

## **Dhaka, Bangladesh**

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**Project Location:** Dhaka, Bangladesh  
(Demra, Kamrangir-Char Slums)

**Beneficiary Information:**

Number of Households: 50

Number of Beneficiaries: 300

**Project Start Date:** August 2006

**Project End Date:** July 2007

**Project Budget:** \$21,523

**Cost per Beneficiary:** \$80.55



### **Background**

One of the poorest countries in the world, Bangladesh is also one of the most densely populated, with a population of 125 million. The population density and inadequate sanitation has led to severe contamination of surface water, resulting in high rates of mortality because of water-related diseases. The Bangladesh Program takes a bilateral approach to addressing the country's safe water needs by focusing on both the need for clean water and hygiene education.

Dhaka, one of the primary urban centers of Bangladesh, has been experiencing a rapid increase in population over the past two decades. People are migrating to Dhaka by the thousands in search of employment. Most migrants obtain marginal employment at very low wages and live in squatter and slum settlements with few basic services. Recent studies estimate that 2 million people live in the urban slums of Dhaka. This problem is only expected to worsen. By 2020, the number of people living in urban slums in Dhaka is expected to rise to 9 million.

### **Current Situation in Dhaka**

Some of the households in the Demra and Kamrangir-Char slums have hand tube wells, but most of the hand pumps go out of operation during the dry season due to the drying of the water table. During the dry season, children and women of the slum have to walk 800-1000 feet to collect water and wait in line for more than an hour. Washing and bathing pose even greater problems, forcing people to travel to distant ditches, lakes and rivers.

In Bangladesh it is common for slum residents to deal with irregular water supply, long distances to taps, insufficient water and unsafe sanitation conditions. In the Demra and Kamrangir-Char slums, the alternative to collecting contaminated water is to buy water. This water is purchased illegally at extremely high cost and the water is often contaminated and unsafe. Additionally, the accessibility of this illegal water supply is inconsistent. Some office and factory staff secretly provide water to the poor. The urban poor also purchase water from private residences or obtain water in exchange for labor.

### **The Solution**

The families residing in these slums are ready to make a change. They are willing to pay for water connection which assures them the reliable availability of water, but they lack all the financial resources to get started. WaterPartners International and our area partner will work with them to develop and implement a sustainable community water supply and sanitation system. With the help of WaterPartners International and our Bangalore partner, the slums in these communities will be able to make informed choices on water supply and construction of toilet facilities.

Water supply and sanitation improvements go hand in hand. The Dhaka Water & Sanitation Project is a comprehensive project that combines health/sanitation education with the construction of sanitation and water systems. This combination is proven to decrease outbreaks of water-related diseases and is more successful at reducing water-related diseases than either alone. This project will also decrease the amount of time women and girls spend collecting water. By reducing their workload, women will have time to pursue other activities, such as farming and other income-earning activities, and allow them to spend more time with their children.

Community participation and education will guide the projects. Community members will establish water and sanitation committees that will manage the responsibility of maintaining the public toilets. The community is also providing labor and locally available construction materials and will participate in a health education program to ensure maximum health and hygiene benefits.

**Proposed New Water System:** 26 Water Connections

**Proposed Sanitation Facilities:** Individual household pit latrines and 5 community latrines



Estimated Total Project Budget  
Dhaka, Bangladesh (Demra, Kamrangir Char Slums)  
In U.S. \$ Dollars

Personnel Costs	\$6,892
Community Education	\$646
Miscellaneous Project Costs	\$1,676
Project Management	\$2,104
Total Direct Costs	<u>\$22,151</u>
Indirect Costs	\$2,014
Total Project Cost	\$24,165

**Revolving Loan Fund**

Budget Item	# of items	\$ per item	Total Amount
<b>Water Supply</b>			
Deep Set Hand Pump	16	\$385	\$6,153
Hand Tube Well	10	\$153	\$1,538
<b>Subtotal</b>			<u>\$7,692</u>
<b>Sanitation Facility</b>			
Family Latrine (slab)	50	\$46	\$2,307
Community Latrine	5	\$185	\$923
<b>Subtotal</b>			<u>\$3,230</u>
<b>Totals of Subtotals</b>			<b>\$10,923</b>