

**NATIONAL POLICY  
ON SANITATION,  
SRI LANKA**

**FEBRUARY 2022**

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## ACRONYMS

NPS	: National Policy on Sanitation
MDGs	: Millennium Development Goals
SDGs	: Sustainable Development Goals
UN	: United Nations
DCS	: Demographic and Health Survey
NWS&DB	: National Water Supply and Drainage Board
RBM	: Results-Based Monitoring
O & M	: Operation and Maintenance
MCs	: Municipal Councils
UCs	: Urban Councils
PSs	: Pradeshiya Sabhas
DNP	: Department of National Planning
DNCWS	: Department of National Community Water Supply
MoI	: Ministry of Industries
BOI	: Board of Investment
SMP	: Sanitation Master Plan
LA	: Local Authority
LAs	: Local Authorities
MOH	: Ministry of Health
STFs	: Sludge treatment facilities
PCs	: Provincial Councils
UDA	: Urban Development Authority
NPPD	: National Physical Planning Department
DSs	: Divisional Secretaries
DSD	: Divisional Secretary Division
DCC	: District Coordinating Committee
IT	: Information technology
MOF	: Ministry of Finance
ERD	: External Resources Department
CEA	: Central Environment Authority
IE	: Industrial Estates
MOE	: Ministry of Education
DOI	: Department of Irrigation

CBOs	: Community Based Organizations
WSS	: Water Supply Schemes
CC&CRMD	: Coast Conservation & Coastal Resources Management Department
DOSS	: Department of Censuses & Statistics
EPZ	: Export Processing Zones
EIA	: Environmental Impact Assessment
IEE	: Initial Environment Examination
NWP	: North-Western Province
MEPA	: Marine Environment Protection Authority
NHDA	: National Housing Development Authority
CMA	: Condominium Management Authority
CMC	: Condominium Management Corporation
RDA	: Road Development Authority
SLTDA	: Sri Lanka Telecom Development Authority
USDA	: Urban Settlement Development Authority
WRB	: Water Resources Board
DMC	: Disaster Management Centre
SLLDC	: Sri Lanka Land Development Corporation
PHDT	: Plantation Human Development Trust
PUCSL	: Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka
SDC	: Sustainable Development Council
RPC	: Regional Plantation Companies
CBO&FO	: Community based organizations and farmer organizations
PS	: Private Sector
DGM	: Deputy General Manager
PCLG	: Provincial Commissioner of Local Government
ACLG	: Assistant Commissioner of Local Government
DCWSS	: Department of Community Water Supply and Sanitation
DCB	: De-centralised Budget
LL&DF	: Local loans & Development Fund

## **PART 1: NATIONAL POLICY ON SANITATION**

### **1.1 POLICY NAME**

This policy will be called “The National Policy on Sanitation (NPS) of Sri Lanka”

### **1.2 EFFECTIVE DATE**

This policy will become effective from a date published in the Government Gazette by the Minister in charge of subject of water supply.

### **1.3 INTRODUCTION**

Sri Lanka reconfirmed its commitment to achieving global development goals by ratifying the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2000 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2016. Specifically for sanitation, MDG target 7.c suggested halving by 2015 the proportion of the population without sustainable access to (safe drinking water and) basic sanitation, with 2000 as the base year. Sri Lanka has achieved this goal even before 2015. SDG indicator 6.2.1 is defined as the proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services, including a hand-washing facility with soap and water (with 2015 as the base year). In fact, this SDG goes several steps further than the MDG to pay due attention to the entire sanitation service chain. This is needed to further eliminate the risk of exposure to excreta-borne pathogens, in the case of on-site sanitation, once the pit is full along the Faecal Sludge Management pathway. Close implementation monitoring of this SDG 6.2.1 shall be crucial as Sri Lanka faces challenges to achieve its sanitation targets adopted (especially that 25% and 50% of local authorities would have septage treatment facilities by 2025 and 2030 respectively) and to improve their fiscal situation to allow for the necessary investments.

#### **1.3.1 Background:**

Sanitation is defined as safe management of domestic wastewater and human excreta, along with institutional, commercial, and industrial wastewater, including its safe confinement, treatment, disposal, and associated hygiene-related practices, as well as solid waste management, stormwater drainage, and the management of drinking water. This policy pertains to management of domestic wastewater and human excreta and associated, institutional, commercial and industrial wastewater, with its impacts of public health and environment. It is recognized that integral solutions need to take account of other elements of sanitation management.

### **1.3.1.1 Access to sanitation:**

The share of Sri Lanka's population using basic sanitation in 2017 stood at 95.8%. (UN Sustainable Development Report -2020). The Sri Lanka Government's Voluntary National Review (2018) reporting on the status of implementing SDGs, stated that 87% of the population had access to on-site sanitation facilities, with 2% of the population having piped sewerage connections. While 8.0% of the population used other sanitation options, information was not available in respect of the balance.

According to the Demographic and Health Survey (DCS -2016), reporting on the status of sanitation in terms of "Improved Toilet Facilities" (defined as any non-shared toilet) found that 89.9% of households had improved toilets and 8% had shared toilet facilities. Only 2.1% of households did not have access to any toilet facility. Further, the Survey found differences in access between urban (91%) and rural (90%) on the one hand and estate (79%) households on the other, with respect to non-shared facilities. It is noteworthy that, according to the survey, flush/pour flush to pit latrine was the main type of non-shared facility available with, Urban (72.1%), rural (84.5%) and estate (72.0%) households.

### **1.3.1.2 Issues of service delivery:**

The structure and functioning of sanitation services system reflects an evolutionary situation consisting of different types of facilities across urban, rural, and estate household situations, shared service delivery responsibility between Local Authorities and NWS&DB, multiple sector engagement, as well as imperatives private sector and community engagement. In this context several problems arise in the delivery of sanitation services.

- a) High dependence on on-site sanitation is found to have serious environmental implications. Apart from households with piped sewer connections, the rest of the households disposes wastewater using onsite sanitation systems within the premises. One main problem is leaking of containment structures such as septic tanks to the surrounding areas, which could lead to various environmental and health issues, especially contamination of groundwater. The situation is particularly problematic in densely populated urban and sub-urban areas. Further, industrial wastewater disposed from small to medium scale industries, aggravates the pollution of water bodies.
- b) Sanitation has an inter-sectoral dimension which makes clarity of the sectoral role and responsibility requisite for its efficient management. Safe sanitation involves safe management of domestic wastewater and human excreta, as well as of institutional, commercial and industrial wastewater, including its safe confinement, treatment, disposal and associated hygiene-related practices. Therefore, safe sanitation requires integral solutions and an integrated approach to delivering "adequate, equitable and affordable sanitation for all".



- c) Integrated approaches are context specific. Localized solutions are necessary to address specific needs in specific socio-spatial contexts. Localizing “adequate, equitable and affordable sanitation for all” then requires a coherent national agenda as well as subnational governance space for local level engagement in designing and implementing integrated sanitation strategies that are context specific.
- d) Safe sanitation has implications for behavioural and education patterns of the end-users. Accordingly, in this context, levels of awareness and understanding of implications of safe sanitation becomes important.
- e) Importantly, adequate, equitable and affordable safe sanitation for all has gender and poverty dimensions. Leaving no one behind is the fundamental principle underpinning the SDG Agenda. Poor, including female-headed households, and other vulnerable groups lack access to relevant information as well as means for installation of appropriate sanitation facilities. Within households, women and men have different compulsions regarding the type of disposal system that is to be installed. Thus, recognizing and catering for differences in means and interests makes a significant contribution to the effectiveness and sustainability of sanitation programmes.

#### **1.3.1.3 Issues of Performance:**

- a) The fundamental issue about integrated approaches is that the responsibility for adequate and equitable safe sanitation for all is distributed legally and institutionally amongst several stakeholders, based on their service provision mandates. This calls for coordination of stakeholder engagement in service delivery.
- b) Affordability of sanitation solutions are important both from the individual as well as programme level. Costs associated with sanitation at both levels include, capital costs as required for infrastructure and facilities, recurrent costs required for operation and maintenance of facilities, as well as programme costs for aspects such as extension and training, institutional development and technical assistance. While these costs would get apportioned between service providers according to their role and involvement, modalities for their financing should strike right incentives to ensure stakeholder ownership, commitment and interest in providing adequate, affordable and equitable sanitation to all. At the same time, the role of household financing as well as ability to finance is important for affordability at the individual level.
- c) Compliance with sanitation service delivery standards is a further issue in moving to safe sanitation. Safe sanitation is essentially about standards of hygiene and hence creating awareness about principles and practices of safe sanitation is the starting point. It involves regulating the sanitation value chain in order to ensure the user receives an optimal package of service quality and costs. It also extends to enforcement of operating standards so as to eliminate risks of environmental contamination and pollution.

### **1.3.2 Need:**

The main setback is the large number of sector players, without clarity in responsibilities. Further, there is no comprehensive mechanism for guiding, coordinating and monitoring. An integrated service delivery system is necessary for bringing about a holistic approach to sanitation solutions. Such an improvement in the performance of sanitation services requires a reorientation in the service delivery system involving a coherent national agenda as well as localized strategic engagement in service delivery.

Further, the development goals of improving living standards and rapid urbanization calls for moving up the sanitation ladder from one of basic to safely managed sanitation. It involves a series of fundamental shifts in sanitation management, including higher standards for service delivery in moving towards sustainable service delivery. Sustainable service delivery should respond to rising needs and expectations of dispersed urbanization on the one hand and increasing marginalization of vulnerable households and communities at risk of being left behind.

A sound national policy on sanitation constitutes the foundation for articulating such a holistic sanitation agenda for the improvement and sustainable management and provision of sanitation and related wastewater services, and the related protection of the public health, environment and the water resources.

### **1.3.3 Purpose & Context:**

National Policy on Sanitation provides for the planning and provisioning of sanitation and related wastewater services, and the framework for sustainable management and improvement, ensuing protection of the public health, environment and the water resources in Sri Lanka. The objectives of the policy are to:

- i. Reinforce Sri Lanka's approach to sustainable safely managed sanitation by ensuring that all sectors of government and civil society work together in the pursuit of shared sanitation management objectives.
- ii. Act as a platform to ensure the close collaboration and cooperation of/between all sanitation- related agencies and stakeholders at National, Provincial, District, Local and Community levels.
- iii. Establish a framework for the coordinated development, regulation and financial sustainability of sanitation and related wastewater services to avoid gaps and overlaps to ensure concentrated efforts towards improved systems management, rehabilitation and maintenance.
- iv. Ensure that the marginalized and vulnerable groups do not get left behind.
- v. Establish the basis for determining priorities for sanitation solutions.

- vi. Provide a framework for prioritizing sanitation interventions in formulating the Sanitation Master Plan.

#### **1.3.4 Rationale:**

The fundamental rationale for a national policy on sanitation is to establish a safely managed sanitation system that would sustainably provide for adequate and equitable sanitation for all. It ensures the necessary programmatic basis for bringing about a multi-stakeholder partnership for results-oriented delivery of services that would leave no one out of the safely managed sanitation network within urban, rural and estate sectors. A national policy agenda is necessary to position localized strategic engagement in service delivery. It sets the stage for accountable delivery of sanitation services.

### **1.4 APPLICABILITY & SCOPE**

For the purpose of this policy, sanitation is the collection, transport, treatment and disposal or reuse of human excreta and other domestic, commercial, institutional including clinical and other hazardous wastes, or any liquids and industrial wastewater which may or may not contain human excreta and associated hygiene education. It does not include any kind of solid waste and related leachate, surface water run-off, and other wastewater arising from agricultural activities. The policy applies to all off-site and on-site sanitation facilities and services and includes Sri Lanka's entire land area and its international territorial waters. The policy covers the measures taken on policy formulation, implementation, regulation and monitoring across public, private, non-government and community spheres of engagement.

### **1.5 POLICY PRINCIPLES**

The following principles will underpin and guide the articulation of the National Policy on Sanitation (NPS) of Sri Lanka.

- ***Equitability***

That all citizens irrespective of economic or social differentiation will be provided and have access to sanitation services that respond to needs of a healthy life. The principle will ensure that no one will be left behind.

- ~ Each citizen has a right to access hygienic sanitation and related wastewater services, and each citizen has the obligation to make use of the transport and disposal services provided.

- ~ The needs and interests of all groups with restricted access shall be considered, vulnerable groups and in particular those of women and girls, marginalized, minorities, poor, people with disabilities, etc.

- ***Adequacy***

That the sanitation service delivery interventions meet the levels of service appropriate for improved sanitation. It involves provision of a sanitation service chain that safely manage human waste and prevention of contamination of ecosystems.

- ~ Sanitation service provision has complementary responsibilities.
- ~ The policy shall assign responsibilities for functions related to provision of services and related actions.
- ~ The stakeholder engagement plan shall specify the agency that ensure the safe collection of human excreta and related wastewater in public open spaces like markets and recreational areas.
- ~ The stakeholder engagement plan shall specify the agency that will facilitate and regulate subsequent collection, transport and treatment of all human excreta and related wastewater and their safe disposal and/or reuse.
- ~ Public-Private Partnerships will also be used in provision of related services.

- ***Sustainability***

That sanitation service delivery programmes are economically and socially acceptable, technically and institutionally appropriate, financially feasible and protect the environment and natural resources.

- ~ Services for collection, transport, treatment and disposal of excreta and wastewater has an economic, social and environmental cost, and shall be priced to reflect and or compensate for these costs according to the polluter pays principle ensuring cost recovery.
- ~ Partnership of government, private sector and households in providing and undertaking sanitation services.
- ~ Government investment decisions regarding wastewater collection, transport, treatment, disposal and reuse shall be made taking into account financial, economic, social, environmental and resource factors.
- ~ Reuse of adequately treated septage, sewage and effluent have economic and environmental value and shall be promoted in the context of resource conservation and circular economy.
- ~ Safe disposal of septage and wastewater requires treatment to minimize biological, chemical and physical hazards
- ~ Cost effective resource recovery and reuse of by-products of wastewater treatment.

▪ ***Integrated Water Resources Management***

That coherence is necessary in the approaches to the management of water resources across different sectors.

- ~ Pollution of water sources must be regulated in an integrated manner, taking the needs and viewpoints of all existing and potential users and the long-term sustainability of the resources into account.
- ~ Sanitation and related wastewater treatment facilities and services for agricultural, industrial, and other developments and investments must be aligned to the quality and quantity of the excreta and related wastewater generated, and to environmental siting and protection policies.
- ~ Environmental goals must be achieved inter alia through the protection of all water sources from pollution.

▪ ***Integrated Service Delivery***

That the approach to sanitation is comprehensive and extends to excreta management and wastewater management and addresses cross-cutting issues of health, environment, and technology.

- ~ Sanitation and related wastewater services shall be carried out in a coordinated manner in governance, regulation, and management.
- ~ Sanitation and related wastewater treatment facilities and services and investments must be aligned to the quality and quantity of the excreta and related wastewater generated, industrial siting, environmental protection policies and regulations.

▪ ***Localization***

That the provision of sanitation services will be specific to the needs of different configurations characterized by physical–natural, socio-economic and cultural–personal conditions and apply system solutions based on specificity of instruments, methods and modules of services.

- ~ Multi-stakeholder partnerships will underpin local sanitation service delivery interventions.
- ~ Community participation in local sanitation service delivery decision-making will make for relevance and responsiveness of services provided.

▪ ***Accountability***

Clear definition of roles and responsibilities as well as norms and standards of service provision towards ensuring accountability of public (national, provincial and local agencies), private and non-profit sectors in service delivery.

- ~ Responsibilities for policy, service delivery and regulation functions be separated institutionally.

## 1.6 POLICY GOAL(S) AND OBJECTIVES

Building upon the foregoing policy principles, following goals and objectives are formulated for the National Policy on Sanitation.

### GOALS

The policy subscribes to an overall goal of:

**“A sustainable sanitation service delivery network providing for adequate, equitable, affordable, and improved sanitation for all by 2030”.**

The goal has several components constituting sub-goals.

- ❖ Establish an enabling safe sanitation environment.
- ❖ Provide all-inclusive service delivery network.
- ❖ Design and operate a sustainable service delivery system.
- ❖ Promote resource recovery and reuse.

### OBJECTIVES

Objectives are defined in terms of policy principles underpinning the policy goal to ensure relevance and contribution for its achievement.

- ~ Formulate and introduce a service delivery charter for safe sanitation.
- ~ Prescribe and adopt national standards and norms for safe sanitation.
- ~ Develop a framework of environmental standards for sanitation services
- ~ Develop an equalized financing strategy to meet capital and operational costs of the sanitation service delivery system across urban, rural and estate sectors.
- ~ Design and introduce a capacity development programme for safe sanitation.
- ~ Identification & recommendation of most suitable intervention mechanism for sanitation issues
- ~ Establish institutional arrangements at the national and provincial level for inter-sectoral coordination of service delivery.
- ~ Design and introduce an integrated Results-Based Monitoring (RBM) framework.
  - Establish a data base and a Sanitation Information System to support integrated planning, financing and monitoring of service delivery.
  - Provide program space for partnership of private sector, non-government and civil society in service delivery,

- ~ Design and introduce institutional arrangements for localized sanitation interventions.
  - o Design and introduce a technology outreach system to support localized sanitation interventions.
- ~ Design and introduce a Sanitation Reporting System at national and provincial levels.
- ~ Design and introduce a framework for regulation of the sanitation value chain.
- ~ Establish a framework for enforcement of regulations, standards and norms pertaining to the sanitation value chain.
- ~ Define results for the Sanitation Master Plan.

## **1.7 POLICY STATEMENTS**

Policy intent in actioning the foregoing Goals and Objectives is organized around six thrust areas. The specific actions reflect the respective position to be taken in implementing the Policy.

### **1.7.1 Access to Sanitation Services:**

The policy intent about access to sanitation services is a guarantee that sanitation services are available to all as a right irrespective of economic, social, cultural, and personal situations.

- ~ Sanitation services will be delivered in a manner that enables every citizen to exercise the right to affordable, cost effective and environmentally appropriate sanitation and related wastewater facilities and services, collecting and disposing of their excreta and related wastewater in a hygienic manner.
- ~ Sanitation service delivery will ensure that disadvantaged and marginalized households and communities are brought within the sanitation network.
- ~ Establish national standards ensuring basic sanitation facilities provide for safe sanitation.
- ~ Sanitation services will be delivered in a gender-sensitive manner.
- ~ Establish a system for providing financial support to poor households for on/off-site sanitation facilities.
- ~ Create sanitation awareness amongst communities.

### **1.7.2 Integrated Water Resources Management:**

The policy intent is to achieve coherence in the sectoral approaches to the management of water resources.

- ~ Prioritize the prevention of surface water and groundwater pollution and ensure the

protection of aquifers and surface waters and improve the quality of fresh water in water bodies to meet ambient water quality standards that have been degraded by human activities.

- ~ Undertake to continuously control the quality of water resources, identify pollution sources and polluters and enforce the polluter pays principle.
- ~ Raise public awareness on sanitation and related wastewater issues and increase participation in sanitation and related wastewater management, involving people and organizations in public participation and developing their understanding of their rights and roles.
- ~ Expand international cooperation and capacity building support in integrated water resources management in general and in water and sanitation related activities in particular.
- ~ Exclude economic development that, even inadvertently, may imply irreversible environmental damage. The regard for natural resources and the environment shall lay the foundations for economic solutions.
- ~ Separate sewage systems and storm water drainage systems in a cost-effective manner.

### **1.7.3 Integrated Service Delivery:**

This area of policy actions is about achieving coherence across the relevant sectors bringing about alignment in sector actions towards enabling and reinforcing the achievement of sanitation goals and objectives.

- ~ Avoid or minimize the public health risks associated with human excreta, and domestic, institutional, commercial, and industrial wastewater in all parts of the sanitation chain.
- ~ Separate systems for sewerage and storm water drainage.
- ~ Create a national platform to manage information on all facets of sanitation service delivery.

### **1.7.4 Infrastructure Development:**

Policy actions regarding infrastructure development is about the design and construction of sewerage, drainage, faecal sludge transfer stations and faecal sludge and wastewater treatment plants for the provision of sanitation services as reflected in the Sanitation Master Plan.

- ~ Ensure the adequacy of sanitation facilities provided to be responsive to needs.
- ~ Establish and monitor conformity with guidelines and standards for sanitation infrastructure, including, on-site and off-site sanitation, safe septage collection, transport, and treatment, discharging commercial and industrial wastewater without appropriate treatment into sewers and the environment, discharging wastewater into natural water courses, safe disposal and reuse of treated septage, sludge and wastewater and handwashing facilities.



- ~ The design of sanitation technology will take account of economic, social and environmental constraints.
- ~ Promote research, development and application of appropriate technologies which are viable and sustainable.

### **1.7.5 Sustainable Service Delivery System:**

Primary policy intent of sustainable service delivery is about ensuring that the process of providing sanitation services is undertaken in a manner that promotes the ability to provide services consonant with fostering economic, social, and environmental wellbeing.

#### **1.7.5.1 Environmental Sustainability:**

Conducting sanitation services in a manner that conserves natural resources and protects the ecosystems at present and in the future.

- ~ Promote integrated water resources management.
- ~ Promote the improvement of on-site sanitation facilities to achieve the level of safely managed sanitation.
- ~ Prevent environmental pollution from human excreta and domestic, institutional, commercial and industrial wastewater.
- ~ Ensure the collection and management of storm water separately from wastewater collection systems.
- ~ Treat all wastewater and sludge to a quality that complies with environmental standards and regulations for effluent discharge, and safe sludge disposal and/or reuse.
- ~ Encourage and support the distribution and reuse of treated wastewater and sludge through contractual arrangements between producers and users ensuring safety at the application by the level of treatment.

#### **1.7.5.2 Institutional Sustainability:**

Functionality of institutions, institutional practices and procedures to meet the needs of sanitation services at present and in the future.

- ~ Introduce measures for institutionalizing safely managed sanitation.
- ~ Provide capacity building support for enhancing performance of sanitation services.
- ~ Expand capacity building support in integrated water resources management in general and in water and sanitation related activities in particular.

### **1.7.5.3 Financial Sustainability:**

Ability to finance sanitation services at present and in the future.

- ~ Provision of public financing for capital investment for sanitation.
- ~ Encourage appropriate investments by the private sector to provide sanitation services.
- ~ Introduce measures to progressively recover costs of providing sanitation services.
- ~ Setup appropriate tariff system recover the O & M cost of sanitation services without creating negative incentives to bypass approved sewerage treatment system or septage treatment plants.
- ~ Introduce fair and progressive tariff systems to facilitate access to services by the poor and vulnerable groups.
- ~ Regulate collection of revenue by septage and wastewater service providers.
- ~ Enforce regulations to deal with illegal connections to sewers, surface water drains, and other nationally and locally prohibited arrangements.

### **1.7.6 Localized Design of Sanitation Programmes:**

Local oversight and coordination to ensure that all the complementary components of the sanitation chain function effectively in an integrated manner.

- ~ Introduce locally specific design of sanitation for responsive service delivery.
- ~ Support and strengthen participation of local communities in improving the management of sanitation facilities.
- ~ Promote public awareness concerning the importance of septage, sludge and wastewater treatment and re-use, and the risk of negative health and environmental impacts of untreated septage, sludge and wastewater.
- ~ Allow service providers including MCs, UCs and PSs to apply appropriate charges for specific service areas, as a function of local conditions, treatment methods and performance requirements, use and effluent quality.

### **1.7.7 Legal, Institutional and Regulatory Mandates:**

That the sanitation mandates provide for comprehensive coverage of roles and responsibilities for efficient and effective performance of the sanitation service value chain, enabling achievement of policy goals and objectives.

- ~ Streamline the current legal, institutional and regulatory framework covering the integrated sanitation value chain.
- ~ Develop a mechanism for identifying gaps and omissions and rectifying them.
- ~ Separate the policy, regulatory and service delivery functions of sanitation services.

- ~ Establish a National Coordination Committee to advise on, inter alia, issues of equity, sanitation technology, program interventions and norms and standards.
- ~ Establish Provincial Coordination Committees to ensure interdependence of services, required for the delivery of safe sanitation systems to function without interruption, and according to the prescribed standards.
- ~ Establish a regulatory framework for providing safely managed sanitation to all users.
- ~ Introduce necessary legal provision for a comprehensive and coherent mandates for delivering safely managed sanitation.
- ~ Establish a legal-institutional framework for private sector participation in providing sanitation services.
- ~ Introduce results-based review measures to improve efficiency and the performance of sanitation services.

The foregoing Policy Statements will inform interventions of the Sanitation Master Plan.

## **1.8 POLICY IMPLEMENTATION**

Implementation translates the policy into action. The efficaciousness with which the policy goals and objectives are pursued in implementation will determine the extent to which intended results will be achieved. Towards effective implementation, an implementation strategy is delineated, a matrix of responsibility and authority for implementation is identified as well as a framework for monitoring and evaluation of policy results is outlined.

### **1.8.1 Strategies:**

The implementation strategy takes note of the inter-sectoral nature of sanitation goals and objectives. The strategy identifies six main components of strategic action for implementing the policy.

#### **1.8.1.1 Establishing the Sanitation Legal, Institutional and Regulatory Framework:**

Review the adequacy of current legal, institutional and regulatory framework for implementing the National Policy on Sanitation and introduce required changes to the framework and formulate and/or make necessary mandates of the relevant agencies/structures.

#### **1.8.1.2 Initiating an Integrated Sanitation Planning Process:**

Provisioning and delivering sanitation services involves many agencies performing varied responsibilities across the sanitation value chain. The achievement of policy goals and objectives therefore involve multi-sector inputs in delivering localized sanitation outcomes.

Further such outcomes will have different infrastructure requirements across urban, rural and estate household situations. Thus, a coherent results framework will be necessary for the effective implementation of the National Policy on Sanitation.

#### **1.8.1.3 Establishing Oversight and Coordination:**

This strategic action is about operationalization of a multi-sectoral platform for dialogue between the main stakeholders and to review, monitor, and follow-up on the implementation of policy actions. The multi-sectoral platforms are proposed at the national and provincial levels and will provide for both, vertical and horizontal integration between and across the different levels as well as between the stakeholders (providers of lead and complementary services) constituting the implementation system.

#### **1.8.1.4 Provisioning Technical Extension Support:**

The decentralized design, planning, and operation and maintenance of the sanitation service value chain will require technical extension support for its efficient functioning. The technical extension services will have to be provided by a designated agency in a decentralized manner coordinating with the Provincial Coordination Committees.

#### **1.8.1.5 Setting the financing framework:**

The trends of dispersed urbanization as well as moving to safe sanitation will require extensive and widely spread improvements to the sanitation value chain. A coherent financing framework is necessary to meet costs of new and improvements to infrastructure as well as operation and maintenance. At the same time provision of safe sanitation to vulnerable households/communities may require being subsidized. This infrastructure development will be necessary throughout the country and hence the financing of infrastructure will need to take note of spatial equity in the allocation and distribution of finances. At the same time, financing framework will require taking account of the different components of infrastructure that have different capital intensity and potential for revenue yields. The financing framework will extend to providing fiscal incentives to Local Authorities in a cost-sharing arrangement in providing sanitation services.

#### **1.8.1.6 Creating Opportunities for Multi-stakeholder Engagement:**

Achieving a Policy Goal of “Sustainable Sanitation” involves a localized service delivery system where economic, social and environmental considerations of sustainability can be designed and implemented in providing sanitation services. Further, the fundamental principle of sustainable sanitation is about leaving no one out of the sanitation value chain. The designing

of localized solutions for equitable service requires inclusive engagement of all stakeholders, both on the supply and demand sides. Creating institutional spaces for such engagement will be strategic in the implementation of the National Policy on Sanitation.

### 1.8.2 Responsibility & Authority:

Sri Lanka's sanitation service delivery system is a complex model of combined levels of government, development sectors and institutional partners. The responsibility and authority for policy implementation must be identified within the framework of such a network of service delivery mandates. A coherent framework of responsibility for implementation of the National Policy on Sanitation is therefore constituted by a matrix of functions, agencies, and responsibilities.

Thus, functional responsibility for sanitation extends from the formulation of policy, through the implementation of policy actions for service provision, to regulation of the sanitation value chain. Responsibility for the performance of these functions is assigned to a portfolio of partners extending from government agencies and structures, through private sector organizations to non-government and civil society organizations. These agencies, structures and organizations function at the national and subnational levels of government. It is noted that new structures located within the public domain will be necessary to implement cross-cutting functions of oversight and coordination at both levels of government.

**Table 1:** responsibility matrix

<b>Function</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Organization/Structure</b>
<b>Policy</b>	<p><b><u>Direction and guidance</u></b>  <i>(Process of determining, specifying and prioritizing the courses of action to be taken in each sanitation situation.)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ministry of Water Supply</li> <li>▪ Ministry of Public Services, Provincial Councils and Local Government</li> </ul>
<b>Implementation/ Service delivery</b>	<p><b><u>Oversight and coordination</u></b>  <i>(Operationalization of a multi-sectoral platform for dialogue between the main stakeholders and to review, monitor, and follow-up on the implementation of policy actions.)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ministry of Water Supply</li> <li>▪ Ministry of Public Services, Provincial Councils and Local Government.</li> <li>▪ National Coordination Committee</li> <li>▪ Provincial Coordination Committee</li> </ul>
	<p><b><u>Lead services</u></b>  <i>(Services directly connected with the separation of human excreta from human contact at all steps of the sanitation service value chain, on-site or off-site, and final disposal or end use)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB)</li> <li>▪ Local Authorities <i>(Municipal Councils, Urban Councils, Pradeshiya Sabhas)</i></li> <li>▪ Board of Investment</li> </ul>

National Policy on Sanitation (NPS) of Sri Lanka

Function	Responsibility	Organization/Structure
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ministry of Industries</li> <li>▪ National Housing Development Authority,</li> <li>▪ Condominium Management Authority</li> <li>▪ Private Sector</li> </ul>
	<p><b><u>Complementary services</u></b>  <i>(Sector activities undertaken to ensure that the sanitation value chain is carried out in a manner that does not result in environmental pollution)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <u>Ministry of Environment</u>/Central Environment Authority</li> <li>▪ <u>Ministry of Health</u>/ Provincial Departments of Health</li> <li>▪ <u>Ministry of Urban Development</u>/ Urban Development Authority/ Urban Settlement Development Authority/ Sri Lanka Land Reclamation and Development Corporation</li> <li>▪ <u>Marine Environment Pollution Authority</u></li> <li>▪ <u>Ministry of Irrigation</u>/ Irrigation Department/ Water Resources Board</li> <li>▪ <u>Ministry of Housing</u>/ National Housing Development Authority</li> <li>▪ <u>Coast Conservation Department</u></li> </ul>
<p><b>Setting Standards/ Regulation/ Enforcement</b></p>	<p><b><u>Setting Standards</u></b>  <i>(Defining standards for all sanitation structures and facilities)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ National Water Supply and Drainage Board</li> <li>▪ Central Environment Authority</li> <li>▪ <u>Ministry of Health</u>/ Provincial Departments of Health</li> <li>▪ Urban Development Authority</li> <li>▪ <u>Marine Environment Pollution Authority</u></li> <li>▪ Irrigation Department</li> <li>▪ Water Resources Board</li> <li>▪ <u>Coast Conservation Department</u></li> <li>▪ <u>Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka</u> or any other regulator</li> </ul>
	<p><b><u>Regulation</u></b>  <i>(Setting a framework of rules to ensure that the sanitation service value chain performs in a manner providing value to the users and protect the environment.)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ministry of Health</li> <li>▪ Central Environmental Authority</li> <li>▪ Urban Development Authority</li> <li>▪ <u>Marine Environment Pollution Authority</u></li> <li>▪ <u>Coast Conservation Department</u></li> </ul>

Function	Responsibility	Organization/Structure
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <u>Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka or any other regulator</u></li> </ul>
	<p><b><u>Enforcement</u></b>  <i>(Ensure compliance with regulations and standards for the operation of sanitation infrastructure)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Local Authorities</li> <li>▪ National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB)</li> <li>▪ Urban Development Authority</li> <li>▪ Condominium Management Authority</li> </ul>

The foregoing responsibility matrix for the executing the National Policy on Sanitation will guide the institutional arrangements for the implementation of the Sanitation Master Plan.

(Note: The companion Stakeholder Engagement Plan describes the role and responsibilities of all stakeholder organizations/structures.)

### 1.8.3 Monitoring & Evaluation:

Sanitation policy is complex and involve several facets of change extending from improvement of the sanitation value chain to changing provider and user behaviours as is defined by its goals and objectives. The policy sets out the framework for action in bringing about such change. A coherent monitoring and evaluation framework is necessary to ensure that the policy works efficaciously in delivering the sanitation services. The monitoring and evaluation framework will work by providing information on what works and what is not working as far as policy actions are concerned. Therefore, monitoring and evaluation enable the points of sanitation responsibility track whether the policy intents and actions and related activities are being undertaken in a manner that achieves the policy goals and objectives.

Policy monitoring and evaluation shall be established as a function of policy oversight and coordination and be operationalized through the National Coordination Committee.

Thus, policy monitoring and evaluation will:

- ~ Improve the links between policy interventions and their outcomes & impact.
- ~ Enhance accountability and provide legitimacy for the use of public funds and resources.
- ~ Promote learning and enhancing efficiency and effectiveness.

Therefore, the monitoring and evaluation framework should ensure that it:

- ~ Provides information required for decision making.
- ~ Operates at the lowest appropriate level and provide information where decisions are required.
- ~ Provides information in real time.
- ~ Provides information both, upwards and downwards.
- ~ Is based on the policy goals and objectives.

In the context of the policy principles stated above monitoring of the policy will focus on the sanitation results.

- ~ Inputs (activities) are as planned.
- ~ Inputs produce planned outputs (sanitation service chain and associated behaviour change).
- ~ Inputs are consonant with the policy principles.

Evaluation will be primarily formative and focus on diagnosing problems in policy implementation. Following Table No. 1 presents the main areas and foci of monitoring policy implementation.

**Table 2:** main areas and foci of monitoring policy implementation

<b>Area of Monitoring</b>	<b>Focus of Monitoring</b>
1. Inputs/Activities	Implementation of policy actions
2. Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Resources:</b> Service chain improvements <i>(Efficiency)</i></li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Institutions:</b> Sustainability measures <i>(Effectiveness)</i></li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Actors:</b> Legal, institutional and regulatory mandates <i>(Engagement)</i></li> </ul>
3. Outcomes	Access to safe sanitation

A substantive Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for the National Policy on Sanitation as a key strategy element. This will include a “Results Framework” based on identified indicators in the sanitation sector.



## **PART II: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL POLICY ON SANITATION**

### **2.1 INTRODUCTION**

Provision of sanitation is widely spread among many stakeholders involved in a variety of actions from policy formulation to implementation. It mainly includes number of governmental, non- governmental, civil society organizations and private sector. Hence, it is necessary to identify the roles to be played by various stakeholders to assure smooth implementation of National Policy on Sanitation (NPS). The following table shows the various tasks and responsibilities supposed to be undertaken by various agencies in relation to the NPS.

### **2.2 ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF STAKEHOLDERS**

#### **2.2.1 Ministry of Water Supply (MWS)**

- a) Sanitation policy formulation, implementation, regulating & monitoring in partnership with Ministry of Public Services, Provincial Councils & Local Government (MPSPCL&G).
- b) Co-chairing the National Coordination Committee on NPS.
- c) Guiding National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB) for identification, planning, and implementation of piped sewerage facilities for needy areas.
- d) Review of proposals for development of new piped sewerage facilities, recommending them to Department of National Planning (DNP) and arrange funding.
- e) Implementation of agreed proposals with NWSDB, directing NWSDB for construction and operation of such facilities.
- f) Review sewerage tariff structure and recommending to the government for necessary approvals.
- g) Review of any sanitation proposals of Department of National Community Water Supply (DNCWS) & assist them to secure funds and implement feasible proposals.
- h) Ensure that NWSDB & DNCWS provide agreed assistance to local authorities, Ministry of Industries (MoI), Board of Investment (BOI), Private sector and public for any advisory technical or operational support for successful operation of sanitation facilities on agreed terms and charges.

- i) Establish a sanitation planning process and formulate a Sanitation Master Plan (SMP) for Sri Lanka.
- j) Assess funding needs for the implementation of Sanitation Master Plan and negotiate funding through Department of National Budget and External Resources Department (ERD).
- k) Training & Development of Human Resources in the sector.

### **2.2.2 National Water Supply & Drainage Board (NWSDB)**

- a) Provision of secretarial support and facilitation of implementation of NPS under the guidance of MWS.
- b) Formulation of Sanitation Master Plan (SMP) for Sri Lanka and coordinate with other sector partners on implementation, monitoring and regular updating of SMP.
- c) Collect and process data on provision of sanitation facilities in the country.
- d) Identification & planning for new sewerage projects.
- e) Implementation of new sewerage projects, as agreed and approved by the Government, on the direction of MWS.
- f) Operation of sewerage schemes.
- g) Adopt an appropriate tariff structure with the approval of MWS and the Government, ensuring financial viability.
- h) Provide technical advice for LAs and other partners for planning, design, construction, and operation of sewerage schemes on agreed charges.
- i) Assist LAs to establish septage treatment facilities.
- j) Provide technical assistance for LAs and other sectors partners (BOI, MOI etc) for planning, design, construction, and operation of sewerage facilities on agreed charges.
- k) Undertaking Operation & Maintenance (O&M) of sewerage schemes for BOI and others on their request on agreed terms.
- l) Assist LAs by providing necessary training and capacity development.
- m) Assist in emergency sanitation matters in LAs, MoI, BOI and private sector.

### **2.2.3 Ministry of Public Services, Provincial Councils & Local Government (MPSPC&LG)**

- a) National Policy on Sanitation formulation, implementation, regulating & monitoring in partnership with MWS.
- b) Co-chairing the National Coordination Committee (NCC) on NPS.

- c) Coordination with Ministry of Health (MoH) for matters related to the sanitation issues in Local Authority (LA) areas.
- d) Provide necessary advice and guidance for proper functioning of Provincial Coordination Committees (PCC) on NPS.
- e) Guide and assist local authorities for development of proposals for sanitation improvements in their respective areas.
- f) Arrange external supports (may be from NWSDB, lending agencies, private sector, etc...) for planning of sanitation projects for LAs as and when required.
- g) Review of development proposals and approve them, where LAs can implement on their own or recommending to DNP for government funding.
- h) Assist Provincial Councils and LAs to obtain necessary funding from the Finance Commission for projects to be implemented using local funds.
- i) Assist and monitor in implementing government approved sanitation projects in LA areas.
- j) Review of operation of piped sewerage systems maintained by LAs, directing LAs to exercise their powers in getting more places connected and assist to improve their capacity, to get external assistance and to implement a cost recovery mechanism through property taxes or otherwise.
- k) Encourage LAs to avoid dumping of human waste in haphazard manner.
- l) Paying of high attention for management of on-site sanitation facilities in LAs and assists them to establish Sludge Treatment Facilities (STFs), as necessary.
- m) Preparation of guidelines for operation of STF facilities and introduce a cost recovery mechanism.
- n) Ensure that all LAs strictly observe respective guidelines in health and environmental regulation in their areas.

#### **2.2.4 Provincial Councils (PCs)**

- a) Provision of Dynamic Corporation and assistance to implement the NPS within the Provincial jurisdiction through the Local Authority Network and other related agencies of the province.
- b) Liaise with line Ministries & national agencies for the purpose of facilitation and synchronization of the piped sewerage service and other optional services to the citizens on an affordable manner through the Local Authority Network.
- c) Provide active leadership for the sustainable functioning of the Provincial Coordination Committee of the NPS, periodically with the involvement of necessary provincial Ministries & Departments.

- d) Provision of required cadre for Local Authorities to implement all sanitation activities within such areas.
- e) Arrange & provide required Training and Development facilities to Local Authority staff on specialized areas related to all sanitation aspects.
- f) Provide required Building & Construction guidelines to all LAs in line with building/construction regulations of Urban Development Authority (UDA) and National Physical Planning Department (NPPD).

#### **2.2.5 District Secretaries (DSs)**

- a) Review of sanitation status in respective District.
- b) Provide guidance and leadership in an emergency to maintain sanitation facilities (such as floods, droughts, tsunami, and other natural disasters),
- c) Help with all sector players in finding necessary lands, settling of resettlement issues and obtaining other approvals for implementation of new sanitation facilities.

#### **2.2.6 Divisional Secretaries (Div. Ss)**

- a) Same as District secretaries, but within the respective divisional Secretary Division (DSD) areas.
- b) Review of any new proposals for improvement of sanitation facilities in the district at the District Coordinating Committee (DCC) and follow up such proposals with respective sector players.

#### **2.2.7 Local Authorities (LAs)**

- a) Identification & Planning for new sewerage projects for identified cities & proceed with approval process of the government for technology & funding.
- b) Implementation of agreed sewerage projects with the Government.
- c) Identify need for new sewerage projects and make request to NWSDB through MPSPC&LG with the consent of PCC and NCC.
- d) Involve in getting approval for new projects through District Development Committees (DCCs).
- e) Assist NWSDB in implementation of new sewerage projects, especially in acquiring lands, road excavation permits, and asset ownership consent for O & M via council decisions.
- f) Operation & maintenance of existing and new sewerage schemes.

- g) Adopt an appropriate tariff/charging system for sewerage service through property taxes or direct billing.
- h) Ensure that all new constructions (houses & other buildings) consist of suitable toilet facilities.
- i) Facilitate to provide gully bowsers by LAs itself or with the involvement of private sector for emptying septic tanks.
- j) Develop and maintain a system for registering gully bowser suppliers & introducing an appropriate charging system.
- k) Provide facilities for proper disposal facilities for septage and maintain septage treatment facilities.
- l) Collect data on available sanitation facilities in own area and take action to provide proper sanitation facilities for poor families to improve/new construction of toilets.
- m) Formulate new Sanitation By-laws for the efficient implementation of the NPS.
- n) Facilitation of private sector and community engagement in the provision of sanitation related ancillary services.
- o) Application of Information Technology (IT) and digitalized technological solutions in sanitation services.

#### **2.2.8 Ministry of Finance (MoF)**

- a) Holds the responsibility for providing funds, staff, and other resources for the sustainable development of sanitation sector.
- b) Guide sector partners to prepare new proposals for improvements of sanitation facilities, review them and recommending to the Government for funding for feasible projects.
- c) Arrange funds through local budget or foreign assistance with the help of ERD and DNP.
- d) Arrange funding from international sources (Bi-lateral and multi-lateral lending agencies) as appropriate and facilitate smooth project implementation.
- e) Guide NWSDB and other sector holders to charge for sanitation services.
- f) Guide LAs through MPSPC&LG /Provincial Councils to improve sanitation facilities in areas of LAs, levy appropriate charges through property taxes or other means and provide financial support through the Finance Commission (funding from local budgets) or through the MPSPC&LG (funding for projects funded by foreign loans and grants) as the case may be.

### **2.2.9 Ministry of Health (MoH)**

- a) Provide guidance and assistance to local authorities, NWSDB and other service providers to follow necessary health guidelines in carrying out their services.
- b) Set hygiene standards for sanitation facilities and introduce a reporting system through Local Authorities.
- c) Regular monitoring of sanitation status and make aware on any inadequacy or non-compliance of health guidelines.
- d) Responsible to develop separation of hazardous wastewater emanating from hospitals and laboratories in concentration form and develop pre-treatment/ deactivation prior to mix with wastewater of domestic nature in consultation with Central Environment Authority (CEA).
- e) Ensure that all guidelines are followed in sanitation sector and take necessary precautions/legal actions when violations are reported.
- f) Assist through their network of field officers to identify needy families when funding assistance are provided for improvement of sanitation services.
- g) Actively participate in meetings of coordination committees in national and provincial level and provide necessary guidance and advice.
- h) Close collaboration with LAs, NWSDB and other service providers in an epidemic/ pandemic situation.

### **2.2.10 Ministry of Industries (MOI)**

- a) Ensure that all existing/new Industrial Estates (IE) are provided with adequate wastewater treatment facilities.
- b) Ensure by regular monitoring that all necessary pre-treatment of wastewater is carried out if wastewater is released to a centralized sewer system.
- c) Formulate and implement a suitable fee system for operation and maintenance of wastewater system.

### **2.2.11 Ministry of Education (MoE)**

- a) Development in school curriculum with necessary hygiene education materials and ensure they will be updated regularly.
- b) Provision of adequate sanitation and hygiene facilities in all schools and other higher education institutions including universities along with appropriate on-site treatment facility.
- c) Ensure a sustainable mechanism is developed and followed in maintaining of sanitation facilities in all schools and other higher education institutions.

**2.2.12 Department of Irrigation (DoI)**

- a) Assist and monitor effluent quality of wastewater treatment plants operated mainly by NWSDB, BOI, MOI & industrialists.
- b) Monitor any possible pollution of water ways through septage treatment facilities.
- c) Incorporate treated effluent into integrated water resource planning and facilitation for reuse in agriculture especially in dry zone areas.
- d) Monitor the pollution created by human waste of inhabitants in reservations of riverbanks and internal water bodies and take action for illegal settlements in perimeter of internal water bodies.

**2.2.13 Department of National Community Water Supply (DNCWS)**

- a) Review sanitation status in rural areas where water is provided by rural WSS and assist and guide Community Based Organization (CBOs) to address any sanitation issue.
- b) Take necessary precautions for avoiding possible pollution of sources of rural WSS by faecal pollution.
- c) Consider sanitation issues also in future planning of rural Water Supply Schemes (WSS) and include sanitation components when required.
- d) Consider the increase of wastewater discharges when planning for new rural WSS are carried out.

**2.2.14 Coast Conservation & Coastal Resources Management Department (CCCRMD)**

- a) Assist in provision of necessary approvals for sewerage schemes and/or septage treatment plants located close to the sea beach.

**2.2.15 National Physical Planning Department (NPPD)**

- a) Provide required guidelines and advice to Provincial Councils related to the National Physical Planning Policy on physical constructions to be carried out in connection with sewerage schemes in provinces by the LA network and the NWSDB.
- b) Represent NCC and PCCs & advice accordingly when required.

**2.2.16 Department of Census & Statistics (DC&S)**

- a) Collect and maintain data on sanitation status, considering the safeness throughout entire sanitation chain in broader perspective, update them annually and once in ten years after the national census.
- b) Closely monitor SDGs on sanitation and periodically report to the Government

**2.2.17 Urban Development Authority (UDA)**

- a) Review building regulations regularly and update them whenever necessary.
- b) Ensure that all new buildings constructed where piped sewerage is available, are connected to the centralized sewerage system.
- c) Ensure that regulations introduced for sanitation facilities are strictly followed in all new constructions and introduce new regulations for dual plumbing systems.
- d) When new development plan is made for a township, allocate requisite lands for future sewerage/septage treatment systems as a matter of priority.
- e) Promote dual plumbing systems in major housing schemes and facilitation for water reclamation.

**2.2.18 Board of Investment (BOI)**

- a) Ensure that all existing/new Export Processing Zones (EPZ) are provided with adequate wastewater treatment facilities.
- b) Ensure that all necessary pre-treatment of wastewater is carried out if wastewater is released to a centralized sewer system.
- c) Formulate and implement a suitable fee system for operation and maintenance of wastewater system.

**2.2.19 Central Environmental Authority (CEA)**

- a) Ensure that all environmental regulations are strictly followed by all sewerage plants, septage treatment plants and other waste generation industries.
- b) Ensure that all wastewater generating industries and other such establishments follow the necessary pre-treatment before releasing wastewater to the centralised wastewater systems.
- c) Review relevant regulation applicable for sanitation sector and update them as & where necessary.



- d) Facilitate Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and other environmental studies before granting approval for establishment of new sewerage schemes or septage treatment plants
- e) When EIA or Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) are carried out, ensure that all new development projects consist of adequate wastewater disposal measures.

**2.2.20 Provincial Environmental Authority (At present applicable only in NW Province)**

- a) The roles & responsibilities are same as that of CEA, but applicable only in North-western province.
- b) Adherence to the NPS.

**2.2.21 Marine Environment Protection Authority (MEPA)**

- a) Monitor the effluent of sewerage treatment plants/ septage treatment facilities located in coastal areas and sewerage systems with sea outfalls.
- b) Monitor the possible threats to sea beaches and sea due to impacts of the inhabitants living in coastal areas.
- c) Act as a pressure group to avoid raw sewerage being diverted to sea directly or through rivers, canals, other water ways, etc...

**2.2.22 National Housing Development Authority (NHDA)**

- a) Ensure that internal sewerage systems in all existing multi-storeyed housing schemes (under NHDA) are maintained properly by residents' societies/NHDA/any other agencies.
- b) Prevention of unauthorized constructions on sewerage pipelines in housing schemes.
- c) Ensure that new multi-storeyed housing schemes are provided with adequate sanitation facilities, connect to a centralized sewerage system, or provide a suitable wastewater treatment method and effective charging system are in place to cover the maintenance of internal sewerage system.
- d) Ensure that proper access roads are provided and maintained in new housing schemes for maintenance of sewer systems.

**2.2.23 Condominium Management Authority (CMA)**

- a) Ensure that all internal sewerage systems in multi-stroyed Condominium flats (established by private sector or government agencies) are maintained properly by Condominium Management Corporations (CMC)/any other agencies.
- b) Prevention of unauthorized constructions on sewerage pipelines in Condominium flats.
- c) Ensure that new multi-stroyed Condominium flats are provided with adequate sanitation facilities, connect to a centralized sewerage system, or provide a suitable wastewater treatment method and effective charging system are in place to cover the maintenance of internal sewerage system through maintenance fees.
- d) Ensure that proper access roads are provided and maintained in new Condominium flats for maintenance of sewer systems.

**2.2.24 Road Development Authority (RDA)**

- a) Assist/ coordinate with NWSDB/BOI/MOI/Local authorities for facilitating laying of pipes along roads, for wastewater schemes.
- b) Provision of road corridors for future wastewater systems in planning for new highways/roads.
- c) Be alert on possible pollution/disturbance in roads due to improper discharge of wastewater and taking suitable measures to avoid them.
- d) Considering and providing appropriate sanitation facilities in resting areas in planning of future expressways.

**2.2.25 Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority (SLTDA)**

- e) Ensure that all hotels and other places where accommodations are provided for tourists strictly follow the guidelines on wastewater disposal.
- f) Ensure that all new hotels are connected to the centralized wastewater systems if it is available or provide adequate and satisfactory wastewater disposal systems
- g) Ensure that all hotels located close to the sea beach or any other water bodies do not discharge wastewater directly to the sea or water body without making proper treatment acceptable to CEA/ CC&CRMD/ MEPA or other regulatory bodies.
- h) Encourage all tourist hotels to use recycled wastewater for gardening, washing and any other suitable purposes.

**2.2.26 Urban Settlement Development Authority (USDA)**

- a) Ensure that sanitation facilities in urban settlements are maintained properly.
- b) Provide financial assistance to settlers in urban settlements for improving sanitation facilities.
- c) Coordinate with other sector agencies in solving sanitation issues in urban settlements.
- d) Maintain data and statistics on sanitation facilities available in urban settlements.

**2.2.27 Water Resources Board (WRB)**

- a) Monitor ground water extraction by domestic and industrial uses and prevention of pollution due to wastewater, monitoring quality of groundwater.
- b) Caution the authorities when any deterioration of quality of water resources is noticed as soon as it is observed.

**2.2.28 Disaster Management Centre (DMC)**

- a) Ensure adequate sanitation facilities for displaced persons in disaster situation with the help of other sector organizations.
- b) Provide early warning for any structure related to sanitation service in a disaster.

**2.2.29 Sri Lanka Land Development Corporation (SLLDC)**

- a) Coordinate with other sector partners to prevent pollution of internal water bodies due to disposal of domestic and industrial wastewater.
- b) Coordinate with other agencies for provision of proper sanitation facilities for those who are displaced/affected by reclamation of low-lying areas.
- c) Provide adequate drainage facilities for development of marshy areas for prevention of flooding and/or stagnation of water.

**2.2.30 Plantation Human Development Trust (PHDT)**

- a) Ensure the provision of adequate sanitation facilities for estate sector with the help of plantation authorities.
- b) Take necessary steps for avoiding pollution of internal waterways within estates by faecal pollution.
- c) Monitor the sanitation status in plantation sector and act for improving

**2.2.31 Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka (PUCSL) or any other regulatory body**

- a) When water and wastewater sector is brought under the PUCSL or any other regulatory authority, they will have a role to play in planning, monitoring, and fixing charges for various services. Further, it will be authorised to impose certain standards for services provided.

**2.2.32 Sustainable Development Council (SDC)**

- a) Compilation of data on sanitation and monitoring of SDGs on sanitation.

**2.2.33 Regional Plantation Companies (RPC)**

- a) Mainly responsible for provision of sanitation facilities for estate workers under the guidance of Plantation Trust and health authorities

**2.2.34 Non- Governmental Organizations (NGOs)**

- a) Increase the awareness among people on best hygiene practices and engage actively in community-based programmes.
- b) Act as a pressure group in providing adequate sanitation facilities for pro poor and marginalised communities

**2.2.35 Community Based Organizations and Farmer Organizations (CBO & FO)**

- a) Be aware about the sanitation status in relevant areas and seek the assistances and guidance of authorities to solve any outstanding issue.
- b) Actively participate for awareness on hygiene practices and any community-based initiatives
- c) Act as a pressure group in providing adequate sanitation facilities for rural and farming communities.

**2.2.36 Private Sector (PS)**

- a) Provide consultancy services for planning and design of sewerage facilities.
- b) Engage for training and capacity development activities in sanitation sector.

- c) Supplying quality sanitation appliances and disinfectants for cleaning.
- d) Provision of gully bowser services in urban & rural areas for emptying septic tanks in accordance with guidelines of LAs.
- e) Provision of proper temporary toilet facilities for functions, large gatherings of people etc.
- f) Engage in construction of new sewerage schemes.
- g) Participation of O&M of sewerage schemes (especially in industrial estates) when opportunities are available.

## 2.3 RESPONSIBILITY MATRIX FOR STAKEHOLDERS

Degree of involvement of various agencies in relation to the sanitation policy can be diagrammatically shown as follows.

High Involvement	xxx
Moderate Involvement	xx
Less Involvement	x

#	Institution	Areas of Intervention						Monitoring & Evaluation
		Policy formulation	Policy Implementation				Advocacy, Hygiene education & capacity development	
			Identification, Planning & Designing of new programmes	Financing	Sewerage, Septage & Public Toilet Systems			
				Construction of facilities	O&M of facilities			
1	MWS	xxx	xx	xxx				xxx
2	NWSDB	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xx	xxx
3	MPSPC&LG	xxx	xx	xxx				xxx
4	PCs	xxx	xx	xx			xx	xxx
5	DSs	xxx						xxx
6	Div. Ss	xxx						xxx
7	LAs	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xx	xxx
8	MoF	xxx	xx	I				xxx
9	MoH	xxx	xx				xxx	xxx
10	MOI	xxx		xxx	xxx	xxx		xxx
11	MoE	xxx	xx				xxx	xxx
12	DoI	xxx	xxx					xxx
13	DNCWS	xxx	xx				xx	xxx
14	CCCRMD	xxx						xxx
15	NPPD	xxx	xxx	xxx			xxx	xxx
16	DC &S	xxx						xxx
17	UDA	xxx	xx					xxx
18	BOI	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx		xxx
19	CEA	xxx	xx					xxx
20	EA (NWP)	xxx	xx					xxx
21	MEPA	xxx						xxx
22	NHDA	xxx		x	xxx	xx		
23	CMA	xxx	xxx					xxx
24	RDA	xxx	xx					xxx
25	SLTDA	xxx	xx					xxx
26	USDA	xxx		xx				xx
27	WRB	xxx						xxx
28	DMC	xxx						
29	SLLDC	xxx	xx	x	xx	xx		
30	PHDT	xxx			xxx	xx	xx	xxx
31	PUCSL	xxx	xx				x	xxx
32	SDC	x						xxx
33	RPC	xxx			xxx	xx		xxx
34	NGO	xxx					xxx	xxx
35	CBO&FO	xxx					xxx	xxx
36	PS	xxx		x	xxx	xx		

## **2.4 IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL POLICY ON SANITATION**

This chapter describes the methodology adopted for the implementation of National Policy on Sanitation (NPS) when it becomes effective by publication in the Government gazette by the Hon. Minister of Water Supply. As the implementation involves number of governmental and non-governmental agencies, effective coordination among stakeholders is vital for the success of NPS. Therefore, it is recommended to establish coordination committees at national level and provincial level.

### **2.4.1 National Coordination Committee (NCC)**

This committee holds the responsibility of implementing the NSP throughout the island with collaboration with all stake holders. It will be co-chaired by the Secretary to the Ministry of Water Supply (MWS) and the Secretary of Ministry of Public Services, Provincial Councils & Local Government (MPSPC&LG). The committee will consist of representatives of following organizations.

1. Ministry of Water Supply (MWS)
2. National Water Supply & Drainage Board (NWSDB)
3. Ministry of Provincial Councils & Local Government (MPCLG)
4. All Provincial Chief Secretaries
5. All Provincial Commissioner of Local Government
6. Ministry of Finance (MoF)
7. Ministry of Health (MoH)
8. Ministry of Industries (MOI)
9. Ministry of Education (MoE)
10. Department of Irrigation (DoI)
11. Department of National Community Water Supply (DNCWS)
12. Coast Conservation and Coastal Resources Management Department (CCCRMD)
13. National Physical Planning Department (NPPD)
14. Department of Census & Statistics (DC&S)
15. Urban Development Authority (UDA)
16. Board of Investment (BOI)
17. Central Environmental Authority (CEA)
18. Marine Environment Protection Authority (MEPA)
19. National Housing Development Authority (NHDA)
20. Condominium Management Authority (CMA)
21. Road Development Authority (RDA)
22. Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority (SLTDA)

23. Urban Settlement Development Authority (USDA)
24. Water Resources Board (WRB)
25. Disaster Management Centre (DMC)
26. Sri Lanka Land Development Corporation (SLLDC)
27. Plantation Human Development Trust (PHDT)
28. Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka (PUCSL) or any other regulatory body
29. Sustainable Development Council (SDC)

Although above agencies are permanent members of the NCC, it can decide to get the participation of any other agency depending on the circumstances. The NSC meets once in three months or whenever there is a need in shorter intervals. National Water Supply and Drainage Board is the convener of meetings. On behalf of General Manager, NWSDB, Additional General Manager (Water Reclamation) will attend to all secretarial works. NWSDB will further arrange all facilities for meetings.

The functions of the NCC includes but not limited to,

- a) Overall supervision of implementation of sanitation policy.
- b) Monitor and regulate ongoing sanitation activities.
- c) Coordinate with all stakeholders for various activities related to NSP.
- d) Identify the needs for improvements through the proposals received from Provincial Coordination Committees, review them, obtain further comments from NWSDB if necessary, prioritize and recommend the proposals to Department of National Planning
- e) Seek the possibility of implementing proposals by Local Authorities (LAs) using their own funds or with funding assistance from PCs. If it is not possible, proposals to be directed for government funding.
- f) Facilitate, monitor, and evaluate the implementation of selected projects by LAs.
- g) Review data collection by local authorities on sanitation and review them with Department of Census and statistics and monitor the achievement of SDG.
- h) Ensure that all LAs provide sanitation services on a financially sustainable manner.
- i) Assist LAs to adopt tariff system to cover the operation and maintenance cost if a sewerage system of septage treatment facility is maintained by them.
- j) Assist NWSDB and local authorities where applicable to adopt a tariff system for present & future sewerage systems.
- k) Ensure the involvement of private sector, for feasible areas and formulate required guidelines.
- l) Assist local authorities to adopt a rationalized charge for various services provided by private sector including provision of gully bowsers.
- m) Be aware about any possible environmental threat due to poor sanitation practices and adopt necessary precautions.
- n) Ensure that all industries and BOI zones adopt adequate measures to treat their wastewater before disposing.



- o) Making guidelines for using dried sludge as a soil conditioner or for composting generated as a result of septage/ wastewater treatment.
- p) Coordinate with all other agencies to ensure that NPS is implemented properly.

#### **2.4.2 Provincial Coordination Committee (PCC)**

It is recommended to establish a Provincial Coordination Committee (PCC) for each province, basically to oversee the implementation of NPS within the province. It will be chaired by the Chief Secretary of the province and consists of representatives of following officers and agencies.

1. Secretary Provincial Ministry of Local Government
2. DGM, Regional Support Center, National Water Supply & Drainage Board (NWSDB)
3. District Secretaries (DS)
4. Provincial Commissioner of Local Government
5. Assistant Commissioners of Local Government (ACLGs)
6. Commissioners or Secretaries of Local Authorities (LA)
7. Secretary Provincial Ministry of Health
8. Ministry of Health (MoH)
9. Ministry of Industries (MOI)
10. Ministry of Education (MoE)
11. Department of Irrigation (DoI)
12. Department of Community Water Supply & Sanitation (DCWSS)
13. Coast Conservation and Coastal Resources Management Department (CCCRMD)\*\*
14. National Physical Planning Department Regional officers (NPPD)
15. Urban Development Authority (UDA)
16. Board of Investment (BOI)\*\*
17. Central Environmental Authority (CEA)
18. Provincial Environmental Authority (NW Province) \*
19. Marine Environment Protection Authority (MEPA)\*\*
20. National Housing Development Authority (NHDA)
21. Condominium Management Authority (CMA)
22. Road Development Authority (RDA)
23. Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority (SLTDA)
24. Urban Settlement Development Authority (USDA)
25. Water Resources Board (WRB)
26. Sri Lanka Land Development Corporation (SLLDC)\*\*
27. Plantation Trust (PT)
28. Non- Governmental Organizations (NGO)
29. Regional Plantation Companies (RPC)

Note: \* - Only for Northwestern Province    \*\* - Only when applicable

PCC generally undertakes following activities.

- a) Monitor all sanitation related activities within the province.
- b) Provide guidelines and advice to all LAs for proper implementation of sanitation activities.
- c) Aware areas with less sanitation facilities and adopt suitable measures to address them.
- d) Review new proposals prepared by LAs for improvement of sanitation facilities in relation to the need, affordability, and sustainability with the assistance of NWSDB.
- e) Prioritize the new proposals identified for implementation, get the clearance from respective District Coordination Committees, and refer them to NCC.
- f) Assist NCC, MWS, MPSPC&LG and MOF for implementation of any proposals accepted by the Government.
- g) Monitor the implementation of new projects and mediate in problem solving, especially in selection of lands, resettlements and environmental issues.
- h) Provide necessary assistance for projects implemented by NWSDB.
- i) Assist in developing and implementing tariff systems for facilities provided by LAs and NWSDB.
- j) Assist CEA in implementing environmental regulations.
- k) Ensure that all new constructions strictly adhere to the UDA sanitation requirements.
- l) Ensure that adequate sanitation measures are adopted for large gathering of people like Processions, religious and public functions.
- m) Encourage private sector involvement in service provision and bringing them under a rationalized Fee system.
- n) Encourage adoption of hygiene education programmes and best hygiene practices.
- o) Getting the assistance from local and international NGOs, CBOs, and farmer organization for improvements in sanitation facilities and hygiene education.
- p) PCC can appoint a technical sub committee to study and make recommendations to PCC on various development proposals, which are submitted for its clearance. This committee will necessarily consist of a representative from NWSDB together with representatives from other organizations depending on the nature of the proposed project. This will avoid any possible delay in approving as PCC generally consists of large number of members.

Although above agencies are permanent members of PCC, it can invite or get the participation of any other organization as well as respective mayors and chairmen of LAs, whenever need arises. The Deputy General Manager of NWSDB for the respective province will be convener of meetings, minutes recorder and facilitator for PCC. PCC will meet quarterly or in shorter intervals when there is a need.

## **2.5 FUNDING FOR NEW PROJECTS**

Projects of minor value may be implemented by LAs using their own funds or funds received from other sources such as decentralized budget (DCB), Project Specific Development Grants (PSDG) and loan facilities of Local Loans & Development Fund (LL&DF) etc. This includes projects such as construction of toilets and conducting hygiene education programmes. Provision of toilet facilities for public markets and public bus stands are encouraged to implement with the involvement of private sector with appropriate user fees. Identification of septage treatment facilities and piped sewerage systems may be carried out by LAs, depending on the capacity of the LAs, remaining project activities can be handled by themselves or by NWSDB. The government needs to provide necessary funding locally or through foreign collaboration for implementation of such projects following the normal procedure adopted for such high value projects. When island wide programmes are implemented, NWSDB also can identify needs of new projects for some local authority areas, which can be further proceed in agreement with the respective LAs. However, it is recommended to implement projects only with a suitable tariff system at least to cover operation and maintenance cost.

A small budgetary provision is required for smooth operations of NCC and PCC as well as preparation of identification reports. Therefore, it is recommended to allocate a small budget for this purpose by NWSDB, through their annual budget.

## **2.6 PROCEDURE FOR IMPLEMENTING NEW SANITATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS**

The main intention of establishing a National Policy on Sanitation in Sri Lanka is to coordinate all stakeholders so that their involvement in sanitation sector will be within the framework of Sanitation Master Plan and all interventions to deliver adequate and sustainable solutions for various sanitation issues. NPS does not intend to become a hurdle for any development project. Therefore, all sanitation projects are mainly categorized into following three groups for the purpose of establishing an approval process.

### **2.6.1 Sanitation Project Categories**

#### **2.6.1.1 Category 1**

Projects that are mainly deal with construction of new toilets, renovation of existing toilets, construction of toilets for public places such as public bus stands, markets, common public toilets, and toilets in estate sector fall in this category. It further includes hygiene education programmes, advocacy programmes, distribution of sanitary materials etc. They may be limited to a restricted area in many cases, usually within a one local authority area and do not involve any long planning process, due to the simplicity of activities involved.

#### **2.6.1.2 Category 2**

This category includes specialized projects that are mainly related to a particular institute or establishment. More common examples of them are wastewater treatment systems for factories, large commercial establishments, apartment complexes, multi-storeyed housing complexes, hospitals, export processing zones and industrial estates. Generally, above projects follow a rigorous planning and design process as well as an approval process.

#### **2.6.1.3 Category 3**

Projects that are generally considered as public projects covering a substantially large geographical area fall under this category. The most common examples are large scale wastewater systems and septage treatment facilities. They may be initiated by respective local authorities, NWSDB or any other line ministry depending on source of funding. They also involve in lengthy planning and design process together with a series of approvals.

NWSDB will prepare guidelines for projects falling under categories 1 and 2 and distribute among all LAs to facilitate approval process. Following of above guidelines will ensure that proposed projects are within the framework introduced by SMP.

## **2.6.2 Mechanism for obtaining clearances for Sanitation Projects**

Following mechanism for getting clearance for new development proposals based on the respective category is proposed.

### **2.6.2.1 Category 1**

This type of proposals is normally to be funded by the respective local authority (LA) or outside assistance such as NGO or other civil society organizations. For this type of proposals, approval of the respective LA is adequate. LA shall consider the availability of funding, necessary approval of funding, feasibility of such proposals and compatibility with guidelines prepared by NWSDB before granting the approval. LA may get the views of PCC on the proposal if necessary and approve the proposal. However, the LA shall inform the relevant PCC regarding the proposal for recording purposes. The PCC should collect all such proposals approved throughout a calendar year and inform the NCC for recording purposes. This approval can be obtained within a short period of about one week.

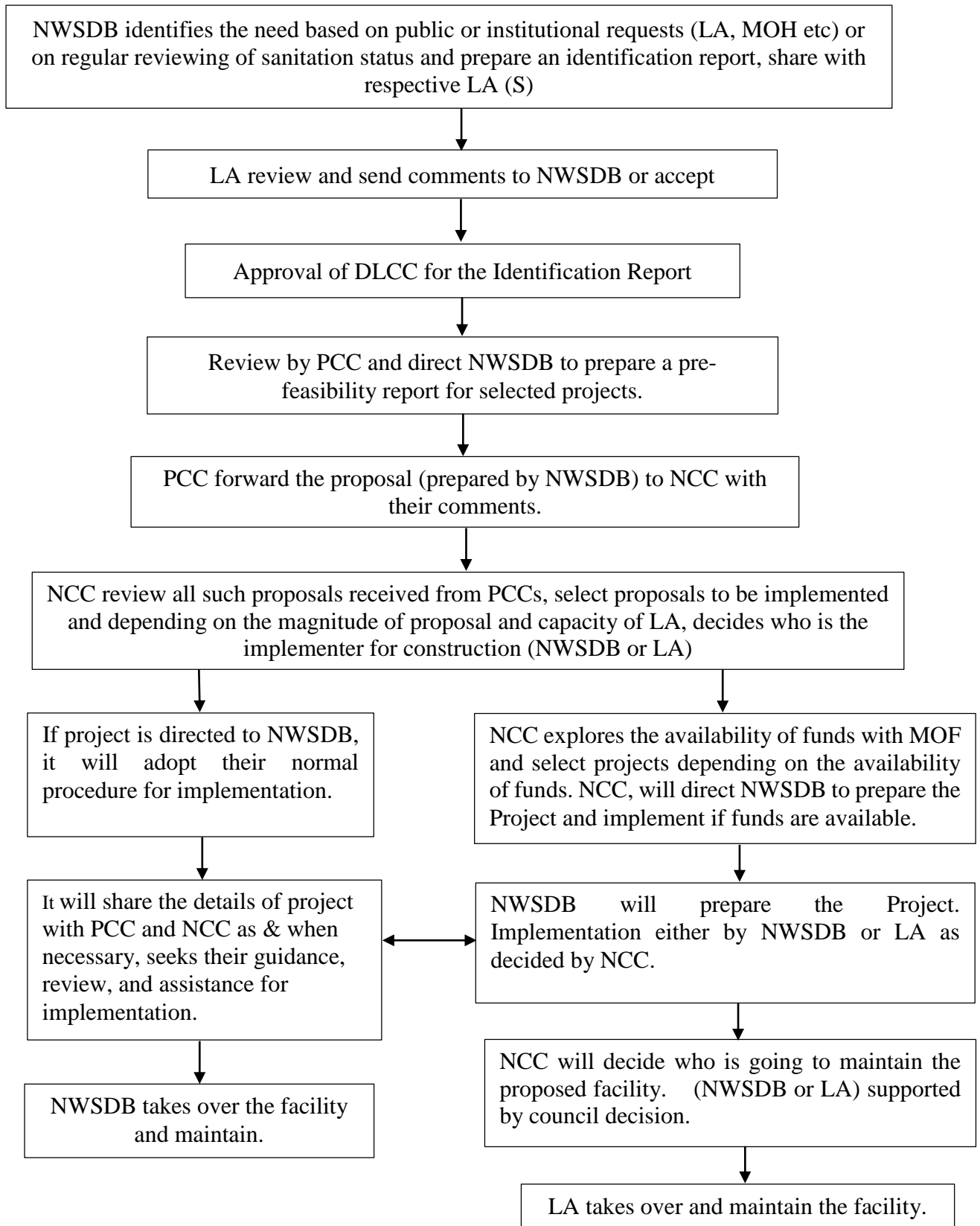
### **2.6.2.2 Category 2**

This type of proposals generally follows a series of clearance/approvals of Government agencies handling various responsibilities. Therefore, no further reviews are necessary. However, the proposal should be submitted directly to PCC to check its compliance with SMP introduced through guidelines. This can be undertaken by the technical committee in the PCC, which will review the proposal to check the compliance with guidelines issued by NWSDB and other things. The committee will report its outcome to the chairman of the PCC. Then it can be approved at the next PCC meeting. In case there is delay in meeting of PCC, the Chairman of the PCC can give provisional approval for the proposal, subject to the covering approval of next available PCC meeting. The PCC should collect all such proposals approved throughout a calendar year and inform the NCC for recording purposes. This provisional approval can be obtained within about two weeks.

### **2.6.2.3 Category 3**

This type of proposals is generally funded by the Government with or without foreign funding assistance. The projects also of high value and generally serves a large population. They also undergo a lengthy planning process. Therefore, it is proposed to adopt the following procedure for approving of such proposals.

National Policy on Sanitation (NPS) of Sri Lanka



**GLOSSARY**

<b>Adequate and equitable</b>	: Sufficient for the specific need or requirement and dealing fairly and equally with all concerned.
<b>Commercial wastewater</b>	: The aqueous discard resulting from substances when water is used in commercial activities or cleaning that takes place with such processes.
<b>Domestic wastewater</b>	: All water from cooking, domestic cleaning, taps, bathrooms, and toilets (grey water plus blackwater).
<b>Faecal Sludge Management pathways</b>	: Ways of handling the contents of septic tanks and latrine pits, including emptying, conveyance and treatment and disposal of treated wastewater/sludge.
<b>Hazardous wastes</b>	: Biological, chemical, physical or radiological waste that has the potential to cause harm health and hygiene.
<b>Human excreta</b>	: Human Urine and faeces.
<b>Industrial wastewater</b>	: The aqueous discard resulting from substances that have been dissolved or suspended in water, when using water in an industrial manufacturing process or the cleaning that take place with that process.
<b>Integral solutions</b>	: Process of solving problems taking account of all parts/aspects ensuring the completeness of the whole.
<b>Integrated approaches</b>	: Ways undertaking activities cutting across disciplines and sectors.
<b>Integrated water resources management</b>	: The process promoting the coordinated development and management of water, land and related resources.
<b>Leachate</b>	: Generated when degradation of solid waste due to contamination with rain/storm water filtrate – sludge dewatering/drying beds.
<b>Localized</b>	: Taking into account spatial contexts in setting of goals and targets for determining the means of implementation and using indicators to measure and monitor progress.

**Off-site sanitation** : A sanitation system in which excreta (referred to as wastewater) is collected and transported away from the plot where they are generated.

**On-site sanitation** : A sanitation system in which excreta is collected, stored and emptied from or treated within the plot where they are generated.

**Pathogens** : Disease-causing organisms (e.g. bacteria, helminths, protozoa or viruses).

**Polluter pays** : The person causing contamination of land, water or air bearing costs of managing the contamination and prevention of the damage to human health or the environment.

**Safe sanitation** : A sanitation facility which is not shared with other. Households and where the excreta are safely disposed in situ or is transported and treated off-site.

**Safely managed sanitation system** : Arrangement of sanitation facilities that are not shared, where excreta is safely disposed of in situ or treated off-site covering the entire sanitation value chain in compliance to environmental regulations, and where hand washing facilities with soap and water are available.

**Sanitation service delivery network** : A context specific series of sanitation technologies (and services) for the management of faecal sludge and/or wastewater through the stages of containment, emptying, transport, treatment and end use/disposal.

**Sanitation service chain** : All components and processes comprising a sanitation system, from toilet capture and containment through emptying, transport, treatment (in-situ or off-site) and final disposal or end use.

**Septage treatment facilities** : Set-ups for treatment of sludge in accordance with environmental regulations.



<b>Sanitation service value chain</b>	: Sanitation management processes and steps: storage, collection, transportation, dumping, treatment and reuse/recovery.
<b>Service delivery charter</b>	: A statement of commitment towards service delivery.
<b>Sewage</b>	: Wastewater that is transported through the sewer network.
<b>Sewerage</b>	: The physical sewer infrastructure for conveyance and treatment of sewage.
<b>Sludge</b>	: A mixture of solids and water that settles to the bottom of latrines, septic tanks and ponds or is produced as a by-product of wastewater treatment.
<b>Solid waste management</b>	: The collection, treatment, and disposal of discarded solid material, both biodegradable and non-biodegradable.
<b>Storm water drainage</b>	: The rainfall runoff collected from roofs, roads and other surfaces before flowing towards drainage path (natural or surface drainage system).
<b>Sustainable service delivery</b>	: A process of providing services to the community in a way that fosters the economic, social, and environmental well-being, today and into the future.
<b>Wastewater services</b>	: Used water from any combination of domestic (households and services), black water or grey water, industrial, storm water and any sewage inflow/infiltration.
<b>Water bodies</b>	: Any substantial accumulation of water, both natural and manmade (surface water).