



6th International Dry Toilet Conference
22nd to 24th August, 2018
Tampere, Finland



**Sustaining sanitation movement by generating
livelihoods for low income households**

Presented by:
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Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project in Western Nepal, Phase II
Nepal



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Presentation outline

- Project background
- Sanitation status and Open Defecation Free (ODF) campaign in Syangja district
- Major challenges after ODF declaration
- Case study
- Lessons learned
- Recommendations



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The Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project in Western Nepal Phase II

General Background

Nepal-Finland Cooperation	Nepal-Finland bilateral cooperation has supported the WASH sector of Nepal since the last 30 years (1989)
Funding	The Government of Nepal ; Ministry of Finance The Government of Finland; Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Project period	September 2013 – July 2019
Execution	Ministry of Federal Affairs & General Administration Department of Local Infrastructure Development and Agricultural Roads (DoLIDAR) Through Project Coordination Office and Project Support Unit in Pokhara
Implementing Organization	Implemented through local governments and users' groups





The Overall objective of RWSSP -WN II is

....to improve health and fulfilment of the equal right to water and sanitation for the inhabitants of the Project area.

The purpose of Phase II is the poorest and excluded households' rights to access safe and sustainable domestic water, good health and hygiene ensured through a decentralised governance system.



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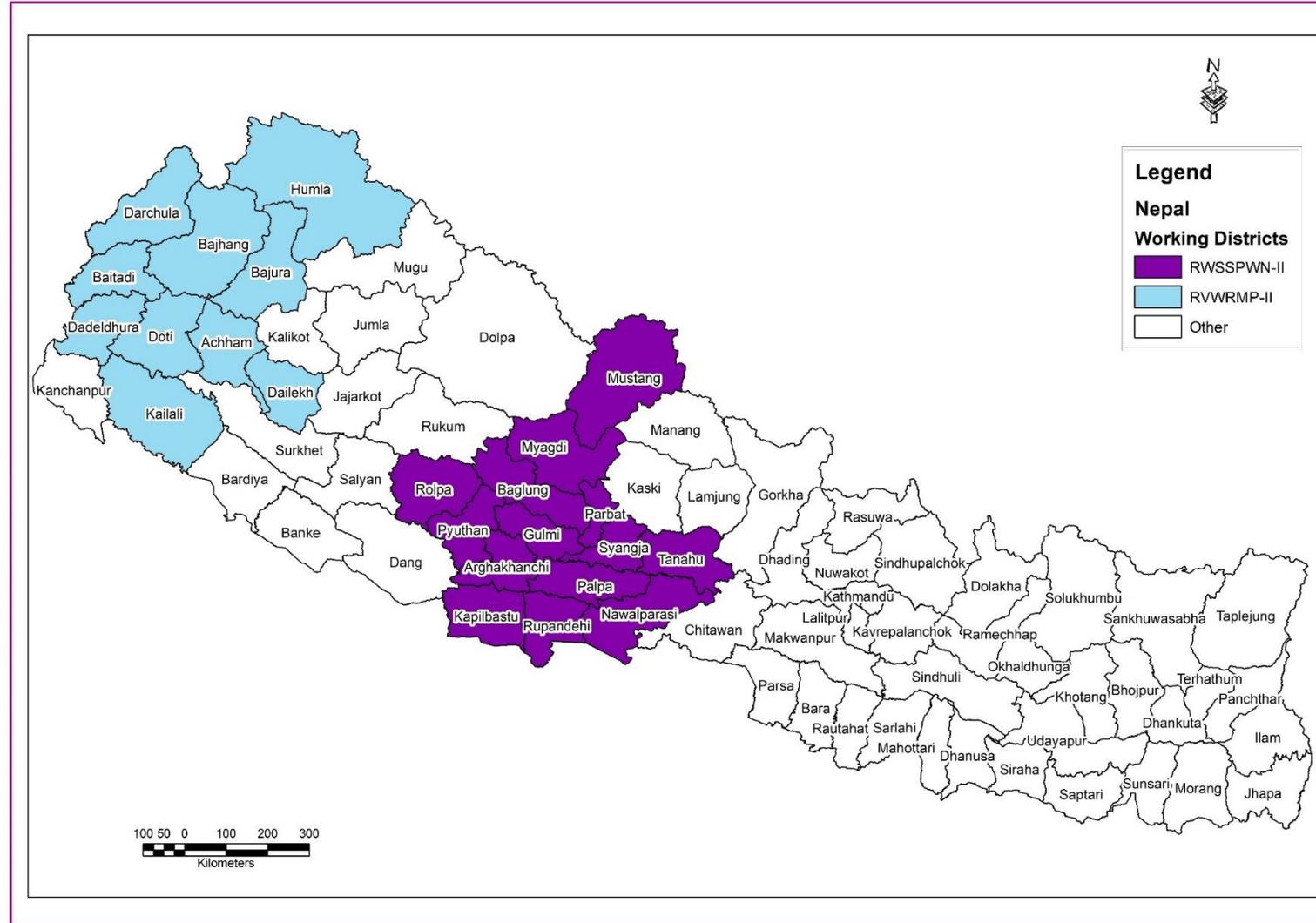
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Map of Nepal and the Project working area (districts)



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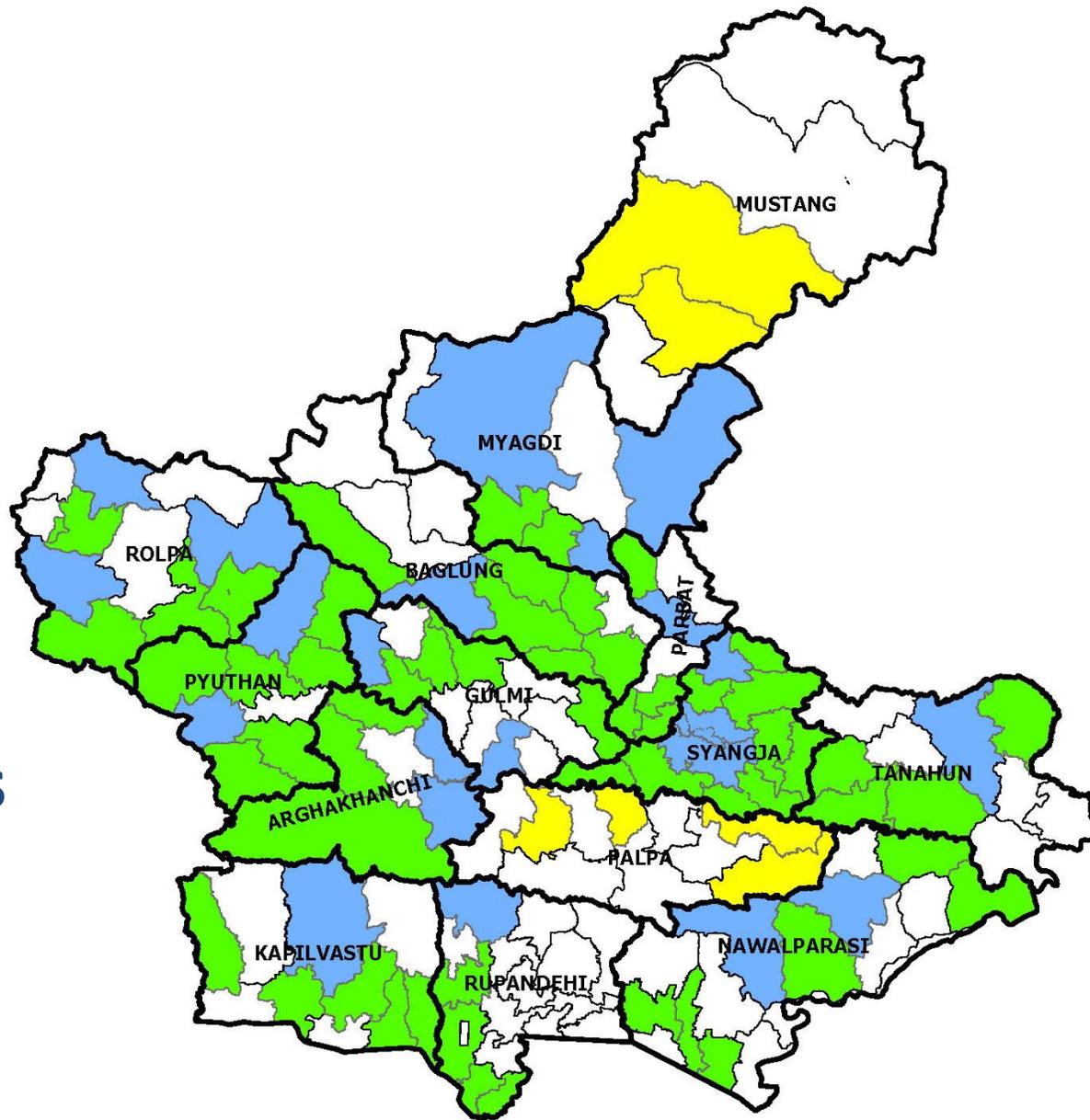
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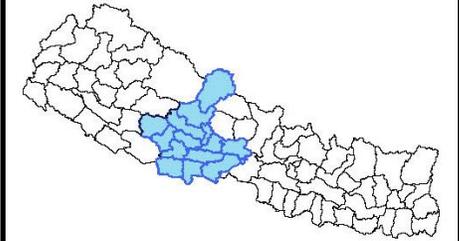
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RWSSP-WN Phase II, working Municipalities



Rural Water Supply
& Sanitation Project
in Western Nepal
Phase II
Working GP and NPs

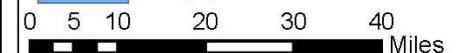


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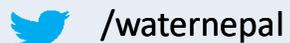
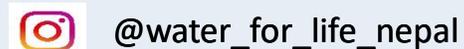
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P_Modality

- Program
- Sanitation Program
- Support

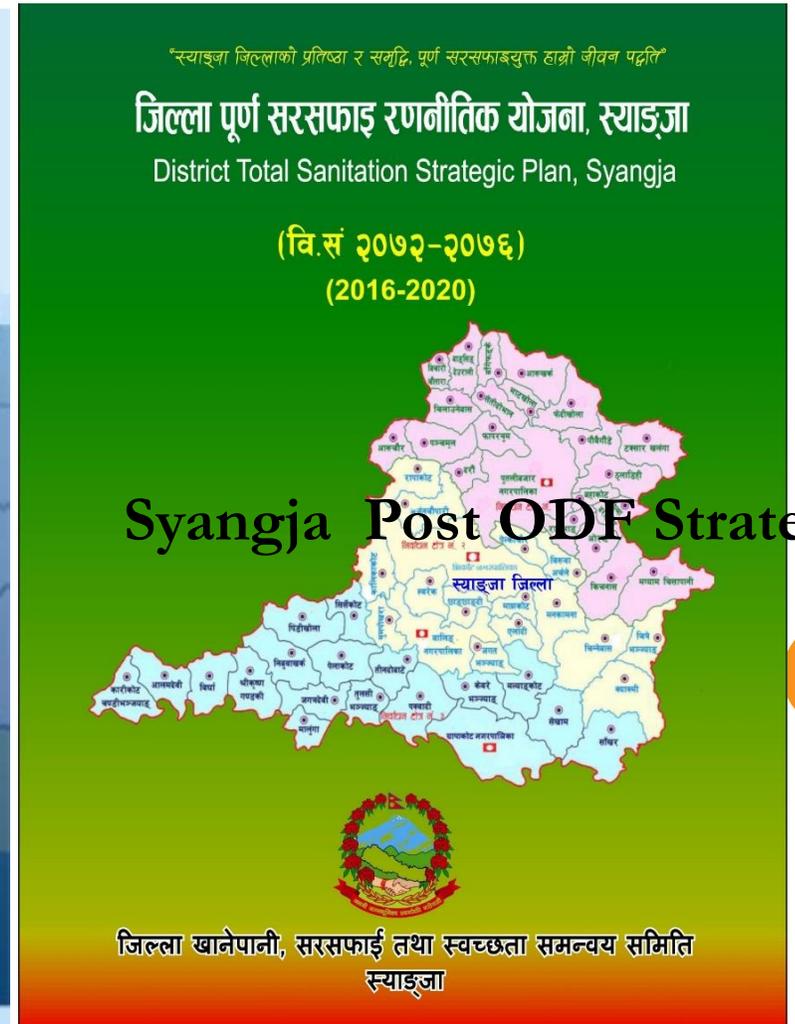
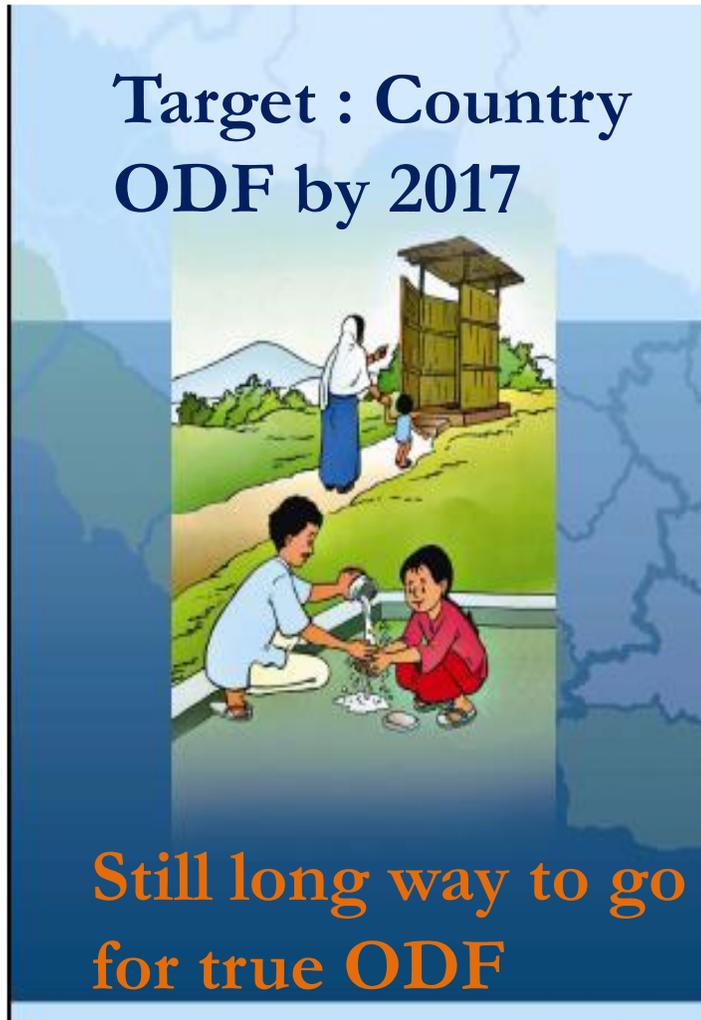
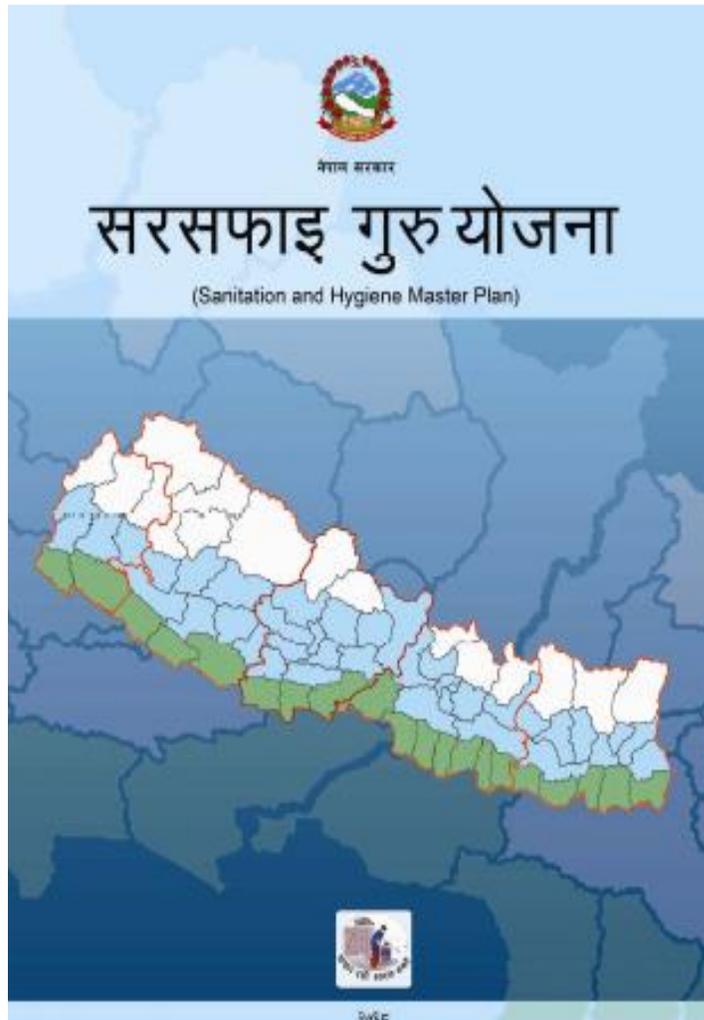


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Sanitation journey





Target of the ODF campaign

Access to toilet to all, at all times

Sanitation facilities available in public places, institutions & schools

No open defecation in any area at any time



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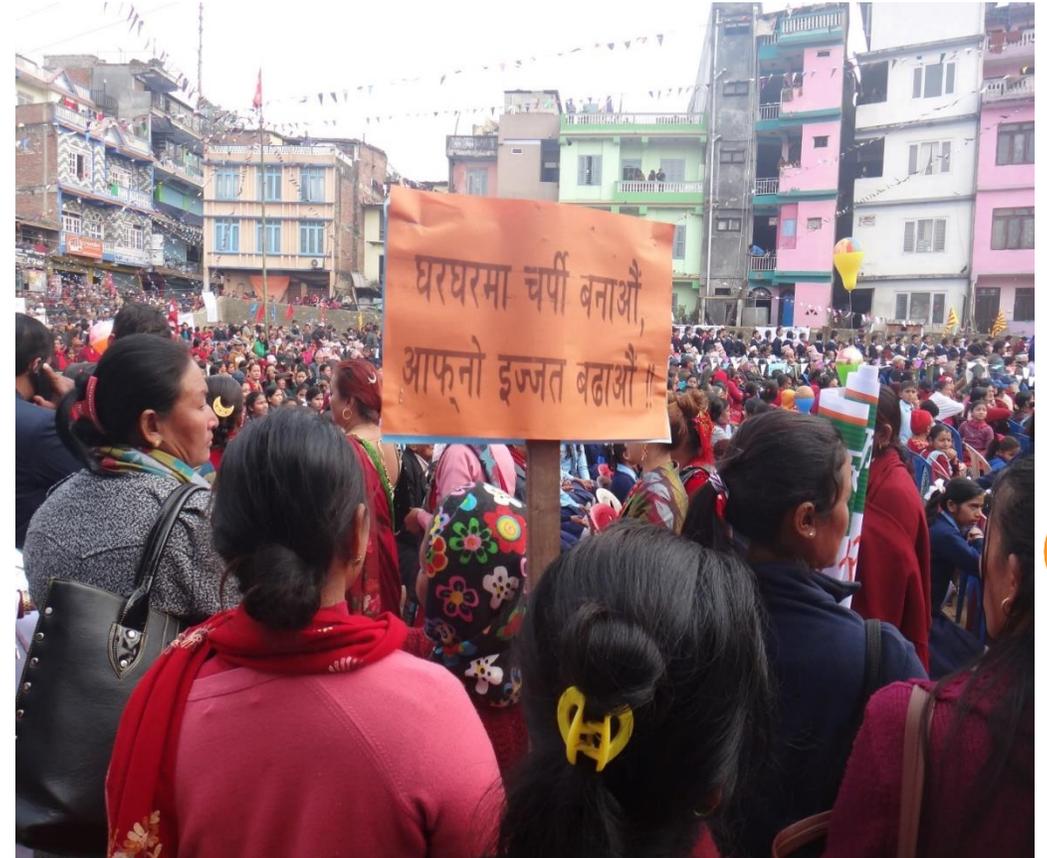


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ODF-campaign in Syangja district

- Initially sanitation was not addressed alone but together with drinking water supply interventions.
- RWSSP –WN Phase I (2008-2013) prioritized sanitation as its own result area in the program.
- Country-wide ODF campaign started after the promulgation of Sanitation & Hygiene Master Plan in 2011.
- The campaign was successful in Western Nepal, Coverage in RW's working districts went from 40 % in 2011 to 97% in 2017.



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ODF-campaign in Syangja district

- Syangja was declared ODF in 2016. While the ODF campaign was successful, sustaining the ODF status remains a challenge.
- Absence of public toilets especially by the highway and operation & maintenance (O&M) of public toilets is a headache not only for the Syangja district but for the whole WASH sector in Nepal.
- Syangja started a campaign to sustain ODF by promoting Total Sanitation and applying behavior change techniques from the beginning of RWSSP - WN phase II.
- District Post-ODF strategy (2016-2020) was developed in 2016.



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Post-ODF support for Total Sanitation



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Major challenges after ODF

- Open and accessible toilets in public places particularly by highways
- Operation and management of public toilets
- Repair and maintenance of public toilets
- Public toilet as a source of income?
- No only in Syangja but in all Nepal these are the main issues needed to be addressed to sustain and achieve Total Sanitation



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This presentation highlights a positive case - one of the Syangja public toilets that successfully linked sustainable sanitation to improved livelihoods



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Highway sanitation for sustainable ODF

Ramdi to Kubhinde, Siddartha Highway



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Highway sanitation for sustainable ODF

- A part of Siddhartha Highway (Kubinde–Ramdi) runs through Syangja district (79 km)
- Now 27 public toilets have been constructed by the highway in Syangja . Functionality survey shows that only 4 toilets are functioning well, 18 toilets are managed poorly and 5 are not in usable condition / locked /not accessible by users
- The same time there is a demand for 2 new public toilets

Overall, the situation of public toilets is threatening the sustainability of ODF



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Case example: community's good practice to support the livelihood of vulnerable family and manage a highway public toilet

Haripala, Syangja

- Open defecation and urination prone area
- Used to be dirty, smelly and shameful route for all and particular for girls while travelling (only OD possible)
- Community demanded public toilet
- The toilet was constructed with the technical support of RWSSP-WN II and financial support by the governments of Nepal and Finland
- It was a big challenge to find a caretaker for the toilet since in people's mindset it is the most shameful job anyone can ever have



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From shameful work to entrepreneurship

- Sarita Thapa, a 36 year old woman with two children, was living in a temporary shed by the roadside near Haripala.
- She used to sell homemade alcohol for transportation workers which attracted crowds in night time. As a result, the community blamed her for ruining the social prestige of the community and for decreasing security in the area. Her character was also questioned.
- Due to the high pressure and threats by the community, ultimately she had no other option than to migrate to a lonely area by the road side to continue her business. She had no home to go and it was the only way to maintain livelihood for her family.
- But with her also the sanitation problem shifted: open defecation (mostly urine) by transportation workers continued in the new location.



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From shameful work to entrepreneurship

- Haripala community took a decision to construct a public toilet to avoid open defecation, to provide sanitation facility to road users, and to support Sarita's family for improved livelihood.
- To fulfill the community's demand for public toilet, RWSSP WN-II Syangja team designed the system with the provision of business space for the family.
- Actual total cost NPR 828,880 (GoN 269,386, GoF 269,386, DDC/Municipality 33,152, Community 256,953).
- Facilities: Business room-1, Toilet pans for female-2 and men-1, Urinals for men-5, Toilet for differently abled-1.
- Toilet users' committee together with the community made a decision to provide the business space to Sarita. Against the space, she has to take care of the toilet without compensation.





Haripala Public Toilet, Putalibazar Municipality-1, Syangja District



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Other similar interventions of RWSSP WN-II in Parbat district



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Benefits for travelers

- Convenient location for travelers for refreshment
- Clean toilet - happy users (soap and water always available)
- Well operated and maintained
- Safety: no need to go to bushes
- Possibility to purchase tea, coffee and snacks

There is a large number of vehicles (approx. 1,000 a day) passing in the highway.



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Improved livelihood for care taker Sarita

- ✓ Approximately 50 vehicles a day stop for toilet use.
- ✓ Sarita earns NPR 30,000 to 40,000 per month, saving minimum NPR 10,000 and in average NPR 15,000 per month after deducting all expenses.
- ✓ Total O&M fund collected NPR 36,436 (July 2018).
- ✓ Because of the increased income, Sarita could put her son (11yrs) in a good school and he is now studying in grade 7. Her older daughter got married without completing school and is living with her husband.
- ✓ Sarita constructed a new home for the family in the same roadside building. Her single elder sister is also living with her and supporting the business.
- ✓ Sarita has a plan to continue the successful business and to support her son for higher education using her earnings.



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Learnings & Recommendations

- The demand for public toilets is increasing, however, their sustainability is still a challenge.
- There are many poor communities/excluded households by the road side. These people could be involved in public toilet O&M: it would support their livelihood.



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Positive implications –replicating the idea

Raniraha, Bhirkot Municipality used to be open defecation prone zone and it was very challenging to stop OD in the area. Municipality supported for public toilet and private sector invested for restaurant nearby the toilet to grab the business opportunity , taking also the O&M responsibility of the toilet.



A number of highway restaurants with public toilet facility from private sector investment have appeared by the highway after the Haripala toilet. This is very positive but also affecting Sarita's earning; she has seen 50% decrease in customers.



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FCG.

Thank you !

Appreciating your valuable comments !!!



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