

# THE CASE OF NAKHCHIVAN WASTEWATER TREATMENT

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK



Overview



Technology



Lessons



Management

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# Overview



The Setting



## The Setting

Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic

- Population: 400,000
- 5,000 years of recorded urban history
- No land or rail links to greater Azerbaijan

Nakhchivan City:

- Capital of the autonomous republic
- Population: 90,000
- 2 hours of water supply
- No sewerage network

# History

- Most households used pit latrines.
- Some households used septic tanks, which often overflowed.
- Some households discharged sewage directly to the roadside channels flowing through town.
- Sewage overflowed onto the streets and public property during rain.
- Blockages and overflows often affected residential areas. 85% of people surveyed during project preparation said they had sewage problems on their property.
- Wastewater from the city was collected and disposed untreated in the Araz River untreated.

# Government Vision





## Technical Specs

- 3000 liters per second / 32,000 cubic meters per day
- Joint venture between Dizayn (Azerbaijan), Bioworks (Germany) and Pentair (Netherlands)
- Activated sludge basin with the aeration system
- Membrane bioreactor (MBR) with ultrafiltration which produce quality effluent sufficient for irrigation



## Government Engagement

- taking the **initiative** to learn what the future required
- acting **decisively** and staying **committed**
- taking equal **responsibility** for the progress and quality of outcomes
- **proactive** learning on O&M, and economies of scale through replication





## Lessons Learned

- **Technology choice is only part of the equation**
- **Accountability matters**
- **ADB's role as catalyst**