

WASH SDG: WASH Alliance Sub-programme Nepal Programme Document



BACKGROUND

The WASH Alliance International is a multi-national network of partners worldwide. We work together with local NGOs, governments and businesses, research institutes or (local) media to make sure everybody on this planet has sustainable access to water, sanitation and hygiene. We envision a world where all people have access to sustainable and affordable water, sanitation and hygiene services. This is a world where all people can live under hygienic living conditions to improve their health, dignity and economic living standard. The WASH SDG programme was launched in 2017 by the WASH SDG Consortium (SNV, Plan, WASH Alliance). The programme responds to the Dutch commitment to contribute to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDG) 6, which aims to reach an improved WASH situation for all. In Nepal, the WASH SDG WASH Alliance sub-programme is working in four municipalities within two districts: Bheriganga (urban) and Barahataal (rural) in Surkhet district, and Kolhapur (urban) and Baijanath (rural) in Banke district.

Our Theory of Change is built upon three core strategic pathways:

Pathway 1: Improving behaviour change interventions, leading to increased demand for improved WASH facilities and practices;

Pathway 2: Improving WASH service provision, leading to increased availability and affordability of WASH products and services which contributes to sustainable and equitable access to WASH; and

Pathway 3: Strengthening of WASH governance and institutional framework, leading to governments enabling efficient and effective delivery of inclusive and sustainable WASH services which contribute to sustainable and equitable WASH.

KEY FACTS

Duration: Phase II [2020-2022]

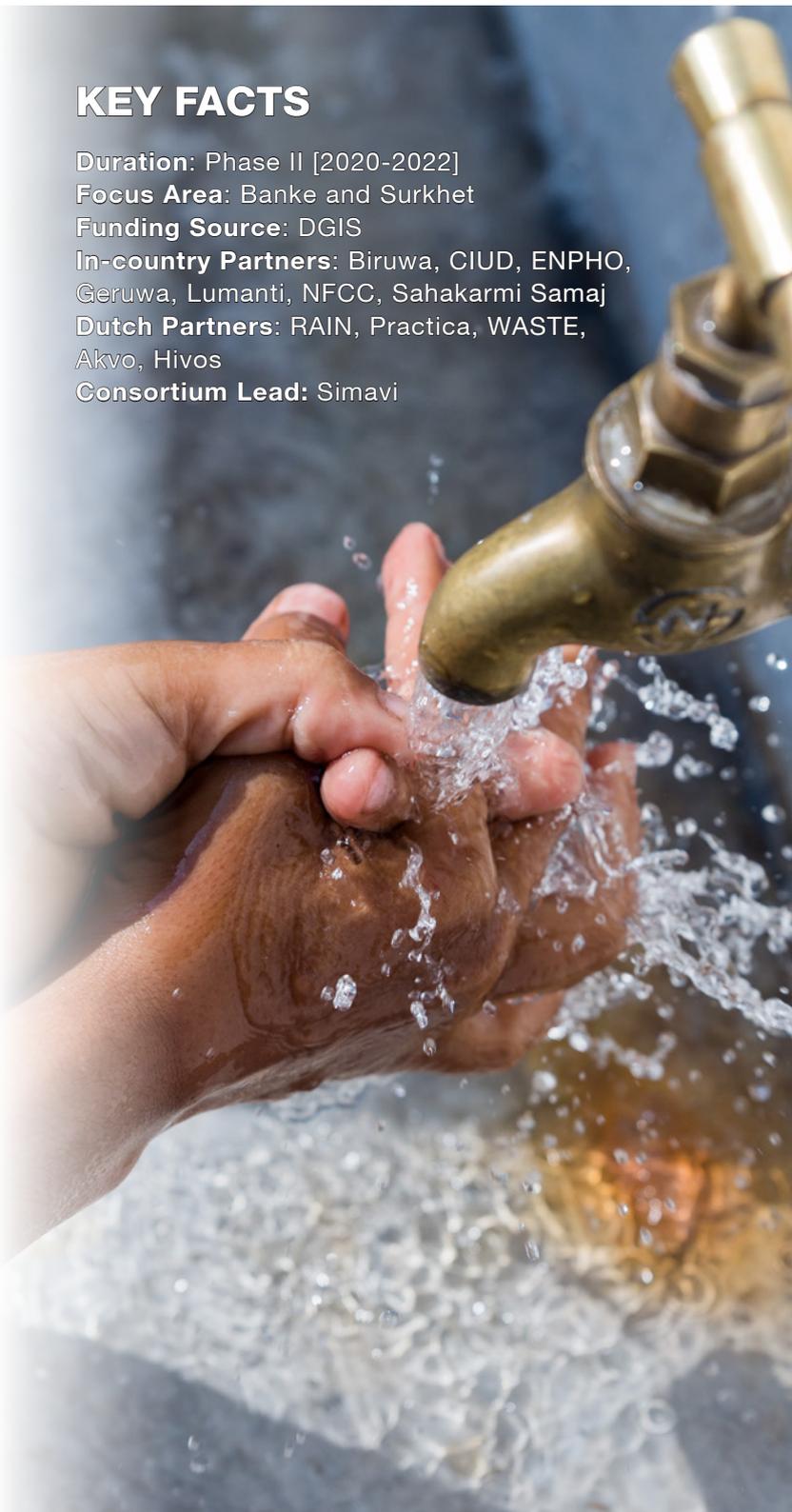
Focus Area: Banke and Surkhet

Funding Source: DGIS

In-country Partners: Biruwa, CIUD, ENPHO, Geruwa, Lumanti, NFCC, Sahakarmi Samaj

Dutch Partners: RAIN, Practica, WASTE, Akvo, Hivos

Consortium Lead: Simavi



OUR APPROACH

The WASH SDG Programme has defined an integrated approach that encompasses three pathways based on the understanding of the multi-dimensional nature of access to, and use of, water, sanitation services and related hygiene behaviours. We believe that achieving the SDG 6 targets requires a strategic demand-driven, systems-strengthening approach to ensure its long-term sustainability.

We see **Demand Creation** as a starting point to transform urban and rural water and sanitation practices. Changing behaviour and social norms that create demand for sustainable sanitation and water management systems is essential to making and sustaining progress. And demand is only created when communities understand the benefits associated with WASH solutions and have the motivation, opportunity and ability to invest.

Of equal importance is **Private Sector Development**, to strike a balance between the demand generated, and the supply of services.

They play a key role in delivering safe and affordable sanitation and hygiene services. Private sector development also helps to stimulate local markets. In addition, they also help in closing the financing gap, especially for those who are from marginalised communities and are in the lower wealth quintile. We believe supporting partnerships between local finance institutions (such as microfinance institutions) and WASH businesses will achieve economies of scale, thereby making WASH solutions affordable and accessible.

To integrate behaviour change interventions and create an enabling environment for private sector development, a strong **Public Sector** leadership is essential. We work directly with authorities responsible for the sustainable delivery and monitoring of WASH services, by playing a facilitating and capacity building role to help strengthen WASH governance. This includes the development of strong policies, financial systems and monitoring mechanisms in order to be sustainable, resilient and accountable.





VISION FOR THE FUTURE

The WASH SDG programme aims to contribute to systems change: behaviour change in WASH practices supported by a strengthened system, wherein all relevant stakeholders take their roles and responsibilities, in the end resulting in a WASH service delivery system that is funded through in-country resources.

Pathway 1: Improve behaviour change interventions

By the end of the programme, we envision to have had a positive influence in the behaviour, attitude and practice of the communities we work with in Banke and Surkhet, and that they have moved up the sanitation and hygiene ladder. We hope that by actively involving women, girls and other socially excluded groups in the decision-making process concerning WASH activities, there is an increase in the demand for inclusive and sustainable WASH services and products.

Pathway 2: Improve WASH service provision

By the end of the programme, the sub-programme envisions to have contributed towards sustainable WASH services by creating linkages

between financial institutions, service providers, entrepreneurs and local stakeholders. Our communities will have access to local financing institutions for loans at subsidised rates for toilet construction, piped water connections, water filtrations systems etc. We foresee Kohalpur municipality having a strengthened sanitation service delivery after the completion of the faecal sludge treatment system; similarly Bheriganga municipality will have a solid waste management facility in place.

Pathway 3: Strengthen WASH governance

By the end of the programme, new and existing WASH committees (WASH CCs) will have been strengthened and the government WASH plan will be endorsed in all municipalities. By implementing the climate-resilient water safety plans and enhancing community awareness on household-level water treatments, we hope our communities will have reached an improved water quality level. Further, we hope the application of asset management tools will help our water operators to reduce the risk of water system failures by ensuring O&M plans are carried out.



WASH ALLIANCE PARTNERS [2020 – 2022]



Biruwā

Biruwā's thematic expertise lies in supporting private sector development to strengthen the WASH market and WASH service levels. They work in both Banke and Surkhet district to support new and existing WASH entrepreneurs with business advisory support for its sustainability. Biruwā works closely with financial institutions/co-operatives and community members to link up demand and supply chains of WASH products.



Centre for Integrated Urban Development (CIUD)

CIUD leads the WASH in school programme in Banke to support in improving the WASH status of community schools. They work closely with 13 schools in Kohalpur and Baijanath municipality. A three-star approach is implemented to help schools prioritise the most important actions needed to ensure essential WASH services. This also includes providing training and support to create an enabling school environment for managing menstruation with dignity, safety and comfort. Additionally, CIUD is also working closely with our Dutch technical assistance partners to develop asset management tools for water supply schemes.



ENPHO

ENPHO leads the public sector pathway in Barahatal and Bheriganga municipality of Surkhet district. They work together with the local government, community schools and healthcare centres to create an enabling environment through the development of appropriate structure and mechanism of WASH service delivery. ENPHO works closely with water users committees to develop water safety plans and also provides technical support in developing WASH plans for both municipalities Surkhet.



Geruwa Rural Awareness Association (GERUWA)

GERUWA leads the WASH in Health Care component within the public sector pathway in Banke district. GERUWA works with 12 healthcare institutions (HCIs) to operationalise the WASH FIT Tool, a risk-based improvement framework to improve WASH in HCIs. They support to ensure that HCIs have WASH facilities, use safe waste management practices that align with national laws and regulation, have a functioning operation and maintenance (O&M) plan, and assist in creating linkages between HCIs and entrepreneurs who provide WASH products/services.



Lumanti

Lumanti leads the public sector pathway in Banke, working closely with Kohalpur and Baijanath municipality to strengthen their WASH governance mechanism. Lumanti is supporting the development of municipal-level WASH plans that will help in directing priority actions for sector development. Similarly, they play a key role in budget advocacy, to ensure policies and plans are backed by finances. Lumanti is also providing technical assistance to Kohalpur municipality to establish a faecal sludge treatment plant (FSTP).



NFCC

NFCC works closely with WAI Nepal partners in providing technical assistance on menstrual hygiene management. Their expertise to integrate menstrual health, hygiene and rights add value in mainstreaming menstrual health under public sector pathways both in Banke and Surkhet.



Sahakarmi Samaj

Sahakarmi Samaj leads the demand-generation pathway in both Banke and Surkhet to ensure sustainable WASH services and facilities. Sahakarmi Samaj implements a participatory community mobilisation approach to empower marginal communities. They work in close co-ordination with community groups, by facilitating the formation of WASH groups who meet regularly to discuss WASH-related issues. They also play a key role in raising community awareness on good hygiene practices.

For more information on the WASH SDG WAI sub-programme:

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