Integrated Solutions for Water-Stressed Regions
Leh Ladakh, India

With financial support from the
Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

Summary of the case

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Project area

- Leh is a Himalayan town -situated at the altitude of 5000 + meters
- Limited water supply (2-3 hrs/day) for limited months (6-8 months/year)
- Good water sources and good infrastructure in place
- Shifted from 90% dependence on surface water to reverse situation of 90% dependence on groundwater

Intervention

- Decentralized continuous water supply
- Water balance positive
- PPP based Fecal sludge management
- Greywater linked to green house

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Conclusion and recommendations

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- Most of the reported water stressed region is actually more a case of management crisis than actual water crisis
- Except for exceptional cases - incremental approach seems to the only viable approach for poor water stressed region
- Decentralised approach helps reduce complexity
- While maintaining integrated water management view, action can continue as a stan-alone approach
- Cold regions (mostly Himalayan region) of Asia need technology transfer from Europe and other cold regions
- Water and sanitation challenge of the cold and hilly region are technically manifolds more complex and challenging, while access to resources are many folds lesser