

WaterLinks: Regional Cooperation to Improve Water Services Delivery in Asia

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ASEAN High Level Seminar
Environmentally Sustainable Cities
Jakarta, Indonesia



Environmental Cooperation - Asia (ECO-Asia)
Program of U.S. Agency for International Development

About USAID ECO-Asia

- Regional program of USAID established in 2006
- Implement Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act supporting achievement of Millennium Development Goals water target
- Objectives:
 - Increase access to safe drinking water and sanitation
 - Promote regional dialogue and cooperation to share and replicate innovation and best practices
- Cooperation with ASEAN Environmentally Sustainable Cities Initiative
- Founder and implementing partner of WaterLinks regional network

Water Operators Partnerships (WOP)

- Common definition
Focused and direct exchange of practical knowledge and innovations between water and wastewater service providers to strengthen human and institutional capacity
- Initiated by Hashimoto Action Plan
Calling for breakthroughs in vital areas of water services delivery, especially through WOPs to help reach MDGs
- Range of donors and organizations support WOP globally
Global WOP Alliance led by UN-Habitat; regional WOP networks in Latin America, Africa, Middle East and Asia

WATERLINKS

- Regional network to facilitate WOPs in Asia
- Founded by ADB, IWA and USAID in August 2008
- ECO-Asia serves as interim secretariat
- Aims to coordinate, develop and implement joint WOPs support programs



WATERLINKS Activities

- Brokering and facilitating twinning partnerships between water and wastewater operators (utilities, cities)
- Strengthening capacity through regional training and toolkits
- Disseminating best practices via publications, events and a website (www.waterlinks.org)



Twinning Partnerships

- Facilitated over 17 twinning partnerships in 2007-2009
- Planning for 15+ partnerships in 2010
- Most are intra-regional partnerships including between ASEAN ESC members
- Focus on improving operational efficiencies of cities and operators to improve water supply and wastewater management services:
 - Water loss reduction
 - Water quality management
 - Services expansion to underserved areas
 - Conversion to 24/7 continuous supply
 - Energy efficiency
 - Sanitation promotion and management



Regional Training

- Technical training workshops
- Twinning facilitation guidelines
- WATSAN promotion toolkit
- Septage Management Study
- Water Quality Management Handbook (2010)
- Guidelines for Pro-Poor Water Supply Expansion (2010)



Sharing Information and Networking

- Website - www.waterlinks.org
- Twinning examples, resources inventory, and news and events
- Newsletter
- 2009 WaterLinks Forum in Bangkok
- 2010 WaterLinks Forum in Manila (ADB HQ)



Regional Cooperation with ASEAN ESC

- Manila Water (Quezon, Philippines) – Da Nang Water Company (Vietnam) in 2009
 - Improved piped water quality for 30,000 residents in Da Nang
- Maynilad Water – PDAM Tirtanadi Medan (Indonesia) in 2009
 - Water services expansion to 30,000 urban poor in Medan
- Penang Water Supply Company (Malaysia) – PDAM Kota Palembang (Indonesia) in 2010
 - Continuous (24/7) water supply for 40,000 residents in Palembang



Regional Cooperation with ASEAN ESC (continued)

- Indah Water Konsortium (Putrajaya, Malaysia) – URENCO Ha Long (Vietnam) in 2007
 - Improved operations and management of wastewater system in Ha Long
- City of Iloilo (Philippines) – Municipality of Phnom Penh (Cambodia) in 2007
 - Sanitation promotion strategy development for Phnom Penh
- Indah Water Konsortium – PDAM Tirtanadi Medan (Indonesia) in 2009
 - Increased demand for sanitation services through promotion in Medan
- Indah Water Konsortium – Maynilad Water (Quezon City, Philippines) in 2010
 - Improved sanitation services delivery in



Regional Cooperation with ASEAN (continued)

- Regional Workshop on Facilitating Cooperation on Improved Access to Water Supply and Sanitation in ASEAN Cities (Bangkok, 2007)
 - Sharing of best practices to help implement AIESC Clean Water Framework
- Regional Training on Water Safety Plan Development (Singapore, 2008)
 - Capacity building on water quality management involving Singapore with Thailand (Chiang Mai)
- Knowledge products on water supply and sanitation management (2010)
 - Study and toolkits in partnership with water services operators from Putrajaya (Malaysia), Quezon (Philippines) and Singapore

Thank You