Overview
Access to sanitation lags far behind access to water supply, which has historically been a higher priority of both governments and the poor they serve. This lag is attributable to a number of factors including:

- institutional fragmentation and poor coordination between essential actors;
- limited demand from both households and politicians;
- traditionally low profile as an embarrassing and taboo subject;
- technical complexity; and
- limited capacity and experience in addressing the problem at scale.

Figure 1: Growth in Access to Water and Sanitation, 1990-2000 and 2000-2015
Number of new people with access to WSS per day for past 10 years and projected need for 2000-2015 to reach the MDG

In an effort to respond to these constraints, the World Bank combined BNWP-1 funds with World Bank Budget to pilot the Sanitation, Hygiene and Wastewater Support Service (SWAT) during the fiscal years 2005 and 2006. The Service provides fully managed technical field support on demand at critical junctures in the project cycle to make it easier for clients and World Bank staff to incorporate sanitation and hygiene effectively in their projects. Shortly after its initiation, demand for the services exceeded its financing, and approximately one million dollars worth of technical support for project identification, preparation, and implementation in sanitation was provided over the initial SWAT 18-month project period. These services contributed to the development of projects with over $800 million worth of investment in sanitation, as well as to the supervision of projects which included over $50 million worth of sanitation investment.

Objective
The objectives of the Sanitation, Hygiene and Wastewater Support Service are:
1. To increase the portfolio of World Bank investment and activity in sanitation and hygiene
2. To improve the quality of the World Bank’s investments in sanitation and hygiene
3. To build the long-term capacity of the World Bank and its clients in sanitation and hygiene

Content
The Sanitation and Hygiene block is thematically organized into three components:

1. The block will provide assistance to urban World Bank operations in sanitation and hygiene such as:
   1.1 Support to Vietnam sanitation policy on sewerage/onsite sanitation management option - SWAT will provide expertise and ability to improve the quality and public safety of sanitation investment in Vietnam.
   1.2 Dhaka, Chittagong (Bangladesh) project design to ensure access by low-income communities - The client and regional World Bank staff have sought support in defining and addressing alternatives to make sanitation access to the poor part of the preparation of a World Bank operation.
   1.3 Technical and institutional planning of urban sanitation in Punjab (Pakistan) - SWAT has received a request for follow up work, which started under BNWP-1. The goal is simplify current

Improving Water and Sanitation Services for the Poor
The mission of the Bank-Netherlands Water Partnership (BNWP) is to improve delivery of water supply and sanitation services to the poor. The partnership enhances performance of World Bank operations in the water supply and sanitation sector and supports and broad sector reform agenda with a strong poverty focus. BNWP activities center on providing support to solve immediate problems with actual cases, testing policy and delivery information, an plugging gaps in existing knowledge in the water sector as a whole.
technical and institutional planning of sanitation in the Punjab region, where one of the factors contributing to limited access to urban sanitation is the application of rigid technical and administrative standards to sanitation. Both the client and World Bank staff are keen on carrying forward ideas developed in the earlier assignment to create an enabling environment that can make World Bank operations in urban sanitation in Punjab more effective.

1.4 Support to urban sanitation/hygiene in three more countries, with preference for Africa - These specific tasks have yet to be identified, although one distinct possibility under discussion is to help the local authorities and utilities find ways to serve the low-income communities on the periphery of towns as part of the design of World Bank operations there. Priority will be given to those countries and projects for which SWAT has not worked.

2. The block will provide support to rural World Bank operations in sanitation and hygiene such as:

2.1 Support to inter-sectoral coordination of sanitation and hygiene in Benin - The main opportunity for expansion of rural sanitation in Benin lies in effective “piggy-backing” on the extensive externally funded rural water supply program in Benin to expand sanitation access.

2.2 Financial analysis/support to Integrated Sewerage and Sanitation Infrastructure Project rural sanitation in Egypt - This activity will carry out an analysis determining the most appropriate methods of cost recovery as part of the government of Egypt’s efforts to make rural sanitation a priority.

2.3 Support to rural sanitation in four more countries with preference to Africa - These interventions have yet to be defined but could include demands in Rwanda, Cambodia and a number of countries in Latin America.

3. The block will assist in knowledge management and dissemination of lessons including:

3.1. The Sanitation and Hygiene Resource Guide will be a website, which outlines the basic challenges and approaches to sanitation and hygiene, and guides the user to resources available on the web and elsewhere. A draft of this guide was prepared and peer-reviewed under BNWP-1.

3.2. Editing, publication of feature stories, other documentation of SWAT experience - As SWAT activities continue, it is important to document and share the lessons and experience gained. Consultants are usually requested to prepare a readable synopsis of their field work. While individual project summaries are useful, further analysis and sharing of best practice can be helpful where common experience on different projects points in a common direction. This appears to be the case on such topics as fecal sludge management, public toilet management and others.

Outcomes
Attribution of success in technical support is extremely difficult. In some cases it is clear that elements of projects would not have been possible without the contribution of a specific consultancy, whereas in some others it is unclear. This block expects that it can contribute to a) a 10% increase in new lending for sanitation between fiscal year 2005 and fiscal year 2008; and b) a percent of projects under the WSS sector board with standard access indicators for sanitation will increase from 9% in fiscal year 2006 to 15% in fiscal year 2008. Most activities have a direct impact on current World Bank projects. Activities in Benin and Yemen also have an impact on WSS policies and contribute towards achieving the MDGs.

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<th>Components</th>
<th>Budget</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Direct support to urban World Bank operations in sanitation and hygiene</td>
<td>$320,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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