

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER(PHE) : WBP : ASSAM
HENGRABARI : GUWAHATI-781036

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NOTICE

Request for feedback from Stakeholders
on the Draft (version-1) Report of Environment Assessment(EA) and prepared Environment Management Framework(EMF)
for the
Proposed World Bank-assisted Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project for Assam as Low Income States

Background

The Government of India (GOI) and State Governments have expended more than Rs.1,50,000 crores over the last 20 years in providing water supply to more than 70 crore people in 15 lakh rural habitations and achieving sanitation coverage for 31% (Census 2011) of the rural households. This is a major accomplishment for the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation (RWSS) programmes, but many challenges remain, especially translating these expenditures into significantly improved and sustainable service delivery.

Only 30% of rural households have tap connections and less than 10% of Gram Panchayats have received the Nirmal Gram Puraskar award for achieving the "open defecation free" environment. Deteriorating quality and quantity of source water, poor operations and maintenance (O&M) standards and weak cost recovery are formidable constraints in achieving and maintaining full coverage. About 30-40% of schemes that were fully covered periodically slip back to "partially covered" or "not covered" status. Recently, as part of the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDW²), the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (MoDWS) has prepared its long term strategic plan (2011-2022) for ensuring drinking water security to all rural households. The strategic plan aims to cover 90% of households with piped water and at least 80% of households with tap connections during this period. This forward looking strategy supports the creation of an enabling environment for the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and local communities to manage rural drinking water sources and systems.

Considering that some states are lagging behind in many of the service parameters in RWSS, the MoDWS is now developing a dedicated programme for sustainable coverage of Rural Water and Sanitation facilities with a special focus on four low income States which have less than 10% coverage of "households with tap connections" and low access of sanitation facilities, and is also seeking World Bank assistance for the Programme.

Objectives

To improve Piped Water coverage and Sanitation services through decentralized service delivery systems by Tap Water connection to Households, with community participation alongwith O&M cost sharing at 24x7 service level in the quality-affected, least service level areas, where most of the existing schemes have crossed the design period and Environmental sanitation approaches with back-up support to NBA for dysfunctional toilets.

Strategy

The Department of Economic Affairs(DEA) has requested for the World Bank assistance to support the MoDWS in preparing and implementing the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project for Low Income States(RWSSP-LIS), with a Phase-I Programme (IDA USD 500 Million and counterpart GoI funding USD 500 Million). Assam is amongst the four States alongwith Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Jharkhand considered under this Project, by GOI, MoDWS for the proposed 50:50 cost sharing project with World Bank.

In Assam, altogether 9 Multi Village Water Supply Schemes are proposed in seven Districts, namely, Sivasagar, Jorhat, Morigaon, Sonitpur, Kamrup, Bongaigaon and Hailakandi.

Sl. No.	Name of District	Name of Scheme	Name of Block	No. of GP	No. of Vill	No. of Habs	Present Popln.	Components
1	Kmrup	Composite WSS for Sustainability & Quality in Chandrapur & Dimoria Dev.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chandrapur Dimoria 	4 12	45 145	194 486	244721	River Intake; Raw water Conveying system; Central Treatment Plant; Common Header type Clear Water Main; Zonal Elevated Service Reservoir; Rehabilitation of existing constituent schemes etc. including Environmental Sanitation.
2	Sibsagar	Amguri - Gaurisagar Integrated WSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amguri Gaurisagar 	12 13	78 87	322 307	138165	
3	Jorhat	Composite WSS for Sustainability & Quality in Jorhat Jorhat Central & Jorhat North-west Dev. Block	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jorhat Jorhat Central Jorhat North-west 	16 7 10	65 52 47	481 287 278	302482	
4	Sonitpur	Gohpur Composit WSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chaiduar PubChaiduar 	17 16	108 113	257 182	102641	
5	Morigaon	Greater Mayang WSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mayang Bhurbondha 	14 2	75 10	428 60	154288	
6	Bongaigaon	Greater Jogighopa WSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boitamari Tapatari Srijangram 	12 11 13	131 98 113	517 455 565	325378	
7	Hailakandi	Greater Hailakandi - Algapur WSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hailakandi Algapur 	5 6	28 26	129 107	89149	


Obligatory Environment Assessment and Environment Management Framework(EMF)

The department has assigned M/S IPE Global Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi to carry out the Environment Assessment in the seven project Districts who has analyzed the possible impacts. The impacts will be mitigated through the defined Environment Management Framework(EMF), as prepared. The content of their Draft (version-1)Report is enclosed herewith.

An Appeal

All the stakeholders are requested to send their comments, if any, on the EA/EMF-enclosed/uploaded in the departmental website: www.aphe.nic.in, to the Chief Engineer(PHE), WBP, Assam through the contact windows as stated above latest by 2pm of 15th Mar/13.

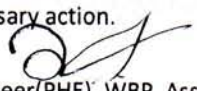
Encl:- The Content as stated.


Chief Engineer(PHE), WBP, Assam,
Hengrabari, Guwahati-36

Copy to:- 1) The Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, PHED, Dispur, Guwahati-6 for favour of kind information.

2) Dr. S. Misra, TTL, WB Project, World Bank, New Delhi for information and necessary action.

3) The Chief Engineer(PHE), P/B&S, Assam, Guwahati-36 for information and necessary action.


Chief Engineer(PHE), WBP, Assam,
Hengrabari, Guwahati-36

