



# Keynote address

ADBI-ADB-IFS-IIASA Conference on  
Water, Sanitation, Hygiene Technologies, and  
Governance in Urban Development

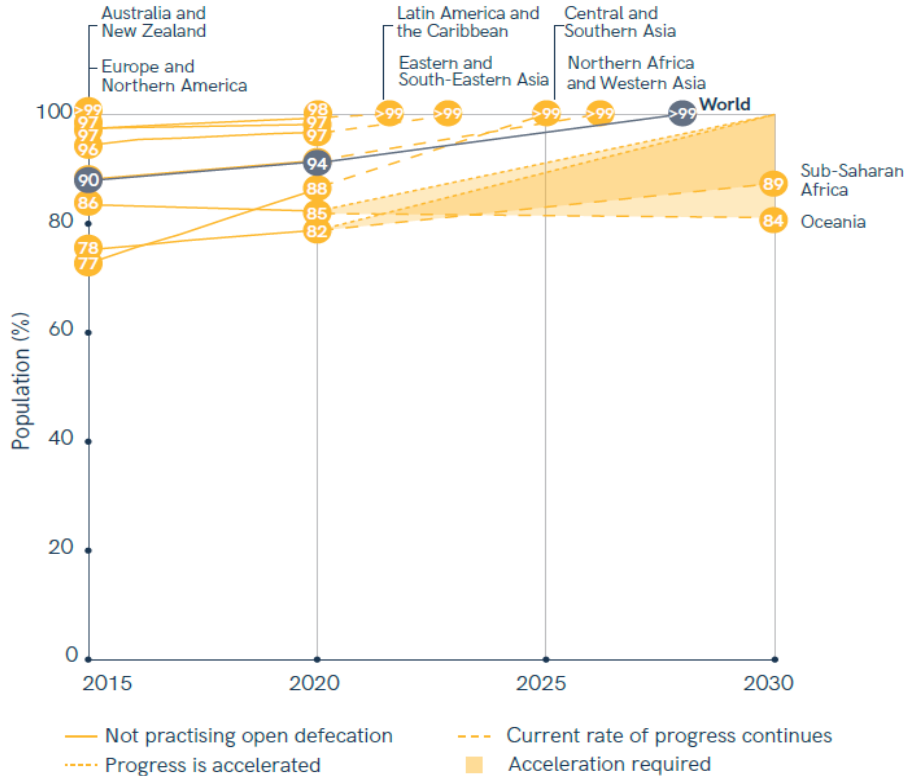
29 October 2021

**Meera Mehta**  
Center for Water and Sanitation, India



	Service ladder	Progressive realization	
SDG 6.2	Safely managed sanitation	Private improved facility where faecal wastes are safely disposed on site or transported and treated off-site; plus a handwashing facility with soap and water	Developed     Developing
MDG continuity	Basic sanitation	Improved facility which separates excreta from human contact (private)	
	Shared sanitation	Improved facility which separates excreta from human contact (shared with other household)	
	Unimproved sanitation	Unimproved facility does not separate excreta from human contact	
	No service	Open defecation	

# Progress on eliminating open defecation



Significant progress in eliminating open defecation suggests that overall, the world is now on track to eliminate open defecation by 2030

The Indian experience represents the largest drop in open defecation since 2015, in terms of absolute numbers.

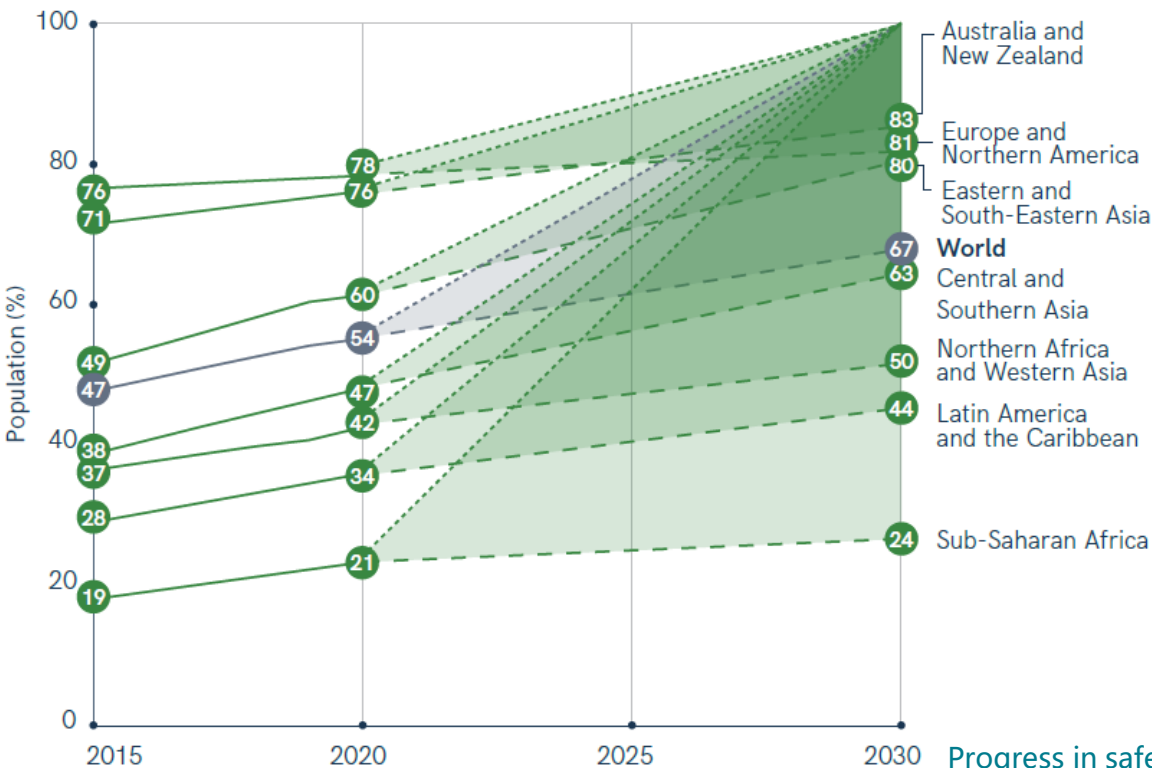
# Significant achievements under Swachh Bharat Mission

Political priority backed by budgets, government participation at all levels, BCC, people's participation at scale and continued monitoring

But the focus has largely been on toilet construction



# Progress in safely managed sanitation – world



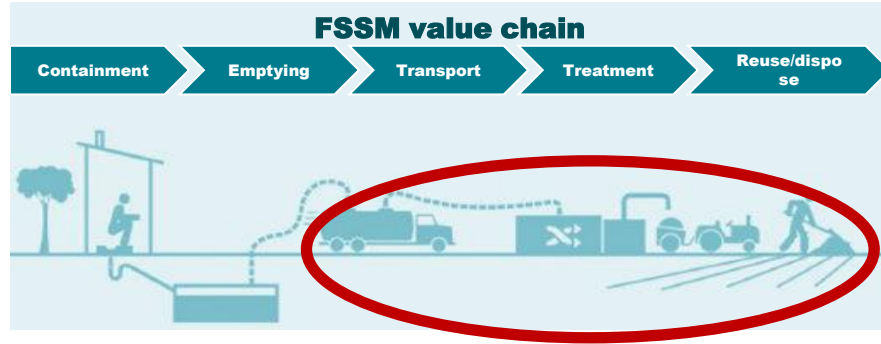
No region in the world is on track to achieve universal access to safely managed sanitation services by 2030

Progress in safely managed sanitation services, 2015 – 2020 and acceleration required to reach universal coverage by 2030

— Safely managed sanitation  
 - - - Current rate of progress continues  
 - - - Progress is accelerated  
 ■ Acceleration required

Source: World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), (2021) "Progress on household drinking water, sanitation and hygiene 2000-2020: Five years into the SDGs", Geneva, p. 52 - 54

# Onsite sanitation and FSSM as affordable options

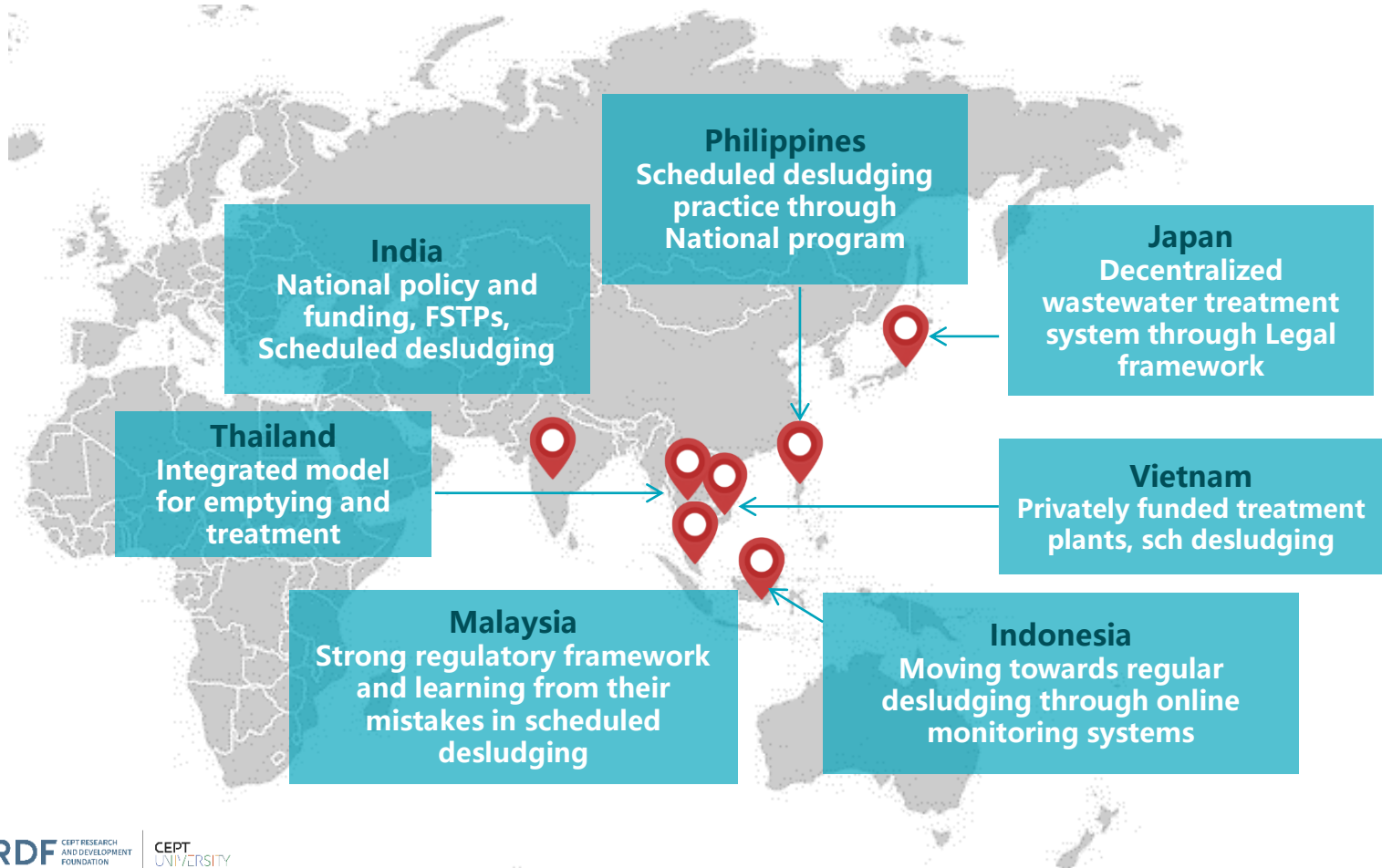


Current focus of SBM

A proven approach to tackle the sanitation challenge is through onsite sanitation systems and faecal sludge and septage management

A service-chain based approach, from safe containment, conveyance, treatment, and disposal/reuse of treated faecal waste

# Asian experiences in FSSM





# Sanitation as a public service

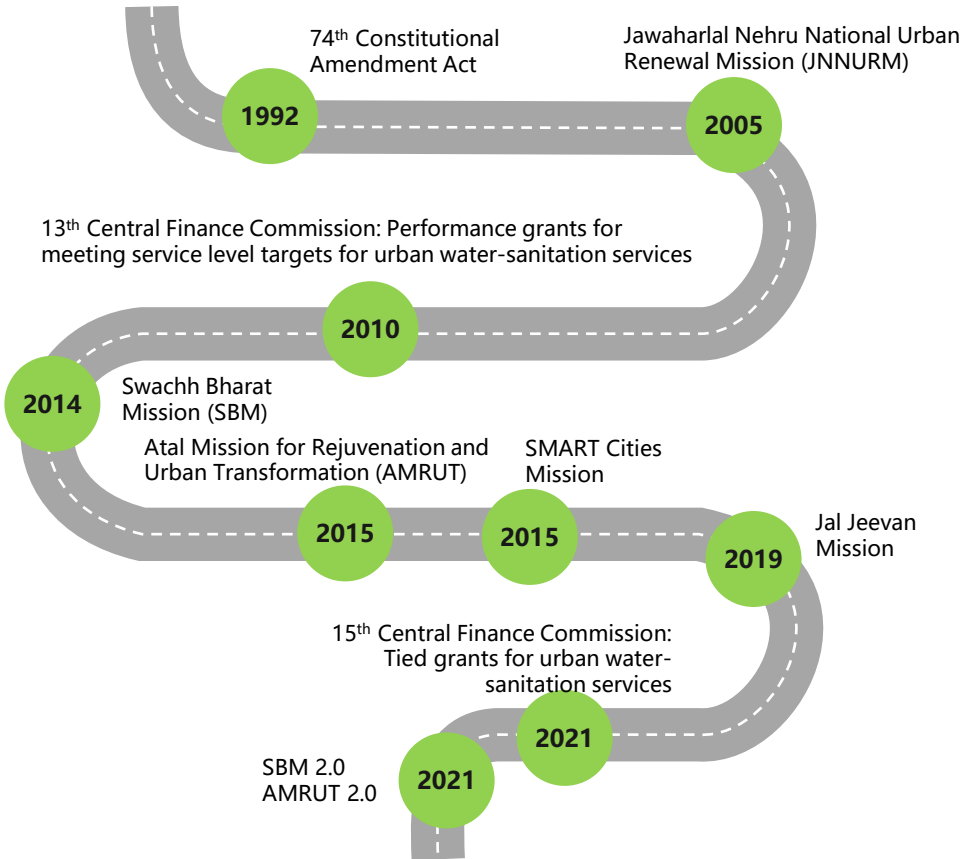


Sanitation, when provided in a safely managed manner generates **widespread public benefits**, and thus it is justifiable to treat it as a public service.

For public benefits to accrue, only **joint actions** of households and property owners help ensure wider health benefits



# Public finance through programs, inter governmental transfers

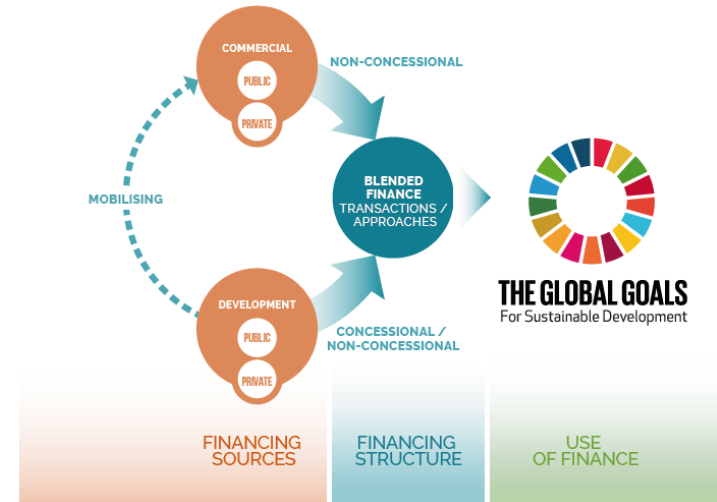
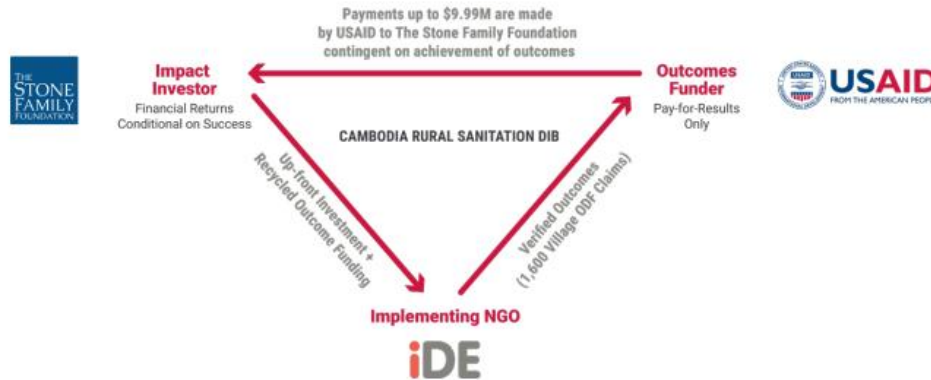


It is critical to have **appropriate and adequate public financing** to achieve sustainable access to safely managed sanitation service – for this ‘**political priority and commitment**’ are critical

For example, in India - significant allocations have been made for the National Flagship Programs, nearly USD 35 billion over two phases

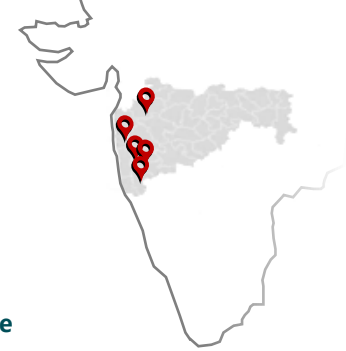
# Blended finance to leverage resources – from the private sector and impact investors

Public funds and ADB's water financing partnership facility can be used to **leverage funds from private sector service providers and from impact investors using a variety of blended finance instruments**. This can help enhance resources and improve outcomes with 'result based financing mechanisms'.



# Financing for City-Wide Inclusive Sanitation

## Need for scaling up



Comprehensive City Sanitation planning



Pioneer cities in India to implement citywide scheduled emptying of septic tanks



City-Wide Inclusive Sanitation



Subsidy for "Own Toilets"



Scheduled emptying of septic tanks – not linked to user charges



Involving Private sector for emptying operations



Equitable and Inclusive Services



Faecal Sludge and Septage treatment facility (FSTP)



Use of Own / Philanthropy funds for FSTPs



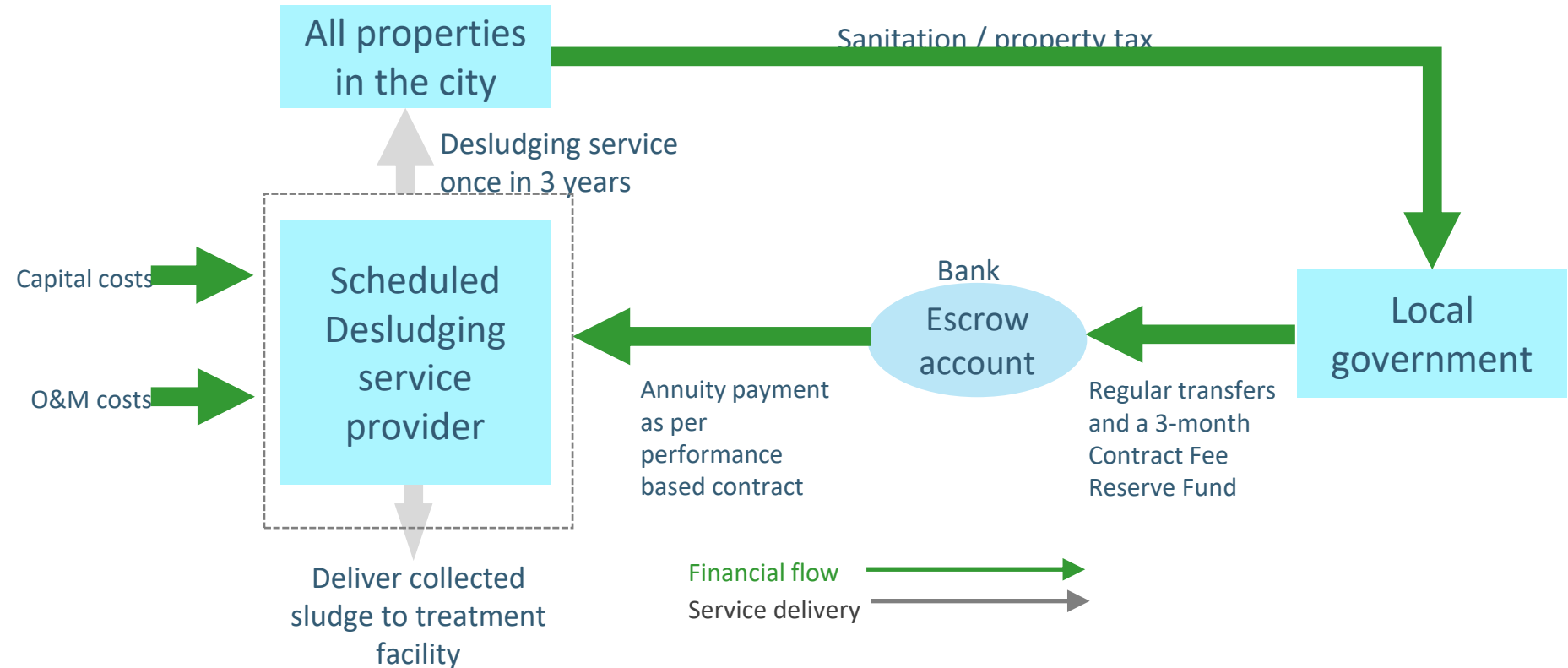
Levying a Sanitation tax to support operations



ODF, ODF+, ODF++ certified

# Results based financing

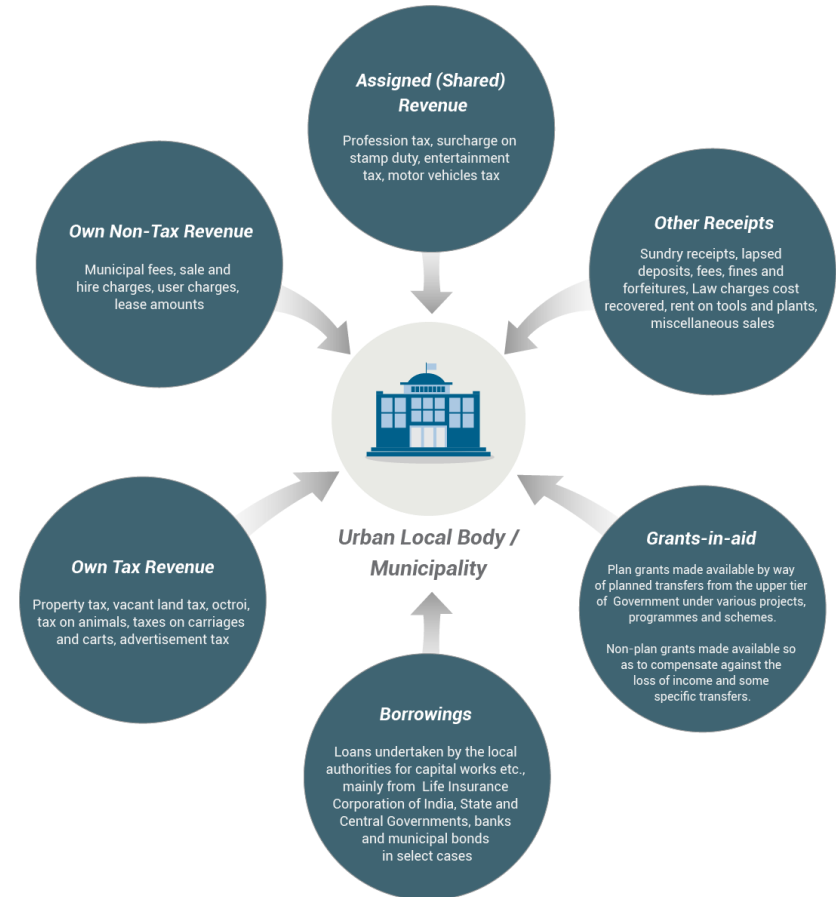
## Performance Linked Annuity Model (PLAM)



# Addressing challenges of local financing for sustainability

To ensure long term sustainability, strengthening local government and municipal financing is needed.

**Adequate and equitable sources and efficiency in collection** – for property tax, sanitation taxes, surcharge on water related user charges as well as **adequate and predictable inter governmental transfers**.



# Regular and effective ‘country owned monitoring’ is critical



History teaches us that it is critical to evolve and adopt new approaches – but it is important to ensure that these sustain over time.

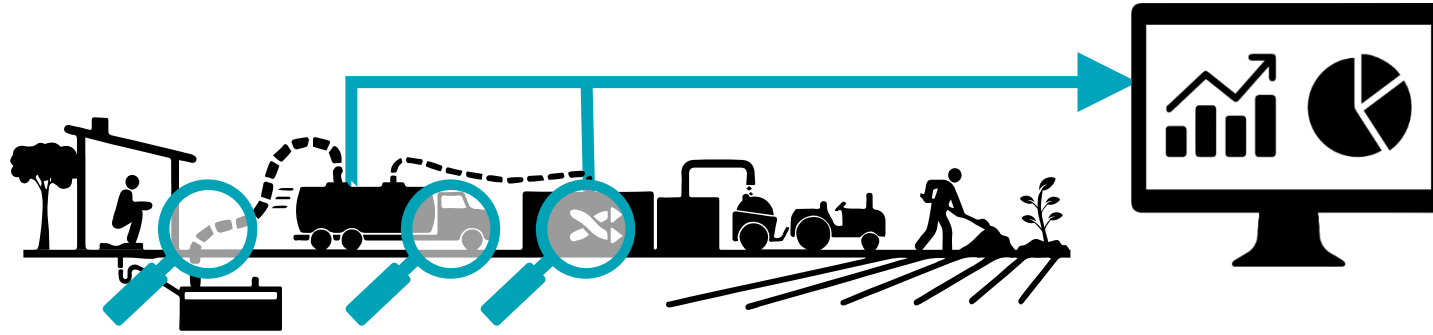
Sustained monitoring of universal access to safe sanitation is essential through country owned systems at city, state and national levels

**Strong and regular monitoring systems will make it possible to ensure that any issues related to sustainability are identified early and addressed.**

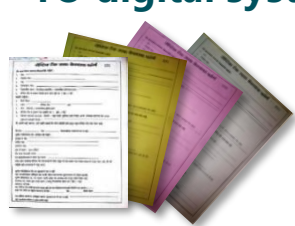


# Monitoring for effective service delivery

## City level monitoring systems in Maharashtra, India



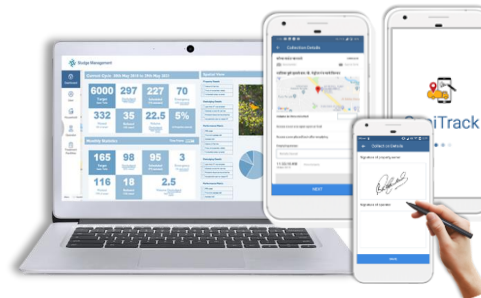
FROM Paper based –  
TO digital systems



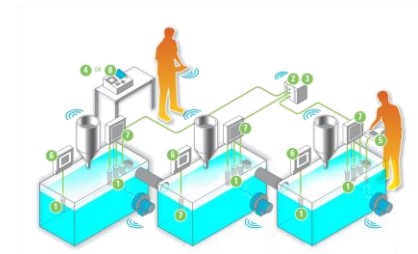
SaniTab



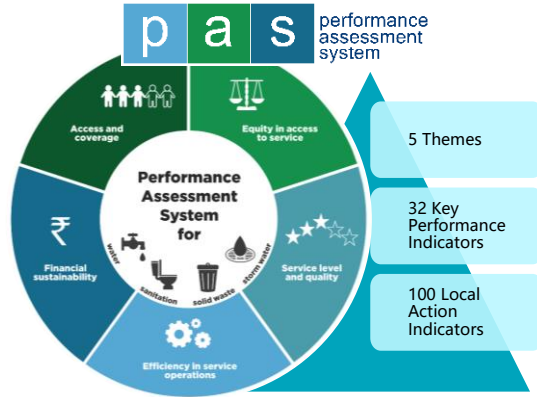
SaniTrack



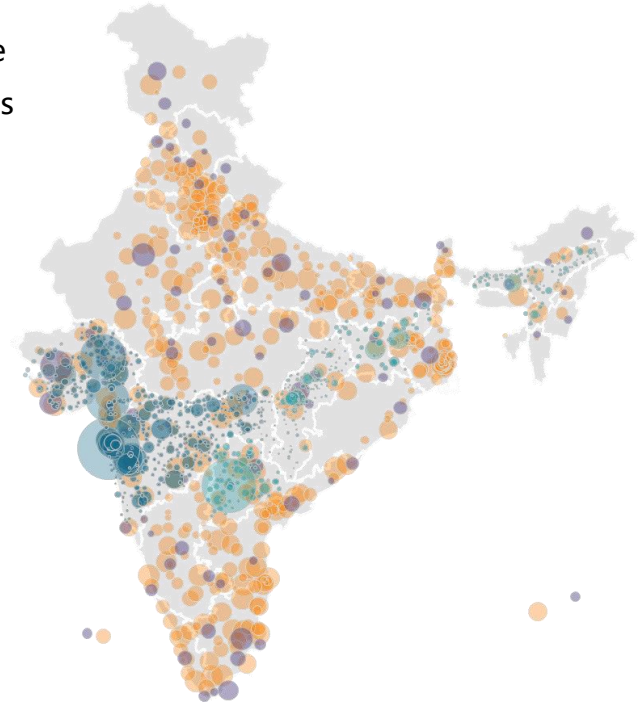
SanQ



# Monitoring city level water and sanitation services at scale



- ✓ Nationally owned
- ✓ Digital platform for self reporting
- ✓ Supported by capacity building
- ✓ Sustained implementation at scale
- ✓ Currently being used in 1000+ cities across India



## To summarize

- To achieve SDG 6.2 of safely managed sanitation – attention is needed on the full service chain of sanitation. Focus on **effective onsite sanitation systems** can help ensure universal access to safe sanitation
- **Political priority and public funding** are needed from governments – and this is indeed possible!!! For this, recognition of **sanitation as a public service** is needed.
- Use of **results based and blended finance** instruments for public funding governments and by the ADB, to leverage private finance and impact investment and improve outcomes
- Country owned and city level **monitoring systems** using **digital tools** are essential to ensure sustainability
- Opportunities for **comparative research** and **south-south sharing** need to be prioritized across countries in Asia

# Thank you

**CWAS** CENTER  
FOR WATER  
AND SANITATION

**CRDF** CEPT RESEARCH  
AND DEVELOPMENT  
FOUNDATION

**CEPT**  
UNIVERSITY

## About us

The Center for Water and Sanitation (CWAS) at CEPT University carries out various activities – action research, training, advocacy to enable state and local governments to improve delivery of services.



[pas.org.in](http://pas.org.in)  
[cwas.org.in](http://cwas.org.in)



[pas@cept.ac.in](mailto:pas@cept.ac.in)



[pas\\_project](#)



[pas.cept](#)



[pas.org.in/web/ceptpas/pase-news](http://pas.org.in/web/ceptpas/pase-news)  
Sign up: [tiny.cc/pasenews](http://tiny.cc/pasenews)