



# BRIDGING DIVIDES FOR WATER

Istanbul 2009

5th World Water Forum

WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES AND PRACTICES IN  
ARID AND SEMI-ARID REGIONS

URBAN WATER and SANITATION

16:30-18:00

10 participants



- National policies to improve safe drinking water services?
- What elements are required to expedite sustainable access to water & sanitation services & how can local entrepreneurs, financing institutions Water Operator Partnerships (WOP) contribute?



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## Discussion Topics

- Inadequate drinking water network and sewerage system
- Insufficient sanitation in rural areas
- Inadequate enforcement
- Differences in drinking water sanitation between urban area and rural area (Divides)
- In rural areas, due to the high cost of decanting the septic tanks, the sewage is leaked into the ground causing ground water rise. That affects the concrete structures.
- Irrigation problems. Difficulty of control of pesticides & herbicides





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## Solutions & Proposals

- Privatization : However' drinking water regulation & control is too sensitive to be left in the hands of private companies. Government control required. PPP (Private-Public – Participation) can be a solution.
- Sharing the experience of countries with similar water problems (success stories in Egypt; one treatment plant for 5 villages and use of treated water to water forests).
- Application of low cost, local technology





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- Watershed/basin management
- Sewerage network construction synchronization with drinking water network. Usually the water network is constructed first and the delay of the sewage network causes pollution of the drinking water system.
- Cooperation among public authorities is missing. Required for the success of safe water provision.





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- Public awareness for water conservation and change in the habits of the people may be required to conserve water and to be able to reuse water.
- Technical & financial help is required to improve the access to safe water & sanitation.
- The unsafe water problems of suburban areas will decrease as a result of migration to urban areas from rural areas
- National policies to improve services: success stories such as Egypt's treatment & reuse of wastewater for forestation.



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## Outcomes

There is a considerable difference between water and sanitation services in rural and urban areas. To remedy this, privatization appears as a solution at the first glance, however financing stays as the main challenge.

