Mainstreaming Citywide Inclusive Sanitation (CWIS) in Saidpur municipality

Environmental sanitation by ensuring sanitation value chain

Old and overburdened sanitation infrastructures

Saidpur municipality is one of the most densely populated municipalities of Bangladesh. It lacks a centralized sewer system and solely depends on on-site sanitation technologies like pit latrines and septic tanks. These facilities become problematic when they reach to their capacity, and spill over - often improperly through open drains which affects the environment.

The municipality had limited resources and no specific plans to handle these challenges of second-generation sanitation to ensure essential municipal services.

Our work

WaterAid started its endeavor with Saidpur municipality almost a decade ago. In 2016, the municipality first began the safe disposal of faecal sludge (FS) in a designated location with Vacutug. Over the time, WaterAid supported this municipality to have their proper and country’s one of the finest Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant (FSTP). This FSTP is not only managing FS, but solid waste too. Alongside WaterAid supported the municipality to include WASH as a separate line item to their annual budget.

Sustaining safely-managed sanitation

WaterAid’s collaboration with Saidpur municipality has brought substantial changes in the management of second-generation sanitation challenge. The introduction of safe disposal point for faecal sludge resulted 18% safely managed sanitation coverage in 2018 - a figure increased to 34% in 2023. Such progress in short period, encouraged the municipality to take the aim to mainstream CWIS.