

1. **Title of grant:** Leadership Capacity Development on Non-Sewered Sanitation (NSS) and Fecal Sludge Management (FSM)
2. **Subtitle (more descriptive title):** Government officials, policy makers, and professional staff of international organizations contribute to innovative design and accelerated implementation of NSS and FSM components in projects supported by development partners in Asian developing countries.
3. **Name of lead organization:** Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI)
4. **Primary contact at lead organization:** Dr. K.E. Seetha Ram and Mr. S. Nakabayashi
5. **Grantee location:** Tokyo, Japan
6. **Developing country where the research is being or will be tested:** Primarily India along with other Asian countries, including Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, and Mongolia.
7. **Start and end date:** June 2017–January 2019
8. **Grant type:** Global Development
9. **Grant size:** USD544,347

10. **Short description of the project:** Sanitation is a huge challenge in many Asian developing countries. More than 1.5 billion people lack access to improved sanitation, and around 80% of wastewater is discharged without treatment. In 2017–2030, Asia needs \$800 billion in water and sanitation investment. (<http://goo.gl/8wIQNL>)

Unfortunately, national and local government decision makers and implementing agencies in Asian developing countries are unable to develop policies to prioritize sanitation and implement programs that deliver clear outcomes, primarily because they do not have evidence-based information and adequate leadership capacity.

During 2017–2019, in partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI) aims to deliver leadership capacity development programs targeting government decision makers, officials in implementing agencies, and professional staff of international organizations. The topics will cover innovative design solutions and policy instruments to accelerate implementation of NSS and FSM components in projects supported by development partners in Asian developing countries.

Working closely with ADB Headquarters and various knowledge partners, ADBI aims to develop and deliver a 1-week high-level leadership program to high-level participants. The program will comprise evidence-based case studies prepared by ADBI and knowledge partners on NSS and FSM policies and programs. Additionally, ADBI's annual work program regularly convenes high-level decision makers, especially from ministries of finance in Asian developing countries. In these programs, ADBI will propose evidence-based recommendations.

Government ownership for and continued commitment to NSS and FSM is a constant challenge. In 2018, ADBI and its development partners will convene high-level round-table meetings to address the challenge in a two-pronged manner.

**11. Goal(s):** Through this grant, ADBI envisages setting up an enabling platform to systematically develop leadership capacity through programs that can be expeditiously implemented, replicated, and scaled up over the medium term.

**12. Objectives:** ADBI envisages being known as a leading institute in the region for building high-level officials' capacity to handle NSS and FSM.

**13. Research or implementation partners:** i.school–University of Tokyo, Japan Social Innovation Centre (JSIC), Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP), UNESCO–IHE, Japan Sanitation Consortium (JSC), K-Water, Asia Pacific Water Forum, and ICHARM

**14. Links, further readings – results to date:** -

**15. Current state of affairs:**

Plans are under way to deliver the following:

1. Through a high-level leadership program, ADBI and its development partners will actively liaise with national governments to identify participants who have a role in decision-making and in choosing project locations to implement NSS and FSM over the medium to long term.

2. ADBI aims to actively engage and effectively transfer relevant knowledge and skills to high-level participants through highly intense evidence-based case studies.

3. Through evidence-based policy recommendations, ADBI will prioritize and create an enabling environment to implement NSS and FSM in government programs.

4. ADBI will also partner with national and regional knowledge partners (from academia and think tanks) who can replicate and scale up leadership capacity programs for policy makers and government leaders.

**16. Biggest successes so far:** -

**17. Main challenges / frustration:** -