2: Action Areas: Presentation of the posters (1 ½ hour)

The posters prepared by the Union level meeting representatives will be hung in the meeting hall in advance. The participants are asked to move around and look at all the posters. One of the Union level representatives will stand next to the posters and will respond to queries from the participants. The facilitator moves around and verifies the draft grass root declaration (s)he has prepared.

Step 3: discussion session (1 hour)

The facilitator presents the Draft Grass Root Consultation Declaration as a summary of the different posters / summary of main common points. This will be followed by a discussion on these points with representatives from the Union level consultation and representatives from various organisations active in WatSan activities at Division level.

Step 4: Divisional grass root level statement (1 hour)

From the discussion, common points will emerge which all participants agree represent the grass root voice for the Division. These points will constitute the Grass Root Declaration on Divisional level. The Divisional Grass Root Consultation declaration will be read and endorsed by all participants.

Reporting:

There will be 2 reporters from the secretariat (NRC) to record minutes of the meeting. The reports of the Divisional level meetings, including the Divisional Grass Root Statements will be collected by the secretariat, who will share them with the Core Group.

Audio-visual Documentation

The audio-visual unit should visit 1 DG and 1 Union meeting in each Division. Furthermore, they should be present at the 6 Divisional level meetings.

The objective of the audio-visual unit:

To produce an audio-visual document (documentary film) that summarises the voices of the grass root people.

This will be done by

- Documenting the grass root level consultation process
- Documenting the main discussions on difficulties/ problems that grass root level people face in achieving the set targets
- Documenting the main requirements for seeking outside support

For this purpose a small film crew will have to be hired, consisting of a director and a camera person. The people hired should have experience in documenting grass root processes and should have experience in the development field.

The documentary film will be about 20 minutes long and will be shot in Beta-Cam format. It can be launched at the National Convention. It can be used as an advocacy tool on National, Regional and Global level. Furthermore, the film can be used to give feedback on the consultancy process to the Union and Village and can consequently be used as an advocacy tool at that level

