2030 Water Resources Group | WORLD BANK GROUP

Water for Planet

Helping countries and companies reuse water and reduce pollution

Each year, water pollution accounts for 1.8 million deaths and costs businesses an estimated $425 billion. The 2030 Water Resources Group (WRG) supports industries and utilities to use water more efficiently and recycle more of the freshwater they consume. By changing incentives, strengthening regulatory frameworks, and improving markets, we make water treatment and reuse a smart investment.

FROM WASTE TO RESOURCE

WRG is an impact-focused global partnership between the private and public sectors. As a trust fund housed within the World Bank, we provide a platform for businesses, governments, and civil society to work together to close the gap between water supply and demand.

Wastewater is a valuable resource, yet its potential is often overlooked. We collaborate with businesses and governments to unlock this value by promoting water treatment and reuse. Through innovative public-private partnership (PPP) models, we bring in private sector technology, operational expertise, and capital to develop wastewater treatment infrastructure. Our efforts also support the creation of policies and regulations that ensure safe and effective water reuse, making infrastructure investments and ongoing water quality management both economically viable and environmentally sustainable.

We are also driving policy reforms to better protect water resources. Our work is helping to clean up polluted rivers and streams, restore local ecosystems, and ensure water is used more responsibly for the long term.

EXAMPLES OF OUR WORK

Strengthening water pollution management through PPPs, Bangladesh

By 2040, the funding gap for managing water pollution in Bangladesh is expected to reach $6.6 billion, far exceeding the capacity of public funding. WRG is supporting Bangladesh's Delta Plan 2100 by working to mobilize $550 million in financing for wastewater management; expand wastewater services for 3.5 million people; and treat over 25 million cubic meters of wastewater through central effluent treatment plants and sewage treatment plants. This involves helping to develop Bangladesh's first replicable PPP model for municipal wastewater management, as well as PPPs for effluent treatment and solid waste management in economic zones.

WATER FOR THE FUTURE: SCALING WATER REUSE

Our public-private collaboration models have unlocked new possibilities. We are leveraging these successes to pursue bold solutions that were previously out of reach. Our new Scaling Water Reuse initiative promotes water reuse and outlines practical steps that the public and private sectors can take to secure water resources, reduce the environmental impacts of water use (including water pollution and carbon emissions), and build long-term sustainability and resilience.

FIRSTS IN WATER REUSE AND POLLUTION REDUCTION

Over the past decade, we have developed first-of-their-kind incentive and financing models to make water reuse more feasible. These strategies have proven successful and are now being used as models for others, making it easier for cities and industries to adopt similar approaches.

First PPPs for wastewater treatment and reuse in the Ganga Basin, India

First certificates for sustainable corporate water footprints in Peru

New water pollution fee law incorporating the polluter pays principle in Mongolia

Mongolia's first voluntary code of practice for sustainable mine water management

Tradable wastewater reuse certificates

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR WORK

WRG works with governments, corporations, and civil society to address water risks affecting food, cities, and ecosystems.

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