



Water, Environment and Sanitation (WES)

Bolivia

Country Setting

- Bolivia is one of the poorest countries in Latin America and the Caribbean region. In rural areas 80 per cent of the population, which is largely indigenous, live in poverty.
- Malnutrition is the most serious problem affecting Bolivian children. One in three under the age of 3 are malnourished.
- School enrolment increased over the last few years to 88 per cent for boys and 86 per cent for girls, but female illiteracy in rural areas is high at 41 per cent.
- Rapid urbanization is causing problems like lack of basic services and social exclusion.

WES Sector Setting

- There is a national water and sanitation policy, with responsibility for sector coordination in the Vice-Ministry of Basic Sanitation.
- From 1992 to 2000, public per capita investment increased from \$5 to \$11. Major donors are EU, World Bank, Japan, Germany and Sweden.
- While urban water supply coverage is high, only about half of customers have reliable service. Only one-quarter of urban sewage works include effluent treatment.
- Urban water and sanitation services are being privatized.

Basic Indicators

Total population (1000s)	8,808
Under-five mortality rate (per 1000)	66
Total adult literacy rate (%)	85

Water and Sanitation Coverage

	Water (%)	Sanitation (%)
Urban	95	58
Rural	68	23
Total	85	45

UNICEF WES Programme

Main Components

- As part of the Local Integrated Development Programme, focused on 50 of the poorest municipalities, with a high prevalence of indigenous people, WES aims to:
 - Provide ECD for children 0-4 years of age.
 - Contribute to the literacy of 65,000 rural native children and women through non-formal education in their native language.
 - Achieve 90 per cent primary enrolment.
 - Improve health and nutrition of children and mothers and infant birth registration.
 - Increase access to drinking water, basic sanitation and education in hygiene.

Programme Highlights and Achievements

- 164 gravity water systems were constructed, benefiting 224,200 people.
- Increase in potable water coverage from 5 per cent to 75 per cent in the project area.
- 485 dry latrines were constructed, benefiting 7,440 people.
- 576 ecological latrines were constructed, benefiting 13,422 people.
- Increase in sanitation coverage from 6.2 per cent to 11.3 per cent in project area.
- 178 solar showers in schools were constructed, benefiting 23,000 people.