

# FAST FACTS

United Nations  
Development Programme



## PPP-ISWM Initiative in Bhutan

May 2010

### Public-Private Partnership Service Delivery in Thimphu Municipality

Urbanization in Bhutan has taken place at a rapid pace over the last 10 years or so. By 2005, the proportion of Bhutanese urban population had grown to 31 percent. It is projected that by 2020 half of the Bhutanese population will be living in urban areas. Burgeoning urban population has created several environmental problems such as air and water pollution, water shortage, increase of municipal waste volumes and types, congestion of traffic and buildings, and land degradation. The Thimphu Municipality has not yet developed any standard and effective strategy for waste management at the household and community levels.

In 2005, UNDP-PPPSD supported the Bhutanese Royal Society for the Protection of Nature, the Ministry of Works and Human Settlement, Thimphu City Corporation and the Bhutan Chamber of Commerce and Industries in reviewing the existing policy, laws, rules and regulations affecting the effective delivery of Solid Waste Management (SWM) services in Bhutan. This multi-stakeholder policy review and consultation process has produced a comprehensive assessment of the situation, raised awareness of stakeholders on issues pertinent to SWM and identified Public-Private Partnership (PPP) as a promising complementary approach to improve municipal SWM services provision in Thimphu Municipality.

To further support Bhutan in its efforts to deepen the knowledge on PPPs for basic services delivery, UNDP-PPPSD approved and supported the formulation of a pilot project (2009) on application of the PPP model for Integrated Solid Waste Management (ISWM) services delivery.



Participants presented a flow chart which identifies ISWM system elements, key stakeholders and possible PPP options for Thimphu Municipality, PPP-ISWM training, April 2010.

### Project Information

- **Country:** Bhutan
- **Municipality:** Thimphu City Corporation
- **Project title:** Piloting PPP on Solid Waste Management in Thimphu Municipality
- **Objective:** Improved access to clean and safe urban environment and employment opportunities provided
- **Time frame:** 2009-2012
- **Key partners involved:** Thimphu City Corporation, Ministry of Works and Human Settlements, Royal Society for Protection of Nature, National Environment Commission and Private Firms.
- **Funding contribution**  
Total fund: 150,000 in US dollars  
PPPSD funding: 100,000 in US dollars  
Thimphu City Corporation: 50,000 in US dollars

#### • Expected results

- Service delivery of MSW management improved, employment opportunities created, and environmental impacts of waste and their associated risks of pollution on human health through the piloting of a Pro-Poor gender sensitive PPP model reduced.
- By-laws, rules and regulations required to implement the PPP related sections of Bhutan's Waste Prevention and Management Act formulated and institutionalized.
- Decentralized community level engagement integrated into the wider SWM system of the country.
- Capacity needs for SWM services identified & institutionalized Capacity Development for stakeholders (through CD strategy formulation and formal curriculum development).
- Awareness (in particular amongst women and youth) created on the principles and concepts of PPP model

#### • Contribution to MDG

This project is in line with Bhutan's national development goals and targets including the country's 10th Plan (2008-2013) and the SAARC Development Goals within the four broad areas of livelihood, health, education and environment.

MDG 1: Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger

MDG 3: Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women

MDG 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability

## Integrated Solid Waste Management and community Empowerment in Bhutan

Since “Gross National Happiness (GNH)” is the primary philosophy in Bhutan in terms of development, safe and sustainable waste management is indispensable in maintaining a good environment and protecting human health.

The development of the Waste Prevention and Management Act (2009) is a major step towards addressing the SWM issue, but more work is necessary to achieve its intended outcome. Awareness and outreach mechanisms to inform the public about SWM opportunities and obligations through education, training, awareness and other public outreach programs are planned for 2010.

This innovative initiative will not only provide opportunities for private sector and other non-state actors such as informal sector, CBOs, NGOs, etc. in service delivery, but also pave the way for greater importance and role for multiple perspectives and actors to determine the development outcomes.

Thimphu Municipality is the main implementer while PPPSD provides programmatic, capacity development and policy advisory support, a Dutch NGO WASTE with provides technical expertise.

1,3 and 7 while contributing to the national development goals. With the outcome of the initiative, partners will work towards replication and scaling up of innovative approaches nation-wide through policy, legal, regulatory framework and institutional building.



Woman recycling at landfill, Thimphu, April 2010

UNDP, through **PPPSD**, provides technical and advisory services for the creation of an enabling governance environment with appropriate legal, institutional, financial and regulatory frameworks and support for the capacity development of all stakeholders.

### Expected Results and Contribution to MDGs



**Poverty Reduction through improved local service delivery and employment opportunities**



**Women Economic Empowerment by supporting women to be service providers**



**Environmental sustainability through improved environmental/waste management**

For more information, visit: [www.undp.org/pppsd](http://www.undp.org/pppsd)

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The initiative is expected to contribute to MDG mainly goal

