

Safe Drinking Water Project



The **Education and Development Research Council (EDRC)**, established in 2004, is a non-profit organization committed to advancing education, research, and community-based development initiatives in Bangladesh. Since its inception, EDRC has identified access to safe drinking water as one of the most pressing challenges in the country, especially in rural and suburban areas where communities often lack reliable and safe sources of potable water. Recognizing the burden borne disproportionately by women and girls, who traditionally fetch water from distant sources, EDRC launched its **Safe Drinking Water Program** as an integral part of its community development mission.

Objectives of the Program

The Safe Drinking Water Program aims to:

1. **Ensure Accessibility:** Provide communities in rural and suburban areas with convenient access to safe drinking water through the installation of tube-wells and hand pumps.
2. **Reduce Health Risks:** Decrease the prevalence of waterborne diseases by ensuring clean water availability at the household and community levels.
3. **Empower Women and Girls:** Alleviate the physical and time burdens of water collection, enabling women and girls to engage more fully in education, social, and economic activities.

4. **Promote Community Ownership:** Encourage local participation in managing and maintaining water facilities to ensure long-term sustainability.



Impact on Society

The Safe Drinking Water Program has had transformative impacts on communities where it has been implemented. The availability of clean and accessible water sources has significantly reduced the incidence of waterborne diseases, improving the overall health and productivity of families. Women and girls, who no longer need to spend hours fetching water, are now able to invest their time in education, skill development, and household income-generating activities. Communities have also reported improved school attendance among girls and reduced medical expenses for families, which contributes to breaking cycles of poverty.

Beyond health and gender equality, the program has fostered a spirit of community collaboration. By involving local groups in the installation, monitoring, and maintenance of water systems, EDRC has promoted ownership, accountability, and long-term sustainability. The Safe Drinking Water Program stands as a model of how targeted interventions can simultaneously address public health, gender disparities, and community development.

EDRC's water initiative exemplifies its commitment to holistic development and human well-being. By bridging the gap between basic needs and sustainable community growth, the program continues to make a meaningful contribution to rural and suburban societies across Bangladesh.



Budget and Beneficiary Analysis

To ensure widespread access to safe drinking water, EDRC proposes the installation of **1,000 tube wells** across rural and suburban communities in Bangladesh. Each tube well is designed to serve approximately **500 beneficiaries**, thereby directly impacting health, reducing the burden on women and girls, and contributing to improved socio-economic well-being.

Budget Table

Item Description	Quantity	Unit Cost (USD)	Total Cost (USD)
Installation of Tube Wells (including materials, hand pump, labor, and supervision)	1,000	50	50,000
Total Budget			50,000

Beneficiary Calculation

- **Total Tube Wells:** 1,000
- **Beneficiaries per Tube Well:** 500 people
- **Total Beneficiaries:** 1,000 × 500 = **500,000 people**

Expected Impact

- **Reduction of Suffering:** Women and girls will no longer need to fetch water from long distances, saving significant time and physical effort.
- **Improved Health Outcomes:** With 500,000 people accessing clean water, the prevalence of waterborne diseases such as diarrhea, cholera, and dysentery is expected to decline sharply.
- **Social Empowerment:** By alleviating the water-fetching burden, women and girls will have greater opportunities for education, income generation, and participation in community life.

