

WaterLinks Water Operator Partnership Award



BACKGROUND

Established in 2008, WaterLinks is a regional organisation that supports water operator partnerships (WOPs) between water and wastewater service providers in Asia and the Pacific to enable improved access to safe water and sustainable sanitation. Through WOPs service providers exchange practical know-how that result in service delivery expansion or improvement, and/or adoption of improved policies and practices by one or both partners. WaterLinks is supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through its WaterLinks Alliance and Be Secure projects, the Global WOP Alliance (GWOPA), and the Asian Development Bank.

WATER OPERATOR PARTNERSHIP AWARD

2015 WaterLinks Award. WaterLinks will present two WaterLinks WOP Awards to recognize the outstanding achievements of WOPs in:

- **Outcomes and Impacts:** tangible results in terms of expanded or improved services delivery
- **Scale-Up and/or Replication:** expansion of service delivery improvements

SUBMISSIONS AND ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility. WaterLinks is soliciting applications from service providers from the Asia-Pacific region that have completed WOPs in the Asia Pacific Region within this period: 2013-2015

Nomination Process. Eligible service providers can submit a partnership for consideration by completing the application form available on the WaterLinks website (www.waterlinks.org) or by submitting via e-mail to info@waterlinks.org. Both partners in the WOP must jointly prepare and submit the application form. In addition to completing the form, partners may also submit supporting documents/materials that highlight achievements, such as media reports, project results, performance evaluations, plans, testimonials, photos, etc.

Nomination and Award Timeline

Call for Submissions Sept. 15, 2014

Submission Deadline June 15, 2015

Announcement of Award Aug. 15, 2015

Presentation of Award Sept. 16, 2015

EVALUATION AND SELECTION

Evaluation Criteria. Criteria for evaluating partnerships are based on WaterLinks WOP principles: (1) Outcome in terms of expanded or improved services or adoption of improved policies or practices; (2) Sustainability as measured by cost-share and continuing partner engagement; and (3) Potential for scale up and replication.

Selection Process. WaterLinks will nominate a selection committee composed of sector experts from the region to review submissions and select the winners based on the evaluation criteria.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Partnership Outcome: The outcome of the partnership is evaluated in terms of improved or expanded services, or adoption of improved policies or practices that lead to improved or expanded services. Improved service is measured in reference to increased operational efficiencies per standard performance indicators (e.g., non-revenue water reduction, improved water quality for specific parameters, etc.) Expanded service is measured in terms of new household connections.

Commitment and Sustainability: Partnership commitment and sustainability are measured and evaluated in terms of cost-share and/or direct funding contributions of partners, and continuing partner cooperation or engagement beyond the initial phase of the partnership.

Potential for Scale Up and Replication: The scale-up and replication potential of a partnership relates to: (1) expansion of newly adopted good policies and practices within a service area (i.e., scale-up); and (2) adoption by other service providers within the country or by service providers in other Asian countries (i.e., replication). Evidence of ongoing or planned efforts for scale-up and/or replication will be evaluated in the process.

2015 WaterLinks Water Operator Partnership Awards

NOMINATION FORM

Partnership Operator (Mentor)	
Partnership Operator (Recipient)	
WaterLinks Supporting Partner (USAID, etc.)	
Partnership Focus	
Partnership Timeframe	
Contact Person	
Address	
Phone	
Email	
Contact Person (Recipient)	
Address	
Phone	
Email	
Brief Description of Partnership Main Activities, Outputs, and Outcomes (Please keep brief description to not more than 2 pages.)	

Partnership Achievements

Please briefly summarize the record of achievement for the nominated WOP for each of the award evaluation criteria: (1) outcome of partnership in terms of expanded or improved services or adoption of improved policies or practices; (2) sustainability as measured by cost-share and continuing partner engagement; and (3) potential for scale up and replication.

Please limit written submissions on partnership achievements to five pages, and submit electronically to info@waterlinks.org. In addition to completing the form, WOP partners may also submit electronically supporting documents/materials that highlight achievements, such as media reports, project results, performance evaluations, testimonials, photos, etc.

1. What were the measurable outcomes from the project in terms of improved or expanded services delivery, or adoption of improved policies or best practices? Improved service is measured in terms of increased operational efficiencies per standard performance indicators (e.g., non-revenue water reduction, increased collection efficiency), or improved water quality for specific parameters. Expanded service is measured in terms of numbers of new household connections. Did these outcomes exceed the original targets in the partnership work plan?
2. What resources did each partner contribute to the partnership (in terms of new equipment, staff time, related expense, etc.)? Please estimate amounts in local currency. Do WOP partners cooperate through continuing site visits and ongoing direct communications to share experience and ideas?
3. What is the potential of the nominated WOP project to catalyze further scale up and replication? Scale up refers to expansion of newly adopted policies or good practices within a water company service area. Replication refers to adoption of policies or good practices by other service providers within the country, or by service providers in other Asian countries.

For evidence of scale up, please provide information on ongoing or planned efforts by the recipient partner to expand application of the policies or good practices. In cases where the recipient partner does not have explicit scale-up plans or activities underway, please elaborate on key factors such as relevance of the good practice, relative advantage over existing practices and relative ease of adoption.

For evidence of replication, please provide information on ongoing or planned cooperative activities by either mentor or recipient partners with other service providers and other partners (e.g., national waterworks association) to promote or expand application of the policies or good practices. In cases where there are no explicit replication plans or activities underway, please elaborate on key factors such as relevance of the good practice, relative advantage over existing practices and relative ease of adoption.