



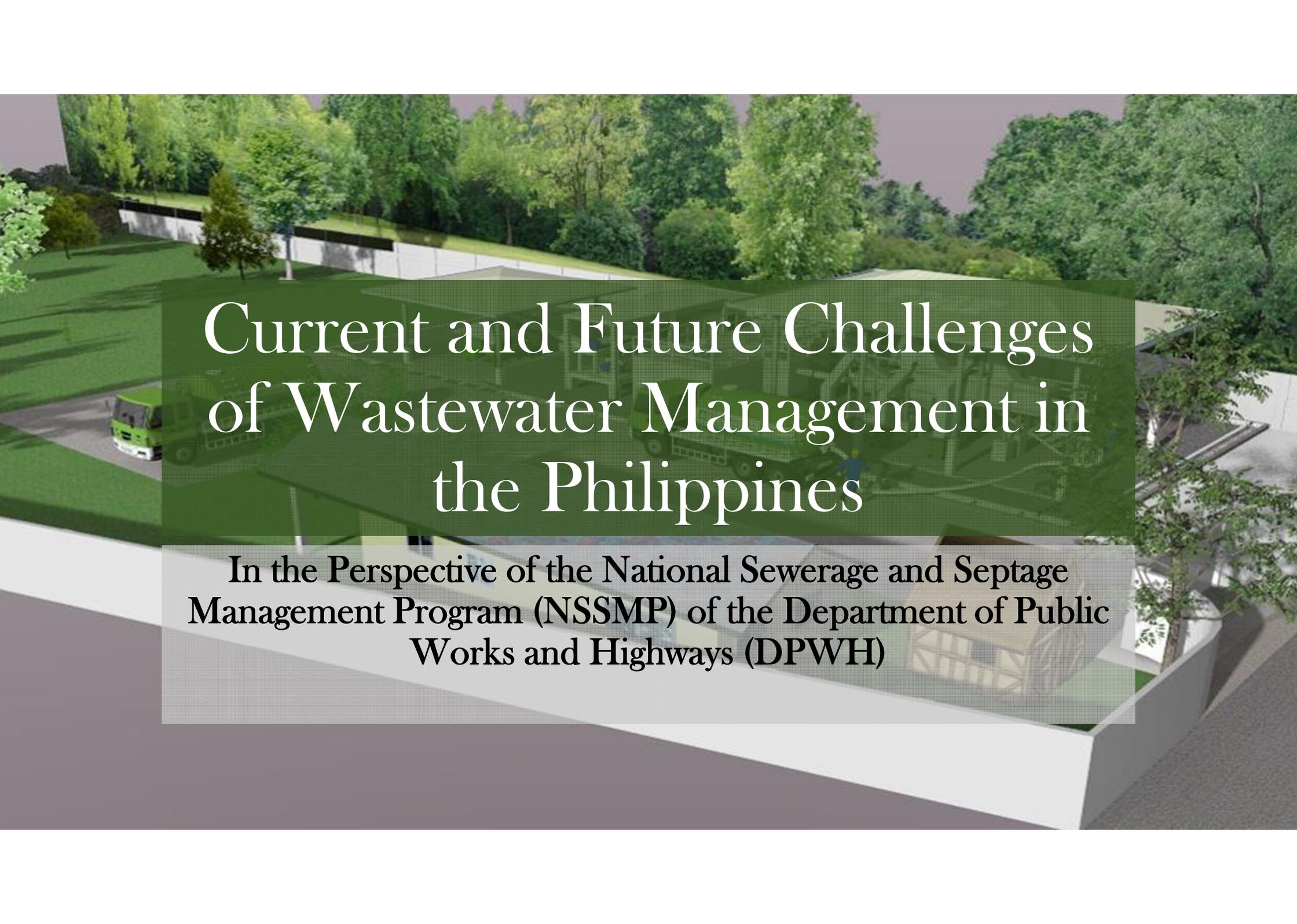
Establishment of the Asia Wastewater Management Partnership (AWaP)

Rosemarie B. Del Rosario, DSD

Chief, Environmental and Social Safeguards Division, Planning Service

Department of Public Works and Highways

Republic of the Philippines

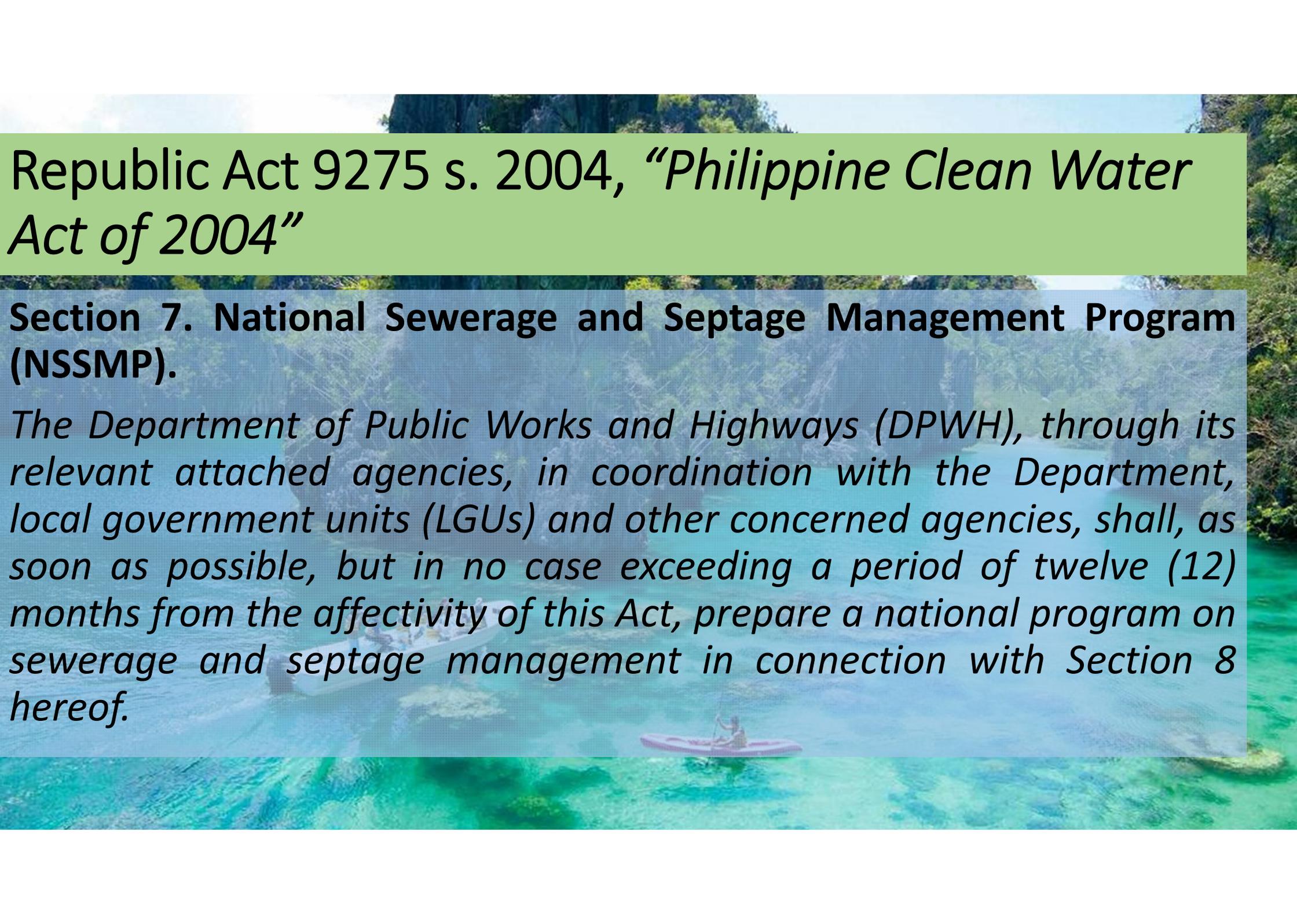
An aerial photograph of a lush green landscape. A paved road curves through the scene, with a small green vehicle driving on it. The background is filled with dense, vibrant green trees. A semi-transparent green rectangular box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the main title in white serif font. Below the title, a semi-transparent white rectangular box contains the subtitle in black serif font.

Current and Future Challenges of Wastewater Management in the Philippines

**In the Perspective of the National Sewerage and Septage
Management Program (NSSMP) of the Department of Public
Works and Highways (DPWH)**



Overview of the National Sewerage and Septage Management Program (NSSMP)



Republic Act 9275 s. 2004, “*Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004*”

Section 7. National Sewerage and Septage Management Program (NSSMP).

The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), through its relevant attached agencies, in coordination with the Department, local government units (LGUs) and other concerned agencies, shall, as soon as possible, but in no case exceeding a period of twelve (12) months from the affectivity of this Act, prepare a national program on sewerage and septage management in connection with Section 8 hereof.

NSSMP Subsidy Coverage

Original

Subsidy: 40% of project cost

Coverage: Sewerage projects only

Beneficiaries: 17 Highly Urbanized Cities (HUCs)

Amended*

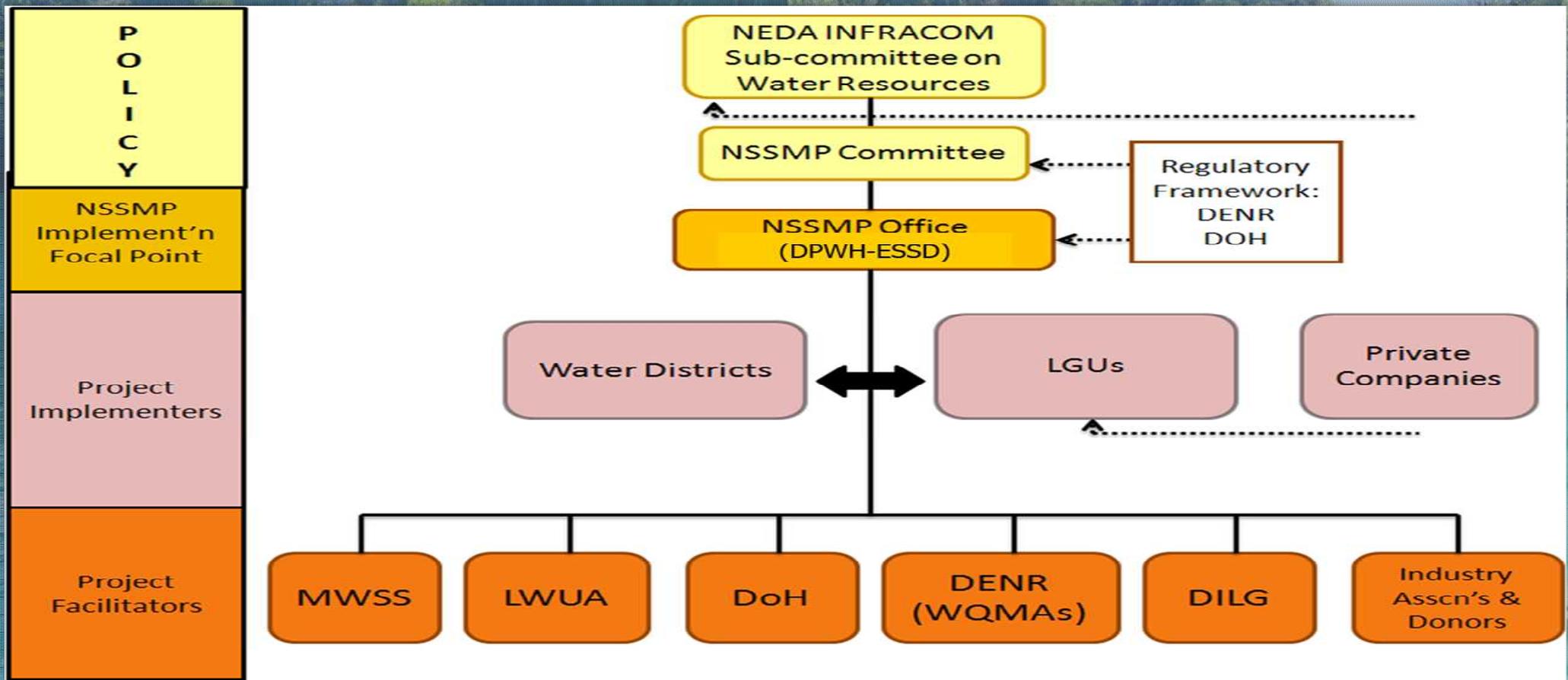
Subsidy: 50% of project cost

Coverage: Sewerage and/or Septage Projects

Beneficiaries: 17 HUCs, non HUCs, 1st Class Municipalities

*Due to the hesitations of the HUCs in applying for the subsidy, and the interest of some non-HUCs, DPWH proposed for the amendments to the Program.

Institutional Arrangement



Status of the NSSMP

Since 2012, the Department has received the following*:

Seven Letters of Intent	Four Application Letters
Puerto Galera	Naga City
Baguio City	Roxas City
Zamboanga City	Cotabato City
Angeles City	Zamboanga City
General Santos City	
Olongapo City	
Isabela City	

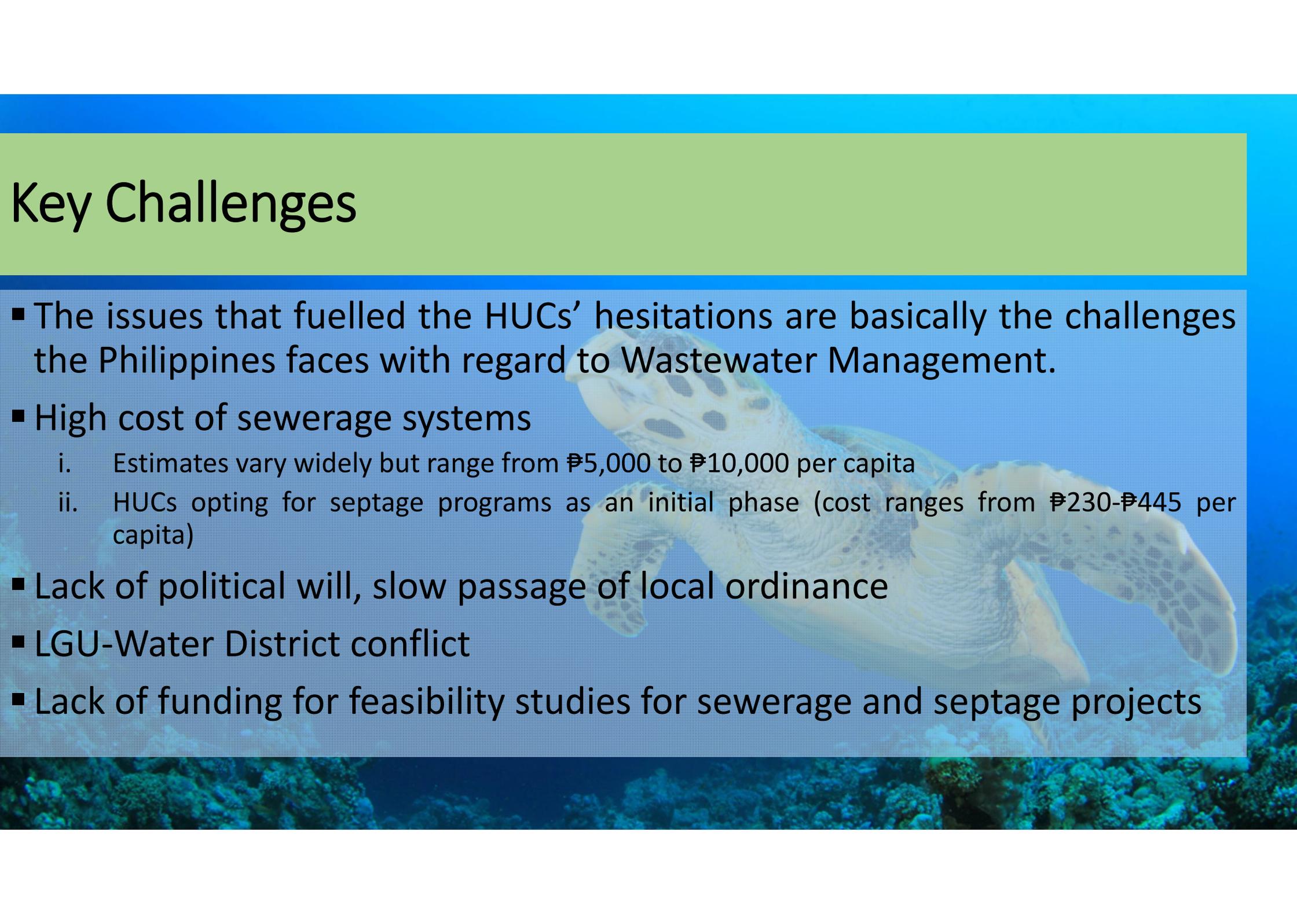
To date, Zamboanga City application is qualified for the 50% NG subsidy

*Highly-Urbanized Cities (HUC)s in **bold**

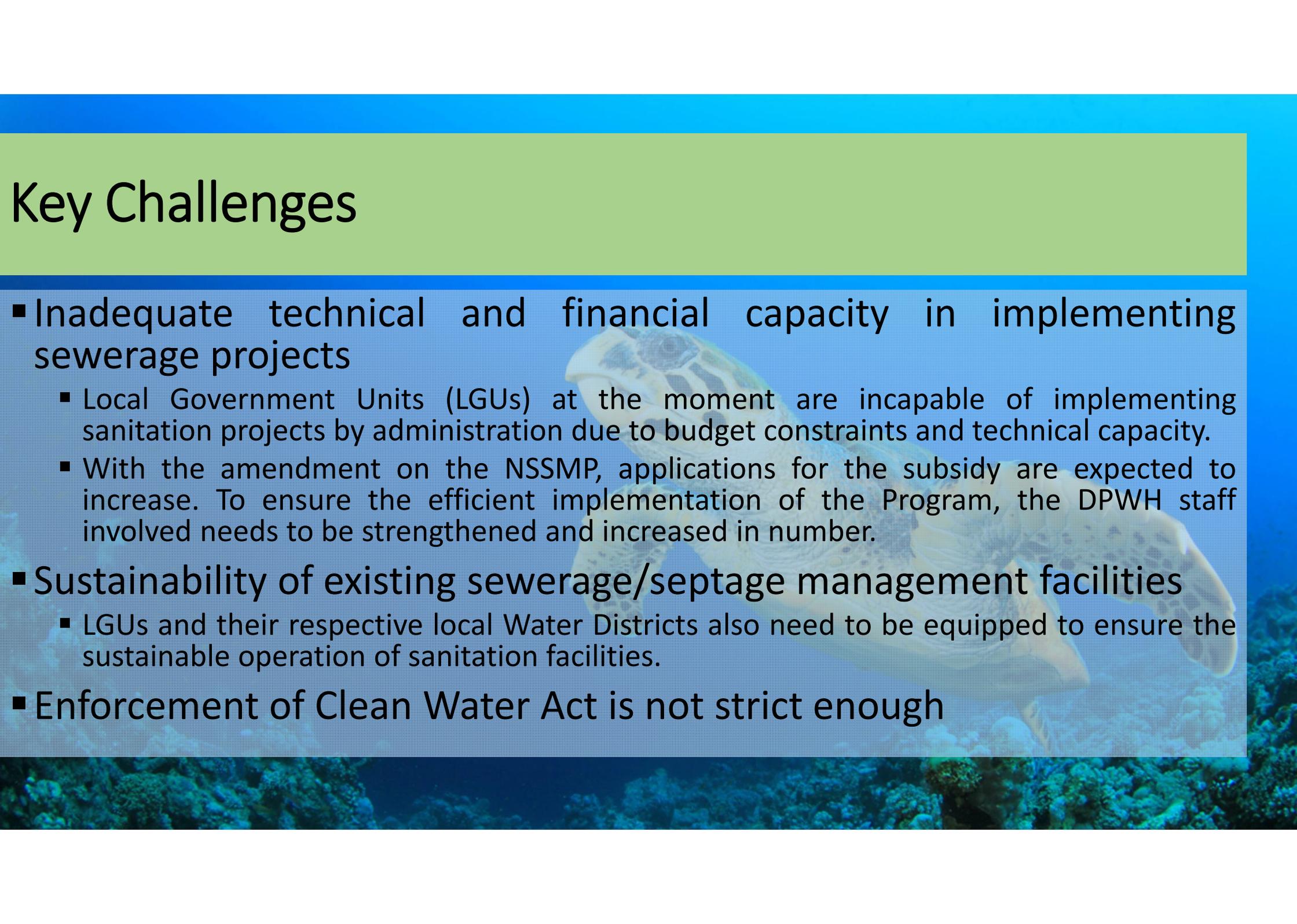


Current and Future Challenges

Key Challenges

- The issues that fuelled the HUCs' hesitations are basically the challenges the Philippines faces with regard to Wastewater Management.
 - High cost of sewerage systems
 - i. Estimates vary widely but range from ₱5,000 to ₱10,000 per capita
 - ii. HUCs opting for septage programs as an initial phase (cost ranges from ₱230-~~₱~~445 per capita)
 - Lack of political will, slow passage of local ordinance
 - LGU-Water District conflict
 - Lack of funding for feasibility studies for sewerage and septage projects
- 
- A large sea turtle is swimming in clear blue water above a vibrant coral reef. The turtle's head is in the upper left, and its body extends towards the right. The background is a deep blue gradient, and the bottom of the image shows the intricate textures of the coral reef.

Key Challenges

- Inadequate technical and financial capacity in implementing sewerage projects
 - Local Government Units (LGUs) at the moment are incapable of implementing sanitation projects by administration due to budget constraints and technical capacity.
 - With the amendment on the NSSMP, applications for the subsidy are expected to increase. To ensure the efficient implementation of the Program, the DPWH staff involved needs to be strengthened and increased in number.
 - Sustainability of existing sewerage/septage management facilities
 - LGUs and their respective local Water Districts also need to be equipped to ensure the sustainable operation of sanitation facilities.
 - Enforcement of Clean Water Act is not strict enough
- 
- A large sea turtle is swimming in clear blue water above a vibrant coral reef. The turtle is positioned in the center-right of the frame, moving towards the left. The background is a deep blue gradient, and the coral reef at the bottom is detailed with various shades of blue and green.

Expectations on AWaP

- The Intended activities of AWaP (Information Sharing & Network, Information Platform and Conduct of Co-Projects) are expected to increase the technical capacity of developing countries like the Philippines in implementing sanitation projects.
- Furthermore, these activities open more learning opportunities through technology transfers, collaborative projects, training workshops & seminars, etc. for the development of sanitation projects.
- We also expect that member countries of AWaP provide financial assistance to the LGUs of the Philippines in the implementation of the NSSMP.

Expectations on AWaP

- The Intended activities of AWaP (Information Sharing & Network, Information Platform and Conduct of Co-Projects) are expected to increase the technical capacity of developing countries like the Philippines in implementing sanitation projects.
- Furthermore, these activities open more learning opportunities through technology transfers, collaborative projects, training workshops & seminars, etc. for the development of sanitation projects.
- We also expect that member countries of AWaP provide financial assistance to the LGUs of the Philippines in the implementation of the NSSMP.



Collaboration Between WEPA and AWaP

Opinions on the Draft Action Items

1. Information Sharing and Networking Through Meetings

- Conducting regular meetings between member countries is a great opportunity to learn from the experiences and best practices of each member country.
- The meetings are also an avenue to discuss national issues relevant to AWaP as a whole and to come up with solutions to address issues specifically on legislation and organization.
- Furthermore, they are also an avenue to negotiate financial/technical assistance in implementing sanitation projects with other member countries.

Opinions on the Draft Action Items

2. Provide Practical Knowledge and Know-how through Information Platform

- Tapping JICA/MLIT/MOE projects as sources of needed information for the web-based platform allows for a more accurate database from which the member countries can glean from.
- It is suggested that JICA/MLIT/MOE be also tapped for the information sharing and conduct of co-projects, since their expertise on the subject matter would benefit the member countries a great deal.

Opinions on the Draft Action Items

3. Conduct Co-Projects to Tackle with Common Issues

- This is a very promising endeavour for AWaP, as this allows developing countries such as the Philippines to learn from and be assisted by developed countries that are proficient in wastewater treatment technologies such as Japan.
- Furthermore, the preparation of guidelines to address common issues will help a great deal in the implementation of relevant infrastructures in the countries involved.



Collaboration between AWaP and WEPA

Collaboration between AWaP and WEPA

- Upon reviewing both Programs, we have found that the AWaP and WEPA basically have the same objective: the improvement of the water environment in Asia through information sharing.
- To prevent duplicity of work, since the WEPA publication is mainly concerned with providing *“the most up-to-date and useful information on the water environment and its management in Asia,”* it is suggested that AWaP focuses on the preparation of guidelines and manuals to address common technical/legislative challenges to project implementation.

Collaboration between AWaP and WEPA

- Furthermore, we suggest that WEPA be tapped as a source of information needed to prepare the AWaP guidelines and manuals. We suggest that WEPA act as the body that will consolidate the necessary information while AWaP acts as the body that utilizes the said information to prepare the guidelines and manuals.

An aerial 3D rendering of a water treatment facility. The main building has a green roof with the word 'FIVE' on it. A green tanker truck is parked in the middle of the facility. To the left, another green tanker truck is parked on a paved area. In the foreground, there is a traditional wooden house with a thatched roof. The entire facility is surrounded by a white wall and green trees in the background.

Maraming Salamat po!
(Thank you very much!)