



**INSTITUTIONAL AND  
REGULATORY FRAMEWORK**

for

**FAECAL SLUDGE  
MANAGEMENT (FSM)**

**CITY CORPORATIONS**

**OCTOBER 2017**

# **Institutional and Regulatory Framework for Faecal Sludge Management (IRF-FSM)**

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**Minister**  
**Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives**  
**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**

## Message

I am delighted that the Policy Support Unit (PSU) of the Local Government Division (LGD) has prepared the Institutional and Regulatory Framework for Faecal Sludge Management (IRF-FSM) for the Water and Sanitation sector in Bangladesh.

The Local Government Division has the mission objective of improving the standard of living of the people by strengthening local government institutions and implementing activities for social, economic and infrastructure development. The Institutional and Regulatory Framework (IRF-FSM) will be supportive for local government institutions to implement FSM services for the benefit of our people.

I believe the IRF-FSM is closely aligned with our objectives of promoting public health and social progress, as well as creating the scope for economic opportunities. Alongside, the development of this framework is a significant and tangible step in Bangladesh's journey towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 6) focussing on safely managed sanitation systems.

While we have made successful interventions in the past few decades—eliminating open defecation and greatly expanding access to improved sanitation—it is time that we move forward to the next step of the sanitation ladder. The IRF-FSM will be instrumental in guiding us for the upcoming phases. I urge local government institutions to work for its timely and effective implementation.

I thank all those involved in the development of this framework for their hard work. I particularly appreciate them on the comprehensiveness of this framework, which addresses the roles and responsibilities of local government institutions.

It is our responsibility to fulfil our honourable Prime Minister's vision of showcasing Bangladesh as a champion of Global Goal 6 (Six). I hope our local government institutions, development partners, civil society and citizens will all work together towards the objectives of the IRF-FSM, and support Bangladesh on its journey towards safely managed sanitation for all. I look forward to the successful implementation of this valued IRF-FSM.

**Khandker Mosharraf Hossain, MP**



**Secretary**  
**Local Government Division**  
**Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives**  
**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**

## Message

Bangladesh is truly a land of marvels. Despite our challenges as a developing country, we have made great progress on many social and economic fronts. We have been globally recognised for our success in improving health and education, reducing poverty, and building a vibrant economy. We have recently attained the status of a lower middle-income country, a testament to our nation's resourcefulness and our government. All this has been possible because of a strong combination of visionary leadership and grassroots participation in national development.

This is most evident in our national success on tackling the sanitation crisis. Whereas in 1990, at least 34% of the country's population were defecating in the open, this figure now stands at less than 1%. This remarkable turnaround was possible because of the joint efforts of government, development partners and our people.

I believe the time has come again for such a united effort. We have almost ended open defecation in our country, but we now face the possibility of losing all our gains from unsafe dumping of faecal waste into the environment. This Institutional and Regulatory Framework for Faecal Sludge Management (IRF-FSM) represents a timely and very necessary step by the Local Government Division of the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives, to guide our Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE), Water and Sewerage Authorities (WASAs), local government institutions and city authorities to ensure proper treatment and disposal of waste.

We have already taken steps to attain the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for Goal 6 - ensuring water and sanitation for all. The government's Vision 2021 also promises universal access to sanitation. I believe the IRF-FSM will play a pivotal role in achieving these milestones, and establish Bangladesh as a pioneer and leader in the area of faecal sludge management. This regulatory framework will be of utmost benefit to the local government institutions.

I thank my colleagues of the Local Government Division (LGD), especially the Additional Secretary (Water Supply) for their proactive roles and continued support. I also thank my colleagues working with the Policy Support Unit (PSU) for their relentless efforts at managing the uphill task of IRF preparation and presenting it to the nation. Project Director, Policy Support Unit (PSU) has demonstrated his valuable contribution and dedication in IRF preparation and its dissemination.

Finally, I take the privilege of introducing the IRF to all stakeholders, hoping that all our endeavours will succeed in effective implementation of the Framework.

**Abdul Malek**  
Secretary



**Additional Secretary (WS)  
Local Government Division  
Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives  
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**

## FOREWORD

It gives me immense pleasure to know that the Institutional and Regulatory Framework for Faecal Sludge Management (IRF-FSM) is being published by the Local Government Division (LGD) under the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives. Recent achievement of Bangladesh attaining almost open defecation-free status came in the context of coordinated drives by the Government of Bangladesh, local government institutes, development partners and communities. However, as the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6.2 captures, we are no longer in a world where sanitation is a matter of providing access to toilets only. It is imperative that we go beyond.

Faecal Sludge Management (FSM) is often highlighted as an affordable, sustainable and viable technical solution for safe and proper management of excreta. In meeting the global sanitation challenge, particularly the SDG 6.2 targets, safely managed excreta will emerge as a key area of work for us.

This Institutional and Regulatory Framework covers on-site sanitation facilities and areas served by such facilities, as well as areas to be served by sewer networks and FSM services jointly. The framework has four distinct parts: Mega-city Dhaka, City Corporations, Paurashavas and Rural areas. In each part, the framework identifies the functional ways and means of implementing FSM services, and the related roles and responsibilities specified in this framework are aligned with existing acts and policies of the country, and therefore provides relevant authorities with clear guidance on how to address FSM as part of their ongoing work.

I would like to express my gratitude to the stakeholders of the sector, including the national and international NGOs, DPHE, WASAs, UNICEF and other development partners, who have rendered valuable inputs and support in the process of the regulatory framework for Faecal Sludge Management. I also thank my colleagues in the Local Government Division for making important contributions. I also extend my thanks to ITN-BUET for contributing their knowledge and expertise, and to UNICEF for their support in its publication.

Finally, I greatly appreciate the tremendous efforts of the Policy Support Unit (PSU) of LGD for their enthusiasm in finalising this Institutional and Regulatory Framework for Faecal Sludge Management. I am very optimistic that the IRF-FSM will drive our progress on FSM and play a dynamic role in achieving SDG 6.2.

**Nasreen Akhter**

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The National Forum for Water Supply and Sanitation in its 16th Meeting took the decision to develop the Institutional and Regulatory Framework for Faecal Sludge Management (IRF-FSM) in Bangladesh, under the leadership of ITN-BUET with necessary policy level support from the Policy Support Unit (PSU) (renamed as Policy Support Branch) of Local Government Division (LGD) of the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives (MoLGRD&C). Subsequently, a Working Committee was formed by the LGD, MoLGRD&C comprising members of all relevant stakeholders to support development of the IRF-FSM. Since then, ITN-BUET has engaged with all the relevant actors and stakeholders in the country's sanitation sector to incorporate knowledge, expert opinions and to identify functional ways of providing FSM services to people.

The Institutional and Regulatory Framework has been developed with the central notion of ensuring safe sanitation service in our country, aligned with SDG Target 6.2. The IRF-FSM has been developed separately for city corporations, municipalities, rural areas, and the mega-city of Dhaka – laying out the institutional roles and responsibilities to implement FSM services in these different contexts. This endeavour would not have been completed without the initiative of the Policy Support Unit (PSU) of LGD. We are thankful to Mr. Md. Mohsin, Project Director and Md. Abdur Rauf, Assistant Project Director, Policy Support Unit, LGD for their heartfelt enthusiasm and support. ITN-BUET gratefully acknowledges the contribution and deep engagement of Dr. Md. Mujibur Rahman, Professor of Civil Engineering of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) and Co-chair (Focal Person) of the Working Committee, in developing this framework. ITN-BUET also acknowledges the contribution of Wing Chief, WS Wing, Local Government Division who served as Chairperson of the Working Committee. We are also indebted to Mr Abdul Malek, Secretary of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives, for his benevolent and keen interest on this subject matter, and his strategic guidance from the very beginning. A special thanks also goes to Ms Nasreen Akhter, Additional Secretary of LGD, for her kind support.

We are obliged to the representatives of development partners, academic and research institutions, national and international NGOs, private entrepreneurs and individual experts who have contributed immensely through their precious time, expertise, wisdom and insights in developing this framework. We are also grateful to the mayors and chairmen from various cities and Paurashavas who joined in many meetings from remote areas of the country to share their experiences. We are also beholden to all who supported us to translate the framework into Bengali.

Finally, we would like to extend our wholehearted thanks to the sanitation workers who shared their practical knowledge and experiences with us, which have been invaluable in finalising this framework.

It is our sincere hope that this framework contributes to improving Bangladesh's sanitation scenario, and establishing our country as a leader in faecal sludge management in our region.



**Dr. Muhammad Ashraf Ali**  
Professor of Civil Engineering, and  
Director, ITN-BUET

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## Abbreviations and Acronyms

AIT	Asian Institute of Technology
BARC	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council
BARI	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute
BNBC	Bangladesh National Building Code
BUET	Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology
CBO	Community Based Organization
CTO	Collection and Transportation Operator
DAE	Department of Agriculture Extension
DAP	Detailed Area Plan
DMDP	Dhaka Metropolitan Development Plan
DNCC	Dhaka North City Corporation
DoE	Department of Environment
DPHE	Department of Public Health Engineering
DSCC	Dhaka South City Corporation
DWASA	Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority
FSM	Faecal Sludge Management
GoB	Government of Bangladesh
ICDDR,B	International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease and Research, Bangladesh
IEDCR	Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research
I/NGO	International and National NGO
ITN	International Training Network Center
IWMI	International Water Management Institute
JMP	Joint Monitoring Program
LGD	Local Government Division
LGED	Local Government Engineering Department
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoEF	Ministry of Environment and Forest
MoHA	Ministry of Home Affairs
MoLGRD&C	Ministry of Local Government Rural Development and Co-operatives
NFWSS	National Forum for Water Supply and Sanitation
NGO	Non-Government Organization
RAJUK	Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha
TFO	Treatment Facilities Operator
WASA	Water Supply and Sewerage Authority
WEDC	Water, Engineering and Development Centre, Loughborough University

## Terms and Definitions

**Faecal sludge:** Sludge removed from all kinds of on-site sanitation systems such as septic tanks, aqua privies, pit latrines, community multiple pit system, etc.

**Septage:** Faecal sludge (settled solids, scum and liquid) that accumulates in septic tanks.

**Sewage Sludge:** Sludge generated at the sewage treatment plants as a result of sewage digestion process is termed as sewage sludge. Sewage sludge is often more problematic than faecal sludge from household toilet facilities because it contains contaminants from industrial wastewaters.

**Septic Tank:** A watertight, multi-compartment, usually sub-surface receptacle that receives sewage from houses or other buildings and is designed to separate and store the solids and partially digest the organic matter in the sewage.

**Onsite Sanitation System:** Sanitation infrastructures that are designed to collect, store and dispose of human excreta at the household premises and include septic tank system and various types of pit latrines.

**Desludging:** This refers to the process of cleaning or removing the accumulated sludge/ septage from a septic tank, pit latrine or wastewater treatment facility.

**Domestic Sewage:** Wastewater composed of untreated human waste coming from residential and commercial sources. Domestic sewage does not include industrial and/or hazardous wastes.

**Sewerage system:** A system of sewers that collects and conveys wastewater to a treatment plant for treatment prior to disposal point. It includes all infrastructures for collecting, transporting, and pumping sewage.

**Faecal Sludge Management:** Also known as septage management, FSM includes the various technologies and mechanisms for collection, transportation, treatment and disposal of sludge produced by septic tanks, pit latrines, and wastewater treatment plants.

**Biosolids:** This usually refers to treated faecal sludge or byproduct of the treatment of domestic sewage in a sewage treatment plant. Biosolids consist primarily of digested organic matter and dead microbes and can be used as organic fertilizer or soil conditioner.

# Context

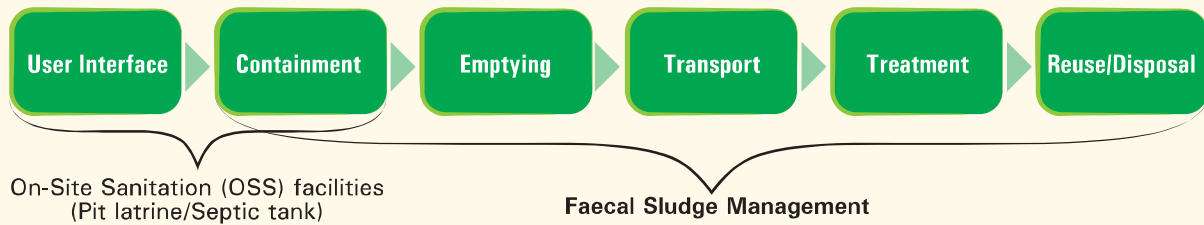
In Bangladesh, on-site sanitation is prevalent throughout the country except for a small portion in Dhaka city, and the huge quantity of faecal sludge generated in septic tanks and pits (of pit/pour-flush latrines) is inaptly managed. Lack of Faecal Sludge Management (FSM) services is causing severe environmental pollution, particularly in urban areas, affecting both public health and economy. Apart from Dhaka North and Dhaka South City Corporations, currently there are 9 more City Corporations in the country namely Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Sylhet, Rangpur, Comilla, Narayanganj and Gazipur. According to Local Government (City Corporation) Act 2009, the Government of Bangladesh may establish new city corporations by transforming existing Paurashava towns considering factors that include, among others, existing population, population density, local income source, economic importance, potentials for infrastructure development and expansions, existing Paurashava income and public opinion.

All these 9 City Corporation areas completely depend on on-site sanitation system, which primarily include septic tank system, and different forms of pit latrines. The middle- and high-income areas of the city are mostly covered by septic tank system (consisting of septic and soakage pit). However, with increasing population density, high level of water use and wastewater generation, the septic tanks are unable to remove solids from wastewater effectively and getting filled quickly; the soakage pits are unable to drain the huge volumes of septic tank effluent into the subsurface, and thus overflowing of septic tanks and soakage pits are common.

Discharging domestic sewage into the storm drains in order to drain the generated sewage/wastewater away from their neighborhood has become a common practice. In many instances, domestic sewage/wastewater is directly discharged into storm sewers without carrying them through septic tanks. Therefore, raw sewage generated from these areas are now flowing through storm drains; together with storm water these are being discharged into khals and low-lying areas within the city and that eventually drain into nearby rivers. This is causing massive environmental pollution and creating serious health hazards, the effects of which are being felt within the city and beyond.

In slums and low-income communities, different forms of pit latrines are the most common form of on-site sanitation system; septic tank system is also present in some areas. Slums and low-income communities are primarily located in fringe areas and low-lying areas within the city. Due to space and resource constraints, a single latrine is often shared by many families. As a result, the pits (or septic tanks) are filled up quickly with faecal matter. Therefore, without desludging, these toilets become unusable. This is seriously affecting the sustainability of sanitation services in slums and low income areas.

FSM system include the on-site sanitation facilities, and the FSM service chain (from emptying to treatment-disposal), as shown in Fig. 1. While septic tank system and different form of pit latrines are predominant sanitation systems in city corporation areas, they are often poorly designed, constructed and maintained. Often, septic tanks are designed/ constructed (typically by masons) without considering the number of toilet users, and no desludging frequency is assigned with the design. Proper inlet and outlet devices are not provided in septic tanks. In many cases, soakage pits for disposal of septic tank effluent are absent. Although properly designed twin off-set pit pour-flush toilets are very convenient with respect of faecal sludge management, this technology is not yet widely used due to lack of awareness.



**Figure 1: Components of faecal sludge management system**

There is no scheduled desludging of pit/septic tanks. Pits and septic tanks are typically deslugged/emptied when they begin to overflow. Manual desludging is common, although limited mechanical desludging facilities are available in some large cities. The existing desludging processes (both manual and mechanical) have limitations with regard to effective/complete cleaning of pits/septic tanks; the location and design of septic tanks and pits often make it difficult to access and desludge these facilities. Occupational health and safety of manual emptiers remains a major concern. The emptied faecal sludge is often disposed in nearby drains, low lying areas or water bodies.

There is lack of awareness across the spectrum regarding FSM and its importance in the protection of public health and the environment. The City Corporations, particularly the newer ones have limited capacity, both in terms of resources and trained manpower; there is no separate unit/division in city corporation organogram for FSM. While, according to the Local Government (City Corporation) Act 2009, the city corporations are responsible for FSM services, involvement and support of all stakeholders (including the government, non-government organizations, development partners, research organizations, civil society and the media) are needed for raising awareness, development of FSM infrastructure, and effective delivery of FSM services.

# Objectives and Scope of FSM Framework

The primary objective of this FSM framework is to facilitate implementation of FSM services in all City Corporation areas (other than DNCC and DSCC). Specifically, this framework would

- (a) identify ways and means of implementing FSM services in the City Corporations; and
- (b) define specific roles and responsibilities of various institutions and stakeholders, particularly that of the City Corporations, for effective implementation of FSM.

The institutional roles and responsibilities specified in this framework are based primarily on the provisions of the Local Government (City Corporation) Act 2009, which guides and regulates the roles and responsibilities of all city corporations. The City Corporations/LGD may formulate necessary rules, regulations or by-laws (within the framework of the City Corporation Act 2009), if needed, for carrying out the specific roles and responsibilities outlined in this framework.

Only on-site sanitation facilities and areas served by such facilities would fall under the purview of the FSM framework. If network or conventional sewerage system (including treatment plants) of wastewater/sewage management is introduced in the City Corporation areas or in parts of the cities, this framework would not apply to those parts of the cities. However, “Small Bore Sewerage (SBS)” system associated with septic tank effluent disposal may be introduced in the City Corporation areas within the purview of this framework.

## Participating Institutions

An appropriate institutional arrangement is a prerequisite for effective Faecal Sludge Management. It is important that institutions are identified for specific roles and responsibilities depending on existing local conditions, skill, strength and commitment of institutions for an effective, safe and sustainable FSM system. Since the entire FSM service chain is interlinked, it is important that the roles and responsibilities of institutions are clearly defined, integrated and are coordinated.

In view of the above, the following institutions have been identified for playing effective roles in the overall planning, development, implementation, practice, and monitoring and evaluation of Faecal Sludge Management (FSM) in all city corporation areas.

**(a) Ministries**– to endorse this FSM framework; secure funding; technical support through respective line agencies (DPHE, LGED, WASA); initiate inclusive planning and execution of FSM; ensure enforcement of laws, policies, strategies and guidelines; and **monitoring through the National Forum for Water Supply and Sanitation (NFWSS)**.

- Local Government Division, Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives : **Lead Ministry**
- Ministry of Environment and Forest
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- Ministry of Agriculture
- Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock
- Ministry of Housing and Works
- Ministry of Water Resources
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Information
- Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources
- Ministry of Industries
- Ministry of Shipping
- Ministry of Railways
- Ministry of Land
- Ministry of Home Affairs
- Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs

**(b) Local Government Institutions and Line Agencies**– to implement the entire FSM system.

- City Corporations– **primary responsibility of FSM**
- WASAs (in Chittagong, Rajshahi and Khulna City Corporations) – supporting role
- DPHE– supporting role
- LGED– supporting role
- City Development Authorities

**(c) Institutions participating in capacity building** – to provide research support to fill the knowledge gaps, technical assistance, training, quality assurance of process and products (e.g., compost) in the FSM service chain.

- Ministries and relevant line agencies
- ITN-BUET, relevant universities, research organizations
- BARI, BRRI, BARC, SDRI, IEDCR, ICDDR,B
- International research/training organizations (e.g., Sandec, EAWAG, WEDC, AIT, IHE, IWMI)
- DPHE, LGED
- Development partners
- I/NGOs
- Private Sector

**(d) Institutions participating in awareness building**– to support awareness campaign, promote private sector participation, demonstration of FSM business models, performance monitoring, technical assistance, R&D support and funding.

- Ministries and relevant line agencies
- Bangladesh Urban Forum
- Development partners
- I/NGOs
- Civil Society Organizations, CBOs
- Research organizations/universities
- Print, electronic and social media
- Private sector

# Distribution of Institutional Roles and Responsibilities

## Section 4.1: Overview of Existing Rules and Regulations

Clause 41 of the Local Government (City Corporation) Act 2009, hereinafter referred to as City Corporation Act 2009, mentions the responsibilities and functions of a City Corporation and refers to Schedule 3 for the details of its functions.

Schedule 3 of the City Corporation Act 2009, in its Sub-clause 1.4 under Clause 1, clearly mentions that *“The City Corporation shall make adequate arrangements for the collection and removal of refuse from all public streets, public latrines, urinals, drains, and all buildings and land within the jurisdiction of the city corporation”*.

Sub-clause 1.8 of Schedule 3 of the Act states that *“the City Corporation shall provide and maintain, in sufficient number and in proper condition, public latrines and urinals separately for both male and female users, and shall make arrangements for proper maintenance of these facilities and keep them clean”*.

Sub-clause 1.9 of Schedule 3 states that *“the individual owners of households having latrines and urinals shall keep them in proper condition and to the satisfaction of the city corporation”*.

Sub-clause 1.10 of Schedule 3 of the Act further states that *“the City Corporation shall serve notice to the owners of households having no latrine or urinal, or having inadequate arrangements, or having latrines and urinals at improper places, to (a) make necessary arrangements for latrines and urinals, (b) change/ improve latrines and urinals, (c) remove latrines and urinals where necessary, and (d) connect appropriately cleanable latrines and urinals to sub-surface sewer network where available”*.

While the term “faecal sludge” is not specifically mentioned in the City Corporation Act 2009 (primarily because this term was not widely used at that time), it is clear that the primary responsibility of management of “faecal sludge” [referred to in the Act as “refuse” accumulated in “public toilets, urinals, drains and all buildings and land”] lies with the City Corporation.

It is also clear that the City Corporation shall perform these responsibilities in accordance with the provisions of the City Corporation Act 2009. However, for proper management of faecal sludge, if the City Corporation deems it necessary, it could formulate necessary “rules”, “regulations” and “by-laws” according to the provisions (Clauses 120, 121 and 122 of this Act) described in Schedule 6, Schedule 7, and Schedule 8, respectively, of the Act.

For example, according to Schedule 7 of the City Corporation Act 2009, “regulations” could be formulated, among others, *“for the purpose of health system monitoring, inspection of lands and households; cleaning and disposal of waste by house owner; installation of private toilets and urinals, maintenance and inspection; responsibility of the public regarding health system, and providing license to the sweeper”*.

The Water Supply and Sewerage Authority Act 1996, hereinafter referred to as WASA Act 1996, in its sub-clause (2) of clause 17 clearly describes the major responsibilities vested on the Authority: *(a) construction, development and maintenance of water supply system for abstraction/ collection, treatment, pumping, storage and distribution of potable drinking water; (b) construction, development and maintenance of sewerage system for collection, pumping, treatment and disposal of sanitary sewage and industrial liquid waste; (c) closing or abandoning of the drains that are, in the opinion of the Authority, not necessary or are dysfunctional; (d) construction and maintenance of storm water drainage system.*



The WASA Act 1996 does not specifically mention about responsibility of the Authority with regard to on-site sanitation system or any activity related to emptying of pits and septic tanks, collection, transportation, treatment and disposal and/ or reuse of faecal sludge from on-site facilities.

## **Section 4.2: Institutional Roles and Responsibilities**

### ***Sub-section 4.2.1: Overall responsibility of Faecal Sludge Management (FSM)***

1. In accordance to the provisions of the City Corporation Act 2009, the “City Corporation” shall be responsible for faecal sludge management (FSM) in areas within its jurisdiction, including planning for and implementation of FSM services (including financial/business model for service delivery). The City Corporation may collaborate with the Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (WASA) where appropriate, the Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE), the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), the private sector, the I/NGOs in planning and implementation of FSM infrastructure and services in accordance with the provisions of the Act. The institutional set up for FSM in City Corporation is outlined in Figure 2.
2. The City Corporation shall take steps to include within its “master plan” (prepared or being prepared in accordance with the provision of Schedule 3 of the City Corporation Act 2009) the provisions of the infrastructure (i.e., treatment facility) for implementation of FSM services.
3. The City Corporation shall form a Standing Committee on “Faecal Sludge Management” in accordance to Sub-clause (2) of Clause 50 of the City Corporation Act 2009. This Standing Committee shall oversee the activities related to planning and implementation of FSM services. Depending on need and availability, the Committee would co-opt a sanitation/FSM expert in the Committee [in accordance with Sub-clause (9) of Clause 50 of the City Corporation Act 2009].
4. The City Corporation shall initiate inclusive FSM planning and implementation modality among the government agencies, I/NGOs, community groups and the private sector.

### ***Sub-section 4.2.2: Proper Design and Construction of Sanitation Facilities and Disposal of Sewage/Wastewater/Garbage***

#### **New Construction:**

1. While approving design of buildings, the relevant designated authority [i.e., City Corporation or City Development Authorities, such as CDA, RDA, KDA) shall check the design of the sanitation facilities (e.g., septic tank), as well as its location/layout (to make sure that it is accessible for mechanical desludging). The provisions of Bangladesh National Building Code shall be followed for checking design of septic tank system (i.e., septic tank and soakage pit).
2. The provisions of Bangladesh National Building Code shall be followed for checking design of septic tank system (i.e., septic tank and soakage pit). For pit latrines, where conditions (e.g., availability of adequate land) permit, the City Corporation shall promote use of twin off-set pit pour-flush toilets since this technology (if properly designed, constructed and maintained) provides a long-term solution to the faecal sludge management problem.
3. The City Corporation/LGD shall formulate necessary rules/regulations/by-laws for ensuring the activities (1) above.
4. The City Corporation may engage private sector/non-government sector in carrying out activity (1) above (i.e., checking design, layout of sanitation facilities).

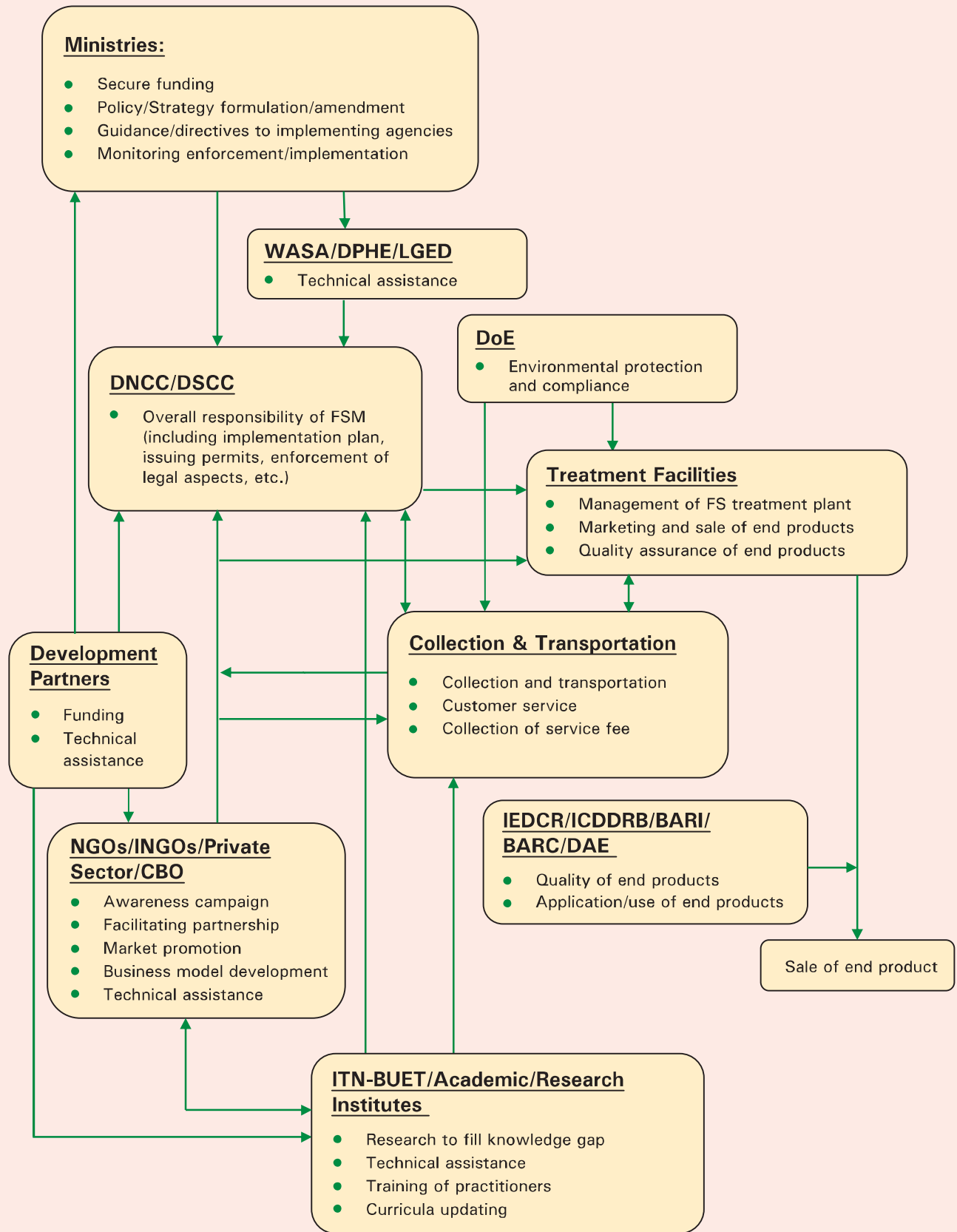


Figure 2: Institutional set up for faecal sludge management (FSM) in City Corporations

**Existing/Completed Buildings:**

5. The City Corporation shall check that the sanitation facilities have been sited and constructed according to the approved design during construction/reconstruction of buildings. In case of non-compliance, the City Corporation shall instruct the owner to re-construct the sanitation facilities following the approved design.
6. The City Corporation shall serve notice to owners of premises where there is no sanitation facility, or inadequate sanitation facility, or sanitation facility in inappropriate locations to arrange proper sanitation facilities or remove inappropriate sanitation facilities.
7. The City Corporation may engage private sector/non-government sector in carrying out inspection of existing/ completed buildings for assessment of sanitation facilities.

**Disposal of Sewage/Wastewater/Garbage:**

8. The City Corporation shall carry out inspection and make sure that domestic sewage/wastewater, and discharge from house-drain are not connected to storm sewer/drain or irrigation canal, and that "refuse" (which include faecal sludge) is not thrown/disposed or stored on street or open place (not designated for disposal of "refuse"); these activities are treated as punishable offence according to the provisions the City Corporation Act 2009.
9. In accordance to the provisions of the City Corporation Act 2009, the City Corporation shall ask owners of buildings/premises that are in such violation to discharge domestic sewage/wastewater into a septic tank system (consisting of adequately designed septic tank and soakage pit); the effluent from adequately designed septic tank system (i.e., overflow, if any) may be discharged into storm drains/sewers. Until treatment facility for faecal sludge are built, faecal sludge (e.g., those desludged from onsite sanitation facilities) shall be disposed in a land/area designated by the City Corporation by digging pits/trenches in a ground, and covering the pits/trenches with soil after it is filled with sludge.
10. The City Corporation may engage the private sector/non-government sector (e.g., outsourcing) in carrying out inspection/survey for identifying illegal practices of sewage/ wastewater/ "refuse" disposal, as service procurement.
11. The LGD/ City Corporation shall work with the Ministry of Railways and the Ministry of Shipping to device appropriate plans/programs to make sure that faecal matters/sludge from trains and water vessels are not discharged directly into the environment.

***Sub-section 4.2.3: Faecal Sludge Collection and Transport***

1. The City Corporation shall be responsible for proper execution of the entire FSM service chain, including collection (emptying) and transportation. The City Corporation shall carry out and/or oversee the collection (emptying) and transportation, making sure that these operations are carried out in a hygienic manner without adversely affecting health and safety of emptiers, the public and the environment.
2. The pit emptying service shall include "transportation of the collected faecal sludge to the designated site for treatment and disposal". The City Corporation shall make sure that the collected faecal sludge is transported to the designated site(s) for treatment and disposal, and that the collected faecal sludge is never disposed in open space or water bodies or storm drains or sewers (which is a punishable offence according to the City Corporation Act 2009).
3. The City Corporation may engage the private sector/non-government sector (e.g., outsourcing) for collection and transportation of faecal sludge from onsite sanitation facilities, as service procurement.
4. The City Corporation shall introduce and promote mechanical pit emptying (desludging) services for ensuring health and safety of emptiers and protection of the public health and environment. The City Corporation shall make sure that the manual emptier (traditional pit emptier/cleaner) communities are integrated into the modern FSM services through proper training and support, without adversely affecting their income.

5. The process of pit emptying involves significant hazard, and the City Corporation shall follow/enforce appropriate health and safety guidelines for emptying services. Until such a health and safety guideline is prepared and approved (by the LGD), the City Corporation shall follow available similar guidelines being practiced/promoted elsewhere.
6. In accordance with Clause 82 and Schedule 4 of the City Corporation Act 2009, the City Corporation may fix fees/charges for collection and transportation of faecal sludge from sanitation facilities. If faecal sludge treatment facilities are operational in the City Corporation area and the collected faecal sludge is transported to such facilities for treatment, the City Corporation may consider the entire service chain (i.e., from collection to treatment) while fixing such fees/charges.
7. In order to ensure proper and timely emptying of onsite sanitation facilities, the City Corporation shall gradually develop a database of all sanitation facilities within areas of its jurisdiction, along with probable emptying frequency of these facilities. Once the entire FSM service chain (i.e., from collection to treatment/disposal) is in place, this database would be used for efficient and timely emptying of all on-site sanitation facilities. The City Corporation shall also develop a database of households/ institutions availing the FSM (e.g., emptying) services.

***Sub-section 4.2.4: Faecal Sludge Treatment, Disposal and End-use***

1. The City Corporation shall be responsible for proper execution of the entire FSM service chain, including faecal sludge treatment, disposal and end-use. The City Corporation shall carry out and/or oversee these operations, making sure that these are carried out in compliance with existing rules and regulations (e.g., with regard to disposal of liquid effluent, and quality of end products such as compost), and without adversely affecting public health and the environment.
2. Until treatment facility for faecal sludge are built, faecal sludge (e.g., those desludged from onsite sanitation facilities) shall be disposed in a land/area designated by the City Corporation by digging pits/trenches in the ground, and covering the pits/trenches with soil after it is filled with sludge.
3. The City Corporation may collaborate with WASA where appropriate, the Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE) and the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) in development and O&M of faecal sludge treatment facilities.
4. The City Corporation may engage the private sector/non-government sector (e.g., outsourcing) for treatment and disposal of faecal sludge, and use/marketing of end-products. The City Corporation/LGD may formulate regulations as per Clause 121 of the City Corporation Act 2009 for engaging private sector/NGOs/INGOs/CBOs for activities under Sub-section 4.2.4 of this Framework.
5. The City Corporation may fix fees/charges for treatment of faecal sludge separately, or together with the collection and transportation fees/charges as outlined in Article (6) of Section 4.2.3 of this Framework.
6. The City Corporation shall seek assistance of the Department of Environment (DoE), and the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease and Research (IEDCR) (or any competent/accredited national/international institution) in fulfilling compliance with the existing rules and regulations with regard to installation and operation of faecal sludge treatment facilities.
7. The City Corporation shall seek assistance of the Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) under the Ministry of Agriculture with regard to simplifying the procedure for securing license for using/marketing of compost/organic fertilizer produced (if any) at faecal sludge treatment facilities.
8. The City Corporation shall work with the Ministry of Agriculture to ensure safe use of treatment end products (compost/organic fertilizer) in agriculture, landscaping and other purposes.

### **Section 4.3: “Environmental Police” for Field Compliance**

1. The Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF) through the Department of Environment (DoE) shall ensure that all relevant environmental laws, regulations and principles are strictly followed by all concerned throughout the FSM service chain.
2. The MoLGRD&C and MoEF, in consultation with all stakeholders shall initiate development of standards/ guidelines for enduse or disposal of treated sludge.
3. The MoLGRD&C in consultation with MoEF, MoHA, Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, and other concerned stakeholders shall take initiative to make a legal provision to develop well-trained, skilled contingents of environmental force styled as “Environmental Police” for ensuring field compliance of laws, regulations, safety standards and policy guidelines with provisions of instant penalties to be decided by the ministries concerned.

### **Section 4.4: Capacity Building, Training and Research**

1. The institutions identified in Chapter 3.0 (as participating institutions for capacity building) would provide support to fill the knowledge gaps, technical assistance, training, quality assurance of processes and products (e.g., compost) in the FSM service chain.
2. The Ministry of LGRD&C would take steps for setting up Unit/Division for FSM in the City Corporation organogram, for effective delivery of FSM services.
3. The Ministries (listed in Chapter 3) and line organizations, research and training institutions, development partners, and I/NGOs would provide support to develop/enhance skills of personnel of City Corporations and other stakeholders, and to fill the knowledge gaps with regard to FSM.
4. National level research and training organizations (e.g., ITN-BUET, technical and agricultural universities/institutes/centers) would collaborate with relevant international research/ training organizations/institutions/universities, I/NGOs and the private sector in capacity building, training and research on FSM. The Ministries of the GoB and the development partners shall support such initiatives.
5. The LGD of the MoLGRD&C shall coordinate, and develop guidelines for capacity building, research and training initiatives on FSM, and facilitate sharing and dissemination of knowledge/ information on FSM among City Corporations.

### **Section 4.5: Awareness Building**

1. The institutions identified in Chapter 3.0 (as participating institutions for awareness building) will support awareness campaign, promote private sector participation, and demonstration of FSM business. The relevant Ministries (listed in Chapter 3) and line organizations would support awareness building campaigns on FSM.
2. Local, national and international NGOs/CBOs, with support from the Government Ministries, research organizations and development partners shall play the key role in raising public awareness on FSM and facilitating partnership among key stakeholders including the private sector.
3. The civil society organizations would also work with I/NGOs and research organizations (for support on technical issues) in sensitizing the public on FSM through use of print, electronic and social & mass media.

## **Section 4.6: Technical Assistance and Funding Support**

1. The GoB will increase funding support and provide other assistance (e.g., securing land for construction of treatment facility) for development of FSM infrastructure in the City Corporations.
2. Development partners, multilateral or bilateral, may provide technical assistance and funding support to the City Corporations for establishing FSM services through the MoLGRD&C.
3. The MoLGRD&C through its line organizations (DPHE, LGED, WASA) would provide technical and other relevant support directly or on project-basis in planning and implementation of FSM service infrastructure (e.g., faecal sludge treatment plant).
4. The LGD shall take initiative to develop standards/guidelines for emptying, transportation, and treatment of faecal sludge; operation and maintenance (O&M) of faecal sludge treatment plant; disposal of effluent from faecal sludge treatment facilities, quality control/ standardization of treated products/by-products; and protocol for securing license for using/marketing of compost/ organic fertilizer produced (if any) at faecal sludge treatment facilities.



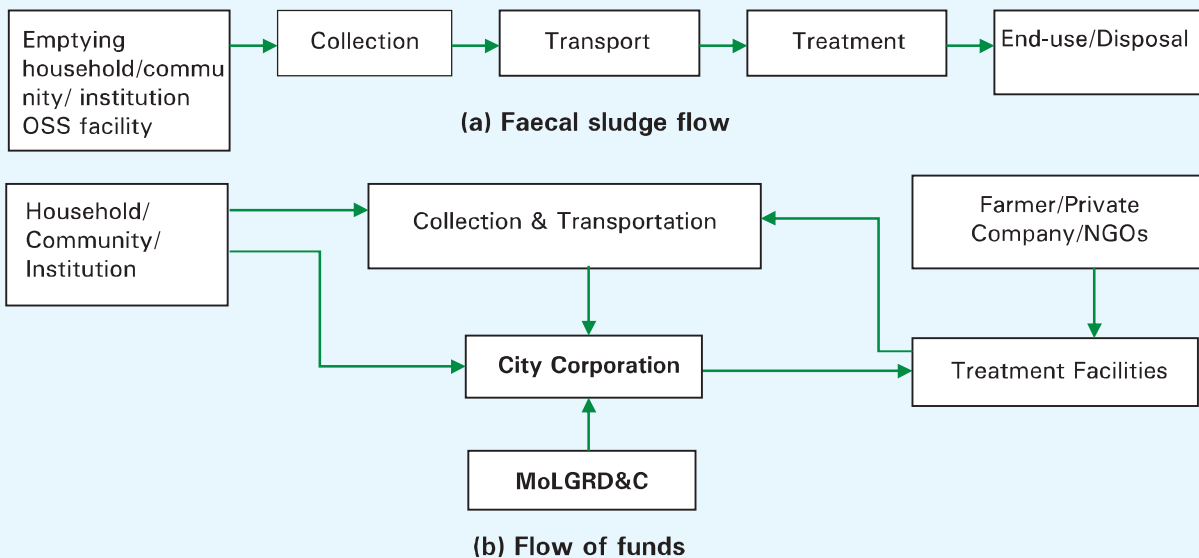
## Financial Aspects of FSM Service Chain

### Section 5.1: Cost of FSM Services

Faecal sludge management system involves different activities e.g. emptying, transport, treatment, and disposal and/or enduse and therefore there is cost involvement at each step of activities. Some FSM infrastructure, such as treatment plant and vacutugs require considerable investment; therefore support from the Government would be required for these facilities. Other expenses, including emptying and transportation of faecal sludge, and regular operation and maintenance should be supported from fees/charges from service recipients. City Corporations shall collaborate with LGD for establishment of major FSM infrastructure (e.g., treatment plant, vacutugs), and develop appropriate “business models” for delivery of FSM services with contribution/ fees/ charges from service recipients in due course.

### Section 5.2: A Proposition of Fund Flow for FSM Services

Flow of funds from one step to another has to be considered carefully so that the FSM services are sustained. Considering the existing situation of faecal sludge management in a city, and the level of awareness among different stakeholders of the importance of FSM, a financial flow approach for the FSM service chain can be considered as suggested below (Figure 3).



**Figure 3:** (a) Direction of sludge flow from HH to enduse/ disposal of treated sludge  
(b) Direction showing flow of money from different stakeholders for FSM service chain

In the above approach the fund flow starts from HH/Community/Institution (both public and private), the collection points of faecal sludge. Payment by HH/Community/Institution is divided into two channels– to collection and transportation service provider as septic tank/ pit emptying fee, and to the City Corporations as sanitation tax/charge along with holding tax to cover all other expenses including FS treatment. The emptying fee will be determined based on volumetric pumping rate, and other considerations as may be determined by the City Corporation; sanitation tax/charge can be determined based on water use or more conveniently on flat rate proportionate to holding tax and should be worked out through consultation by the City Corporation, MoLGRD&C and concerned stakeholders. This two-channel payment mode will help support the low income

people in slums, as in most cases sanitation tax/charge will be subsidized or fully waived and will be covered by government funds to city corporations to cover FS treatment and other expenses.

An important feature of the above fund flow approach is the direction of the fund transfer to the treatment facilities. Treatment facilities will pay the collection and transportation service provider a discharge incentive to dump collected sludge at the FS treatment plant. The financial incentive here is used to encourage socially desirable behavior i.e., to encourage sludge collection and discharge at the treatment plant and reduce illegal discharge. With this approach the collection and transportation service provider would only have to recover a portion of the total operating costs from the emptying fee and the remaining portion would be made up by the discharge incentive from the treatment facility. As a result, the collection service would be more affordable for poorer households, more sludge would be collected, less sludge would be discharged to the environment and the community as a whole would benefit.

Treatment facilities will receive funds from the City Corporation, part of the sanitation taxes/charges collected, to cover treatment plant operation and management expenses. The City Corporation will charge fee for permits/licenses for collection and transportation. Treatment facilities may also receive price of end products from private enterprises or NGOs engaged in marketing and selling of the end product.

However, substantial government support will be needed to fill the budget gaps of the City Corporation, particularly to cover some of the major capital expenditures. This financial flow approach is based on present FSM status and expected to have positive changes in the future with the gaps minimized and FSM services turned out as a viable business.