



**the international
water association**

CWIS Current Status and Future Priorities: Insights from Asia

WEBINAR

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CWIS GLOBAL CONSULTATION



PARTNERS CONSULTED

| Development Agencies | Local Organizations | Networks | Resource Centers |
|----------------------|---------------------|----------|------------------|
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Three thematic focus areas

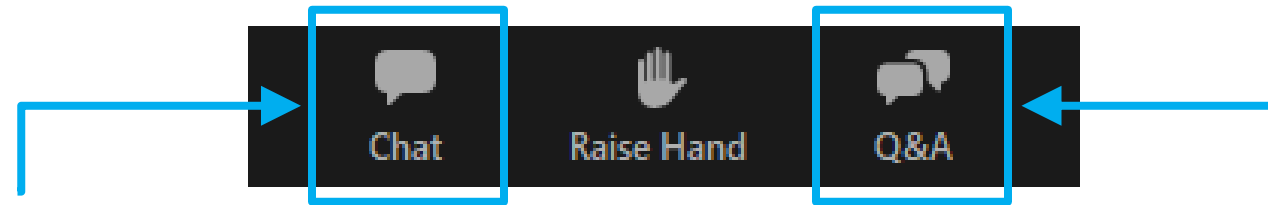
- Lessons learnt concerning the implementation of the CWIS approach
- CWIS factors that contribute to the acceleration of SDG 6.2 achievements
- Reflections on post 2030 Agenda

WEBINAR INFORMATION



- This webinar will be **recorded and made available “on-demand”** on the [IWA Connect Plus](#) platform and IWA Network website with presentation slides, and other information.
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- The opinions, hypothesis, conclusions or recommendations contained in the presentations and other materials are the **sole responsibility of the speaker(s)** and do not necessarily reflect IWA opinion.

WEBINAR INFORMATION



- **‘Chat’ box:** please use this for general requests and for interactive activities.
- **‘Q&A’ box:** please use this to send questions to the panelists. (We will answer these during the discussions)

Please Note: Attendees’ microphones are muted. We cannot respond to ‘Raise Hand’.

MODERATOR & SPEAKERS



Aasim Mansuri
(Moderator)
India



Jitendra Singh
ADB
Philippines



Sangam Shrestha
GWSC-AIT
Thailand



Juliet Willetts
UTS
Australia



Isha Basyal
GWSC-AIT
Thailand



Sudha Shrestha
UN-Habitat
Nepal



Alauddin Ahmed
ITN-BUET
Bangladesh



Kaveri Dhawan
DASRA
India



Dorai Narayana
WaterLinks
Philippines



Azuan Ahmad Zahdi
Indah Water Konsortium
Malaysia



Irma Magdalena Setiono
World Bank
Indonesia

AGENDA



| Item | Speaker |
|--|--|
| Housekeeping | Florence Laker, IWA Aasim Mansuri (Moderator) |
| Welcome remarks | Jitendra Singh, ADB |
| | Sangam Shrestha, GWSC-AIT |
| Framing presentation: CWIS current status & future directions | Juliet Willetts, UTS |
| Poll 1 | Aasim Mansuri, CWAS, CRDF–CEPT University |
| Status of urban sanitation in Asia | Isha Basyal, GWSC-AIT |
| Expert panel reflections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CWISAN, UN-Habitat, Nepal - ITN-BUET, Bangladesh - DASRA, India - WaterLinks, Philippines - Indah Water Konsortium (IWK), Malaysia | Moderator: Aasim Mansuri <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sudha Shrestha - Alauddin Ahmed - Kaveri Dhawan - Dorai Narayana - Azuan Ahmad Zahdi |
| Audience reflections – Poll 2 & Q&A | Moderator & Panelists |
| Key messages & closing | Irma Magdalena Setiono, World Bank |

WELCOME REMARKS



Jitendra Singh
ADB
Philippines

WELCOME REMARKS



Sangam Shrestha
GWSC-AIT
Thailand

FRAMING PRESENTATION



Juliet Willetts
UTS
Australia



the international
water association

CWIS Current Status and Future Directions: Global Insights with a Focus on Asia

FREYA MILLS, JESS MACARTHUR AND JULIET WILLETTS
INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE FUTURES, UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY SYDNEY

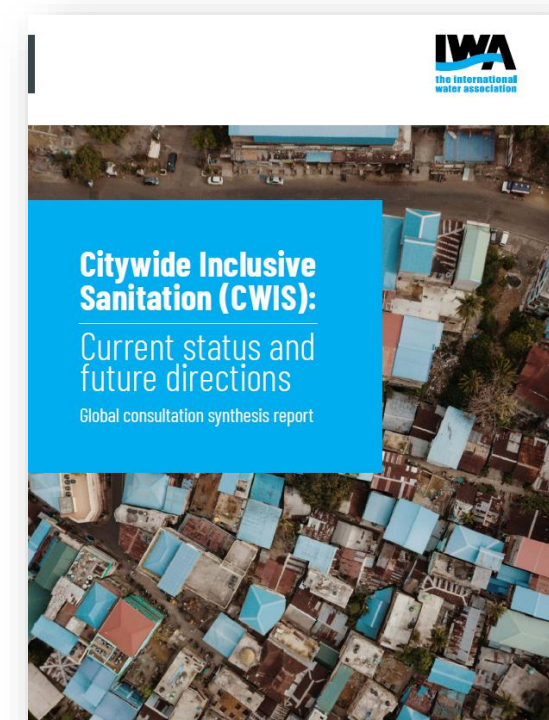
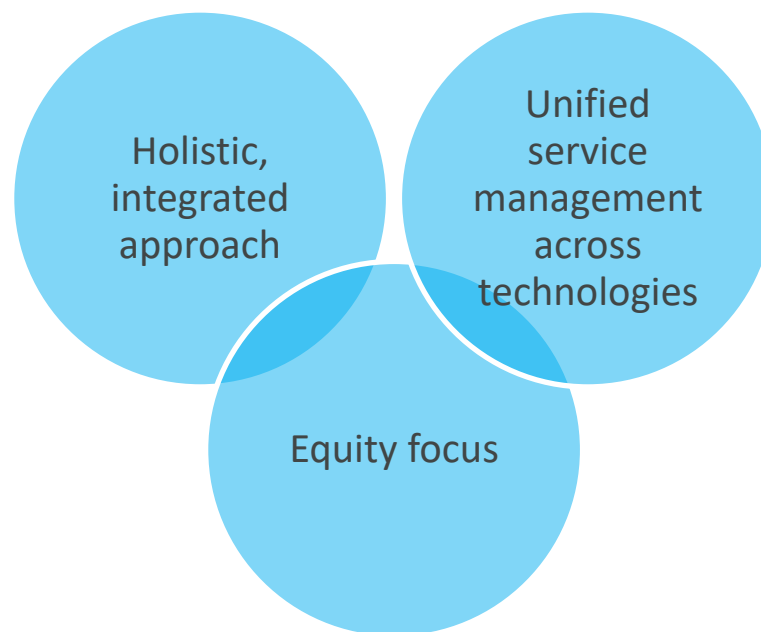


UTS Institute for
Sustainable
Futures

inspiring change

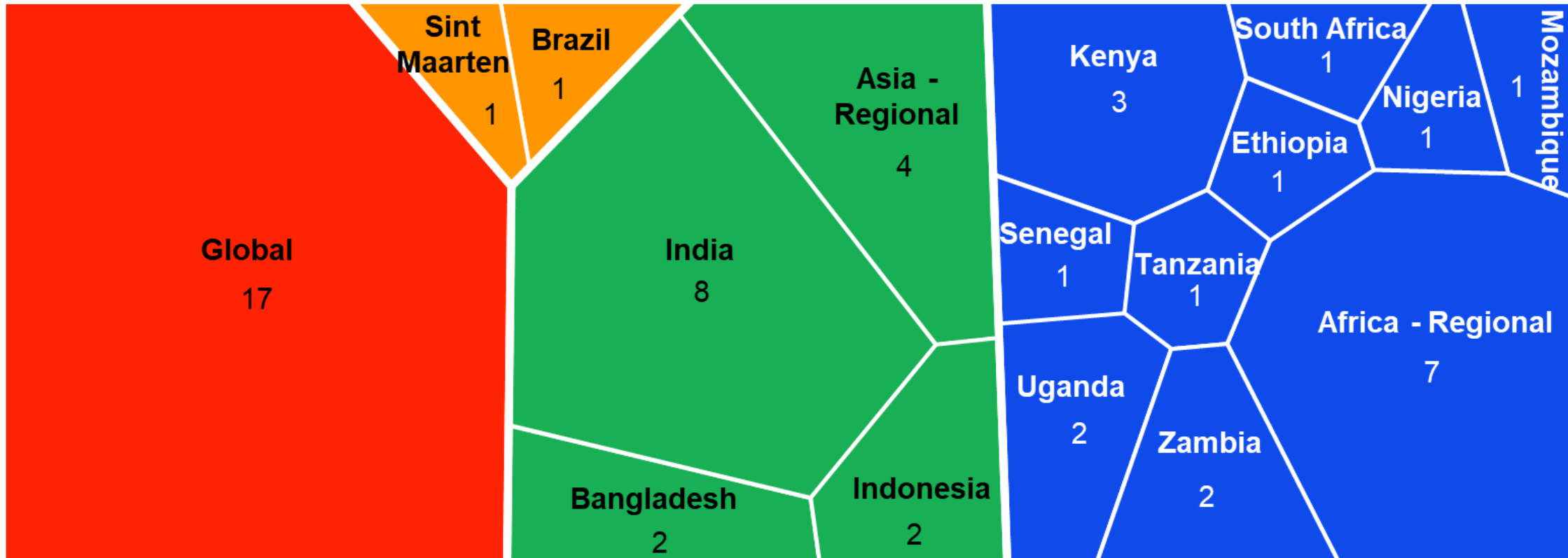
CITYWIDE INCLUSIVE SANITATION (CWIS)

CWIS is a **public service approach** to planning and implementing urban sanitation systems to achieve SDG6, *irrespective of where people live within the city or what technologies are used to serve them.*



GLOBAL CONSULTATIONS

- 55 Interviews, 68 Respondents – 16 interviews from the Asian region

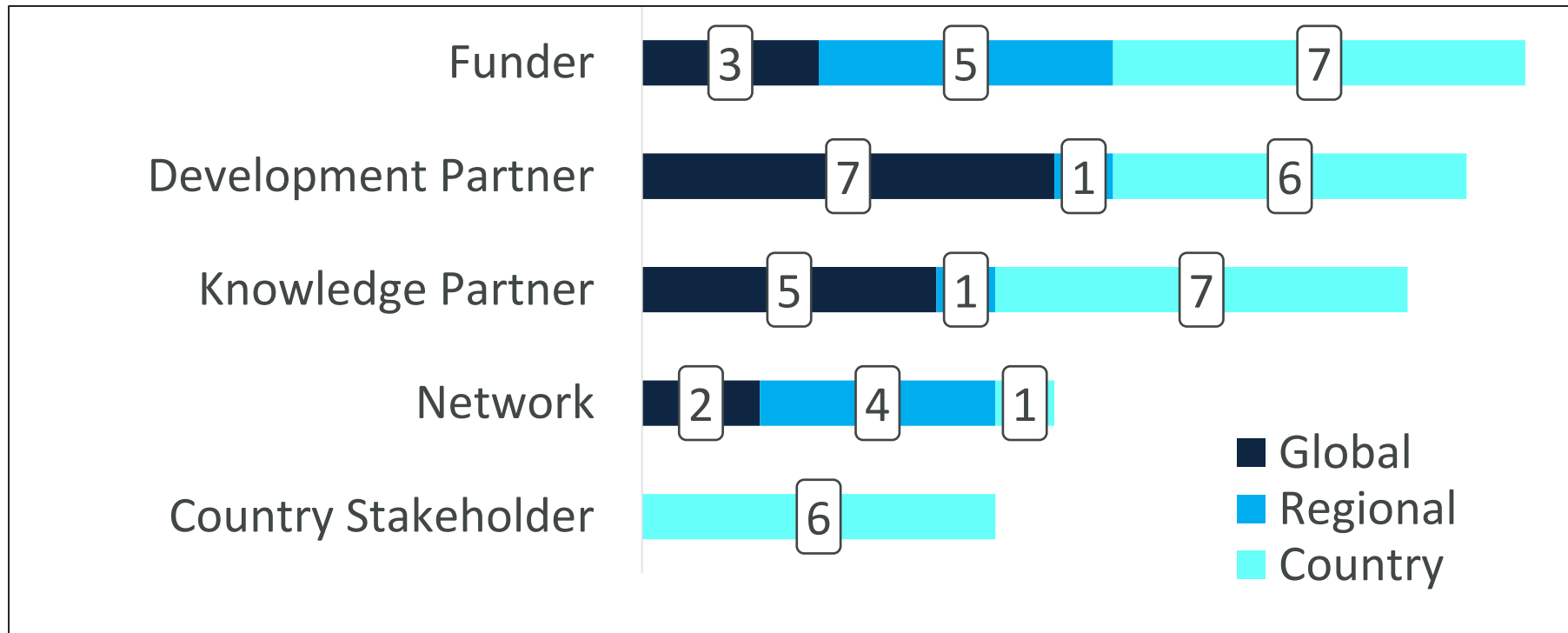


Representing geography



GLOBAL CONSULTATIONS

- 55 Interviews, 68 Respondents – 16 interviews from the Asian region



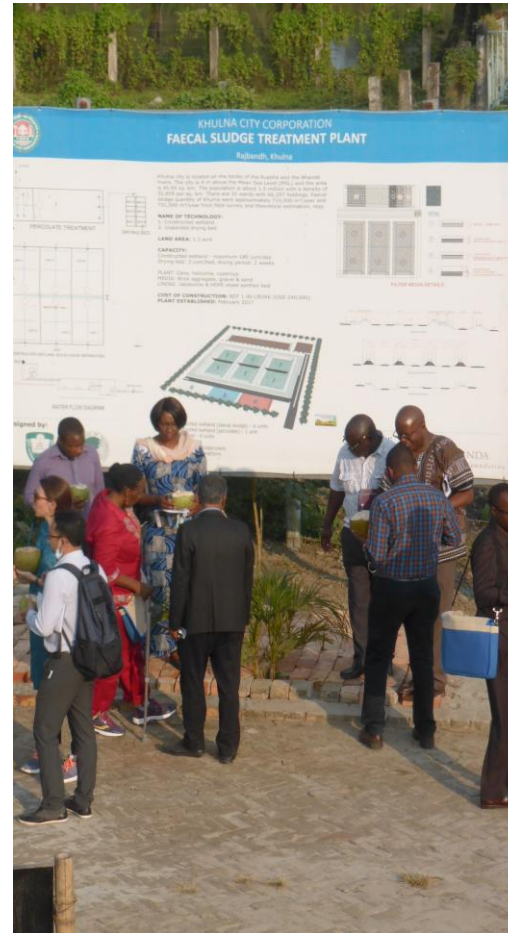
Part 1: CURRENT STATUS

Insights from global consultations

ADOPTION AND ACCEPTANCE: WIDESPREAD BUT UNEVEN

Acceptance:

- **Broad acceptance** in Africa and parts of Asia, including Bangladesh and Nepal
- **Flexible adoption** with some valuing CWIS as “novel” others viewed CWIS as aligned with existing approaches
- **Alignment** with national and local policies facilitated adoption (e.g. Ethiopia, Brazil, Nepal, Indonesia)



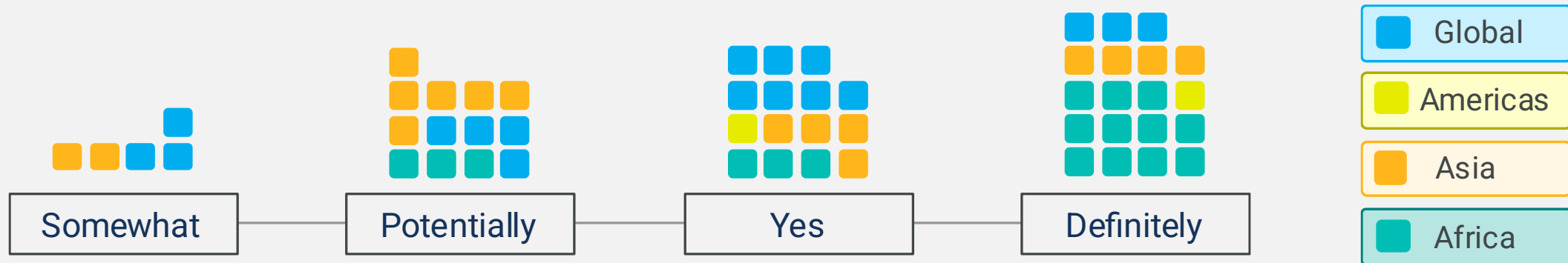
Promotion:

- **Valued the alignment** in promoting CWIS by funders and development partners
- **Context-specific promotion and intensive capacity building events** with broad stakeholders
 - (e.g. AfWASA training in Kenya, World Bank CWIS event in Somalia, ADB, ITN BUET, CEPT and AIT/GWSC in Asia)

WHAT IS THE VALUE OF A CWIS APPROACH?

CWIS viewed as a **transformative, unifying framework** that accelerates progress toward universal access

Is CWIS **fit-for-purpose** for accelerating progress toward sanitation SDG 6.2?



Range of responses by geography. Each square is an interview

WHAT IS THE VALUE OF A CWIS APPROACH?

Respondents valued CWIS emphasis on:

✓ **Equity and inclusion** focus

✓ **Flexible** to adapt to diverse contexts and entities

✓ **Holistic service delivery** across the sanitation chain.

“The benefits, include thinking about it more holistically as a strategy, as an approach, not thinking about it as a specific system we have to implement. (Funder, Africa)

✓ **Broadens perspectives** of urban sanitation

✓ **Fostering stakeholder coordination**

✓ **Elevating profile** of urban sanitation

CWIS brings all these diverse key stakeholders together. It not only gets them to agree but also to commit to a common approach for tackling their sanitation challenges.”
(Knowledge Partner, Africa)

““It allows us to serve more people quicker.... Now, we can achieve scale, we can have impact, and we can have it faster” (F Asia))

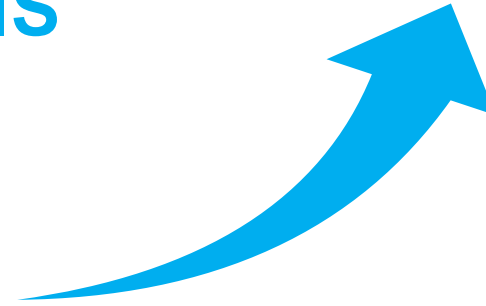
EMERGING EVIDENCE OF EFFECTIVENESS

- CWIS widely recognized as “game changing” yet not by all
- **Growing evidence of impact** but documented evidence and practical examples needed

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Strengthened governance systems and accountability</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanitation integrated within national strategies and policies in Nepal and Bangladesh • Improved coordination through stakeholder networks like CWIS Alliance in Nepal • Incorporation of CWIS into County Integrated Development Plan enabled adoption in municipal and health sector plans in Kenya • Some urban utilities taking responsibility for sanitation, in Kenya, Zambia and Indonesia |
| <p>Shift from traditional sewer mindsets</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reforms have institutionalized non-sewered sanitation (NSS) and clarified regulatory mandates (e.g. in Kenya, Malawi and Uganda, emerging in Asia) • Large-scale investments that go beyond sewers (e.g. in Indonesia, Bangladesh, Mozambique) |
| <p>Prioritization of equity</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovative financing mechanisms have targeted the urban poor (Bangladesh) • Gender inclusion has also progressed in some countries, including India |

ACHIEVING SCALE WITH CWIS

CWIS is seen as a scalable approach and has already been scaled through inspiration from leading cities



Scaling was facilitated by:

- **Policy and regulatory reforms**, central to CWIS governance approach, facilitates scaling (e.g. Bangladesh, some Indian states- Rajasthan)
- **CWIS stepwise approach**, facilitates scaling as progress can be made with existing resources, rather than only relying on major infrastructure finance
- **Knowledge sharing** across locations and mentorship



Continued development of key capacities is essential for scaling including in planning, financing and regulations.

Part 2: FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Moving forward with CWIS and post 2030 priorities

RECOMMENDATION 1: SUPPORT THE CONTINUATION OF CWIS

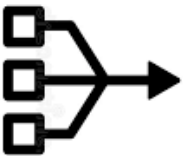
Consensus that CWIS should continue to be pursued

- Increasingly well-understood name, concept and approach
- Adopting a new or different name or brand would be detrimental
- Continue to evolve CWIS based on 'what works' with increased practical guidance.

i) **Invest in further socialising CWIS** in new contexts, strengthen messaging, build promoter capacity.



ii) **Consolidate and align** on CWIS principles and explanation.

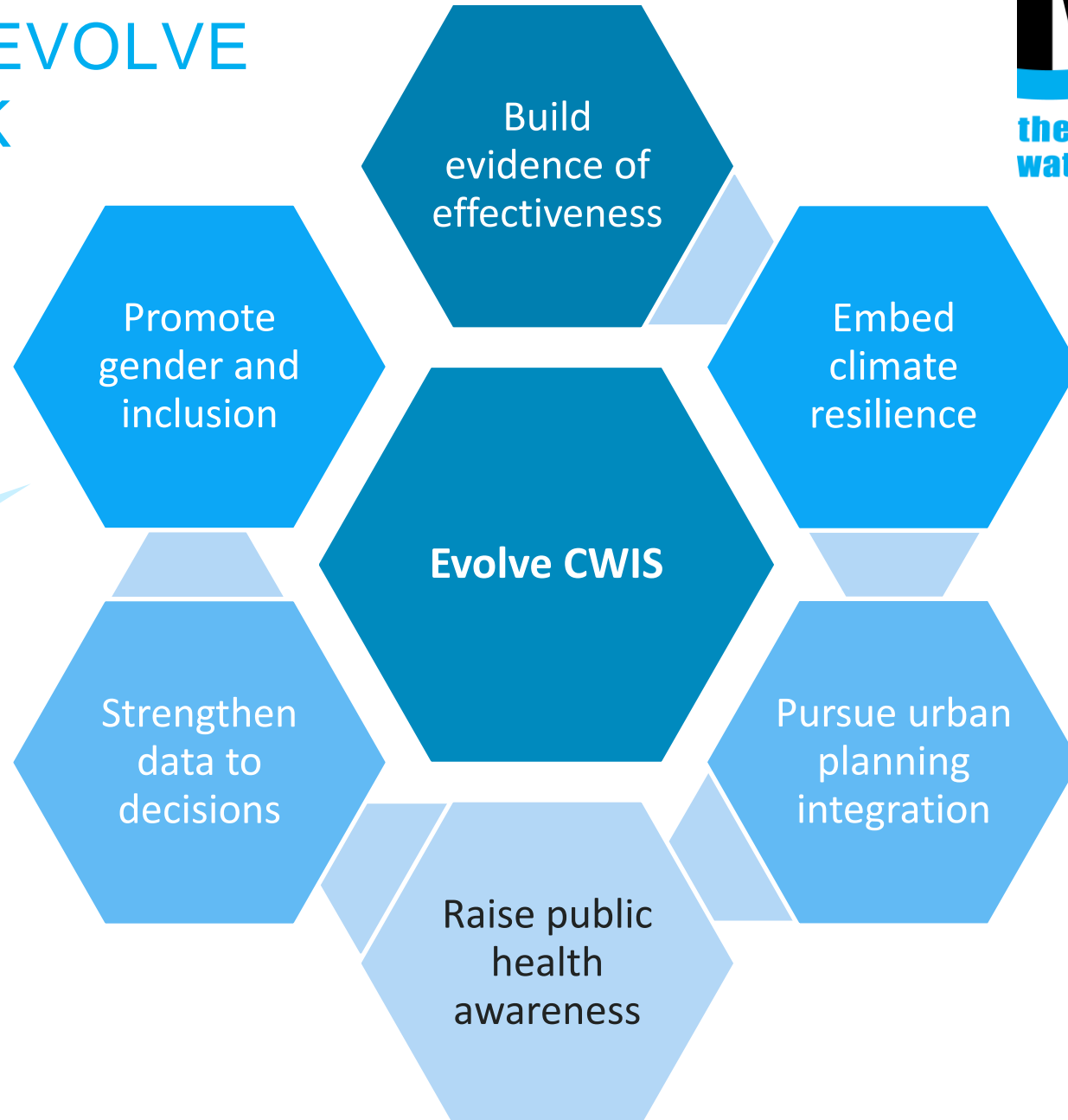


iii) **Develop concise, practical resources with concrete implementation examples**



Not a blueprint:
Ensure CWIS framing is
responsive to context.

RECOMMENDATION 2: EVOLVE THE CWIS FRAMEWORK



Continue incorporate new elements as experience expands: *“with CWIS, we continuously document what works and what doesn't, and anything new or innovative that we encounter, we can comfortably incorporate it”* (Country stakeholder, Kenya)

RECOMMENDATION 3: INCREASE CAPACITY TO IMPLEMENT CWIS

Consolidating CWIS gains requires addressing capacity challenges at multiple levels

Expand university teaching and research on CWIS and governance aspects

Adopt strategies to expand the consultant pool with CWIS skillsets and certification

Complement loans and grants with sufficient technical assistance.

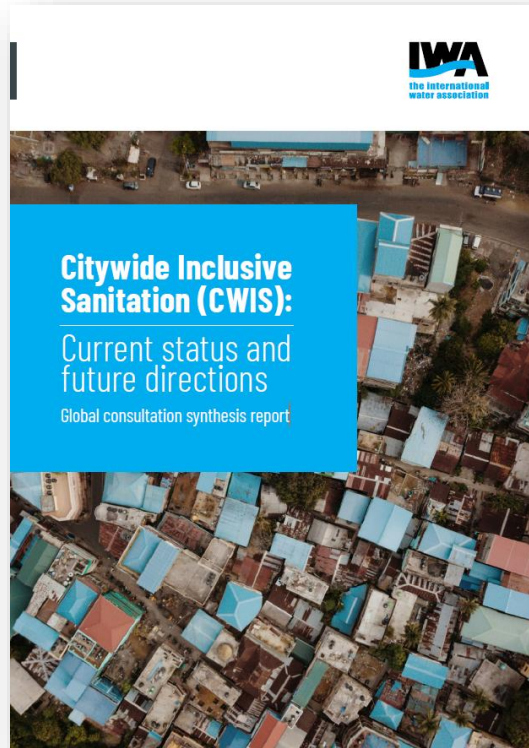
Allocate resources to networks and knowledge institutions to build capacity and evidence



Build from existing initiatives



FURTHER INFORMATION



IWA Citywide Inclusive Sanitation (CWIS): Current status and future directions



IWA Discussion Paper: Citywide Inclusive Sanitation: Reviewing the State of the Art



IWA Discussion Paper: Climate resilient urban sanitation from ideas to action



POLL 1

MODERATOR: AASIM MANSURI

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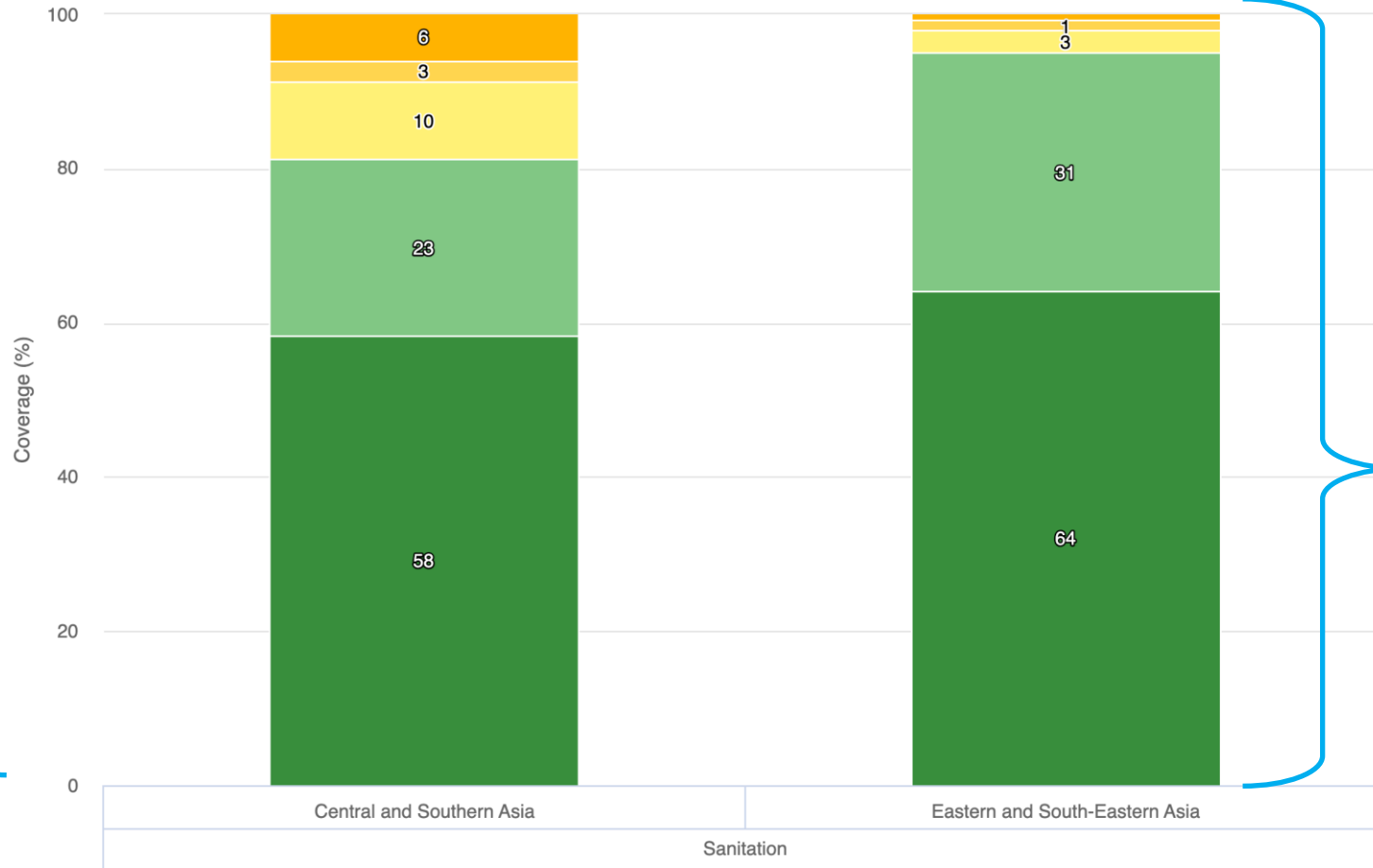
STATUS OF URBAN SANITATION IN ASIA



Isha Basyal
GWSC-AIT
Thailand

SANITATION IN ASIA: PROGRESS, BUT NOT YET SAFE

Household data - SDG regions - 2024 - Service Levels



~ 10% points increment in safely managed sanitation

~4-5% points reduction in OD

~ 40% still not safely managed

- Open defecation
- Unimproved
- Limited
- Basic
- Safely managed

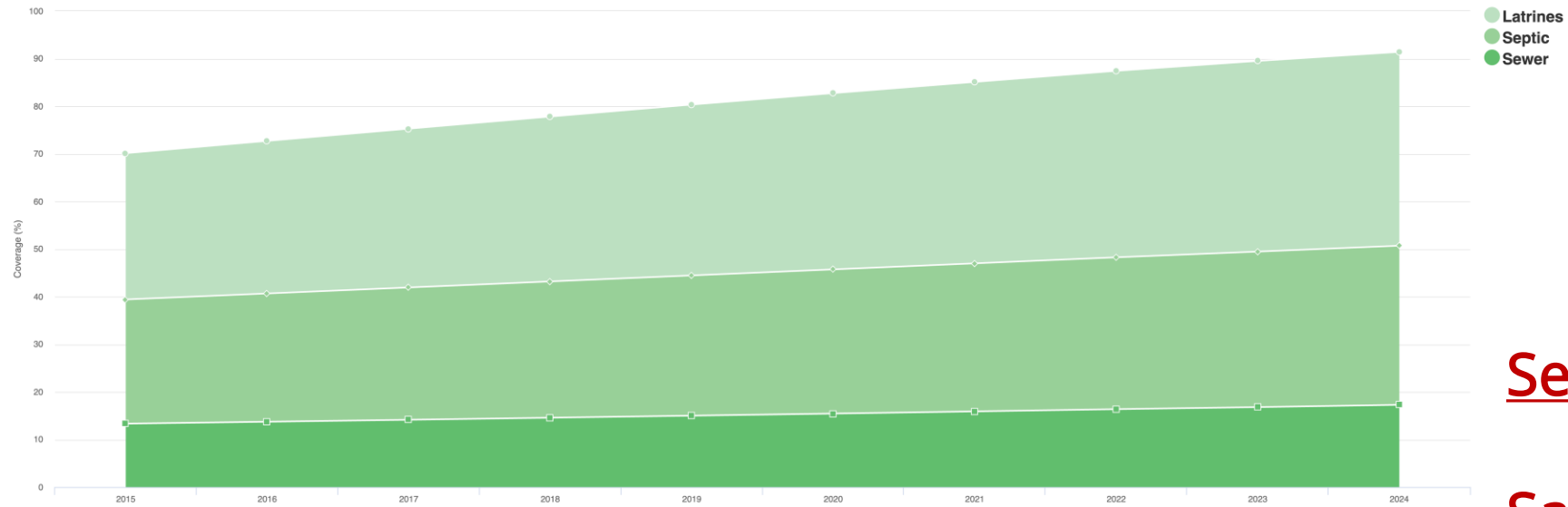
~ 9% points increment in safely managed sanitation

~Almost zero open defecation

~35% still not safely managed

CENTRAL AND SOUTH ASIA | ONSITE DOMINATES BUT TREATMENT IS MINIMAL

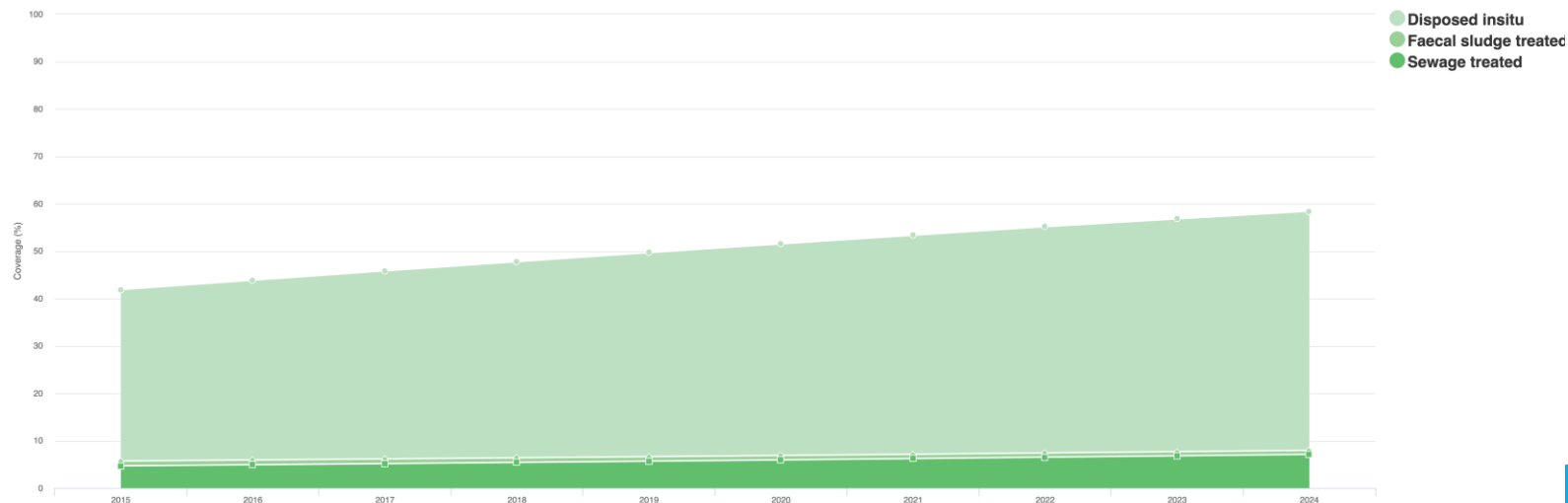
Household data - Sanitation - Central and Southern Asia - Facility Types



Sewer is only ~17%

Sanitation is Contained, but very little is treated ~ (7-8%)

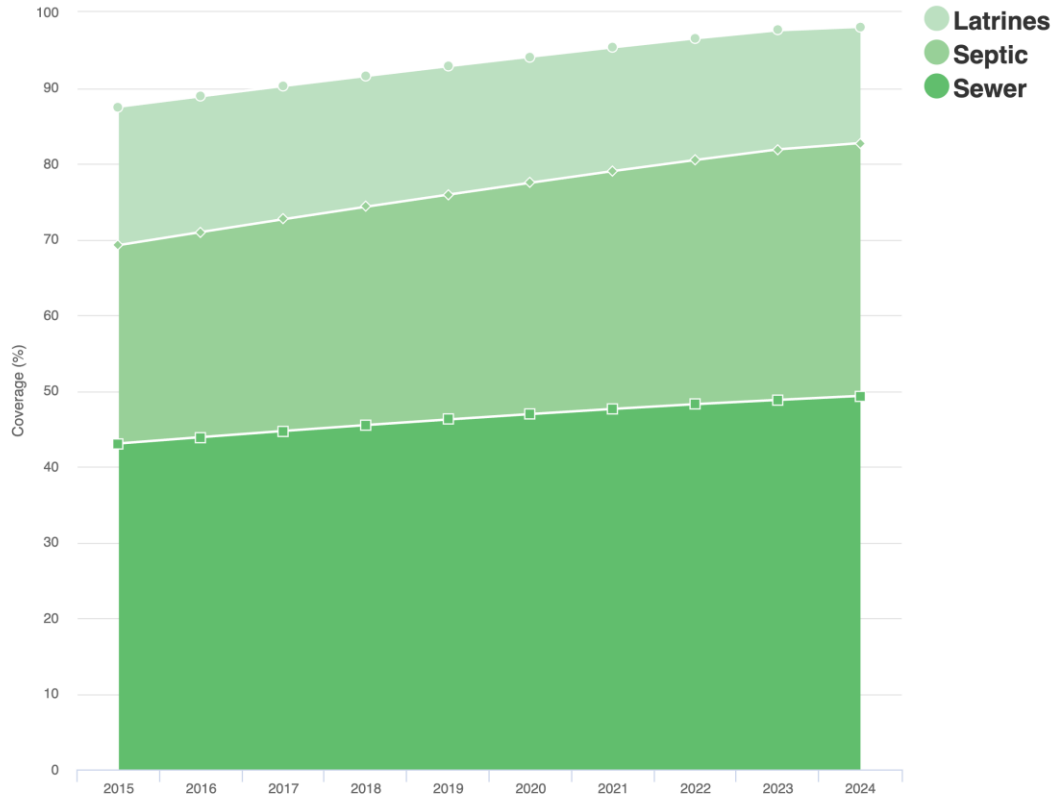
Household data - Sanitation - Central and Southern Asia - Safely Managed Services



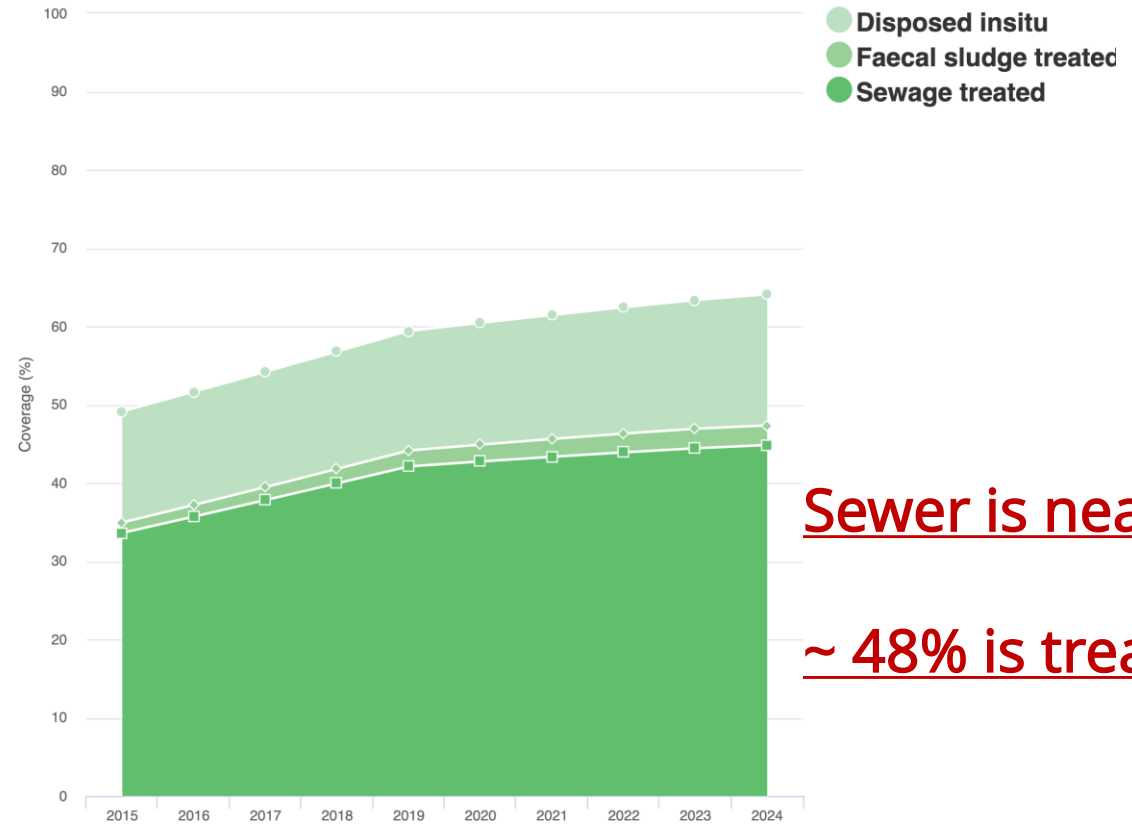
EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA | MORE SEWER, STILL INCOMPLETE SYSTEMS



Household data - Sanitation - Eastern and South-Eastern Asia - Facility Types



Household data - Sanitation - Eastern and South-Eastern Asia - Safely Managed Services

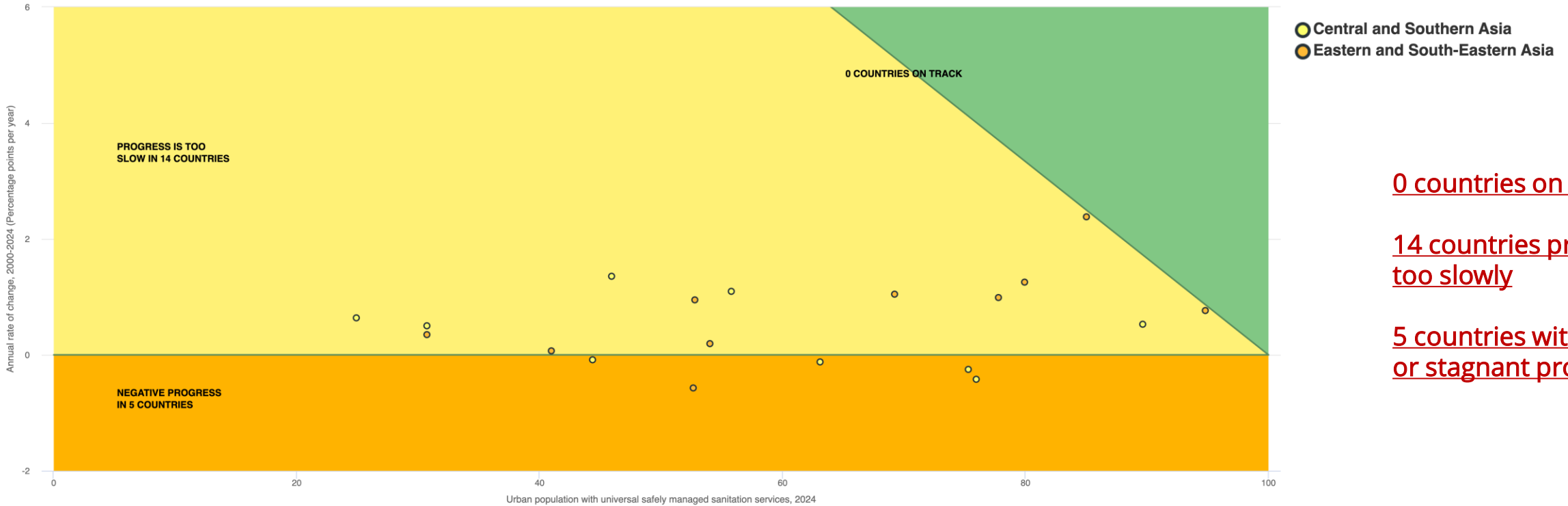


Sewer is nearly ~50%

~ 48% is treated

OFF TRACK FOR 2030

0 of 19 countries in Central and Southern Asia, Eastern and South-Eastern Asia below 99% coverage are on track to achieve universal safely managed sanitation services by 2030

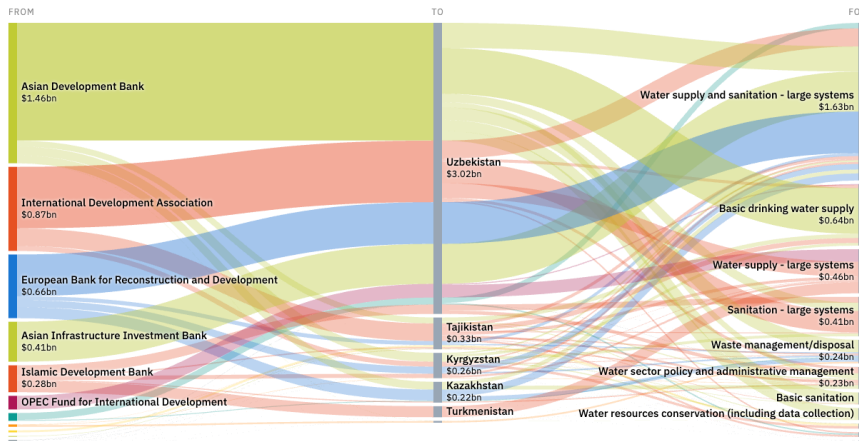


0 countries on track

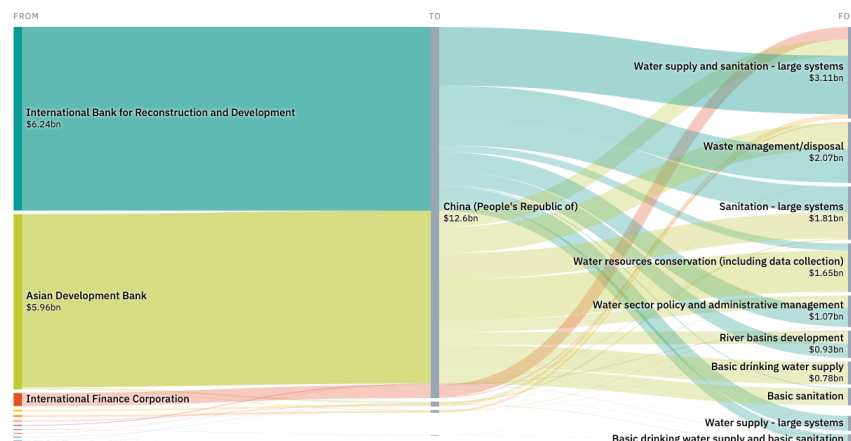
14 countries progressing too slowly

5 countries with negative or stagnant progress

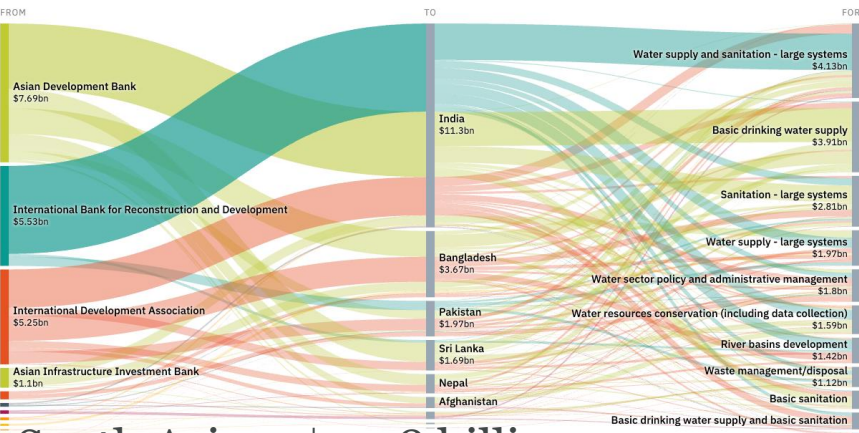
MONEY IS FLOWING BUT OUTCOMES ARE NOT



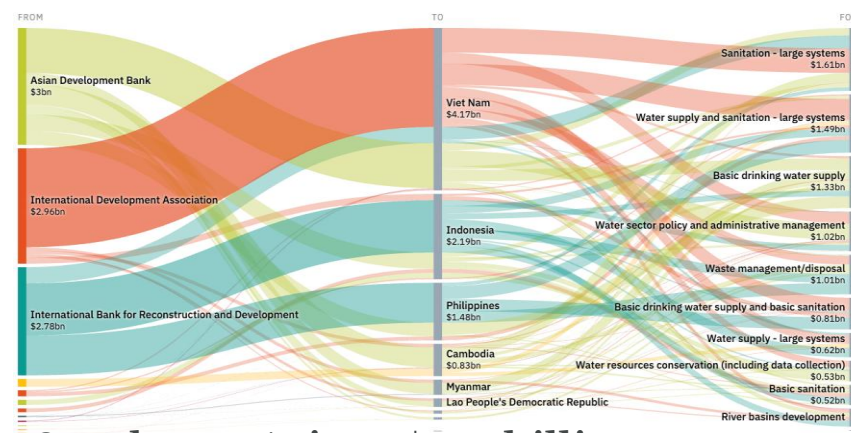
Central Asia - \$3.96 billion



East Asia - \$12.9 billion



South Asia - \$20.8 billion



Southeast Asia - \$9.5 billion

Reflects external development financing, largely capital investments

Real issue is the System Gap

Source: https://aid-atlas.org/profile/all/all/water-supply-sanitation/2002-2021?usdType=usd_commitment

SYSTEM FAILURE, NOT A COVERAGE GAP

Money ≠ Operational Results

Investment is flowing, but not into system performance

Progress ≠ SDG Achievement

Despite progress in access, countries are not progressing fast enough in outcomes



Access ≠ Safe Service

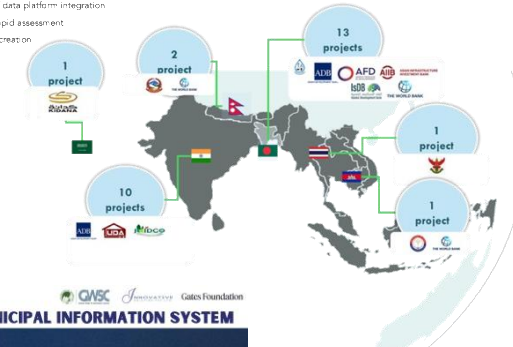
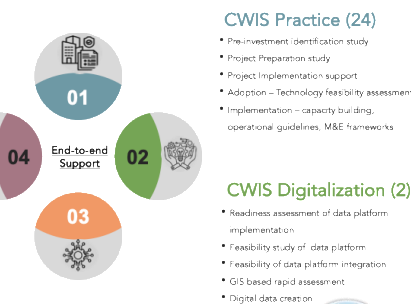
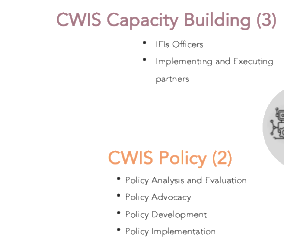
Access has improved, but safe outcomes have not kept pace

Infrastructure ≠ Service Delivery

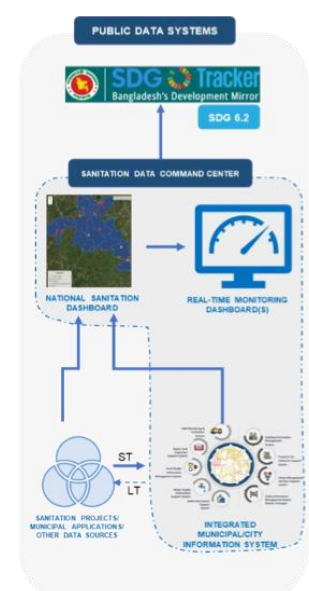
Sanitation is predominantly onsite, but systems to manage it are missing

Not a coverage gap but a system performance failure

WHAT IT TAKES TO MAKE SYSTEMS WORK



Strengthening of Public Data Systems for Sanitation in Bangladesh (SPDSSB) - Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives



OPEN-SOURCE INTEGRATED MUNICIPAL INFORMATION SYSTEM



1. Regional presence + partnerships
 South, Southeast, Central Asia
 Gov + IFIs (WB, ADB, IsDB, AFD, AIIB)

2. System-level work

- CWIS
- NSS models + technology
- Digital systems (IMIS)
- Capacity building

3. Bridging role already in practice

- Government ↔ IFIs
- Planning ↔ Financing
- Data ↔ Decision-making

GWSCJ DELIVERING IMPACT TOGETHER

MoU with Department of Public Health Engineering, Govt. of Bangladesh (2023)

MoU with Water Research Commission, South Africa (2024)

MoUs with the Govt. of Surakarta, Province of Yogyakarta Special Region, and Chamber of Commerce, Yogyakarta Special Region in Indonesia (2024)

MoU with Department of Water Supply and Sewerage Management (DWSSM), Birendranagar Municipality, Nepal (2024)

MoU with Mekong River Commission (2024)

MoU with International Federation of Red Cross and Crescent (2025)

MoU with Asian Development Bank (2025)

Listed under expert roster's WASH & Climate Change Adaptation components (2024)

MoU with five key partners (2025)

Member of NFSSM Alliance

Member of Sanitation and Water for All

Key Partnerships across governments, utilities, international organizations, and development banks

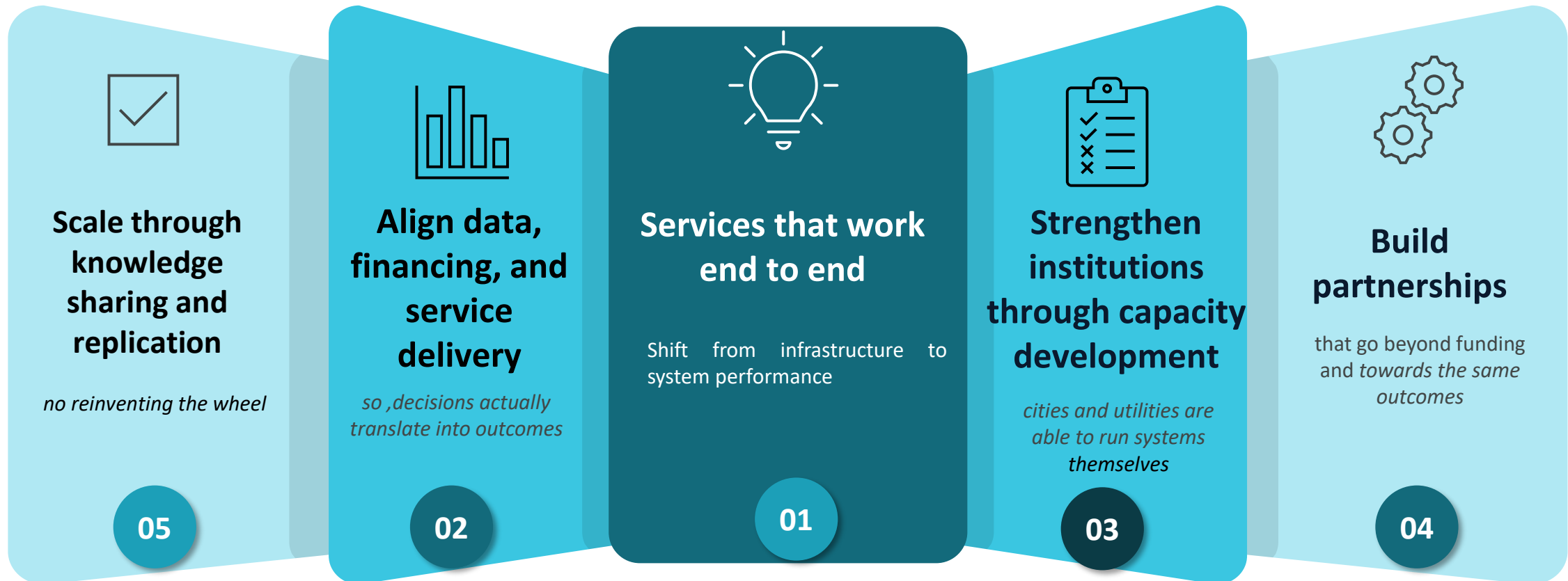
124
 communities reached

0.53B+
 beneficiaries

\$0.5B+
 Leveraged amount

\$2.4B+
 Influenced amount

WHAT IT TAKES TO ACCELERATE SANITATION IN ASIA



THANK YOU



EXPERT REFLECTIONS

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PANELISTS



Sudha Shrestha
UN-Habitat
Nepal



Alauddin Ahmed
ITN-BUET
Bangladesh



Kaveri Dhawan
DASRA
India



Dorai Narayana
WaterLinks
Philippines



Azuan Ahmad Zahdi
Indah Water Konsortium
Malaysia



POLL 2 & Q&A

MODERATOR: AASIM MANSURI

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REFLECTIONS/ KEY MESSAGES



Irma Magdalena Setiono
World Bank
Indonesia

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The Application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Water and Wastewater Treatment

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14:00 BST



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