

Working Towards Arsenic Mitigation

[An Initiative of BRAC WASH]



BRAC WASH

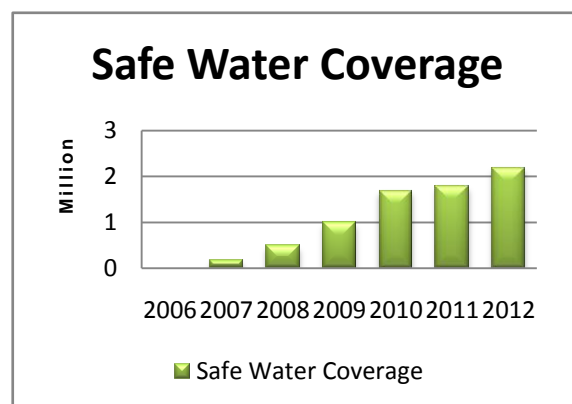
The water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) programme aims to ensure sustainable access to sanitation, water and hygiene in hard-to-reach areas for the underserved rural people of Bangladesh. The initiative started in 2006, implementing the WASH programme in 150 sub-districts, and completed the first phase in 2011 and has extended to 248 sub-districts in 2012. The water supply system of the programme has reached 2.5 million people.

The safe water component of the programme is implementing various activities; including awareness raising on use of safe water, piped water supply, installation of deep tube wells, water quality tests and provision of loans for tube well platform construction. Priority is given to the arsenic and saline prone areas to increase safe water access. A number of 647 Arsenic removal filters were provided, and 16 pond sand were built. A total of 4,156 deep tube wells have been constructed in arsenic affected areas while 5 rural piped water systems have been made functional.

For more information...

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and BRAC WASH



Some Key Achievements

- 647 Arsenic Filters were distributed in the affected areas
- 4,156 deep tube wells were installed
- Safe water services for 2.5 million people



Villagers with arsenicosis in Shahapur.



An arsenic affected young

Rabeya Akhter is 18 years and lives with her parents in Shahapur village in Saharasti Upazila of Chandpur. On 3 February 2009 a local health worker detected that she had spots on her body that indicate arsenic poisoning and her treatment started.

BRAC installed a deep tube well on 27 October 2010 and a hand pump so that people of Shahapur village in Saharasti Upazila of Chandpur can drink arsenic-free water again.

Severity of arsenic pollution

All these women and men are arsenicosis patients in Shahapur village in Saharasti union of Upazilla Chandpur, one of the many villages in Bangladesh where arsenic pollution of groundwater struck.



Arsenicosis leaves it's sign

Rickshaw puller Md Jasim Uddin has the darkest spots still on his hands caused by drinking arsenic polluted water.

DTWs to combat arsenic

Shahapur village in Shahrasti Upazila of Chandpur is one of the many villages in Bangladesh where arsenic pollution of groundwater struck. BRAC installed a deep tube well (DTW) there on 27 October 2010.



One of the most remarkable outcomes of BRAC WASH: "DTW are not only installed but are being used by all"