



Case Study 2: Orangi Pilot Project, Karachi, Pakistan

Themes: Co-Production Community-based infrastructure delivery Sanitation

Background:



The **Orangi Pilot Project** started in the 1980s in the squatter areas of Orangi Town, Karachi, Sindh, Pakistan. It was initiated by Akhtar Hameed Khan, a development activist and social scientists that involved the local residents in solving their own sanitation problems. Innovative methods were used to provide adequate low cost sanitation, health, housing and microfinance facilities.

The project evolved into a number of programs, including a people's financed and managed and designed Low-Cost Sanitation Program; a Housing Program; a Basic Health and Family Planning Program; a Program of Supervised Credit for Small Family Enterprise Units; an education Program; and a Rural development Program in nearby villages. Thus, the project encompasses much more than the neighborhood level problems. The success of the project enabled sanitation access to over a million people and has evolved in a multi-sectorial program. Learning from the project informed the creation of the Orangi Pilot Project Research and Training Institute (OPP-RTI) that provides advisory services to other agencies and cities, technical support to communities and relationship building with other institutional partners.

Core to the institutional arrangements is the Component Sharing Model which outlines guidelines for people to work with government as partners in the delivery of services.

Learning Outcomes:

- An understanding of the technical intricacies of community-based sanitation
- Understanding the agency that emanates from successful infrastructure projects
- Insight into how the notion of co-production may work in practice
- Knowledge of the impact of community politics and institutional dynamics

Core questions:

- How did the project emerge and what led to the involvement of Khan and other key role players?
- What role did community based organisations play in implementation?
- How did the relationship between city government and the Orangi community change over time?
- What are the two most prominent technical sanitation solutions and how can these be applied elsewhere?
- How has the initial work done in Orangi inform the current work of the OPP-RTI?

Key Sources: Khan, A.H. (1996) Orangi Pilot Project: Reminiscences and Reflections. Karachi: Oxford University Press.

Hassan, A. (2006) Orangi Pilot Project: the expansion of work beyond Orangi and the mapping of informal settlements and infrastructure, in Environment and Urbanization Vol 18, no 2, 451 – 480.

Hassan, A. (2001) A model for government-community partnership in building sewage systems for urban areas: The experiences of the Orangi Pilot Project: Research and Training Institute (OPP-RTI), Karachi, in Water, Science and Technology vol. 45, No. 8, pages 199-216

Cotton, A. and Franceys, R. (1994) Infrastructure for the urban poor: Policy and planning issues, in Cities, VOL 11; No 1.

Other resources: <http://www.oppinstitutions.org> (see Publications link)
<http://www.oppoct-microcredit.com/>
http://www.unescap.org/drrpad/vc/conference/ex_pk_5_opp.htm
http://www.wateraid.org/documents/plugin_documents/pakistan.pdf
