World Water Forum IV

Civil Society Engagement in Kathmandu Water Supply Reforms

Nepal Experience

NGO Forum for Urban Water and Sanitation
19th March 2006
Water Stress
1. Institutional Reforms

Kathmandu Valley Water Supply Management Board

Water Utility Company

Regulatory commission

Management Contractor
2. Melamchi Water Supply Project

- Melamchi Diversion scheme
- Water treatment plants
- Bulk distribution system
- Distribution network improvement
- Wastewater system improvement
Context for Civil Society Engagement in the Reform Process

- A policy analysis gap
- Gap between the government and the civil society
- No mechanism for communities to make their voice heard
Impact made

- Ensured availability of minimum water at an affordable price
- Reduction in connection charge and inclusion of provisions for payment on an installment basis
- Institutionalisation of the arrangement for community standpipes
- Establishment of Low Income Customers Support Unit
- Inclusion of an achievement indicator for ‘increasing coverage to unserved poor’ as an incentive for management contractor
Long Term Commitment

Continue to engage in the debate and document the process to try to ensure that the reform process meets the needs of the poor.
Outcomes

- Link with govt., donors and the civil society organisations
- Mapping / data base created to help support the policy reform
- Launch of ‘Call to Action’ to take immediate measures
- Representation at KV Water Supply Management Board
- Formation of National Steering Committee for Rain Water Harvesting Campaign
- Review of implementation of ADB Water Policy in ADB supported other projects
Lessons Learnt

- Evidence based mapping / documentation is crucial to influence policy decision.
- Capacity building of the civil society organisations is important.
- Building positive relationship with the actors involved in the process help ease the work.
- Keep the ball rolling!