

In the mega-city of Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh, Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (DWASA) has to manage the increasing flooding problems that are effecting millions of inhabitants and businesses in the city every year. Rapid urbanisation, inappropriate use of the storm water drains by the population and a backlog of maintenance of these drains are just some examples which are increasing the situation. DWASA has decided to remedy the urban flooding problem by introducing new drainage technologies and strengthen customer relationships by changing the mind-set of internal staff.

# Urban Dredging Demonstration Project Bangladesh

## Project Objectives

The objective of the Urban Dredging Demonstration Project (UDDP) is to reduce the floods in the Dhaka Urban Areas by 1) demonstration of dredging technologies for urban drains and dissemination of dredging expertise to the drainage department of DWASA, 2) improvement of the capacity of DWASA to carry out drainage operation and 3) development of stakeholders awareness and knowledge of the functions of the urban drainage system, and promote behavioral change to facilitate DWASA's drainage and dredging services.

## Expected Results and Outputs

The project will have the following outputs:

- Dredging equipment for DWASA's Drainage Department with well-trained operators/staff.
- Dredged drains in selected areas and transferred/disposed/reused dredged materials.
- Geographic Information System (GIS) based on Drainage Information System (DIS).
- Long-term Urban Dredging Plan (LUDDP), including Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) and Environmental Permits.
- Restructured Drainage Department with adequate governance, capabilities, capacities and budgets.
- Public information and awareness building campaigns aiming at a behavioral change/turn-around on solid waste management and neighborhood cleanliness, and improvement of women's involvement in dredging and solid waste management processes (with the participating and contributing stakeholders).
- Launched area beautification project with participation of local community, in particular women.
- Allocated appropriate annual budget by the government for DWASA's dredging operations.



## Population

The UDD activities are initially concentrated in two area's in Dhaka, effecting approximately 400.000 inhabitants and many (small) businesses. In the long run improved living and economic conditions in the whole city of Dhaka City Corporation are foreseen, by replication and upscaling of improved drainage services by DWASA.

## Financing

DWASA (26%) and VEI (3%). The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Dhaka provides a subsidy towards the remaining 71% of the total project costs.

## Type of contract

Project Management

## Contract value

€ 7.5 million

## Duration of the contract

July 2013 – August 2016

## Available funds

Vitens and Evides Waterbedrijf, the Netherlands two largest water utilities make € 3 million available for international projects each year. This internal budget is leveraged by contracting public-private partnerships and deploying the financing opportunities of the various parties, such as the Netherlands' Ministry of Development Cooperation and Economic Affairs, the World Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the Asian Development Bank. Vitens and Evides have also formed the independent charity foundation Water for Life, which enables clients to contribute to international water projects via their water bills.

## Vitens Evides International

Vitens Evides International supports water companies in developing countries by helping them to improve their business processes in a sustainable way. This we do by sharing the extensive and prolonged experience of the two largest privately run public operators in the Netherlands: Vitens and Evides Water Company. Through technical, operational and management support, we enable local utilities to make progress in such areas as Water Quality and Safety, Non-Revenue Water, Asset Management, and Financial Planning & Control. By teaming up for better performance, we aim to generate the investments required to improve and expand water services in the world's most rapidly developing urban areas. This means that more people will enjoy reliable and safe drinking water and sanitary facilities, now and in the future. With its activities Vitens Evides International contributes to achieving the Millennium Development Goals set by the United Nations. Over the past ten years, Vitens Evides International has already helped to improve water services to more than twenty million people in Asia, Africa and Latin-America.

## Millennium Development Goals

The Netherlands government actively supports the UN target to halve the number of people without safe drinking water and sanitary facilities (1.0 billion and 2.5 billion people respectively) by 2015. In this context Vitens and Evides are doing all they can to share their expertise and experience in the operation and maintenance of water supply and sewerage with water companies in developing countries. Through the international alliance, Vitens and Evides are involved in providing safe drinking water to over 20 million people in parts of the world where reliable water services are not readily available.

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