

# OBJECTIVE

The South Asia Water Security Initiative (SAWASI) program is focused on improving access to safe water and sanitation in urban areas in the South Asia region, through promotion of the 'Water Sensitive Cities' approach.

# PROGRAM SUMMARY

The SAWASI Program has three components:

- 1 Community Demonstration Projects (CDPs)**, which involve moving four urban disadvantaged communities along the water security spectrum, from a predominantly 'Water Supply' stage towards a 'Water Sensitive' stage. The not necessarily exclusive stages (and their main features) that cities/areas normally go through towards achieving a 'Water Sensitive' status are depicted below.

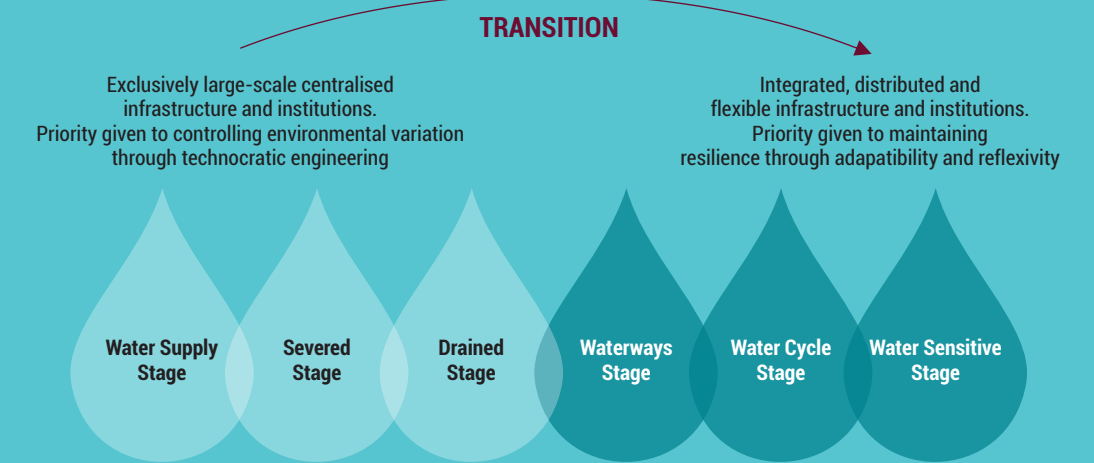


Figure: Adapted from Moving Towards Water Sensitive Cities (2016) manual of the Cooperative Research Centre for Water Sensitive Cities

- 2 Technical Assistance (TA)** to the governments in South Asian Countries to introduce 'Water Sensitive Cities' approaches in urban planning and design.
- 3 Regional and city level learning workshops** to promote and share learnings on the 'Water Sensitive Cities' approach.

# KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1 Continue to collect feedback from government and community members to understand program reach and influence
- 2 Improve reporting by agreeing on targets, revising assumptions and indicators, and collecting feedback on MEL from DFAT posts, grantees and TA firms
- 3 Proactively share learnings and make course corrections at a learning workshop scheduled for later this year

The main features characterising the 'Water Sensitive Cities' approach include

- Water-self-sufficiency with access to a variety of water sources**  
(through e.g. efficient use, recycling, rainwater harvesting)
- The natural environment and healthy ecosystems providing community benefits**  
(e.g. wetlands, parks; helping flood management, cooling etc.)
- An informed and involved community**  
(e.g. involved in taking decisions)



# SAWASI

The South Asia Water Security Initiative

PROGRAM BY: **Australian Aid**

## PROGRESS

### Community Demonstration Project

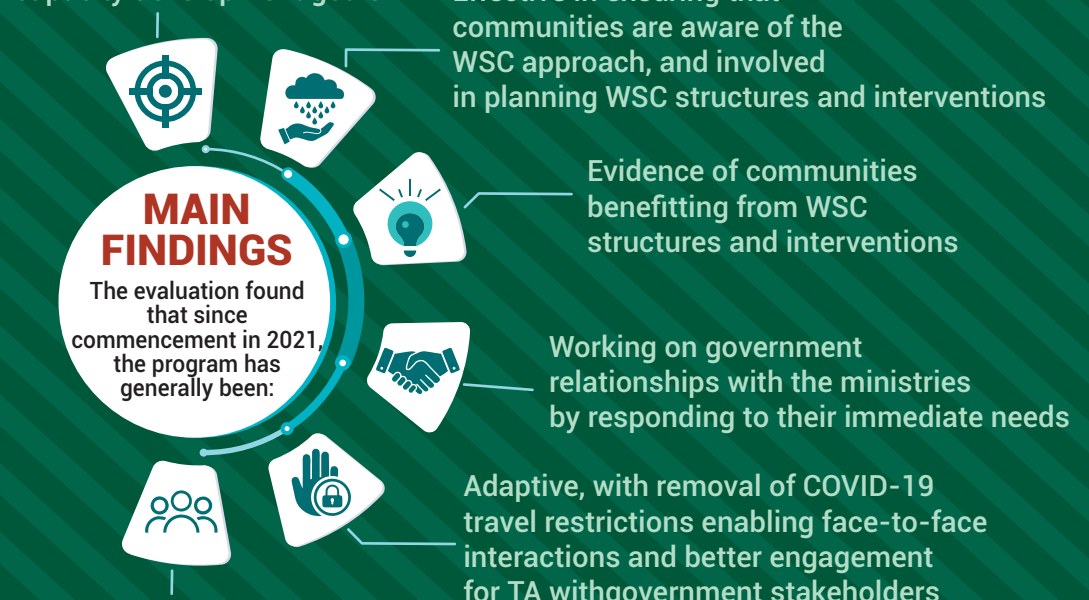
<b>PAKISTAN</b>	Focus on construction of WSC structures, and their operation and maintenance	51 participatory meetings held including 451 community members: Over half of the community members reached out to were women	Meetings with government including with the Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources & Water and Sanitation Agency (WASA) to discuss CDP	225 filtration plants & one rainwater harvesting structure constructed benefitting approx. 18,500 beneficiaries	Two city-level water fora held on urban water policies
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<b>INDIA</b>	Focus on readying communities and the government for the implementation of WSC interventions and structures	84 meetings conducted with community members; the majority of the 2,183 participants (87%) were women	24 meetings conducted with government officials from the Delhi Jal Board, Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board, & the Municipal Corporation of Delhi	Delhi Water Forum to discuss policy issues around WSC in the city launched
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### Technical Assistance

- Continued contribution to the Government's Atal Mission for rejuvenation and Rural Transformation (AMRUT 2.0)
- Progress made on several workstreams including on themes such as wastewater and wastewater recycling, circular economy and waterbody rejuvenation
- Outputs produced on a range of sectors, and TA found rated as very useful by government in feedback forms
- One knowledge sharing session on water recycling for government officials
- Compiled case studies on international/Australian best practices on urban flood mitigation & management.
- Two coordination committee meetings with wide participation from government officials convened.
- Several other consultations with relevant line departments including Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) and Local Government & Community Development Department conducted.
- Exposure visit for government officials to Australia planned.

Relevant to the strategic objectives of Australia's capacity development goals



And that communities and the government generally perceive the program to be positive