



# ARe yoU Water Resilient?

A Bottom-Up Initiative for Water Resilience in Asia and the Pacific



RUWR stands for ARe yoU Water Resilient?. It is a dedicated technical assistance platform established by the Water Sector Group (WSG) of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to support its developing member countries (DMCs) become water secure and resilient. It plans to leverage financing, physical and human resources, governance, partnerships, knowledge, and skills at the local level; while aligning with national, regional, and global water security and resilience goals.

## What is RUWR?

RUWR is a bottom-up initiative tailored to the individual needs of the DMCs' water entities and policy makers. RUWR aims to achieve water security and resilience by analyzing gaps, needs, and opportunities—and building the capacity and resources to meet them through innovative solutions. RUWR includes a collaborative platform and hub that takes a local community approach to water resilience capacity-building. The hub will facilitate coalitions with internal and external stakeholders to collectively build resilience by finding demand-based entry points and integrating resilience approaches in a phased manner.

## Water, Climate, and the Path Toward Water Resilience

Water is the primary medium through which we will feel the effects of climate change. Asia and the Pacific is the most disaster-affected region in the world and is home to more than 40% of the globe's calamities and 84% of the people they affect. Due to climate change and sea level rise, the frequency and magnitude of natural hazards and their impact are likely to increase during the

coming decades, with unprecedented effects on country economies, the environment, and livelihood of people. Focusing on resilient water management has become extremely urgent and central to climate adaptation.

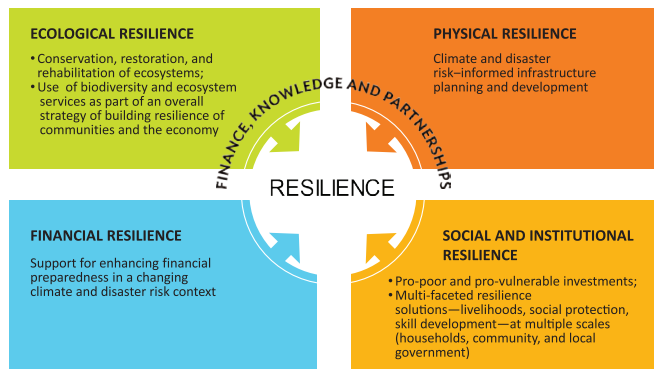
Furthermore, the ongoing coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has shown persistent inequalities in water and sanitation access, as described in *ADB's Guidance Note on COVID-19 and Water in Asia and the Pacific*. Innovative approaches identified at the local level that are also aligned with national, regional and global water security, and resilience goals are required to tackle these challenges.

ADB's forthcoming Water Sector Framework 2030 highlights the bank's focus on resilience through "building resilience and adaptive capacity" as one of its five guiding principles. Similarly, *Operational Priority 3 of ADB's Strategy 2030* adopts four parallel pillars for a holistic approach to resilience: ecological, physical, financial, and social and institutional.

ADB's Water Sector Framework 2030

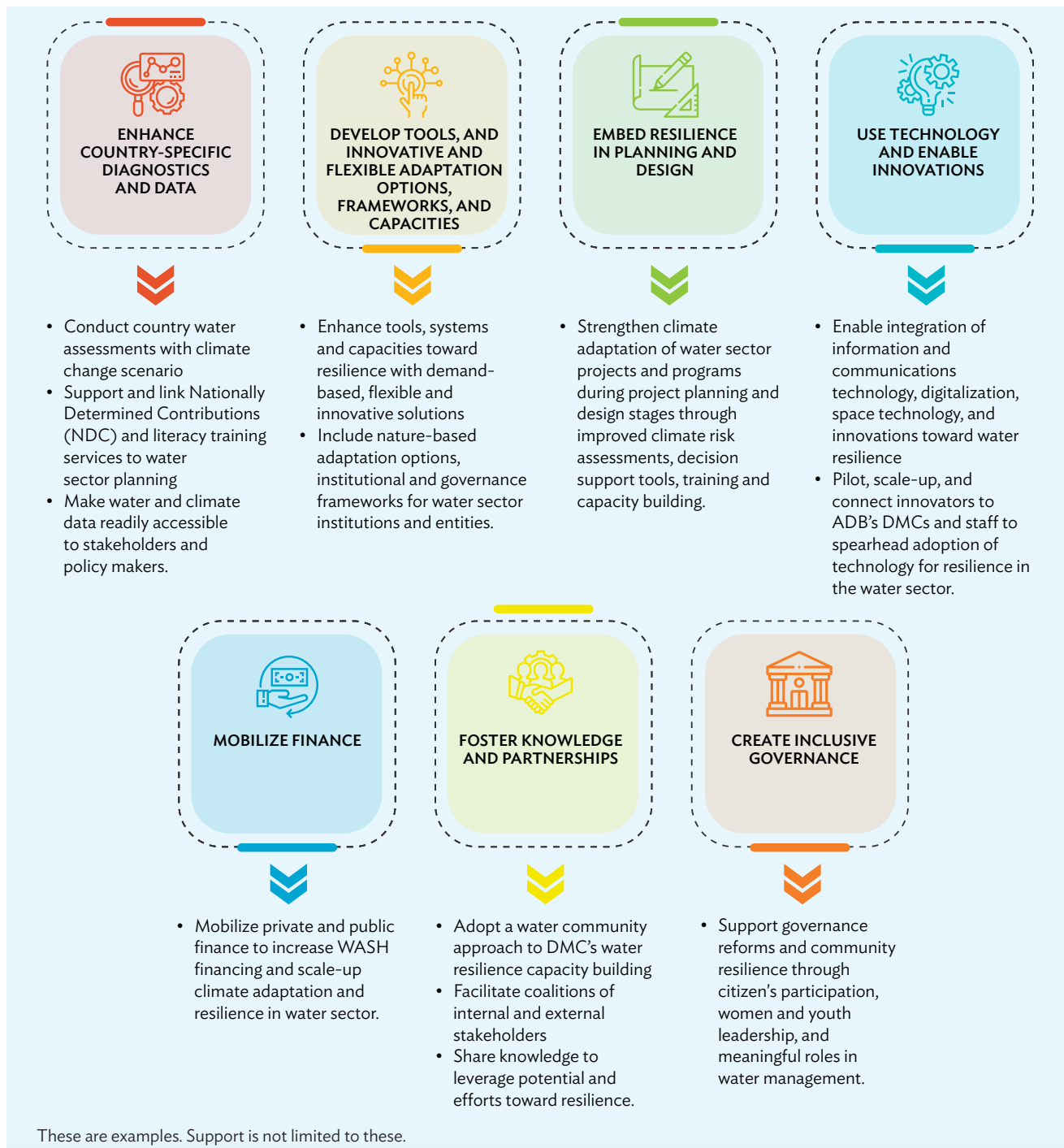


ADB's Holistic Approach to Resilience



## The RUWR Initiative

Funded through ADB's cluster technical assistance "Mainstreaming Water Resilience in Asia and the Pacific," the RUWR initiative will support DMCs with actions, capacity building, and tools for ensuring resilience in water sector planning, operations, policies, and institutions. It aims to bring about a transformational shift toward water resilience at the local level. It will also assist ADB staff in planning, designing, and implementing water projects and programs by embedding adaptation. Customized to the countries' and local water managers' demand, the RUWR initiative will involve various activities and efforts, such as the following:



### For information, contact:

Neeta Pokhrel, *Chief of Water Sector Group*  
 ✉ npokhrel@adb.org



CLIMATE CHANGE FUND



Republic of Korea



Japan  
Fund for  
Poverty  
Reduction

### Follow us on our social media:



ADBWater4All



adbwater



<http://bit.ly/WSGLinkedIn>



Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 IGO license (CC BY 3.0 IGO)

© 2021. ADB. The CC license does not apply to non-ADB copyright materials in this publication.

<https://www.adb.org/terms-use#openaccess>

<http://www.adb.org/publications/corrigenda>

Publication Stock No. ARM210387-2