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EUROPEAN UNION

Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland

RVWRMP

Phase III

SEMI-ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

Fiscal Year 07

FY2078/2079 (16/07/2021 – 14/01/2022)

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Figures

List of Tables

List of Annexes

Abbreviations

APR	Annual Progress Report
AWP	Annual Work Plan
CCA/DRM	Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
DMM	Dignified Menstrual Management
DoLI	Department of Local Infrastructure
DWS	Drinking Water Supply
DWSSM	Department of Water Supply and Sewerage Management
EU	European Union
EUR	Euro
FC	Field Coordinator
FCG	Finnish Consulting Group
FY	Fiscal Year (Nepal, from mid-July to mid-July)
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
GoF	Government of Finland
GoN	Government of Nepal
GWRO	Gaunpalika Water Resources Officer
HG	Home Garden
HH	Household
HRBA	Human Rights Based Approach
ICS	Improved Cooking Stove
IEC	Information Education and Communication
IWM	Improved Water Mill
KoBo-data	Internet based tool for data collection
kW	Kilowatt
LMBIS	Line Ministry Budgetary Information System
M	Million (MEUR: million Euros)
MFA	Ministry for Foreign Affairs (of Finland)
MHM	Menstrual Hygiene Management
MHP	Micro-hydro Power
MIS	Management Information System
MoFAGA	Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MT	Mega Tonnes
MUS	Multiple Use Water System
NPR	Nepalese Rupee
N-WASH MIS	National WASH Information and Management System
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
ODF	Open Defecation Free
OSS	Operational Self Sufficiency
PEARLS	Protection, Effective financial structure, Asset quality, Rates of return and cost, Liquidity and Signs of growth
PCO	Project Coordination Office
PD	Project Document Phase III

PoCo	Post-Construction phase
PSU	Project Support Unit
QARQ	Quality, Accessibility, Reliability, Quantity
RM	Rural Municipality / Gaunpalika
RMSU	RM Support Unit
RVWRMP	Rural Village Water Resources Management Project
RWH	Rainwater Harvesting
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SHP	School Management Committe
SMC	Sanitation and Hygiene Promoter
SMW	Solar Maintenance Worker
SO	Support Organisation
TA	Technical Assistance
TS	Total Sanitation
TSU	Technical Support Unit
UC	Users' Committee (water, sanitation, micro-hydro, irrigation, etc)
UNESCO	United Nations
VDC	Village Development Committee
VMW	Village Maintenance Worker
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WRA	Water Resource Advisor
WRDF	Water Resources Development Fund; also referred to as "RM-WRDF"
WRE	Water Resource Engineer
WSP	Water Safety Plan
WSS	Water Supply Scheme
WUMP	Water Use Master Plan
WUSC	Water Supply and Sanitation Users' Committee

Step-by-Step approach and scheme status:

- PPO Preparatory Phase On-going
- PPC Preparatory Phase Completed
- IPC Implementation Phase Completed and financially cleared
- IPC* Implementation Phase Completed but not financially cleared
- IPO Implementation phase ongoing

Glossary

Core RMs: RVWRMP first phase started in 53 Village Development Committees (VDCs). In the second phase, the first phase VDCs were continued and 61 more VDCs were added. After the federal restructuring of Nepal, VDCs and municipalities were merged, and became Rural Municipalities and Municipalities. At that time 27 Core RMs were selected. Core RMs have the project's institutional support unit (RMSU), RM-based project funded staff and the fully fledged project package including water supply, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), irrigation, multiple use systems (MUS), livelihoods, improved water mills, improved cooking stoves, institutional toilets and gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) capacity building.

Non-core RMs have proposal-based water supply schemes and activities such as home garden support as part of the scheme. There will be no new round of call for proposals. There are 36 Non-Core RMs. In total with Core and Non-Core RMs there are 63 RMs where the project was active in FY06. Non-core implementation support ended in FY06, though some capacity building has continued.

Home Garden: Home gardens aim to improve the diet and nutritional intake of the rural people. Home gardens are a standard package together with the water supply facilities. The purpose is to utilize the excess and recycled water from water supply schemes. The 'ideal' home garden has four components: vegetables, spices, fodder, and fruit trees. This combination of plants and trees maximizes the nutrient value of the available space in a sustainable way. Without one or more component, it is not considered to be a complete home garden. The term "kitchen garden" is sometimes used instead of home garden, but usually means that they lack some of the components of home garden.

LMBIS: The Line Ministry Budgetary Information System (LMBIS) is a browser-based budget entry system of the Ministry of Finance. All offices, departments and ministries under the Government of Nepal need to enter their project budgets into LMBIS. This process must be completed two weeks before the budget speech (15 Jestha; around 29 May). LMBIS is the foundation of the Red Book national budget. Once entered in the LMBIS the budget is fixed for the fiscal year.

Multiple-Use Water Systems (MUS) are water systems designed in such a way that a single water system fulfils several functions - domestic, productive, and other water needs like renewable energy. As such, it considers the water demands for each of those components. By definition, MUS could cover different types of needs of the rural community by providing safe drinking water, irrigation, rural electricity, improved water mill services, and supports other domestic water-based enterprises like horticulture, fisheries, animal/poultry farming etc. MUS schemes are high on the priority list of the RVWRMP menu.

Non-Conventional Irrigation differs from a conventional canal system. It is relatively modern system where water is brought to crop fields through pipes and stored in ponds or tanks. This may include range of water acquisition and application technologies such as Sprinkler and Drip. Sprinkler system is the method of watering the plants in the form of spray which breaks in to drops and stimulates the natural rainfall with controlled frequency, intensity and duration; whereas drip irrigation is a system where water is applied in an efficient manner at root of the plant and is generally used in plastic tunnel houses.

Conventional Irrigation system is a traditional irrigation method where water is brought to the field through mud or lined canals, and off-takes are provided from the canal itself to deliver water to the field.

Three Star School WASH Procedure of Government of Nepal, School WASH Procedure, 2074, 2nd revision approved by Director General Level dated on 2076/06/14 explains the milestones as follows:

- One star: all children participate in daily supervised group hand washing with soap sessions (ideally before group hand washing); schools have general toilets that are functional, clean, and used by all children (no open defecation in school catchment area); every child has access to a water source in the school catchment area to practice hand washing with soap daily and for drinking purposes; and schools have hygiene education integrated in the School Implementation Plan.
- Two stars: Children wash their hands with soap after using toilet; improved sanitation and menstrual hygiene facilities are available; and potable/drinking water is available and accessible in school catchment area so that children practice safe health practices and drink water.
- Three stars: fully meets the national standards as per Child, Gender and Disabled friendly framework. This includes social norms on good hygiene practices and behaviour are institutionalized; improved child friendly school sanitation facilities for all children, boys and girls, including disabled students; and national inequities are eliminated by ensuring all schools in the country have same standards for WASH in Schools.

The school can be rated as 'One Star' after scoring 30 points on the related criteria. Similarly, after fulfilling the criteria for Two Star or Three Stars, the school can be specified as 'Two Star' or 'Three Star' for School water, sanitation & hygiene. The criteria for School WASH are measured against 10 indicators: 1. Water Supply; 2. Toilet; 3. Clean, Green and Hygienic Environment; 4. Food Hygiene; 5. Hygiene Facility; 6. Hygiene Education; 7. Menstruation Hygiene Management Facility; 8. Institutional Arrangement and Sustainability; 9. Disaster Risk Management; 10. Monitoring and Accountability.

Service level as per QARQ indicator: 'the sustainable provision of water of a given quality, quantity, accessibility and reliability at a given place as per the proposed usage'. The Project follows QARQ service level

indicator as below:

- Quantity: > 45 litres per capita per day
- Accessibility: Within 15 minutes round trip
- Reliability: 12 months uninterrupted service
- Quality: Free from e-Coli (Presence/Absence vial test)

Total Sanitation standards were introduced in Nepal with the National Total Sanitation Guideline in 2018 (2073). They aim to institutionalise defined national sanitation standards through local governments. Total Sanitation builds on the previous Open Defecation Free (ODF) campaign that was completed with a nation-wide ODF declaration in 2018. There are seven primary Total Sanitation themes: planning, toilet use, personal hygiene, safe drinking water, safe food, household and institutional sanitation and environmental sanitation. Community progress is measured through a set of detailed indicators that all need to be achieved to receive Total Sanitation status.

Water Safety Plan: Preparing a Water Safety Plan is a compulsory activity for all water supply schemes, as stated by Step-by-Step modality. Once schemes are completed, UCs receive training, during which the WSP is formulated. WSP supports Disaster Risk Management both in terms of preparedness and reduction, and when strengthening UC capacity to deal with unexpected structure damage, caused by natural or man-made disasters.

List of working Rural Municipalities

Sn.	District	Rural Municipality (RM)	RM Type
1	Achham	Ramaroshan RM	Core
2	Achham	Turmakhand RM	Core
3	Baitadi	Dilasaini RM	Core
4	Baitadi	Pancheswor RM	Core
5	Baitadi	Shivnath RM	Core
6	Bajhang	Chhabis Pathibhera RM	Core
7	Bajhang	Talkot RM	Core
8	Bajhang	Thalara RM	Core
9	Bajura	Gaumul RM	Core
10	Bajura	Swamikartik Khapar RM	Core
11	Dadeldhura	Aalital RM	Core
12	Dadeldhura	Ajaymeru RM	Core
13	Dadeldhura	Bhageshwor RM	Core
14	Dailekh	Bhagawatimai RM	Core
15	Dailekh	Bhairabi RM	Core
16	Dailekh	Naumule RM	Core
17	Darchula	Apihimal RM	Core
18	Darchula	Marma RM	Core
19	Darchula	Naugad RM	Core
20	Doti	Badikedar RM	Core
21	Doti	Bogtan Fudsil RM	Core
22	Doti	Sayal RM	Core
23	Humla	Kharpunath RM	Core
24	Humla	Namkha RM	Core
25	Humla	Sarkegad RM	Core
26	Kailali	Chure RM	Core
27	Kailali	Mohanyal RM	Core

Executive Summary

This is the Semi-Annual Progress Report of the Rural Village Water Resources Management Project (RVWRMP) Phase III. It covers the first half of the Fiscal Year 2078/2079 (July 16, 2021, to January 14, 2022) according to Government of Nepal Fiscal Year (FY). This is the seventh and final fiscal year (FY07) of implementation of the Project. During FY07, RVWRMP works jointly with 27 core Rural Municipalities (RM), see list presented on page vii. The Project is fully embedded in the new federal structure and local governance.

RVWRMP has developed the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Management Board (WASH Board) concept together with Rural Municipalities (RMs) to institutionalise WASH governance. The project has moved ahead with the concept of the WASH board and its operational arm, the RM WASH Unit. Former local project teams, known as Rural Municipality Support Units (RMSUs) have been merged with the WASH Units for FY07. Former RMSU staff, Gaunpalika Water Resource Officers, Technical Facilitators and Livelihood Facilitators, work inside the WASH Unit. In FY07, the project has focused on developing both the National WASH MIS platform by RM level data collection. RMs can utilise the collected data in their own RM WASH MIS. RM level field data collection will be completed in early 2022.

By the end of the reporting period in mid-FY07, the Project has benefited total 380,485 people in 789 water supply schemes. In FY07 alone, there are 11,620 new beneficiaries in 15 water schemes. This includes water supply beneficiaries from the multiple-use water systems (MUS). In FY07, the project has put special emphasis on Total Sanitation and School WASH activities (see Result Area 1 for more). Another emphasis of work in FY07 has been the focus on WSP of all proposal-based water supply schemes. The project continues to complete the activities in the four results areas and to ensure sustainable exit and adequate capacity at the community and RM levels.

The project operates through the human-rights based approach (HRBA) and considers gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) as a cross-cutting objective. In FY07, the project has observed that Users' Committees (UC) are increasingly led by women in key positions. The project has focused on Sustainable Dignified Menstruation Management (DMM) workshops. The Dhangadhi Declaration on DMM was reviewed in a workshop together with project RM vice chairs in November 2021. A DMM Action Plan was developed and signed in the same occasion. The project is taking steps towards appointing a local celebrity as a DMM Ambassador to spread information and important GESI-related messages to the public.

As FY07 is the final year of implementation, the project has begun to phase out in line with the Exit Strategy, approved by the Supervisory Board. In the beginning of FY07 the project phased out of all except the 27 core RMs. By January, three Technical Support Unit offices (TSU) have been closed and respective teams merged with neighbouring TSU offices. The long-term project liaison office and Guest House in Kathmandu has been closed. Kathmandu-based staff have been relocated to an office within the DoLI compound.

The total FY07 budget considering all possible contributions is MEUR 9.4. Of this, total MEUR 4.4 flow through the RMs' WRDFs. The total budget as stated in the GoN Red Book was NPR 600 200 000 to be released through RMs' WRDFs. This was assumed to equal to MEUR 4.4 with the EUR: NPR exchange rate 135. The actual rate for the first EUR WRDF funds released during the first 6 months reporting period had the exchange rate of 138.11. By the end of the period expenditures in view of FY07 budget in the Red Book were 29% from GoN and 42% from GoF/EU side.

Overall GoF/EU expenditures including the TA Contract were 45% of the FY07 budget. Further details are presented in Section 5. **Annex 3** presents the Semi-annual expenditures in view of FY07 budget as well as the overall cumulative expenditures in view of overall budget from all sources.

It should be noted that the users' contributions are counted only when the scheme reaches "IPC" status, i.e. it gets completed and financially cleared. Only then, the users' contribution both in cash and kind can be established while preparing the Measurement Book for the scheme as per the GoN system.

Table 1 Key indicators and results achievements and targets

Indicator	Achievement in FY07	Cumulative by Mid-FY07	Cumulative Progress (%)	End Target
1.2 Number of water supply beneficiaries 1.2.1 Number of schemes with water supply	11,620 15	380,485 789	106% 87%	357,500 910
1.6 Number of institutions / schools / public places supported by the project fund with disabled and gender-friendly toilets and access to hand washing	5	208	116%	180
2.1 Number of home garden beneficiaries	5,965	322,350	115%	281,500
2.5 Families trained in income generating activities (counted in beneficiaries)	13,928	97,850	163%	60,000
2.8 Beneficiaries of irrigation schemes	4,107	66,666	96%	69,677
2.10.1 Shareholders of cooperatives	760	31,490	105%	30,000
3.2 Number of beneficiaries provided with access to sustainable energy services (ICS and IWM)	NA (calculated annually)	227,095	116%	195,000
3.4 Greenhouse gas emissions mitigated using sustainable technologies, e.g., ICS & IWMs ($mtCO_2e$)	NA (calculated annually)	240,713	96%	250,000
4.6 RM-WRDF funds are expended against the annual budget	34%	80%	94%	85%

Table 2 Status of major numerical GESI achievements.

Indicator	Total N	Women N	Women %	Dalit N	Dalit %	Janajati N	Janajati %
R.1.2 Number of water supply beneficiaries*	380,485	191,564	50%	75,977	20%	24,247	6%
R.1.2.2 Number of beneficiaries							
1) School / institutional sanitation	50,288	25,919	52%	NA	NA	NA	NA
2) School / institutional water supply	92,491	46,623	50%	NA	NA	NA	NA
R.2.1 Number of home garden beneficiaries	322,350	160,801	50%	63,837	20%	25,748	8%
R.2.3 Percentage of Dalit and other socially excluded groups in home garden and leader farmer training (FY07 only)	4,158	3,321	80%	720	17%	327	8%
R.2.8 Beneficiaries of irrigation schemes	66,666	44,137	66%	14,259	21%	5,551	8%

* Water supply schemes free household members (usually women) from the burden of fetching water over long distances. Saved time can be used for home garden management and other productive works, as well as having more opportunities for social activities and community representation. Girls use saved time for studies.

Note: Project data is disaggregated by gender, caste and ethnicity.

1 INTRODUCTION

This is the Semi-Annual Progress Report of the Rural Village Water Resources Management Project (RVWRMP) Phase III. It covers the Fiscal Year 2078/2079 (July 16, 2021, to January 14, 2022) according to Government of Nepal Fiscal Year (FY). This is the seventh and final fiscal year (FY07) of implementation of the Project. RVWRMP Phase III (March 2016 to July 2022) works in 27 Rural Municipalities in 10 districts of Sudurpaschim and Karnali Provinces.

The Overall Objective of RVWRMP is improved health and reduced multidimensional poverty within the project working area. The Purpose of the Project is to achieve universal access to basic WASH services, and improved livelihoods with establishment of functional planning and implementation frameworks for all water users and livelihoods promotion in the project area. The interventions are grouped under four result areas: 1. Drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene; 2. Livelihood development; 3. Renewable energy and climate change; and 4. Governance. The Project is aligned to the policies of the government of Nepal and the activities are geared towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The project governing authorities are the Ministry of Finance of Nepal and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland and EU. The EU joined the project via a delegated funding arrangement with the MFA Finland in late 2017. The executing authorities are the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA) and the Department of Local Infrastructure (DoLI), Nepal, together with participating municipal governments. The Technical Assistance (TA) consultant for the Project is FCG Finnish Consulting Group Ltd (FCG, formerly FCG International), which has continued since Phase I.

The project is known as a forerunner in its alignment to the federal structure of the country. Municipalities were established late 2017 as new, democratic, local tiers of governance, and the project adjusted its operational structure accordingly. The responsibilities of the municipalities include ensuring equitable access to water supply and sanitation. The project therefore went from dealing with 10 units of District-level local government, to working directly with and through the municipal administrations. The fund flow mechanism was adjusted accordingly, the fund from Finland and European Union being now channelled directly to RMs' accounts for investment and recurrent local budgets, as approved at national level in the Redbook. The RMs have the lead in the implementation of the schemes and related activities, while the project focuses more on providing capacity development, facilitation and monitoring of the processes.

During FY07 RVWRMP III works with 27 core Rural Municipalities. At the end of FY06, the project phased out of 36 proposal based RMs. Changes in project working municipalities in recent years are presented in Table 3.

Table 3 RVWRMP Working Area

Fiscal year	Core RMs	other (R)Ms	Total
FY03	27	21	48
FY04	27	42	69
FY05	27	39	66
FY06	27	36	63
FY07	27	0	27

The total Project Document Budget for Phase III was MEUR 60.2. The GOF contribution was set at MEUR 15, the EU contribution is MEUR 20, the GON contribution was MEUR 15, and the RM contribution was estimated at MEUR 5.2. Additional contributions were expected from users/beneficiaries worth MEUR 5 in cash and kind. However, this budget has been revised over the years of implementation to correspond to the actual contributions, so the total budget is now MEUR 70.1. The additional budget derives mainly from an increase in the contributions from RMs and users. In addition, the GoF carry-over of EUR 385,726 already released to RMs from Phase II was added to implementation in Phase III.

The Project Support Unit (PSU) in Dadeldhura manages project implementation and Project Coordination

Office (PCO) coordinates the operations on behalf of DoLI/MoFAGA. Technical Support Units (TSUs) are located at district-level. They supervise implementation of activities in Rural Municipalities. Former local project teams, known as Rural Municipality Support Units (RMSUs) have been merged with the RM WASH Units for FY07. Former RMSU staff, Gaunpalika Water Resource Officers, Technical Facilitators and Livelihood Facilitators, work inside the WASH Unit. RM WASH Unit is the operational arm of the RM WASH Board. User Committees (UCs) are the backbone of the project implementation. They are the owners of their project, and lead planning, implementation and later operation and maintenance (O&M) of their scheme. These schemes are based on the priorities as identified in RM Water Use Master Plan (WUMP) for their respective area.

The project has two cross-cutting objectives. First, the project operates through the human-rights based approach (HRBA) and considers gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) as a cross-cutting objective. There are a range of targeted capacity building activities with a focus on HRBA and GESI, including e.g., Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM). Second, Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management (CCA/DRM) activities include renewable energy, climate resilient infrastructure development and both local and municipal level capacity building.

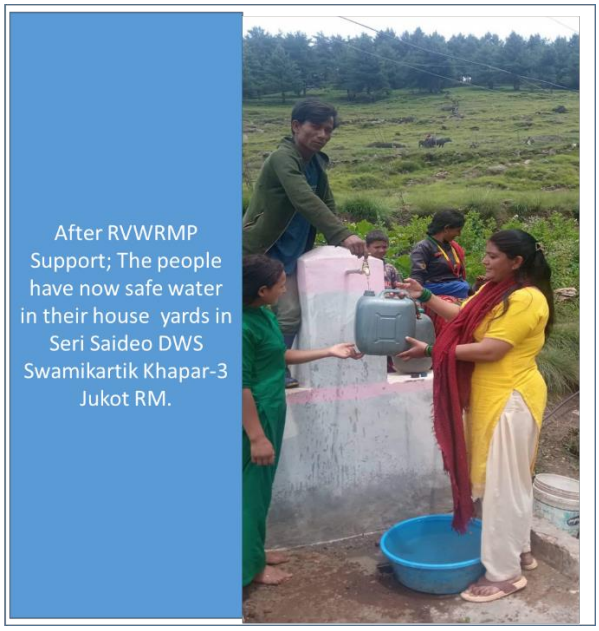
The next sections consider progress and achievements of results (**Section 2**); cross-cutting objectives (**Section 3**); Information management, communication and research (**Section 4**); budget status (**Section 5**); human resources and assets (**Section 6**); risks and responses (**Section 7**); and Sustainability, lessons learnt and recommendations (**Section 8**). The annual and cumulative achievements with the end of the project targets are presented in **Annex 1** Result Chain Matrix. **Annex 2** presents financial progress with regards to Rural Municipality (RM) Water Resources Development Funds (WRDFs). **Annex 3** presents the overall budget tables. **Annex 4** presents the current human resources. **Annex 5** presents the communications and visibility accomplishments as well as blog posts published during the reporting period. **Annex 6** presents a study that was completed in FY07 about water tariffs in private tap schemes. Finally, **Annex 7** presents the developed Concept Paper of RM WASH Boards.

SCHOOL WASH ALITAL RM

BEFORE PROJECT

AFTER PROJECT

Before RVWRMP Support; Seri Saideo DWS the people used to drink unsafe water from rain water collected in spouts



3-STAR PREPARATION OF KALIKA MA VI, MANGHAR, BHAGWATIMAI RM

BEFORE PROJECT

AFTER PROJECT

2 PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS

2.1 Project Objective and Purpose

Overall Objective: improved health and reduced multidimensional poverty within the project working area.

The RVWRMP Phase III overall objective relates to the well-being of the local population. More specifically, it concerns measures of reducing poverty, improved health, especially through reduced excreta-related and water borne diseases and improved Human Development Index (HDI), a decrease in proportion of people falling under the poverty line and reduced prevalence of stunting in children under five years old corresponding to the SDGs. The Result Framework of RVWRMP defines three impact level indicators as described in Table 4. Data for the objective-level impact indicators come from other sources than the Project itself, which often means that there is not always very recent or detailed spatial (Municipal/District/Province levels) data available. In those cases, the progress has been measured by other types of equivalent indicators.

Table 4 Objective-level impact indicators. External data source references are given below the table.

Indicators	Baselines	Targets	Status
1. Improvement in the Human Development Index (HDI) in the project RMs;	HDIs in 2011: A non-weighted average of Sudurpaschim Province was 0.401, and for working area Karnali 0.399 (PD). Baseline (PD): Achham 0.378; Baitadi 0.416; Bajhang 0.365; Bajura 0.364; Dadeldhura 0.436; Dailekh 0.422; Darchula 0.436; Doti; 0.407; Humla 0.376.	HDI improvement by an average of 0.05 by 2021	2020 data for Sudurpaschim was 0.547 and Karnali 0.538 (UNDP & GoN, 2020). **This represents an increase of 0.146 and 0.139 points, exceeding the target by almost three times.** More spatially detailed data not available.
2.Proportion of population living below national poverty line at RM/district or region/province level	Multidimensional Poverty Index in 2014 was 33.6 in Sudurpaschim, and 51.2 in Karnali (GoN, 2021). Baseline (PD): Achham 47.2%; Baitadi 45.7%; Bajhang: 56.8%; Bajura 64.1%. Dadeldhura 43.3%; Dailekh 35.8%. Darchula 53%; Doti 48.9%; Humla: 56%.	Not set in PD. Reduction expected.	Multidimensional Poverty Index in 2019 was 22.7 in Sudurpaschim, and 35.6 in Karnali, representing **respectively a 23% and 36% reduction in the working Provinces** (GoN, 2021). No recent data on population living under poverty line (checked in January 2022).
3. Prevalence of stunting in children under 5 years old has reduced in the Project RM/districts	Baseline (PD): Far Western hill areas (Sudurpaschim) 57.5% (2011); Dailekh: Stunting >50% (2011); Humla: 60% (2011).	Reduction by 30%	Prevalence of stunting children was 36% in Sudurpaschim (GoN, 2016). **This equals a 37% reduction in Sudurpaschim, exceeding the set target.** District level data are not available. Recent data not available (Checked in January 2022).

Indicators	Baselines	Targets	Status
Data sources:	Government of Nepal (GoN), 2021. *Multidimensional Poverty Index. Analysis Toward Action.* National Planning Commission. Available (17 January 2022): https://npc.gov.np/images/category/MPI_Report_2021_for_web.pdf. UNDP & GoN, 2020. *Human Development Report 2020. Beyond Graduation: Productive Transformation and Prosperity.* Available (17 January 2022): https://npc.gov.np/images/category/NHDR_2020.pdf. Government of Nepal, 2016 *Demographic and Health Survey.* Ministry of Health. Available (17 January 2022): https://www.dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/fr336/fr336.pdf.		

Purpose of the Project is to achieve universal access to basic WASH services, and improved livelihoods with establishment of functional planning and implementation frameworks for all water users and livelihoods promotion in the project area.

The purpose of the project is related to improvement of WASH, livelihoods, and governance (Table 5). The respective indicators address water supply coverage, sanitation improvements, Municipal planning, renewable energy, and cooperatives. These indicators indirectly reflect the result areas of the project. Data for the purpose-level indicators often come from other sources than the Project itself, which means that there is not always very recent or detailed spatial (Municipal/District/Province levels) data available. In those cases, the progress has been measured by other types of equivalent indicators.

Table 5 Purpose-level indicators. External data source references are given below the table.

Indicator	Baseline and target	Status
Percentage of population using safely managed drinking water services (SDG 6.1)	*1) Basic water service* level including improved water source and (potential for) safely managed water service as defined for SDGs is in line with the PD (p.67). **Baseline and target (PD): < 82%**; and **90%.** *2) Improved, safely managed drinking water service* as defined by SDG 6 is "drinking water from an improved source which is located on premises, available when needed and free of faecal and priority contamination". There is a **25% coverage in Nepal (NPC, 2019). While no target was set on this indicator, the project aims at the same level.**	*1)* 88% in 2019 (GoN, 2020). **91,5% in 2021** (GoN, 2021 p.189)**, exceeding the target.** Spatially detailed data not available. 2) In January 2022, there were 241 Private tap schemes out of 851 WSS schemes constructed (Project MIS Data), giving **28.3% of the total – exceeding the aimed level.**
Project area declared Open defecation free (ODF) and follow the post-ODF strategy as per total sanitation guidelines	Project area declared Open Defecation Free Baseline (PD): 5 Districts, target 7 Districts.	**All the Districts in the Project area were declared ODF in 2018, meeting the target.** The GoN Post-ODF strategy provides indicators for Total Sanitation (TS). The local government level follows the national TS strategy. This indicator has been incorporated in the Project's Indicator Matrix.
Increased household income measured by the proxy indicator of vegetable production in project areas (Districts).	Baseline (PD): 93,740 metric tons in 2014; Target**: Increase by 20%.**	No data available on the exact subject. Monitoring by the project suggests that the previous levels of production and income generation from agriculture have clearly been exceeded in Project Municipalities. A study on

Indicator	Baseline and target	Status
		the topic is ongoing.
Water Use Master Plans (WUMPs) prepared.	Baseline: 0 WUMPs; target 27 RM-level WUMPs.	WUMPs prepared for all 27 Core-RMs in 2019, meeting the target.
Renewable energy produced from Project interventions.	**No baseline or set target**. Positive development expected.	The installed ICS and IWM benefit a cumulative total of 227 095 people. Respective CO2 reductions are reported annually in the result indicator matrix. Two Solar Panel Grids are under construction. The two schemes will benefit 166 Households: 12+ hotels, 3 police posts, 2 health posts.
Percentages of developed cooperatives achieve an operational self-sufficiency of 110%.	No stated baseline (probably 0%); **Target 54 out of 60 (90%).**	**By the end of FY06, 41 cooperatives have achieved Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS).** The Project is continuously supporting new cooperatives, but it takes time to achieve OSS (see result indicator 2.10.2).
Data sources:	Government of Nepal, 2020. *National Review of Sustainable Development Goals.* National Planning Commission, Nepal, Government of Nepal, Kathmandu, June 2020. Available (17 January 2022): https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/26541VNR_2020_Nepal_Report.pdf Government of Nepal, 2021. *Economic Survey 2020/2021.* Ministry of Finance. Available (17 January 2022): https://www.mof.gov.np/uploads/document/file/1633341980_Economic%20Survey%20(Engslish)%202020-21.pdf.	

2.2 Result Area 1 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Result Area 1 corresponds to *"Institutionalized community capacity to construct and maintain community managed water supply and adopt appropriate technologies and sanitation and hygiene behaviour."*

This Result Area has several institutional layers: 1) local governments as duty bearers; 2) UCs; and 3) individual households as rights-holders. The concepts of RM WASH Board and RM WASH Unit have been introduced and WASH Management Board directives have been approved at RM level (see Annex 7 for the RM WASH Board concept). The project has also produced a study brief about water tariffs in private tap schemes (Annex 6). Project implementation in FY07 continues through the WASH Units.

In FY07, the project implemented the remaining ongoing schemes and post-construction scheme support for major maintenance and upgrading the service level of schemes (RV I-III). Proposal based IPC*/IPO schemes follow up and technical support continued to make all proposal-based schemes IPC. Sanitation and hygiene infrastructure support focused on Total Sanitation schemes and school WASH infrastructure. Water Safety Plan with CCA/DRM training is planned in all project-supported water supply schemes to ensure water quality and quantity, reliable services now and in the future, short- and long-term O&M plan, water tariff collection and address natural and human-made risks.

Result indicator 1.1 Number of water supply schemes in Phase III provides improved water supply services defined as improved and functional fulfils the QARQ criteria

(cumulative).

The first three indicators for Result Area 1 are inter-linked. QARQ refers to national standards for quality of service provided by the schemes and stands for Quality-Access-Reliability-Quantity (see definitions in the Glossary). The cumulative percentage out of the total 789 schemes (including water supply and MUS schemes) is 96 %. The end target is set at 97%.

All QARQ indicators are subject to change at any time: for instance, the severity of the yearly monsoon varies greatly. During FY07, service levels and functionality are receiving systematic attention with the establishment of the RM WASH MIS, which is linked to the National WASH MIS (for more, see section 4.1).

Result Indicator 1.2 Number of water supply beneficiaries

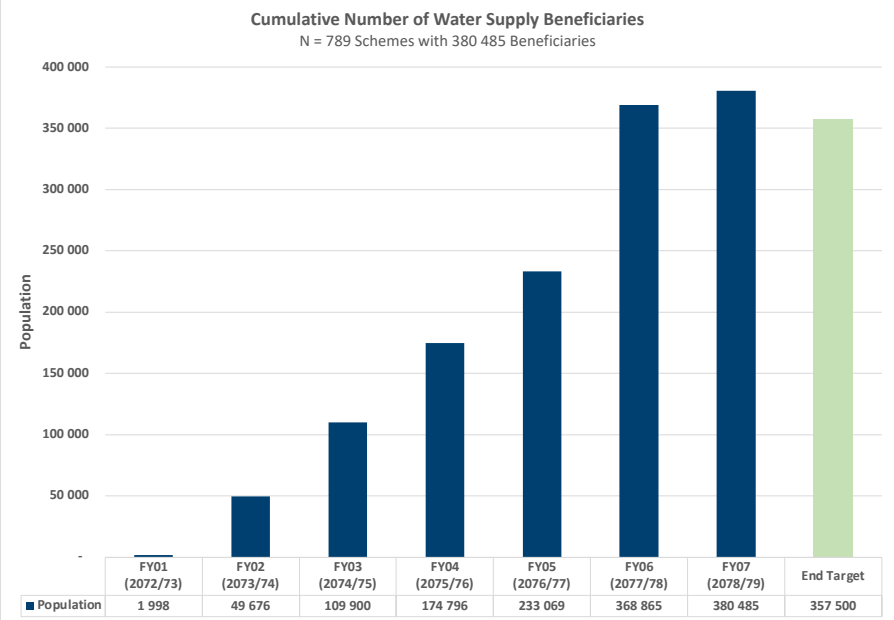
Result indicator 1.2.1 Number of Water Supply Schemes (WSS)

The overall target beneficiaries for indicator 1.2 was increased to 357,500[1] in FY06. The current achievement of water supply beneficiaries (IPC schemes only) during FY07 is 11,620 with a target of 28,000. The cumulative number of beneficiaries is 380,485 (IPC schemes only) exceeding the end target. This includes both Core and Non-Core RMs. At the end of the reporting period, 15 water supply schemes have been completed (IPC) out of a planned 35 schemes for FY07. In addition, nine schemes were supported with Post Construction (Rehabilitation, service level improvement, repair and maintenance of flood / landslide affected schemes, etc). The cumulative amount of completed water supply schemes is 789 (87% of the overall target of 910). It is common that most schemes will be completed, and beneficiaries achieved during the second half of the fiscal year as the first six months contain both the monsoon season and national holidays such as Dashain and Tihar.

In addition to regular household beneficiaries, several schools have benefited (see next indicator). The beneficiaries in schools are not included in the beneficiary figures in the Figure 1 below, neither those that are yet to be financially cleared.

[1] Additional beneficiaries were added when the number of schemes was increased with funds diverted from the MHP construction.

Figure 1 Cumulative total numbers of water schemes and beneficiaries over the years



As mentioned in the APR / AWP, the total target of 910 schemes (result indicator 1.2.1) will not be met. The reason for reaching the target of beneficiaries, but not the schemes is due to a change in the way of counting schemes and their size. The number of beneficiaries is counted per scheme (1 scheme = 1 UC); however, one scheme now includes 2-4 smaller service schemes.

Asujee Kopche DWSS in Naumule RM, Dailekh (Figure 2 below) is an example where one scheme has many sub-schemes. In this case there are four sub schemes.

Figure 2 Asujee Kopche DWSS

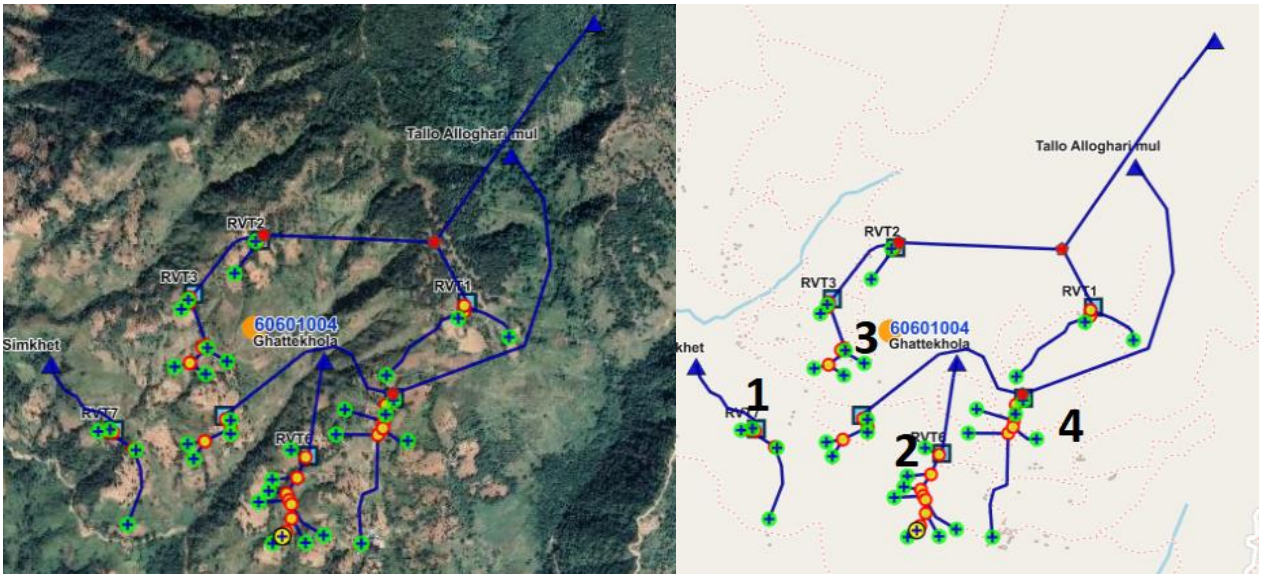


Table 6 below illustrates the composition of all the completed WASH schemes throughout the project working period.

Table 6 Composition of WASH schemes and their beneficiaries

SECTOR	TECHNOLOGY	SCHEMES	BENEFICIARIES
MUS	WS + CI	12	4 361
	WS + IWM	1	583
	WS + NCI	60	29 382
MUS TOTAL		**73**	**34 326**
WATER SUPPLY	GRAVITY	677	326 114
	GRAVITY + SOLAR LIFT	6	2 883
	RAINWATER HARVESTING	2	252
	SOLAR LIFT	29	15 360
	SOURCE IMPROVEMENT	2	1 550
WATER SUPPLY TOTAL		**716**	**346 159**
GRAND TOTAL		**789**	**380 485**

1.2.2. Number of 1) school/institutional sanitation beneficiaries; 2) school/institutional water supply beneficiaries; and 3) institutions/schools supported by Water Supply Schemes

The annual achievement at the end of the reporting period was 1) 1,229 school/institutional sanitation beneficiaries in 5 sanitation schemes, 2) 4,422 water supply beneficiaries in 19 water supply schemes, and 3) 19 institutions / schools supported by DWS schemes. Cumulative achievements of this indicator are: 1) 50,288; 2) 92,491, and 3) 443. This indicator does not have an end target.

Result Indicator 1.3 Number of water supply schemes supported by the project fund in Phase III applies a Water Safety Plan with CCA/DRR component. (Cumulative)

Each water supply scheme includes Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management (CCA/DRM) components. These are considered during the scheme design and survey, with particular attention to the water sources and pipeline alignment. Climate resilient designs and adaptation measures need to be considered early on, not as an add-on later. Note that in the earlier documents and in most of the guidelines the reference was made to Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). This is now broadened conceptually as “Disaster Risk Management” (DRM) that entails more than what the word “reduction” indicates.

Preparing a Water Safety Plan is a compulsory activity for all water supply schemes. Once schemes are completed, UCs receive training, during which the Water Safety Plan (WSP) is formulated. WSP supports Disaster Risk Management both in terms of preparedness and reduction, and when strengthening UC capacity to deal with unexpected structure damage, caused by natural or man-made disasters.

Currently in FY07, 79% of water supply schemes apply a WSP with a CCA/DRM component. There were many schemes constructed in FY06, with corresponding UCs currently receiving WSP training. Thus, the number of schemes achieving the indicator is constantly increasing, and the end target is (90%) in sight.

Result Indicator 1.4 Percentage of User Committees (UCs) of water supply schemes in the

project core-program RMs are active and able to maintain service level. (Cumulative)

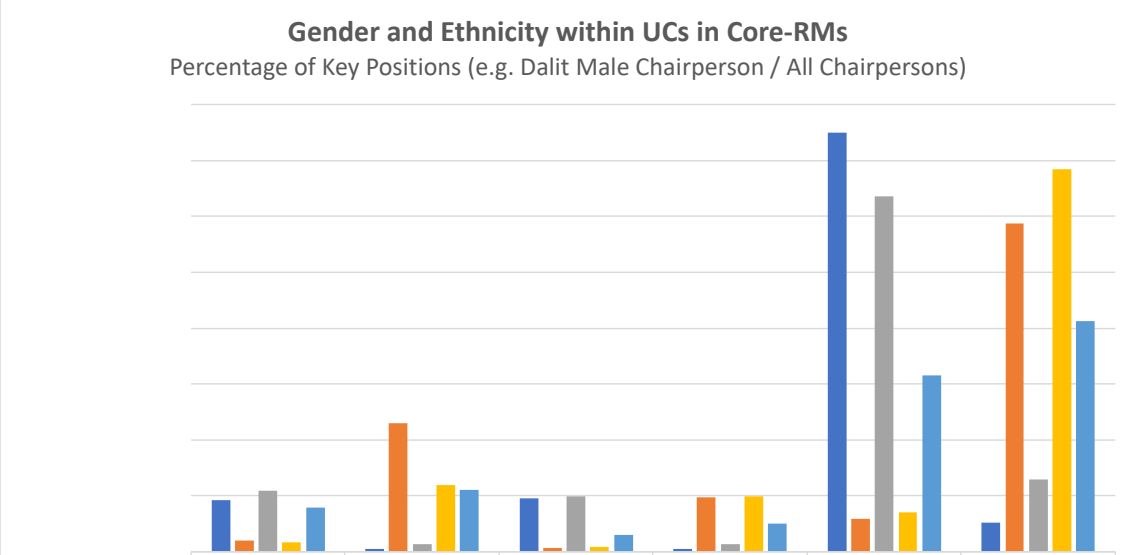
This cumulative indicator covers all water schemes in Core-RMs and reflects the UCs' annual status as updated in the MIS. The MIS data used for this purpose involves 1) Functionality status, 2) SMW/VMW appointed and mobilised, 3) Implementation of O&M regulation 4) Implementation of WSP, 5) Existence of O&M fund and regulation, and 6) UC regular meetings. All these indicators have to be in place. The indicator considers Core RMs only, due to the lack of human resources to track the indicator outside the Core RMs.

Currently, in FY07, 85% of UCs are active and able to maintain service level. The cumulative number of UCs that achieve the required indicator criteria is 89%, surpassing the end target of 85%.

Result Indicator 1.5. Key positions in UCs (chair, vice chair, secretary, joint secretary, and treasurer) of improved WSS in the core RMs held by women and by minority populations of Dalit and Janajati (D+J). (Cumulative)

The project is guided by the GESI strategy that aims towards proportional representation of different ethnic groups and castes and by gender. Within the core RM UCs, 924 key positions (chairperson, vice-chairperson, secretary, and treasurer) out of 1,821 are held by women, equalling to 51%. Out of all key positions, 276 (15%) are held by Dalits and 193 (11%) are held by Janajatis. The combined percentage of Dalit and Janajati representation is therefore 26%, which exceeds the end target of the project (24%) and is in line with the beneficiary populations at large. Among all beneficiaries of these schemes, 17% are Dalit and 9% Janajati (though naturally the population make-up varies between communities). The shares of key positions, membership and beneficiaries by gender and ethnicity is detailed in the figure below.

Figure 3 Gender and ethnicity within key positions of UCs in core RMs



	Dalit Male	Dalit Female	Janajati Male	Janajati Female	Others Male	Others Female
Chairperson	9,2 %	0,4 %	9,6 %	0,4 %	75,1 %	5,3 %
Vice-Chairperson	2,0 %	23,1 %	0,7 %	9,7 %	5,9 %	58,7 %
Secretary	11,0 %	1,3 %	9,9 %	1,3 %	63,6 %	12,9 %
Treasurer	1,8 %	11,9 %	0,9 %	9,9 %	7,1 %	68,4 %
Member	7,9 %	11,1 %	3,1 %	5,0 %	31,6 %	41,3 %

1.6. Number of institutions/schools/public places supported by the Project fund with disabled and gender-friendly toilets and access to hand washing

1.6.1. Number of schools that comply with 3 star TS criteria (Cumulative).

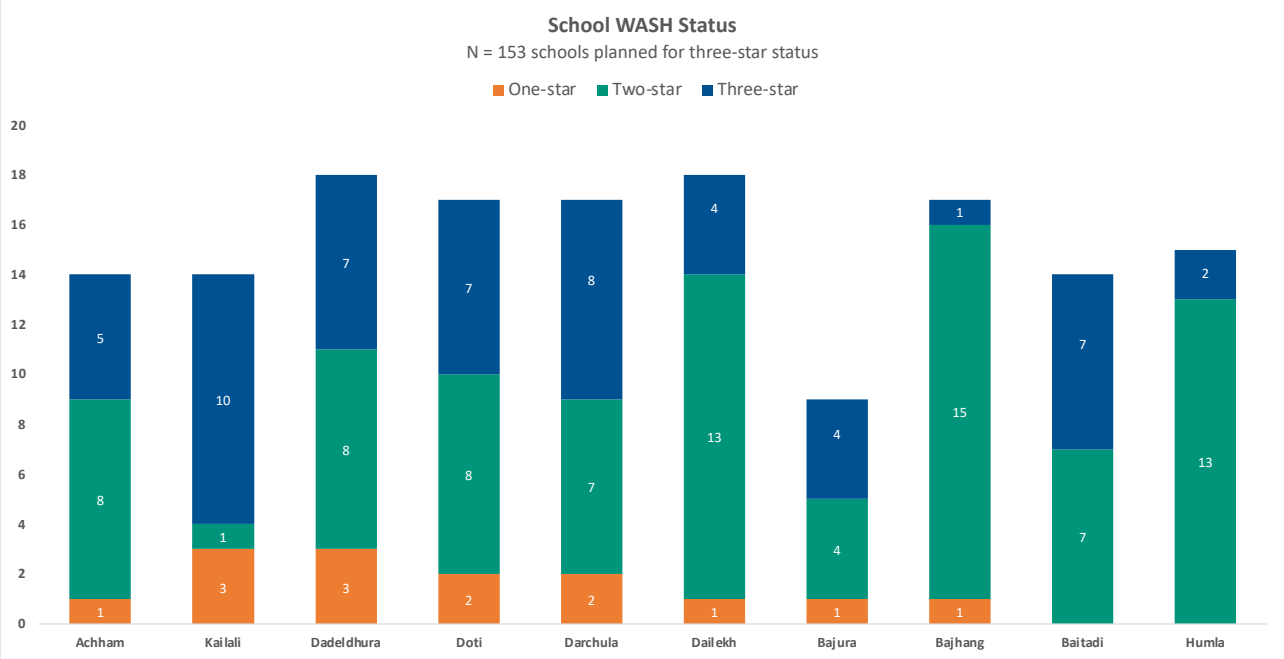
By the end of the reporting period, there were a cumulative total of 208 user-friendly (child, disabled and gender friendly) public/institutional/school toilets. Five have been completed by the end of the reporting period in FY07. The end target of 180 toilets has been exceeded.

The Government of Nepal follows a three-star model for School WASH. The model consists of 10 sub-indicators with each having three different levels called stars. The aim is to improve each sub-indicator to move from "no stars" to "three stars". After all sub-indicators are achieved, the school can be declared a three-star school. At the end of the reporting period, cumulatively 166 schools have reached at least one-star status, with 14 one-star schools, 84 two-star schools and 68 three-star schools. Of the schools fulfilling three-star criteria, 31 have been formally declared, with the rest having been postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic, of which 18 in this FY and 13 in FY06. In FY07, total 153 schools have been or are under sanitation status upgrade support.

The end target is 180 schools upgraded in the three-star process. The achievement so far is only 18 schools declared 3-star schools out of a target of 167 for FY07. The project will achieve at least 166 upgraded schools at different levels of the three-star process, therefore not all meeting the target. The target is not in the original project document but was initiated by the project and added in FY05 by the SvB to enable better follow-up of the progress in school WASH. At the time, an achievable progress was estimated to 180 3-star schools. However, due to the schools being largely closed and used as Covid-19 isolation centres during 2020 and part of 2021[2], upgrading the toilets has been difficult and not possible as planned.

The district-wise School WASH status presented in the Figure 4 below.

Figure 4 District-wise School WASH Status in FY07.



[2] Between Feb 16, 2020 and Oct 2021 schools were closed fully 35 weeks and partially for 47 weeks. Source: UNESCO

Result Indicator 1.7. Number of Water Supply Schemes in core RMs (VDCs pre FY04) having affiliation with cooperative. (Cumulative)

RVWRMP encourages UCs to affiliate with cooperatives to manage their O&M fund and have access to finances for maintenance activities. At the end of the reporting period in FY07, 33% of UCs were affiliated with cooperatives. The end target is 40%, which should be met as focus has moved away from new schemes and existing UCs are being capacitated.

Result Indicator 1.8. Menstruating women able to use the toilet in core RMs

Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) is an important issue in the project working area. The indicator is monitored through household visits that track individual progress. Each household is visited four times. Currently, the average results of visits show that in 80% of the households, menstruating women can use the toilet, corresponding with the end target of 80%. The figure accounts for the latest home visit (after the first visit that occurs prior to the intervention).

This indicator is difficult to monitor due to menstrual taboos and practices as well as the possibility of household and community pressure. The data is collected by Sanitation and Hygiene Promoters through individual interactions with household heads, cross-checking with other members to try to get an idea of the situation. If selected households are found not to be allowing toilet use during menstruation, the Promoter discusses menstrual health and other relevant themes, to improve the situation. Still, it is important to consider that the results might not indicate the full reality of the situation.

1.9. Water supply schemes implemented in core RMs declared Total Sanitized as per Government's indicators

ODF status and basic sanitation level was achieved in the project area (and Nepal) in 2018. Focus was then shifted to institutionalise the Total Sanitation movement through local governments. This indicator is based on the Total Sanitation Guideline (2073).

In FY07, 208 Water Supply Schemes were planned for Total Sanitation activities. Scheme selection was done during Total Sanitation and School WASH Refresher training in the beginning of FY07, with some schemes being new and some continued from FY06. When out of a planned 12 723 households, 10 556 (83%) meet the Total Sanitation criteria at the end of the reporting period, the actual progress has been good. The end target for the indicator is 40% of the schemes meaning that all households within the scheme should meet the TS standards. So far in FY07, 48 schemes have been formally declared as Total Sanitized. In FY06, 30 schemes were declared. The total amount of Total Sanitized schemes is thus 78 (9% of all), and the number will still grow in the spring. However, we believe the household level indicator gives a more precise picture of the actual progress by the project as the scheme areas often have few households not meeting the criteria, therefore not qualifying for TS though progress has been good. For district-wise details, see Table 7 below.

Furthermore, the project exceeds the targeted number of WASH beneficiaries, actually making the achievement of this indicator more difficult as the number of households in the process is larger than anticipated. The pandemic has postponed the declarations and the upcoming elections will further hamper them.

Table 7 Progress in HH and Schemes towards TS FY07.

District	HH planned for TS	HH with TS achieved	HH with TS %	Schemes planned for TS	Schemes with TS achieved	Schemes with TS %
Achham	1 784	1 515	85 %	22	6	27 %
Kailali	1 184	936	79 %	20	1	5 %
Dadeldhura	1 379	1 219	88 %	22	8	36 %
Doti	804	751	93 %	15	1	7 %
Darchula	1 276	1 047	82 %	19	3	16 %
Dailekh	1 698	1 443	85 %	26	9	35 %
Bajura	692	422	61 %	11	1	9 %
Bajhang	1 709	1 486	87 %	24	5	21 %
Baitadi	779	605	78 %	16	-	0 %
Humla	1 418	1 142	81 %	33	14	42 %
Total	**12 723**	**10 566**	**83 %**	**208**	**48**	**23 %**

2.3 Result Area 2 Livelihoods and Cooperatives

RVWRMP supports rural livelihoods in different ways from basic level to advanced value chains. Water is a central element in the livelihoods result area as most of the rural livelihoods supported by the project are based on gardening, irrigated agriculture, and water-intensive processing of agricultural products. The project works in cooperation with core RMs to uplift their rural livelihoods. A Livelihood Implementation Plan (LIP), prepared together with the WUMP in cooperation with the RM, is a formal document approved by the Municipality Councils. The plans aid in the identification of livelihood opportunities within the RM, including the identification of pocket areas and potential crops for markets. Another level of cooperation occurs with cooperatives that the project is supporting.

At the most basic level, the project has supported nutrition and food-security related activities since Phase I. The most crucial of the basic activities is the support for home gardening. Home gardens must meet certain criteria, including cultivation of vegetables, fruits, spices, and fodder. The purpose is to improve families' food-security, enable healthy diets, as well as to produce firewood and animal fodder on the side. The Home Garden Management Manual is available on www.rvwrmp.org.np. In principle, all the project's WSS and MUS beneficiaries also develop home gardens in their house yards. The water supply system enables reliable and continuous access to an adequate amount of water for gardening purposes. The related activities involve forming groups, providing skills and knowledge on nutrition, provision of start-up supplies, support for polyhouses, provision of low-cost micro-irrigation technologies, and support to commercial production and marketing of off-seasonal vegetables. Furthermore, the project trains livelihoods technicians and local support persons, RM agriculture section technical staff, and leader farmers who are to distribute skills and information to the local communities.

At the more advanced level, the project supports income generation activities and polyhouses for off-seasonal farming. The project also supports to establish local services that are relevant for the farmers, such as agro-vets, multi-purpose nurseries, collection centres, and farmers' income generation groups, and other types of agribusiness support. The aim is to benefit monetarily from irrigation and water supply and to increase the wealth of the farmers, to improve access to the markets, and to provide support networks and access to services. At the agri-business level, the project has supported selected value-crops that have been considered suitable for income generation in the particular locality. These crops include, for example, banana, dragon fruit, and kiwi. At the most advanced level, the project supports five value-chains: vegetable, citrus, chiuri, large cardamom, and ginger.

2.1. Number of home garden beneficiaries

At the end of the reporting period, there were a total of 5,965 home garden beneficiaries in FY07, exceeding the annual target of 4,000. The cumulative total is 322,350, exceeding the end target of 281,500.

2.2. Percentage of women among home garden, trainers of trainers and lead farmer training recipients

In addition to home garden training and training of trainers, lead farmer training is given to democratically chosen individuals (typically at least one man and one woman) from home garden groups to enable more advanced support. At the end of the reporting period in FY07, 86% of home garden, trainers of trainers and lead farmer training recipients were women. The cumulative achievement is 81% which exceeds the end project target of 50%. The large percentage of female beneficiaries is due to their important role in home garden management; as well as their greater presence in the community (as many men travel outside of the RM or country for seasonal work).

2.3. Percentage of Dalit and other socially excluded groups in home garden and lead farmer trainings

By the end of the reporting period in FY07, Dalits and Janajatis made up 25% of the participants of home garden and lead farmer trainings, exceeding the project target of 24% (which reflects proportional representation of disadvantaged groups in the project area, though naturally this varies considerably from village to village).

Some communities in the project area are predominantly Janajati, such as the Magar/Lama villages in Kailali, Dadeldhura and Dailekh; and Lama villages in Humla. Reaching Dalits with agricultural activities is still challenging, as they possess little land for agriculture or home gardens.

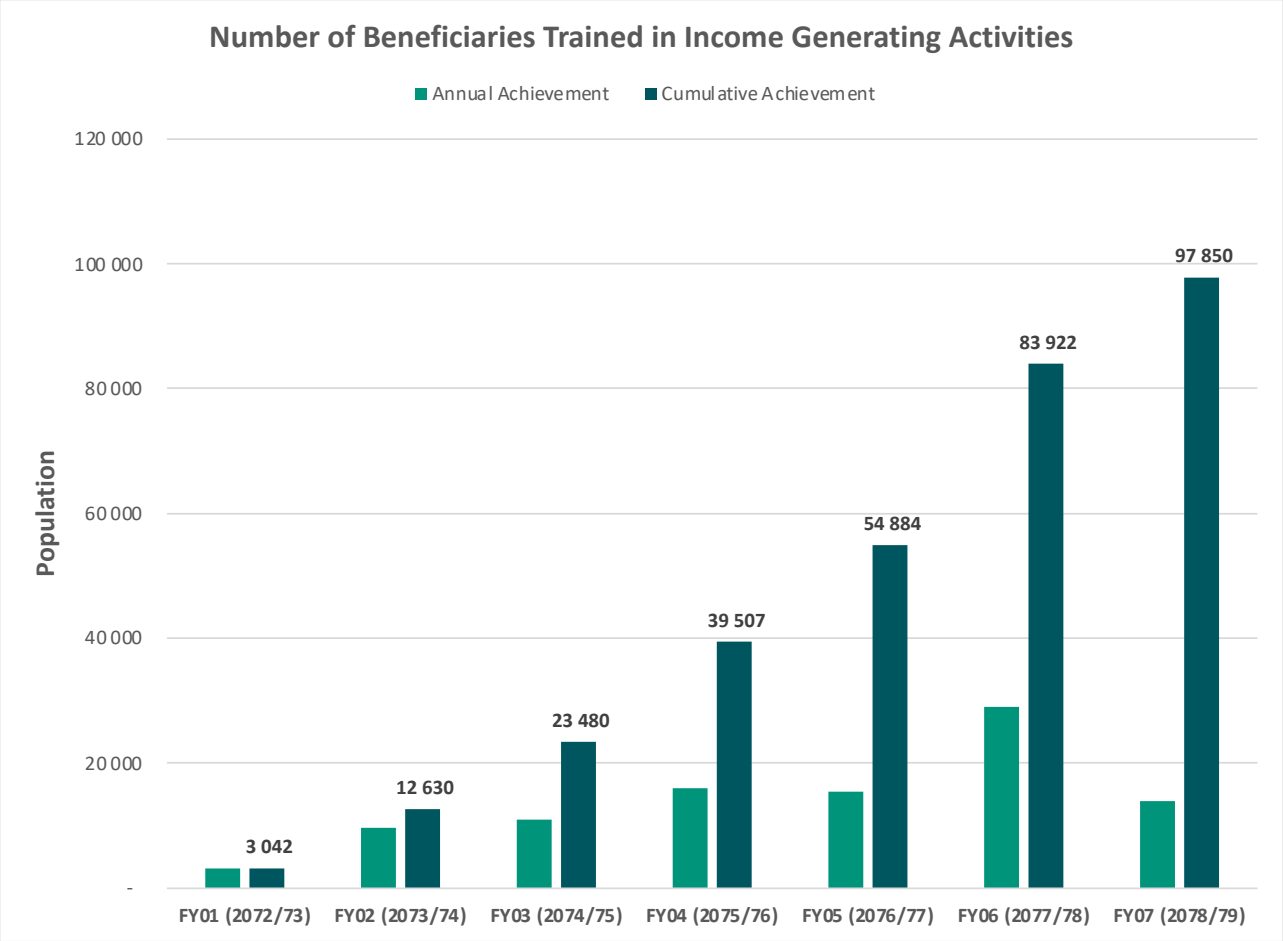
2.4. Number of people receiving Rural Advisory Services

Rural Advisory Services (RAS) provide farmers with a wide range of skills, knowledge and access to information. These services are defined as agricultural or livelihoods extension services that may include advocacy, technical advice, entrepreneurship training, financial services, networking and market management support. This indicator is updated annually. By the end of FY06, 517,809 people had received RAS, exceeding the end target of 500,000.

2.5. Families trained in income generating activities (converted to population)

A total of 13,928 beneficiaries have been trained in FY07 by the end of the reporting period. The cumulative total is currently 97,850 beneficiaries, which exceeds the end target of 60,000 beneficiaries.

Figure 5 Number of Beneficiaries Trained in Income Generating Activities



2.6. Percentage of leadership posts of project supported cooperatives held by women

By the end of the reporting period in FY07, the percentage of women holding leadership posts in cooperatives was 52% (499 out of 956), which exceeds the end target of 50%. In cooperatives, leadership positions were counted as including Board of Director members, account committee members and working staffs. Table 8 shows the district wise cooperative leadership posts by gender, caste and ethnicity.

Table 8 District wise cooperative leadership positions by gender, caste and ethnicity

District	Coops	Dalit	Janajati	Others	Female	Male	Total
Achham	5	13	1	55	39	30	69
Baitadi	9	22	0	118	62	78	140
Bajhang	10	24	0	126	102	48	150
Bajura	6	12	0	105	45	72	117
Dadeldhura	7	14	5	105	71	50	121
Dailekh	6	13	26	50	35	54	89
Darchula	7	6	0	113	63	56	119
Doti	5	13	5	63	46	35	81
Humla	3	4	16	21	15	26	41
Kailali	2	2	2	25	21	8	29
Total	60	123	55	781	499	457	956
Total %	**100 %**	**13 %**	**6 %**	**82 %**	**52 %**	**48 %**	**100 %**

2.7. Percentage of Multiple Use Systems of all water schemes (WSS, irrigation and MUS)

At the end of the reporting period in FY07, 13% of RVWRMP supported water schemes (water supply, irrigation and MUS) were Multiple Use Systems (MUS) schemes. This exceeds the end target of 10%. Furthermore, all water supply schemes have MUS components, including home gardens.

2.8 Irrigation scheme beneficiaries

At the end of the reporting period in FY07, there were 4,107 irrigation beneficiaries. The cumulative achievement is 66,666, and additionally we have 15,843 beneficiaries from drip irrigation in polyhouses. The end target was increased to 54,000 in FY05, and again to 67,677 in FY06, as funds were reallocated from the unspent micro-hydro power (MHP) budget.

2.9.1. Number of agri-businesses supported via the ME support

The end target for agri-business support is 20. The current cumulative number of supported agri-businesses is 48, with 5 added in FY07, exceeding the target. Agri-business support includes, for instance, cold storage; polyhouses; sea buckthorn processing and bottling; herbal tea production and packaging; bean grading and packaging; marketing of potatoes; dairy business support; apple; kiwi; walnut; market linkage development and citrus nursery establishment.

2.9.2. Number of value chains supported households and number of benefitting households

The project is supporting five value chains: chiuri, citrus, fresh vegetable, ginger and large cardamom. Up until FY06, value chain interventions focused on improving production, capacity building and local level market linkages. In FY07, emphasis is put into building regional and national linkages through collective

workshops with cooperatives and traders. Currently, value chain interventions have reached 4,388 households, of which 294 were added in FY07. The key achievements and capacity building activities conducted by mid-FY07 are presented below.

Chiuri, Marma RM (Darchula): Full operation of chiuri ghee and soap processing plants as well as marketing of large volumes of chiuri ghee in local markets. Capacity building themes included product promotion, collection, market linkages and quality improvement. Cumulative coverage is 347 households, with 52 added in FY07.

Citrus, Chure RM (Kailali): Added value of citrus products through training and capacity building has led to wide recognition in the market area. Capacity building themes included lead farmer mobilisation for orchard management and disease control, harvesting and post-harvesting training and packaging and labelling. Cumulative coverage is 1,009 households, with 14 added in FY07.

Ginger, Badikedar RM (Doti): Diversification of the products combined with discussions and tentative agreements with national exporter are key achievements in FY07. Capacity building themes include post-harvest handling, product promotion and collection centre maintenance. Cumulative coverage is 1,056 households, with 117 added in FY07.

Fresh Vegetables, Alital RM (Dadeldhura): Farming area expansions have led to increased production volumes, thus easing access to local and regional markets. Capacity building themes include product promotion and quality improvement, product diversification, infrastructure development and polyhouse trainings. Cumulative coverage is 1,613 households with 63 added in FY07.

Large Cardamom, Naumule RM (Dailekh): After initial difficulties in previous fiscal years, widespread local sales have been achieved. Capacity building themes include orchard management and crop protection, business planning trainings, dryer construction and market linkages. Cumulative coverage is 363 households, with 48 added in FY07.

2.9.3. Irrigation and MUS schemes with business plan support

Irrigation and MUS business plans aim to support farmers with their related livelihood activities. Currently, 28 MUS and irrigation schemes are being supported with business plans, exceeding the target of 20.

2.10.1. Shareholders of cooperatives

RVWRMP supports 60 cooperatives in core and non-core RMs. By the end of the reporting period in FY07, there are 31,490 shareholders in project supported cooperatives, with 760 added in FY07. This exceeds the end target of 30,000, which in turn was increased from the original 20,000 in FY06. Out of all the cooperative shareholders, 65% (20,413) are women, 20% (6,423) are Dalits and 4,4% (1,396) are Janajati. Further cooperative development activities will mainly focus on strengthening the financial management and initiating business operations by developing business plans.

2.10.2. Cooperatives achieving 110% Operational Self-Sufficiency (OSS)

RVWRMP supports 60 cooperatives in 43 RMs (25 in core RMs and 18 in non-core RMs). This figure includes cooperatives that have continued to receive support since Phases I and II.

A total of 78%, (47) of these cooperatives have reached an Operational Self-Sufficiency (OSS)[3] of more than 110% (See Table 9 below). Cooperative sustainability is achieved with an OSS higher than 110%. The project's aim is to complete the institutional development cycle to strengthen cooperatives so that they can handle the agri-businesses development in their service areas in the future, as well as to support the water schemes. The end target is 90% (54 cooperatives) achieving OSS.

Table 9 Profitability of Cooperatives at the beginning of FY07.

District	No of Coops	Total Income	Total Expenditure	Net Profit	OSS more than 110%
Achham	5	6 383 853	4 426 949	1 956 904	4
Baitadi	9	6 466 081	4 650 022	1 816 059	5
Bajhang	10	3 702 211	2 312 715	1 389 496	10
Bajura	6	7 182 859	6 356 553	826 306	4
Dadeldhura	7	17 056 018	11 022 619	6 033 399	7
Dailekh	6	9 959 881	6 508 839	3 451 042	3
Darchula	7	6 768 483	5 284 602	1 483 881	7
Doti	5	3 873 049	2 682 655	1 190 394	4
Humla	3	122 739	85 400	37 339	1
Kailali	2	893 325	770 859	122 466	2
Total	**60**	**62 408 499**	**44 101 213**	**18 307 286**	**47**
		Operational self-sufficiency more than 110%			**78 %**

[3] Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS), expressed in percentage terms, provides an indication as to whether a Microfinance Institution (MFI) is earning sufficient revenue (through interest, fee and commission income) to cover its total costs -financial costs, operational costs and loan loss provisions.

2.4 Result Area 3 Increased Resilience to Disasters and Climate Change

Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management (CCA/DRM) are cross cutting objectives in all interventions. The last monsoon caused unexpected heavy floods in Sudurpaschim in late October 2021, damaging some of our schemes and other infrastructure, especially in Bajura and neighbouring areas. Actions have been taken to rehabilitate the schemes. Section 3.2 considers CCA/DRM in more detail. Apart from the regular works where CCA/DRM is incorporated, the project has also implemented specific thematic activities in FY07. The key CCA/DRM-focused activities conducted in FY07 are listed below:

- Water safety plan with CCA/DRM formulation training to users committee conducted in FY 07, which also includes O & M plan for the sustainability of Water supply schemes.
- CCA/DRM capacity building events to community/ schoolteacher/school management committee members conducted in FY07.
- Recharge pond, plantation within the source catchment, recharge trench/catch drain and other simple recharge structures such as recharge pits constructed to improve soil moisture and mitigate the potential source depletion.
- ICS promoter training conducted and developed promoters (female & male) for constructing the improved cooking stoves in scheme area households.
- Sustainability energy services like, solar mini grid, improved Water Mills and Improved Cooking Stoves installed.
- The reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (energy efficiency) mitigated by improved technologies, e.g., cooking stoves and improved water mills.

3.2 Number of beneficiaries provided with access to sustainable energy services (other than MHP)

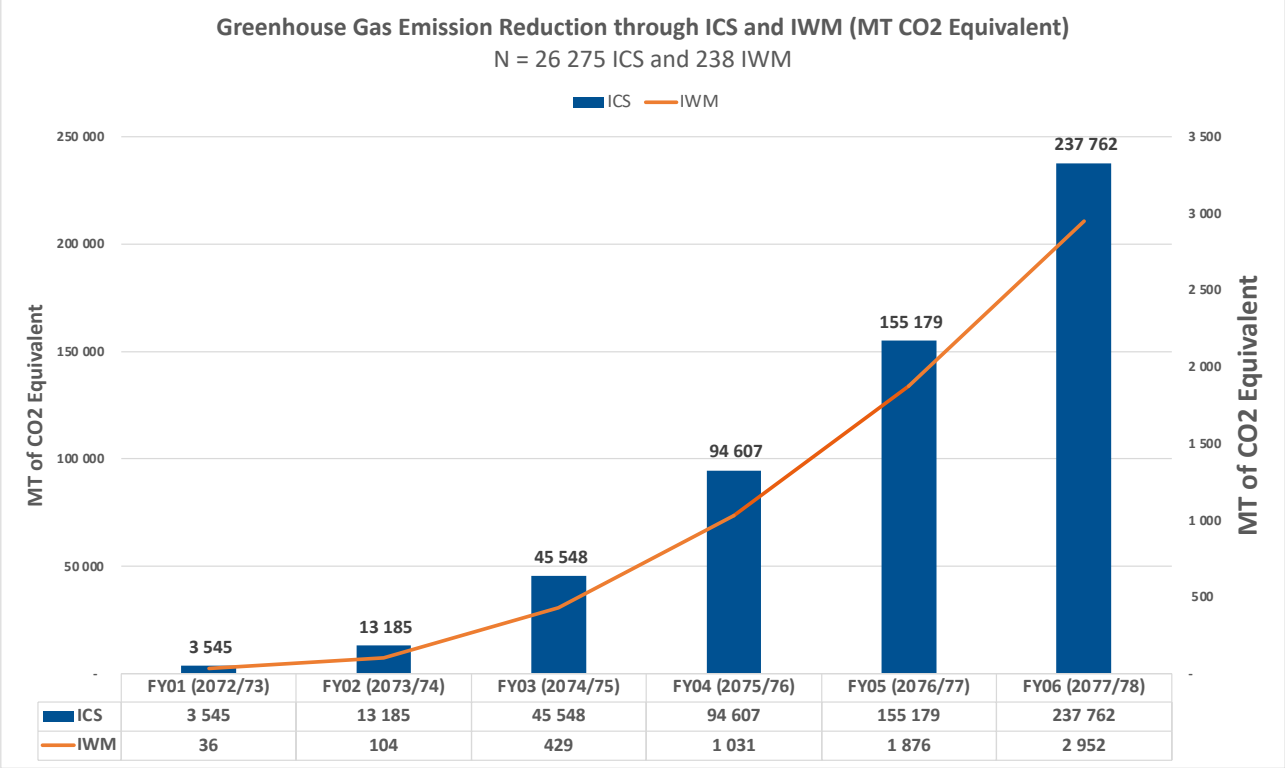
3.4 Greenhouse gas emissions mitigated by the use of sustainable technologies, e.g., cooking stoves, improved water mills (mtCO2e). (Cumulative)

Indicators 3.2 and 3.4 are directly linked to each other: the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions is based on the number of Improved Water Mills (IWM) and Improved Cooking Stoves (ICS). These indicators are updated annually, so they were not updated in this Semi-Annual Progress Report. For progress at the end of FY06, see Figure 6.

For indicator 3.2, at the end of FY06 the number of beneficiaries with access to sustainable energy services during the reporting period was 69,382 – considerably more than the annual target of 15,000. The cumulative achievement stands at 227,095 surpassing the end target of 195,000. The end target was raised in FY04 and FY06.

For indicator 3.4, the average annual reduction of greenhouse gas emissions for ICS is estimated at 3,143 MT CO_2 while for IWM it is 4.52 MT CO_2. At the end of FY06, the cumulative reduction was 240,713 MT CO_2 leaving a target of 9,233 MT CO_2 for the last year of project implementation. The remaining target will be met as the reductions from installed ICS and IWM will accumulate exponentially towards the project end, following the increasing installed capacity. Additional installations are conducted in FY07.

Figure 6 Greenhouse gas emissions reduction by use of ICSs and IWMs (FY01-FY06, MT CO_2 Equivalent)



3.5 Number of trained beneficiaries on CCA/DRM

By the end of the reporting period in FY07, 719 beneficiaries have received training in CCA/DRM with an annual target of 1,500. The cumulative achievement is 3,360 beneficiaries, surpassing the end target of 2,500.

UC members could be added as beneficiaries to this indicator as they receive CCA/DRM training as per the Step-by-Step guidelines.

3.6 Project investments meet DRM standards and criteria.

The project CCA/DRM standards and modalities in all result areas are described in the CCA/DRM Concept Paper (available online at rvwrmp.org.np). The project uses the standards and criteria defined in the Recharge, Retain and Reuse (3R) approach, including spring shed protection and water use efficiency. Throughout the project working period the percentage of investments that meet DRM standards and criteria has been 100% and continues to do so.

2.5 Result Area 4 Institutional Capacity

The Result Area 4 is *"GoN capacity to continue integrated water resources planning and support communities in implementing and maintaining WASH and livelihood activities."* The objective of the project is to leave functional structures for sustainable water supply services in the communities, with a strengthened institutional system at local level. In this regard, the project aims to strengthen GoN institutional capacity of water resources management and planning, and to support communities in implementing and maintaining their WASH and livelihoods activities. In FY07, the project continues institutional development support in the

RMs; the concepts of WASH Management Board and WASH Unit have been further developed and implemented to practice in all core RMs.

4.1. Roadmap for multi-sector regional cohesion policy: Contribution to policies designed for poverty reductions in remote and mountainous areas either under Agriculture Development Strategy or at provincial level

The Project Document describes the expectations for the indicator "4.1 Roadmap for multi-sector regional cohesion policy: Contribution to policies designed for poverty reductions in remote and mountainous areas either under Agriculture Development Strategy or at provincial level" very briefly, setting a target for a draft roadmap by 2019. Until now, this has not been defined in further detail as the provincial structures and related policies are still fluid.

However, since the definition itself is about decreasing disparities in between the different communities, we can justify focusing on sectoral roadmaps and policies at the RM-levels, aiming at universal coverage of services across the entire RM, not only for the Project working communities. Since the Result Area 4 is about "GoN Institutional Capacity to Continue Integrated Water Resources Planning and Support Communities in Implementing and Maintaining WASH and Livelihood Activities" we can consider that RM-levels are equally important. RMs are the lowest level of the government with the power of executive, judiciary and legislative. Sections of the RMs are the lowest institutions of line ministries, and execute activities guided by national level strategic plans, including the WASH sector Development Plan, Agriculture Development Strategy, etc.

RVWRMP has been supporting the RMs in this way. In this regard, the project has been contributing to the policies and roadmaps at RM-level, but not at national (under the Agriculture Development Strategy) or at provincial levels. The province-level federal structure is still work-in-progress, the project contributing when appropriate. Examples of the policies are described under the indicator 4.1.1.

4.1.1. RMs have formulated policies related to WASH and Livelihood, CCA-DRM.

The position of local governments is laid out in Schedule 8 of the Constitution of Nepal (2015), and further elaborated in the "Local Government Operation Act 2074". Local governments are self-governed and can formulate and promulgate local regulations, policies, directives, and manuals. In this regard, the project has ample opportunity to capacitate the RMs and influence their policies on WASH, livelihoods and GESI. The Project supported core RMs to formulate the policies for Operation and Maintenance Management of Water Supply Schemes, and Dignified Menstruation Management.

The project has encouraged the core RMs to formulate the relevant policies to regulate the implementation of WASH and livelihoods activities. In FY07, the project has supported the formulation of 14 policies adding to a cumulative achievement of 161. The end target of 70 RM level policies has been exceeded. Project support on policy formulation in FY07 is detailed in the Table 10 below.

Table 10 RM policies

#	Name of the policy	RM policies formulated by mid-FY07	RM policies formulated during FY07	Formulated FY
1	Water Sanitation and Hygiene Management Directive	27		FY05=27
2	Dignified Menstruation Management Directive	24		FY04=10, FY05=14

#	Name of the policy	RM policies formulated by mid-FY07	RM policies formulated during FY07	Formulated FY
3	RM Level Water Supply and Sanitation Scheme Repair Fund Operation Procedure	15	2	FY06=13, FY7= 2
4	Water Resources Act	15	3	FY04=3, FY05=7, FY06=2, FY07=3
5	Water Resources Regulation	27		FY04=13, FY05=14
6	Total Sanitation Promotion Procedure	3		FY06=1
7	Water Resources Management Procedure	3		FY04=1, FY05=2
8	Water Supply and Sanitation Regulation	2	1	FY05=1, FY07=1
9	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Management Procedure	4		FY04=1, FY05=3
10	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Strategic Plan	2		FY05=1
11	Users Committee Formation and Mobilization Procedure	6		FY04=1, FY05=5
12	User Committee Formation Procedure	3	1	FY04=1, FY05=1, FY07=1
13	Agricultural Enterprises Promotion Act	8	1	FY04=1, FY05=6, FY07=1
14	Agricultural and Livestock Programme Operation Procedure	2	1	FY06=1, FY07=1
15	Cooperative Act	15	2	FY05=13, FY07=2
16	Support Person and WASH Unit Operation Procedure	2	1	FY06=1, FY07=1
17	Cooperative Regulation	3	2	FY05=1, FY07=2
Total Policies Formulated		**161**	**14**	**FY04 = 58, FY05 = 69, FY06 = 20, FY07 = 14**

4.1.2. Joint activities/inputs to Provincial authorities for policy development on poverty reduction

There are few activities to be reported in FY07. See the previous progress reports for conducted activities.

Sharing the Concept of Provincial Alliance for Dignified Menstruation Management (DMM):
The idea is to form a provincial alliance or network focusing on DMM in Sudurpaschim Province. Ideally, this alliance includes all development partners working on DMM. The concept was discussed among like-minded parties in Kathmandu to find consensus and proceed by appointing a lead for the alliance. The concept was also shared with RM Vice Chairs and provincial agencies of Sudurpaschim province. The alliance could utilise local celebrities as figureheads for sharing important DMM related messages with local contextual understanding.

4.2. National and provincial authorities in WASH, agriculture and small industries sectors informed on RVWRMP experiences

The target for FY07 is to organise one provincial and one national event, e.g., meeting, workshop, seminar, or conference for policy formulation. By the end of the reporting period, RVWRMP has organised (or attended with substantial involvement) in one national and one provincial event with more planned for the remainder of the FY. The annual target of one national and one provincial event has been accomplished. The end target is to organise six national events and produce six documents. The organised/attended national and provincial events in FY07 are detailed below.

National Menstruation Hygiene Management Partner's Alliance (MHM PA) Meeting
National MHM PA meetings usually take place on the 28th day of each month, with RVWRMP attending as a member. During Covid-19, meetings have been held online. In a recent meeting (6th of January 2022), the concepts of a provincial level alliance for DMM and DMM ambassador were shared between stakeholders. Both concepts received support from other MHM PA members.

Provincial Dignified Menstrual Management (DMM) Workshop
In November 2021, RVWRMP organized a workshop on Dignified Menstruation Management in Sudurpaschim Province for local, provincial and national stakeholders. The objective was to revisit the 'Dhangadhi Declaration on DMM' from February 2020 to discuss progress and challenges. 16 RM Vice Chairs from Sudurpaschim Province participated, along with three provincial staff and the Deputy Speaker of the Provincial Assembly. Representatives of national departments, a disability organisation, and international organisations were also present. Participants discussed progress and challenges faced in the RMs and Sudurpaschim Province as a whole. RVWRMP staff introduced options for sustainability, such as establishing a provincial network and the concept of appointing a thematic ambassador to raise attention. Both concepts received strong support and the project is moving forward with implementation.

4.3. RM ownership demonstrated by RM contribution to the RM-WRDF

Contributions from local governments have exceeded expectations after governmental restructuring. The end target was set at over 7% share of contributions, which has been exceeded every year since the establishment of the RMs. In FY07 so far, RM contribution is 24% while the cumulative achievement is 20%. These figures are collected from the project MIS that records actual contributions when the scheme is completed and financially cleared - i.e., it has had the final monitoring with the public audit as per the Step-by-Step approach, the municipality's accounts have cleared the final payments to UCs, and UCs have cleared their final payments to the suppliers and skilled labour.

The increase in RM (and community) contribution reflects the strong reputation of the project in the field and at RM level, as well as increasing local ownership.

4.4. Number of trained local bodies to promote effective access to energy, markets, irrigation and WASH services

Local governments are the permanent institutions to look after the sustainability of interventions. RVWRMP has worked together with core RMs to develop WASH Management Boards, which promote effective access to irrigation and WASH services as well as support access to energy and markets. WASH Management Boards bring together relevant stakeholders for integrated management of water resources, and they have both mandate and means to plan, implement, monitor and report. Currently, all 27 core RMs have formulated WASH Management Boards and approved the related directives achieving the target of 27 trained local bodies. The project will continue to support RMs in maintaining and developing their WASH Management Boards and RM WASH Units in terms of strategic and policy planning as well as capacity development.

The key activities regarding RM capacity to promote effective access to energy, markets, irrigation and WASH services by the end of the reporting period in FY07 are:

- Establishment and operation of 27 RM WASH Management Boards and RM WASH Units
- Gender and disability responsive plan review workshop in the RMs
- Refresher training on School WASH and Total Sanitation to RM WASH Unit staff
- District level School WASH workshops with SMC, teachers and child club representatives
- Design software training to RM engineers and sub-engineers
- PEARLS monitoring and proposal report writing training (23 cooperatives)
- Workshop on cooperative in WASH (34 cooperatives)
- Account software training to cooperative manager (20 cooperatives)
- Account and local management training (13 cooperatives)
- Account software support (9 cooperatives)
- Cooperative and account management training to solar grid cooperative (Namkha RM, Humla)
- Workshop on scheme sustainability and affiliation with cooperative (4 RMs)
- Proposal writing training to ginger value chain cooperative (Badikedar RM, Doti)
- Business plan preparation training (9 cooperatives)
- ToT on WASH supply chain to SHPs
- Orientation on WASH and livelihoods to FCs and GWROs
- Water quality test training to RM focal person
- Total Sanitation and WSP training to female VMWs
- HRBA/GESI training to RM officials

4.5. Mobilization of RM resources under Agriculture and Cottage and Small industries section for joint activities in the core-program RMs

This indicator is no longer valid. Agriculture and Cottage and Small industries sections are not established at all at RM-level, and their previous budget has been subsumed into the agriculture budget at RM level. One option is to monitor the expenditure by the RM of their agriculture budget.

4.6. RM-WRDF funds are expended against the annual budget

WRDF budgets are expended as per the budget headings of the annual work plan and as entered in the GoN federal system. The WRDF monitoring visits keep track on the expenditure during the year, the actual expenditure being reported through the RMs' own systems at the end of the year. At the end of the reporting period in FY07, the expenditure against the budget has been 34% (against the end target of 85%), reflecting the usual situation at this point of the fiscal year.

4.7. Necessary technical and administrative support is provided without delays by RM

This indicator is updated once a year during the annual performance evaluation of RMs. Thus, progress has not been tracked for this semi-annual report. The annual target is 10 RM-PMC meetings.

4.8. Percentage of community contribution in cash and kind towards construction water and irrigation systems, power plants, etc.

The percentage of community contribution has surpassed the end target of 20% during each fiscal year of the project. At the end of the reporting period in FY07, community contribution amounts to 28%. This reflects the enthusiasm of communities to work with the project. Proportional result area and scheme wise users' contributions have remained relatively unchanged due to the small number of new water supply schemes (15) and other infrastructure development in FY07 (see APR FY06).

3 CROSS-CUTTING OBJECTIVES

The project has two cross-cutting objectives. Firstly, the project operates through the human-rights based approach (HRBA) and considers gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) as a cross-cutting objective. There are a range of targeted capacity building activities with a focus on HRBA and GESI, including for example, Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM). Secondly, Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management (CCA/DRM) activities include renewable energy, climate resilient infrastructure development and both local and municipal level capacity building.

3.1 Gender Equality and Social Inclusion and Human Rights-Based Approach

Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) and the Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) are at the core of project interventions. Related activities include promotion of gender and social equality, human rights and equal participation opportunities for easily marginalized groups (including children, people with disabilities, indigenous peoples and ethnic minorities). The project promotes access to water and sanitation as a human right and sets the tone in terms of inclusiveness and participatory planning. The project creates awareness about responsible and rights-based use of water resources. The integrated approach of the project is a learning path for policy coherence between sectors. Some of the major HRBA & GESI activities during the first half of FY07 are summarised below.

Empowerment of women in local government and representation:

Workshops on Women as Decision Makers have been held earlier to formulate Gender Responsive Plans and Budgets. Disability has now been added to the plans. During the S-APR period follow-up workshops were held to ensure that the gender and disability targets are incorporated in the seven-step planning process in the RMs. Gender and Disability Responsive Plan: Review and Planning Workshops have been held in 5 RMs (Pancheswor, Shivanath, Gaumul, Swamikartik, Marma). Review workshops will take place in all the working RMs before the end of the financial year:

All section officers and RM Executive members are very familiar with their previous year's plan and implementation status. They are allocating budget for some activities every year (such as for capacity building, awareness campaign and total sanitation). However, it is noted that the 7-step planning process is not always followed well because of time constraints. Furthermore, the budget has been released late, hampering completion of the work in time. The pandemic has also disturbed the activities.

Discussions have been held regarding incorporating consideration of disability at the same time as the gender budgeting.

- During the review workshops the RVWRMP staff have shared the rights and legal provisions for PWD
- Most RMs are only focusing on collecting data regarding PWD, registering them and providing allowances, but not implementing specific activities.
- In all core RMs, except Chure, a Disability Coordination Committee[4] has been established within the RM. Some have faced difficulties to fill all posts due to the lack of medical staff. They all have a space in the Women, Children and Senior Citizen Section of the RMs. The National Disability Association of Nepal has supported the Committees in this regard.

The project also ensures a proportionate representation of women and disadvantaged groups (Dalits and Janajati) in the formation of the Users Committees (UCs), cooperatives, in trainings, and in livelihoods and income generating activities to enhance capacities for the socio-economic empowerment. In the water-related Users Committees, women's participation was approximately 55% (51% in leadership positions). Dalit representation was 17% (15% in leadership positions) and Janajatis representation was 9% (11% in leadership positions) respectively. Dalit representation in the population is 19% and Janajatis 8% respectively.

[4] The Act Relating to the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2074 (20217) §42

Participants in WRDF funded capacity building activities included 60% women, 20% Dalit and 7% Janajati overall. There is a significant variation depending on the type of training, reflecting the interest of different groups, but also the potential barriers.

Refresher trainings have been given to women Village Maintenance Workers (VMWs). The trainings are to build the skills and confidence of the VMWs without having to compete with men. RVWRMP staff also carried out video interviews with the participants to better understand their experiences at work in the community. These will be shared as a video blog.

WASH Supply Chain training to local stakeholders of RM level has been conducted in 10 RMs (including district level). The trainings took place either at District or RM level.

Dignified menstruation management (DMM):

During the ODF process, there was considerable pressure nationally to declare each RM as ODF, therefore insufficient attention was paid to women who might not be able to use the toilet all the time due to menstruation taboos. However, DMM is an important element and is a part of the total sanitation campaign, and it is important not to rush the declaration before all elements are met.

In November 2021, the Dhangadhi Declaration on DMM was revisited in a workshop that was held in Dhangadhi. 16 core RM Vice Chairs from Sudurpaschim participated. The project published a blog post about the occasion.

Workshops were held in Naumule RM, Bhagawatimai RM and Bhairabi RM to review the Total Sanitation status and dignified menstruation management behaviours; to review progress in Total Sanitation and the DMM commitment (Dhangadhi declaration 2076); and to make a new commitment for Total Sanitation and DMM for the coming year.

Five RMs have appointed a DMM facilitator who is working as a regular RM staffer, supporting DMM activities in the RM.

The DMM Ambassador concept has been introduced as a tool to promote DMM in the field. The background is that campaigns supported by influential personalities/celebrities have been observed to be very effective in gaining attention for the cause. RVWRMP has identified a female celebrity who comes from the local area, understands the issues and local culture well, and can raise awareness of the issue with adolescents, parents, teachers and community members in general. The appointed Ambassador will carry out official engagements and visits to the municipalities, including for example, newspaper, magazine, television and/or radio interviews and songs, as well as concerts in schools and communities, and activities on social media. RVWRMP will coordinate and finance the programme until July 2022.

Work with menstruation and related taboos remains an important focus, to improve access of women to taps and toilets, to ensure they can live in a safe environment and their rights are protected.

Menstruation Hygiene Management (MHM) and pad making training has continued at RM and scheme levels, including mothers' groups, ward level workshops, health post nursing staff. During the period, 6 RMs have conducted such trainings. The project has introduced the topic of menopause to the MHM workshops – this is a topic not normally discussed in Nepal and women have appreciated having more information. In addition, there has been a link to disability introduced – with the aim improving the lives of menstruating women and girls with disabilities (who obviously suffer a combined hardship, particularly if they are forced to move outside the home for sanitation).

Some Districts and RMs have decided to provide commercial (disposable) sanitary pads to girls and women. For instance, in Darchula, the education section is providing free pads through the schools to all girls. The difficulty is that the disposal of these pads is an increasing problem in all rural areas where there is no solid waste collection.

Menstruation taboos have decreased significantly in many communities, and most of the girls are attending school during menstruation and getting access to sanitary pads. However, there are still some problems with

dhamis not allowing girls to pass their temple on the way to school when menstruating. This has led to public discussion in Darchula and Bajhang.

Private connection systems have been shown to significantly support menstrual hygiene management. All interactions with families having a private tap indicate that women can touch the tap, use the toilet, and bathe at home. This is a transformative change.

Sasu-Buhari workshops were first held in 2019, and their implementation has continued since. The events were held in 3 RMs in the last six months. They bring together different generations of women, i.e., mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law, to discuss their own experiences of menstruation taboos and social norms regarding women's role and behaviour (often quite extreme, resulting in tears and a feeling of catharsis and bonding). The different generations learn together about natural processes and myths of menstruation, as well the importance of women in the community. More events are planned to be conducted in the second half of the fiscal year.

Other topics:
RVWRMP participated in the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence (November-December), with RM level activities.

In August 2021, RVWRMP published a report on Women as Municipality Vice Chairs, based on interviews carried out with the 24 female Vice Chairs of core RMs. This report considers the backgrounds, experiences, and viewpoints of elected women Vice Chairpersons (or Vice Chairs) of Rural Municipalities (RMs) in Sudurpaschim and Karnali Provinces. The focus is on the role of elected women politicians in the RM, and their gendered problems and possible solutions. The survey covered the life journeys of the Vice Chairs, including how they were selected and how they are supporting the development of other women in the RM. The study also considered how RVWRMP is promoting rural women to become involved in development activities and empower the decision-making power of women at grassroots level. Overall, the study asked "Has RVWRMP made a difference in the lives of women and disadvantaged groups in the RMs?" The report is available on the RVWRMP website - b72297_bfa3f6785d1e4ad5954ad5f05f822664.pdf (filesusr.com)

Project staff continued to regularly participate in the Menstrual Health and Hygiene Management Partners' Alliance (MHMPA) meetings – an 'advantage' of COVID is that all meetings are now held on Zoom, which enables RVWRMP team (national and international) to participate. Via MHMPA, RVWRMP has made a commitment to be part of the Dignified Menstruation Guideline Task Force, with the aim to develop and roll-out the national level DMM Guideline.

3.2 Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management

Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Disaster Risk Management (DRM) are integral parts of project activities across all result areas. In the project area, problems are caused by floods, droughts, severe storms, earthquakes and man-made damage. This can damage water schemes, lead to source depletion and conflicts, degraded quality of water and decreased production.

RVWRMP CCA-DRM Concept Paper (www.rvwrmp.org.np/documents) provides a comprehensive view of the integrated activities of the project. In **Result Area 1** there are several CCA-DRM activities throughout the three scheme construction phases: preparation, implementation and post-construction. Activities include spring-shed protection, water efficiency management and recharge, protection of pipelines and crossings, and awareness raising. In addition, the development of a *Water Safety Plan (WSP)* is a compulsory activity in all water supply schemes and always includes a CCA/DRM component. In **Result Area 2**, CCA/DRM is incorporated in the continuous capacity building support from home gardening to income generation and value-chains, including, training on farming methods, irrigation technologies and CCA-DRM components in the numerous project trainings at various levels. In **Result Area 3**, the project focuses on constructing CCA-DRM preventive infrastructure, including recharge ponds/trenches and source protection plantations. On a community level, the project is supporting the installation of Improved Water Mills (IWM) and Improved Cooking Stoves (ICS). In **Result Area 4**, the project has conducted CCA-DRM workshops in all the core Municipalities, and CCA-DRM issues are constantly discussed and considered in the project capacity building

activities with the local governments.

Apart from the regular works where CCA-DRM is incorporated, the project has also implemented specific thematic activities in FY07. The key CCA/DRM-focused activities conducted in FY07 are listed below:

- Water safety plan with CCA/DRM formulation training to users committee conducted in FY 07, which also includes O & M plan for the sustainability of Water supply schemes.
- CCA/DRM capacity building events to community/ schoolteacher/school management committee members conducted in FY07.
- Recharge pond, plantation within the source catchment, recharge trench/catch drain and other simple recharge structures such as recharge pits constructed to improve soil moisture and mitigate the potential source depletion.
- ICS promoter training conducted and developed promoters (female & male) for constructing the improved cooking stoves in scheme area households.
- Sustainability energy services like, solar mini grid, improved Water Mills and Improved Cooking Stoves installed.
- The reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (energy efficiency) mitigated by improved technologies, e.g., cooking stoves and improved water mills.

4 INFORMATION MANAGEMENT, COMMUNICATIONS AND RESEARCH

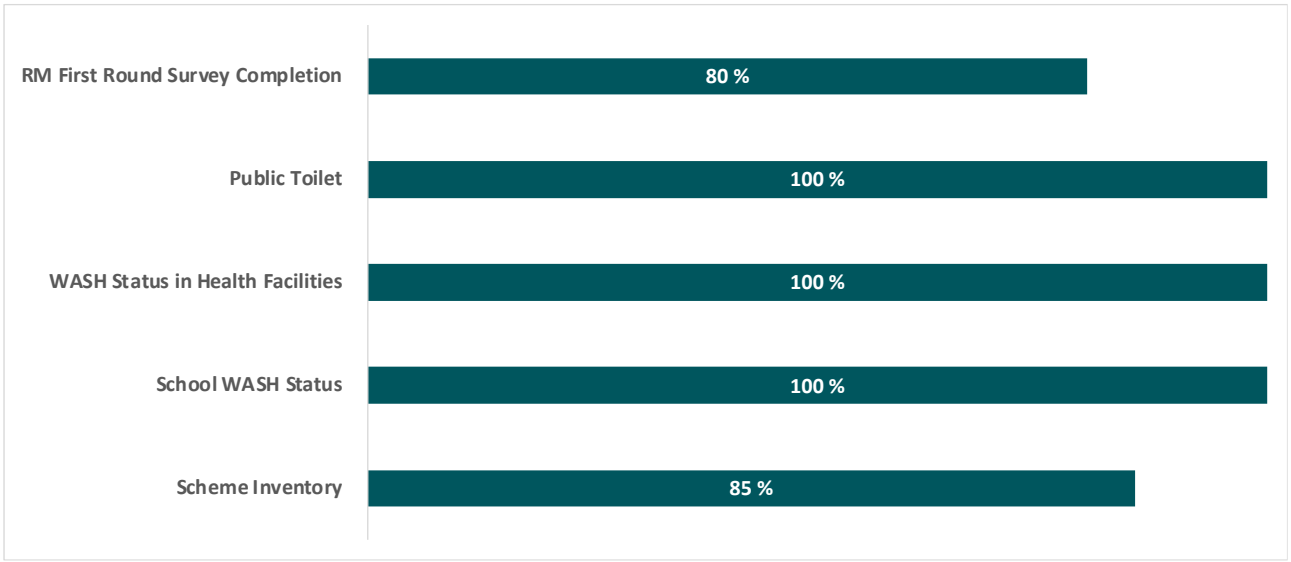
4.1 National Management Information System (NMIS / NWASH)

The Ministry of Water Supply, through its Department of Water Supply and Sewerage Management (DWSSM), have made a big effort to develop a National MIS of WASH components. NWASH is an application that is used for surveying water supply schemes in the RMs. This application is mobile-based application to get data from the field and display as a dashboard in a browser-based web portal. The NWASH app has different formats in mobiles, including scheme inventory, sustainability of the schemes, household survey, school WASH, RM sanitation, WASH status in health facilities, and unserved communities. The data is collected in each RM and verified and fed into the centralized at the national database. All surveys, except the household survey, are census surveys. The household survey is a sampling survey that follows standard sampling calculations in each RM.

Originally, the project document of RVWRMP did not have a plan to conduct the NWASH survey but considered the idea of an RM-MIS. Later, the project realized that it should support the NWASH due to the good information it had at RM level. After DoLI and DWSSM signed a MoU to promote National MIS and NWASH in RVWRMP's core RMs, the project gave emphasis to the NWASH component and linked its RM-MIS with NWASH. Out of the 27 Core RMs, in two RMs the NWASH survey has already been conducted by other agencies supported by UNICEF.

One dedicated staff member (NWASH MIS Coordinator) was recruited at PSU level from April 2021 to get NWASH survey done, working with a RM-level team in 25 core RMs. The NWASH MIS Coordinator supervised the NWASH survey for 8 months (till end of December 2021) and almost completed the NWASH survey. The project handed over his tasks to one of the WREs, Er. Lokendra Oli. The following is the status of NWASH Survey to date:

Figure 7 Status of N-WASH Survey



Out of 25 RMs, 20 RMs have completed the first-round survey. In five RMs (Chure, Mohanyal, Bhagawatimai, Sayal, and Bogatan RMs) the scheme survey is ongoing and expected to be completed within February 2022. In some other completed RMs, survey has been completed but data entries to online system and data validation are in process.

Household Survey

The household survey was targeted to 8315 sample households. To cover all aspects and ensure thorough representation of the population, 9346 households were visited and interviewed. Still, 200 households are remaining to be surveyed by mid-January.

Data Validation Workshop

A data validation workshop is held in each RM to review all the data entered in the NWASH-MIS, identify the gaps and errors, and correct them before finalization. In this process, the need of data cleaning and quality assurance was visualized and organized. The data validation workshop has been conducted in Marma RM of Darchula and Chhabis Pathivera RM of Bajhang. During the workshops, NWASH data was shared among RM Chairperson, Vice-persons, Ward Chairpersons and the RM's staffs. All scheme lists were discussed, and some errors were identified, such as wrongly entered ward numbers, potentially missing number of households, etc. Participants gave some feedback on the data and the field team carried out the corrections. This helped the RM to realize the importance of the MIS. Furthermore, it was agreed to revisit the data, at desk level, before planning the next workshop.

Scheme Prioritization Workshop

After the validation workshops, the next step is the scheme prioritization workshop in each RM. In this workshop, schemes will be prioritized according to the unserved areas and current functional status of schemes. From this priority list, RMs will incorporate schemes in their annual plans and programme for the future.

4.2 Communications and Visibility

In the final fiscal year, RVWRMP aims to maximise impact through a wide range of communications and visibility actions. These efforts are guided by the Communications and Visibility Action Plan, first developed in FY04, and updated in FY06.

The project is well known in the working area thanks to various visibility efforts. Project and financier logos are incorporated in all communications and materials. Holding boards in communities present the water supply schemes and livelihood activities (see picture below). Project news and accomplishments are also publicised on local radio and television shows and newspapers (see Annex 5). Special emphasis is put on promoting important themes during relevant celebratory days and events, such as World Toilet Day and the Campaign Against Gender-based Violence. During FY07, all thematic leaflets were updated to their final form and shared with stakeholders.

Two project-related videos were filmed, edited and published both through the project and in collaboration with donors during the reporting period. More videos have been filmed and are being edited during FY07. A Terms of Reference was created for the Rural Municipalities to assist in creating their individual project related videos that can potentially be combined once finished.

Internal communication between project staff and stakeholders has been effective despite challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic, thanks to regular meetings online. Some events, trainings and meetings have been postponed due to current restrictions, but most were held normally during the reporting period. The project website (www.rvwrmp.org.np) is continuously updated, with important themes and news as well as interesting stories being published regularly in the project blog (see Annex 5).

Several meetings have been held in FY07 both internally and with donors to think of possibly methods of maximising project impact. There are many stories to be shared and lessons learnt to be discussed. Time and effort will be allocated for these activities in FY07.

Communication and Visibility Plan (**Annex 5**) presents further details on the produced materials and planned and conducted activities in FY07.

4.3 Research and Studies

RVWRMP is currently conducting several studies, including seven substantial research projects and a number of other smaller studies. The resulting reports will be published along with the Completion Report of RVWRMP, as well as on the project website, and disseminated on other relevant platforms. In short, the studies will provide more in-depth analysis and information on the impacts and transformative changes than the regular reporting could do. There are several reasons to conduct research and targeted studies in the final year of the Project:

1) Completion reporting needs. Regular reporting does not cover everything.
2) Long-term impact assessments of the project require targeted studies and extra research.
3) Analysing and making visible transformative change requires targeted studies and research: Sudurpaschim looks very different now vs. 10 years back.
4) Capturing and sharing the lessons learnt and best practices for wider audiences.
5) Recording the overall legacy of RVWRMP (2006-2022).

RVWRMP started planning the research projects in summer 2021. This included brainstorming sessions among project staff to bring up ideas. The research projects were also commenced via discussions with the project donors about their preferences. The donors requested that the studies focus especially on possible transformative changes and impacts.

As a result, the Project initiated seven research projects to be conducted by spring 2022. The Project also decided to appoint a Research and Studies Coordinator in the beginning of FY07 to facilitate the projects. The projects have since proceeded through several phases in FY07: Research plans were specified, and questionnaires developed in the autumn period of 2021. This was followed by field testing of the questionnaires, further development of them, as well as field data collection. These phases have been completed by mid-January, except for the study number 7 considering RV-RM cooperation where a few municipality representatives have not been present for an interview. Currently, we are focusing on data compilation and analysis phases, as well as outlining the reports. The progress and working schedule of the seven research projects is presented in Table 11.

Table 11 Progress and schedule of seven research projects.

NR	Name of study	Lead by	Progress (28.1.2022) and schedule (by end of m)								
			Research Plan	Questionnaire	Field test	Field data collection	Data compilation	Analysis	Report writing	Finalization	Summaries for CR
1	Cost-benefit of MUS vs. WSS	TS	C	C	C	C	O	Feb	Feb	Mar	Apr
2	Long-term changes in GESI status	SIDS	C	C	C	C	C	O	Feb	Mar	Apr
3	Long-term trajectories in WUMP	MISS	C	N	N	N	O	O	Feb	Mar	Apr
4	RV University	MISS	C	N	N	N	O	O	Feb	Mar	Apr
5	IG impact study	SLS	C	C	C	C	O	O	Feb	Mar	Apr
6	Irrigation and business-plan study	VCS	C	C	C	C	O	Feb	Mar	Apr	Apr
7	RV-RM cooperation: Lessons learnt	RSC	C	C	C	C	O	Feb	Feb	Mar	Apr
C = phase completed; O = phase ongoing; N = phase not included in study.											

Apart from the ongoing seven substantial research projects, there are several other studies conducted during Phase III that broaden understanding about the respective topics and will be annexed to the Completion Report. The completed and reported studies in Phase III (available online: rvwrmp.org.np) are as follows:

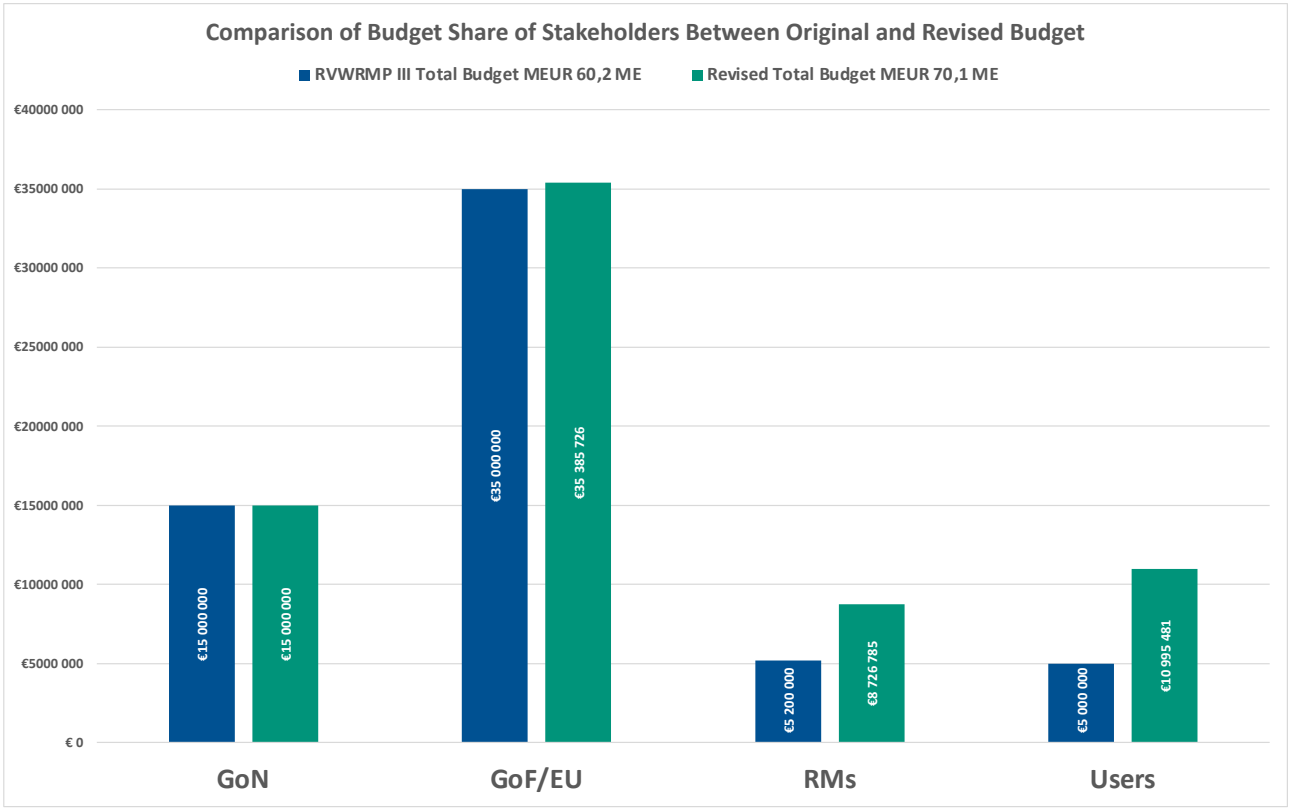
- Impact of Sanitary Pad Making Trainings (White & Bhatta, 2018)
- IWM Impact Study (Haapala 2019)
- ICS Impact Study (Haapala, 2019)
- Study on Women Vice Chairs (Bhatta, Haapala, Salminen & White, 2021)
- Hand Hygiene Study (Pandey, Salminen & Haapala, 2021)
- Water Tariff Study (Pandey, Haapala & Salminen, 2021)

PSU personnel have ideas for more of these types of studies, and they will be conducted and reported in FY07 if time and resources allow.

5 BUDGET STATUS

5.1 Budget and Expenditure through WRDF accounts

The Project is an "on-budget-off-treasury"-type of intervention. The total project budget as presented in the Project Document is MEUR 60.2. However, as shown in the APR FY06 the overall budget has increased to MEUR 70.1 because of a significant contribution from the local level and users. The actual contributions in EUR from the GoN and GoF/EU remain the same although the contributions for each result area have been modified to correspond to actual expenditures.



The Rural Municipality Water Resources Development Funds (RM-WRDF) were established in each RM for investments and recurrent costs. These are administered by the RM accountants themselves. The contribution of the Government of Nepal is channelled directly through the Office of Treasury and Account Controller of the respective districts to the RM Government Account, whereas the GoF/EU funds are channelled to RMs directly from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland through the transit account, managed by PSU Dadeldhura. Community contribution and other sources are directly deposited to the bank account of respective UCs. Project Technical Assistance (TA) is considered as one budget, but the Capacity Building operated by TA is considered as a separate portfolio within the Project TA-funded capacity building. TA funds are managed by the TA consultant. The PCO/DoLI budgets are considered together in a separate portfolio. Stationary and the driver's cost of the National Project Director's office in DoLI are budgeted from GoN contribution. Since the budget in the GoN system is made in NPR, the currency fluctuations influence the actual amount in EUR.

The total FY07 budget considering all possible contributions is MEUR 9.4. Of this, total MEUR 4.4 will flow through the RM's WRDFs. The total budget as stated in the GoN RedBook was NPR 600 200 000 to be released through RMs' WRDFs. This was assumed to equal to MEUR 4.4 with the EUR: NPR exchange rate 135. The actual rate for the first EUR WRDF funds released during the first 6 months reporting period had the actual exchange rate of 138 rather than 135 as assumed in the AWP FY07.

The Users' contributions are not reported within RM accounts but are recorded at the time of preparing the scheme for financial clearance when all contributions are accounted for and presented in the public audits.

This information is recorded in the Project's MIS scheme cards. The budget, however, is based on estimate for schemes in this FY07.

This fiscal year being the last year of the project, it is no longer possible to carry unspent budgets over to the next year. Therefore, some adjustments have had to be made between the different budget lines of the GoF/EU contribution to secure that all funds will be spent. For this reason, EUR 625,000 was transferred to the WRDF investment fund from the TA CB budget line. Furthermore, the actual GoF/EU contribution to the RM-WRDF is over-budgeted with about 10% in view of the total amount of EUR available from GoF/EU. All changes were approved by the SvB and is detailed in the AWP FY07. The total funds available are limited, and constant budget follow-up is carried out throughout the year. So far, it is not found needed to revise amounts allocated.

Table 12 shows the budget with actual expenditure in EUR. Here GoN includes also DoLI/PCO and the related capacity building. It shows the budget and actual result wise expenditures for semi-annual FY07.

Table 12 Total budget and actual expenditure result and source wise (EUR)

FY07 BUDGET (EUR@135)	GON	GOF+EU	RM	Users(cash+kind)	Total	Total in LMBIS
RESULT 1 WASH	**967 948**	**1 044 936**	**972 867**	**933 926**	**3 919 677**	
RM WRDF and Users	964 985	976 707	972 867	933 926	3 848 485	**1 941 693**
TA Plan & Capacity Dev.Fund	2 963	68 229			71 192	**2 963**
RESULT 2 Livelihoods	**678 752**	**807 663**	**452 496**	**212 785**	**2 151 696**	
RM WRDF and Users	672 604	679 100	452 496	212 785	2 016 986	**1 351 704**
TA Plan & Capacity Dev.Fund	6 148	128 563		-	134 711	**6 148**
RESULT 3 RenewableEnergy	**275 039**	**405 819**	**147 852**	**8 415**	**837 124**	**680 858**
RM WRDF and Users	275 039	405 819	147 852	8 415	837 124	
TA Plan & Capacity Dev.Fund			-	-	-	
RESULT 4 Governance	**321 224**	**673 520**	**60 600**	-	**1 055 344**	
RM WRDF and Users	311 816	159 856		-	471 672	**471 672**
TA Plan & Capacity Dev.Fund	9 407	513 664	-	-	523 072	**9 407**
TA Contract		**1 423 937**	**0**		**1 423 937**	
GON admin (PCO/DoLI)	**84 444**		-	-	**84 444**	**84 444**
Total FY07	**2 327 407**	**4 355 874**	**1 633 815**	**1 155 126**	**9 472 222**	
Total in LMBIS	**2 224 444**	**2 221 481**				**4 445 926**
semi-APR FY07 ACTUAL (EUR@138,11)	**GON**	**GOF+EU**	**RM**	**Users(cash+kind)**	**Total**	**Total of LMBIS %**
RESULT 1 WASH	**269 156**	**478 713**	**291 613**	-	**1 039 482**	
RM WRDF and Users	269 156	429 675	291 613		990 444	**51%**
TA Plan & Capacity Dev.Fund		49 038			49 038	
RESULT 2 Livelihoods	**243 946**	**380 432**	**161 460**	-	**785 838**	
RM WRDF and Users	237 936	323 337	161 460		722 733	**53%**
TA Plan & Capacity Dev.Fund	6 010	57 095			63 105	
RESULT 3 Renewable Energy	**103 910**	**136 758**	**26 593**	-	**267 260**	
RM WRDF and Users	103 910	136 758	26 593		267 260	**39%**
TA Plan & Capacity Dev.Fund		-			-	
RESULT 4 Governance	**35 628**	**294 103**	**4 403**	-	**334 134**	
RM WRDF and Users	28 388	31 481	4 403	-	64 271	**14%**
TA Plan & Capacity Dev.Fund	7 241	262 622			269 863	
TA Contract		**655 270**			**655 270**	
GON admin (PCO/DoLI)	**26 632**				**26 632**	
Total Actual semi-APR FY07	**679 272**	**1 945 275**	**484 069**	-	**3 108 616**	
Total expenditure from LMBIS	**666 022**	**921 250**			**1 587 272**	**36%**

*) Note: The TA contract budget includes the Annual budget for FY07 plus the Exit Plan budget for extra months in FY08.

Table 13 below shows the situation with regards to the total budget and actual expenditure by all contributions in NPR and EUR according to the main Red Book budget headings for WRDF: investment, recurrent and total. The budget was done in NPR and converted to EUR with rate 135. The actual expenditure

is reported in NPR except for TA and converted to EUR with the average rate of 138 for the WRDF instalment made from GoF/EU during the reporting period reducing the over-budget.

Note also that the users' contributions are counted only when the scheme gets "IPC" status, i.e. it gets completed and financially cleared. Only then, the users' contribution both in cash and kind can be established while preparing the Measurement Book for the scheme as per the GoN system.

The total actual expenditure for the reporting period was 34% of the budget for FY07 and 61% of the corresponding released budget.

Table 13 Total WRDF budget and Semi-annual FY07 expenditure (NPR, EUR) excluding PCO/DoLi

Fundingsource	Recurrent	Investment	Total	Total	Percentages	
Budget	NPR	NPR	NPR	EUR	% of WRDF Total Budget	% of Annual Total Budget
GoN	121 800 000	178 500 000	300 300 000	2 224 444	**31%**	**25%**
GoF/EU	78 700 000	221 200 000	299 900 000	2 221 481	**31%**	**46%**
Local level (RM)	20 315 000	200 250 000	220 565 000	1 633 815	**23%**	**17%**
Users	-	155 942 010	155 942 010	1 155 126	**16%**	**12%**
WRDFtotal(GoN+GoF/EU+RM)	**220 815 000**	**599 950 000**	**820 765 000**	**6 079 741**	**100%**	
GrandTotal(GoN+GoF/EU+RM+users)	**220 815 000**	**755 892 010**	**976 707 010**	**7 234 867**	**100%**	**100%**
Released	**NPR**	**NPR**	**NPR**	**EUR**	**% Released/Budget**	
GoN	64 343 332	94 805 700	159 149 032	1 152 335	**53%**	
GoF/EU	76 900 000	145 530 000	222 430 000	1 610 528	**74%**	
Local level	9 776 052	73 010 596	82 786 648	599 425	**38%**	
WRDFtotal(GoN+GoF/EU+RM)	**151 019 384**	**313 346 296**	**464 365 680**	**3 362 289**	**57%**	
Total semi-annual expenditure FY07	**NPR**	**NPR**	**NPR**	**EUR**	**% Actual/Budget**	**% Actual/Released**
GoN	30 633 809	57 672 210	88 306 019	639 389	**29%**	**55%**
GoF/EU	45 719 040	81 514 835	127 233 875	921 250	**42%**	**57%**
Local level	8 625 187	58 229 610	66 854 797	484 069	**30%**	**81%**
Users	-		-	-	**0%**	
WRDFtotal(GoN+GoF/EU+RM)	**84 978 036**	**197 416 655**	**282 394 691**	**2 044 709**	**34%**	**61%**
GrandTotal(GoN+GoF/EU+RM+users)	**84 978 036**	**197 416 655**	**282 394 691**	**2 044 709**	**29%**	

* Users contribution in both cash and kind is recorded only when the scheme is completed and financially cleared.

Annex 3 presents the overall budget including the cumulative total expenditures until the end of the semi-annual reporting period for FY07.

5.2 Budget and Expenditure through Technical Assistance accounts

The total budget through TA accounts for FY07 is MEUR 1.96. By the end of the reporting period 52% of this was utilized. The details of the TA budget are presented in Table 14 below. In addition to the semi-annual FY07, the table shows the actual cumulative FY01-semi-annual FY07 expenditure which was 90% of the total Phase III budget[5].

Table 14 Technical Assistance budget and actual expenditure FY01- semi-annual FY07 (EUR and %)

Phase III	Phase III	FY01 to semi-annual FY07		semi-annual FY07			
Summary	Overall Budget *)	Cumulative Actual	Cumulative/ Total Budget	Budget FY07	Budget FY08	Actual	FY07 Actual / FY07 Budget
	EUR	EUR	%	EUR	EUR	EUR	%
TA International	2 190 500	2 031 279	93%	310 000	37 279	188 058	61%
TA National (PSU & TSU)	3 067 883	2 904 394	95%	355 269	16 821	208 602	59%
Reimbursable	1 292 707	1 029 675	80%	260 000	87 461	84 429	32%
Capacity building	3 070 000	2 728 298	89%	710 456		368 755	52%
Operational Costs	1 976 074	1 793 149	91%	329 000	28 107	174 181	53%
Total through TA	**11 597 164**	**10 486 796**	**90%**	**1 964 725**	**169 668**	**1 024 026**	52%

*) Overall budget revised as approved in AWP FY07

[5] It should be noted that the Labour Act costs (estimated total EUR 124.177) will be added to the expenditures of Reimbursables by the end of the project.

In addition to the FY07 budget an amount of EUR 169,668 are reserved for the first months of FY 08 for the closure of all accounts; final workshops and completion reporting. TA funded capacity building is funded by the GoF/EU, whereas PCO funded capacity building is solely funded by the Government of Nepal. The capacity building activities funded from the TA budget are budgeted under the Result areas 1, 2 and 4. Table 15 shows the summary for the TA operated Capacity Building plan and actual expenditure as financially cleared by the end of the semi-annual FY07.

Table 15 TA operated Capacity Building budget and expenditures end semi-annual FY07 (EUR)

Capacity Building and Governance	Budget FY07	Actual	Actual / Budget
	EUR	EUR	%
C1 Plans and Studies, N-WASH (budgetted under Result 4)	58 928	57 841	98%
C2 Result 1: WASH	68 229	49 038	72%
C3 Result 2: Livelihoods (excl. C3.03-04)	93 281	42 600	46%
C3.03 Result 2: GESI	18 504	12 036	65%
C3.04 Result 2: Communication and visibility	16 778	2 459	15%
C4 Result 4: Governance	454 736	204 782	45%
Total (TA funded capacity building only)	**710 456**	**368 755**	**52%**

Table 16 The capacity building activities from the Project Coordination Office (PCO-DoLI)

Sn.	Name of Training Activity	FY07 Total Budget		Semi-Annual FY 07 expenditures	
		NPR	EUR	NPR	EUR
Result 1	Water Quality Testing Training to RMs (through DoLI)	400 000	2 960		
Result 2	Cooperative capacity building training	830 000	6 148	830 000	6 010
Result 4	RM IT Officers training on RM MIS	440 000	3 259	1 000 000	7 241
Result 4	GWROs capacity building training	830 000	6 148		
	Total PCO	**2 500 000**	**18 517**	**1 830 000**	**13 250**

The PCO Water Quality Testing Training to RMs has been provided but with contribution from the TA CB budget.

Capacity building activities are influenced by the Covid restrictions and the *coming elections*. Some activities therefore have had to be postponed; others planned may be cancelled. And some activities have shown to be more expensive than anticipated as with the case of the N-WASH activities. However, the PMT tries to adjust the activities *monthly* to match with the overall budget and expect that all funds will be spent in the remaining period of FY07 and in the additional months in FY08.

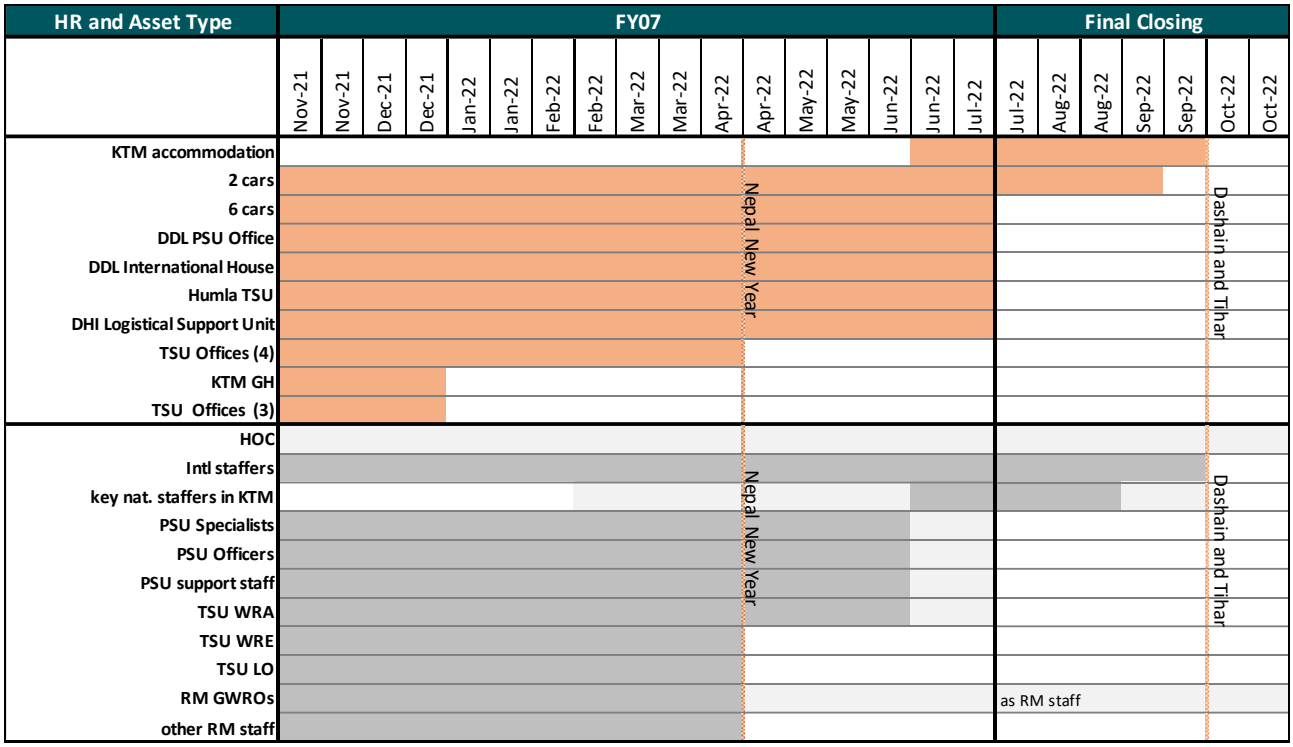
The spending of the budget on Reimbursable (staff DSA-travel) is closely interlinked with the spending of the budget for Capacity Building and therefore also influenced by Covid and, in particular, the coming elections which may hinder the possibilities for planned monitoring visits to the project RMs and sites as well as closure events.

In accordance with the AWP FY07 additional investment activities can be added to spend all available funds. Such revision will be made early 2022.

6 HUMAN RESOURCES AND ASSETS

Exit Plan: The project follows its Handing Over Plan with the staffing and assets management, approved by the Supervisory Board in September 2021. Accordingly, the project has by end of the reporting period closed three TSUs (Baitadi, Bajhang, and Doti) and the Kathmandu Liaison Office and Guest House, as well as handed over the related assets including furniture. A RVWRMP Kathmandu Liaison Office has been made available and established within the compound of DoLI. The closing of the offices, handing over the main assets, and human resource allocation is planned as follows (Table 17):

Table 17 Illustration of exit strategy for human resources and assets.



TA level: The Project team includes international and national technical experts, administrative and support staff working directly under RVWRMP. The international experts include Ms. Mette Hendrich Junkov, the Chief Technical Advisor of the project; Mr. Juho Haapala, the Rural Monitoring and Reporting Specialist; and Mr. Erik Salminen, the Field Specialist. Furthermore, Ms. Pamela White works as the Home Office Coordinator, stationed in Helsinki.

At the PSU level, the project employed 6 PSU Specialists, 7 PSU Officers, and 10 TSU level staffers in the beginning of January 2022. Ms. Anjana Bogati was appointed as Junior Livelihoods MIS Officer in early FY07, upgrading from Intern. Mr. Karna K.C., WRA of Achham and Doti, left the project in January 2022 and his tasks were divided to two other WRAs. Furthermore, in January 2022 two PSU Officers have informed of their resignation due to new job opportunities. The management team has already identified suitable candidates for their replacement. As the project is closing, we are expecting further decrease of the current PSU staff in the spring. To avoid too early loss of the key staff, the management team of the project has negotiated with initiating projects under Finnish funding to coordinate the possible shifts of the project staffers. Annex 4 presents a total list of staff.

RM level: As outlined in the Human Resources Strategy, to facilitate the Project work at RM level and enhance capacity of the RMs, the former Rural Municipality Support Units (RMSU) have been dismantled and merged with the novel RM WASH Units. Each of the units is headed by Gaunpalika Water Resources Officer (GWRO), and supported by a Technical Facilitator (TF), a Livelihood Facilitator (LF), along with several other staffers as per need. The GWROs are hired by the RMs in all 27 core RMs and paid from the WRDFs, while the rest of

the team have been paid by the Capacity Building funds of the TA contract. We expect (and are lobbying for) the RMs will continue GWROs or equivalent staff in the WASH Unit after the closing of the project, and many of the RMs have already approved the approach.

Covid: The third wave of Covid-19 hit Nepal in January 2022. The national staff got the chance for a booster vaccination in January 2022. The project has been somewhat affected by rising cases of flu (of which, some have been identified as Covid-19) but we have not witnessed serious cases among the project staff during the current wave. The pandemic has not significantly impacted the implementation work, though the related meeting restrictions have prevented already scheduled meetings (postponed), inaugurations, and other events from mid-January onwards. However, the pandemic has significantly hampered the progress in three-star school WASH, as schools have been kept closed for long periods and used as Covid-19 isolation centres during the last three years, making toilet upgrades in many cases very difficult or impossible. The dedicated working spirit of the national staff has been an important reason for the good progress of the project, despite the pandemic (and contrary to the situation with most other projects).

GoN-funded human resources: RVWRMP III has support from the National Project Director in Kathmandu. The National Project Coordinator from Infrastructure Development Division of Sudurpaschim Province in Dadeldhura is assigned part time for RVWRMP. In addition, the Project Coordination Office (PCO) receives the services of a part-time accountant of the District Treasury Controller Office. The PCO office houses one engineer, a computer operator, and an office assistant. Despite his regular duties, the National Project Coordinator provides timely and good support for the Project.

7 RISKS AND RESPONSES

The most significant risks encountered during FY07 were the third wave of the pandemic; natural hazards; RM politics; and delays in the implementation of solar grids in Humla; and currency exchange rate fluctuations. Furthermore, the project expects the elections to cause trouble in the final months of implementation and closing.

Elections. The date for local elections has been confirmed to be May 13th, 2022. We expected the elections to occur around this time and hence we have taken this to account. However, the elections are likely to have a minor impact to our work schedule as the implementation has to be finished before the election campaigning begins, which is likely to be a couple of weeks earlier than originally planned. This will pose a bit more pressure to the field level than we had hoped. Furthermore, there is a medium level, increasing likelihood for serious political instabilities as we progress towards the elections, and we know that the start of normal campaigning will at some point complicate the interactions with the RM offices. The project applies the ordinary precautions when the elections approach and will regularly remind the staff that this is a non-political project, and the staffers should not be seen to be involved with the politics in any way. The project has also adjusted the implementation work plans and instructed the staff accordingly.

Pandemic. The most significant critical issue the Project is facing in FY07 is the COVID-19 pandemic. The associated national and global restriction and limitations have had an impact on the project in FY07. The third wave of Covid-19 with its Omicron variant hit Nepal in January 2022. The first signs were striking, but the outcomes seem to be lesser than anticipated; the restrictions were shorter and milder than in the last spring, influencing our work less than expected. The restrictions have mainly influenced the work through limiting possibilities for mass meetings, preventing scheme and school WASH inaugurations, capacity building events, RMPMC meetings and other meetings with RM leaders, public audits, and other meetings and gatherings related to implementation. The pandemic has significantly hampered the progress in three-star school WASH. The project has had to cancel the planned events with RM leaders and limit participation to a minimum in the ICM held in January 27-29, 2022. The previous waves have taught good response and adaptation practises. The staffers got a booster dose of vaccines in late January 2022, and the GoN granted vaccines to all staff members already in FY06, so the resistance to the disease is relatively good among the staff. Many of the personnel have had symptoms and have been tested positive, but this time we have avoided serious consequences among the staff. RVWRMP will continue to apply preventative measures (social distancing, masks, good hygiene, avoiding large meetings, etc) as long as needed, acknowledging that the vaccinations and boosters do not provide 100% protection. We now believe that the project will manage with the pandemic without serious negative impacts till the end.

Natural hazards. The last monsoon caused unexpected heavy floods in Sudurpaschim in late October 2021, damaging some of our schemes and other infrastructure, especially in Bajura and neighbouring areas. Action has been taken to rehabilitate the schemes. Furthermore, the extraordinary heavy snow in the mid hills of Sudurpaschim in early February 2022 caused damage to 136 polyhouses as reported by the RM staff (Apihimal 18; Chhabis P. 10; Dilasaini 1; Sayal 10; Badikedar 30; Talkot 10; Gaumul 5; Ramaroshan 7; Marma 9; Naugad 32; Bhagawatimai 4). RM staff reported that around 50% of the polyhouses can be repaired, whereas 50% must be reconstructed. The damage has affected the work plan so that more funds and human resources have been allocated to repair the damages. Action has been taken to rehabilitate and reconstruct the damaged polyhouses by using the existing budgets. This is currently causing extra work for the field staff.

RM politics. Disturbances in RM level politics, such as conflicts between the parties or disagreements regarding specific issues, have hampered our work to a standard degree. Furthermore, staff changes, including accountants and CEOs, have continued in some RMs. Although this happens to a lesser degree than in the previous years, it is still complicating the cooperation and release of funds from the RM accounts. These problems have had a minor impact to the project in this FY, but political problems are expected to grow towards the elections. The project aims to complete the implementation works and fund releases before the election campaigning makes it difficult.

Humla solar grids. The implementation work could not be completed in December as planned by the implementing parties. The main reason was lack of organisation and management of timely transportation of materials by the contractors; this was beyond the project's control. The work is on hold during the winter. A new plan has been made, according to which the work will continue in April once the snow condition allows. The work is planned to be completed by June 2022. The plan is realistic as the scheme in Yari is not far from completion, and the scheme in Hilsa can also be completed in one month once the materials are on the site. The project expects the work to be completed in June, but given the track record with the contractors, the project also acknowledges that there is a minor risk of the work not being completed by the end of the FY07. However, the foreign funding will be expended by that time, and the RM has pledged to take over the scheme in any condition at the end of the FY. The project does everything it can to complete the schemes in time.

Exchange rate. The exchange rate of Euro to NPR has fluctuated dramatically throughout the phase. At the time of finalising the budget for FY07, it was decided to fix the exchange rate at 135 NPR/EUR; in the beginning of the FY07 it was around 139 NPR/EUR; and now it is close to 136 NPR/EUR. This has a large impact on the available budget, and it makes the planning of the works and the aimed expenditure of the whole budget more difficult. To cope with the issue, the project actively modifies the work plan almost monthly.

8 SUSTAINABILITY, LESSONS LEANT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Linking cooperatives with WSS. RVWRMP encourages UCs to affiliate with a local cooperative. The UCs are voluntary organisations, often lacking sufficient capacity to operate and manage the schemes, although they have good ownership. Many UCs could benefit from professional book-keeping and accounts management, supply chain management for spare parts, and professional VMWs that could be shared with multiple UCs. Some cooperatives have started to offer some of these services, and they all already offer an O&M fund. In FY07, the project has conducted new types of trainings to for the cooperatives to better connect them with UCs and to encourage them to recognise the business potential elaborated above. Cooperatives are particularly significant organisations for WASH as cooperatives are also social responsibility organisations with 20% of profits to be used for social activities.

Other cooperative-related innovations. There are at least three different innovative practices with the cooperatives initiated in FY07. First, the project has conducted 3 slots of new PEARLS monitoring and business plan trainings. The outcome is a realistic 3-year plan and improved self-monitoring and assessments capacity within the participating cooperatives. Another innovation is that the project has encouraged the cooperatives to start collecting, supplying, and marketing local farming products. The aim is to introduce value-chain type of development and thinking locally, as well as to produce a win-win situation for the farmers and cooperatives. Third, the project has conducted two slots of totally new types of accounts software management trainings for the most advanced cooperatives, along with accounts software support. These trainings were demanded by the cooperatives who have grown so much that they need accounting software to manage the businesses. As per demand, the project organised the trainings and invited external facilitators to train the selected cooperatives.

RM WASH Management Boards, WASH Units, and UC Networks. These concepts have now been introduced, discussed and endorsed in the core RMs. It seems that the UC network will play a crucial role in information exchange from the UCs to the RM, and as a discussion forum that brings together the WASH sector users, implementing partners and the RM officials. The network also encourages the UCs to remember the annual registration and be active in communication among the UCs and to the RM. For further details, see **Annex 7**.

Female VMW trainings. As a part of the GESI Strategy the project has provided extra training to women VMWs. The observation behind this is that women tend to stay in the community (low immigration), whereas the men VMWs often migrate out. The VMW post provides the women additional income that the other women do not receive, also helping them to stay in the village. The training focuses on technical skills, MHM and general sanitation, delivered in a supportive environment of only female VMWs.

WSP formulation workshops for proposal-based schemes are a new activity that is ongoing. The status is that they have been completed in six Districts, are ongoing in three District, while one District is yet to be started. This is a new type of activity designed to provide the means for sustainable O&M in non-core areas and we have found it to be much needed and successful this far. The workshops ensure that the project delivers an exit package to the proposal-based UCs, adequate to enable sustainable management of the schemes. They aim to ensure the completion of adequate WSP and other PoCo activities of the proposal-based schemes in non-core working areas. In these areas, the staffing and project presence has been more limited, and in FY07 we have already phased out from these areas, except for these exit workshops.

Water lab construction. The project promotes water quality laboratories in the RMs. They will be operated under the heath section. The idea is to enable the existence of simple water quality testing in the RMs. In the ideal would be to enable water testing twice a year in all schemes. In mid-January, there were 11 labs established in the RMs. The established labs will receive a water safety and quality measurement training in the spring.

Private tap schemes. Increasing evidence supports more and more strongly that moving from community to private taps schemes has been a success. The project recommends the private taps for all rural areas. They

have shown good results on MHM, making women freer with the menstrual practices and decreasing the traditional community pressure. The private taps have been observed to be much more sustainable and water-efficient as the households are interested in the metering-based tariff (saving water and preventing leakages) and continuous service delivery and water use in the household. There is lots of demand in the communities to upgrade public tap schemes to private schemes.

N WASH MIS. The project continued to support N WASH MIS with the idea that RMs can use the portal and the data for WASH management – See more details in Section 4.1. on N WASH MIS. Field data collection has been completed in most of the areas, and verification and entries to the system are ongoing. The process is expected to be completed by mid-April. The project continues to support the RMs for N WASH MIS development, and the line ministry on developing the system till the end of the FY. We expect that the N WASH portal will remain actively developed under the line ministry and that it will provide a foundation for M WASH data in the future. The project believes the investment on data collection and the N WASH portal development has been worthwhile as it is currently the most feasible candidate for a long-term national WASH MIS system. National level N WASH staff have been very positive about the work done by RVWRMP.

DMM Ambassador. The DMM Goodwill Ambassador concept has been initiated as another piece of innovation to promote DMM in the RMs. The background is that campaigns supported by influential personalities/celebrities have been observed to be very effective in gaining attention for the cause. Using this idea within the project will provide a new level of visibility and different type of influence in the working area. In FY07, Ms Rekha Joshi has been selected as the Ambassador and a contract has been signed. The idea is to conduct two rounds of visits in core RMs with her performances on DMM in the core areas and be engaged with media. Furthermore, she will attend to the MHM PA meetings.

FCG

ANNEX 1: RESULTS FRAMEWORK – ANNUAL TARGET VERSUS ACHIEVEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR FY07 (SEMI-ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT)

Notes:

The numbering logic of the indicators is that those with two separated integers (N.N.) have already been in the PD that involved the GoN, GoF, and EU funding (22th of November, 2017). In the case of the two original MHP related indicators (3.1. and 3.2.), they have been changed to equivalent solar grid related ones along with the SvB decision to not implement MHP but solar grids in FY05. The indicators with three separated integers (N.N.N.) have been added later and are not in the original PD.

Many of the original targets have been revised. In FY03, two indicators were added: the current 2.8.1.; and 2.10.1. In FY05, the following indicators were revised with increased targets: 1.6; 1.6.1; 1.9; 2.8.1.; 2.9.1.; 2.9.2; 2.9.3; 2.10.1; 3.1.; 3.3.; 4.1.1.; and 4.1.2. Furthermore, in FY06, the following indicator targets were revised and increased: 1.2; 1.2.1.; 2.1.; 2.8.1.; 3.2.

All figures reported in % are presented at the precision of one percentage unit.

Data reporting date for the Semi-annual Progress Report for FY07 is 23rd of January 2022, if not otherwise stated. The progress is measured against End Target. The annual targets for FY07 are presented in Annex 3.

Annex 1. Result Indicator Matrix with Annual Achievements and Targets

R	Indicator	Baseline	Annual Achievement FY01	Annual Achievement FY02	Annual Achievement FY03	Annual Achievement FY04	Annual Achievement FY05	Annual Achievement FY06	Semi-annual progress FY07 (target)	Cumulative Achievement by mid-FY07	End Target
R1	1.1. Number of water supply schemes in Phase III provides improved water supply services defined as improved and functional fulfils the QARQ criteria (Cumulative).				99%	99%	97%	95%	96%	96%	97%
R1	1.2. Number of water supply beneficiaries[1]	0	1 998	47 678	60 224	64 896	58 273	135 796	11 620 (28 000)	380 485	357 500 *Original target 351 000, revised in FY06.
R1	1.2.1. Number of water supply schemes[2]	0	15	133	143	139	133	211 (150)	15 (35)	789[3]	910 * Not in original PD, indicator added in FY05, revised by SvB in FY06.
R1	1.2.2. Number of 1) school/institutional sanitation beneficiaries; 2) school/institutional water supply beneficiaries; and 3) institutions/schools supported by water supply schemes					1) 20 222 2) 46 843 3) 230	1) 8 927 2) 12 198 3) 70	1) 19 910 2) 29 028 3) 126	1) 1 229 2) 4 422 3) 19	1) 50 288 2) 92 491 3) 443	Not defined. *Indicator added in FY05, not in original PD.

[1] IPC schemes only
[2] IPC schemes only. There are no set RVWRMP III targets for the number of schemes. Indicator added to concretize the physical work to achieve the targeted number of beneficiaries.
[3] In addition, 9 schemes were supported as Post Construction Phase (for Rehabilitation, Service level improvement, repair and maintenance of flood / landslide affected schemes, etc.)

R	Indicator	Baseline	Annual Achievement FY01	Annual Achievement FY02	Annual Achievement FY03	Annual Achievement FY04	Annual Achievement FY05	Annual Achievement FY06	Semi-annual progress FY07 (target)	Cumulative Achievement by mid-FY07	End Target
R1	1.3. Number of water supply schemes supported by the project fund in Phase III applies a Water Safety Plan with CCA/DRR component.[4] (Cumulative)				82%	81%	88%	78%[5]	79%	79%	90%
R1	1.4. Percentage of User Committees of water supply schemes in the project core RMs are active and able to maintain service level.[6] (Cumulative)	0	0%	52%	74%	63%	69%	51%[7]	85%	89%	85%
R1	1.5. Key positions in UCs (chair, vice chair, secretary, joint secretary and treasurer) of improved WSS in the core RMs held by women and by minority populations of Dalit and Janajati (D+J). (Cumulative)	0	Women: 45% D+J: 26%		Women: 47% D+J: 23%	Women: 47% D+J: 24%	Women: 49% D+J: 25%	Women: 51% D+J: 27%	Women: 51% D+J: 26%	Female: 51% D+J: 26%	Female: 50% Dalit + Janajati: 24%
R1	1.6. Number of institutions/schools/public places supported by the	0	2	7	24	40	52	78	5	208	180 *Originally 200

[4] % from all IPC status WSS + MUS with WSS, considering blanks as "No WSP". The figures show schemes completed in each FY.
[5] Newly constructed schemes are yet to implement WSP, and the number of new schemes is high, so the % becomes lesser than previous year.
[6] This indicator covers all water schemes in core RMs reflecting the UCs' annual status as updated in MIS. The MIS data used for this purpose involve 1) Functionality status, 2) SMW/VMW appointed and mobilised, 3) implementation of O&M regulation 4) implementation of WSP, 5) Existence of O&M fund and regulation, and 6) UC regular meetings. All these indicators must be in place. The indicator considers core RMs only due lack of human resources to track the indicator outside the core RMs.
[7] There were lots of new schemes completed in this FY, and some post construction activities were not yet conducted in many of the schemes in the same FY.

R	Indicator	Baseline	Annual Achievement FY01	Annual Achievement FY02	Annual Achievement FY03	Annual Achievement FY04	Annual Achievement FY05	Annual Achievement FY06	Semi-annual progress FY07 (target)	Cumulative Achievement by mid-FY07	End Target
	Project fund with disabled and gender-friendly toilets and access to hand washing										
R1	1.6.1. Number of schools that comply with 3 star TS criteria.[8] (Cumulative).	Baseline FY05: 1014 schools covered, all in 'no-star' stage					0 (work just started)	3 stars: 30; (declared: 13); 2 stars: 77; 1 star: 47; 0 star: Total: 154	3 stars: 68; (declared: 31); 2 stars: 84; 1 star: 14; Total: 166 (cumulative)	3 stars: 68; (declared: 31); 2 stars: 84 1 star: 14 Total: 166[9]	180 *Indicator added in FY05, not in original PD.
R1	1.7. Number of WSS in core RMs (VDCs pre FY04) having affiliation with cooperative to proliferate capital. (Cumulative)[10]	0	6%	6%	14%	36%	27%	27%	33%	33%	40%
R1	1.8. Menstruating women able to use the toilet in core RMs[11]	59%	65%		80%	78%	84%	81%	80%	80%	80%
R1	1.9. Water supply schemes implemented in core RMs						3.5%	1.5%	4%	9%	40% *Indicator added in FY05, not in original PD.

[8] This indicator was added in FY05 based on project initiative, with the anticipated 40% of the WSS being achievable for TS level. The numbers before FY07 report the declared three-star schools only. In FY07, the project reports all progress at the different levels of the three-star process as it better captures the conducted activities and progress, as well as addresses the current problem of the pandemic making public declaration events impossible to conduct.

[9] In FY07, 165 schools were selected for the intervention of school WASH activities. Closing of schools and the use of schools as COVID patient or new visitors' quarantine centres, is the major reason that hampered the declarations and achieving the target.

[10] Involves WSS and MUS with WSS component in core RMs. This is a cumulative figure. The % goes down when more schemes are added, and UC still are new.

[11] Data source: KoBo data-based time series. Data based on a series of home visits, total four visits per household during Phase III. The figure accounts for the latest home visit (after the first visit that occurs prior to the intervention).

R	Indicator	Baseline	Annual Achievement FY01	Annual Achievement FY02	Annual Achievement FY03	Annual Achievement FY04	Annual Achievement FY05	Annual Achievement FY06	Semi-annual progress FY07 (target)	Cumulative Achievement by mid-FY07	End Target
	declared Total Sanitized as per Government's indicators										
R2	2.1. Number of home garden beneficiaries	0	37 577	34 100	60 306	57 343	46 759	80 300	5 965 (4 000)	322 350	281 500 *Original target 275 000, revised in FY06.
R2	2.2. Percentage of women among home garden, trainers of trainers, and lead farmer training recipients	0		77%	75%	85%	84%	82%	86%	81%	50%
R2	2.3. Percentage of Dalit and other socially excluded groups in home garden and leader farmers trainings	0		27%	29%	31%	27%	28%	25%	28%	24%
R2	2.4. Number of people receiving Rural Advisory Services[12]				98 987	85 500	198 428	134 894 (100 000)	NA; calculated annually (10 000)	517 809	500 000
R2	2.5. Families trained in income generating activities (Converted to population)	0	3 042	9 588	10 850	16 027	15 377	29 038	13 928	97 850	60 000
R2	2.6. Percentage of leadership posts of project supported cooperatives held by women	0	49%		53.6%	50.1%	52%	52%	52%	52%	50%

[12] Home garden beneficiaries, IG training beneficiaries and their family, polyhouse beneficiaries and their families, agro-business beneficiaries and their families, collection centre beneficiaries and their families, cooperative shareholder's family members, value chain beneficiary families.

R	Indicator	Baseline	Annual Achievement FY01	Annual Achievement FY02	Annual Achievement FY03	Annual Achievement FY04	Annual Achievement FY05	Annual Achievement FY06	Semi-annual progress FY07 (target)	Cumulative Achievement by mid-FY07	End Target
R2	2.7. Percentage of MUS of all water schemes (WSS, irrigation and MUS)[13]	0	10%	10%	9%	9%	9%	11%	13%	13% Furthermore, all WSS schemes have MUS components, including home gardens	10%
R2	2.8.1 Irrigation scheme beneficiaries	0	755	3 392	8 163	13 450	10 078	26 721	4 107	66 666 + 15 843[14]	69 677 *Target not in original PD, added in FY03. Original target: 50 000, revised by SvB in FY05 and FY06.
R2	2.9.1. Number of agri-businesses supported via the ME support						21	22	5	48	20 *Target not in original PD, added in FY05.
R2	2.9.2. Number of value chains supported households						4 *Citrus: 335* *L. Card.: 245* *Chiuri: 0;* *Veg: 658* *Ginger: 0*	5 *Citrus: 660;* *L. Card.: 70;* *Chiuri: 295;* *Veg.: 892* *Ginger: 939*	5 *Citrus: 14;* *L. Card: 48;* *Chiuri: 52;* *Vegetable: 63;* *Ginger: 117*	5 *Citrus: 1009;* *L. Card: 363;* *Chiuri: 347;* *Veg: 1 613;* *Ginger: 1056*	5 *Target not in original PD, added in FY05.
R2	2.9.3. Irrigation and MUS schemes with business plan support						0	28	28	28	20 *Target not in original PD, added in FY05.
R2	2.10.1. Shareholders of cooperatives			8 789	11 550	7 329	1 990	1 072	760	31 490	30 000 * Target not in original PD, added in

[13] Cumulative figure; calculating the completed schemes and IPOs. Besides separate MUS, also all the project WSS have MUS components including home gardening.
[14] In addition to conventional and modern technologies, 15 843 people have got 17.74 hectares (60 m2 per poly-house) irrigated land through drip irrigation in 2 957 poly-houses.

R	Indicator	Baseline	Annual Achievement FY01	Annual Achievement FY02	Annual Achievement FY03	Annual Achievement FY04	Annual Achievement FY05	Annual Achievement FY06	Semi-annual progress FY07 (target)	Cumulative Achievement by mid-FY07	End Target
											FY03. Original target: 20 000, revised in FY05 and FY06.
R2	2.10.2. Cooperatives achieving 110% Operational Self Sufficiency						11	30	6	47	54[15] *Target not in original PD, added in FY05.
R3	3.1. Numbers of Households receiving energy via Solar Mini Grid								0	0	100 (50 kW) * SvB replaced the original MHP indicator with this one in FY05.
R3	3.2. Number of beneficiaries provided with access to sustainable energy services (other than MHP)	0	7 950	12 620	52 266	44 959	39 918	69 382	NA; calculated annually (4 000)	227 095	195 000 *Original target: 40 000, revised in FY04 and FY06.
R3	3.3 UCs of Solar grid schemes are active & able to maintain service level								0	0	2 * SvB replaced the original MHP indicator with this one in FY05.
R3	3.4. Greenhouse gas emissions mitigated by the use of sustainable technologies, e.g., cooking stoves, improved water mills ($mtCO_2e$). (Cumulative)	0	1 762	9 649	41 430	90 177	101 280	240 713	NA; calculated annually; (85 000)	240 713	250 000[16]

[15] The target is 90% of the selected cooperatives (60), which is in practice 54.

[16] The mtCO2e is calculated as a cumulative figure achieved from ICS and IWM throughout the years after construction. The calculation of the PD target and progress thereafter has been based on the method used in ICS Study in Phase II. The multipliers are taken from laboratory research, i.e., 3.143 per ICS and 4.52 per IWM.

R	Indicator	Baseline	Annual Achievement FY01	Annual Achievement FY02	Annual Achievement FY03	Annual Achievement FY04	Annual Achievement FY05	Annual Achievement FY06	Semi-annual progress FY07 (target)	Cumulative Achievement by mid-FY07	End Target
R3	3.5. Number of trained beneficiaries on CCA/DRM	0			47	1 758	769	67	719 (1 500)	3 360	2 500
R3	3.6. Project investments meet DRM standards and criteria.	0	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
R4	4.1. Roadmap for multi-sector regional cohesion policy: (…)				0 - Project has no mandate for policy formulation support at province level and the process is already supported by other donors. Anyhow, we have planned a Province-level roadmap drafting workshop in this regard in March 2022 to support the process from project side.						Provincial workshop on lessons learned from R/MCs/project experiences leading to Roadmap
R4	4.1.1. RM have formulated policies related to WASH and Livelihood, CCA-DRR.		By FY04 end: 58				69	20	14	161	70 RM level policies *Target not in original PD, added in FY05.
R4	4.1.2. Joint activities/inputs to Provincial authorities for policy development on poverty reduction						2	2	0 (2)	4	6 events *Target not in original PD, added in FY05.
R4	4.2. National and provincial authorities in WASH, agriculture and small	0	5 conference papers, participation in 10 National conferences				1 Provincial; 1 National[17]	2 Intl; 2 National; 1 Provincial; 1 Project level [18]	1 National and 1 Provincial event[19]	2 International; 4+10 National; 3 Provincial; 1 Project level;	6 national events organised, and 6 documents produced

[17] P WASH and N WASH policy formulation
[18] Two International: 1. Workshop on Dignified Menstruation and 2. International Seminar by MUS Network; Two National: 1. National WASH Cluster Meeting and 2. MHM PA Meeting (with sharing of DMM policy by RVWRMP); One Provincial: RVWRMP Co-lead with the government and sectoral actors in Platform for Progress and Experience Sharing on Sudurpaschim WASH Cluster. One project level: Disability Workshop for RM Vice-Chairs.
[19] National MHM PA meeting; Provincial Stakeholder Workshop on DMM.

R	Indicator	Baseline	Annual Achievement FY01	Annual Achievement FY02	Annual Achievement FY03	Annual Achievement FY04	Annual Achievement FY05	Annual Achievement FY06	Semi-annual progress FY07 (target)	Cumulative Achievement by mid-FY07	End Target
	industries sectors informed on RVWRMP experiences									10 conference papers	
R4	4.3. RM ownership demonstrated by RM contribution to the RM-WRDF	0	RMs not established		8%	14%	20%	19%	24%	20%	>7%
R4	4.4. Number of trained local bodies to promote effective access to energy, markets, irrigation and WASH services	0	RMs not established		27	27	27	27	27	27	27 core RMs
R4	4.5. Mobilization of RM re-sources under Agriculture and Cottage and Small Industries section for joint activities in the core RMs	0	Indicator invalid; DADO, CSIDB do not exist any more								80%
R4	4.6. RM/VDC WRDF funds are expended against the annual budget	0	104%	68%	97%	94%	84%	88%[20]	34% in 6 months	80%	85%
R4	4.7. Technical and administrative support to RMs is provided without delays by RM Offices	0	RMs not established		9.3	10.0	10.0	11.3	NA; calculated annually	10.2	10 RMPMC meetings per RM per annum

[20] GoN+GoF/EU+RM = WRDF

R	Indicator	Baseline	Annual Achievement FY01	Annual Achievement FY02	Annual Achievement FY03	Annual Achievement FY04	Annual Achievement FY05	Annual Achievement FY06	Semi-annual progress FY07 (target)	Cumulative Achievement by mid-FY07	End Target
R4	4.8. Percentage of community contribution in cash and kind towards construction of water and irrigation systems etc. (Cumulative)	0	27%	29%	28%	30%	32%	32%	28%	28%	20%

ANNEX 2. RM-LEVEL WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT FUND (WRDF) SEMI-ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Semi-Annual Financial Progress NPR
1 Shrawan, 2078 to 14 Poush 2078 (16 July, 2021 to 14 January, 2022)

Achham	Total Budget (GoN & GoF, EU)	Total Release (GoN & GoF, EU)	Total Expenditure (GoN & GoF,EU)	Financial Progress in % Of Total
Ramaroshan RM	17,300,000.00	9,580,000.00	7,460,248.92	43%
Turmakhad RM	15,800,000.00	9,302,000.00	7,015,790.99	44%
Total	**33,100,000.00**	**18,882,000.00**	**14,476,039.91**	**44%**
Baitadi	**Total Budget (GoN & GoF, EU)**	**Total Release (GoN & GoF, EU)**	**Total Expenditure (GoN & GoF,EU)**	**Financial Progress in % Of Total**
Dilasaini RM	10,700,000.00	7,100,000.00	2,733,401.00	26%
Pancheshwor RM	14,300,000.00	10,824,900.00	6,628,064.00	46%
Shivnath RM	15,000,000.00	11,150,000.00	6,918,860.00	46%
Total	**40,000,000.00**	**29,074,900.00**	**16,280,325.00**	**41%**
Bajhang	**Total Budget (GoN & GoF, EU)**	**Total Release (GoN & GoF, EU)**	**Total Expenditure (GoN & GoF,EU)**	**Financial Progress in % Of Total**
Chhabis Pathibhara RM	21,600,000.00	15,665,132.00	7,825,111.00	36%
Talkot RM	20,700,000.00	16,102,000.00	7,758,049.00	37%
Thalara RM	35,100,000.00	24,965,000.00	12,872,471.00	37%
Total	**77,400,000.00**	**56,732,132.00**	**28,455,631.00**	**37%**
Bajura	**Total Budget (GoN & GoF, EU)**	**Total Release (GoN & GoF, EU)**	**Total Expenditure (GoN & GoF,EU)**	**Financial Progress in % Of Total**
Gaumul RM	17,500,000.00	11,200,000.00	6,602,241.00	38%
Swamikartik RM	19,000,000.00	11,375,000.00	6,362,402.00	33%
Total	**36,500,000.00**	**22,575,000.00**	**12,964,643.00**	**36%**
Dadeldhura	**Total Budget (GoN & GoF, EU)**	**Total Release (GoN & GoF, EU)**	**Total Expenditure (GoN & GoF,EU)**	**Financial Progress in % Of Total**
Ajaymeru RM	20,900,000.00	11,531,000.00	5,130,485.00	25%
Alitaal RM	31,400,000.00	16,616,666.67	10,348,594.14	33%
Bhageshwor RM	22,300,000.00	16,552,000.00	8,522,932.04	38%
Total	**74,600,000.00**	**44,699,666.67**	**24,002,011.18**	**32%**
Dailekh	**Total Budget (GoN & GoF, EU)**	**Total Release (GoN & GoF, EU)**	**Total Expenditure (GoN & GoF,EU)**	**Financial Progress in % Of Total**
Bhagawatimai RM	14,600,000.00	7,203,000.00	4,704,559.00	32%
Bhairabi RM	13,000,000.00	7,400,000.00	5,349,149.00	41%
Naumule RM	17,100,000.00	8,600,000.00	5,186,456.00	30%
Total	**44,700,000.00**	**23,203,000.00**	**15,240,164.00**	**34%**
Darchula	**Total Budget (GoN & GoF, EU)**	**Total Release (GoN & GoF, EU)**	**Total Expenditure (GoN & GoF,EU)**	**Financial Progress in % Of Total**
Api Himal RM	15,000,000.00	9,950,000.00	5,365,680.00	36%
Marma RM	26,000,000.00	21,725,000.00	12,559,656.50	48%
Naugad RM	26,400,000.00	16,041,000.00	7,734,278.00	29%
Total	**67,400,000.00**	**47,716,000.00**	**25,659,614.50**	**38%**
Doti	**Total Budget (GoN & GoF, EU)**	**Total Release (GoN & GoF, EU)**	**Total Expenditure (GoN & GoF,EU)**	**Financial Progress in % Of Total**
Bogtan RM	19,200,000.00	9,680,000.00	6,669,683.36	35%
Sayal RM	18,500,000.00	12,140,000.00	6,748,894.00	36%
Badikedar RM	19,400,000.00	11,650,000.00	6,395,514.00	33%
Total	**57,100,000.00**	**33,470,000.00**	**19,814,091.36**	**35%**
Humla	**Total Budget (GoN & GoF, EU)**	**Total Release (GoN & GoF, EU)**	**Total Expenditure (GoN & GoF,EU)**	**Financial Progress in % Of Total**
Kharpunath RM	20,800,000.00	15,100,000.00	12,686,776.00	61%
Namkha RM	82,500,000.00	46,683,333.33	20,334,138.00	25%
Sarkegad RM	27,400,000.00	19,600,000.00	13,685,824.00	50%
Total	**130,700,000.00**	**81,383,333.33**	**46,706,738.00**	**36%**

Kailali	Total Budget (GoN & GoF, EU)	Total Release (GoN & GoF, EU)	Total Expenditure (GoN & GoF,EU)	Financial Progress in % Of Total
Chure RM	23,100,000.00	15,756,000.00	7,438,051.00	32%
Mohanyal RM	15,600,000.00	8,087,000.00	4,502,585.00	29%
Total	**38,700,000.00**	**23,843,000.00**	**11,940,636.00**	**31%**

Grand Total	**600,200,000.00**	**381,579,032.00**	**215,539,893.95**	**36%**

Annex 3
Overall revised budget - Overall achievement and expenditures Semi-annual FY07

Project Document Total Budget revised*)	Tentative number of beneficiaries	Number of Units	Budget (EUR)				Totals by Result areas	Cumulative Achivement FY01-semi-annual FY07		Cumulative Expenditures FY01-semi-Annual FY07 (EUR)					Activity Target for FY07		Budget for FY07+FY08 (EUR @ 135)					Achivement Semi-Annual FY07		Expenditure Semi-Annual FY07 (EUR)				
			GON	GOF+EU	Rural Muncipalities/ others	Users		Number of Beneficiaries	Number of Units	GON	GOF+EU	Rural Muncipalities/others	Users	Total by Result area	Number of Benerficiaries	Number of Units	GON ***)	GOF+EU (includes the budget for FY07+ekstra months)	Rural Muncipalities/ others	Users	Total by Result area	Number of Beneficiaries	Number of Units	GON	GOF+EU	Rural Muncipalities /others	Users	Total by Result area
Result 1 WASH							**Total Result 1**							**Total Result 1**														**Total Result 1**
Drinking Water Supply Schemes (IPC only)	357 500	910	7 690 000	12 387 910	3 950 000	6 250 000		380 485	789	8 278 821	12 865 080	5 490 883	7 644 715		28 000	35	707 116	824 842	813 285	933 926		11 620	15	204 832	388 094	246 646		
Institutional toilets in schools/health posts/public places, 3 stars	40 000	180	200 000	580 000	1 265 772	2 223 915		50 288	208	397 776	512 618	400 867	672 359		NA	6	157 206	88 086	100 577	-		1 229	5	49 503	24 055	29 470		
Total Sanitation / ODF	110 000	40%	1 670 000	695 000	1 350 000					214 418	528 808	239 344				40%	100 663	63 780	59 005	-			9%	14 821	17 526	15 497		
Carry over from Phase II**)				273 947																				-	-	-		
Payments from RM WRDF (total from above)			9 560 000	13 936 857	6 565 772	8 473 915				8 891 016	13 906 506	6 131 094	8 317 074				964 985	976 707	972 867	933 926				269 156	429 675	291 613		
Payments from Plan and Capacity Development Fund				720 000						6 010	695 582						2 963	68 229							49 038			
TOTAL RESULT 1 (42%)			**9 560 000**	**14 656 857**	**6 565 772**	**8 473 915**	**39 256 544**			**8 897 025**	**14 602 088**	**6 131 094**	**8 317 074**	**37 947 281**			**967 948**	**1 044 936**	**972 867**	**933 926**	**3 919 677**			**269 156**	**478 713**	**291 613**	-	**1 039 482**
% Share of RM-WRDF			**25%**	**36%**	**17%**	**22%**				**24%**	**37%**	**16%**	**22%**												**27%**	**43%**	**29%**	**0%**	
Result 2 Livelihoods							**Total Result 2**							**Total Result 2**														**Total Result 2**
Home Gardens	281 500		640 000	780 000	200 000			322 350		269 586	728 761	86 288			4 000		32 867	23 802	-			5 565		-	-	-		
Irrigation Support	69 677	20	300 000	650 000	699 662	1 450 000		82 509	35	1 784 609	2 843 332	1 020 957	1 990 082		7 000		336 565	169 504	226 328	212 785		4 407	7	121 943	145 826	81 882		
Livelihood Infrastructures (Value Chain)	4 645	5	100 000	430 000	150 000			4 388	5	178 906	484 028	335 636			551	5	55 834	174 146	72 618			754	5	28 764	60 151	41 437		
Number of agri-businesses supported via the ME support (Agri-Business Support)	2 500	20		380 000		517 400		8 376	48	114 996	235 685	72 529				5	105 313	170 944	101 399			8 376	5	27 484	49 452	12 417		
Income Generating training activities	60 000		200 000	1 530 000	471 500			97 850		254 245	798 074	166 575			5 000		117 581	119 528	50 825			13 928		59 745	66 903	25 725		
Cooperative training activities (Shareholders of Cooperatives)	30 000		100 000	450 000	5 000			31 490		82 368	150 836	1 456			200		24 443	21 176	1 327			760		-	1 005	-		
IWM and MHP III FY02										1 810	8 273													-	-	-		
Rural Advisory Services	500 000		100 000	1 050 000	150 000			517 809		3 344	23 496	1 111			10 000							NA (Annual only)		-	-	-		
Carry over from Phase II**)				61 261																				-	-	-		
Payments from RM WRDF (total from above)			1 440 000	5 331 261	1 676 162	1 967 400				2 689 864	5 272 485	1 684 551	1 990 082				672 604	679 100	452 496	212 785				237 936	323 337	161 460		
Payments from Plans and Capacity Development Fund				480 000							392 990						6 148	128 563						6 010	57 095			
TOTAL RESULT 2 (16%)			**1 440 000**	**5 811 261**	**1 676 162**	**1 967 400**	**10 894 823**			**2 689 864**	**5 665 475**	**1 684 551**	**1 990 082**	**12 029 972**			**678 753**	**807 663**	**452 496**	**212 785**	**2 151 697**			**243 946**	**380 432**	**161 460**	-	**785 837**
% Share of RM-WRDF			**13%**	**56%**	**16%**	**19%**				**23%**	**45%**	**14%**	**17%**												**33%**	**45%**	**22%**	**0%**	
Result 3 Renewable Energy and Climate Change							**Total Result 3**							**Total Result 3**														**Total Result 3**
ICS and IWM activities	195 000		500 000	300 000	200 000	254 166		227 095		280 276	551 978	239 772	544 471		4 000		164 103		63 673	8 415		NA (Annual only)		58 103	26 505	10 077		
Watershed and recharge activities			1 500 000	120 000	50 000	250 000				32 679	32 653	20 769												8 678	7 061	6 541		
UC Solar Grid schemes / Micro-hydro	800	2		860 000	53 942	50 000			0	6 789	337 165	7 862	8 331		800	2	82 464	398 252	75 837	-			0	6 443	87 489	2 751		
DRR and Climate Change activities	2 500		300 000	149 000	50 000	-		3 360		34 976	55 548	19 382			1 500		28 471	7 567	8 142	-		719		30 683	15 702	7 224		
Payments from RM WRDF (total from above)			2 300 000	1 429 000	353 942	554 166				354 720	977 345	287 785	552 802				275 039	405 819	147 852	8 415				103 910	136 758	26 593		
Payments from Plans and Capacity Development Fund																												
TOTAL RESULT 3 (16%)			**2 300 000**	**1 429 000**	**353 942**	**554 166**	**4 637 108**			**354 720**	**977 345**	**287 785**	**552 802**	**2 172 651**			**275 039**	**405 819**	**147 852**	**8 415**	**837 124**			**103 910**	**136 758**	**26 593**	-	**267 260**
% Share of RM-WRDF			**50%**	**31%**	**8%**	**12%**				**16%**	**45%**	**13%**	**25%**												**39%**	**51%**	**10%**	**0%**	
Result 4 Governance							**Total Result 4**							**Total Result 4**														**Total Result 4**
Support to RMs for planning (WUMP, LIP, TSSAP)	All programme RMs	27	250 000	450 000	130 910				27	162 429	217 732	4 977				27							27	-	-	-		
Training of female RM leaders, female cooperative and UC leaders	All programme RMs	27	100 000	300 000					27	224 689	397 568	45 077				27	24 139	3 257	1 963				27	22 007	22 500	2 729		
Support to RMs for implementation oversight	All programme RMs	27	150 000	500 000					27	142 599	97 818	14 379				27	16 506	18 242	-				27	4 155	4 196	-		
Support to RMs for M&E, O&M	All programme RMs	27	100 000	500 000					27	269 834	674 048	53 597				27	271 171	138 356	58 637				27	2 225	4 785	1 674		
Carry over from Phase II**)				50 518																				-	-	-		
Payments from RM WRDF (total from above)			600 000	1 800 518	130 910	-				799 552	1 387 166	118 030	-				311 816	159 856	60 600	-				28 388	31 481	4 403		
Payments from Plans and Capacity Development Fund			500 000	1 870 000						73 845	1 639 727						9 407	513 664						7 241	262 622			
TOTAL RESULT 4 (10%)			**1 100 000**	**3 670 518**	**130 910**	-	**4 901 428**			**873 396**	**3 026 893**	**118 030**	-	**4 018 319**			**321 224**	**673 520**	**60 600**	-	**1 055 344**			**35 628**	**294 103**	**4 403**	-	**334 134**
% Share of RM-WRDF			**22%**	**75%**	**3%**	-				**35%**	**60%**	**5%**												**44%**	**49%**	**7%**		
							TA and admin							**TA and admin**														**TA and admin**
Technical Assistance				5 258 383							4 935 675							719 369						-	396 661	-		
TA reimbursable				1 292 707							1 029 675							347 461							84 429			
Running costs				1 976 074							1 793 148							357 107						-	174 181	-		
Total							**8 527 164**				**7 758 498**			**7 758 498**			-	**1 423 937**	-	-	**1 423 937**				**655 271**			**655 271**
							GON admin							**GON admin**														**GON admin**
GON admin			600 000							283 911							84 444							26 632				
-																												
Total							**600 000**			**283 911**				**283 911**			**84 444**	-	-	-	**84 444**			**26 632**				**26 632**
							Other							**Other**														**Other**
Management Cost for MFA				1 290 926							1 290 926																	
Contingencies of 131,074 are included in the WRDF budget lines																												
Total							**1 290 926**				**1 290 926**			**1 290 926**														
Totals			**15 000 000**	**35 385 726**	**8 726 785**	**10 995 481**	**70 107 993**			**13 098 917**	**33 321 224**	**8 221 461**	**10 859 958**	**65 501 559**			**2 327 407**	**4 355 874**	**1 633 815**	**1 155 126**	**9 472 222**			**679 272**	**1 945 276**	**484 069**	-	**3 108 617**
Share of overall budget			21%	50%	12%	16%		**Share overall expenditures**		20%	51%	13%	17%				25%	46%	17%	12%		**Share overall expenditures**		22%	63%	16%	0%	

*) All overall budget and target revisions are incorporated in PD Budget in accordance with the approved budget for FY07 pls refer to page 17-18 in the AWPFY07. EU/GOF budget for FY07 will be defined as per the remaining funding from the total of 35 385 726 EUR!!

**) Total Carry Over from Phase II: EUR 385.726

***) GoN available funds and expenditures are always calculated in NPR. Of this a total NPR 300,300,000 remains for FY07 in accordance with the WRDF FY07 budget in NPR. Due to the shifting exchange rates NPR- EUR it appears as if the total GoN contribution only amounts to MEUR 14.75.
But the GoN will fulfil its obligation to the agreement when the FY07 is implemented 100%.

Annex 4 Number of staff by the end semi-annual FY07

Staff	Station	Category	Number
International Experts	PSU Dadeldhura International Experts:	Chief Technical Advisor Rural Monitoring and Reporting Specialist Field Specialist	3
National Expert	PSU Dadeldhura National Specialists: TSU Districts	Deputy Team Leader Technical Specialist MIS Specialist Social and Institutional Development Specialist Sustainable Livelihood Specialist Value Chain Specialist Water Resources Advisor Water Resources Engineer Livelihood Officer	6 6 2 3
Government staff	PCO Dadeldhura	National Project Coordinator Engineers Admin and Support staffs	1 1 3
Technical Officer	PSU Dadeldhura Technical Support Officers:	Planning and Monitoring Officer Behaviour Change Communication Officer Cooperative Development Officer MIS Officer MIS Junior Officer Account Monitoring Officer	6
Gaopalika Water Resources Officers	RMSU	One each in RVWRMP core working RMs	27
Technical Facilitators	RMSU	Technical Facilitator	25
Livelihood Facilitators	RMSU	Livelihood Facilitator	13
Administrative Support Staff (including Cleaners and Drivers)	PSU, DDL / DHI KTM Office TSU Districts	Administrative Staff Liaison Officer and Support Staff Staff Administrative Support Staff	20 3 6
Service Providers	PSU Dadeldhura / Bajhang / Doti / Dailekh/ Bajura/ Kailali	WSP / LF / Research Study Coordinator Messenger Enumerators (Social & Technical)	7 1 6

Table 2. Staff list

SN	NAME	POST	Duty Station
List of DoLI Staff			
1	Mr Maheshwor Ghimire	NPD/DoLIDAR	KTM
2	Mr. Ram Chandra Khatri	NPC	PCO, DDL
3	Mr. Gyan Bahadur Sijali	Accountant	PCO, DDL
4	Mr. Govinda Bhatta	Engineer	PCO, DDL
5	Mr. Rupesh Parajuli	Engineer	KTM
6	Mr. Krishna Raj Pant	Computer Operator	PCO, DDL
7	Mr. Karan Singh Dhami	Office Assistant	PCO, DDL
List of Consultants Team Member, Expatriates			
8	Dr. Pamela White	Home Office Coordinator	Finland
9	Ms Mette Hendrich Junkov	Team Leader	PSU/DDL
10	Dr. Juho Haapala	Rural Monitoring and Reporting Specialist	PSU/DDL
11	Mr. Erik Salminen	Field Specialist	PSU/DDL
List of Administrative Support Staff (PSU DHI / DDL)			
12	Mr. Yug Bahadur Thapa	Administration & Account Officer	PSU/DDL
13	Ms. Usha Ojha	Office Secretary cum Store Manager	TSU Kailali
14	Mr. Padam Tamrakar	Senior Accountant	PSU/DDL
15	Mr. Kalam Bahadur Chaudhary	Accountant	PSU DDL
16	Mr. Man Bahadur Chand	Admin / Logistic Assistant	PSU/DDL
17	Mr. Pappu Ram Chaudhary	Office Assistant	TSU Kailali
18	Ms. Pabitra Giri	Procurement and Store Management Assistant	PSU DDL
19	Ms. Ram Kumari Devi Chaudhary	Receptionist	PSU/DDL
20	Mr. Narendra Bahadur Bista	Storekeeper	PSU/DDL
21	Mr. Puskar Raj Ojha	Assistant Technician	PSU/DDL
22	Mr. Ang Pemba Sherpa	Head Driver	PSU/DDL
23	Mr. Tek Bahadur Rawat	Driver	PSU/DDL
24	Mr. Bhupendra Chaudhary	Driver	PSU/DDL
25	Mr. Krishna Bahadur Giri	Driver	PSU/DDL
26	Mr. Raju Maharjan	Driver	PSU/DDL
27	Mr. Binod Bahadur Bist	Driver	PSU/DDL
28	Mr. Siddha Raj Ojha	Driver	PSU/DDL
29	Mr. Bhim Bahadur Mahar	Cleaner	PSU/DDL
30	Ms. Hajari BK	Cleaner	PSU/DDL
31	Ms. Maya DC	Cleaner	PSU/DDL
List of Liaison Office, Kathmandu			
32	Mr. Shital Subedi	Liaison & Administrative Officer	KTM
33	Mr. Tidu Tharu	Office Assistant	KTM

SN	NAME	POST	Duty Station
34	Ms. Maya Parajuli	Cleaner/ KTM Office	KTM
List of National Experts, PSU / TSU			
35	Mr. Narayan Prasad Wagle	Deputy Team Leader	PSU/DDL
36	Mr. Raju Ram Tirwa	Social and Institutional Development Specialist	PSU/DDL
37	Mr. Pallab Raj Nepal	MIS Specialist	PSU/DDL
38	Mr. Krishna Bahadur Malla	Sustainable Livelihood Specialist	PSU/DDL
39	Mr. Bashu Dev Pandey	Technical Specialist	PSU/DDL
40	Mr. Janak Bahadur Suvarnakar	Value Chain Specialist	PSU/DDL
41	Mr. Tirth Raj Bhatta	Livelihood Officer	TSU Baitadi
42	Mr. Lokendra Prakash Oli	Water Resources Engineer	TSU Bajhang
43	Mr. Padam Singh Bist	Water Resources Advisor	TSU Bajura
44	Mr. Bishnu Prasad Pokharel	Water Resources Advisor	TSU Dadeldhura
45	Mr. Dhruba Shrestha	Water Resources Engineer	TSU Dadeldhura
46	Mr. Kaman Bahadur Malla	Livelihood Officer	TSU Dadeldhura
47	Mr. Love Raj Pant	Water Resources Advisor	TSU Darchula
48	Mr. Birendra Bahadur Thapa	Water Resources Advisor	TSU Humla
49	Mr. Divakar Bam Duwal	Water Resources Advisor	TSU Kailali
50	Mr. Indra Prasad Adhikari	Livelihood Officer	TSU Kailali
List of HELVETAS Staff, Dailekh based			
51	Mr.Hari Prasad Sapkota	Water Resources Advisor	TSU Dailekh
52	Mr. Chitra Bista	Technical Facilitator	Naumule RM, Dailekh
List of Technical Support Staff, PSU based			
53	Mr. Kamal Prasad Bhatta	Planning and Monitoring Officer	PSU/DDL
54	Mr. Chitra Bahadur Khanal	Account Monitoring Officer	PSU/DDL
55	Mr. Durga Prasad Bhatta	MIS Officer	PSU/DDL
56	Ms. Manju Kumari Bhatta	Behaviour Change Communication Officer	PSU/DDL
57	Mr. Jay Ram Suni	Cooperative Development Officer	PSU/DDL
58	Ms. Anjana Bogati	MIS Junior Officer	PSU/DDL
List of Technical Support Staff, RMSU based			
59	Mr. Farshu Ram Ghimire	Technical Facilitator	TSU Achham
60	Mr. Ganesh Bahadur Kathayat	Technical Facilitator	Ramaroshan RM, Achham
61	Mr. Deepak Bahadur Thapa	Technical Facilitator	Turmakhand RM, Achham
62	Mr. Debendra Prasad Bhat	Livelihood Facilitator	Ramaroshan RM, Achham
63	Mr. Krishna Prasad Badu	Technical Facilitator	Dilasaini RM, Baitadi
64	Mr. Dirgha Narayan Pandey	Technical Facilitator	TSU Baitadi
65	Mr. Dhruba Kumar Hamal	Technical Facilitator	Shivnath RM, Baitadi
66	Mr. Mahesh Kumar Joshi	Livelihood Facilitator	Dilasaini RM, Baitadi
67	Mr. Nara Bahadur Bohara	Technical Facilitator	Talkot RM, Bajhang
68	Mr. Bikash Bahadur Kathayat	Livelihood Facilitator	Thalara RM, Bajhang
69	Mr. Amar Bahadur B.K.	Technical Facilitator	Gaumul RM, Bajura
70	Mr. Tej Bahadur Bohara	Technical Facilitator	TSU Bajura
71	Mr. Dhan Bahadur KC	Livelihood Facilitator	Gaumul RM, Bajura

SN	NAME	POST	Duty Station
72	Mr. Santosh Bahadur Jethara	Technical Facilitator	Alital RM, Dadeldhura
73	Mr. Dal Bahadur Diyal	Technical Facilitator	Bhageswore RM, Dadeldhura
74	Mr. Santosh Raj Joshi	Livelihood Facilitator	Alital RM, Dadeldhura
75	Mr. Damodar Bhatta	Senior Livelihood Facilitator	Bhageshwor RM, Dadeldhura
76	Mr. Bhakta Bahadur Dhant	Technical Facilitator	Ajaymeru RM, Dadeldhura
77	Mr. Hari Bhakta Adhikari	Technical Facilitator	Bhagwatimai RM, Dailekh
78	Mr. Surya Bahadur Shahi	Livelihood Facilitator	Naumule RM, Dailekh
79	Mr. Janga Bahadur Rawal	Technical Facilitator	Bhairabi RM, Dailekh
80	Mr. Ser Bahadur Saud	Livelihood Facilitator	Bhairabi RM, Dailekh
81	Mr. Hardeb Singh Bohara	Technical Facilitator	Naugard, RM, Darchula
82	Mr. Buddhi Pallab Joshi	Technical Facilitator	Apihimal RM, Darchula
83	Mr. Surendra Singh Samanta	Technical Facilitator	TSU Darchula
84	Mr. Man Singh Thagunna	Livelihood Facilitator	Marma RM, Darchula
85	Mr. Mohan Singh Badal	Technical Facilitator	Marma RM, Darchula
86	Mr. Harka Bahadur Saud	Technical Facilitator	Badikedar RM, Doti
87	Mr. Gunraj Mishra	Livelihood Facilitator	Badikedar RM, Doti
88	Mr. Dhan Bahadur Bist	Technical Facilitator	Bogtan RM, Doti
89	Ms. Rohina Kumari Bohara	Livelihood Facilitator	Sayal RM, Doti
90	Mr. Narendra Dhami	Technical Facilitator	Sayal RM, Doti
91	Mr. Karbu Lama	Technical Facilitator	Namkha RM, Humla
92	Mr. Barkha Bahadur Pal	Livelihood Facilitator	Kharpunath RM, Humla
93	Mr. Lanka Bahadur Lama	Technical Facilitator	Kharpunath RM, Humla
94	Mr. Narendra Singh Bist	Senior Technical Facilitator	TSU Kailali
95	Mr. Kalak Bahadur Saud	Technical Facilitator	Chure RM, Kailali
96	Mr. Deepak Bahadur Ayer	Senior Livelihood Facilitator	Chure RM, Kailali
List of TSU Support Staff			
97	Mr. Tapendra Bahadur Luhar	Messenger	TSU Achham
98	Mr. Bhakta Puri	Messenger	TSU Bajhang
99	Mr. Dale Rokaya	Messenger	TSU Bajura
100	Mr. Udaya Bahadur Budha Magar	Messenger cum Office assistant	TSU Dailekh
101	Ms. Hojar Dolma Lama	Office assistant	TSU Humla
102	Ms. Kripa Devi Chaudhari	Housekeeper	TSU Kailali
List of Short Term Service Provider Staff			
103	Mr. Gagan Bahadur Dhami	Short Term Service Provider - LF	Talkot RM, Bajhang
104	Mr. Bikram Singh Mahara	Short Term Service Provider - OA	TSU Darchula
105	Mr. Lal Bahadur Khadka	Short Term Service Provider - LF	Bogatan RM, Doti
106	Mr. Indra Raj Badu	Short Term Service Provider - R&S Coordinator	PSU Dadeldhura
107	Mr. Kamal Bahadur Dhami	Short Term Service Provider - Technical Facilitator	Thalara RM, Bajhang
108	Mr. Santosh Bhatta	N-WASH MIS Intern (Sub Engineer)	Chure RM / PSU DDL
109	Mr. Gorakh Bahadur Ayadi	STSP - WSP Facilitator (Social)	5 RMs of Bajura

SN	NAME	POST	Duty Station
110	Mr. Ram Prasad Dahal	STSP - WSP Facilitator (Social)	Jorayal RM, Kailali
List of Enumerators			
111	Mr. Mohan Singh Samant	Enumerator (Technical)	Bogatan Fudsil RM, Doti
112	Mr. Suraj Oli	Enumerator (Social)	Bhagwatimai RM, Dailekh
113	Mr. Dipendra Kumar Thapa	Enumerator (Social)	Bhagawatimai RM , Dailekh
114	Mr. Gopal Singh Pharswan	Enumerator (Technical)	Chure RM, Kailali
115	Mr. Mahesh Prasad Awasthi	Enumerator (Social)	Chure RM, Kailali
116	Ms. Kumari Maya Joshi	Enumerator (Social)	Mohanyal RM, Kailali

List of staff left in FY 07

SN	Name	Position	Location
1	Mr. Rajendra Prasad Padhya	Enumerator (Technical)	Thalara RM, Bajhang
2	Mr. Jhalak Bahadur Bist	Enumerator (Technical)	Chhabishpathevera RM, Bajhang
3	Mr. Sukmit Gurung	Short Term Service Provider - SWRT	Gurans RM, Dailekh
4	Mr. Anish Singh Karki	Enumerator (Technical)	Badikedar RM, Doti
5	Mr. Dirgha Bahadur Dhami	Enumerator (Technical)	Bogatan Fudsil RM, Doti
6	Mr. Ammar Saud	Enumerator (Technical)	Pancheshwor RM, Baitadi
7	Mr. Rajendra Prasad Bohara	Short Term Service Provider - SWRT	Amargadhi Municipality, DDL
8	Mr. Hem Bahadur Praja	Technical Facilitator	Chhabispathibhera RM, Bajhang
9	Mr. Krishna Datt Bhatt	Enumerator (Social)	Pancheshwor RM, Baitadi
10	Mr. Dharani Dhar Bhatt	Enumerator (Social)	Dilasaini RM, Baitadi
11	Mr. Naresh Singh Bohara	Enumerator (Technical)	Shivanath RM, Baitadi
12	Mr. Ghanshyam Singh Dhami	Enumerator (Social)	Shivanath RM, Baitadi
13	Ms. Janaki Kumari Damai	Enumerator (Social)	Thalara RM, Bajhang
14	Mr. Narayan Prasad Upadhayay	Enumerator (Social)	Chhabishpathevera RM, Bajhang
15	Ms. Sushila Kumari Thapa	Enumerator (Social)	Talkot RM, Bajhang
16	Mr. Arjun Rokaya	Enumerator (Technical)	Gaumul RM, Bajura
17	Mr. Dal Bahadur Khadka	Enumerator (Social)	Gaumul RM, Bajura
18	Mr. Gorakh Bahadur Ayadi	Enumerator (Social)	Swamikartik Khapar RM, Bajura
19	Mr. Jagadish Prasad Bhatt	Enumerator (Social)	Ajaymeru RM, Dadeldhura
20	Ms. Mina Kumari Shahu	Enumerator (Social)	Bhageshwor RM, Dadeldhura
21	Mr. Bishnu Kumar Rawat	Enumerator (Technical)	Bhairabi RM, Dailekh
22	Ms. Ishori Kumari Yogi	Enumerator (Technical)	Bhagawatimai RM, Dailekh
23	Mr. Krishna Singh Bhat	Enumerator (Technical)	Marma RM, Darchula
24	Mr. Mohan Singh Dhami	Enumerator (Technical)	Marma RM, Darchula
25	Mr. Nagendra Singh Thagunna	Enumerator (Technical)	Naugard RM, Darchula
26	Mr. Gopal Singh Pharswan	Enumerator (Technical)	Api Himal RM, Darchula
27	Ms. Nirmala Thagunna	Enumerator (Social)	Naugard RM, Darchula
28	Mr. Birendra Raj Pandey	Enumerator (Social)	Dilasaini RM, Baitadi
29	Mr. Amrit Bahadur Singh	Enumerator (Technical)	Namkha RM, Humla
30	Mr. Gagan Rokaya	Enumerator (Technical)	Kharpunath RM, Humla

SN	Name	Position	Location
31	Mr. Nirajan Thapa	Enumerator (Technical)	Mohanyal RM, Kailali
32	Mr. Govinda Prasad Badu	Office assistant	TSU Baitadi
33	Mr. Bigyan Nepali	Technical Facilitator	Swamikartik RM, Bajura
34	Mr. Bhoj Raj Bhatta	Messenger	TSU Doti
35	Mr. Min Prasad Basnet	Short Term Service Provider - NWASH MIS Coordinator	PSU Dadeldhura
36	Mr. Rishi Bahadur Karki	Enumerator (Social)	Turmakhad RM, Achham
37	Mr. Tilak Bahadur BC	Enumerator (Technical)	Turmakhad RM, Achham
38	Mr. Suraj Khadka	Enumerator (Technical)	Thalara RM, Bajhang
39	Ms. Sapana Thapa Magar	Enumerator (Technical)	Bhageshwor RM, Dadeldhura
40	Ms. Tulasi Bhattarai	Enumerator (Social)	Bhageshwor RM, Dadeldhura
41	Mr. Dhirendra Bahadur Bogati	Enumerator (Technical)	Naumule RM, Dailekh
42	Mr. Dambar Singh Bist	Enumerator (Social)	Badikedar RM , Doti
43	Mr. Padam Raj Joshi	Enumerator (Technical)	Badikedar RM, Doti
44	Mr. Dhanbir Sarki	Enumerator (Social)	Bogatan Fudsil RM, Doti
45	Mr. Karna Bahadur K.C.	Water Resources Advisor	TSU Achham

ANNEX 5: COMMUNICATIONS AND VISIBILITY INCLUDING BLOG POSTS FROM REPORTING PERIOD

- Overview of Communications and Visibility Actions in FY07
- Blog Posts Published During the Reporting Period

Overview of Communications and Visibility Actions in FY07

The RVWRMP Project Document emphasises the importance of active and continuous communication with the financiers. The Project Implementation Guidelines specifies the need to work together with local journalists and media to effectively share stories and lessons learnt to all relevant audiences.

In FY04, the project developed a Communications and Visibility Action Plan for two years to maximise the impact of communication and visibility actions. The plan was updated at the end of FY06 to include the final fiscal year. Progress towards fulfilling the plan is listed below followed by the blog posts published during the reporting period.

Finnish and EU public

Target	Responsibility / Resource	Schedule / Frequency	Mode of Communication
1 Informative project materials and news	PSU/TSU	Continuous	Webpage
• Publishing blog posts and news in social media. • Survey on Water Tariff Analysis in Private Tap Systems of Water Supply Schemes • Seven thematic studies initiated			
2 Project website	Web-admin (FS)	Continuous	Webpage; social media
FY07: Weekly updating + blog posts: 1. Field Specialist Observations after Six Months in Nepal 2. Dairy Products Proving Popular in Bhairabi RM 3. Exploring Water Tariff in RVWRMP Supported Schemes			

Provincial and national level

Target	Responsibility / Resource	Schedule / Frequency	Mode of Communication
1 Event organisation and participation for province/national CB	PSU	Planned separately	Vis-à-vis
• Collective workshop with regional and national level traders on marketing facilitation-agreement for large cardamom, chiuri and ginger • Sustainable Dignified Menstruation Management with stakeholders and RM vice chairs • MHM PA meeting (regular) • Webinar: Global Summit on Dignified Menopause			
2 Interaction with national partners	TL/PSU	Regular	Vis-à-vis
Regular meetings and information sharing with GoN/EU/GoF representatives			

Rural/Municipalities

Target	Responsibility / Resource	Schedule / Frequency	Mode of Communication
1 CB and trainings	RMSU/TSU/PSU	Regular	Vis-à-vis
Major events: • Establishment and operation of WASH Units • Gender and Disability Responsive Plan review workshop in the RMs (Swamikartik RM) • Refresher training on School WASH and Total Sanitation to RM WASH Unit staff • District level School WASH workshop with SMC, School Teachers and Child Club representatives			

Target	Responsibility / Resource	Schedule / Frequency	Mode of Communication
• Design software training to RM Engineers/Sub-Engineers • PEARLS monitoring and proposal writing training (23 Cooperatives) • Workshop on Cooperative in WASH (34 Cooperatives) • Account software training to Cooperative manager (20 Cooperatives) • Account and local management training (13 Cooperatives) • Account software support (9 Cooperatives) • Cooperative and account management training to solar minigrid Cooperative (Namkha RM) • Workshop on scheme sustainability and affiliation with Cooperative (Sayal RM, Marma RM, Talkot RM and Badikedar RM) • Proposal writing training to ginger value chain cooperative (Badikedar RM) • Business plan preparation training (9 Cooperatives) • ToT on WASH supply chains to SHPs • Orientation on WASH and Livelihoods to FCs and GWROs • Water quality test training to RM Water Quality focal person. • Total Sanitation and WSP training to female VMWs • HRBA/GESI training to RM officials			
2 Other RM collaboration	PSU/TSU/RMSU	Continuous	Any suitable media
• All finalized WUMP/LIP reports available on the website. • Exit strategy formulation and producing a handing over package. • Online MIS reporting system to RM level. • RM WASH MIS: Synchronization with N-WASH, NWASH survey is in progress • WR / Livelihoods policies formulation. As of FY07, following RM policies were formulated: 1. Water Sanitation and Hygiene Management Directive in **27** RMs (FY05)[1] 2. Dignified Menstruation Management Directive in **24** RMs (FY04=10, FY05=14) 3. Water Resources Act in **15** RMs (FY04=3, FY05=7, FY06=2, FY07=3) 4. Water Resources Regulation in **27** RMs (FY04=13, FY05=14) 5. Water Resources Management Procedure in **3** RM (FY04=1, FY05=2) 6. Water Supply and Sanitation Regulation in **2** RMs (FY05=1, FY07=1) 7. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Management Procedure in **4** RMs (FY04=1, FY05=3) 8. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Strategic Plan in **2** RMs (FY05) 9. User Committee Formation and Mobilization Procedure in **6** RMs (FY04=1, FY05=5) 10. User Committee Formation Procedure in **3** RMs (FY04=1, FY05=1, FY07=1) 11. Agricultural Enterprises Promotion Act in **8** RMs (FY04=1, FY05=6, FY07=1) 12. Agricultural and Livestock Programme Operation Procedure in **2** RMs (FY06=1, FY07=1) 13. Cooperative Act in **15** RMs (FY05=13, FY07=2) 14. Cooperative Regulation in **3** RMs (FY05=1, FY07=2) 15. RM Level Water Supply and Sanitation Scheme Repair Fund Operation Procedure in **15** RMs (FY06=13, FY07=2) 16. Total Sanitation Promotion Procedure in **3** RMs (FY06) 17. Support Person and WASH Unit Operation Procedure in **2** RMs (FY06=1. FY07=1)			

[1] Previously reported 'Operation and Maintenance Management Directives' were modified as 'Water Sanitation and Hygiene Management Directives'.

UCs/Beneficiaries; general public and civil society

Target	Responsibility / Resource	Schedule / Frequency	Mode of Communication
1 IEC and BCC materials	RMSU/TSU/PSU	Continuous	Any suitable media

• IEC BCC material package printed in some of the RMs from WRDF as per need
• VMW Handbook (Nepali version) printed and sent to RMs as per need.
• WSP Book (Nepali Version) printed and sent to RMs as per need.
• Following leaflets were printed and being distributed to RMs / province / national / international audiences:
  ○ Livelihood perspectives for future generations: Home-gardens plus Agri-business (ENG version)
  ○ Inclusive Steps to Development (ENG + NEP version)
  ○ Water, Sanitation & Hygiene Management Board Concept (ENG + NEP version)
  ○ Bloody Discrimination: Heart Touching Stories (ENG + NEP version)
  ○ Accessible Sanitation (ENG + NEP version)
  ○ Project Brochure: Key messages for better livelihoods (ENG + NEP version)
  ○ Water Safety Plan (WSP+++) (ENG + NEP version)
  ○ Sustainable Rural Drinking Water Supply: RVWRMP Approach (ENG + NEP version)
  ○ MHM Materials: Pad Making methods (NEP version)
  ○ Cauli Production Technology (NEP version)
  ○ Cauli Pest Management (NEP version)
  ○ Tomato Production: Polyhouse Technology (NEP version)
  ○ Chilli Production Technology (NEP version)			

2 Media ads and live acts	SIDS	As in AWPs	Any suitable media
• Radio programmes (many districts) focusing on WASH, livelihoods and precautionary measures for COVID-19 • Radio reports and news (many districts) • News coverage in newspapers, online media and television (many districts)			
3 Participation in local events	RMSU/TSU/PSU	Regular	Vis-à-vis
• Annual celebrations: Global Hand-washing Day; World Toilet Day; 16 Days Activism Against Gender-Based Violence Campaign • WASH and Irrigation structure paintings with logos.			

Donor communication and visibility

Target	Responsibility / Resource	Schedule / Frequency	Mode of Communication
1 Close interaction with partners	TL/PSU	Regular	Vis-à-vis, any suitable media
Regular meetings and information sharing with GoN / EU / GoF representatives			
2 Progress, financial and other reporting	TL/PSU	Regular	Email, webpage
• FY06 Annual Report, FY07 Annual Work Plan, Handover plan • Research and study reports: Water Tariff completed, progress on others			
3 Visibility	SIDS	Continuous	Any suitable media
• Distribution of project brochures and leaflets to relevant audiences. • Production and displaying IEC materials for RM level audiences • Sharing of RVWRMP introduction, objectives and achievements in local, provincial, national and international platforms online.			

- Publication of blog, research and study reports in website.
- Filming, editing and publishing of two videos: Model Village in Apihimal and World Toilet Day 2021

Expert and wider donor community

Target	Responsibility / Resource	Schedule / Frequency	Mode of Communication
1 Project modality material for experts	PSU	Continuous	Website; social media; vis-à-vis
• Updated WASH Management Board Concept • Water Tariff Study • Progress on seven thematic studies			
2 Organisation of events and participation and presenting successful project modalities and news	TL/PSU	Separately planned	Vis-à-vis, any suitable media

- Zoom meeting with MHM PA regularly and sharing of RVWRMP approach for DMM (organized by MHM PA)
- Global Summit on Dignified Menopause, 8 December 2021 (organized Global South Coalition on Dignified Menstruation/Radha Paudel Foundation in collaboration with National Women Commission)
- Video prepared and published for World Toilet Day 2021
- RVWRMP was reported by many newspapers, television channels and online media. Some of the examples are listed below:

S.N.	Name of media	Matter of publication	Date of publication
1	Gagan Bani (Online News)	VMW Training conducted in Swamikartik Khapar RM, Bajura	13 Jan 2022
2	Sagarmatha TV	Happiness prevailed when drinking water arrived	8 Jan 2022
3	Lok Darpan TV (Online News)	WSP/CCA/DRR training conducted in Byas RM, Darchula	2 Jan 2022
4	Gagan Bani (Online News)	Interaction among sasu-buhari conducted in Swamikartik Khapar RM, Bajura	28 Dec 2021
5	Gagan Bani (Online News)	DMM workshop conducted in Swamikartik Khapar RM, Bajura	26 Dec 2022
6	Lok Darpan TV (Online News)	Three-star school declared in Apihimal RM, Darchula	10 Dec 2021
7	Unity Khabar (Radio and Online News)	Three-star school declared in Ajayameru RM, Dadeldhura	9 Dec 2021
8	Jwala Sandesh (Online News)	Sanitation promotion has changed the sanitary status of rural settlements	6 Dec 2021
9	Suklaphata FM Radio	Sustainable DMM workshop in Dhangadhi	25 Nov 2021
10	NTV	Sustainable DMM workshop in Dhangadhi	25 Nov 2021
11	TV Today	Sustainable DMM workshop in Dhangadhi	25 Nov 2021
12	TV Today	Sustainable DMM workshop in Dhangadhi	24 Nov 2021

13	Anomodan Daily Newspaper	Sustainable DMM workshop in Dhangadhi	24 Nov 2021
14	Tarun TV (Online News)	Total sanitized village declaration in Bhagawatimai RM, Dailekh	29 Sep 2021
15	Tarun TV (Online News)	Strategy of yard connection WSS succeeding in Bhagawatimai RM, Dailekh	29 Sep 2021
16	AP TV	Yard connection WSS a matter of happiness in Thalara RM, Bajhang	1 Sep 2021
17	Avenues TV	Yard connection WSS system saving untimely death of people becoming victim of leopards, when they used to go to fetch the water- Pancheshwar RM, Baitadi	27 Aug 2021
18	Khaptad Awaz (Online News)	Multiuse scheme provides relief to farmers, Chhabis Pathibhera RM, Bajhang	24 Aug 2021
19	Dainik Yatra (Online News)	Model school declaration in Thalara RM, Bajhang	17 Aug 2021
20	Khabar board (Online News)	Yard connection WSS constructed and local people are happy in Chhabis Pathibhera RM, Bajhang	17 Aug 2021

Project visibility and internal activities

Target	Responsibility / Resource	Schedule / Frequency	Mode of Communication
2 Internal communication banks	SIDS	At once	Internal; online cloud
• Established and functioning a photo bank in a cloud service online. • Value chain reporting system established and functioning in a cloud service online.			
3 Subcontractor and short-term consultancy reports	SIDS	At once	internal
All SO annual reports and consultancy reports are available in electronic form in TSUs.			

ANNEX 5. COMMUNICATIONS & VISIBILITY – BLOG POSTS PUBLISHED DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

Six Months in Nepal: Field Specialist Observations

Author and date of publication: Erik Salminen, 13.9.2021

Namaste! My name is Erik Salminen, and I joined the Rural Village Water Resources Management Project (RVWRMP) as a Field Specialist in August 2020. After some delays caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, I travelled to Nepal in January 2021. Since then, I was able to visit the project area extensively before the country experienced a second wave of the pandemic, restricting movement. The situation has gradually improved, which is great as the project has entered its final year of implementation and there is a lot of field monitoring work remaining.

I have a background in water and environmental engineering, but for the past few years I have mostly concentrated on "big water" themes, such as water diplomacy and transboundary water management. However, I have always known that to fully understand what is happening on a transboundary scale, I need to bring myself down to the grassroots level. Thus, I was overjoyed when I got the chance to join RVWRMP, fulfilling a long-time dream of mine. My primary motivation is to see how such projects work and learn to understand the realities in the field. I am bringing added value to the project through experience in project management and communications, but I also hope to contribute to whichever sectors and themes I am needed most.

After six months in Nepal, I feel like I have got a solid grasp of the project and its activities. My work is divided into management related themes in the Project Support Unit (PSU) as well as monitoring progress in the field. Both are equally important and complementary in my opinion, as management provides the big picture while working in the field helps appreciate concrete achievements and understand challenges.

Observations from PSU

Since arriving in Nepal it has been clear to me that PSU is a well-oiled unit. All staff members are working hard towards a common goal of improving the lives of working area people, despite hindrances caused by lockdown restrictions. I highly appreciate the presence of several familiar working values, such as diligence, teamwork, a lack of unnecessary hierarchy, equality in the office and courage to voice opinions.

Running such a project with multiple different sectors (WASH, Livelihoods, GESI, etc.) in a huge working area (ten districts in two provinces) with limited road or electrical access, is quite an undertaking. I believe that our successes so far are largely thanks to the highly motivated workers as well as efficient communications between PSU and field staff. Of course, there have been some hitches and sometimes things are dropped or forgotten due to more pressing work, but overall progress has been excellent.

Like all Finns, I believe the sauna to be the answer to most problems. Yet, here in Nepal I have learned to appreciate it even more. Our project (like all Finnish projects, as I have heard) has a sauna, which is warmed every Friday. In addition to providing a perfect antidote for homesickness it is a perfect opportunity for staff members from different ranks to spend time together and discuss things, be it work-related or something completely different. It is great to see how much local colleagues appreciate it and some have even resolved to build their own saunas once the project ends.

Observations from the Field

Field visits have provided a comprehensive understanding of how community water schemes are built and maintained. Monitoring on-going and completed schemes involves observing the quality of constructions and listening to all stakeholders to identify issues and opportunities for improvement. During field visits, I have also participated in GESI related workshops, livelihood trainings and municipality meetings. The primary objective of field visits is to ensure that work is progressing without major problems and that PSU has a good understanding of the overall situation. Monitoring needs to be done on a regular basis as it provides validation for releasing funds from donors.

In addition to the practical side, it has been a humbling experience to witness the appreciation that communities and municipalities have towards RVWRMP. Everywhere I have been, I have heard stories of how lives have improved through easier access to water and sanitation and how people have been able to stay at home instead of migrating, thanks to livelihood support. The impact is

clear to see with many communities pledging to commit more than their required share to finish projects. It also says a lot on the trust that people have towards the project.

For over a year now, the world has been struggling with Covid-19 and our working area is no different. Due to hard work and perseverance from our project staff, RVWRMP has been able to function effectively through these difficult times. We are on track to reach our targets and even surpass them and for this I want to voice my appreciation for all our staff, as well as municipality staff members. It has not been easy to work far away from families and friends during these times, but they have endured and ensured the success of the project. Working with the people and for the people has surely been a big motivator and guided our way through the troubles.

Concluding Thoughts

During my first six months in Nepal, I have already gained a lot of insight into development cooperation. I have also grown to appreciate the importance of well-functioning teams in difficult conditions. A good lesson learnt is that projects such as this aren't supposed to be easy and there are no quick fix solutions. Listening to local staff and community members is critical, as they are the ones who really understand the situation in the field and have most probably already tried many different ways to solve challenges. The importance of talking about development cooperation instead of development aid has grown clear to me, as we really are all in this together.

The final year of the project is going to be full of work. However, after seeing the motivation of everyone from project staff to beneficiaries, I have no doubt that together we will achieve our targets and beyond. I am very thankful to my colleagues (and in fact, all Nepalis so far), as it has been easy to settle to life in Nepal and become a part of the RVWRMP family. Good luck to all for the final year!

शुभकामना मेरो साथीहरु!

Project Support for Dairy Activities in Bhairabi

Author and date of publication: Erik Salminen, 27.10.2021

The Rural Village Water Resources Management supports a wide variety of agribusinesses and value chains. One of the more unique enterprises is dairy production in Bhairabi Rural Municipality in Dailekh district. Bhairabi RM is situated to the north-west from the district headquarters, between Thatikandh & Mahabhu RMs. In September 2021, a project field team visited the remote Manma community in Bhairabi, which is producing processed dairy products, such as chhurpi and ghee.

Chhurpi is a traditional cheese type product that is commonly hard and chewed like a betel nut. It is produced by boiling buttermilk, collecting, and drying the final product and cutting it into easily storable and transportable cubes. Ghee on the other hand is clarified butter. Both are very popular products in Nepal, as fresh milk is difficult to keep and transport.

Manma community consists of 52 households, of which 19 are Janajati and 33 are from Brahmin or Chhetri caste. They have a good water source near the community, which is useful for growing the grass and fodder for the cattle. RVWRMP supported the development of the water supply system of Manma in Phase II, permitting the further productive use of water. Almost all the households have cattle for milk collecting and selling purposes. 21 of the households have more than two cows or buffalos.

Dairy production activities in Manma began through four brothers. The youngest brother Mohan Prasad Paudel, visited Ilam in Eastern Nepal in 2074 (2017), which is a major chhurpi production area of Nepal. He observed the production and realised that it was feasible for his community in Bhairabi, as they also had many buffalos and cows. He discussed this with his brothers, and they decided to start processing milk into ghee and chhurpi. They established the Majuwa Buffalo Farming Group with 35 households as members. Dip Prasad Poudyal, middle brother of this family is the chairperson of the group. They are currently employing two people, a husband and wife in the enterprise.

Initially the group had some trouble with the quality of the chhurpi, so they decided to contact a technician from Ilam, who provided two months of hands-on training in the community. Dip, working as the chairperson of the group, also received 15 days of training on quality chhurpi production in Kathmandu. The group learned to produce high quality chhurpi and ghee and created

market linkages to dealers in Surkhet. RVWRMP supported the community with the purchase of processing equipment for both ghee and chhurpi as well as storage containers and jars. RVWRMP has also supported the community with different trainings, of which the community is very thankful.

Currently the farmer group collects milk from 15 cows and 35 buffalos. In addition, the community members have their own cows and buffalos, that are used for milk collection. The farmer group collects the milk from the farmers, for which they pay 48 NPR/litre (avg.) for buffalo milk and 43 NPR/litre (avg.) for cow milk. The community produces 400 litres of milk per day in the winter season and 200 litres per day in the summer based on the quality of grass and fodder available for the animals. 25-30 litres are needed for 1 kg of chhurpi production and the same with ghee. Last year, they produced around 400 kg of chhurpi and 400 kg of ghee.

In the future, the community hopes to become a dairy production pocket area, and they are thinking of easing fodder collection by building a gravity rope lift for grass collection in the upper hill area. Their biggest need is improved road access to the community from the RM side as currently all products are transported with manpower. They are also looking for technical support to improve production, quality, and transportation. If the road access is improved, they could plan for vehicle transport of their products into the market.

The dairy activities in Manma community have inspired other communities in Bhairabi as well, with RVWRMP supporting the purchase and installation of dairy cooling centres in the area.

Exploring Water Tariffs in RVWRMP Supported Schemes

Author and date of publication: Erik Salminen, 11.1.2022

Water tariffs are collected in RVWRMP supported water schemes to cover the Operation and Maintenance, and possible other costs of the scheme. Water tariffs are an important aspect of sustainability as they help ensure continuous maintenance of the scheme for the design periods and beyond as well as contributing to (or even covering) larger rehabilitation needs.

RVWRMP explored the situation of water tariffs in the project area in 2021. The survey indicates that water tariffs are collected regularly in schemes where the Village Maintenance Worker is responsible for collection and the community together decides the rate. Established User's Committees need to be active and ensure continuous tariff collection. The study was done by Juho Haapala (Rural Monitoring and Reporting Specialist), Bashu Pandey (Technical Specialist) and Erik Salminen (Field Specialist).

The full study with findings (January 2022) is available here: https://8b4410ba-234b-41d7-a94c-241149a3ad93.filesusr.com/ugd/b72297_9de64f33fd4742bda47d306f611046cd.pdf

GOVERNMENT OF NEPAL

EUROPEAN UNION

Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland

RURAL MUNICIPALITY WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE MANAGEMENT BOARD CONCEPT

Rural Village Water Resources Management Project Phase III

Project Support Unit
Dadeldhura
Sudurpaschim Province
Nepal

RVWRMP

FCG

Table of Contents

Acronyms

MIS	Management Information System
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
RM	Rural Municipality
RME	Rural Municipal Executive
RVWRMP	Rural Village Water Resources Management Project
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
WUSC	Water User and Sanitation Committee
VMW	Village Maintenance Worker
WSP	Water Safety Plan

1. Background

The Rural Village Water Resources Management Project has strong linkages and a long history of working with the local government level. The project has worked since 2006 with participating local governments in 10 districts of Nepal (Achham, Baitadi, Bajhang, Bajura, Dadeldhura, Dailekh Doti, Darchula, Humla and Kailali) in WASH and livelihoods sectors. Phase III of the project began in March 2016 after the successful completion of Phase I (2006-2010) and Phase II (2010-2016). The project started close cooperation with Rural Municipality (RM) at once when the new local level governments were established in 2017, channelling the investment and recurrent funding via the municipal system. Currently, the project is working closely in 27 core Rural Municipalities (RM) and has past experience of working in 41 other RMs of Karnali and Sudurpaschim provinces. The project works in four result areas: WASH, livelihoods, renewable energy, and governance support. In practice, this means WASH and livelihoods implementation in the RMs, alongside continuous capacity building of the local government and communities.

Sustainable Development Goal 6 is to ***achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all by 2030***.

Ensuring the sustainability of WASH services is crucial. To retain WASH services, local governments need strategic planning for Operation and Maintenance (O&M) as well as skills in the management of water supply systems and implementing Total Sanitation and Dignified Menstruation Management. As provisioned in the Constitution of Nepal and the Local Government Operation Act 2074, local governments are responsible for the WASH service delivery to the citizens. To perform this function, local governments need to develop local regulations, institutions and partnerships.

2. Problem-Solution Statement

Problem

The continued sustainability of water supply schemes is not possible without the establishment of effective O&M systems. A scheme is considered sustainable when it functions throughout its designed lifespan at full capacity. Therefore, post construction actions for O&M management should be given equal priority with construction activities.

Problems such as source depletion and damaged pipelines/other structures are observed frequently, which lead to non/partial functionality. In the future, with climate change, these problems will emerge more frequently. RMs have invested a lot of money in repair and maintenance but intended results have not always been achieved. The risk of some of the schemes collapsing is inevitable.

The mid-term evaluation of the project (2019) showed the need to enhance post construction efforts to ensure sustainability. In a majority of the Phase I and II supported schemes, the following issues were found:

a. Lack of regular WUSC meetings
b. VMW not mobilized/discontinued
c. WSP not formulated/implemented
d. No annual meeting
e. Water tariff not raised/discontinued

Solution

The new governmental system gives Rural Municipalities and Municipalities executive power to promulgate policies and regulate systems. Ultimately, local governments are the permanent structures that look after the sustainability of WASH services and new development interventions. Based on this governance shift and the monitored challenges, RVWRMP has identified a need to update the post-construction approach.

The project has developed the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Management Board concept together with Rural Municipalities (RMs) to institutionalise WASH governance. The objective is to pave the way towards sustainable management of WASH services. The concept has also resulted in the formulation of the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Management Directive (2077) for all 27 core RMs. The Directive is based on the Local Government Operation Act (2074). Actions as provisioned in the Directive are already being implemented in all 27 core RMs

Key Points of the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Management Board Concept

- WASH Management Board
- WASH Unit
- RM Level Scheme Repair Fund
- RM WASH MIS
- Registration and Renewal of WUSCs
- WUSC Network
- Annual Reporting by WUSC
- Annual Evaluation of WUSC
- Rewards for WUSCs
- Commitment to SDGs

3. Framework of the WASH Management Board

WASH Management Boards have been constituted by Rural Municipality Executives (RME), with the Chair being the Chairperson of the RM or RME (nominated by the RME). The Chief of the WASH Unit is appointed as Member Secretary.

WASH Management Boards are formed and oriented in all 27 RMs. Also, RM level stakeholders have been oriented on the concept. WASH Management Boards meet regularly and as per need. The WASH Units are established and functional.

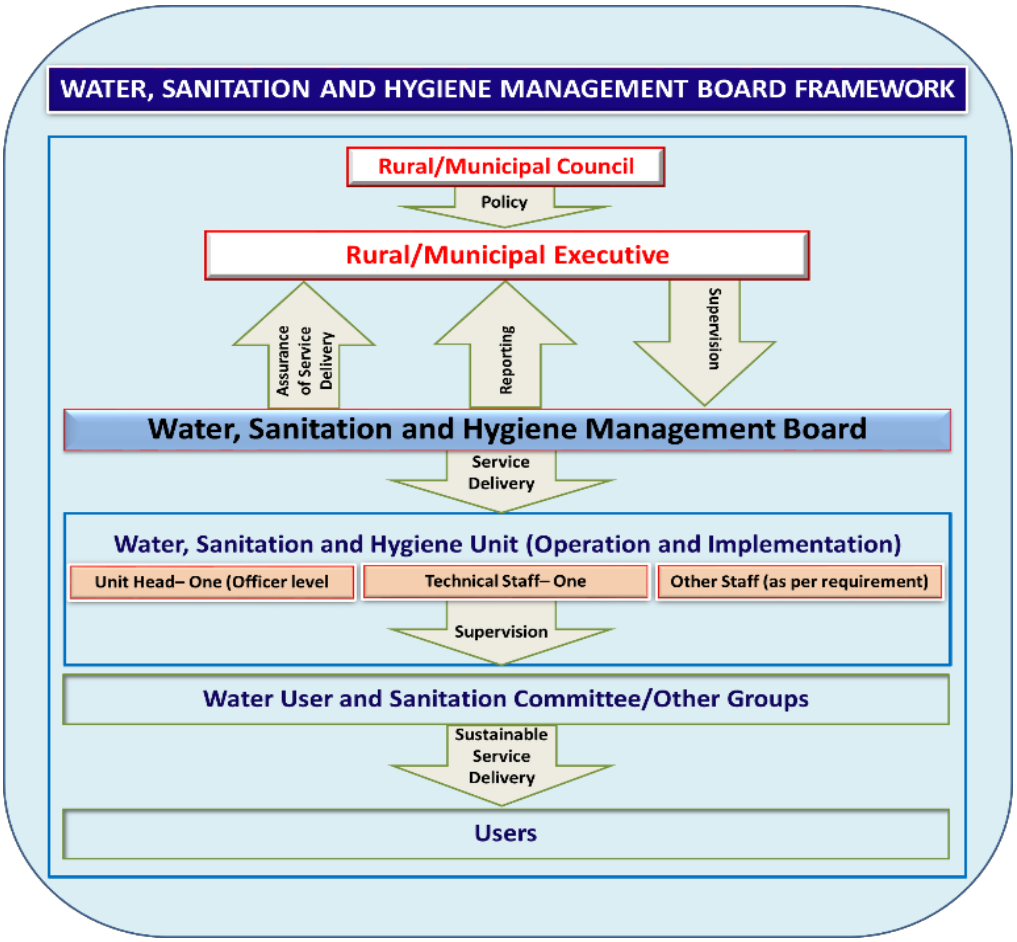


Figure 1: Frame of Water Supply Management Board

4. Role of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Management (WASH) Board

The main responsibility of the WASH Management Board is to promote WASH governance at the local level. The main duties of the Board are presented below:

- Prepare periodic plans on WASH with a clear vision.
- Prepare annual planning with budgeting of WASH sector.
- Support the RME for policy formulation regarding the WASH sector.
- Establish and operationalize the RM-WASH Management Information System (MIS).
- Establish and operationalize the RM level WASH repair and maintenance fund.
- Ensure functionality and sustainability of water supply systems.
- Prepare and fund relevant Total Sanitation and hygiene related activities, aiming to achieve total sanitized status of the RM.
- Prepare and fund relevant sanitation programmes for the public.
- Manage institutional and school sanitation in the RM.
- Prepare targeted programmes for Dignified Menstruation Management, aiming for full coverage in RM.

More detailed role and responsibilities are defined in the RM's Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Management Directive.

5. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Unit

The WASH Unit works under the supervision of the WASH Management Board as the operative body and secretariat.

Role of the WASH Unit

- Implement and coordinate sanitation, hygiene and dignified menstruation management-related programmes, identified in the annual work plans.
- Monitor, facilitate and supervise assigned individuals, volunteers, schools, youth clubs, mothers' groups, and community-based organisations in WASH management.
- Establish and update RM-level WASH MIS and provide accurate figures for the Board for evidence-based decision making.
- Compile Water Use and Sanitation Committees (WUSCs) functionality status reports with data and proposals submitted by the ward offices. Update these to the MIS and submit summary reports to the Board with proposed action plans. Follow up with wards if the reports are not received.
- Facilitate to form or reshuffle WUSCs and support them to register/renew in the RM.
- Support WUSCs for operation and maintenance management of the schemes and monitor the performance.
- Provide targeted support to passive WUSCs including WUSC reshuffling, WUSC management training, and other actions that can trigger a passive WUSC to be more active.
- Establish periodic monitoring and evaluation system of existing water supply schemes.
- Prepare Annual Report on WASH and submit to the Board.
- Recommend WUSCs for funding of emergency and major repairs to the Board.
- Perform any other activities as decided by the Board for sustainable WASH services for all citizens.
- Carry out administrative work for the Board (minutes, invitations, reports, WUSC registration, etc.)

6. Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Fund Management

Scheme Level O&M Fund

The Users' Committee of each water supply scheme takes care of the active O&M fund. If there is a functional and reliable cooperative in the RM, WUSCs are encouraged to join them as shareholders and deposit their O&M fund with them. Cooperatives can mobilise the O&M fund locally and provide interest to WUSCs. Cooperatives will generate O&M funds from annual income and other sources, aiming for emergency support for scheme maintenance.

If there is no functional and reliable cooperative, WUSCs can mobilize their fund among the users as decided by the WUSCs (though bearing in mind that this has some risks).

Rural Municipality Level O&M Fund

RM level Repair and Maintenance Funds are established in each RM to support the WUSCs in sustainable scheme maintenance. Based on assessments, WASH Management Boards may recommend any of the schemes to the RME for repair and maintenance after ensuring the following pre-conditions:

- WUSC has an O&M Plan and Water Safety Plan, and related O&M regulation is approved and applied at the time of registration and renewal.
- WUSC has registered at RM and registration is renewed annually.
- WUSC has the O&M fund and collects regular water tariff (considering exceptions only for the poor and other who are in a disadvantaged situation).
- WUSC manages tools and spare parts.
- WUSC has appointed a water system maintenance worker.
- WUSC conducts Annual General Meeting and public audit.
- WUSC maintains book-keeping and store records

RM level O&M fund is operated as per the *'RM Level Water Supply and Sanitation Scheme Repair Fund Operation Procedure'* of the RM.

7. Water User and Sanitation Committee Network

There is a WUSC Network in the RM. The Chairperson of the network is nominated as a member of the WASH Management Board. WUSC Networks work as a bridge between WUSCs, the WASH Management Board and other donor institutions. They identify the issues and problems related to the O&M of water supply systems and seek solutions. In particular, the network has an advocacy and supporting role for institutional capacity enhancement of WUSCs and functionality and sustainability management of water supply and sanitation schemes. All the schemes are entitled to be affiliated with the WUSC Network. WUSCs are encouraged to affiliate with viable local cooperative to accumulate O&M fund and to receive other WASH management support services.

Role of the WUSC Network

a. The WUSC Network primarily:
    - Identifies and communicates WASH sector issues and problems such as those relating to the scheme operation and maintenance and lobbies the Board and the RM for solutions.
    - Facilitates WUSCs for registration and renewal, and related functionality and other status updates.

- Supports the Board for RM level WASH MIS and its updating.
- Supports and facilitate the Board for monitoring and evaluation of the schemes.
- Meets regularly and discusses best practices as well as O&M related challenges and potential solutions.

b. Time and resources permitting, the WUSC Network furthermore:

- Lobbies the RM and donor agencies to solve common issues of O&M.
- Encourages WUSCs to be affiliated with the viable cooperatives.
- Ensures that the Annual General Assembly of all WUSCs are held and helps facilitate these if so requested.
- Actively participates in the events organized by the WASH Management Board.

8. Water Quality Management

A Water Safety Plan must be formulated and implemented in each water supply scheme. The RM establishes a water quality lab at RM level to test water quality of each WASH system, charging a minimum fee.

9. Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation

WUSCs submit the scheme status report during the first quarter of each fiscal year to the ward office. This report updates any scheme-specific information regarding functionality of the scheme, institutional setup of WUSCs, Total Sanitation status, menstruation management practices (access to toilet and tap during the period) and home garden management. Any proposals for emergency repairs, service level improvements or other support needed from the WASH Unit should be submitted together with the status report. The Ward Office forwards these to the WASH Unit. A copy is submitted to the WUSC Network and affiliated cooperative. The report may include special actions that need to be taken by the Board or WUSC network.

The WASH Board establishes a system for regular monitoring and evaluation to verify the reported data and highlight the possible need for support to WUSCs. Based on the verified data of the WUSC reports, the WASH Unit evaluates the WUSCs. The best performing WUSCs may receive a reward, to be decided by the Board, to encourage them to maintain the WUSC's performance.

10. WASH Management Information System

The WASH Unit is responsible for establishing and updating the RM WASH Management Information System (MIS). The Unit is to provide accurate figures for the Board for evidence-based decision making. The RM WASH MIS is to be linked with the national level WASH MIS (N-WASH MIS).

After receiving reports from the WUSCs through ward offices, the WASH Unit verifies the data by conducting monitoring visits. The verified data is compiled and updated into the RM WASH MIS accordingly.

11. Commitment to Sustainable Development Goals

The WASH Management Board is committed to contribute towards the achievement of the following Sustainable Development Goals:

- Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.
- Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.
- Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries.

12. Conclusion

The project sees the WASH Management Boards as a crucial step towards sustainable management of the WASH sector, and for the municipalities' ability as a duty bearer to provide services to the citizens as rights holders. The WASH Management Boards bring together relevant stakeholders for integrated management of water resources, and they have both mandate and means to plan, implement, supervise, and monitor the sector in a successful manner. At the same time, the municipalities still need policy development support, institutional capacity development support, and technical training. RVWRMP provides support to all these levels as long as possible to ensure sustainable WASH management in the future.

Local governments are aware of their role to institutionalize the WASH Management Board concept. As annual updating of the WASH MIS and repair and maintenance system, along with institutional capacity enhancement of WUSCs, is provisioned in the WASH Management Board concept, it will support local governments to ensure sustainable WASH services for their citizens.

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RVWRMP III Study Brief

Water Tariff Analysis in Private Tap Systems of Water Supply Schemes

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1. Introduction

A water tariff is the money collected from water supply scheme users to cover the Operation and Maintenance (O&M), and possibly other costs of the scheme. The water tariff is important for ensuring finance for continuous scheme maintenance throughout the scheme design period of 15-20 years, and hopefully beyond.

Equitable tariff collection encourages the stakeholders to pay their share and it enables good scheme management. Equitability sometimes means, e.g., that the poorest and otherwise disadvantaged households are excluded from the tariff payment altogether, based on a joint community decision. This requires that the families are aware of and agree upon the situation of the specifically disadvantaged households within the community.

The water tariff is used to raise sufficient funds for running costs. The running expenses involve regular monitoring, repair of damaged structures and replacement of components, and ideally a possibility for service level improvement and scheme extension. The running costs should also cover the running Water Users Committee (UC) and Village Maintenance Worker (VMW) costs. The UC is responsible for scheme management and decision-making, while the VMW is typically the responsible person for conducting scheme monitoring and maintenance works.

The water tariff can be also used to cover larger investment costs in the case of significant damage caused by hazards, such as landslides, and at the end of the scheme life cycle. A part of the collected tariff is typically saved as an O&M Fund in a bank or cooperative account. The UCs typically get reasonable interest for the savings in cooperatives or banks, along with some services: For instance, cooperatives typically offer O&M funding for the UCs that are cooperative members. The accumulating savings enable a stronger buffer towards unexpected events that may damage the scheme, as well as a possibility to cover a remarkable part of the scheme rehabilitation costs.

A major problem with savings is the inflation – the interest from the savings should ideally exceed the inflation rate. In Nepal, the official inflation has traditionally fluctuated at around 10%, but since 2016 it has decreased to around 5% annually. RVWRMP experience from last decades indicate that cooperatives have typically been able to provide a sustainable interest rate that exceeds the inflation, while the banks less so.

However, the RVWRMP experience shows that the rural communities in Sudurpaschim and Karnali Provinces are unable to fully cover large investment costs alone, without any external support. The newly established Rural Municipalities (RMs) can mitigate this challenge if they take seriously their responsibilities to provide water supply and sanitation (WASH) for all the citizens. Alongside substantial RM support and cooperative funding, the UCs' own O&M Funds should ideally be sufficient to cover the rehabilitation cost of the scheme once the life cycle of the scheme has surpassed.

With RVWRMP III ending in 2078/2079, it is crucial to study the operation and maintenance of the project's water schemes. This study contributes to the need by investigating current water tariff collection patterns and related management practices in private tap schemes. The study also finds out if the fully functional and actively managed UCs have a more sustainable water tariff collection than the other UCs. The study results provide guidance and ideas for UC members and field staff in how to calculate and implement water tariffs even after the project's completion.

2. Defining and calculating the water tariff

RVWRMP's Step-by-Step process (Post-construction Phase) involves a water tariff definition and calculation exercise for the supported schemes within the Water Safety Planning and O&M Regulation Preparation Workshop. The outcome is a defined sustainable water tariff proposal for the particular scheme. The water tariff rate is finally decided by the UC and is approved in mass meeting of users and/or General Assembly. The tariff is typically decided based on the paying capacity of the users/consumers as well as to cover the running operational expenditures to operate the scheme and to pay the VMW salaries and possible other costs.

Water tariff calculation has to cover, in simplified terms, two costs: 1) The actual running/operational costs; and 2) The UC's share of the investment recovery cost. At the very least, revenues from water tariffs should cover the running costs: Cost of labor, materials, goods, rents, running management costs, and services used in producing water. Investment recovery is the amount of money needed to be saved to cover the rehabilitation investment costs (or hazard recovery cost) in the future. The UC should be able to cover part of that costs, and therefore it needs to cover more than just the running costs in the tariff. In general, the UC saves a part of the collected tariff in cooperative or back accounts for this purpose.

There are two common ways to define water tariff in the Project area: Uniform sum payment per household (or per tap in shared community tap systems) per period, and a water consumption-based payment per period. The uniform sum payment is naturally suitable for schemes that do not have a metering system, whereas the consumption-based payment method is recommendable for schemes that have installed water meters for the end users. A payment method that combines the two is also possible, but not used in the surveyed schemes.

In the **uniform rate method**, a defined lump sum is charged per household or tap, irrelevant to amount of water used by the users, as shown below:

$$\text{Water tariff rate (NPR/m/hh)} = \frac{\text{operational costs + investment recovery (NPR/m)}}{\text{no. of households (or taps)}}$$

In the **consumption rate method**, the water tariff is set according to the quantity of water consumed in each household (or other metered user), as shown below.

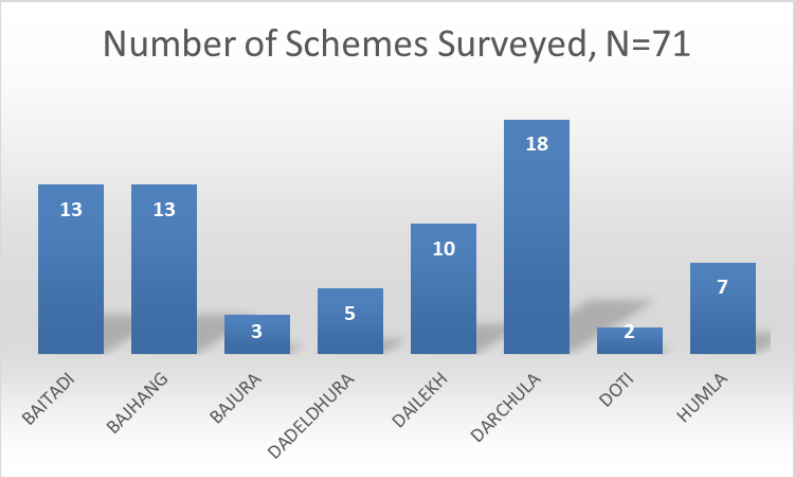
$$\text{Water tariff rate (NPR/litre)} = \frac{\text{operation cost + investment recovery (NPR/m)}}{\text{water use per metered user (l/m)}}$$

3. Survey data collection and analysis methods

3.1. Questionnaire and sample

Data collection from private tap water supply schemes is carried out with a questionnaire. The questions are based on the tasks we have found to be most important over the years for maintaining sustainable and functional schemes. A study published by RVWRMP staff explored the important features for scheme functionality and sustainability, involving community inclusiveness, right institutions, O&M regulations and WSP, smart system design, linkages to livelihoods, social inclusion, and technical assistance[1]. They are part of the Step-by-Step process that RVWRMP uses to implement water supply schemes.

The questionnaire was divided into three main themes: system, management, and water tariff. The data was collected from UC representatives and VMWs by RVWRMP's District and Municipal level staffers. A total of 71 water schemes from 8 districts were surveyed for the analysis – see the details in the figure below. 66 were solely water supply schemes while 5 were MUS schemes. A majority (87%) of the schemes were completed recently in 2076/77 or 2077/78. At the time of data collection, 69 of the schemes were physically completed and 4 schemes were physically completed but financially not yet cleared. Given sample mainly consisted of relatively recently completed schemes, the data reflects the status in the beginning of the schemes' life cycles.



The questions in the survey are as follows:

System functionality

1. Is the quantity of water available to you as per design?
2. Is water available to you year-round as per design?
3. Is water quality tested?
4. Is there always clean water in your tap? (Always, Mostly, Sometimes)

Management

5. How are you organised for operation and maintenance of the water supply system?
6. Who maintains the system?
7. Additional income other than water tariff
8. Where is the O&M fund kept? (Bank, Cooperative or mobilized within the community)

[1] White, Pamela; Badu, Indra; & Shrestha, Parikshit. 2015. Achieving sustainable water supply through better institutions, design innovations and Water Safety Plans – an experience from Nepal. Practical Paper. Journal of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for Development. IWA Publishing 05.4.

Water Tariff

9. Does your scheme have water tariff fixed?
10. if yes, what is the basis of water tariff (Equal for All or Based on Water Consumption)
11. What is the Minimum water tariff in your water supply scheme?
12. Are you satisfied with the rate of water tariff?
13. Who decides the water tariff?
14. Is water tariff collected regularly?
15. Who collects water tariff?
16. Is water tariff card and register updated?
17. What are the expenditure headings, from water tariff collected?
18. Is water tariff reviewed?

3.2. Grouping methodology for comparison

The study compares water tariff collection between better and worse managed UCs, as well as between the fully functional and less-than-fully functional schemes. The functionality status were grouped to 'fully functional' and 'less-than-fully functional'. The UC management status were grouped to 'well-managed' and 'worse-managed'.

The division to groups was made based on differences in a few indicator responses: Regarding functionality status, we used Questions 1-3 to make the division. These questions were related to quantity, availability and quality of the supplied water (see above for the questions). If all the responses to Q1-3 were 'yes', the functionality was grouped as 'fully functional', and if any of the responses to Q1-3 was 'no', the functionality was grouped as 'less-than-fully functional'.

Regarding management, we used Question 5 to make the division: The question is "How are you organised for operation and maintenance of the water supply system?" The options were predefined: a) established and active (meeting regularly several times a year); b) established and semi-active (Annual meeting held); c) established and inactive (no meeting held); d) not established. If the response to Q5 was 'a' or 'b' the management status of those schemes was considered to be 'well-managed', and if the response to Q5 was 'c' or 'd' the management status of those schemes was considered to be 'worse-managed'.

4. Survey findings

4.1. Water tariff collection status (Q9 – Q18)

A majority of the UCs collected water tariff, but not all. Out of 71 schemes, 58 (83%) stated that they have a fixed water tariff (Q9). Out of these 58, 40 schemes (69%) had a fixed, uniform water tariff per household, while 18 (31%) were based on water consumption at the household Q10). This means that a majority of the water users paid a lump sum tariff. The tariff ranged from 20 to 100 NPR per month per household (Q11).

The survey indicates that the water tariff is collected regularly in those schemes where the VMW is responsible for collecting it, and the community together decides the rate. Typically, VMW is the person appointed to collect the tariff – also in metering-based systems. The water tariff was collected by the UC in 30% of the schemes, while in the rest 70% it is collected by the VMW (Q15).

Most of the running expenditures were related to VMW salary, fittings for repairs and maintenance and in some cases office expenses. In 95% of the schemes, respondents were satisfied with the water tariff rate (Q12). In 84% of the schemes, the water tariff was decided by the community together, while in 16% it was decided by the UC (Q13). The water tariff cards and register were being updated in 69% of the schemes, while in 31% they were not (Q16).

Most schemes still collect the same tariff that was decided upon system completion. The water tariff was reviewed regularly in as few as 10% of the schemes (Q18). The low result in Q18 can be explained by the fact most of the surveyed schemes were completed recently, hence they hadn't reached the stage of needing to review the tariff.

4.2. Water tariff comparison between 'better' and 'worse' schemes

The UCs were divided into two groups for comparing the water tariff collection in well-managed and functional schemes with the less well-managed UC's (see Section 3 for how this was done). The performance in water tariff collection was compared between the two groups. The results show very clear evidence of difference between the groups:

- 90% of the well-managed UCs collected tariff (vs. 50% in worse-managed UCs)
- The well-managed UCs collected an average tariff of 64 NPR/m (vs. 34NPR/m) – that is an 88% difference in the rate
- 86% of the UCs collected water tariff in well-functional schemes (vs. 67% in less-functional schemes)
- The average tariff rate in well-functional schemes was 60 NPR/m (vs. 36 NPR/m in less-functional schemes) – that is a 67% difference.

The main findings are also tabulated below:

	Number of UCs interviewed (N)	Water tariff collected (%)	Average tariff rate (NPR/m)
All	71	83	58
Well-managed	57	90	64
Worse-managed	14	50	34
DIFFERENCE	43	**40**	**30 (88%)**
Fully functional	65	86	60
Less-than-fully functional	6	67	36
DIFFERENCE	59	**19**	**24 (67%)**

The apparent differences between the groups are very clear, so they can be concluded to be significant, despite the relatively small sample size of worse-performing UCs. It is notable regarding the functionality that the differences between the two groups were large despite the differences being relatively minor in the selected few indicators that were used for the group formation. It means that single indicators reflected the larger picture well, and that water tariff collection is very sensitive to UC management activity and scheme functionality.

4.3. Information on functionality and management status (Q1-Q8)

Almost all the surveyed schemes were well functional and a large majority of them were adequately managed. This was expectable given the post-construction support by RVWRMP, and the recent completion dates of the majority of the schemes: A majority (87%) of the schemes were completed recently in 2076/77 or 2077/78 (within 2 years from the data collection).

Regarding system functionality, out of the surveyed 71 schemes, in 68 schemes (96%) the quantity of water available was reported to be as per design (Q1) and in 69 schemes (97%) water was available all year round (Q2). 67 schemes (94%) noted that water quality has been tested (Q3). 62 schemes (87%) stated that there is always clean water from the tap, while the rest, 9 schemes (13%) stated that they mostly had clean water from the tap (Q4).

Regarding scheme management, 48 (68%) were established and active, meaning that they held regular meetings several times a year (Q5). 3 schemes (4%) considered themselves to be semi-active, with an annual meeting held since establishment. Of the rest, 4 (6%) were established, but had not held annual meetings and 16 (23%) were not yet established. 60 responses (85%) indicated that the VMW maintains the water supply system, while 10 (14%) stated that it is the UC (Q6). In one scheme responsibility was shared between the VMW and the UC. Regarding the O&M fund (Q8), 38 schemes (54%) kept it in the bank, 28 (39%) with the cooperative, 3 (4%) in the community and 2 (3%) in cash (probably due to being recently established).

5. Conclusion and Recommendations

In sum, a majority of the UCs collected water tariff, but not all. The survey indicates that the water tariff is collected regularly in those schemes where the VMW is responsible for collecting it and the community together decides the rate. Typically, the VMW was the person appointed to collect the tariff – also in metering-based systems. Most of the respondents were satisfied with the tariff rate. The rate was generally defined by the community together. Additional income is gathered generally from interest earned from depositing the tariff in cooperative holding accounts. Most of the running costs were related to VMW salary, fittings for repair maintenance, and office expenses.

The well-managed UCs, and UCs that maintain functional schemes are significantly more likely to collect a water tariff, and to do it at a sustainable rate, than do the UCs that have even slight management or functionality issues. It is therefore crucial for water tariff collection that the UCs are active and that the O&M process functions well, and arguably the other way around: Sustainable water tariff collection enables active O&M and scheme management.

We recommend special emphasis should be placed on the establishment of active UC and O&M processes for all schemes. Water tariff setting and collection is an indication of active scheme management, and a regularly collected tariff also enables sustainable UC operation and scheme maintenance. Recently completed schemes still need to facilitate water tariff collection in Water Safety Plan trainings. The water tariff rate should be discussed in each Annual General Meeting and adjusted accordingly to cover actual expenditures and to prepare the O&M fund for future challenges. Most schemes had the same tariff for each household regardless of water use – in the future water use efficiency would benefit from broader use of meter-based tariff. Cooperatives have typically been able to provide an interest rate for savings that exceeds the inflation, while the banks not, and hence we recommend the UCs to carefully consider where to save the water tariff.