

Public-Private and Community Participation in Water Resource Management: The Missing Dimension- “The Power of Three”.

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Introduction:

- PPCP in Action
- Building blocks of PPCP
- Issues & Challenges

Spink & Merrill Sands, 1999

Foundation Elements:

- Compelling Vision
- Strong shared leadership
- Shared problem definition & Approach
- Power Equity
- Interdependence/
•Complementarity
- Mutual Accountability

Elements of
Successful
Partnerships

Sustaining Elements:

- Attention to process
- Communication linkages
- Explicit decision making
Process
- Trust & Commitment
- Credit & Recognition

Potential Benefits

- Synergy
- Community empowerment

Challenges

- Appropriate application
- Differences in agenda

Glimpse at a Case Study: Public-Private Community Partnerships in Management and Delivery of Water to Urban Poor: The Case of Metro Manila.

In the Philippines, the Public-Private Community Partnerships are serving the poor with water through public faucets, group taps, bulk water and individual connections. The removal of technical and institutional barriers in providing water in urban poor communities or informal settlements in Metro Manila has allowed delivery of different forms of water services in these areas. The principal partners are the government as represented by the residual water utility and the regulatory office as well as the local government, the private sector as represented by the private concessionaries of the water utility and the community by the local associations and non governmental organizations.

The government allowed private companies to bid for a 25 year concession agreement to handle the East and West Zones of Metro Manila. The bidding process resulted in Manila Water (2.32 pesos per cubic meter) winning the concession for East Zone while Maynilad Water Services Inc (4.97 pesos per cubic meter) won the West Zone. Their bid prices were low compared to the prices before hand (8.78/cu.m) making Metro Manila the place with the lowest water prices in the country as well as in the ASEAN region.

The community was involved in the consultation stage with the concessionaries. The communities agreed to phase out all illegal connections both agreed on bulk water service where a local association was given the responsibility to manage the local distribution net for the entire area. The concessionaries waived the Land Title requirement and gave allowance for connection payment fees to be spread over a period of 3 months to 2 years. This procedure paved the way for regularizing illegal connections in squatter communities which in turn reduced non revenue water benefiting consumers and concessionaries alike.

(Source: Inocencio & David, 2001)

Lessons Learned

The Way Forward : Recommendations.

- Concrete cases of PPCP from around the region/world to be documented. Compile a database.
- Success of PPCP depends not only on financial capability & technical know how.
- Local strategy can be applied globally.

Conclusion

- PPCP is not a 'magic bullet'
- PPCP brings together the best society offers
- For optimum results apply the concept where appropriate
- Missing Dimension
- There is a genuine need for PPCP

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