



SUSTAINABLE WATER AND SANITATION PROGRAM

Transforming Lives through Sustainable WASH

🎯 To create awareness and to provide water and sanitation products among the mass people on water and sanitation facilities for a better life.

Major Activities

- 01 **Rally and Local Stakeholder Workshops (2 batches)**
Engaged 141 participants (27 male, 114 female) to promote WaterCredit awareness.
- 02 **Half-Yearly Review Meeting**
Conducted with 95 participants (93 male, 2 female) to assess project progress.
- 03 **Refresher Training for Field Staff (9 batches)**
Trained 335 staff members (309 male, 26 female) to strengthen WASH implementation capacity.
- 04 **WaterCredit Partner Exposure Visit:**
Facilitated learning exchange for 16 participants.
- 05 **Development of Training Module & Climate-Resilient Product Catalogue:**
Completed technical materials (non-participant activity).
- 06 **Training on Climate Vulnerability and Environment Management**
02 batches Participants: 82 (Male: 35, Female: 27)
- 07 **Success Story Documentation:**
Prepared 5 case stories (all by female contributors).
- 08 **Project Success Video**
Produced a documentary with a 3-member team.

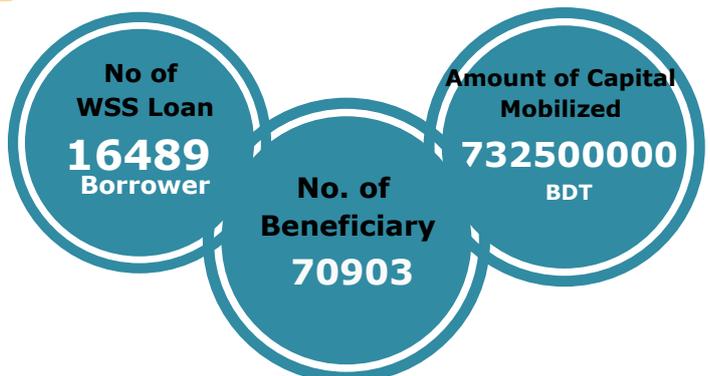
Overview

The Sustainable Water and Sanitation Program, implemented by RRF with support from Water.org, aims to improve safe water and sanitation access across 30 districts from 2023–2026. Reaching 193,500 beneficiaries, the program promotes sustainable WASH practices through awareness-building, capacity development, and community engagement. Leveraging RRF’s long-standing microfinance model, it enables households to access affordable financing for WASH products. Despite some cultural and resource challenges, the initiative is making strong progress toward reducing waterborne diseases and improving community well-being

Specific Objectives

- Demand generation in community and borrowers.
- WSS product development and WSS distribution to the borrowers.
- Capacity development of staff.
- Impact 202,500 by disbursing 45,000 WSS loans in three years.

Loan Information



🌿 Environmental and Social Impact

Environmental Safeguards / Climate Resilience Efforts:

- Encouraged households to adopt flood-proof toilets, raised latrine platforms, and salinity-resistant water technologies in flood- and cyclone-prone areas.
- Encouraged upgrading of unsanitary pit latrines to improved, sealed, and climate-tolerant sanitation systems.

Social Inclusion and Gender Mainstreaming:

- Women were actively engaged in decision-making regarding household WASH improvements and loan uptake.
- Special focus was given to poor and vulnerable households with limited access to safe water and sanitation.

🚀 Capacity Building and Training

One Day Refresher Training for Field Level Staff (9 batches) to 335 participants

ToT Refresher of 21 Master Trainer

📄 Basic Information



Supported by:
Water.org



Duration:
From
April 2023 to
March 2026



Budget:
BDT
56,80,000



Staff:
01



No. Of Beneficiary:
68,800
microfinance
borrowers



Area:
30
districts

⚠️ Challenges and Lessons Learned

Major Challenges Faced:

- Frequent flooding, cyclones, waterlogging, and salinity intrusion damaged existing WASH structures.
- Misconceptions and cultural resistance slowed adoption.
- Shortage of trained masons and technicians affected timely installation.

Actions Taken to Overcome Challenges:

- Promoted climate-resilient WASH technologies (flood-proof toilets, raised platforms, salinity-resistant filters).
- Conducted training sessions for credit officers and branch managers on WASH technologies and climate adaptation.



★ Voice of Transformation

Hazera Begum from Ramnagar, Jashore spent years using a broken outdoor toilet and struggling to pump water from a tube well. Frequent illnesses and daily hardship became normal for her family. During dry months, the water table dropped so low that getting even a bucket of water became a struggle. After attending an RRF courtyard session, she realized how proper sanitation could change their lives. In October 2024, Hazera took a BDT 20,000 loan from RRF and, with her husband's support, built an attached toilet with a submersible pump. The loan is already repaid, and their home now has clean, running water and a hygienic toilet.

"Now I feel relieved and proud," Hazera says. "Guests can visit without embarrassment, and my family stays healthier."

Hazera believes every woman deserves dignity—and credits RRF for helping her take the first step.