

Abstract

Water and sanitation target is one of the most important targets in the millennium development goals. These eight goals were adapted from the United Nations summit which was held in New York in 2000 with participation of more than 180 governments. The eight Millennium Development Goals range from halving extreme poverty to halting the spread of HIV/AIDS and providing universal primary education — all by the target date of 2015(See Annex II). They form a blueprint agreed by all the world's countries and all the world's leading development institutions — a set of simple but powerful objectives that every man and woman in the street, from New York to Nairobi to New Delhi, can easily support and understand. Since their adoption, the Goals have galvanized unprecedented efforts to meet the needs of the world's poorest.

Assessing the cost of achieving water and sanitation target of the millennium development goal number 7 ensure environmental sustainability in Ramallah and Al-Bireh governorate is the main objective of this research. The United Nations defined water and sanitation target as to halve the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation. In this research, the cost is assessed based on higher and more advanced criteria. The total cost was calculated through adaptation of the Millennium Development Goals model which was developed by the millennium team. This model was customized to be applicable in the study area. The model allows its users to study different interventions to develop the final results. The table below shows the summary results (See Annex I, *Summary Results Sheet*)

Intervention	Total cost 2007-2015 US\$	Present Value 2008 Base year, interest rate 5% US\$
Covering 100% of the governorate with water networks	37,210,055	31,742,147
Covering 100% of the governorate with conventional sewerage networks	106,007,547	83,905,558
Wastewater treatment 1st Scenario (high cost)	20,219,003	14,974,624
Wastewater treatment 2nd Scenario (medium cost)	12,389,426	9,100,965
Wastewater treatment 3rd Scenario (low cost)	10,080,613	8,383,230
Hygiene and Education	1, 836, 126	1,571,449