



ASIA WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP:

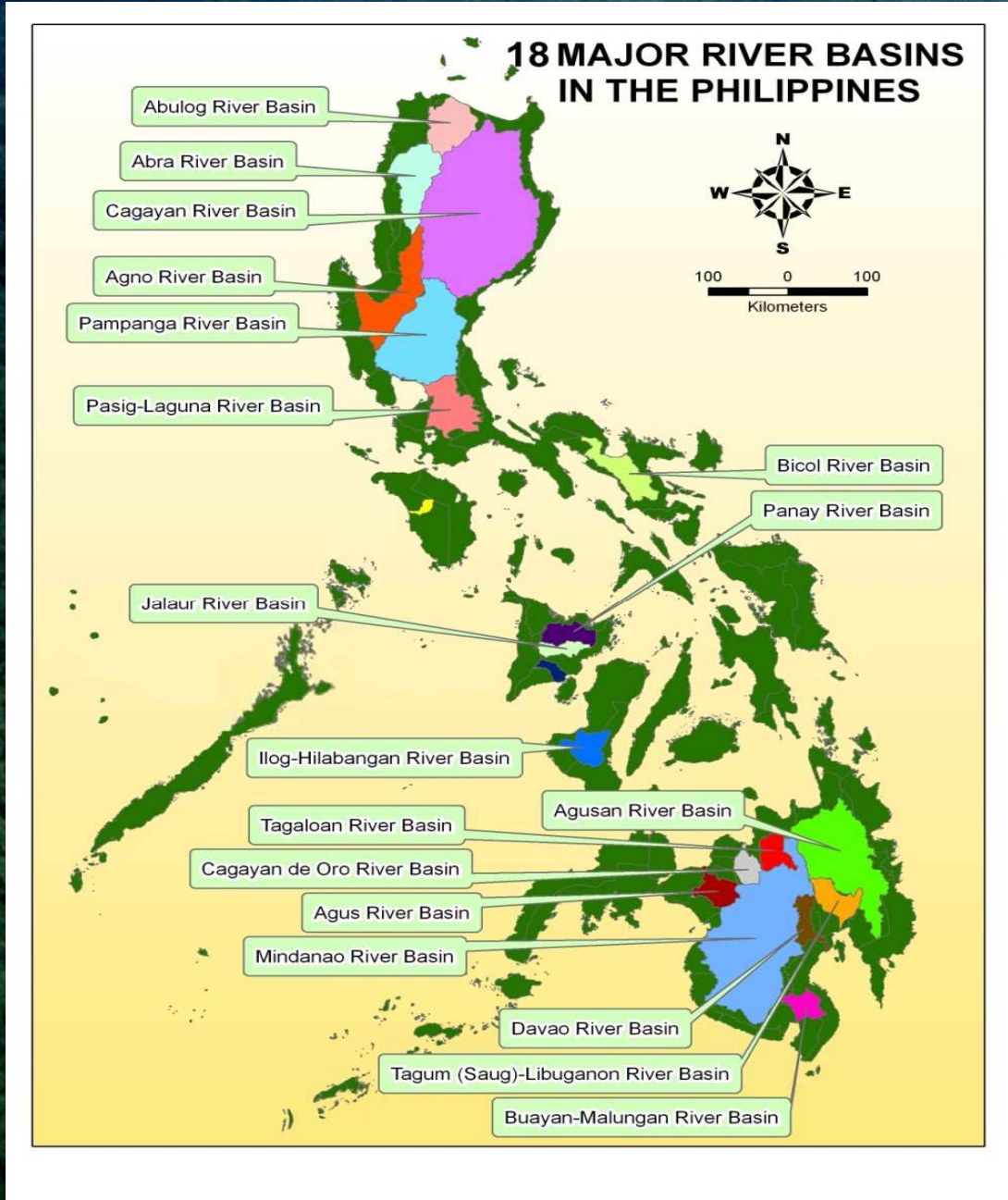
ESTABLISHING A COMMON PLATFORM FOR COLLABORATIVE ACTION TO ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION IN THE ASIAN/SUB-ASIAN REGION

Vicente B. Tuddao, Jr. Ph.D.

*Assistant Regional Director for Technical Services
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
MIMAROPA, Philippines*

*Engr. Erlinda Gonzales
Technical Officer*

*Manila Bay Environmental Management Office
Environmental Management Bureau
Philippines*



Major Issues and Concerns on Environmental Pollution:

- Pollution of water bodies due to solid and liquid wastes;
- Degradation due to siltation from unsustainable agricultural practices;
- Inadequate full enforcement of Clean Water Act of 2004
- Inadequate decision support systems and baseline data

Rationale

- The fast development and population growth of economies of Asian countries, particularly the ASEAN countries will directly impact to its environment should management of wastes from domestic, agricultural, commercial and industrial sources are not properly undertaken. One of the major effect of improper wastewater management is its adverse impact on water supply thereby affecting water security.
- A milestone agreement made on September 2015, when Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted during the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit. The Target 6.3 of SDGs stipulates that “by 2030, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater” should be accomplished

Expectation for the AWaP

Paradigm Shift: A More Focused and Participatory Approach through Wastewater Partnership

- *More engaging involvement*
- *Output Oriented*
- *Effective institutional and Support System*

The New Partnership:

Asia Partnership and Convergence Initiatives for Wastewater Management

The convergence initiatives referred hereto shall be to highlight a common and shared vision, more engaging and creates synergy of action, output-oriented through collaborative action in order to solve *common* wastewater management issues.

Goal and Objectives of the Proposed Partnership:

The goal of Partnership is to help reduce water pollution through efficient management of wastewater by each country in the region, and create a functional wastewater management network in Asian countries with varying capacities, through better understanding of gaps, issues and concerns facing wastewater management, and finding common solutions and through a more engaging action and collaborative partnership based on established common framework for action, in order to help achieve Target 6.3 of SDGs which stipulates that “by 2030, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater” should be accomplished.

Objectives of the Partnership are:

- To formulate common platform or framework for action which will be the basis in finding functional solutions to wastewater management issues and concerns;
- To seek agreement among the participating Asian countries on the common areas of concerns, limits and boundaries of collaborative partnership given their varying capacities;
- To share best practices developed by each of the participating countries in the Partnership initiative;
- To provide and share information through the development of a more functional information platform ranging from current wastewater management operations, initiatives, and approaches of each participating country, available technologies employed in effective and efficient wastewater treatment, existing current institutional and governance support programs and approaches, policy support and policy gaps, and investment requirement needed from both public and private sectors;

Objectives:

- To agree on the development and operation of a functional decision support system for planning and decision process for the efficient and effective management of wastewater among the participating countries within Asia/ASEAN region;
- To capacitate participating countries on the operation and use of current and cost effective technologies and protocols for efficient management of wastewater;
- To generate wastewater generation and disposal, prevention, control and other related wastewater management data in each participating country as basis to gauge improvement made under the Partnership; and
- To assess the impact of the initiatives under the partnership on the reduction of wastewater generation and pollution of water resources, and improvement of water availability for sustained water supply for domestic, agricultural and industrial use, in relation to the support of achieving the Target 6.3 of the SDG.

Proposed Vision and Mission Statement

Vision

An Asian Region with ensured sustainable clean water supply, available and accessible by all, for domestic, agricultural and industrial use; available clean water in the environment will can be achieved through efficient and effective wastewater treatment, and control of wastewater generation through the use of proper and cost-effective technologies, and strict government regulation and law enforcement .



Proposed Vision and Mission Statement

Mission

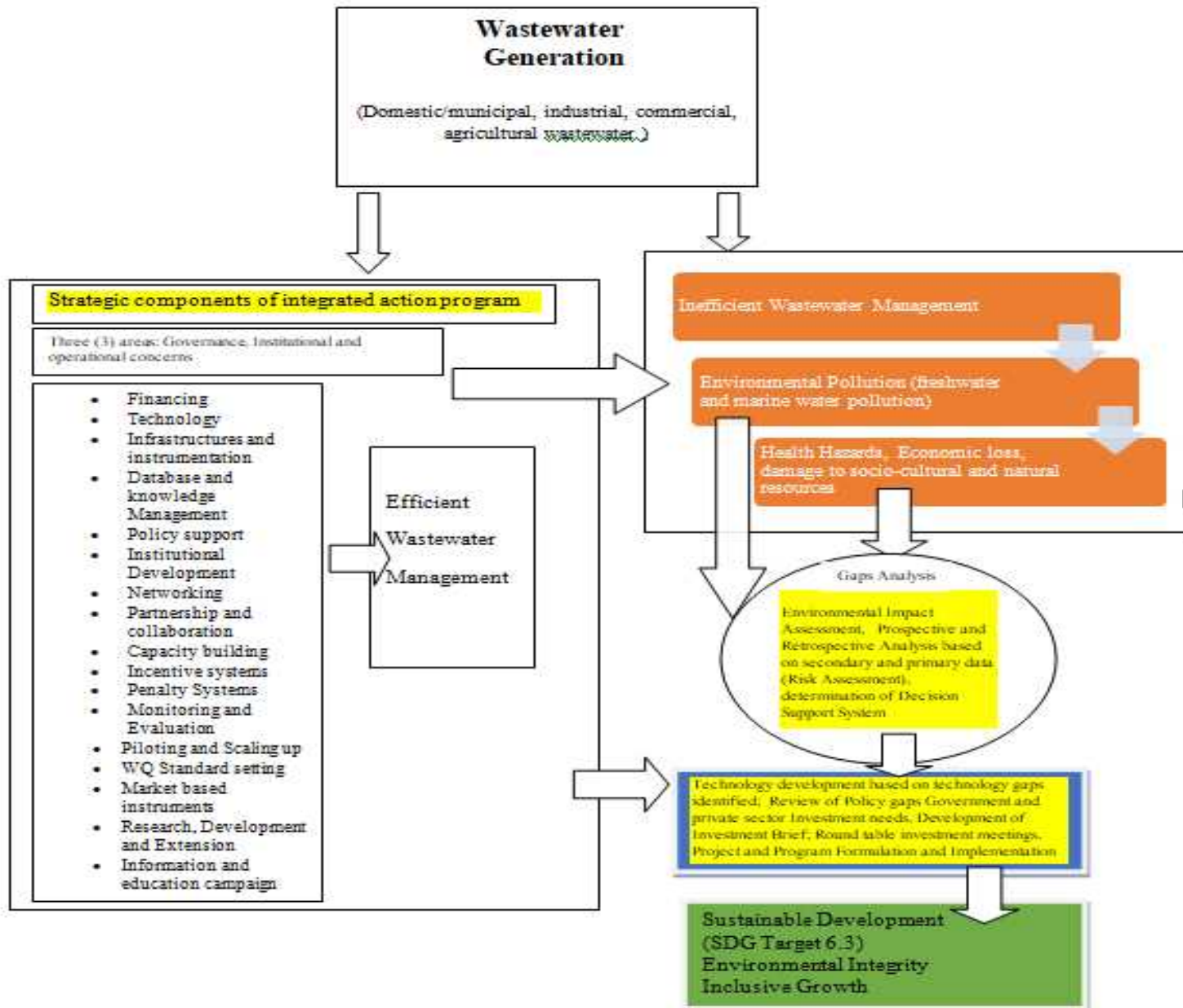
Institute effective governance, technical and operational strategies and interventions for the proper management of wastewater which will be supported with the development and strict enforcement of policies, rules and regulations; application of better monitoring and sustainable financial mechanism, operationalize a functional decision support system, and create a platform for sharing information and best practices for ready adoption and application by member-countries.

Proposed Vision and Mission Statement

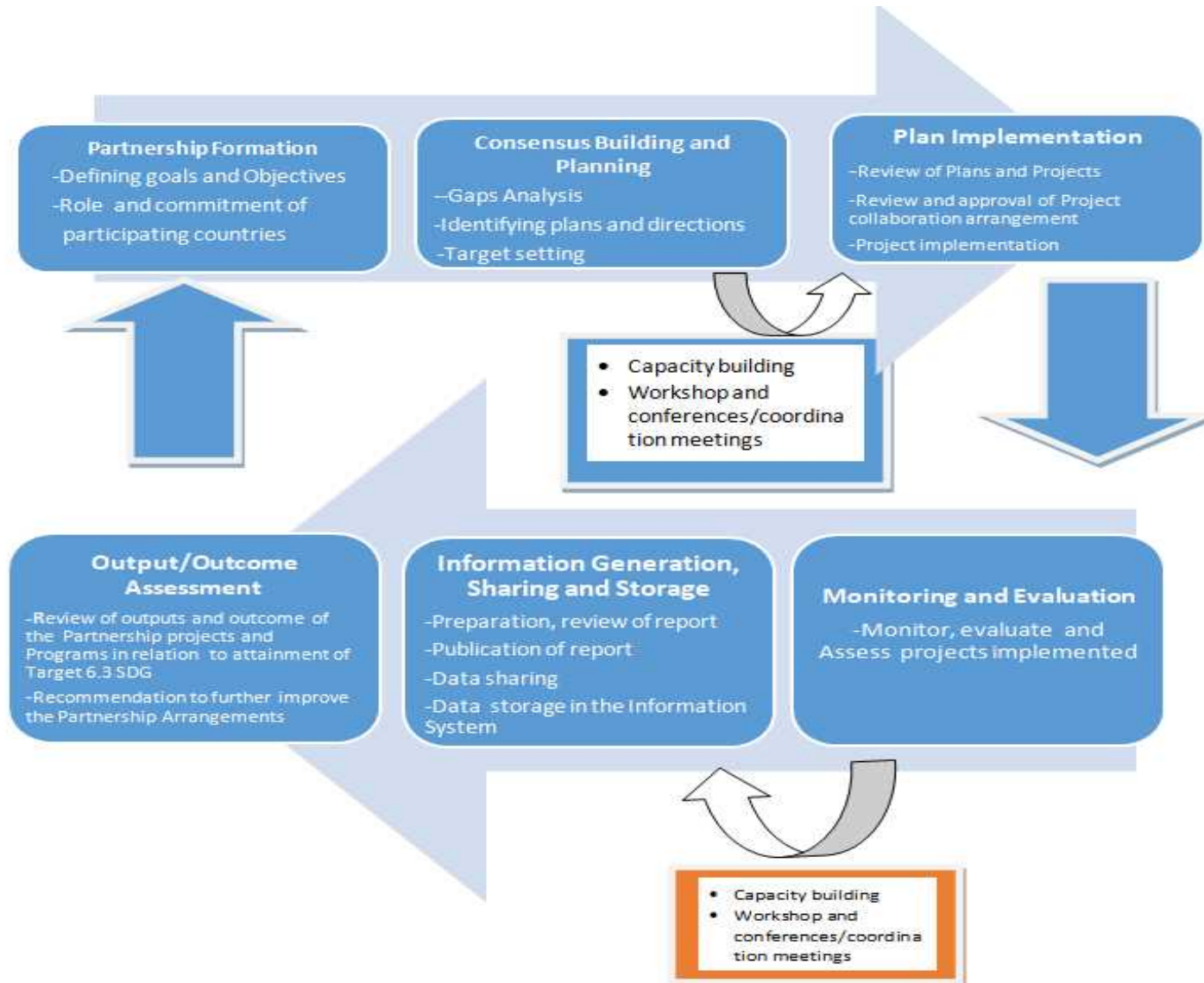
Mission

Institute effective governance, technical and operational strategies and interventions for the proper management of wastewater which will be supported with the development and strict enforcement of policies, rules and regulations; application of better monitoring and sustainable financial mechanism, operationalize a functional decision support system, and create a platform for sharing information and best practices for ready adoption and application.

Proposed Framework Plan for Wastewater Management Towards Attaining Environmental Quality in the Asian Region/Sub-Region



Partnership Formation and Operations Flow Process



Proposed Activity/Program Components of the Partnership

Technical and operational component

- Identification, development and application of Wastewater treatment technologies/protocols for efficient wastewater treatments
- Support to identification of infrastructure needs and establishment of cost effective infrastructures/facilities for wastewater treatments and utilization of treated wastewater and sludge.

Proposed Activity/Program Components of the Partnership

Institutional development component

- Identification of sustained financing mechanism
- Support to development/formulation of relevant policies and regulations (including the establishment of missing major/significant effluent standards and criteria for wastewater disposal in the receiving water bodies, and formulation of market-based instruments for wastewater management)
- Development of regional/national coordination mechanism
- Capacity building

Proposed Activity/Program Components of the Partnership

Governance component

- Development of appropriate monitoring and evaluation system
- Development of Decision support system
- Development and operation of Database Information Management System for data storage, retrieval, analysis and presentation.
- Information Dissemination and advocacy campaign

Challenges on Wastewater Management in the Philippines

- Inadequate monitoring of industrial wastewater compliance to Clean Water Act (monitoring technologies/equipments, remote sensing of receiving bodies, etc);
- Weak law enforcement;
- Relatively low level of compliance of the Local Government Units on the Clean Water Act; especially relative to domestic wastewater treatments;
- Still lower capacity of government in management and governance capacity in dealing wastewater concern due to inadequate decision support systems;
- Need for adoption and implementation of market-based instruments on Environmental Users Fee;
- Low public and private investments on WWM facilities;
- Low access to sewerage and sanitation facilities;
- Low compliance of industrial and commercial to effluent standards;
- Inadequate baseline information on wastewater management and status of compliance ;
- Low awareness of stakeholders

Regional Challenges

- Differences in the priorities and program direction of the governments of the Partnership member-states;
- Incomplete or absence of crucial wastewater effluent standards in some countries which is a significant barrier for effective regulatory control and efficient wastewater management;
- Apathy of some countries in their involvement to the Partnership; and
- Varied level of available baseline data among participating countries which is needed in the development and application of decision support system and in decision making process.
- Varied levels of available supporting policies to regulate wastewater control, prevention and management.
- Difficult to achieve the target 6.3 of SDG as it require huge financial investment, and needs strong policies and its strict implementation

Thank you for your Kind Attention

