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## West Bengal Drinking Water Sector Improvement Project

Inclusiveness, Empowerment and Awareness through Service Delivery

Sourav Majumder Senior Project Officer (Urban) India Resident Mission Asian Development Bank

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Need from Gender Mainstreaming Perspective Low workforce participation rate - 19.4% state vs 30% national Economic empowerment Equality in of women human (Skilled jobs to **Development** 350 locals, with enhanced 33% women) (Skill training) Opportunities Women's time Equality in poverty and decision drudgery making and reduced leadership (Water Supply to enhanced 390.000 (training VWSC) households) Capacity Building of PHED Staff (100% women staff) Gender Policy for Public Health Engineering Department **Enablers** Gender Audit

□ Wider gap between male and female wages □ 11.4% of HHs access tap water – Arsenic, Salinity, Fluoride High Literacy of women □ Inclusion of women in planning, construction, and O&M □ Women, poor and low-income families, are members of SHGs □ Job opportunities for women at Gram Panchayats (GP) Involvement of locals (women) in awareness generation activities □ Women's time and drudgery reduced (30 to 45 min spent avg)

EA's proactiveness/senior officials' engagement

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- Identification of HHs and beneficiaries in 66 villages
- Data Segregation
- Acceptance among the Panchayati raj institutions for GESI dimensions in Asset Management and Service Delivery Framework
- Impact of COVID-19 restrictions and 2020 cyclone on community activities and surveys
- Interdepartmental coordination

## M

- Consistent dialogues and monitoring on GESI with EA and GPs
- Sensitization of the EA senior leadership on GESI dimensions by ADB

