We are bringing vital sanitation facilities and training to urban communities.

The Challenge

Indonesia has become one of the most urbanised countries in Asia. More than half its population now lives in urban centres.

This rapid urbanisation has put severe pressure on limited basic infrastructure, leading to health and environmental issues related to quality of air, water supply and management of waste and sanitation.

To address these issues, the Government of Indonesia launched the National Program for Community Empowerment (known as PNPM). This focuses on reducing poverty in all Indonesian provinces through a community planning process.

In 2013, the Islamic Development Bank participated in the SANIMAS program (Sanitasi Berbasis Masyarakat – translating as ‘Community Based Sanitation’). This was designed on the PNPM model to help local governments and poor urban communities to plan, implement and maintain community sanitation systems through a participatory approach.

The first phase of the project aims to provide sanitation services in 1,800 locations throughout 46 cities across 8 provinces covering about 14.5 million people, through a demand-responsive approach. Construction of sanitation infrastructure in 14 cities across 100 localities has already started and is changing people’s lives.

The Action

In keeping with the participatory approach, the Lives and Livelihoods Fund will invite communities to discuss, select and prioritise the investment from an open menu including:

- Construction of public bathing, toilets and washing facilities
- Construction of communal sewerage systems and wastewater treatment plants
- Implementation of disposal/reuse systems.

Experienced facilitators will guide the communities in choosing their preferred options. In some cases, the selections will reflect local conditions and other social or cultural preferences.

Community training will be provided to cover community empowerment, social mobilisation, awareness about Water and Sanitation for Health (WASH), and operations and maintenance of the facilities.

The Impact

The continuation of this project under the Lives and Livelihoods Fund will reduce poverty, generate employment and increase investment in small-scale infrastructure projects. It will help increase the use of improved drinking water to 90% by 2020 and the use of improved sanitation facilities to 75% by 2020. Better hygiene practices and physical environment will benefit local population’s health.