

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Dhaka, August 8th, 2018

Bangladesh launches a pilot to measure financial flows in the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sector

The United Nations (UN) Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water – GLAAS – for the 2018 cycle was launched in Bangladesh during a two-day workshop in Dhaka on 7 and 8 August 2018.

The event, attended by development partners, civil society and government representatives, also marked the launch of the “TrackFin” pilot in Bangladesh. TrackFin is a methodology developed by WHO to track WASH financing flows at national and sub-national levels.

TrackFin will produce Bangladesh’s first ever comprehensive national WASH accounts that will estimate expenditures on different sub-categories such as infrastructure, operations and maintenance, tariffs and out of pocket spending. The accounts will be hosted by the Policy Support Branch of the Local Government Division (LGD) in collaboration with WHO, UNICEF and WaterAid.

Inaugurating the workshop as the Chief Guest, Ms. Roxana Quader, Additional Secretary, LGD, Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives highlighted the importance of rigorous estimates of WASH financing for pro-poor, sustainable and accountable services.

Mr Edouard Beigbeder, Country Representative UNICEF, hoped that the outcomes of this workshop will lead to more evidence-based WASH budgeting and expenditure.

Dr Valeria de Oliveira Cruz, Acting Country Representative WHO, congratulated the Bangladesh Government and development sector for taking up the timely and necessary task of producing the national WASH accounts and expressed WHO’s commitment for further supporting the WASH sector in Bangladesh.

GLAAS as the global mechanism for monitoring progress towards national WASH targets will assist with the reporting under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) umbrella, and in reviewing how countries have taken the ambitions of the SDGs into consideration in their national WASH environments. The GLAAS 2018/2019 cycle will have a focus on national policies, plans and targets. The TrackFin results will further guide the development of National WASH accounts in Bangladesh which will enhance the planning and budgeting of resources.

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