

# Policy Framework and Regulatory Measures for Sanitation in Bangladesh



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# World Health Organization => Sanitation

- Sanitation generally refers to the provision of facilities and services for the **safe disposal of human urine and feces**.
- **Inadequate sanitation is a major cause of disease world-wide** and improving sanitation is known to have a significant beneficial impact on health both in households and across communities.
- The word '**sanitation**' also refers to the **maintenance of hygienic conditions**, through services such as garbage collection and wastewater disposal.



# Main Points of Focus

## Overall framework

- Major legislations
- Existing policy
- Improvement plans
- Local regulation
- Gap analysis

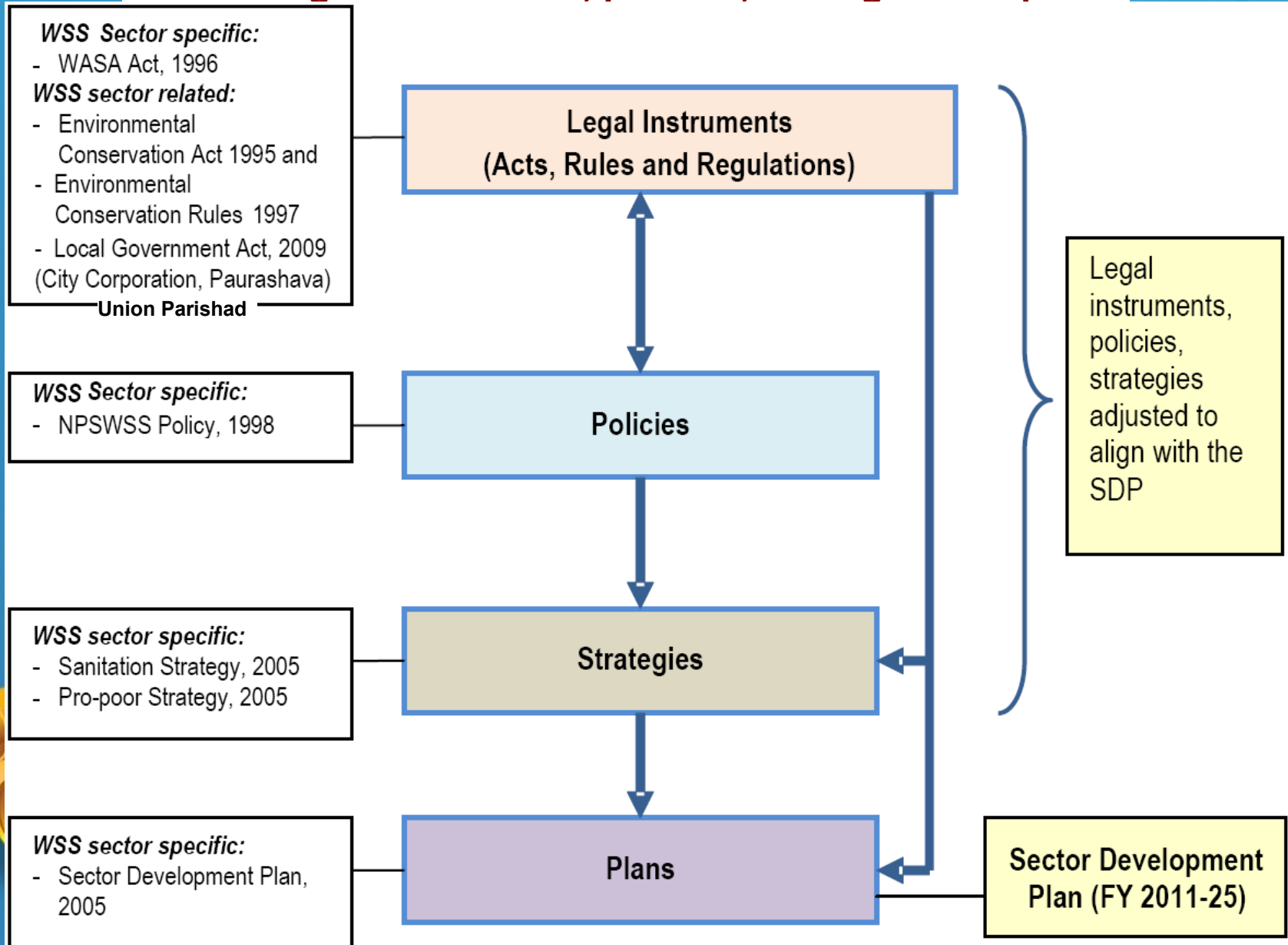
## Roles and responsibilities

- Responsible ministry
- Other involved entities
- Main regulator
- Centralized/decentralized responsibilities
- Main responsibility for implementation
- Involvement of utilities
- Local responsible agencies



# Overall Framework

## Present legal instruments, policies, strategies and plans





# Legal Instruments (Acts, Rules and Regulations)

## WASA (Water and Sewerage Authority) Act, 1996

This Act **empowers WASAs** to carry out works related to water supply and sewage systems in city areas.

## Environmental Conservation Act (ECA) 1995 & (ECR) 1997

ECA provides the basis of environmental management in Bangladesh and the ECR 1997 set the requirements of disposal of sewage into water bodies; However, **do not suggest any specific measures for household sanitation**, sewage treatment plants and sludge management.

## Local Government Acts (City Corporation, Paurashava, Union Parishad) 2009

This Act clarifies the roles and responsibilities of City Corporation/Pourashava/Union Parishad for water supply, sanitation, waste management services. It also **empowers LGIs to set tariffs**, tolls, and taxes for basic WSS services.

## Existing Policy Development

### National Policy for Safe Water Supply & Sanitation (NPSWSS), 1998

- Set national goal to ensure that **all people have access to safe water and sanitation** services at an affordable cost.
- It calls for **promoting the role of women**, decentralization of services and emphasizes the community participation.
- The Policy also recognizes the important roles of the **NGOs and private sectors** in sanitation.

### National Sanitation Strategy (NSS), 2005

- Emphasizes that the **decision making and implementation** of sanitation programs must be conducted **at the local level** by the local government institutions.
- Central government will be **responsible for funding, guiding, monitoring, and coordinating** sanitation programs throughout the country following a coherent consultative process.

## Existing Policy Development

### Pro-poor Strategy 2005 for WSS

- Firstly, there is a need for **'direct attack on poverty'** as the benefits of growth are not distributed equitably.
- Secondly, the NPSWSS 1998 provides for a **'safety-net'** for hardcore poor in conjunction with reducing subsidies over time.
  - Community requires to contribute 10% of the capital cost of WSS projects as the **'beneficiary's share'**.

### Sector Development Plan (SDP 2005) for WSS

It is considered to be **the strategic as well as the planning document for the WSS** sector of Bangladesh to achieve its national and international targets.

### Sector Development Plan (SDP FY: 2011-25 ) for WSS

It provides a comprehensive development plan for WSS sector for the next 15 years in phases.

# Progressive Developments in Three Terms of (SDP FY: 2011-25) Implementation



*Source: SDP (FY 2011-25)*



# Progressive Developments in Three Phases of (SDP FY: 2011-25) Implementation

## Short-term planning:

This period would comprise **priority programs and projects**, which are ongoing, approved and in the pipeline.

## Medium-term planning:

This period should include the **next round of priority programs and projects**. Before the end of the first five-year period, the medium term will be considered as the new short-term period with detailed program and project planning, and identification of financing.

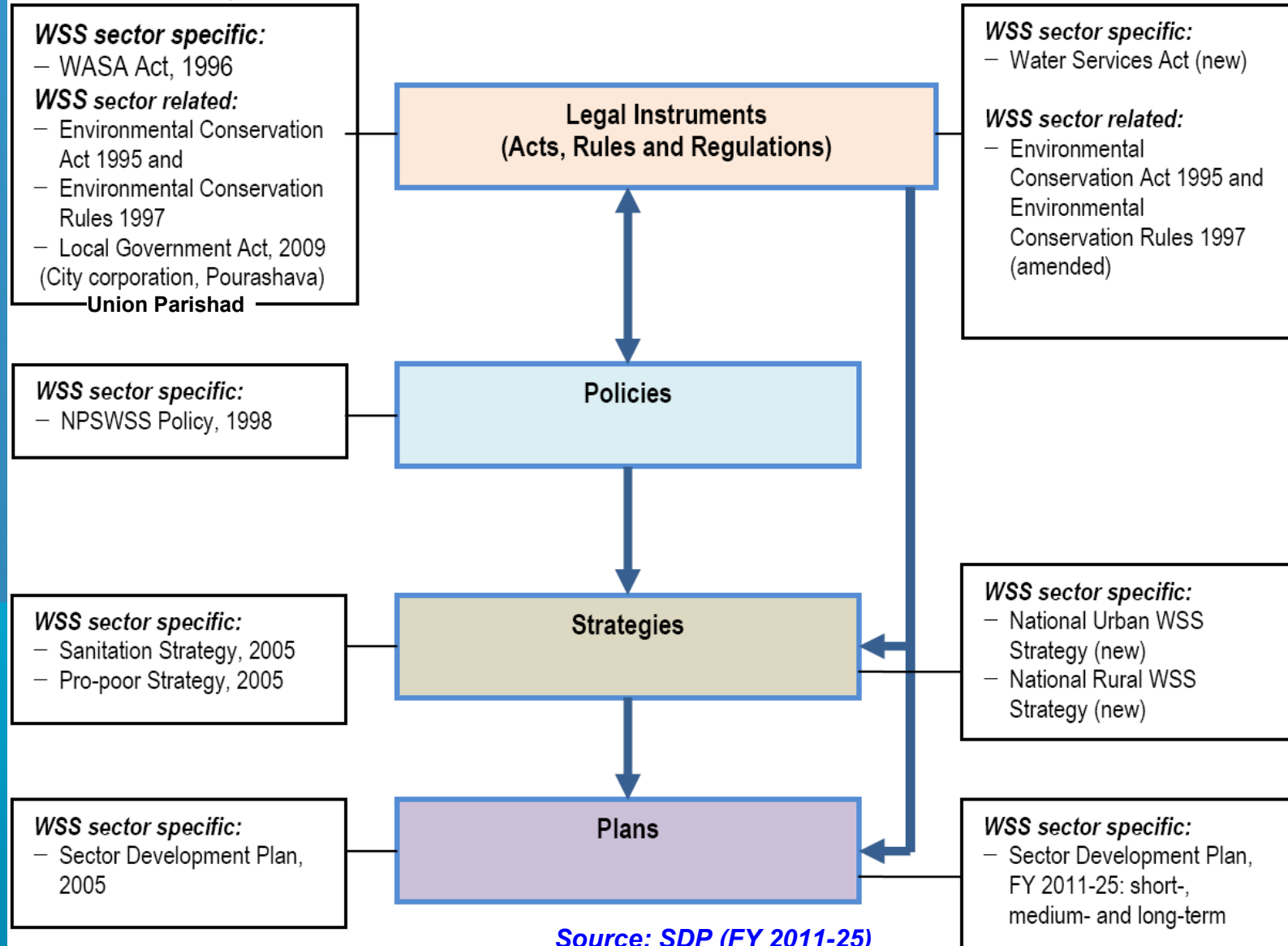
## Long-term planning:

Would express the **vision of the government** on how the WSS sector would develop at the end of the long-term planning period based on possible sector financing, and expected capacity for planning, implementation and O&M.

# Existing Plans for Improvement (Intended Sector Development Framework)

**Present legal instruments, policies, strategies and plans**

**The SDP and legal instruments, policies, strategies and plans align with**



# Existing Local Regulations

## Sewage Sludge Management in Khulna City Perspective

- Sewage sludge collection is done by **formal & informal sectors**.
- **KCC** provides services such as **de-sludging of septic tank** using their own staffs and vehicles against a fixed charge.
- Some **self employed professional** people who used to provide such services against contracted charges.
- There is **no municipal wastewater/ sewage treatment plant** in Khulna city, the traditional method such as land disposal is very common.
- **A little portion of sewage sludge is being collected and disposed by the KCC while the rest is managed by informal professionals.**
- **Sewage sludge is deposited in MSW disposal site, but major parts are disposed to the nearby drains or into mud holes.**

## Shortcomings – Gap Analysis

- ECR 1997 specifies the standards for effluent from industries/projects but not suggests any specific measures for regulation of sewage wastes, sludge management and sewage treatment plants.
- **There is an overlap of the roles and responsibilities of sector agencies.**
- There is a need for proper enforcement of the existing Local Government Acts 2009 and making provisions for further delegation of authority to the City Corporations/ Paurashavas/ Union Parishads for establishment of sewage treatment plants as well as fecal sludge management.



# Shortcomings – Gap Analysis

## Inclusion of Climate Change Impacts on Sanitation

- Bangladesh is one of the **worst victims of climate changes**.
- Temperature rise, increasing sea levels and more unpredictable weather patterns **will affect the WSS** sector having economic, environmental and health impacts.
- Climate change related **extreme events**, particularly cyclones and storm surges, **will damage WSS infrastructure** especially in the coastal regions.

## Roles and Responsibilities

### Main Responsible Ministry/Departments

The **Local Government Division (LGD)** of Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperative (MoLGRD&C) is responsible for the overall development of the WSS sector.

11

325

- Rajshahi WASA  
WASA

**Organizational structures of the organizations under LGD**

*(Source: SDP FY 2011-25)*

## **Other Involved Ministries/Entities**

### **Other Government Institutions that Play Role in WSS Sector**

Ministry of Finance (MoF), Ministry of Education (MoE), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR), Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE), Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (WASA), Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), National Institute for Local Government (NILG).

### **Non-Governmental/ International Organizations**

ADB, DANIDA, DFID, IDB, JICA, SDC, SIDA, UNDP, UNICEF, USAID, WHO, World Bank, WaterAid, Practical Action, Plan Bangladesh, World Vision, BRAC, CARE, ICDDR-B, PROSHIKA, PRISM, PRODIPAN, NGO Forum, VERC, etc.

# Roles and Responsibilities

## Main Regulator

As the **national focal agency for water and sanitation**, DPHE is involved in urban and rural areas.

- **WASAs** in large cities.
- **LGIs** (City Corporations/ Paurashavas/ Union Parishads) and **LGED** also deal with WSS.

## Centralized and Decentralized Responsibilities

The **National Forum for Water Supply and Sanitation** (NFWSS) coordinates at the national level between sector stakeholders such as development partners (DPs), government agencies (**DPHE, LGIs, LGED**), **WASAs**, **NGOs**.

## Main Responsibility for Implementation

**DPHE & LGED** is responsible for implementation of WSS projects in rural and urban areas outside **WASAs** areas



# Roles and Responsibilities

## Involvement of utilities (who is allowed to operate?)

Bangladesh has 11 City Corporations and 325 Paurashavas (Municipalities). **Five City Corporations have WASAs:** Dhaka-North, Dhaka-South, Chittagong, Khulna and Rajshahi. Other urban areas manage their WSS through **LGIs, DPHE, and NGOs.**

## Local Responsible Agencies

**City Corporations/ Paurashavas/ Union Parishads** are responsible for O & M of the sanitation units. In both rural and urban areas, **DPHE** increasingly collaborates with private sectors, **NGOs and CBOs** with a view to strengthening community participation for the sustainability in WSS.

# Roles and Responsibilities

## Enforcement of Dumping and Disposal

**The primary institution for environmental management is DoE under MoEF.** DoE has the authority to regulate and enforce environmental management including the pollution control of water resources.

## Regulation on Fair Pricing/ Tariff Setting

**NPSWSS 1998 => City corporations/ Paurashabhas/ Union Parishads shall be empowered to fix-up tariff.** SDP 2010 recommended cost sharing on sanitation:

<i>Cost Items</i>	<i>Sharing of Costs by Forms</i>	
	<i>Service Providers</i>	<i>Users</i>
Land/physical spaces for system construction	Allocated, if lands are of public	Shared, if lands are of private
Estimated capital costs based on: - Costs of capital hardware (i.e. rings, slabs, CC pipes, and other construction materials) - Construction costs of septic tank	75-90% subsidy or grants	25% contribution for poor and 10% for hardcore poor users
Sludge disposal (desludging) and management	No subsidy	100% contribution
Operation and Maintenance (O&M)	No subsidy	100% contribution

# References

1. Environmental Conservation Act (ECA) Bangladesh 1995
2. Water Supply & Sewerage Authority (WASA) Act Bangladesh 1996
3. Environmental Conservation Rules (ECR) Bangladesh 1997
4. National Policy for Safe Water Supply & Sanitation (NPSWSS) Bangladesh 1998
5. National Sanitation Strategy (NSS) Bangladesh 2005
6. Pro Poor Strategy for Water and Sanitation Sector (PPSWSS) Bangladesh 2005
7. The Local Government Act for Paurashavas of Bangladesh 2009
8. The Local Government Act for City Corporations of Bangladesh 2009
9. The Local Government Act for Union Parishads of Bangladesh 2009
10. Sector Development Plan (FY 2011-25) Water Supply and Sanitation Sector in Bangladesh, Final Report 2011



# **Let's Bring Sustainable Sanitation for the Urban Environment**

**Thanks for your kind Attention**

