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NEPAL WATER FOR HEALTH (NEWAH)
Kathmandu, Nepal

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FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



On behalf of NEWAH's Executive Board, we are happy to share that NEWAH is actively engaged in Nepal's WASH sector and has been successful in serving over two million Nepali people so far with clean water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services since its establishment in 1992. Most of these projects were implemented in the rural and remote parts of the country where the acute needs were identified and the greatest demand was received by NEWAH.

The year 2018/19 has been remarkable year for NEWAH, successfully completing a journey of 27 years with active services in the WASH sector of Nepal. The organization once again demonstrated its commitment by ensuring that over 35,000 of the country's population this year gained access to sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services.

This year, NEWAH focused on designing and implementing charity: water supported projects in Province No. 3 and Province No. 4 of the country. While a majority of its work centered on improving WASH services delivery in the rural areas, it also put a lot of effort towards building capacity of community groups and local WASH stakeholders to bring desired behavioral changes and scale up sanitation. Similarly, NEWAH support and its active engagement in the WASH sector at municipal, district and national level remained effective in terms of sharing the experiences and contributing towards achieving national WASH targets. NEWAH's engagement in a number of different areas has been instrumental in increasing the visibility of the organization and its work in the WASH sector.

Learning through new initiations has been adding great value to NEWAH's work. It has started new initiative on monitoring through sensor-based remote monitoring technology to monitor the functionality of the tap stands built in the rural areas of the country. NEWAH's past learnings will surely create opportunities for the organization to explore emerging issues in WASH sector and strategize sustainable WASH services to the poor and marginalized groups who still are in great need of support.

On behalf of the NEWAH Executive Board, we are grateful towards the continued support, especially from our donor charity: water and the dedicated effort of all NEWAH staff along with our other friends in meeting its objectives. We are confident that the NEWAH team will continually innovate and develop their skill to tackle emerging challenges in the sector. In addition, we believe continuing to build strategic partnerships with existing donors and exploring longer-term funding opportunities with new donors including local governments will be important to scale up NEWAH's activities and contribute to achieving the National WASH targets.

Prof. Pitamber Chettri, PhD
Chairperson

DIRECTOR'S NOTE



Since establishment in 1992, NEWAH has come a long way and still has miles to go. In all these years, the organization has made remarkable progress by reaching out to over two million people in 51 districts of the country through more than 2,400 projects ranging from drinking water supply to community-led total sanitation, multiple-use water supply services (MUS), rainwater harvesting/3R (recharge, retention, and reuse), and nutrition and livelihood. NEWAH has dedicated itself to supporting people from the underserved communities to help them gain access to safe drinking water, hygiene education and basic sanitation facilities, irrespective of their geographic location and socioeconomic status. With support from its funding partners, NEWAH has been actively contributing to the development and strengthening of the country's WASH sector. Its efforts are concentrated towards helping the country realize targets set in the sectoral development plans as well as the internationally agreed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

I am pleased to share, through this annual report, a brief account of the major interventions, accomplishments, and learnings of NEWAH in the year 2018-19. Focused on leaving no one behind, the year saw further reach out to the rural and the excluded communities. NEWAH's interventions in 2018-19 served over 35,000 people from ten rural municipalities and three municipalities in Baglung, Chitwan and Sindhuli Districts. In the process, NEWAH collaborated with local people, government and institutions, developed and expanded the WASH infrastructures in the communities, and built the capacity of the local actors to take ownership of their development. It also supported the local government's WASH initiatives and got involved in advocacy for the safe water and sanitation needs of the underserved communities.

2018-19 has also been a year full of challenges and new learning, particularly in areas of sustainability of water supply and sanitation schemes and fundraising. Notwithstanding, NEWAH will strive to ensure quality services by continuing to coordinate with relevant stakeholders, focusing on capacity building, and developing innovative solutions to existing WASH issues and scaling up based on the learnings from past and pilot projects. Moreover, NEWAH looks forward to incorporating sensor-based remote monitoring technology to monitor the functionality of the tap stands built in the rural areas of the country.

As you read through, I hope that you will gain insight into the depth and breadth of NEWAH's work during 2018-19. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere gratitude to our funding partner – charity: water who stood by us through our most difficult times. I would also like to thank our local partners for their continued support, and, more importantly, the people in the communities who believed in our work. I am also deeply appreciative of the NEWAH Executive Board for the invaluable support and guidance, and all our staffs for their hard work and dedication.

Umesh Pandey
Director

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In line with the mission to improve the living standard of the people in greatest need through equitable and sustainable access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene services, NEWAH supports the development and strengthening of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) infrastructures in rural and municipal areas of the country by working directly with the beneficiaries, build their capacities, and provide them opportunities for socio-economic empowerment. In doing so, NEWAH actively collaborates with the government and the sectoral development partners at all levels and develops projects and implements WASH promotional activities in the field. It is also involved in awareness creation, research and advocacy to secure the needs of water and sanitation of the underserved population.

In 2019, NEWAH successfully completed 27 years in the WASH sector. Over the period, it has successfully completed 2,412 projects across 51 districts of the country. More than two million people from over 327,000 households have benefited from our WASH projects. Furthermore, our school projects have served around 305,000 students, and 93 VDCs have achieved Open Defecation Free (ODF) status through our facilitation.

In the year 2018-19 (covering the period 1 November 2017 to 29 March 2019), NEWAH has made significant endeavor to improve the quality of life of the underserved population through integrated WASH services. A total of 238 projects were executed, reaching out to 4,150 households, 55 schools and four health centers, directly benefiting 35,561 people from ten rural municipalities and three municipalities across Baglung, Chitwan and Sindhuli Districts. The three thematic areas of intervention were: (i) water supply, sanitation and hygiene service delivery, (ii) capacity building, and (iii) monitoring and evaluation.

A total of 2,068 water distribution points was constructed in 2018-19, of which 1,108 are community connections, and 960 are on-plot connections. The number of total daily water users is 35,561. A majority of the projects utilized simple gravity flow technology (96%), while the remaining utilized solar pumping technology (2%) and motorized pumping technology (2%). Water quality was tested for physical, chemical and biological parameters using the ENPHO test kits in all water systems constructed.

NEWAH implemented hygiene and sanitation activities as an integral part of the water supply projects. In 2018-19, it facilitated the ODF declarations of 26 VDCs and a municipality in Sindhuli District. It also continued to support the sustainability of ODF by implementing the post ODF activities guided by the Total Sanitation approach promoted by the government. Altogether, 40 communities in Baglung and Sindhuli were declared 'clean and healthy community' in 2018-19 with NEWAH's support. Furthermore, through the school WASH projects, it supported the construction, repair or upgrade of WASH infrastructures at 51 community and private schools in Sindhuli and Baglung Districts and promoted sustainable hygiene and sanitation behavioral practices, benefiting over 9,800 students.

Under the capacity-building theme, NEWAH strengthened the capacity 64 Water and Sanitation Users' Committee (WSUC) formed during 2018-19 in areas of project management, monitoring and sustainability through skill-based training and orientations. In total, 675 WSUC members, including 295 female members, were trained/oriented in the reporting year. Likewise, the members of Ward WASH Coordination Committee (W-WASH-CC), School WASH Committee, Community Child Health Group (CCHG) and Child Health Awareness Committee (CHAC) also benefited from

our various capacity building activities in 2018-19. Furthermore, NEWAH organized several cluster-based education and WASH campaigns to create public awareness and bring sustainable hygiene and sanitation behavior change. A total of 233 community hygiene and sanitation campaigns and 261 school hygiene education sessions were organized in the reporting year.

Like in the past, we continued with the participatory monitoring and evaluation using Community Based Monitoring and Evaluation (CBME) tools where the users were involved right from the planning stage to project implementation, operation and maintenance, and monitoring and evaluation stages. Two rounds of joint monitoring visits (one each in Baglung and Sindhuli Districts) were also conducted. Moreover, a series of pre- and post-implementation monitoring activities were carried out for projects supported by charity: water grant 219 and grant 240. Projects from earlier grants were monitored through 'hello monitoring', which reported that the water systems have 96% functionality.

In achieving these results, NEWAH ensured to make Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) a key priority across all its policy and implementation work. NEWAH continued with its policy of ensuring 50% representation of women in WSUCs, with 50% being in the decision making position of the committee. However, it fell short of realizing the target – in all the WUSCs formed during 2018-19, only 44% of the members were women. NEWAH also carried on its social inclusion policy, endorsing a proportionate representation of all castes, ethnic, minority, and socio-economic group among project beneficiaries and the WSUCs formed. Of the total beneficiaries of 2018-19, 57% belonged to 'Disadvantaged Janajati' category based on ethnicity, and around 18% belonged to 'Dalit' category. Furthermore, participatory wealth ranking data from the project area suggests that 41% of the beneficiaries were categorized as being 'Ultra-poor.'

2018-19 saw the continuation of NEWAH's partnership with charity: water, who has remained as our primary funding partner since 2010. The funding came mainly for water supply, sanitation, and hygiene projects and activities. NEWAH's total income during 2018-19 amounted to NPR 212 million, while the total expenditure approached NPR 205 million. Of the total expenditure, 88% was spent on the program, while 12% was spent on administration.

Despite these achievements, there are yet several challenges before NEWAH, and WASH sector at large. There are still a large number of communities to benefit from WASH services. It is not easy for NEWAH to reach out to these settlements due to geographical, technological and investment reasons. Further, depletion of water sources and total destruction of water supply systems due to natural hazards and unplanned development activities in the completed projects need to be responded immediately. Such emerging issues will have to be taken up with priority for devising future mitigation measures. Moreover, the long-term sustainability of the water supply systems, the ODF status and post-ODF support remains an outstanding challenge, requiring more time and attention.

While trying to address the challenges, in the coming years, the organization will endeavor to diversify its funding base and ensure quality and sustainable services by continuing to coordinate with relevant WASH stakeholders at both local and national levels. Building capacity of the beneficiaries and the local intuitions for successful delivery and sustainability of WASH services will be emphasized and continued further. The focus will remain on scaling up based on the learnings from past and pilot projects and developing innovative solutions to existing WASH issues.

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ACRONYMS

3R	Recharge, Retention, and Reuse
CCHG	Community Child Health Group
CHAC	Child Health Awareness Committee
CHSV	Community Health and Sanitation Volunteer
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
ENPHO	Environment and Public Health Organization
GESI	Gender Equity and Social Inclusion
GI	Galvanized Iron
HDPE	High-Density Polyethylene
NEWAH	Nepal Water for Health
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NPR	Nepalese Rupee
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
ODF	Open Defecation Free
USD	United States Dollar
VDC	Village Development Committee
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
WSUC	Water and Sanitation Users' Committee
WSUG	Water and Sanitation Users' Group
W-WASH-CC	Ward WASH Coordination Committee

PROFILE OF NEWAH

Introduction

Nepal Water for Health (NEWAH) is a non-political and a nonprofit national non-governmental organization (NGO) that specializes in safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) promotion. Established in 1992, it is affiliated with the Social Welfare Council (SWC) - the governing body of the NGO sector in Nepal - and is registered with the District Administration Office (DAO) Kathmandu. It has an executive committee comprising seven members that are elected every two years by its General Assembly.

NEWAH is committed to developing and strengthening WASH infrastructures in rural and municipal areas by working directly with the beneficiaries and the local government, building their capacities to take ownership of their development, and providing them opportunities for socio-economic empowerment. It collaborates actively with the Government at all levels and sectoral partners, develops projects and implement activities in the field. NEWAH is also regularly involved in awareness creation, research and advocacy to secure the needs of water and sanitation of the underserved population.

NEWAH's core strengths include: (i) proven track record of delivering WASH services to underserved communities in rural and municipal areas at minimal cost, (ii) experience of working across the country with a range of donors, and (iii) a strong focus on capacity development, sustainability, and gender equality and social inclusion. It currently operates through the two Provincial offices located in Sindhuli (Province No. 3) and Baglung (Gandaki Province) and maintains over 90 professional regular staffs.

Vision, Mission, Goal & Objectives

Vision

Improved quality of life of all Nepali people through water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services.

Mission

Improve the living standard of the people in greatest need through equitable and sustainable access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene services.

Goal

To bring clean water to the doorstep of the people, provide extensive health and hygiene education, and promote sanitation in communities through collaborative development programs.

Objectives

The specific objectives of NEWAH are as follows:

- i. Provide technical knowledge and financial support for the construction/improvement of WASH services directly or in collaboration with local government and other development partners
- ii. Develop the capacity of individuals and institutions involved in the sector to manage WASH programs

- iii. Engage in research and studies to enhance the sectoral knowledge and advocacy for policy reform
- iv. Collaborate with government and other agencies to leverage equitable and sustainable access to WASH services
- v. Support the state's policies and stakeholders' programs to increase equitable and sustainable access to WASH services

Guiding Principles

NEWAH's work is guided by the following principles:

- Transparency
- Accountability
- Poverty sensitive
- Gender equity and social inclusion
- Community participation
- Integration of water, sanitation and hygiene
- Sustainability

Thematic Areas

NEWAH has been implementing projects under the following thematic areas:

- i. Drinking water, sanitation and hygiene services delivery to households, communities and local institutions
- ii. Capacity building and advisory to local actors/stakeholders
- iii. Advocacy to secure the need for water and sanitation of the underserved population
- iv. Monitoring, evaluation and continued learning
- v. Research, study and publication

Target Population

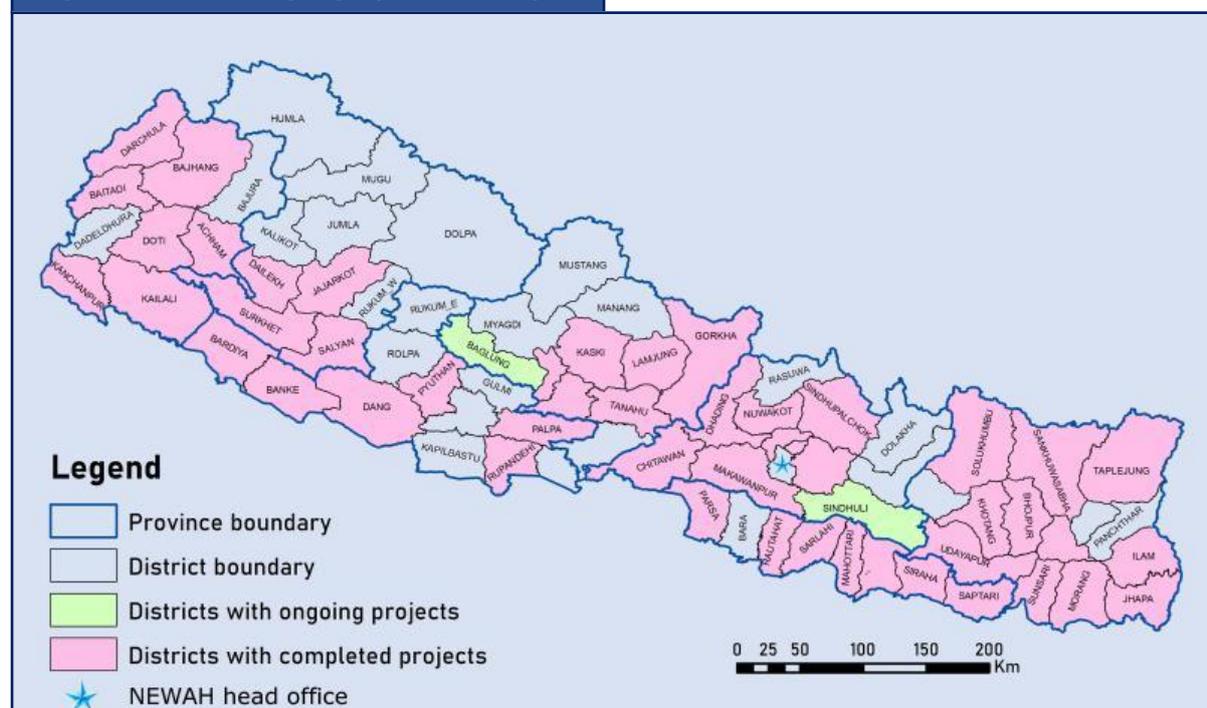
NEWAH's target population primarily consist of women, children, people with disability and caste and ethnic minorities from rural and marginalized communities who are deprived of basic water and sanitation services. The unique needs of these populations determine the nature of the actions we undertake.

Geographic Coverage

Since establishment in 1992, NEWAH has successfully implemented 2,412 projects in 51 (out of 77) districts of Nepal, directly benefiting over two million people. Majority of NEWAH's projects focused on constructing water supply and sanitation systems in both hill and Terai regions of the country. Other projects covered some important topics such as community-led total sanitation, multiple-use water supply services (MUS), rainwater harvesting/3R (recharge, retention, and reuse), rehabilitation, and nutrition and livelihood. In the process, a large number of physical infrastructures and social and human capital of the communities have been developed. The

cumulative impact of our work has translated, in most cases, into a visibly improved livelihood and well-being of the beneficiary population.

Figure 1: NEWAH's geographic coverage



Accomplishment

NEWAH's accomplishments, as of July 2019, is provided in the table below:

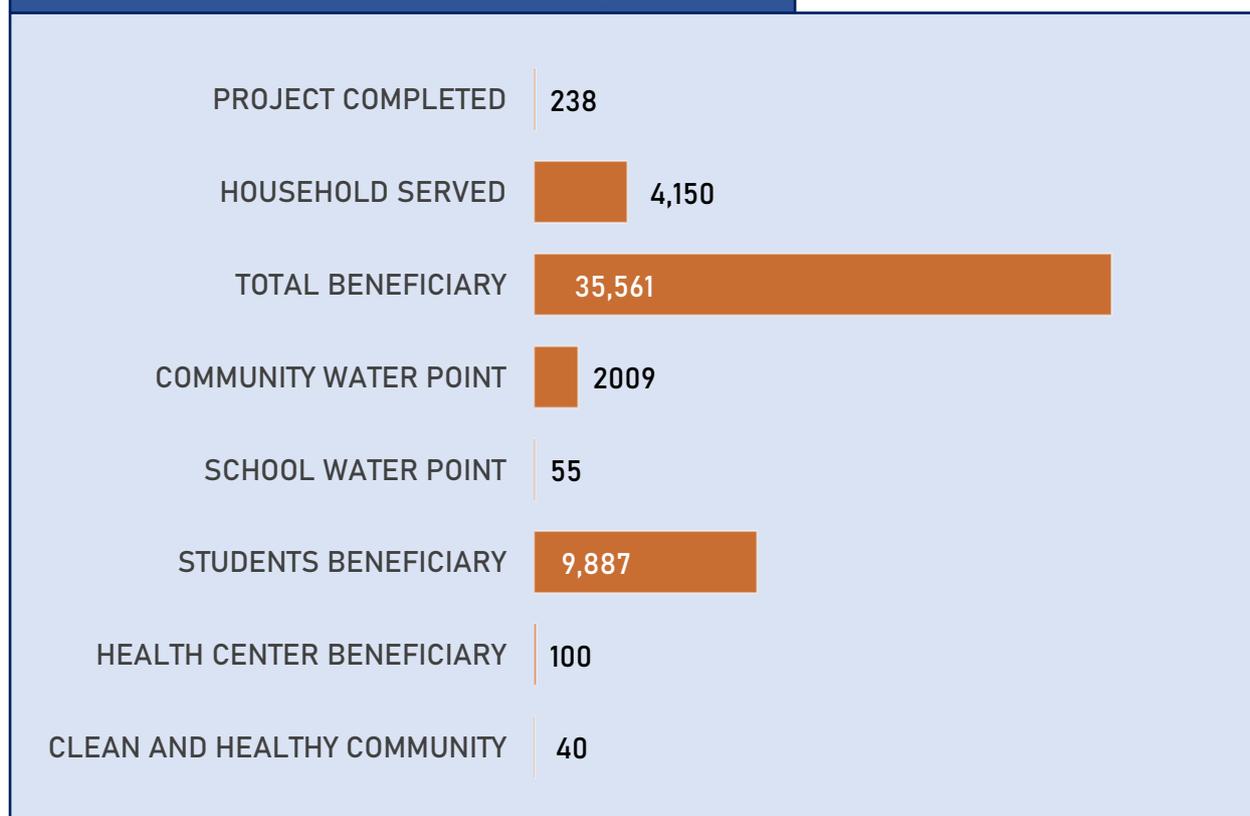
Indicator	No. (Cumulative), as of July 2019
Projects completed	2,412
Households served	327,822
Project Districts	2,085,516
Community water points built	36,328
School water points built	552
Household latrine built	146,374
School latrine built	685
Other latrine built	3,157
Student benefited	305,354
Total members in WSUC	18,512
Percentage of women in WSUC	42

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF 2018-19

NEWAH in 2018-19 completed 238 projects, reaching out to 4,150 households, 55 schools and four health centers, directly benefiting 35,561 people from ten rural municipalities and three municipalities across Baglung, Chitwan and Sindhuli Districts. The project implementation has contributed towards resolving the interlinked and complex problems of water supply, sanitation and hygiene facing rural, poor and the marginalized communities. Besides, local actor's capacity development, sanitation and hygiene awareness generation, and promotion of gender equality and social inclusion in WASH sector were other complementing areas of intervention.

In light of the recent state restructuring with functional three-tier government systems, NEWAH invested time and efforts to understand mechanisms of the newly established local and provincial governments, build relationships with them and support their WASH initiatives. In 2018/19, NEWAH facilitated in declaring Dudhauri municipality in Sindhuli District as ODF, and a total of 40 communities as a 'clean and healthy community' where every household use improved sanitation facilities, safe drinking water options, practice better hygiene behaviors and manage waste at the household level. Figure 1 provides a graphical view of NEWAH's accomplishments during 2018-19.

Figure 2: NEWAH's accomplishments during 2018-19



OVERVIEW OF PROJECTS IN 2018-19

Thematic Area I: Service Delivery

The majority of the projects implemented by NEWAH in 2018-19 had been directed towards enhancing the WASH service delivery in the underserved communities. The associated activities have focused on safe drinking water supply to households, communities and local institutions (schools and health posts), and promotion of sustainable sanitation and hygienic behavior among people. Inclusive access to WASH services was ensured by context-specific planning and prioritization processes, and collective action and contributions from all stakeholders.

Water Supply

During 2018-19, NEWAH completed the construction of 238 water supply projects. A total 2,068 water distribution points were established, of which 1,108 are community connections and 960 are on-plot connections. The number of total daily water users is 35,561. A vast majority of the projects utilized simple gravity flow technology (96%), while the remaining utilized solar pumping technology (2%) and motorized pumping technology (2%).



Water meters were installed in all water points under yard connection where the tariff is based on the volume of water used. Most WSUCs used increasing block tariff, keeping the initial five cubic meters per month at an affordable rate, and gradually increasing the tariff for higher water consumption. In community connections, however, water meters were not installed, and the O&M funds are collected based on a monthly flat rate decided by WSUC.

Water quality was tested using the ENPHO test kits in all water systems constructed. The test comprised of various physical, chemical and biological parameters including taste and order, temperature, TDS (Total Dissolved Solids), electrical conductivity, turbidity, ammonia, nitrate, pH, total hardness and coliform. The test was carried out both before the commencement of the project (baseline) and after the project completion (endline). All the parameters tested are found as per the standard permissible limits of Nepal National Drinking Water Quality Standards 2005.

To ensure quality water, NEWAH piloted the installation of an automatic, non-electric and online water chlorination solution called PurAll 100 in selected water supply projects in Baglung District. Based on its success in eliminating microbiological disease agents such as e-coli from the water and the WSUC's ability to manage in the long term, the solution will be considered for gradual adoption by NEWAH in the future water supply projects.

With regard to the functionality, a number of field monitoring studies carried out in 2018-19 reported that around 96% of water systems constructed by NEWAH at least two years earlier are fully functional. Those non-functional were due to various reasons such as dried up sources, natural

disasters, and pipeline blockage, breakage or leakage. NEWAH also carried out rehabilitation of 11 water supply systems during the reporting period.

Case study - 1

Water service changes the life

Dilmaya Praja, 46 years old, is resident of Jyarwang, Kanda, Chitwan. She is a mother of four daughters and four sons. To bring drinking water at home, she had to walk two hours to Udikhadling khola every day in very morning before sunrise. This had been her daily routine for the past 30 years. However, it is not only Dilmaya, every other women from her community had spent their life in tiresome drudgery of fetching drinking water from the distant source. The entire village was facing the hardship brought by the lack of closer drinking water source. The community people had relentlessly tried to solve the problem by requesting to the local elected body, as well as the concerned authority in the district, but their request went unheard for long.



Kanda is a remote village located in ward number 13 of Rapti Municipality of Chitwan district. To arrive at Kanda, it takes 3 hours' drive from district headquarters of Chitwan and 6 hours up-hill hike from the road head at Hattidhap. There are 51 households belonging to the indigenous 'Chepang' group and the total population stands at 464. The Chepangs are considered to be one of the highly marginalized communities in the having traditional subsistence based small economies. Maize, millet, wheat and mustard are the major crops produced in their lands, which are mostly marginal and unproductive. Consequently, the crops produced are not enough to feed the family all year round. During cereal scares months, the Chepangs depend on edible wild roots and bulbs. To generate income for subsistence, the male members of the household often go to neighboring villages in search for labor work. They continue to live with poverty in backward communities where there is a lack of access to basic facilities of water, education and health. If new people come to their village, they shy away, and hesitate to talk and share their problems.

In 2018, NEWAH approached the community with a water supply project under charity: water's grant 219, and supported the construction of 29 tap stands, of which 16 were community-based, 11 on-plot, 2 school-based. Dilmaya's family was among the benefited.

Nowadays, all people of the community, including Dilmaya, are extremely happy. Their daily routine to bringing drinking water from Udikhadling khola has changed. There is no need to walk hours to bring drinking water in the early morning. They bring water from the newly erected tap-stands near their home. They have also started producing vegetables in their homestead by using wastewater from the Kitchen. Dilmaya, with tearful eyes, ponders all the trouble she, her family and her community faced for years due to lack of access to close drinking water source, and shares that she is hopeful about her children and the future generation now having a better future.

Hygiene and Sanitation

NEWAH implemented hygiene and sanitation activities as an integral part of the water supply projects. During 2018-19, it facilitated the ODF declarations of 26 VDCs and a municipality in Sindhuli District of central Nepal. Achieving an ODF status involves ensuring that all households in the VDC/municipality have access to a toilet and that hygiene and sanitation standards are being observed universally in that area. Since all three districts where water supply projects were implemented during 2018-19 have achieved ODF status, NEWAH continues to support its

sustainability by implementing the post ODF activities guided by the Total Sanitation approach promoted by the Government of Nepal.

Consequently, the Ward-WASH-CCs and WSUCs have been assisted with self-declaration of “clean and healthy community”. The declaration was made after the communities met the five pre-determined criteria. They include: a) WSUC members have been trained in matters related to hygiene and sanitation, b) each household/local institution has a latrine built and is in use, c) hand-washing (with soap) facility available in each household/local institution and handwashing in critical times is mandatorily practiced, d) access to basic water services and affordable water purification technology/ies at household/local institution levels, and e) practiced hygienic and sanitary food and kitchen practices including use of clean dishes and food covered with lids. A total of 40 communities (34 in Sindhuli District and 6 in Baglung District) were declared clean and healthy community in 2018-19 with the support from NEWAH.

Environment sanitation through proper management of solid and sludge waste was also promoted as a critical component post-ODF support and a pre-requisite for a clean and healthy community. Accordingly, NEWAH supported the establishment of 1,817 garbage disposal pits and oriented community people on safe disposal and management of waste. Altogether, 35,561 people benefited from NEWAH’s sanitation and hygiene promotion activities during 2018-19.

WASH in local institutions

As per the spirit of the National Sanitation and Hygiene Master Plan of 2011, all schools must have separate latrines for men/boys and women/girls as well as handwashing facilities and must provide access to all including differently-abled children, youths and adults. However, inadequate sanitation and latrine facilities in schools are still causing some female students to drop out of or be absent from school for a prolonged period. Community schools in rural areas, in particular, lack resources, knowledge, and capacity to build, operate and maintain water, sanitation and hygiene facilities.



Against this backdrop, NEWAH supported the establishment, repair or upgrade of WASH infrastructures at a total of 51 community and private schools in Sindhuli and Baglung Districts and promoted sustainable hygiene and sanitation behavioral practices among students, teachers and parents through education and awareness. The total number of beneficiaries from our school WASH projects was 9,887 during 2018-19. Furthermore, NEWAH strengthened WASH infrastructures in the community health centers in the project area benefiting around 100 regular staffs directly and hundreds more people visiting those health centers indirectly.

Thematic Area II: 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 to meet these objectives, NEWAH in 2018-19 focused on transferring knowledge and skills to local stakeholders through various capacity-building activities.

Training and Orientation

Training and orientation were provided to:

WSUC

A WSUC is a community-based organization, comprised of nine to eleven members who are responsible for overseeing the overall management of a water supply project. NEWAH strengthened the capacity of all 64 WSUCs formed during 2018-19 for project management, monitoring and sustainability through skill-based training and orientations. As a result, WSUCs are able to plan, co-finance, manage, monitor, and sustainably operate and maintain the water supply systems.



WSUCs were also oriented on water safety planning (WSP) for identifying water-related risks and hazards and designing locally available control measures and improvement plans. Since the WSP is a health-based approach that requires water to be free from microbiological agents such as e-coli, WSUCs were further trained on water chlorination and were advised to do so at least two times a year (before and after the rainy season). Altogether, 675 WSUC members, including 295 female members, were trained/oriented during 2018-19.

Ward-WASH-CC

The capacity of the W-WASH-CCs was enhanced through training to make them able 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. They were also oriented on the Sanitation and Hygiene Master Plan and the Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) approach to help achieve the ODF status. A total of 25 training sessions for W-WASH-CC were conducted.

Community Health and Sanitation Volunteer (CHSV)

Hygiene and sanitation training was given to the 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. For instance, of the total 1,689 CHSV training participants, 75% were female.

Once trained, the CHSVs assist in conducting hygiene and sanitation promotion activities in their respective community during the project period. They also assist the communities in declaring a

“clean and healthy community.” After project completion, they help for the sustainability of the hygiene and sanitation behavior change in the community.

Caretaker

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 strategy to provide income opportunities to deserving and motivated women and men from poor households and disadvantaged/socially excluded caste groups. In total, 215 caretakers, including 72 female caretakers, were trained during 2018-19.



School WASH Committee

Total of 291 members (including 185 female) from 38 School WASH Committees 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.

Community Child Health Group (CCHG)

Children can be effective change agents to promote good hygiene and sanitation at the household and community level. With this realization, 24 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 2018-19, the training was offered to 206 children (including 110 girls) between 10-16 years old.

Child Health Awareness Committee (CHAC)

NEWAH facilitates the formation of a CHAC—a student’s committee with 13-15 members (with at least 50% girls)—in community schools of the project area. It also supports the formation of an Advisory Committee to CHAC consisting representatives from the School Management Committee, municipality/rural municipality, teachers and the Project Management Committee. During 2018-19, 41 CHACs were formed and trained to bring about sanitation and hygiene-related behavioral changes among the students. The training directly benefited 453 students, including 222 girls from community schools in Baglung and Sindhuli Districts.

Awareness Campaigns

Sustainable hygiene and sanitation behavior change of the communities has been one of the major challenges faced by NEWAH. Notwithstanding, NEWAH continued to adopt its municipality/rural municipality coverage approach in water, sanitation and hygiene by training local staffs and organizing cluster-based education and WASH campaigns to create public awareness and bring sustainable behavior change, particularly in the proper use of the toilet, handwashing at critical times and household waste management. Triggering campaigns were regularly organized in the project areas to generate awareness among the community people as well as to celebrate different national and international events in the project areas. During 2018-19, 233 community hygiene and sanitation campaigns and 261 school hygiene education sessions were organized.



Gender Equality and Social Inclusion

According to NEWAH policy, the WSUC formed at the project level should have the provision of ensuring 50% representation of women with 50% in the decision making position of the committee. The users' committee formed during 2018-19 had over 675 members, 44% of them were women.

NEWAH also takes social inclusion as one of its key principles. Therefore, NEWAH endorses a proportionate representation of all castes, ethnic, minority, and socio-economic group in the WSUC formed. In terms of beneficiaries, data from 2018-19 reveals that 57% were from 'Disadvantaged Janajati' category based on ethnicity, and around 18% belonged to 'Dalit' category. Furthermore, participatory wealth ranking carried out in the project area suggests that a majority (41%) of the beneficiaries were categorized as being 'Ultra-poor.' NEWAH's gender-responsive and inclusive approach aims to release the people from existing social, cultural and institutional barriers so that they enjoy the benefits of development programs and realize their potentials.

No age limit for hygiene and sanitation

Suka Maya Moktan, 81, is a resident of the Belghari Chisapani community located in the Tinpatan Rural Municipality, Sindhuli District. At 81, she is still strong, active and does all the household chores. The journey of her life, however, has not been very easy. Married at the age of 15, she frequently caught diarrhea because she lacked awareness about basic sanitary and hygienic practices. Up until the age of 78, she practiced open defecation because her house lacked a latrine. Handwashing with soap at critical times was something she had never practiced. The more disturbing fact was that the entire community practiced open defecation and lacked awareness about sanitary and hygienic practices.



Things started to change two years ago, when her VDC initiated an ODF movement where the village residents, with the support from the local government, constructed latrine near their dwelling. At the time when the VDC was declared an ODF zone, Suka Maya's family had a latrine and they were already practicing closed defecation. However, they still lacked knowledge and awareness on other basic hygiene and sanitation related practices besides latrine use.

In 2017-18, NEWAH implemented a water supply and sanitation project in Suka Mays's community. As a part of the project, NEWAH conducted several sanitation and hygiene related capacity building activities in the community. Suka Maya participated in basic WASH training and cluster awareness campaigns. She also benefited from the on-site demonstrations and personal coaching NEWAH field staffs provided.

Now, Suka Maya's daily routine has changed for good. She not only practices closed defecation and hand-washing at critical times, but also encourages other community members and the children to do so. She also maintains her personal hygiene, keeps the kitchen, the utensils and the food clean and safely disposes the household waste. "The sanitation and hygiene education has changed my behavior", Suka Maya further says, "I have understood the consequences of not following good hygiene and sanitation practices. The diarrheal diseases shall no more make me sick. I look forward to living 15 more years." Overwhelmed by the prospect of seeing drinking water at her doorstep, courtesy of the charity: water supported project, she adds, "There is indeed no age limit for learning good hygiene and sanitation practices."

Thematic Area III: 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 and costs and the benefits and burdens from project interventions within the community, but has also 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 2018-19. A participatory monitoring system was established 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 such as latrine and hand-washing facility. They also played effective roles in evaluating the ODF status and monitoring the implementation of post ODF plan.



Joint Monitoring

For the purpose of 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 2018-19, two joint monitoring visits were conducted at the local government level in Baglung and Sindhuli Districts.

Representatives from the District line agencies including the District Coordination Committee (DCC), District-WASH Coordination Committee (D-WASH-CC), District Water Supply Office

(DWSO), District Health Office (DHO) and District Education Office (DEO), and the 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 visit is 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 visit in the project Districts.

Pre- and Post-Implementation Activity

Projects from charity: water grant 219 were monitored during 2018-19, all within the two-year monitoring frame. In addition, all projects that exceeded the two-year frame were monitored through hello monitoring. The hello monitoring monitored a total of 185 projects from the earlier charity: water grants excluding grant 219. The result reveals that 96% 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.

Post-Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation

NEWAH carried out the post-implementation monitoring for charity: water grant 219 (completed during 2017-18) and some earlier grants in Baglung and Sindhuli Districts. During the monitoring, NEWAH conducted meetings with W-WASH CC, WSUC and the users to get information on the functionality of the systems as well as the status of O&M fund, caretakers and other issues. NEWAH also continued with the hello monitoring (for projects completed prior 2016-17) 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.

Also, during the reporting period, the end-line survey, which is executed six months after project completion, for charity: water grant 219 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 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.

FINANCIAL HILIGHTS

Income for 2018-19 amounted to NPR 211,575,000.00 (equivalent to USD 2,015,000.00; conversion 1 USD = NPR 105), an 8.21% increase over 2017-18 income. 100% of the total income received in 2018-19 was grant received from charity: water.

Similarly, the total expenditure for the year 2018-19 was NPR 204,996,32.00 (equivalent to USD 1952345.93), a 9.20% increase over the 2017-18 expenditure. Of the total expenditure, 88% was spent on the program, while 12% was spent on administration.

Figure 3: The trend of income and expenditure for past three years

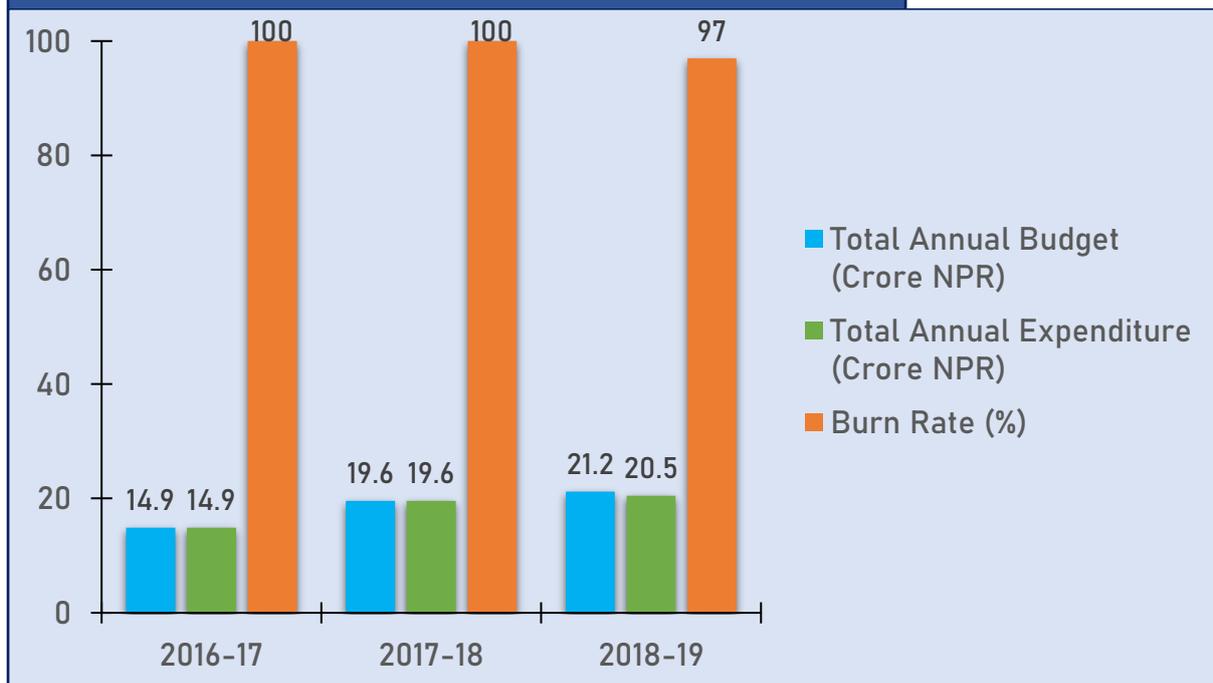
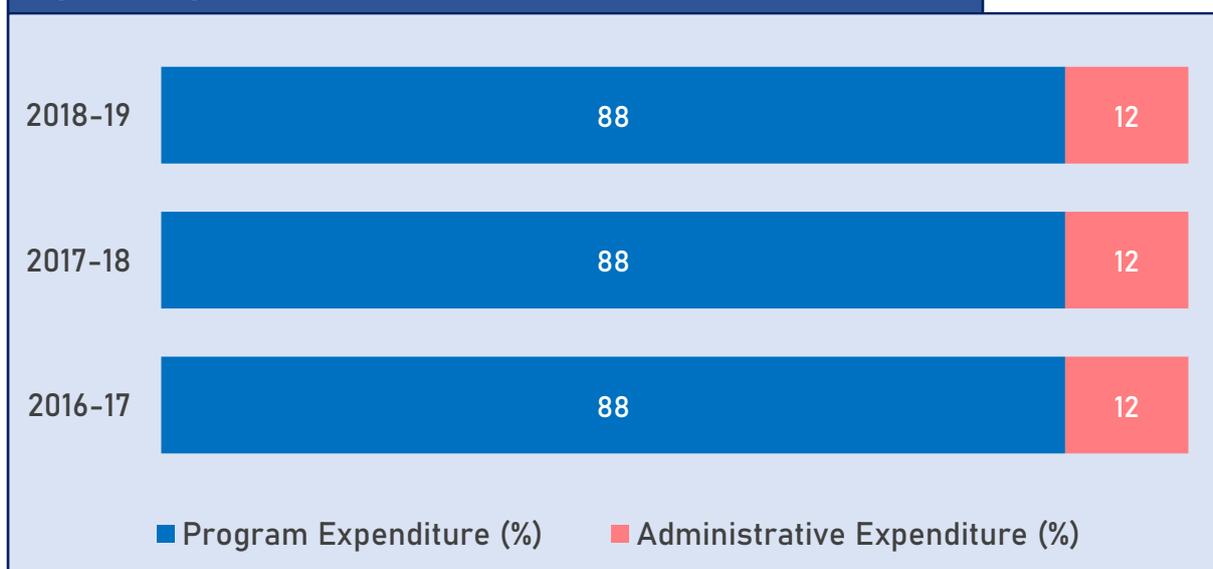


Figure 4: Program vs administrative expenditure for the past three years



CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNED

Challenges

The main challenges faced by NEWAH and the WASH sector at large during 2018-19 are as follows:

- Depleted and dried-up sources and damage to water supply structures due to landslide, flood and un-planned rural road expansion in the project communities.
- The in-migration of people from communities outside of the project area, leading to an increase in the number of water points and associated costs compared to the estimation made in the detailed project report.
- The (geographic) remoteness of the project areas posed a substantial challenge, particularly during transportation of the materials for construction of new a water supply system and repair/rehabilitation of non-functional systems.
- Providing access to sustainable water supply and sanitation services to selected high-altitude communities of Baglung District where transhumance herding system and seasonal migration is practiced.
- Water source registration posed a great challenge. Water source needs to be registered for a water supply project to be implemented, and NEWAH has been assisting the WSUCs to register their water sources. Before federalism, the water resource required registration with the District Water Resource Committee (DWRC). The new provision after federalism requires sources to be registered with the local government (municipality/rural municipality). However, there was persisting ambiguity during entire 2018-19 due to lack of clear directives to the local government regarding water source registration from the central government, which affected, and in some cases delayed, the projects implemented during the period.
- Long term sustainability of both water supply systems, the ODF status and post-ODF support remained an outstanding challenge throughout 2018-19.
- The environment and space for NGOs such as NEWAH to work and contribute to economic and social transformation did not remain that encouraging during 2018-19. Instead of securing enabling environment, delays in procedural hurdles from renewal to project approval has made challenging for NEWAH to be able to remain vibrant and resourceful.

Lessons Learned

NEWAH emphasizes on consolidating past learning and experiences for better planning and delivery of WASH projects in the future. The lessons learned during 2018-19 are as follows:

- Proceed with the co-funded project only after making a formal agreement with the co-funding organizations – WSUCs, local government and other agencies.
- Organize frequent meetings to discuss budget forecasting and regular updating the value of underspent budget to implement additional projects from the saved amount.
- Communicate NEWAH’s financing and operational modality with the WSUG members at the onset of a water supply project to avoid any future misunderstandings about the costs and contributions.
- It is not always feasible to cover all households of a municipality/rural municipality as per NEWAH’s policy on covering an entire municipality/rural municipality through water supply

projects. Therefore, projects need to be designed in ways to make a balance between the demand from communities and NEWAH's policies.

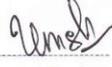
- Implementing projects in partnership with W-WASH-CC is instrumental in maintaining and establishing local level coordination, monitoring, management and mobilization of fund received from municipality/rural municipality for the WASH promotion.
- Capacity building training and orientation to the target beneficiaries and are very important and necessary to bring about desired behavioral changes.
- Integrating remote sensor-based monitoring with traditional field-based participatory monitoring produces a better result.
- Women's meaningful participation in leadership positions can be successfully achieved through affirmative actions interconnected with a tailor-made capacity building program and giving them wider exposure.
- Integration of DRR, climate change, and vulnerability and capacity self-assessment activities into WASH schemes are essential for better management of water resource and sustainability.
- Activities focusing on capacity development and performance improvement of WSUC and local WASH committees in addition to service delivery is the best way to ensure the sustainability of WASH schemes in the future.

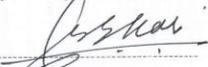
ANNEX

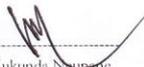
Annex I: Audit Statement

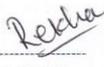
Nepal Water For Health (NEWAH) Lohasal, Kathmandu Fund Accountability Statement For the period July 17, 2018 to July 16, 2019 (Shrawan 01, 2075 to Ashad 31, 2076)			
			NPR
Particulars		FY 2018/19	FY 2017/18
Opening Fund Balance		41,105,548	12,578,090
Cash		8,746	446
Bank		44,734,659	6,032,149
Advances		4,368,990	20,580,822
Payables		(8,006,846)	(14,035,327)
Restricted Fund		210,564,557	182,820,668
Grants Received During The Year		209,819,271	182,796,147
WaterAid Nepal (WAN)		-	15,240,000
Charity Water Grant # 212		-	1,904,098
Charity Water Grant # 219		-	7,251,426
Charity Water Grant # 226		-	1,417,973
Specific		-	2,161,721
Drop of Life		-	1,456,659
International Medical Corps		-	2,194,346
Charity Water Grant # 240		86,408,677	124,233,906
Sabal		2,399,517	26,936,018
Charity Water Grant # 293		116,275,400	-
Charity Water Grant # Sensor Installation		4,735,677	-
Other Income		745,287	24,521
Unrestricted Fund		891,804	1,001,939
Transfd. From Simavi 13-16 and Simavi NWA A/C		-	302,143
Transfd from Endowment Fund		-	2,753
Membership Fees		3,200	3,200
Interest earned		201,014	90,553
Others Income		687,590	603,291
Total Fund Available for the year	A	252,561,909	196,400,697
Fund Utilisation During the year			
Office Running Cost and Office equipments 91		11,382,523	25,119,189
Capital Costs 92		3,878,756	74,026
Vehicle Running Cost 93		13,505,720	5,419,480
Staff & Partner Support Cost 95		43,152,282	38,419,924
Material and Material Transport Cost 96&97		64,820,704	86,070,842
Survey & Planning Cost		-	188,936
Transferred to NEWAH Support Account		-	10,675
Refund to Donor		1,138,797	-
Total Fund Used During the year	B	137,878,782	155,303,071
Balance	C=A-B	114,683,126	41,097,626
Balance Represented by:			
Cash		36,176	8,746
Bank		115,533,428	44,734,659
Advances		11,014,277	4,358,890
Receivable		1,710,749	10,100
Payables		(13,611,504)	(8,006,846)
		114,683,126	41,105,548

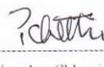

 Sita Ram Chaudhary
 Finance Manager


 Umesh K. Pandey
 Director


 Gyanendra B. Bhari
 BRS Neupane & Co., Chartered Accountants


 Mukunda Neupane
 Treasurer


 Rekha Tulachan
 Member Secretary

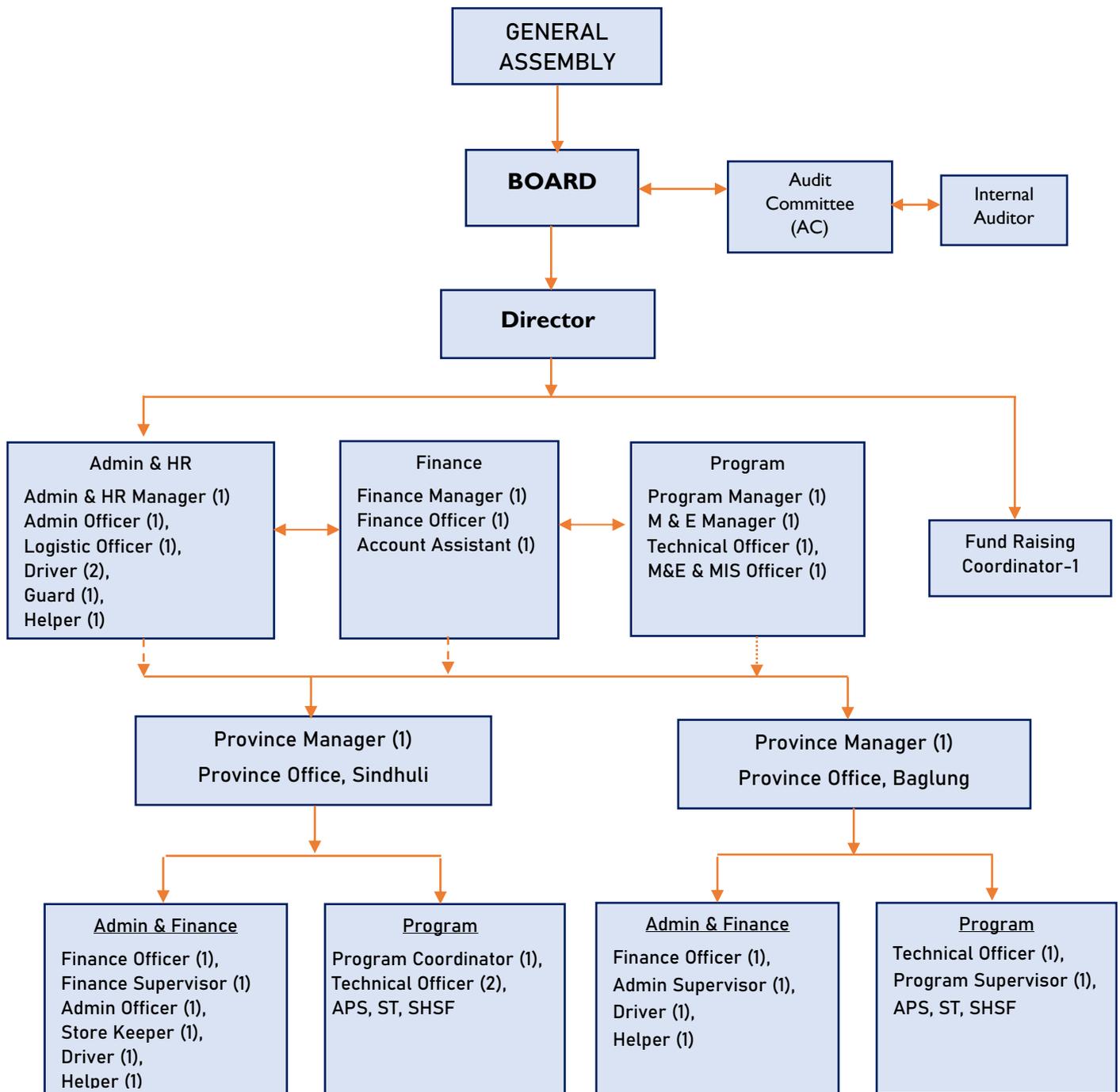

 Dr. Pitamber Chhetri
 Chairperson



Date: 2076/06/07
Place: Kathmandu, Nepal

Note: The statement above does not cover the entire reporting period (1 November 2017 – 29 March 2019)

Annex 2: NEWAH Organizational Structure



(Approved by NEWAH Board on 25 August, 2019)

Annex 3: NEWAH Board 2018-2020

Prof. Pitambar Chhetri, PhD

Chairperson

Prof. Kapil Shrestha

Vice-Chairperson

Mr. Mukunda Pd. Neupane

Treasurer

Ms. Rekha Tulachan

Member Secretary

Mr. Lok Bhakta Rana

Member

Ms. Manjuri Singh

Member

Mr. Bijay Pant

Member