

Topic: Institutional and stakeholders analysis for Arsenic mitigation in drinking water in Bangladesh

Governance is the central issue for water resources management, especially in the light of water scarcity and poor water quality (including geogenic contamination, such as high arsenic and fluoride concentrations in drinking water). Threats to effective water quality management and risk reduction include, among many others, institutional inability and low priority given to water quality in terms of investment in infrastructure and maintenance. Lack of good governance and participation of stakeholders in decision making is a common problem faced with developing countries, such as Bangladesh and Ethiopia, to effectively deal with geogenic contamination in drinking water. In Bangladesh and Ethiopia, this has limited the ability of the country and community concerned to adopt appropriate mitigation measures to reduce the risk to human health of Arsenic and Fluoride contamination.

The master's project is part of the on-going integrated project on Water Resource Quality (WRQ) at Eawag. The student is required to conduct field work in Bangladesh or Ethiopia. A small amount of financial support can be provided for the field work.

Objective (Master thesis):

- To investigate stakeholders' interests and conflicts regarding the adoption of different mitigation options,
- To evaluate possible approaches to reduce conflicts and enhance synergy among stakeholders.