Development of water and sanitation services
DFID’s work with WSP and other partners has involved the following priority areas of institutional management that require strengthening:

- taking the risks and rewards of roll out at local levels of government;
- enhancing technical and computer based training;
- ensuring adequate time and resources for providing institutional support in the form of sector wide training programs and institutional support;
- providing piloting facilities of services;
- ensuring mapping, monitoring and financial systems;
- supporting innovative approaches to community participation and sector policy advocacy;
- adapting sector specific institutional frameworks to the needs of local government, child and family units and other professional units in the sector.

Project development procedures
The component sharing approach aims to enable communities to develop a clear sense of ownership and responsibility for the programs they undertake. Basing policy advocacy on community level project experience enables project partners to combine ‘the grass roots experience with high level policy advocacy.

Policy change requires time
Policy change is often slow and difficult. At any five year reform programme should definitely internalize the concept of evidence based and support for change. However, experience would suggest that ‘backwash’ such uncertainties and short duration initiatives could have a good demonstration effect on influencing change.

Combining infrastructure provision with developing institutions
Projects that seek to develop the capacity of local government organisations, as well as to provide demand response mechanisms, have good prospects of achieving sustainable results. This is true of projects in LPG for example.

Component sharing vs. cost sharing approaches
The component sharing approach was originally developed as a part of the Oxfam Project Evaluation System (OPES) in the Bangladesh, Pakistan and India. The component sharing approach is based upon the analysis of the experience of projects. These projects were centrally sponsored and included a range of activities:

- budgeting and financial systems;
- institutional management and skills development;
- development of institutional management approaches.

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- focusing on the issues and problems relevant to local levels of government;
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Pakistan has seen some development projects with a focus on strengthening local capacity, particularly in the areas of water and sanitation. However, due to political instability and frequent institutional changes, the continuity and effectiveness of these programs have been hindered. The government has implemented several initiatives to promote citizen participation and community involvement, but progress has been slow due to various challenges.

DFID’s Engagement with Development in Pakistan

Over the years, DFID’s engagement with Pakistan has been significant, particularly in the areas of water and sanitation. The DFID-Pakistan Engagement Strategy (DFPS) 2005-2008 sets out the objectives and priorities of DFID’s engagement with Pakistan, focusing on improving the lives of the poorest people, particularly women and children. The DFPS aims to support Pakistan in its efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and promote sustainable development.

Pakistan’s Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper

The Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) for Pakistan was developed in 2002 and sets out the government’s priorities and strategies for poverty reduction. The PRSP identifies the following key challenges:

- High population growth: Pakistan has one of the fastest-growing populations in the world, with a population that has more than doubled since independence. This has put pressure on the country’s resources and has contributed to poverty and inequality.
- High unemployment: Pakistan has one of the highest unemployment rates in the world, with around 40% of the working-age population unemployed.
- Low educational attainment: Pakistan has one of the lowest levels of educational attainment in the world, with only around 20% of the population having completed primary education.
- Low access to health care: Pakistan has one of the lowest levels of health care access in the world, with around 70% of the population living in areas with no access to basic health care services.

The PRSP identifies several key priorities for poverty reduction, including:

- Improving access to basic services (education, health, water, and sanitation)
- Enhancing social safety nets
- Strengthening the institutional framework
- Improving governance and accountability

DFID’s Engagement with the Water and Sanitation Sector

DFID’s engagement with the water and sanitation sector in Pakistan has been focused on several key areas, including:

1. Accelerating economic growth by focusing on sectors that generate employment, particularly in relation to water and sanitation.
2. Improving the capacity of local government and the involvement of communities in water and sanitation services.
3. Strengthening the institutional framework of the water and sanitation sector.
4. Targeting vulnerable groups through poverty-reducing policy interventions, social investment policy, and deregulation.

The DFID-Pakistan Water and Sanitation Project (WSP) has been a key initiative in DFID’s engagement with the water and sanitation sector in Pakistan. The WSP was developed in response to the devastation caused by the 2005 earthquake in the North-West Frontier Province (NWFP) and theERRYAN election in Pakistan. The project was designed to support the government of Pakistan in its efforts to improve access to safe drinking water and sanitation services in the earthquake-affected areas. The project was implemented by a consortium of international and local partners, including DFID, the Government of Pakistan, and the World Bank.

The WSP was designed to achieve the following objectives:

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The project was evaluated in 2009, and the findings indicated that the project had achieved some success in improving access to safe drinking water and sanitation services in the earthquake-affected areas. However, the project faced several challenges, including:

- Limited political support and donor coordination
- Limited capacity and institutional strengthening
- Limited community participation and ownership

The DFID-Pakistan Water and Sanitation Project (WSP) was a significant initiative in DFID’s engagement with the water and sanitation sector in Pakistan. The project was designed to support the government of Pakistan in its efforts to improve access to safe drinking water and sanitation services in the earthquake-affected areas. The project was implemented by a consortium of international and local partners, including DFID, the Government of Pakistan, and the World Bank.

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