

Annual Report

2022/23



**Nepal Water for Health
(NEWAH)**

NEWAH
NEPAL WATER FOR HEALTH

31
YEAR

JOURNEY IN WASH

NEPAL WATER FOR HEALTH (NEWAH)'S 31 YEAR
JOURNEY TOWARDS A HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS NEPAL

Cover Photo

Dhaulagiri, Ma.vi. Ratamata WASH Project (Grant 459) Baglung.

Photo By : Min Bahadur Khadayat



Publisher:

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From the Chairperson's Desk



It is our great pleasure to share this Annual Report 2022-2023 of the Nepal Water for Health (NEWAH) a pioneer organization that has been relentlessly serving Nepal's WASH sector by providing safe drinking water to people in rural areas since 1992 AD. We are very happy to share the fact that, until 2022-2023, our organization has been successful in serving 2.2 million marginalized people in urgent need with quality water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services. As we reflect on the accomplishments and challenges of the past year, I am filled with pride and gratitude for the incredible work that our organization has undertaken in the field of WASH. The 2022–2023 period has been marked by dedication, innovation, and a steadfast commitment to our mission of improving access to clean water and sanitation facilities for communities in need.

Nevertheless, the organization has once again demonstrated its unwavering commitment by ensuring that over 29,354 people in the country gain access to safe and sustainable water, sanitation, and hygiene services this year. From implementing

sustainable water supply projects to promoting hygiene education, each endeavor has been a step forward in our journey towards a world where everyone has access to safe and dignified WASH facilities. Finally, on behalf of the NEWAH Executive Committee, I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude and appreciation to our most magnanimous funding partner, 'charity: water' as well as other donors, concerned agencies of the Government of Nepal, Rural/ Municipalities, the Social Welfare Council, our general members, the dedicated NEWAH staff, and the most important of all, the local communities, and users' committees. Their passion and dedication are indeed the driving forces behind our success, and I am confident that together we will continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those who need it most. Many Thanks.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'K. Shrestha', written over a horizontal line.

Prof. Kapil Shrestha
Chairperson, NEWAH

Director's Note



It is my privilege to present the highlights and achievements of the year 2022-2023 in our journey towards advancing Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) interventions. The 2022-2023 period has been marked with both challenges and triumphs, and I am excited to share the progress we have made in our pursuit of sustainable and impactful initiatives.

Dedicated to the principle of leaving no one behind and contributing directly to the country's 15th Periodic Plan and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 6, "ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all," our team has exhibited exceptional operational excellence in the implementation of WASH projects.

From the planning stage, on-the-ground execution, and post-implementation stage, our commitment to efficiency and effectiveness has ensured that we maximize the impact of every resource invested in our programs and the sustainability of the implemented WASH systems. This year, we continued to reach out to the rural and the most excluded communities in the country, reaching 29,354 people through 65 new WASH projects from various Rural/ Urban Municipalities in Sindhuli, Kavre, Baglung, and Myagdi districts.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated team, whose hard work and passion have been the driving force behind our achievements. Besides, I extend my thanks to our funding partners, viz., charity: water, Rotary International, USAID/KWA, SUSWA, consortium partners, Ministry of Water Supply, DWSSM, beneficiary communities, users' committees, and other stakeholders for their continuous support. Thanks to Executive Committee and members of the organization for the valuable guidance. I look forward to yet another successful year where we will continue to focus on coordination, partnerships, innovation, expansion, diversification, and research and development.

As we reflect on the past year's accomplishments, we also look forward to the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. With your continued support, we are confident that our organization will remain a catalyst for positive change in the realm of WASH in the days to come.

Many Thanks.

Er. Resham Jung Singh
Director, NEWAH

Executive Summary

This year, NEWAH has reached the milestone of celebrating its 31st anniversary. NEWAH continued its support for the development and strengthening of WASH infrastructures in rural areas of the country by working directly with the beneficiaries, building their capacities, and providing them with opportunities for socio-economic empowerment. Furthermore, NEWAH has made remarkable contributions in the fields of awareness creation, capacity building, policy influence, research, and advocacy to secure the need for safe water and sanitation for underserved communities.

In total, NEWAH implemented 2,671 projects in 52 districts of the country, benefiting 2.2 million people from 346,514 households, including 312,616 students, through facilitation and service delivery until 2022-2023 from its establishment.

In the fiscal year 2022–2023, specifically, NEWAH has made significant endeavors to improve the quality of life of the underserved population through WASH services. A total of 65 projects were executed, reaching out to 4,099 households and 52 schools, directly benefiting 29,354 people from the various Rural/Municipalities of Baglung, Myagdi, Sindhuli and Kavre districts. In this regard, a total of 3,527 water distribution points at the community level were constructed to serve 24,096 daily water users, while

the ones constructed for 52 schools reached 5,089 students and 169 health post beneficiaries. Most of the projects used simple gravity flow technology, while the remaining others utilized solar pumping and electric lifting technology.

Based on the financial report 2022/23, NEWAH's total income during 2022–23 amounted to NPR 284,679,225.00 (equivalent to USD 2,206,816; conversion 1 USD = NPR 129.00), an 11.08% increase over 2021–22 income. Similarly, the total expenditure for the year 2022–23 was NPR 283,600,651.00 (equivalent to USD 2,198,455), a 10.66% increase over the 2021–22 expenditure. The increase in expenditure is correlated to the income received during the period. The burn rate for the year 2022-23 was 99.62%. Of the total expenditure, 80.67% was spent on the program, while 19.33% was spent on administration.

Besides charity: water, NEWAH worked with Rotary International in Kavre, SUSWA/NIRAS in Karnali for the development of WASH plans and preparation of Service Support Center guidelines, USAID KWA in Karnali and Sudur Paschim Province to develop WUMP, provide capacity building training and implement WASH systems in partnership with local consortium partner Organization Sharada, Signature Pvt. Ltd.

Contents

From the Chairperson’s Desk	1
Director’s Note	2
Executive Summary	3
List of Acronyms	5
Profile of NEWAH	6
NEWAH’s Geographic Coverage	10
Addressing Cross-cutting Issues	11
Achievements till FY 2022-2023	13
Key Highlights of FY 2022-23	14
Projects Overview FY 2022-23	15
Thematic Areas	18
Sustainable WASH Service Delivery	18
Capacity Building	24
Coordination and Advocacy	29
Research & Development and Knowledge Management	38
i. Conference papers	38
ii. Journal articles on functionality and sustainability	40
Monitoring and Evaluation	45
Human Resources Highlights	52
Financial Highlights	53
Challenges and lessons learned	54
Annexes	58
Annex I: Audit Report FY 2022-23	58
Annex II: Publications of FY 2022-23	62
Annex III: Management Team	63
Annex IV: Executive Committee 2022-2024	64

List of Acronyms

AGM	Annual General Meeting
CCHG	Community Child Health Group
CHAC	Child Health Awareness Committee
CHSV	Community Health and Sanitation Volunteer
DCC	District Coordination Committee
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
FY	Fiscal Year
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
GON	Government of Nepal
HQ	Headquarters
NEWAH	Nepal Water for Health
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NPR	Nepalese Rupee
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
ODF	Open Defecation Free
PMR	Planning Monitoring and Reporting
PPMC	Project Planning and Monitoring and Committee
RM	Rural Municipality
SMA	Senior Monitoring Associate
SODIS	Solar Disinfection
SWC	Social Welfare Council
USD	United States Dollar
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
WSP	Water Safety Plan
WSUC	Water and Sanitation Users' Committee
W-WASH-CC	Ward WASH Coordination Committee

Profile of NEWAH

Introduction

Nepal Water for Health (NEWAH) is a national level non-governmental organization (NGO) that specializes in providing safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) in rural areas of Nepal. Established in 1992, NEWAH has been actively working with local communities to provide access to WASH facilities to people in need, irrespective of gender, caste, class, and belief. NEWAH's first Strategic Plan was developed in 2000-2005. Since then, NEWAH has been continuing to develop a five-year strategic plan every five years. Since the rollout of the National Sanitation and Hygiene Master Plan in 2011, NEWAH has been actively partnering with local governments to secure the basic needs for water and sanitation of poor communities and strengthening their capacity to undertake community development activities themselves. Focusing on the organization's key objectives, NEWAH manages projects and provides technologically appropriate solutions for WASH-related issues. Over the past 31 years, NEWAH has assisted 2.2 million people through 2,671 small, medium, and large-scale WASH related projects implemented across 52 districts. NEWAH has constructed 47,233 community water points and 790 school water points. As a result, NEWAH has been able to establish itself as a credible NGO in Nepal, gaining the trust of the Government of Nepal (GON) at all levels as well as the trust of many local and international development partners.

Our Vision

NEWAH envisions a prosperous and healthy Nepal where every citizen is entitled an improved quality of life and is also able to access their right to improved and safe drinking water, sanitation, hygiene, and health.

Our Mission

To improve the living standard of the people in the greatest need through equitable and sustainable access to safe drinking water and encourage behavioral changes in sanitation and hygiene in Nepal.

Our Goal

To ensure that all communities have access to improved and safe water, to provide hygiene and health education and to promote total sanitation through collaborative projects.

Our Objectives

- To provide technical and financial support to assist the development and improvement of WASH services in unserved areas of the country.
- To enhance the capacity of individuals and institutions involved in the WASH sector to manage sustainable WASH systems.
- To engage in research and development to enrich the sectorial knowledge base and to promote innovations in the WASH sector.
- To collaborate and coordinate with governmental, non-governmental and private sector stakeholders to leverage equitable and sustainable access to improved WASH services and to advocate for policy reforms aiming at sustainable and inclusive WASH governance.

Our Guiding Principles

1. Transparency

NEWAH believes in maintaining transparency and governance in its work including financial practices.

During the baseline survey, NEWAH conducts public hearing for the consensus building towards the project and its activities. Likewise, second public hearing is conducted before tri-party agreement of the project. NEWAH displays the project information in a flex board at the center point of the project site in the beginning of implementation, and install a hoarding board which covers social map, water structures and others information such as budget and expenditure at the end of project completion. In addition, a public audit is conducted at the completion of the project. Community based monitoring tools are used in all NEWAH projects for better understanding of expenditure and progress among the WSUC members and community.

2. Accountability

NEWAH takes ownership of its actions and is accountable towards its working communities, governments, and donors. After project completion, NEWAH carries out follow-up activities including hello monitoring and other WASH system strengthening

activities. The local government and users' committee will be accountable for repair and maintenance after completion as per the tri-parties agreement.

3. Community Management

NEWAH has been implementing the projects with the lead role of users' committees so that it emphasizes the active participation of local communities from planning process to project completion stage. The role of users' committees is ensured for the operation and management after the completion of the projects. NEWAH encourages the users' committees as WASH institutions in local level for the planning, construction, management, operation and maintenance of water supply and sanitation systems to ensure ownership, effective usage, and sustainability of the system.

4. Sustainability

NEWAH coordinates with the local governments for the preparation of WASH Plan so that they can take the ownership for the sustainability of their WASH systems. NEWAH also facilitates establishing operation and maintenance (O&M) funds and spare parts management systems in each project. All NEWAH's project is guided by FIETS (F-Financial, I-Institutional, E- Environmental, T- Technological and S- Social) approach.

5. Poverty Sensitive

NEWAH facilitates identifying the ultra-poor households in the community and has a provision of pipeline digging subsidy for those households. NEWAH ensures no one is left behind from the WASH facilities due to poverty and different abilities. NEWAH ensures women's participation in users' committee and other activities during project implementation.

6. Non-discrimination

NEWAH does not discriminate against any people based on their caste, class, religion, gender, and political affiliations. NEWAH's code of conduct, child



Project Information Board, Aahale WASH Project , Sindhuli

protection policies, anti-harassment policy, GESI policy, and other policies ensure non-discrimination at all levels.

7. Neutrality

NEWAH maintains neutrality in all its activities and programs by implementing its policies and guidelines. NEWAH is not involved in any dispute at the local

level and request local government and local people to solve such problems.

8. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion

NEWAH mainstreams GESI responsive approaches in its organization as well as programs. NEWAH has implemented and adopted the GESI strategy to create equal opportunities to all community members



including women, disadvantaged castes, ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities and other socially excluded to pursue their rights to water, sanitation, and hygiene.

Our Thematic Areas

NEWAH has been implementing projects under the following thematic areas:

1. Sustainable WASH service delivery
2. Capacity building
3. Coordination and advocacy
4. Research and development and knowledge management.

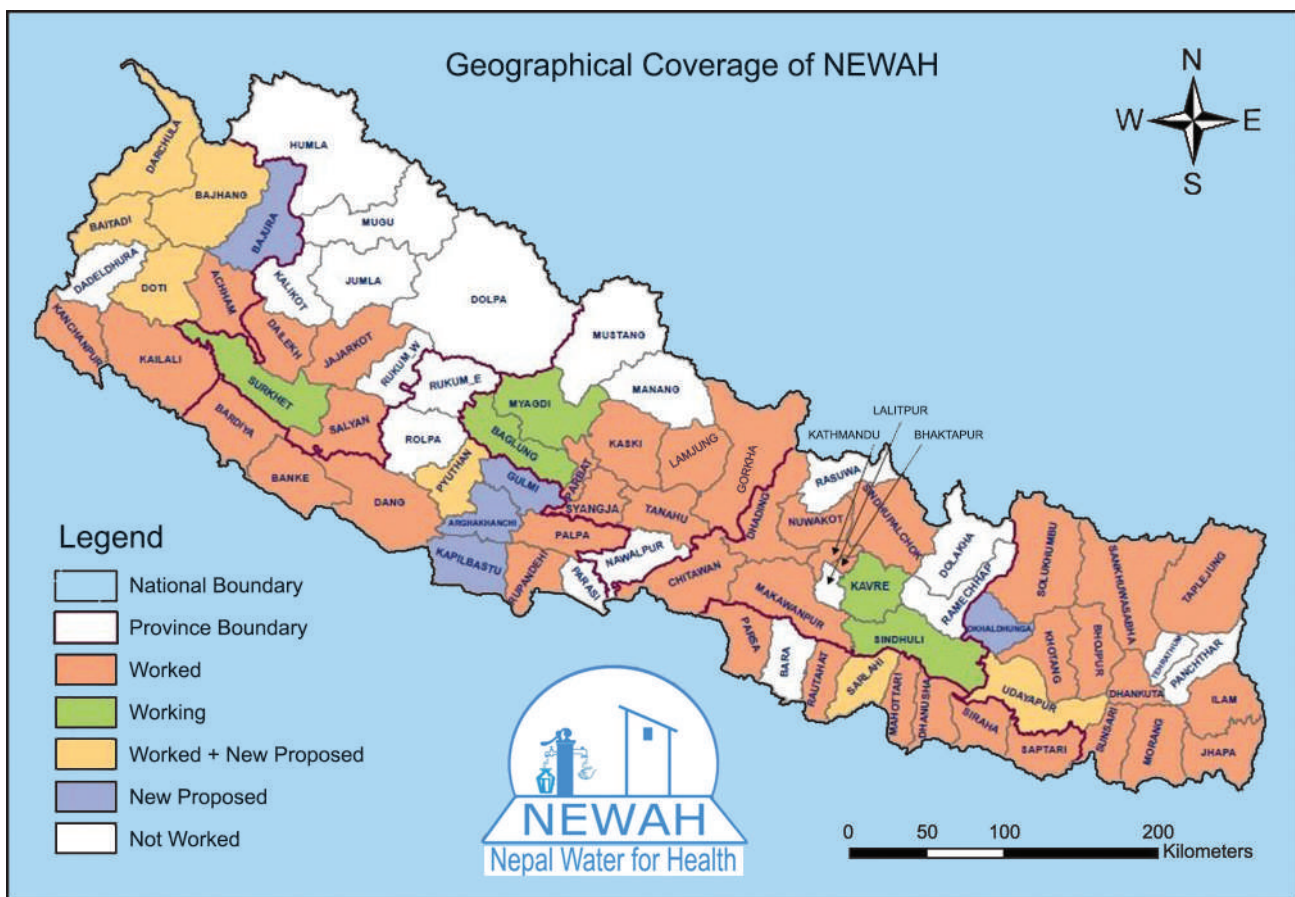
Target Population

In line with organizational values, NEWAH targets those communities who are living in poverty and enables them to improve their quality of life through increased access to WASH services and various livelihood promotion activities. The targeted population by NEWAH primarily consists of women, students from government/communities managed schools, persons with disabilities as well as caste and ethnic minorities from rural and marginalized disadvantaged communities who are deprived of basic water and sanitation services. The unique needs of these people will determine the nature of the actions we undertake. Our approach hereby aims to release women and the excluded groups from existing social, cultural, and institutional barriers so that they can realize their potentials and enjoy the benefits of development. Marginalized communities are identified during the project selection at the initial phase based on the severity of the problem and the socio-economic context of the communities.



NEWAH's Geographic Coverage

NEWAH has been able to make its presence within 52 districts of Nepal since 1992. Based on the available resources, communities need and demand, and capacity, NEWAH adopts a full coverage approach for WASH services within the working municipalities and has a presence in Sindhuli and Kavre districts of Bagmati Province and Baglung and Myagdi districts of Gandaki Province. The full coverage approach depends on the WASH system technology, implementing capacity, and available funds. NEWAH will expand its working districts based on certain criteria like remoteness and marginalized communities, basic water coverage, improved sanitation coverage, and hygiene and health status.



Map showing geographical coverage of NEWAH and its expansion plan

NEWAH strives to reach communities where basic demand and improved sanitation facilities, as well as safe drinking water supply services, have not been met, particularly those of disadvantaged groups. NEWAH is planning to expand its geographical coverage and make its presence in all seven provinces of Nepal as shown in fig. 1. However, it is subject to the availability of funding.

Addressing Cross-cutting Issues

Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction

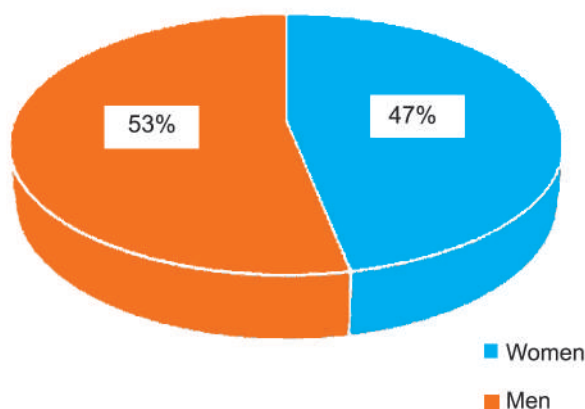
NEWAH is fully aware of the fact that climate resilience and disaster risk reduction is one of the major cross-cutting issues for sustainability of the WASH projects. Based on the experiences and the identified climate change adaptation needs and barriers, NEWAH has constructed WASH infrastructures mainstreaming climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction. NEWAH identifies the disaster risk in project areas and takes measures for disaster risk reduction from the initial stage of planning. It also surveys and designs the climate and disaster resilient structures with proper monitoring and supervision during the implementation phase. NEWAH has also identified the measures for improved water availability and water use efficiency and introduced the integrated water resource management (IWRM) for climate change adaptation. The community awareness on effective uses of water, improvements on hygiene and sanitation behavior, source protection and water recharge, retention and reuse are carried out during

whole projects implementation cycle and follow up monitoring are also carried out.

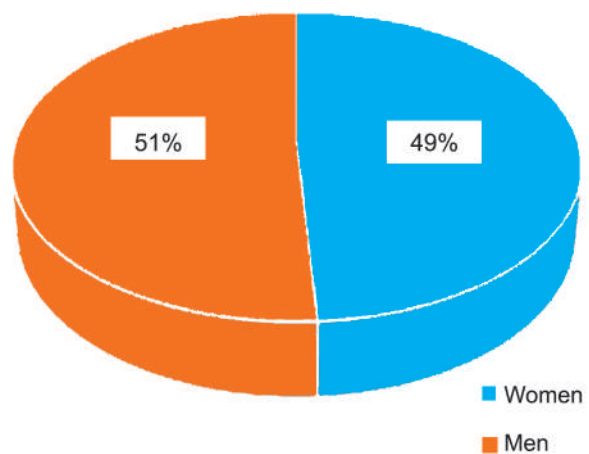
Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)

NEWAH ensures to make GESI the key priority across all its policy and implementation work. NEWAH has implemented and adopted the GESI strategy to create equal opportunities to all community members including women, disadvantaged castes, ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities and other socially excluded to pursue their rights to water, sanitation, and hygiene. The approach aims to release women and the excluded groups from existing social, cultural, and institutional barriers so that they can realize their potentials and enjoy the benefits of development. NEWAH ensures a meaningful participation of women in key positions and representation of the poor and excluded in WSUCs. NEWAH also facilitates WSUC of every project to select male and female caretakers and train them accordingly. Similarly, both men and women are encouraged to engage as Community Health and Sanitation Volunteers (CHSVs). The GESI policy of NEWAH has been revised in 2023.

WSUC Composition of 58 Projects



Caretaker Selection & Trained





A woman is enjoying her private yard connection, Baglung

Agriculture, Nutrition and Livelihood

The use of water for agriculture and other income generation activities can improve the livelihood of people, thereby uplifting them from pervasive malnutrition and poverty. The access to improved water supply is vital for improving the livelihood of the people by reducing sickness, saving time, generating income, enhancing food security, and reducing water drudgeries. NEWAH focuses on the multiple uses of water services for growing agricultural products, cattle farming besides drinking purpose. The access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene including additional adequate for small-scale productive activity in project areas is therefore important as part of poverty alleviation and may deliver significant indirect health benefits as a result.

Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM)

NEWAH ensures equal access for all users to adequate safe water necessary to sustain human well-being and envisions to allocate additional water to gain benefits from productive and multiple uses of water for generating financial benefits. Based on the discharge of water sources and their uses, and the priorities of the community, the additional water in domestic water supply is identified, planned, and developed for productive uses for generating economic benefits. The community would develop an integrated plan to be implemented within entire projects. Some of the options such as micro irrigation, multiple uses of water services (MUS), drip irrigation with water supply, hygiene and sanitation were identified. NEWAH also focuses to aware community making effective use of household wastewater in the kitchen garden.

Achievements till FY 2022-2023

NEWAH has served over 2.2 million people through 2,671 projects implemented within 52 districts of Nepal till the period of 2022-2023. NEWAH has built 47,233 community water points by mobilizing 21,112 WSUC members and 790 school water points. The aggregated participation of women in WSUCs is 42.88 percent. The significant achievements accomplished by NEWAH during the past 31 years given in Table 1. NEWAH's achievements as of July 2023

S.N.	Deliverables	Achievements
1	Total number of projects	2,671
2	Total number of households served	346,514
3	Total people served	2,215,549
4	Total number of water points for the community people	47,233
5	Total number of water points for school	790
6	Total number of school beneficiaries	312,616
7	Total members in WSUCs	21,112
8	Total women in WSUCs	9,053
9	Percentage of women in WSUCs	42.88

Key Highlights of FY 2022-2023

During 2022-23, NEWAH completed 65 projects, reaching out to 4,099 households, 52 schools, and nine health centers, directly benefiting 29,354 people from nine rural municipalities and eight municipalities across Baglung, Myagdi, Sindhuli, and Kavre districts of Nepal with the support of charity: water, USA and Rotary International. The direct beneficiaries comprised 24,096 community people, 5,089 students, and 169 health center beneficiaries as depicted in Figure 1.

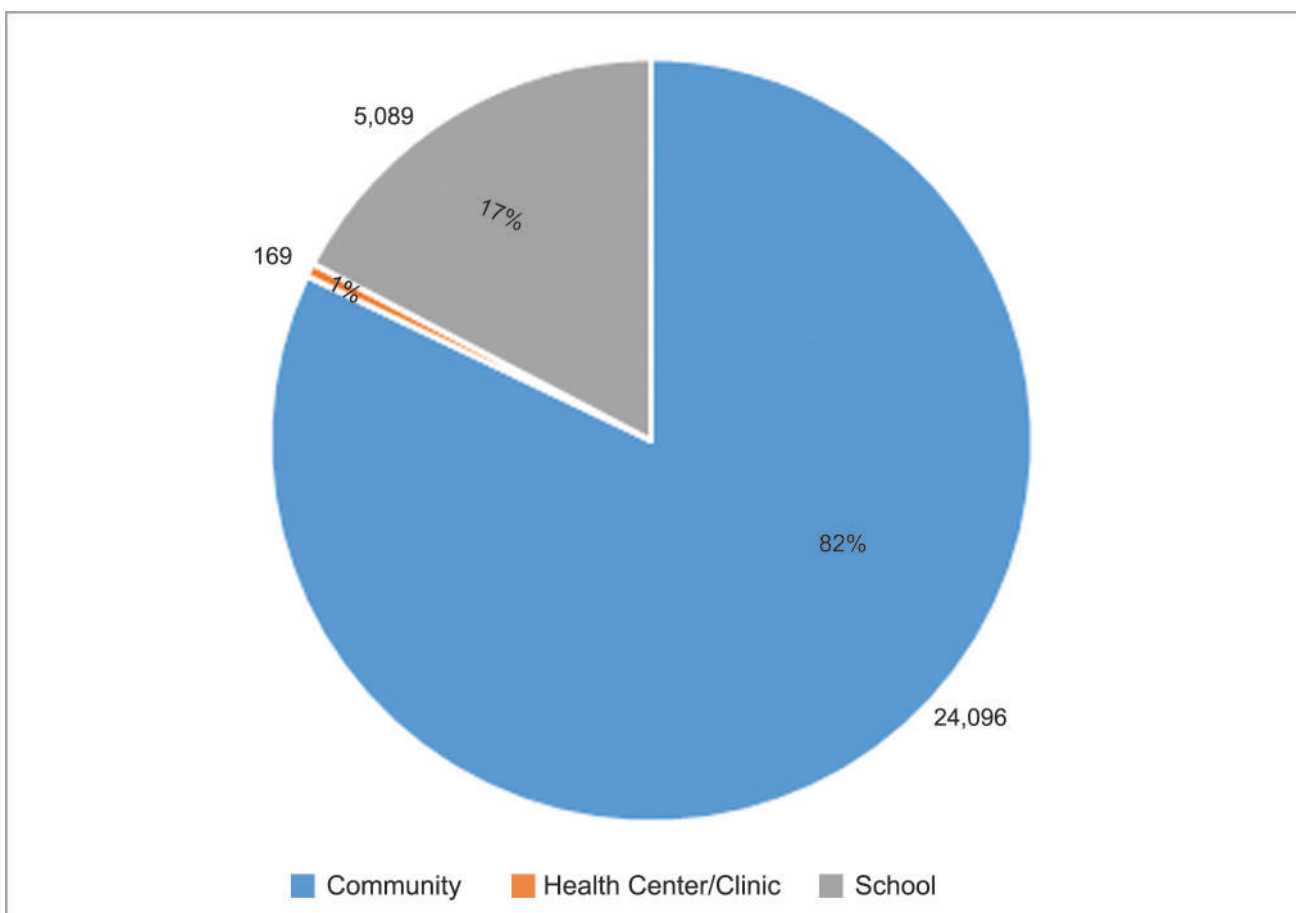


Figure: Direct beneficiaries in community, School, and Health centers in FY 2022-23

NEWAH's interventions were carried out in coordination with the local and provincial governments, building relationships with them and supporting their WASH initiatives. Besides, local actors' capacity development, sanitation and hygiene awareness creation, and promotion of gender equality and social inclusion in the WASH sector were other complementing areas of intervention including key activities such as the celebration of the 31st anniversary of NEWAH, joint monitoring, and donor visit.

Projects Overview FY 2022-23

SN	Project Title	Project partners	Implementing districts	Funding partner	Achievements
1	Increasing access to improved water, sanitation, and hygiene services in Nepal	Rural/ Municipalities and users' committees	Baglung, Myagdi, Kavre, Sindhuli,	charity: water USA	Reached 27,984 people through 64 new WASH projects
2	Access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene services	Rural/ Municipalities and users' committees	Kavre	Rotary International	Reached 1370 people through 1 new WASH project
3	Preparation of water use master plan (WUMP)	DMI Pvt. Ltd., NEWAH consortium	Bardiya, Kalikot, Surkhet, Dailekh	USAID Karnali Water Activity	Prepared 4 WUMPs
4	Preparation of water use master plan (WUMP)	Signature Pvt. Ltd., NEWAH Consortium	Kalikot	USAID Karnali Water Activity	Prepared 3 WUMPs
4	Water Supply System and Source Protection Scheme Construction, Management, and Institutional Support	Sharada, Signature Pvt. Ltd., NEWAH consortium	Surkhet	USAID Karnali Water Activity	9 WSSs completed and final finishing work on going
5	Capacity building training for VMWs	Signature Pvt. Ltd., NEWAH consortium	Mugu, Kalikot, Achham, Surkhet, Kailali	USAID Karnali Water Activity	Trained 78 VMWs including 26 females
6	Technical assistance for WASH Plan preparation	Rural/ Municipalities	Salyan, West Rukum, Jajarkot, Dolpa	Sustainable WASH for all (SUSWA)	15 WASH Plans developed (final report endorsement going on)
7	Technical assistance for the preparation of "Service Support Centre Guideline"	WEL Group UK and NEWAH	Karnali Province	Sustainable WASH for all (SUSWA)	Service Support Centre Guidance Guideline

NEWAH's 31st Anniversary Celebration at Headquarters

NEWAH celebrated its 31st Anniversary at its Headquarters by organizing different activities as mentioned below on 31 July 2023:

1. NEWAH's Achievements and its commitments broadcasted from Image FM 97.9, Subha Din
2. Official Statement released on its achievements and commitments
3. Inauguration of Rainwater Harvesting and Recharging System in HQ by Chairperson and Executive Committee
4. Inauguration of Quarterly E-Bulletin by Executive Committee
5. Discussion on 31st Anniversary: Achievement and Challenges (Brief Presentation from Er. Resham Jung Singh, Director)
6. Observed Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) awareness Video Part – II “खुलेर कुरा गरौं”, Supported by Menstrual Hygiene Management Partners Alliance (MHMPA)
7. Releasing NEWAH's new website

The two NEWAH province offices at Sindhuli and Baglung had also celebrated by organizing different activities at communities level.



Khulera Kura Garau part 2, Para Para Chu

खानेपानी, सरसफाइ र स्वच्छताको क्षेत्रमा नेवाको ३१ वर्षीय अविस्मरणीय यात्रा

वि.सं. २०४९ मा स्थापित भई अनवरत रूपमा नेपालका ग्रामीण समुदायमा खानेपानी, सरसफाइ तथा स्वच्छता कार्यक्रम सञ्चालन गर्दै आएको नेपाल स्वास्थ्यको लागि पानी (नेवा) को प्रयासले तेस्रो दशक पूरा गर्दै चौथो दशकको संघारमा टेकेको छ। कार्यक्रम सञ्चालनका एकतीसौं वसन्त सफलतापूर्वक पार गरी बर्तिसौं वर्षमा प्रवेश गरेको नेवाले हालसम्म विभिन्न निकायहरूको सहयोगमा ५१ जिल्लाका बाइस लाख पाँच हजार (२२,०५,०७३) वासिन्दालाई खानेपानी र सरसफाइको आधारभूत सुविधा उपलब्ध गराउन सफल भएको छ। समुदायको अगुवाई, स्वामित्व र व्यवस्थापनमा सम्पन्न दुई हजार छ सय सतरी (२,६७०) आयोजनाहरूका माध्यमबाट ग्रामीण क्षेत्रका वासिन्दाहरूको जीवनलाई सहज बनाउने यो कार्यले उनीहरूको स्वास्थ्यमा सुधार एवम् जीवनका विभिन्न आयामहरूमा सकारात्मक परिवर्तन आएका छन्।



सहभागितामूलक समावेशी विकासको अवधारणालाई कार्यक्रममा आत्मसात गरेको नेवाले गरीब, पिछडिएका, सीमान्तकृत र बालबालिका तथा महिलाहरूको उत्थान र समविकासमा विशेष ध्यान दिएको छ। आयोजनाको गुणस्तर र दिगोपनलाई कार्यक्रमको मुख्य अवयवका रूपमा लिएको नेवाले खानेपानी र सरसफाइका भौतिक संरचनाहरूको निर्माणमा मात्र नभई सरसफाइको बानी र स्वच्छतालाई पनि त्यतिकै प्राथमिकताका साथ सञ्चालन गर्दै आइरहेको छ। देशलाई खुला दिसामुक्त बनाउने कार्यमा महत्त्वपूर्ण भूमिका निर्वाह गरेको यो संस्था देशलाई पूर्ण सरसफाइ उन्मुख अवस्थातिर अघि बढाउने अभियानमा पनि सक्रिय छ। आज कैयौं आयोजना क्षेत्रका समुदायहरू सफा र स्वच्छ समुदाय घोषणा यही भूमिका अन्तर्गत भएका कार्यहरू हुन्। नेवाले आफ्नो यात्राका विभिन्न सिकाइहरूबाट आयोजनाहरूको अनुगमन तथा मूल्याङ्कन गर्ने विधिलाई परिष्कृत गरी हेलो मोनिटरिङ्ग, सेन्सर प्रविधिकालाई साथै टोल फ्री नम्बर समेत जडान गरेको छ जसले गर्दा आयोजनाको सुचारुपन तथा दिगोपनको लागि आवश्यक सूचना तथा सूचना संकलन तथा विश्लेषण गरी भावि योजना बनाउन योगदान पुगेको छ। त्यसै गरी विगतका अनुभव तथा सिकाइहरूलाई आत्मसात गर्दै आयोजनाको दिगोपनको लागि जलवायु उत्थानशील, विपद जोखिम न्यूनीकरण आयोजनाहरू सञ्चालन एवम् खानेपानी गुणस्तरलाई कायम राख्न जलवायु उत्थानशील खानेपानी सुरक्षा योजना लागु गर्न जोड दिएको छ। यी समस्त उपलब्धिहरू हासिल गर्न सहयोग गर्ने नेपालका तीनै तहका सरकार, दातृ निकाय, शुभेच्छुक, उपभोक्ताहरू र आम सरोकारवालाहरूप्रति नेवा कृतज्ञ छ र आगामी दिनहरूमा समेत सहयोग एवम् सहकार्यको अपेक्षा राख्दछ।

प्रा. कपिल श्रेष्ठ
अध्यक्ष

३१ जुलाई २०२३

ई. रेशम जंग सिंह
निर्देशक

Official Statement released on NEWAH's 31st Anniversary



Celebrating 31st Anniversary in NEWAH's Headquarters

NEWAH Annual Report 2022-23

Thematic Areas

Sustainable WASH Service Delivery

As usual, in this fiscal year 2022-2023 also, NEWAH implemented water supply projects using the appropriate technologies i.e. gravity flow system and lifting (solar and electric) as per the requirement. As usual, in 2022-2023 also, NEWAH used the spring, stream, and infiltration well as water sources to meet the community's daily water demand. Although spring sources were highly prioritized for the projects, stream sources were used where there were no spring sources available or available spring sources had low discharge that was not sufficient to meet the daily demand of the communities. Being highly sensitive to water quality issues, NEWAH aligned with national drinking water quality standard endorsed by Government of Nepal to maintain the water quality standard in its projects and used the water treatment plants like roughing filters and slow sand filters in the stream source projects where there is high probability of water contamination.

Access to safe water from the systems is not enough for maintaining the water quality and health of the community people. Hence, to make the communities safe and healthy, NEWAH conducted various community awareness activities on sanitation and hygiene for sustainable behavior changes through community education on hygiene and sanitation behaviors, home visits, sanitation and hygiene campaigns, awareness on domestic level water treatment process and WASH Day celebrations to meet the indicators set for the declaration of a clean and healthy community. NEWAH endeavored to follow the process as outlined for declaring a clean and healthy community that leads to the total



Electric Lifting Water Supply System at Lamgaun, Baglung with sump well and pump house



Spring Intake Bhuskat, Baglung



Roughing Filter, Sindhuli

sanitation community as directed by total sanitation guidelines of Nepal.

For the sustainability of WASH services, NEWAH followed different approaches, capacity building, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation which are described below:

1) Meaningful Community Participation

NEWAH ensured the meaningful participation of the community people in identifying, planning, designing, and implementing WASH projects. The gender equality and social inclusive WSUCs were formed during baseline survey and socio-economic status of the users were identified to design GESI responsive project by providing certain subsidy to the poor people. In baseline survey, NEWAH's policy and procedures to support the poor and excluded groups during project construction, the contribution of users and local governments were clarified. NEWAH prepared the project design ensuring the participation of all individuals, women, caste/ethnicity, poor and excluded groups from the community based on project planning, The designed projects were then implemented by the respective WSUCs where NEWAH provided technical assistance and provided support in capacity enhancement of WSUCs,

beneficiaries and care takers for the sustainability of the projects and community ownership.

2) Community Managed WASH Projects

All WASH projects were implemented by WSUCs and community people with the technical and financial support from NEWAH and leveraged funds from the local governments. For the sustainability and ownership of the projects, NEWAH facilitated WSUCs and community members for their in-kind contribution. Through facilitation, close supervision and monitoring, and technical support from NEWAH, WSUCs were able to mobilize the community for implementation and completion of the projects.

3) Accessibility of Water

To align with the government policy, NEWAH has updated its policy from community connections to 'one house one tap' policy. To meet the national targets and SDGs goals, NEWAH has been following one house one tap policy and is also supporting government/community managed schools and health care centers with access to safe drinking water in the respective project areas considering the vision of leaving no one behind from the access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation and hygiene facilities.



Training on Hand Washing Practices, Kavre

4) Capacity Building of the Community

For the sustainable WASH services, NEWAH facilitated the capacity building trainings at local level for the project management, motivated and mobilized people for the community contribution, hygiene and sanitation behavior change and capacity enhancement of caretakers for operation and maintenance. Regarding this, in FY 2022-2023, NEWAH trained WSUCs members, caretakers, Community Hygiene and Sanitation Volunteers (CHSV), Community Child Health Group (CCHG) and Child Health and Awareness Committee (CHAC) members, school WASH committee, Climate Resilient- Water Safety Plan (CR-WSP) team members. The refresher training on operation and maintenance was also conducted for the members of WSUCs and caretakers to ensure functionality and sustainability of the projects after completion.

5) Water Quality Assurance:

NEWAH is dedicated on providing safe water to communities, both through public and private water points, and ensures that the quality of water provided meets the National Drinking Water Quality Standards (NDWQS) endorsed by Government of Nepal. Water quality assurance is done through a series of water quality tests during various stages of project implementation such as during the time of pre-feasibility study, baseline survey, project construction, and project completion. In pre-feasibility study, NEWAH ensures the appropriateness of water sources, source location, and potential pollution. In baseline surveys, the quality of water is tested using parameters defined by NDWQS 2079. Additional treatment plants are added to improve water quality whenever required.

In the implementation phase, the Climate Resilient Water Safety Plan (CR-WSP) is implemented, with teams formed and trained to improve water quality. WQ testing is carried out and assured according to GON guidelines. If E. coli is detected in the water, improvements are made to reduce it. After project completion, the water quality parameters are tested again, particularly E. coli to assure that standards are met.

NEWAH continued to provide system treatment plants, such as plain sedimentation tanks, roughing filters, slow sand filters, and chlorination units to improve water quality at water points. These aim to provide safe water to users, protect spring sources, and ensure household-level treatment systems at the point of use.



Water Quality Testing in Mini Lab at Sindhuli Province office



Water quality testing at field using field test Kit, Baglung

NEWAH assures the water quality standard as per the government's NDWQS before the final distribution of water supply to consumers. During the final evaluation of water supply systems, NEWAH tested water quality through the District Public Health Office (DPHO) or its own or other authorized laboratories or individual experts to verify the water quality of the supplied water. NEWAH has established its own water quality labs in its two provincial offices, where the required tests are carried out and the WQ test reports are provided to WSUCs specifying the tested detail parameters. In collaboration with DWSSM and the respective municipalities, NEWAH is planning to establish a mini laboratory at the municipal level so that local people have access to the water quality testing facility at the local level.

6) Sustainable Sanitation and Hygiene Behaviour

NEWAH has been implementing integrated water supply projects that promote hygiene and sanitation. In 2022-2023, NEWAH continued the total sanitation approach to encourage sustainable behavior change in hygiene and sanitation. This involved monitoring and educating the community on hygiene and sanitation through tole education, capacity building of volunteers, child health groups, and school WASH committees. NEWAH also facilitated the construction of hygiene and sanitation facilities like drying racks, washing slabs, and hand washing stations. The communities are oriented to keep water and soap at hand washing stations to ensure proper hand washing practices. Information Education Communication (IEC) materials were distributed to raise awareness on hygiene and sanitation. NEWAH aims to provide safe water to users and promote household-level treatment systems at the point of use to prevent contamination. The WASH related days were celebrated for the awareness and promotion of hygiene and sanitation behavior. Various awareness programs and training programs were organized to mark Menstrual Hygiene Day in all the project districts.



Child Health Awareness Committee Training on Hygiene Sanitation at Salubhanjyang, Sindhuli

7) Productive Uses of Water

The WSUCs were facilitated and encouraged to set the policy of using fresh water as per design of projects. They are responsible for wise use of supplied water by minimizing the wastage and misuse of fresh water which may be the challenge in future for meeting the daily demand. The policy also covers that the overflow water from the RVT and other structures can be used by the nearby users for productive activities



Drying Rack at Asan, Sindhuli

for income generation. They should also have systems of using extra water by carrying water in vessels not by directly using loose pipes from water points. The households were facilitated to promote kitchen garden by using the wastewater from the kitchen, tap-stands, washing slab and hand washing station.

8) Operation and Maintenance Fund Management

NEWAH assisted WSUCs and users in collecting the initial maintenance fund, opening a maintenance bank account, and facilitating monthly tariff payments. The WSUCs were trained on account keeping and the importance of operation and maintenance management fund. The community was encouraged to maintain the WSUC's existence by organizing regular meetings and keeping minutes for post-completion project decisions. WSUC members were also given refresher training for recruiting and paying system caretakers as needed. All 58 WSUCs have collected NPR 4,648,414 O&M fund by end of July 2023.

9) Spare Parts and Tools Management

NEWAH handed over the tools and equipment (sent to project construction work) to WSUCs for repair and maintenance of the post construction water system. The WSUCs were advised for the management of minimum required spare parts for the repair and maintenance of the projects.

10) Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)

NEWAH facilitated WSUCs for preparing the SOP for the operation and management of the project with specific laws and by laws for the functionality and sustainability of WASH services.

11) WSUC Registration at Municipalities

NEWAH facilitated the Water Sanitation User's Committees (WSUCs) to register the user's committee and water source at their respective municipalities. In FY 2022–23, NEWAH facilitated the formation of 59 WSUCs, and out of the total, 23 user's committees were registered in respective municipalities.

Overcoming Disability as a Barrier to Leadership

Danash Bahadur Shrestha, 66 years old, differently abled, is a permanent resident of Bato Nigale village located at Kamalamai Municipality-5, of Sindhuli district. He serves as the Chairperson of the Bato Nigale WASH Project. He has a simple personality with a kind heart and feeling for social work and helping nature. He is always worried about the negative attitude of people and believes in making a positive change in his community.

With the restructuring of the state, Bato Nigale merged under Kamalamai Municipality. Although the village has transitioned from a part of Village Development Committee to a part of more advanced municipality the basic infrastructures like road access, safe drinking water, and electricity remained as unchanged. The administrative restructuring of the country gave the village a new name but their struggle for better living conditions remains as it is.

Danash Bahadur recalled those days, almost 18 years ago, when an INGO provided them with a small fund for constructing a drinking water supply in their village. With that fund, the villagers managed to construct a small intake, a RVT, and a few taps. However, their happiness didn't last for long and the devastating earthquake in 2015 damaged their RVT and left them more desperate. They didn't get any support from the government, or any other developing agencies to revive their water supply scheme so finally despite facing chronic kidney and lung problems Danash Bahadur begged support from his cousin, Prabhakar Shrestha with some hope, who lived in the United States of America. His cousin eagerly offered NPR one hundred thousand which wasn't sufficient, so he also added NPR Twenty one Thousand personally for reconstructing the water system. The small amount remaining after reconstruction work was used as a revolving fund among the villagers, enabling them to take loans for fixed terms with a small interest.

The system wasn't sustainable and faced disruptions during heavy rainfall and dry seasons. He shared how it led them to reach NEWAH for a systematic and sustainable water supply system. Together with the villagers' community contribution, they implemented the water supply and sanitation project.

Danash, despite being physically disabled and a senior citizen, played a leadership role as the WSUC's



chairperson. He convinced the villagers when NEWAH proposed a water supply system with yard connections, and now each household has its tap. The project has transformed their lives as they have better access to adequate and safe water. He says, "Without NEWAH's support, it was impossible to change the situation and bring happiness and joy to our lives."

-Er. Niraj Gurung, WASH Officer,
NEWAH Sindhuli

Capacity Building

NEWAH is continuously striving to improve access to safe drinking water, promote sustainable sanitation, and enhance hygienic behavior among the people. As one of the crucial factors in meeting these objectives, NEWAH focuses on transferring knowledge and skills to local stakeholders through various capacity-building activities.



World Toilet Day celebration, Baglung

a. Capacity Building of Community People

NEWAH forms various community groups to engage people in the WASH project such as Water and Sanitation Users' Committee, Child Health Group, Ward-WASH-CC, Community Hygiene and Sanitation Volunteers Group.

- NEWAH strengthened the capacity of all 59 WSUCs and 6 school WASH Committee formed during 2022-23 for project management, monitoring and sustainability through skill-based training and orientations. Altogether, 589 WSUC members, including 275 female members, were trained/oriented during 2022-23.
- Project Assistant (PA) and Project Promoter (PP) are selected as local facilitator for keeping the overall financial expenses of the project including project management and coordination with different stakeholders. PA is selected by Ward-WASH-CC and PP is selected by WSUC. In FY 2022-2023, NEWAH had trained 19 PA (12 female and 7 male) and 25 PP (13 female and 12 male).
- NEWAH provided orientation to Ward-WASH-CC to build their capacity to prepare and implement the WASH plan, monitor, and evaluate WASH activities at the ward level, and coordinate with local government for financial support for implementing WASH plan and repair and rehabilitate non-functional water supply systems. A total of 30 sessions for W-WASH-CC were conducted in FY 2022-23.



Caretaker Training at Project Level, Sindhuli

- Hygiene and sanitation training was given to 1,128 CHSVs as part of community-level hygiene and sanitation promotion. The CHSVs were selected locally and in an inclusive manner considering gender balance and the representation of different caste, ethnic and socio-economic groups present in the community.



Public Auditing and clean & healthy community declaration, Sindhuli

- NEWAH has been capacitating its partnership along with caretakers of the respective WSUCs. Caretakers selected from WSUCs were trained to ensure continued operation and maintenance of the constructed water supply systems. The skill-based training focused on technical aspects of O&M of water supply systems such as HDPE pipe joining, preparing fittings, threading GI pipes, and joining fittings with other pipes. They were also trained in collecting tariff based on water usage and keeping the tariff and expenses in a financial ledger. Caretakers were selected based on NEWAH's GESI strategy to provide income opportunities to deserving and motivated women and men from poor households and disadvantaged/socially excluded caste groups. In total, 254 caretakers, including 123 female caretakers, were trained during 2022-2023. Beside NEWAH had facilitated formulating the 57 Climate Resilient Water Safety plan (CR-WSP) team and trained 381 members (168 female and 213 male) during 2022-23.
- Total of 392 members including 163 females from 52 School WASH Committee were trained to enhance their capacity to manage school hygiene and sanitation promotion activities. Teachers were also trained to teach the best hygiene and sanitation practices using fun and interactive techniques.
- Children can be effective change agents to promote good hygiene and sanitation at the household and community level. With this realization, 25 CCHGs were formed and trained on hygiene and sanitation related issues with an aim to spread awareness among children of a similar age group. CCHG training has not only been effective in changing the hygiene and sanitation behavior of children, but also those of the adults in their home and community. During 2022-23, training was offered to 231 children including 118 girls between 10-16 years old.



Participation in Technical Audit Training

b. In-house Capacity Building

Various in-house training programs were organized to build capacity of staff in 2022-23. Moreover, some of the team members participated in different trainings organized by external agencies. They are mentioned below:

- Director Er. Resham Jung Singh participated in the training program 'Technical Auditor's Training' organized by National Vigilance Centre, Government of Nepal and facilitated by Institute of Professional Training and Management (IPTM) Nepal from 12th March 2023 to 2nd April 2023 in Kathmandu. The major objective of the training was

to train the senior Engineers to conduct technical audits to monitor and ensure the construction quality and procedures.

- Mr. Umesh Basnet, Research & Development and Fundraising Coordinator, participated in training program 'Locally Led Adaptation and Loss and Damage: A nexus Approach' organized by Independent University of Bangladesh (IUB) and International Center for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) on 22nd-25th June 2023 in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The training was beneficial to gain knowledge incorporating climate change issues and challenges while developing new programs and projects so



Receiving Certificate of Participation on training event on Nexus between Locally Led Adaptation and Loss and Damage

that the projects will be more sustainable. Some of the green technologies used for climate adaptation and mitigation observed during the field trip were very interesting and can be considered while developing new projects and programs. The training program has provided a good platform for coordination with other organizations and individuals. The knowledge shared by them can be used in one or other ways that might be beneficial for NEWAH in coming days.

- 5-days “Training on Rainwater Harvesting and Pumpkin Tank Construction” was organized at the NEWAH Headquarters from 18th to 22nd July 2023. The training was given to field staff of both province offices. Altogether there were 17 staff. The training was facilitated by Soni Pun

of Kanchan Nepal, Gokul Dungal of Best Pani and Prof. Dr. Jib Raj Pokharel, former Vice-chancellor of NAST. The objective of the training was to enhance knowledge of multi-use of water and current scenario of WASH in Nepal in terms of sustainability and functionality, to build capacity of staff to construct the pumpkin tank and impart them technical knowledge and requirements of it. Similarly, the trainees learnt how to construct a recharge pond and gained technical knowledge, requirements, and site selection of it. Also, Rainwater Harvesting (RWH) System was constructed to demonstrate RWH and recharge pond in HQ premises. The Pumpkin Tank model for RWH was adopted from SARNET Sri Lanka.



In house Training on construction of Rain water Harvesting Pumpkin Tank at NEWAH HQ

Coordination and Advocacy

To strengthen coordination and advocacy, NEWAH has given emphasis on improving the local, district, province and central level coordination and influencing policy decisions based on the good practices in WASH and research-based learning of NEWAH. The focus of coordination is to increase the WASH budget through local governments, to engage media for sanitation and hygiene awareness through sector coordination and to support the preparation of the total sanitation action plan for municipalities in selected districts.

NEWAH is a member of different national level committees, namely, Climate Change and DRR Thematic Group, MHM Partners Alliance (MHMPA), National WASH Cluster, and continuously participating and providing its expertise and experiences in the different policy and strategy formulation workshops conducted by Water and Energy Commissions Secretariat (WECS) and other Climate resilient water resources management and WASH related trainings, conferences, and workshops.



Workshop on WASH Plan Prioritization at Palika

NEWAH is supporting to prepare the WASH plan of the municipalities of Baglung and Sindhuli districts. This is to be done in coordination with the Department of Water Supply and Sewerage Management (DWSSM) and the respective Municipalities.

Considering the need for concentrated effort in the WASH sector, NEWAH has been advocating for sustainable policies and programs in the WASH sector and its due prioritization. In 2022-23 NEWAH exhibited its active presence in various advocacy platforms and strengthened its role as leading WASH actors in Nepal.

Various coordination and advocacy efforts made in 2022-2023 were:

Coordination and MoU with District Coordination Committee

Covering the four districts; Sindhuli, Kavre, Baglung and Myagdi, the following coordination and project agreements were signed between a representative of NEWAH and the Chairpersons of the respective DCC at the beginning of the project cycle:

SN	Events	Date	Signatory on behalf of DCC	Signatory on behalf of NEWAH	Remarks
1	Coordination Meeting between NEWAH and DCC, Sindhuli (Sindhulimadi)	29 June 2023	DCC Chair Mr. Karsang Lama	NEWAH's Province Head, Mrs. Maitrai Sharma	MoU signed to implement 20 projects
2	Meeting between NEWAH and DCC, Kavre (Dhulikhel)	29 June 2023	DCC Chairperson Mr. Deepak Kumar Gautam	NEWAH's Province Head, Mrs. Maitrai Sharma	Set the course for implementing 11 projects
3	Meeting between NEWAH and DCC, Myagdi	3 July 2023	DCC Chairperson Mr. Raj Kumar Thapa	NEWAH's Province Head Mr. Ramesh Dahal	Set the course for the implementation of 11 projects
4	Meeting between NEWAH and DCC Baglung	3 July 2023	DCC Chairperson Mr. Amar Bahadur Thapa	NEWAH's Province Head Mr. Ramesh Dahal	Set the course for the implementation of 7 projects

Climate Change and DRR Thematic Group

NEWAH has been regularly participating in the climate change and DRR thematic working group meetings and providing its expertise and feedback whenever needed. The thematic group is led by the Department of Water Supply and Sewerage Management (DWSSM) and co-led by UNICEF Nepal.

Coordination and Advocacy with Municipalities

a) Coordination meeting for WASH Plan preparation, Phikkal RM

A coordination meeting in Phikkal RM was organized on 21st November 2022. At the meeting, Province Head Ms. Maitrai Sharma, WASH Officer Mr. Tej Bahadur Bohora, and PMR Supervisor Mr. Nabin Ghimire were present. Municipal Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Chief Executive Officer, and Technical Officials participated in the meeting. During the meeting, it was decided to prepare WASH plans with 50 percent contribution of NEWAH and 50 percent of Municipality.

Similarly, an inception meeting was also organized in Phikkal RM. Technical Coordinator Mr. Sanjiv Thapa from NEWAH HQ, Province Head Ms. Maitrai Sharma, WASH Officer Mr. Tej Bahadur Bohora, and PMR Supervisor Mr. Nabin Ghimire from NEWAH PO attended the meeting. In the meeting, Municipal Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Chief Executive Officer, all Ward Chairpersons, and concerned officials were present. In the program, discussion about the WASH Plan, its importance, and the process of WASH Plan preparation was done. In addition, RMWASHCC formation as well as WASH Unit was also formed at the same meeting. Similarly, one Municipality level WASH focal person was also assigned.

b) Coordination meeting in Mahabharat Rural Municipality

On 1st February 2023, an interaction meeting with Mahabharat RM was organized. In the meeting, the Province Head, WASH Officer and PMR Supervisor were involved on behalf of NEWAH. In the meeting, NEWAH working policy and modality, water demand in Municipal was discussed. After the discussion, it was decided to work collaboratively in coming future.

c) Coordination Meeting in Roshi Rural Municipality

On 24th March 2023, a coordination meeting was organized to discuss and share the project implementation modalities and policies followed by NEWAH and Roshi RM. At the meeting, Sr. Operation Manager-Field Operation Mr. Kumar Silwal, and Technical Coordinator Mr. Sanjiv Thapa from NEWAH HQ, Province Head Ms. Maitrai Sharma, WASH Officer Mr. Niraj Gurung, and PMR Supervisor Mr. Nabin Ghimire from NEWAH PO attended the meeting. On behalf of Municipality, Municipal Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Ward Chairperson and concerned municipal-based officials were present. In the meeting, NEWAH's working modality, mission, vision, and goal was shared. Besides this, the community contribution as well as the matching fund policy was discussed. After a detailed discussion on partnership modality, it was decided to work together in the WASH sector.



Meeting at Roshi Rural Municipality, Kavre

d) Coordination Meeting for WASH Plan Preparation Hariharpurgadhi Rural Municipality

On 6th April 2023 a coordination meeting was held in Hariharpurgadhi RM to sign MOU with Municipality. During the meeting, Province Head Ms. Maitrai Sharma, WASH Officer Mr. Tej Bahadur Bohora and PMR Supervisor Mr. Nabin Ghimire participated. Similarly, on behalf of Municipality, Municipal Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Chief Executive Officer, WASH Focal person and Technical Officials were present. At the meeting, discussion about the WASH Plan and its importance was done and decided to prepare Municipal WASH plan as per Government mandate. In the meeting it was agreed that the Municipality and NEWAH would work to prepare the WASH plan in 50/50 percent budget modality.

Similarly, one inception meeting was held in the presence of the Municipal Chairperson, all ward Chairperson, Chief Executive Officer, the WASH focal person, and other concerned officials. During the meeting Technical Coordinator Mr. Sanjiv Thapa from NEWAH Headquarters while Province Head Ms. Maitrai Sharma, and PMR Supervisor Mr. Nabin Ghimire from NEWAH PO were present. In the program, RMWASHCC and the WASH unit were formed.

Local/Regional and National News Coverage by Media

Under grant 459, 10 different media and news agencies published news about NEWAH's works. Media coverage sensitized the stakeholders and people of different backgrounds on safe WASH services, achieved results, and people's satisfaction with NEWAH. Local media coverage within a wide range of people can show NEWAH in the spotlight and enhance NEWAH's work in the WASH sector in the country.

Coordination with Department of Water Supply and Sewerage Management

On 9th October 2023, coordination meeting was conducted at Department of Water Supply and Sewerage Management (DWSSM) office with SDE Dr. Rajit Ojha and SDE Anil Kesari to avoid program duplication and possible collaboration to formulate WASH plan in Kavre, Sindhuli, and other districts under Bagmati Province.

Water and Energy Commission Secretariat (WECS) Meetings

NEWAH has attended two different workshops in formulating strategies to avoid barriers in water source management in the context of changing climate organized by Water and Energy Commission Secretariat (WECS) on regular basis.

1. Global Water Leadership in a Changing Climate: Global Water Leadership (GWL) project is supported by Global Water Partnership (GWP) with three deliverable outputs:
 - (i) strengthen leadership and collaboration in water resources and WASH governance;
 - (ii) analyze data to inform the development of inclusive and resilient policies; and
 - (iii) identify bottlenecks and resource constraints to stimulate government-led collaborative actions.

The strategies to achieve above mentioned outputs have already been developed and validated.
2. Water Resource Development Action Plan for the Kamala River Basin: Kamala River Basin Water Resources Development Strategy sets out a pathway to the sustainable development and management of basin water resources to improve the well-being of the population and the environment. The Action Plan for the Kamala River Basin has already been finalized and is in the process of final validation.

Being the pioneer NGO in the WASH sector with more than 31 years of experience, NEWAH has been regularly involved in climate change and DRR Thematic Working groups led by DWSSM, and other WASH-related working groups led by different agencies.

Inhouse Progress Review, Planning, and Coordination Meetings

NEWAH has been reviewing its progress periodically through review and coordination meetings over the year. In this connection, three review, planning, and coordination meetings were organized to review the progress to date and plan the activities for the remaining period of the fiscal year 2022-023 as under:

SN	Meetings	Date	No. of participants	Remarks
1	Pre-Implementation Workshop	September 5-6, 2022	21	Headquarters
2	Proposal Preparation cum Coordination Meeting	December 22-23, 2022	20	Headquarters
3	Review and Coordination Meeting	June 4-5, 2023	23	Headquarters
4	Pre-Implementation Workshop	September 18-19, 2022	45	Sindhuli Province Office
5	Quarterly Review Meeting	November 2, 2022	43	Sindhuli Province Office
6	Quarterly Review Meeting	February 6, 2023	44	Sindhuli Province Office
7	Pre-Implementation Workshop	September 18-19, 2022	33	Baglung Province Office
8	Quarterly Review Meeting	November 3, 2022	26	Baglung Province Office
9	Quarterly Review Meeting	February 6, 2023	35	Baglung Province Office
10	Quarterly Review Meeting	July 31, 2023	32	Baglung Province Office

The participants were from the NEWAH province offices Baglung and Sindhuli along with NEWAH Headquarters, Kathmandu, Nepal. The review of activities conducted to date was presented by the province offices and departments followed by the discussion. Issues and challenges were discussed along with lessons learned to determine a way forward to move ahead. In addition, the pre-implementation workshop was focused on reviewing last year's grant and preparing an action plan for this year. The proposal preparation cum coordination meeting was focused on the requirements of the donor and preparing an action plan to design a proposal with a budget to submit to the donor as per deadlines. Likewise, the review and coordination meetings were engaged in reviewing the progress and preparing a concrete action plan to complete the projects in time.



Networking and Membership

NEWAH has been the member of different national and international level alliances and sectoral clusters and is regularly participating and providing its expertise support as per required. The different networks and alliances that NEWAH has been representing so far are:

Steering Committee Member - Menstrual Health Management Partners Alliance (MHMPA)

Steering Committee Member - Nepal Rainwater Harvesting Alliance (NRHA)

Member - South Asian Rainwater Harvesting Network (SARNET)

Member - Sanitation and Water for All (SWA)

Member – National WASH Cluster

Advocacy Efforts in Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM)

NEWAH got affiliated to Menstrual Health and Hygiene Management Partners Alliance- (MHMPA) Nepal On 8th December 2022. MHMPA is the coalition of more than 70 member organizations to advocate and work to promote dignified menstruation in Nepal. On the occasion of International Dignified Menstruation Day, celebrated on December 8, 2022, a song aimed at raising awareness about social taboos and stigma related to menstruation, performed by a singer Prakesh Saput and presented by actor Keki Adhikari, was released. Similarly, Er. Resham Jung Singh, Director and Mr. Arun Shrestha, WASH Manager participated in Menstrual Hygiene Day on 28th May 2023 organized by MHMPA in collaboration with various organizations. Vice Spokesperson Indira Rana was invited as the chief guest in the event. In 2023, NEWAH has been nominated as the steering committee member of MHMPA.



Menstrual Hygiene Day celebration, Kathmandu - Photo : Resham Jung Singh

Knowledge on Menstrual Hygiene Practices Bring Behaviour Change

NEWAH conducted various events to mark Menstrual Hygiene (MH) Day on 28th May. One day event was organized to train the community women to make cloth pads locally in the Bhuskat project of Tarakhola RM to mark the MH day. Shanta Kumari Gharti, one of the beneficiaries shared her experiences about menstrual hygiene management.

Shanta works in a fancy shop and has some tailoring skills. She makes cloth pads from wasted clothes and sells them. She was very happy to participate in the training related to menstruation and enhance her knowledge and skills related to menstrual hygiene.

Shanta said that it's costly to buy sanitary pads every month, so she makes cloth pads and sell them as well, so that she could make some money. She mentioned that lack of knowledge about good hygiene causes many diseases. As menstrual taboo is still prevalent in the community, it makes women difficult to practice proper hygiene behaviors. Women still utilize used clothes, and it might cause infections if such clothes are not properly washed and dried in the sun.

She believes that menstruation is not a sin and is a law of nature. She puts her knowledge into practice. She feels that there has been a change in hygiene behaviors after awareness programs conducted by NEWAH. She feels that women pay special attention to cleanliness during menstruation, are more aware of what kind of clothes to wear and dry the clothes in the sun after washing them thoroughly with soap and water. With the belief that knowledge and skills should be learned and taught to others, she shares her experiences

with other women during mothers' group meetings. She said that it is easy to share openly about problems related to menstrual hygiene in the mothers' group meetings. She is grateful to NEWAH for organizing such capacity-building and awareness events for women and raising their knowledge and skills in menstrual hygiene which has helped them to adopt healthy behaviors.

**-Balkumari Mahato,
SHSF, NEWAH Baglung**



Shanta Kumari Gharti demonstrating locally prepared menstruation Pad by herself

Research & Development and Knowledge Management

NEWAH has been conducting research works on different themes related WASH in the context of Nepal and communicated in national and international conferences as well as published in the journal of national and international repute.

i. Conference Papers

In this reporting period, NEWAH presented papers in two different conferences: one at national and other at international level. Both the conferences were related to climate change and water security nexus where NEWAH had presented its papers focusing on significance and use of NEWAH's interventions on post project innovative monitoring mechanisms like hello monitoring, remote sensor monitoring and toll-free number.

At National Level

At national level, NEWAH had supported National Conference on "Rainwater Harvesting Addressing Water Security and Climate Impacts" organized by Smart WASH Solution Pvt. Ltd on the auspicious occasion of International Water Day on 19th-20th March 2023 at Yellow Pagoda Hotel, Kathmandu, Nepal. On behalf of NEWAH, Director Er. Resham Jung Singh presented a paper on the topic: 'Climate Change and Water Security Challenges'. WASH Manager Mr. Arun Kumar Shrestha, Technical Coordinator Mr. Sanjiv Kumar Thapa, R&D and Fundraising Coordinator Mr. Umesh Basnet actively participated in the conference.



Receiving Certificate of presenter in National Conference on Rainwater Harvesting - Photo : Umesh Basnet

At International Level

Director Er. Resham Jung Singh had participated in the international conference on 'Rainwater Harvesting: A sustainable solution for Climate Resilience and Achieving SDGs' organized by South Asia Rainwater Harvesting Network in Colombo, Sri-Lanka from 17th to 18th May 2023 and presented paper on the topic: "Rainwater Harvesting: Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for Achieving SDG 6 in Nepal" on the behalf of NEWAH.

This conference provided an opportunity for exposure and the good platform to present NEWAH's interventions on Rainwater Harvesting and WASH sector especially about the NEWAH's innovative post-implementation monitoring mechanism at international arena.



Paper presentation in an international conference organized by SARNET

ii. Journal Articles on Functionality and Sustainability

Several research articles were written and published in journal.

- **Innovative Monitoring Mechanism: Evidence from Rural Drinking Water Sector in Nepal**

A study on 'Innovative monitoring mechanism: Evidence from rural drinking water sector in Nepal' was conducted by Dr. Maheshwar Prasad Yadav and published in Nepal Journal of Multidisciplinary Research.

The paper aims at determining innovative monitoring mechanism in the context of rural drinking water sector of Nepal. This study is based on both primary and secondary data. The necessary primary data were collected through telephone interview using semi-structured questionnaire while the secondary data were collected through database and publications. The collected data were analyzed through simple statistical tools to derive results leading to major findings of the study. The study shows that the innovative monitoring mechanism such as letter monitoring, hello monitoring, sensor monitoring, and toll-free monitoring are useful tools for efficient and effective monitoring of rural drinking water system in the context of developing countries like Nepal. Considering the innovative monitoring ladders and on-site monitoring, the study further concludes that a combination of two or more innovative monitoring mechanisms will make more sense for effective and efficient monitoring mechanism to keep the projects functional and sustainable. This study may be useful for development actors in the sector, academia, and policy makers. The study can be further extended by capturing learning from the implementation for these innovative monitoring mechanism in the context of rural and urban drinking water sector in Nepal.

- **Key Factors Influencing Functionality of Community-Managed Rural Water Supply System in Nepal**

A study on 'Key Factors Influencing Functionality of Community-Managed Rural Water Supply System in Nepal' was conducted by Dr. Maheshwar Prasad Yadav and published in Nepal Journal of Multidisciplinary Research.

The paper aims at examining key factors influencing the functionality of the community-managed rural water supply system in developing countries like Nepal. The study adopts a descriptive cum analytical research design based on primary data only. The required data were collected through a telephone interview using a semi-structured questionnaire on a sample of 486 respondents from the respective community-managed rural water supply projects. The collected data were analyzed using correlation, chi-square test, Cramer's V, and cross-tabulation to find out the results leading to major findings of the study. The study concludes

that the key factors influencing the functionality of the community-managed rural water supply system are the systems' caretakers followed by the operation and maintenance fund, the activeness of the users' committee, and the availability of spare parts in the context of Nepal.

- **Status of the Building Blocks for Sustainable Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Systems in Nepal: A Review**

The study on 'Status of the Building Blocks for Sustainable Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Systems in Nepal: A Review' was conducted by Dr. Maheshwar Prasad Yadav and Mr. Kumar Prasad Silwal and published in Nepal Journal of Multidisciplinary Research.

The paper aims at reviewing the building blocks of sustainable water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) systems in the context of Nepal. The study consisted of a descriptive research design based on secondary data that were collected from different published documents. The review was made through descriptive comparison, percentages, graphs, and ratios to compare whether the country's status is in line with the global context. The study concludes that the proportion of the population having safely managed water services in Nepal (16 percent) is quite lower than the global average (73 percent). Moreover, the proportion of the population having safely managed sanitation services in Nepal (51 percent) is slightly lower than the global average (57 percent). Similarly, the proportion of the population having basic hygiene services in Nepal (64 percent) is lower than the global average (75 percent). Furthermore, the findings on the status of water, sanitation, and hygiene systems are mixed in the context of Nepal. Some of them have made good progress and some of them need to be accelerated to go a long way to achieve SDGs by 2030. The study further concludes that institutionalization, policy and legislation, and accountability mechanisms at the federal level have been initiated while it is yet to materialize at the provincial and local levels. In the case of planning, only 10 percent of rural/municipalities completed their WASH plan. In terms of finance, there is not only a resource gap but also two-thirds of the total country's WASH budget has been allocated at the federal level. Action research should be prioritized to capture learning and awareness leading to adaptation and knowledge creation in the sector. The study can be extended by incorporating the citizens' views on WASH systems strengthening in the context of Nepal.

• **Impact Study of Sensor on Remote Monitoring of Water Supply Systems in 20 Sensors Installed WSSs from Sindhuli Province**

Research plays a crucial role in various aspects of human life, societal progress, and academic development. Research drives technological advancements and innovation. It leads to the development of new technologies, products, and solutions that can improve the quality of life and address complex challenges. Understanding the importance of research, NEWAH conducted research on ‘Impact Study of Sensor on Remote Monitoring of Water Supply Systems in 20 sensors installed WSSs from Sindhuli Province’ by considering the perspectives from caretakers/MMWs and WSUCs. The research was undertaken by the R & D Department with the involvement of Er. Resham Jung Singh, Director and Mr. Arun Kumar Shrestha, WASH Manager from NEWAH Headquarters and Mr. Bibek Prasad Dahal, Mr. Yog Bahadur Moktan, and Mr. Krishna Kafle from NEWAH Sindhuli Province Office.

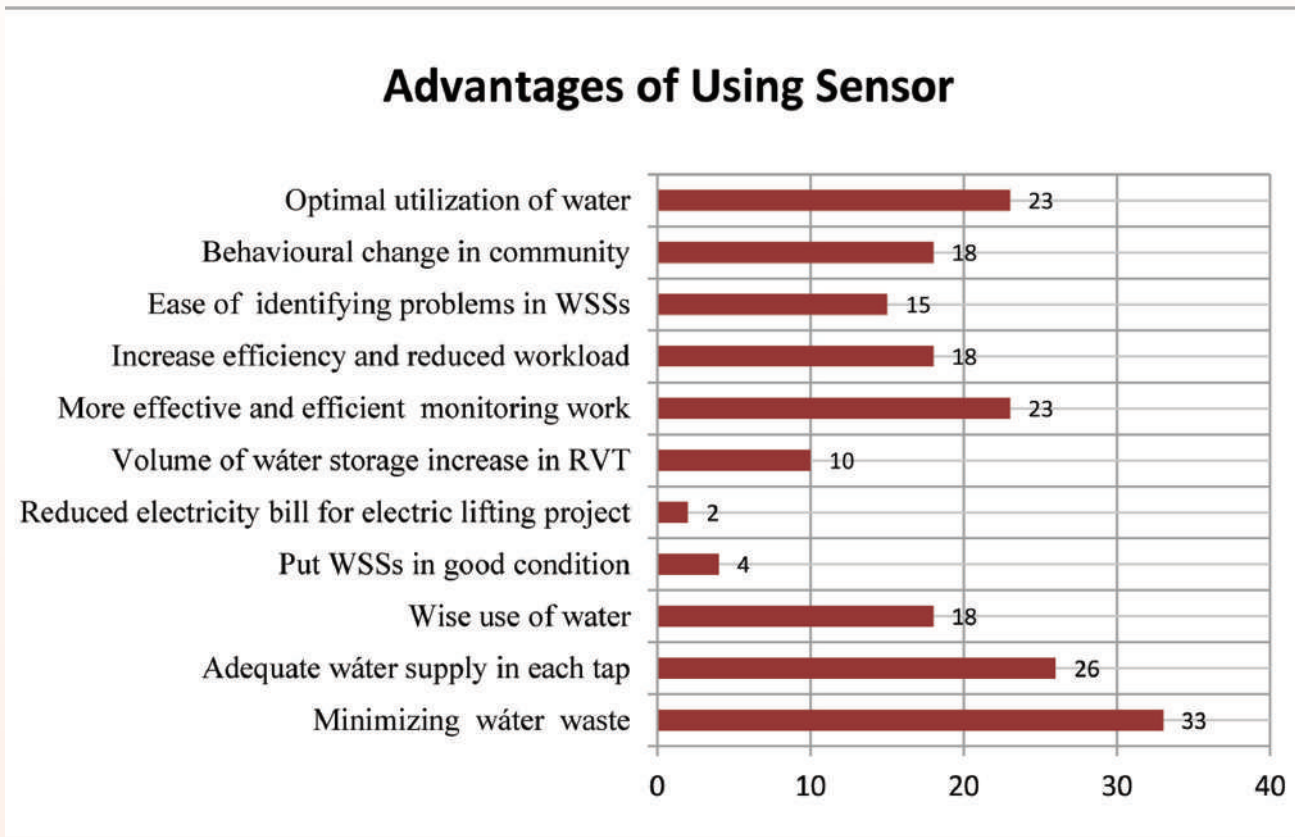


Figure 2: Advantages of using sensor

The Major Findings of the Research Were

- a. **Efficiency and Resource Optimization:** It was found that sensors helped to optimize resource usage, ensuring that water supply systems operate efficiently with minimal waste.
- b. **Early Detection of Issues:** Sensor monitoring enabled early detection of malfunctions or issues in the water supply system allowing for prompt and accurate identification of problems and timely interventions.
- c. **Cost-Effectiveness:** Sensor monitoring systems contributed to cost-effectiveness by reducing the electric bills in electric lifting water supply system.
- d. **Improved Reliability:** Sensor technologies, ensuring that they provide accurate and consistent data, make the system more reliable for making informed decisions about the water supply system.
- e. **Remote Monitoring for Inaccessible Areas:** Sensor monitoring systems are found to be very useful in providing real-time data collection without the need for frequent physical inspections, making it especially valuable in hard-to-reach locations.
- f. **Water Conservation:** By continuously monitoring water usage and identifying leaks or inefficiencies, sensor systems contribute to water conservation efforts.

Research on sensor monitoring systems for remote water supply is found to be crucial for optimizing operations, ensuring reliability, promoting sustainability, and ultimately improving the well-being of communities in underserved areas.

Service Support Center

Sustainable Water for All (SUSWA) Project has envisioned the concept of establishing Service Support Center at Karnali Province of Nepal to increase the functionality and sustainability rate of water supply system. NEWAH provided technical support in collaboration with WEL Group, UK to prepare the document from the very beginning of the planning process in close coordination with SUSWA team. Mr. Arun Kumar Shrestha, WASH Manager and Er. Resham Jung Singh, Director from NEWAH were involved in the process. The Service Support Center document has already been validated and is in the final stage of its endorsement from the Ministry of Water Supply.

Functionality of NEWAH Projects

All the past charity: water projects were monitored during 2022-23 through hello monitoring within the one-year monitoring frame. NEWAH has been conducting Hello Monitoring to monitor past projects. In this connection, the hello monitoring covered a total of 548 projects from the earlier charity: water grants. The result reveals that 79% of water points are functioning well. The monitoring results also report that all W-WASH-CCs are functional and actively involved in planning, implementing, and monitoring activities related to WASH in their respective communities. Interaction with the members revealed an enhanced capacity to prepare and implement ODF and post ODF plan and drinking water supply plan, as well as

perform their roles effectively. The WSUCs are fully functioning in terms of operation, maintenance, water tariff collection, and taking care of water supply facilities. The committee members are fully undertaking their roles and responsibilities in the process of planning, management and operation and maintenance of water supply systems.

To assess the functionality of water supply projects, Hello Monitoring was conducted from September to October 2023. Based on Hello Monitoring 2023, the functionality results of 548 communities and 19,643 water points funded by charity: water up to July 2023 are as mentioned below:

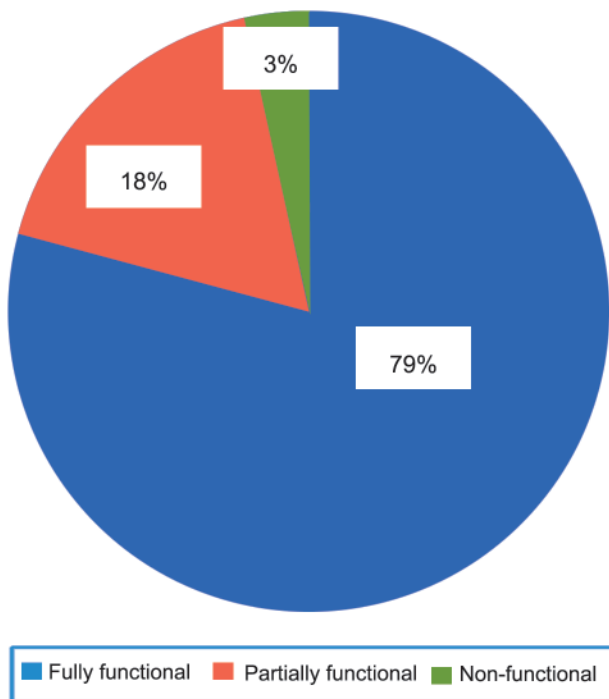
o At Community Level:

- 79% of communities were fully functional. It indicates that 79% of communities/projects had water flowing from all water points on the day of the call.
- 18% of communities were partially functional.
- 3% of communities were non-functional.

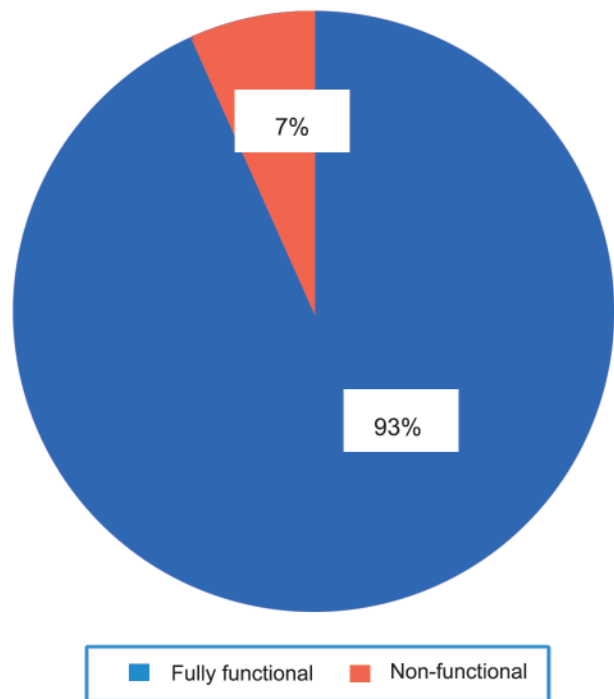
o At water point Level:

- 93% of water points were fully functional. It indicates that 93% of water points had water flowing from the respective water points on the day of the call.
- 7% of water points were non-functional.

Functionality at project level



Functionality at water point level



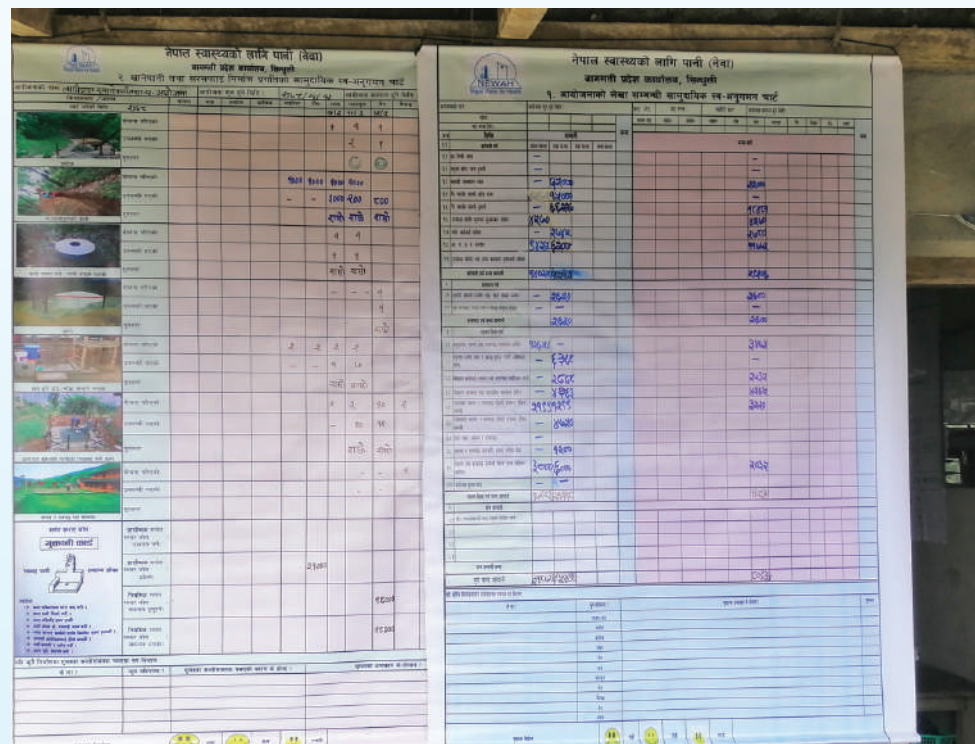
Monitoring and Evaluation

To measure effectiveness, sustainability and equity of community water supply and sanitation interventions and factors influencing them in project communities, NEWAH has been emphasizing on integrating traditional and novel approaches in monitoring and evaluation of its water supply and sanitation projects. The integration has not only helped NEWAH with the assessment of the project outcomes, costs and benefits, and burdens from project interventions within the community, but also has provided benchmarks for measuring project progress, and valuable feedback to improve subsequent project performance and future project development.

Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation

The water and sanitation users were involved right from the planning stage to project implementation, operation, and maintenance and monitoring and evaluation stages in all water supply projects completed during 2022-23. A participatory monitoring system was continued using Community Based Monitoring and Evaluation (CBME) tools through which the users evaluated their progress and defined priority actions regularly. The capacity of the W-WASH-CCs was enhanced to make them able to prepare and implement the WASH

plan and monitor and evaluate WASH activities at the ward level. W-WASH-CCs routinely monitored the status of WASH in their respective wards and prepared lists of households with and without access to water supply and basic sanitation. They also played effective roles in evaluating the ODF status and monitoring the implementation of the post ODF plan.



CBME tools

Joint Monitoring

For learning and sharing, monitoring progress in the field, and interacting and listening to the communities, NEWAH supports joint monitoring visits from the local and district levels to the central level. During 2022-23, different events of joint monitoring visits were conducted with participation of various stakeholders from WASH sector as well as members from local government within NEWAH's current project districts.

Representatives from the district line agencies such as DCC, D-WASH-CC including Chairman/ Vice-chairman of the rural municipality where the drinking water project is situated participated in the joint monitoring visit. After the joint monitoring visit, participants reflected on the quality of the projects and shared that frequent field visits are necessary for effective implementation of projects as well as increasing the collaboration and reducing duplication. Likewise, the participants also appreciated the effort of NEWAH to institutionalize the practice of joint monitoring visits in the project districts.

D-WASH-CC/DCC Joint Monitoring Visit

A joint monitoring visit was conducted on 24th - 25th June 2023. The visit was accomplished at Malkabang, Besi Panthok and Bhedi khalta projects of Dhaulagiri RM of Myagdi district. The monitoring team comprised of DCC Chair, Raj Kumar Thapa, NEWAH's PMR Officer Binod Koirala and other staff along with local representatives from Dhaulagiri RM.

Likewise, a joint monitoring visit was also conducted from 6th to 9th July 2023 to Jaimini WASH projects and other projects of Badigaad RM and Nisikhola RM. DCC Chair and other staff along with local representatives visited the project site and inaugurated the water supply project.

DWASHCC/DCC joint monitoring visit in Kavre district was organized on 20th July 2023. During the visit, the team visited Mahankalchaur WASH project.

During the visit, a total of 23 officials were included. During the visit, the DCC chairperson, as well as Deputy Chairperson, DCC Coordination Officer, DCC Technical officials and other concerned officials from DCC Kavre, Bethanchowk RM Chairperson and other concerned officials from Bethanchowk RM, Province Head, PMR Supervisor, WASH Officer and concerned field staff, were also presented at the program. In the program, the entire team observed the WASH structures of the Mahankalchaur WASH project and interacted with the users. During the interaction, the users as well as visitors were highly satisfied with the NEWAH's program and appreciated its contribution in WASH.



Joint Monitoring Visit- Dhaulagiri RM - Myagdi

DWASCC/DCC joint monitoring visit in Sindhuli district was organized on 4th July 2023. At the program, the monitoring team visited the Kuvinde WASH project. During the visit, the DCC Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, DCC member, District Coordination Officer, Sub-engineer, representative of the Journalism Federation and representatives from NGO Federation participated. In addition, on behalf of NEWAH, Province Head, WASH Officer, PMR Supervisor, and SAPS participated. In the program the team members observed the WASH structure and discussion with the WSUC as well as some users. In the program, the entire monitoring team members appreciated the program and suggested NEWAH to organize this sort of visit in Municipal level too.

Project Monitoring and Evaluation by Municipality/ Rural Municipality



Joint Monitoring Visit - Nishikhola RM-Baglung

On 29th April to 3rd May 2023, 4 events of coordination meeting and project monitoring visits were carried out in Nishikhola RM, Tamankhola RM, Dhorpatan Municipality and Badigad RM of Baglung district. Meetings with Municipality staff and signing the project agreement were completed. Representatives from both Municipality staff and NEWAH agreed on partnership modality of NEWAH and local governments.

Post-Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation

NEWAH carried out the post-implementation monitoring of last year's charity: water grant in Baglung, Myagdi, Kavre, and Sindhuli districts. During the monitoring, NEWAH conducted meetings with W-WASH-CC, WSUCs, and the users to get information on the functionality of the systems as well as the status of the O&M fund, caretakers, and other issues. NEWAH also continued with the hello monitoring of all the past charity: water-funded projects to obtain information on the status of the projects, the functionality of water points, problems if any, wear and tear in parts and structures, spare availability and replacement, and regularity of meeting and tariff collection.

Moreover, during the reporting period, the end-line survey was completed. The results of the end-line survey were compared against the results of the baseline survey for the same project. The end-line survey was useful since it helped communities to identify changes in water access and usage, the hygiene and sanitation practices, and their capacity to plan, manage, operate, and maintain water supply projects and overcome the situational and institutional barriers, which are necessary to ensure sustainability.

In this connection, NEWAH has been conducting its innovative post-monitoring mechanisms such as Hello Monitoring, Sensor Monitoring, and Toll-free Call Centre Monitoring.

Donor Visit: charity: water Creative Team Visit

Water has been helping for providing safe and clean drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene services in rural areas of Nepal for the past thirteen years in partnership with NEWAH. A learning sharing event was organized with charity: water creative team at the NEWAH Headquarters on 19th October 2022. The team from the charity: water included the Creative Director Tyler Riewer, Project Manager Joy Caroline Hicklin, Copywriter Bailey Juergens, Photographer Cubby Graham, and Videographer Kelly Herrington. During the event, Dr. Maheshwar Prasad Yadav presented and facilitated the learning sharing event. An open discussion was held after the presentation on updates and challenges in fundraising presented by Ms. Rojeena Manandhar. At the end of the event, Director Er. Resham Jung Singh expressed his remarks regarding the charity: water's contribution and complimented the representatives with a token of love.



NEWAH HQ Team and charity: water creative team at NEWAH Headquarters.

- Photo : Shivram Adhikari

Rotary International Team Visit

The Rotary International team, consisting of Elgin Rotary Club England, Rotary Club of Durham England, and Rotary Club of Boudha Kathmandu, visited the Siureni Bhanjyang WASH project at Kavre on March 2, 2023. A formal project inauguration program along with a public audit was organized by the user's committee. Chair of Bethanchowk Rural Municipality, Kavre Mr. Bhagwan Adhikari and Rotary International representative officially inaugurated the project. More than 20 people from the Rotary International community visited the project.



Monitoring visit by Members of Rotary International and Bethanchowk Rural Municipality in Kavre



A glance of meeting : Project Planning Monitoring Committee and WSUC at Aaptaar Jasmintar Project (G-399)

NEWAH Program Planning and Monitoring Committee Visit

The NEWAH Project Planning and Monitoring Committee (PPMC) members, Mr. Umesh Pandey, and Mr. Ashok Swar, visited WASH projects, namely the Aaptaar Jasmintar Project, completed in FY 2021/022, and the Bato Nigale Project, under construction in 2022/023 in Sindhuli, from February 28 to March 1, 2023. The PPMC team was accompanied by WASH Manager Arun Kumar Shrestha from NEWAH HQ and Maitrai Sharma, Nabin Chimire, and Bibek Prasad Dahal from the Sindhuli province office. The PPMC team discussed the project intervention with the user's committee and the local community.

In the Bato Nigale water supply project, the PPMC team members met and discussed the project progress status. In that project, discussion was focused on the initial and regular maintenance fund collection system followed by WSUC. The WSUC was highly suggested and motivated to collect the maintenance fund in a grade-based system to address social justice for ultra-poor households. Likewise, the team members also monitored the stock book, the financial ledger book, and the receipt of non-local materials delivered to the site.

In the Aaptaar Jasmintar Project, the team monitored and evaluated the water supply system structures and finally met with WSUC members as well as local users. The PPMC team member, Mr. Umesh Pandey, suggested to the WSUC and users to continue the appointment and payment of caretakers, regular collection of maintenance funds, and improving the water quality for the sustainability of the project. After monitoring the projects, the PPMC members shared the findings and recommendations of the monitoring visit with team members of the NEWAH Bagmati Provincial Office, Sindhuli.

During the visit, the PPMC team members also participated in the inauguration program of the Rotary-supported project at Bethanchwok, Kavrepalanchowk on March 2, 2023.

NEWAH HQ Monitoring Visit

NEWAH has been conducting different levels of monitoring to ensure smooth implementation of WASH projects effectively. In this connection, various monitoring visits were carried out from NEWAH headquarters to the province offices and/or projects sites during the reporting period. The visits were carried out by all departments from headquarters including the Director for the monitoring and providing support and backstopping as well necessary feedback to the province team and field team throughout the year.



Monitoring Visit from NEWAH Headquarters, Sindhuli

• SWC Evaluation Visit

As a compliance of Social Welfare Council (SWC), two monitoring visits for grant 293 and grant 399 were organized in last fiscal year in Sindhuli and Baglung districts of Nepal.

The first visit for evaluation of grant 293 by SWC evaluation team was conducted from 16th to 18th December 2022 in Nisikhola Rural Municipality of Baglung district. The team visited several projects including meeting with Balgas WSUC, Baraha WSUC, Padar Bharkabang WSUC, Badigad rural municipality.

Similarly, the team also visited three different projects of Kamalamai as well as Dudhauri Municipalities and Golonjor Rural Municipality of Sindhuli district under 293 grant was organized from 26-30 December 2022. The evaluation team comprised of a program expert, Mr. Nabin Bhandari, members- Mr. Khaganath Regmi, Assistant Director, SWC and Ms. Stuti Regmi, finance expert. Mr. Kumar Silwal, Sr. Manager-Field Operation from NEWAH Headquarters, Ms. Maitrai Sharma, Province Head, Mr. Nabin Ghimire, PMR Supervisor, and Mr. Bibek Dahal, Senior Monitoring



WASH project Monitoring of by SWC evaluation team. Sindhuli.

-Photo : Bibek Dahal



SWC Monitoring Grant 293, Sindhuli

Associate from the Province Office, Sindhuli were joined the team during the evaluation in Sindhuli.

The second visit was organized for grant 399 from 10 to 12 February 2023 in Sindhuli district. During the visit, the visit evaluation team visited Sokhu Baddanda Project of Phikkal Rural Municipality, Lamidanda as well as the Bharle Piladanda Project of Dudhauri Municipality and Kalimati Project of Sunkoshi Rural Municipality. Mr. Santosh Paudel, Team Leader, Mr. Chitra Kumar Thapa, Assistant Director, SWC, and Mr. Kapil Luitel, Finance Expert evaluate the projects on behalf of SWC. Similarly, Dr. Maheshwar Prasad Yadav, PMR Manager from NEWAH Headquarters was joined with the SWC team. In addition, Ms. Maitrai Sharma, Province Head, Mr. Nabin Ghimire, PMR Supervisor, and Mr. Bibek Dahal, SMA from NEWAH Province Office also participated in the visit.

Likewise, a visit was also conducted for evaluation of grant 399 in Baglung from 24th to 26th February 2023 with SWC team in Badigad Rural Municipality. The team visited Solighopte WASH Project and Simalchaur WASH Project and interacted with WSUC members. Mr. Santosh Paudel, Team Leader, Mr. Dinesh Upreti, -Admin HR Manager from NEWAH Headquarters and Mr. Binod Koirala, PMR Officer from Province Office Baglung were participated in this visit.

After the completion of both field visits, evaluation teams met with the Senior Management Team (SMT) at NEWAH Headquarters and NEWAH Executive Committee members and shared their findings and feedback.



SWC evaluation team at Kalimati WASH Project, Sunkoshi Rural Municipality, Sindhuli.

- Photo : Bibek Dahal



SWC Evaluation Team Visit in NEWAH Headquarters, Kathmandu.

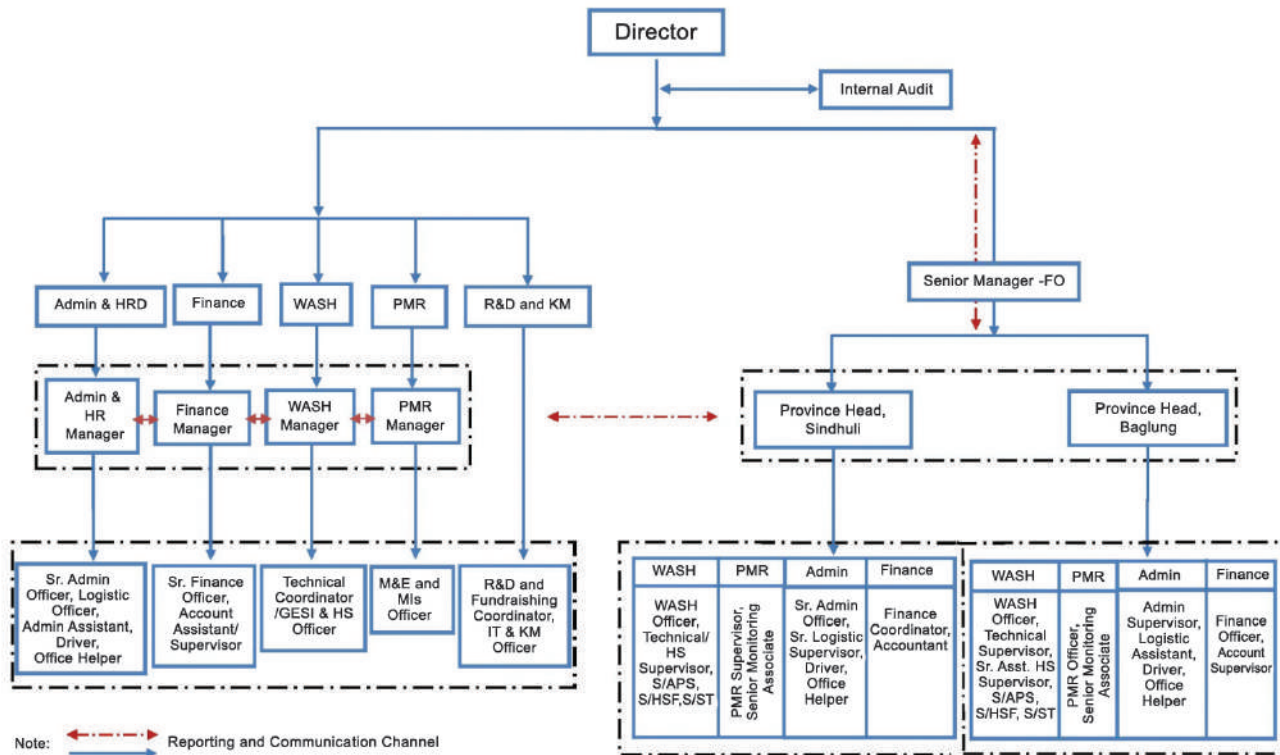


A wrap-up meeting between the SWC evaluation team and the NEWAH Board. - Photo : Rupesh Gurung

Human Resources Highlights

NEWAH Organizational Structure (Operation Level)

Effective from August 2023



In FY 2022-23, there were 96 staff in NEWAH.

The composition of human resources in 2022-23 is given below.

Table 2: Human Resources Composition in FY 2022-2023

S.N	Station	Male	Female	Total
1	Headquarters	13	4	17
2	Province Office Sindhuli	35	11	46
3	Province office Baglung	28	5	33
Total		76	20	96

Financial Highlights

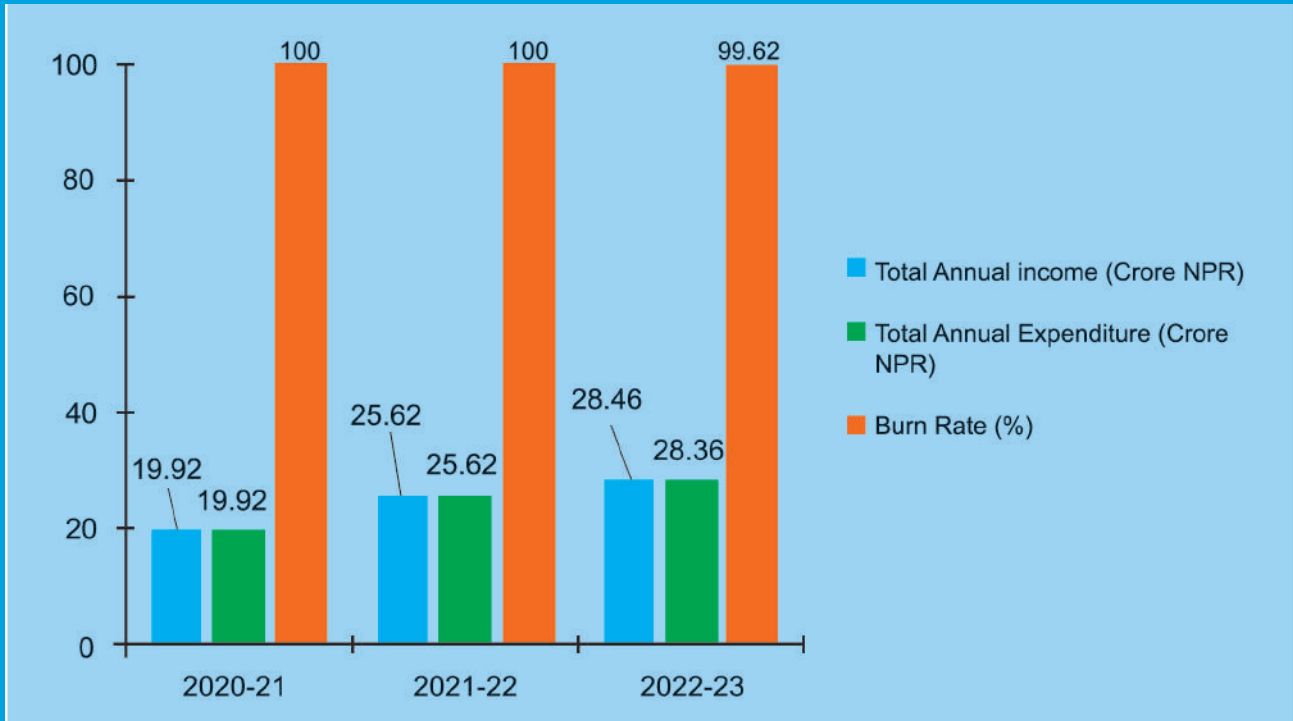


Figure 3: Trend of income and expenditure for past three years

NEWAH's income for 2022-23 amounted to NPR 284,679,225.00 (equivalent to USD 2,206,816; conversion 1 USD = NPR 129.00), a 11.08% increase over 2021-22 income. The increase occurred due to budget income received as per disbursement schedule of charity: water and few additional short-term assignments. 100% of the total income received in 2022-23 was grant received from charity: water, GlobalGiving, Interest Income and other short assignments.

Similarly, the total expenditure for the year 2022-23 was NPR 283,600,651.00 (equivalent to USD 2,198,455), a 10.66% increase over the 2021-22 expenditure. Of the total expenditure, 80.67% was spent on the program, while 19.33% was spent on administration.

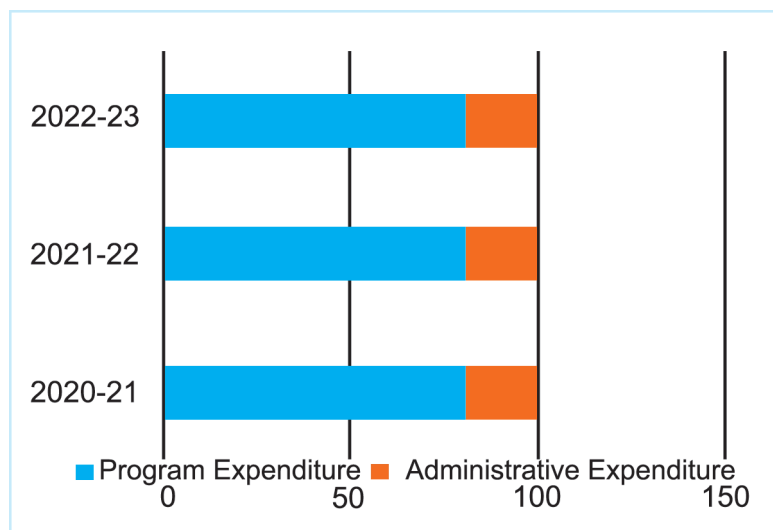


Figure 4: Program vs administrative expenditure for the past three years

Challenges and lessons learned

Challenges

- **Project Replacement or Cancellation Issues**
 - o The major reason behind project replacement or cancellation is the duplication of projects because of the budget allocated by the provincial government for some projects.
 - o Less willingness of communities to make a kind contribution to project implementation, mostly from the communities residing in semi-urban regions of the country.
 - o Political interest and influence during the project selection and implementation.
 - o The issue of source registration in local governments.
- High per capita cost because of scattered settlements, a high outmigration rate, and the need for highly expensive technologies like multi-stage electric lifting and solar lifting.
- **Technical Monitoring from Municipality:** Inadequate technical human resources at municipalities cause some delay in technical monitoring, which in turn causes delay in releasing matching fund installments from municipalities.
- **Technical issues in Electric/solar Projects:** Delay in solar/lift pump delivery and installation from the vendor side; delay in completing the electrical pumping projects due to prolonged process for electrification from the NEA part at the respective sites.
- **Water quality issues:** Regular testing of drinking water to ensure its quality is lacking after the projects are handed over to the respective WSUCs.
- **Municipal matching fund release:** The matching fund contribution from the municipality side for WSSs construction is not released in some cases, which hampers the regular project activities as WSUCs are unable to purchase necessary materials and equipment in time, which impedes the smooth implementation of the entire project.
- **Availability of Space for Private Connection Taps Stands:** Every household in the communities does not have enough space or an appropriate area to build private connection taps. Additionally, in some cases, more than one household has a single common area. In such a case, the construction of more than two taps in the same place adjacent to one another seems awkward.

- **Depletion or Drying up of Sources:** Communities are facing problems related to water quality, quantity, and supply due to water source depletion or drying up, especially during the dry season. This can cause a scarcity of water in the days to come. Even though considerations are taken for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction during the survey, unforeseen factors pose challenges for the sustainability of WASH facilities.

Lessons learned

- NEWAH needs to strengthen rigorous coordination mechanisms with communities and three-tier governments to avoid possible duplication. It is good to verify the project before project proposal preparation and implementation. The field staff needs to analyze the community's willingness for project implementation before project finalization during public hearings.
- NEWAH has been giving immense attention to ensuring water quality. Moreover, we need to collaborate with concerned agencies to establish water quality testing laboratories at the local level so that local people can get access to water quality testing facilities near their project location.
- NEWAH needs to enhance the capacity of the Water Safety Plan (WSP) team on the Climate Resilient Water Safety Plan (CR-WSP) so that they can proactively engage to ensure water quality in their respective projects.
- Different sanitation and hygiene activities may be useful for sustained behavior change based on a baseline study.
- The Clean and Healthy Community Declaration campaign is becoming a model for local governments and stakeholders.
- NEWAH needs to train local caretakers on electric and solar connections and repair maintenance systems.
- Capacity-building activities for the local governments (political representatives and duty bearers both), especially on WASH System Strengthening, need to be planned.
- Innovative post-implementation monitoring mechanisms lead to the functionality and sustainability of water systems. NEWAH's innovative monitoring systems, such as hello monitoring, sensor monitoring, and a toll-free call center, need to be continued to ensure the functionality of the WSSs and provide technical support wherever problems are identified.



South Asia Rainwater Network Team (SARNET)



NEWAH Team photograph



Participants of International conference on Rainwater Harvesting



Monitoring visit from NEWAH team in Surkhet, Karnali Water Activity project



NEWAH Team photographs



organized by SARNET, Colombo, Srilanka

Annex I: Audit Report FY 2022-23

U. Bajracharya & Associates

Chartered Accountants

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Member on the Financial Statements of Nepal Water for Health (NEWAH)

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Nepal Water for Health (hereinafter referred to as NEWAH, or the organization), which comprise the Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Income and Expenditure, Statement of Cash Flow and Significant Accounting Policy and Notes to Account for the year ended 16th July 2023.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the organization as at 16th July 2023, and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Nepal Standards on Auditing (NSAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement* section of our report. We are independent of the organization, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the financial statement in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statement that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statement, management is responsible for assessing organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Management are responsible for overseeing the organization's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with NSAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statement.

As part of an audit in accordance with NSAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:


- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve



collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances on whether the organization has adequate internal financial controls with reference to the financial statements in place and the operating effectiveness of such controls.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern; and
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure, and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.


CA. Ujwal Bajracharya
U. Bajracharya & Associates
Chartered Accountants



Date: 2080/05/28
UDIN No: 230918CA005642QeZ9

Nepal Water for Health (NEWAH)
Kathmandu, Nepal
Statement of Financial Position
As on July 16, 2023 (Ashad 31, 2080)

Amount in "NPR"

Particulars	Sch.	FY 2022/23	FY 2021/22
Assets			
Property, Plant & Equipment (A)	1	20,449,714	19,625,895
Land and Buildings		8,034,216	8,220,227
Capital Assets Grant Fund		12,415,498	11,405,667
Current Assets			
Cash and Bank Balance	2	25,536,599	23,961,155
Inventories		-	-
Prepayments, loans, Advances & Receivables	2	7,819,250	863,777
Current Liabilities			
Other Current Liabilities & Provisions	2	(28,024,829)	(8,713,874)
Net Current Assets (B)		5,331,020	16,111,058
Total Net Assets (A+B)		25,780,734	35,736,953
Liabilities & Reserve			
Accumulated Reserve			
Restricted Fund	3	(11,347,140)	825,319
Unrestricted Fund	4	16,678,160	15,285,739
Capital & Other Fund			
Capital Fund	5	8,034,216	8,220,227
Capital Asset Fund	5	12,415,498	11,405,667
Non Current Liabilities			
Loan & Borrowing		-	-
Employee Benefits		-	-
Total Non Current Liabilities		-	-
Total Funds		25,780,734	35,736,953

Schedule 1 to 10 form an integral part of this statement.

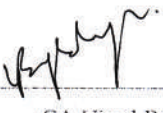

 Sajal Shrestha
 Finance Manager

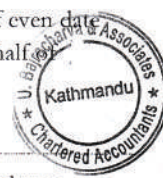

 Resham Jung Singh
 Director

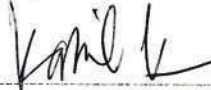

 Bijay Pant
 Treasurer


 CA Madan Krishna Sharma
 Member Secretary

As per our report of even date
 For and on behalf


 CA Ujwal Bajracharya
 U. Bajracharya & Associates




 Prof. Kapil Shrestha
 Chairperson

Date: 2080/05/28

Place: Kathmandu, Nepal

Nepal Water for Health (NEWAH)
Statement of Income & Expenditure
For the period July 17, 2022 to July 16, 2023 (Shrawan 01, 2079 to Ashad 31, 2080)

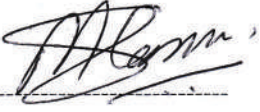
NPR

Particulars	Sch.	FY 2022/23	FY 2021/22
Grant & Other Income			
Restricted Fund	6	282,991,217	254,191,091
Unrestricted Fund	7	1,688,008	2,087,818
Total Income		284,679,225	256,278,909
Expenditure			
Restricted Fund			
Direct Project Expenditure	8	282,991,217	254,191,091
Unrestricted Fund			
General & Overhead Expenses	9	609,434	2,087,818
Total Expenditure		283,600,651	256,278,909
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year		1,078,574	-

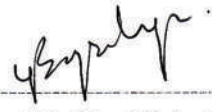
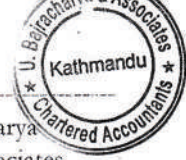


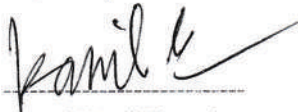

 Sajal Shrestha
 Finance Manager


 Bijay Pant
 Treasurer


 CA Madan Krishna Sharma
 Member Secretary

As per our report of even date
 For and on behalf of



 CA. Ujwal Bajracharya
 U. Bajracharya & Associates


 Prof. Kapil Shrestha
 Chairperson

Date: 2080/05/28

Place: Kathmandu, Nepal

Annex II: Publications of FY 2022-23



Annex III: Management Team



Er. Resham Jung Singh
Director



Mr. Kumar Prasad Silwal
Senior Manager-
Field Operation



Mr. Dinesh Upreti
Admin & HR Manager



Dr. Maheshwar Prasad Yadav
Planning, Monitoring
and Reporting Manager



Mr. Arun Kumar Shrestha
WASH Manager



Mr. Sajal Shrestha
Finance Manager



Ms. Maitrai Sharma
Province Head, Sindhuli



Mr. Ramesh Dahal
Province Head, Baglung



Mr. Umesh Basnet
R&D and Fundraising Coordinator



Ms. Binu Kharel
Senior Finance Officer

Senior Management Team (SMT) in Headquarters led by the Director.
Province Management Team (PMT) in Province Office led by the Province Head.

Annex IV: Executive Committee 2022-2024



Prof. Kapil Shrestha
Chairperson



Ms. Manjuri Singh
Vice-Chairperson



Mr. Bijay Pant
Treasurer



Mr. Madan Krishna Sharma
Member Secretary



Ms. Rekha Tulachan
Member



Ms. Ratna Kumari Shrestha
Member



Mr. Umesh Kumar Pandey
Member

Three Sub-Committees formed by AGM:
Program Planning and Monitoring Committee
Fundraising Committee
Audit Committee

“When the well is dry,
we know the worth of water.”

– Benjamin Franklin



Nepal Water for Health (NEWAH)

Headquarters, Lohasal, Kathmandu

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Telephone: +977-01-4015707, 4015608

Toll-Free Number: 16600123450

Email: newah@newah.org.np

Website: www.newah.org.np