



City-wide partnership for sustainable water use and water stewardship in SMEs in Lahore, Pakistan

The Challenge

Pakistan is a water stressed country and unsustainable water use and poor water management and governance practices are causing the increasing water scarcity. Pakistan's population is expected to double to around 350 million by 2025 and this growth will put further pressure on water resources, particularly in urban areas, with consequent impacts on people's health, wellbeing, livelihoods and environmental sustainability more widely.

The Path to Improvements

The project targets, by 2015, 300 processing and manufacturing SMEs in the target area have enhanced understanding of **Best Water Management Practices (BWMPs)**, 75 high-water-use SMEs have increased water management capacity, and 25 SMEs are implementing BWMPs, supported by a multi-stakeholder city level water partnership.

- Pollution reduction and improved water efficiency by 15% by adopting BWMPs.
- Capacity building and enhancing understanding of target SMEs operating in the project area.
- Multi stake holder city wide partnership on water stewardship working towards policy engagement and lesson sharing.

In a Nutshell

The project "City-wide partnership for sustainable water use and water stewardship in SMEs in Lahore, Pakistan" seeks to address the sustainable consumption and production with water conservation and pollution reduction in SMEs in Pakistan.



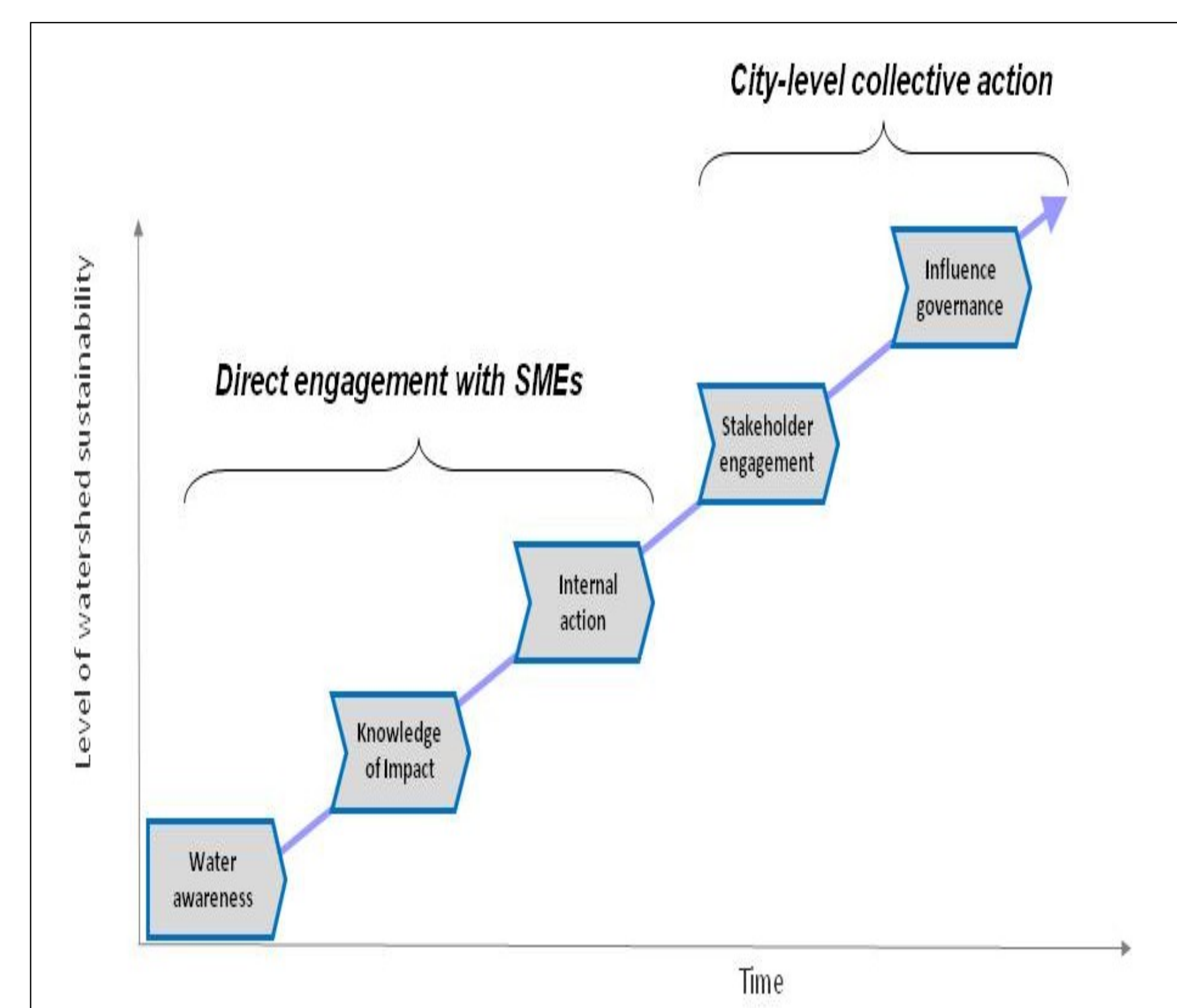
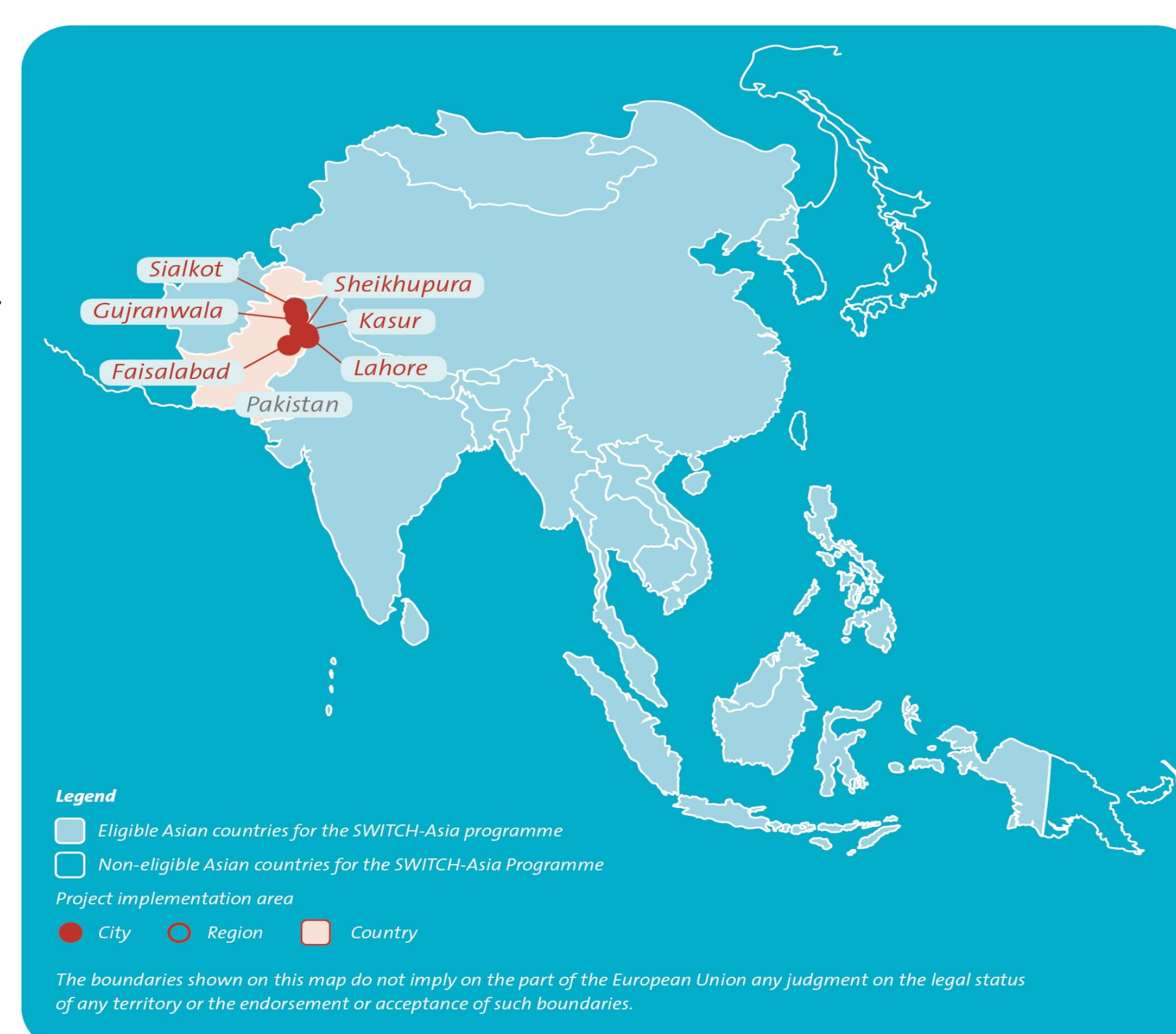
The project contributes to improving environmental sustainability, livelihoods, and supporting sustainable economic growth and development in Pakistan. It will particular focus on water use and water management in high water using, cross sectoral, urban based 400 Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

The action will focus on Punjab's largest city, Lahore, containing around 2700 SMEs, and five surrounding industrial districts of Sheikhupura, Kasur, Gujranwala, Faisalabad and Sialkot. SMEs in Punjab province have particularly low water efficiency in factory operations compared to their counterparts in southern Pakistan.

The action will focus on SMEs in the high water using and polluting processing and manufacturing sectors of textiles, sugar, pulp and paper and leather tanning, but will bring in other sectors as appropriate. These sectors are resource intensive – they use large amounts of water (and energy) and contribute significantly to overall pollution levels in Pakistan – with consequential impacts on poverty and people's health.

The Project and its Impact

- At the **economic** level, at the enterprise scale, at least 25 SMEs will directly gain economically by improving their efficiency of production – reducing water use by at least 15% per unit of production, improving effluent quality, reducing energy use associated with reduced water pumping and increasing productivity.
- At the **social** level, the project will make a contribution to improving the wellbeing of approximately 2.3 million people within the project area, reducing the incidence and severity of poverty associated with inadequate access to potable water for drinking and municipal and household livelihood activities
- At the **technical** level include improved capacity in effective water management by at least 100 SMEs and increased awareness of the holistic benefits of water management as it relates to SCP and livelihoods by a further 300 SMEs. All SMEs (400) will receive training in effective, sustainable water management including, enterprise level management and wider stakeholder engagement.
- At the **policy** level the expected impacts include the development of a business case document reflecting the experience at 25 SMEs to improve water efficiency, and a city level business case based on a situational analysis of water issues in Lahore and a city level water footprint study. These will be used to stimulate engagement by wider tiers of SMEs and other stakeholders in the project – including policy makers with the city partnership.



The way forward

- Reviewing national and international experiences on Best Water Management Practices (BWMPs) and Cleaner Production (CP) measures;
- Providing workshop trainings and on-the-job trainings for 25 showcase SMEs on BWMPs, CP, Operational Health and Safety (OHS) and Environmental Management Systems;
- Conducting cost-benefit analysis for BWMPs and developing business case report;
- Providing cross-sectoral training workshops to 300 SMEs and supporting institutions;
- Assisting SMEs to be accredited to Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS) standards.