



# Water and Sanitation in the Bigger Canvas

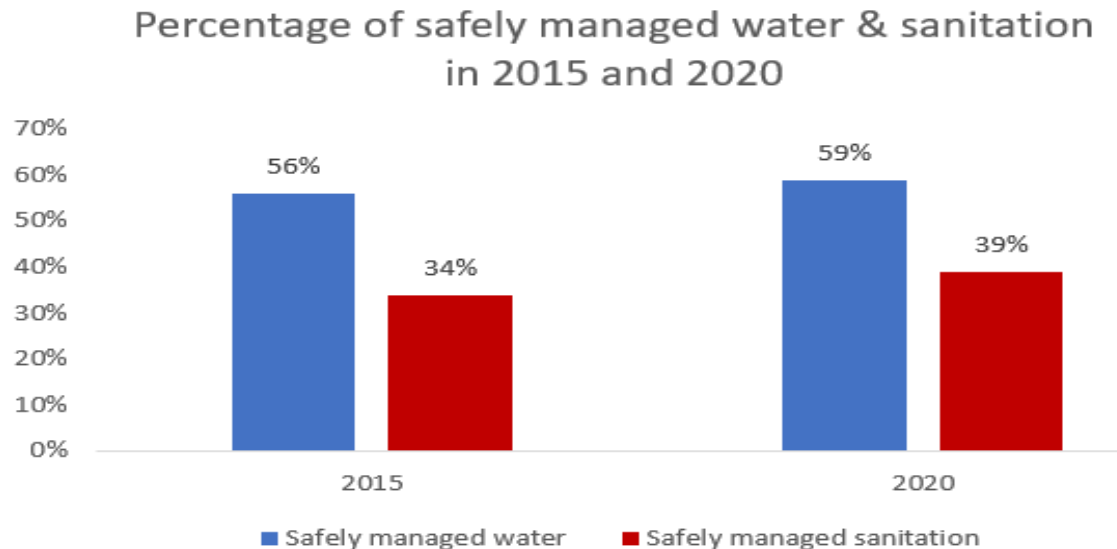
## BRAC Initiatives

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# Country Context of WASH Services

Bangladesh has made remarkable progress in eliminating the practice of open defecation but achieving safely managed water and sanitation services as formulated in the SDGs remains a challenge. Particularly in climate hotspots.



Bangladesh is in top ten of countries most impacted by climate change: 7<sup>th</sup> in Global Climate Risk Index

# Challenges

## Too dirty; Too much; Too little; Too expensive

- Too dirty: Increased amount of contaminants in water sources
- Too much: More run-off and erosion leading to reduced infiltration
- Too little: Reduced availability of drinking water
- Too expensive: Cheaper options not effective in certain areas, limiting access for poor and indigenous people



# BRAC Initiatives

- 1 Introduction of context specific and innovative technologies in climate vulnerable coastal and Barind region for sustainable water supply
- 2 Promotion of water quality testing for priority chemical and bacteriological contamination identification
- 3 Reduction of surface & groundwater contamination through promotion of double pit latrines and upgradation of unimproved single pit latrines
- 4 Mobilisation of Microfinance Institutes for household and entrepreneurs for access to WASH financing
- 5 Collaboration and partnership with Government agencies and other stakeholders like DPHE and Union Parishads
- 6 Institutionalization of operation & maintenance (O&M) for ensuring equitable and sustainable water management

# Remaining challenges

1

Integrated water resources management at catchment/sub-catchment in Barind and Haor region.

2

Salinity intrusion in coastal areas is increasing faster than the adaptation initiatives are taken

3

Reduced gap between climatic events like cyclone/flash flood leading to less time to rebuild/strengthen water supply and sanitation infrastructures



# Remaining challenges

4

Local Government Institutes have weak local level need assessment and planning for water supply and sanitation (broadly for IWRM)

5

Faecal contamination of surface and shallow groundwater due to unimproved latrines (and illegal connections) are a major issue and NGO initiatives cannot deal with it alone without strong institutional commitment and technical support

# Thank You

