

**CSD13 IPM**  
**Sanitation**  
**Australian Intervention**  
**1 March 2005**

Australia supports the Secretary General's comments that an integrated approach to dealing with water and sanitation is vital, especially to gain health outcomes for the poorest. Our experts, in particular Mr Albert Reicht and Ms Nafisa Barot, succinctly described this in the panel yesterday.

The practical policy outcome we will pursue in CSD 13 is an agreement on the need for national governments, NGOs and donors to work together to manage the demands for fresh, clean usable water and sanitation arrangements. This will ensure that water and sanitation can be managed, allocated and used across a range of competing needs and interests.

Supply driven initiatives need to give way to demand focussed programmes that encourage more efficient infrastructure.

An example of this is seen in Bangalore (India) where Australian aid has been targeted to meet the city's demand for safe and sustained supplies of water and sanitation for all consumers through the development of a demand-focussed master plan.

In this case a modest investment by Australia allowed the development of a master plan that established good governance arrangements (regulatory, legal and institutional) through which external funding bodies (from Japan ODA) were more confident of pursuing investment opportunities. Good governance allows leverage.

An interesting aspect of this project was the differentiation of water quality, with high quality water being supplied to domestic users and lower quality water being supplied to industrial uses.

Every drop counts, whether it is water or money.

We welcome discussion regarding constraints to financing sanitation, as outlined in the Secretary General's paper. Key points include the need to mobilise all financial resources and the necessity of good governance to underpin these investments.