

FINAL PARTNER REPORT

## WASH SDG WAI Nepal Sub-Programme

Project Number and Partner Name: **3520010** Sahakarmi Samaj

Project Implementation Duration: 07/2020 – 03/2023

- Please complete one report per partner
- Please note that aside from the monitoring table (section 3), this report covers the **entire second phase of implementation from July 2020 to March 2023**.
- Deadline for report submission is 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022.
- Please make sure the report is free of grammatical errors.

### 1. Project Information

Name of the organization	Sahakarmi Samaj
Country	Nepal
Working Area	<i>Kohalpur Municipality, Bajinath Rural Municipality in Banke District of Lumbini Province and Bheriganga Municipality, Barahataal Rural Municipality in Surkhet District of Karnali Province</i>
Project number + title	3520010 (WASH SDG-Partner Implementation Phase-2)
Report prepared by	Sarita Shah
Reporting period	<i>January 2020- March 2023</i>
Date	<i>Deadline 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023</i>

### 2. OUTLINE OF THE PROJECT (Partner Specific) <1 Page>

#### a. Background

<Please provide a brief background on the pathway of your intervention>

Sahakarmi Samaj has proven experience in community mobilization approach. SS has contributed remarkable intervention in community mobilization in first phase. Therefore, Simavi has provided the opportunity to work in both districts Banke and Surkhet. The consortium approach of Simavi is very important because every organization has its own expertise. Working jointly with own expertise to achieve common goal makes it easy and effective. So Sahakarmi samaj has been given opportunity to work on Pathway 1 Demand creation and behavior change. As per the Theory of change of WASHSDG programme SS focused on following indicators and pathways.

To achieve the goal 'use of sustainable WASH service and products for all' Sahakarmi Samaj worked in Pathway 1: increase demand for and use of sustainable inclusive WASH in the WASH SDG Programme which contributes to the following theory of change.

1. Pathway 1.2.1: Community understands the need for inclusive and sustainable WASH facilities and use.
2. Pathway 1.2.2: Consumers are willing to pay for affordable and sustainable services.
3. Pathway 1.2.4: Consumers invest in inclusive and sustainable WASH services and resources including O & M fund.
4. Pathway 1.2.5: Consumer and marginalized groups have accessed to and using inclusive and sustainable WASH services.

b. Objectives

< What objectives did **your** intervention target?>

*The general objective of SS for WASH SDG intervention was to establish positive behavior change and demand creation in inclusive and sustainable WASH facilities and use as well as access to affordable WASH facilities. The specific Objectives of SS Interventions are as follows:*

- i. *To make the community understand the need for inclusive and sustainable WASH facilities and use.*
- ii. *To facilitate community to get with an affordable and sustainable WASH services and products.*
- iii. *To ensure that the community people invest in inclusive and sustainable WASH services and resources including O & M fund.*
- iv. *To ensure the community people including marginalized groups have access to and using inclusive and sustainable WASH services.*

c. Target and Expected Outputs

< Please include details on the number of institutions, communities, or entrepreneurs you intended to work with, and what were the targets within these groups>

SS initially selected 98 community WASH. However, due to extremely remote wards (very difficult to reach wards (ward 6 in Barahataal rural municipality and ward 3,12 in Bheriganga municipality). Therefore, the number of groups were decreased to 95 community WASH groups<sup>1</sup> (49 community WASH groups in Banke district and 46 groups in Surkhet district) actively participating in meetings, group savings and conducting WASH related activities. These 95 community WASH groups were the targeted groups in both working districts with an objective to ensure access to WASH services and products in an affordable cost, taking sustainability services into consideration.

Total community WASH groups: - 95	Total community WASH group members: - 2450
Banke: - 49 groups	Male members: -55 (Banke)+ 72 (Surkhet)=127
Surkhet: - 46 groups	Female members: -1044(Banke)+1279 (Surkhet)=2323

<sup>1</sup> Groups detail is attached in Annex 1.

To create demand from community WASH groups to pay for safe water, sanitation, and hygiene practices and services, SS targeted community mobilization strategy hence developed the facilitation for empowerment and social transformation (FEST) strategic approach. Thereafter, using this FEST strategic approach, the selected community WASH groups were facilitated and supported in determining the demand for WASH supplies through regular meetings that included CODE facilitation, group discussions, and mentoring.

The SS targeted for the develop capacity of community groups to resolves their WASH related issues/problems and demand/needs by themselves as well as advocate for their WASH rights for the sustainable WASH services.

Likewise, to achieve an objective for the sustainability of formed groups, 94 capacity building trainings, including group strengthening training (GST), community facilitation training (CFT), capacity organizational strengthening training (COST) leadership & advocacy skill development training, group saving & management training, organizational management & sustainability training, MHM & SRHR training, and water quality testing trainings were provided to 1876 community WASH group members. Employees of the Mason Cooperative received training in a similar manner and linked them with community people with an objective to provide WASH services such as pipeline installation, repair/ maintenance etc. at an affordable cost.

Similarly, the group actively participated in 1190 direct 78 indirect awareness initiatives that were also carried out throughout this implementation phase in the form of days celebrations, campaigns, CODE facilitation, group discussion, mentoring, airing jingles, IEC materials distributions during covid 19, etc. Subsequently, since 2020, 128 advocacy and lobbying initiatives with the public and private sectors were facilitated for health rights on WASH and to ensure WASH services and products in affordable cost to the community WASH groups. Furthermore, the CODE impact book has also been developed to disseminate with key stakeholders and community WASH groups in both working districts.

### 3. OUTPUT MONITORING TABLE (January – March 2023 ONLY - no need to include from the entire phase 2)

Output indicator	Disaggregation (if relevant)	Total Result		Comment/narrative
<b>Result area 1: Capacity building of key stakeholders</b>				
SDG_OP1.1	Number of trainings given			
SDG_OP1.2 Number of people trained	Entrepreneurs	Male		
		Female		
	Health Extension Workers	Male		
		Female		
	Community members	Male		
		Female		
		Male		

	From institutions (e.g., schools/health centres)	Female		
	Local partners	Male		
		Female		
	Other government staff	Male		
		Female		
<b>Result area 2: Awareness raising on WASH</b>				
SDG_OP2.1	Number of direct awareness raising activities for the general public (on WASH) (number of meetings)			
SDG_OP2.2	Number of people present during these direct awareness raising activities	Male		
		Female		
SDG_OP2.3	Number of indirect awareness raising activities (number of times content is made public)			
<b>Result area 3: Studies/mappings done</b>				
SDG_OP3.1	Number of studies/mappings done	1		Participatory exit evaluation (PEE) meeting with 20 community WASH groups and local stakeholders (expertise, teachers, principals, health workers, ward chairperson, municipality chairperson, etc)
SDG_OP3.2	Number of dissemination meetings/activities organised where these studies/mappings have been presented	1		CODE Impact Book disseminated In English and Nepali version. SS planned to distribute to WAI partners, Local government and concerned stakeholder for reference as further support and learning sharing documents
<b>Result area 4: Construction of demo facilities</b>				
SDG_OP4.1	Number of demo facilities constructed at institutions	Water		
		Sanitation		
		Hygiene		
SDG_OP4.2	Number of demo facilities constructed at other public places	Water		
		Sanitation		
		Hygiene		
SDG_OP5	Number of lobby and advocacy initiatives			

#### 4. ACHIEVEMENTS IN DURING THE IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD <2.5 Pages>

- Please provide **critical reflection** on the implementation phase July 2020 – March 2023.
- What were some of the major achievements? You may also include major outcomes in a tabular format. Please ensure these outcomes are in an aggregated form.

S.N.	Activities/Outputs	Outcomes/Impact
1	Regular CODE facilitation, group discussion, coaching, days celebrations, campaign on water related issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 841 HHs in Banke (736) and Surkhet (105) had installed tap with 50% of concession from WSUC, has made daily life easier for women and saved the time of collecting water.</li> <li>✓ 794 HHs are consuming safe water by purchasing filters with 15-50% of subsidies from ward level and vendors.</li> </ul>
2.	Regular CODE facilitation, group discussion, coaching, days celebrations, campaign on sanitation related issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 904 community members were involved in regular community and pathways cleanliness.</li> <li>✓ 1179 HH regularly manages waste through dustbins and dust sacks in Surkhet and Banke Similarly, 62 households of Kohalpur got registration from Jatayu (waste collecting organization) disposing of household waste at landfill site.</li> <li>✓ Community people are utilizing sanitation facilities by constructing 14 twin pits, 79 single pit latrines, 11 septic tanks and 15 HHs safely disposed of fecal sludge.</li> <li>✓ 957 HHs of Banke and Surkhet have repaired and reuse toilet.</li> </ul>
3.	Group saving & management trainings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ All 95 group members are actively participating in group saving and investing in WASH-related products and services.</li> </ul>
4.	Group discussion, coaching, days celebrations, and MHM and SRHR training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ More than 800 women and girls have practicing clean and safe menstrual hygiene practices such as using clean and soft cotton pads/sanitary pad, changing pad in 2-3 hours of interval, clean and sun drying the cloth pad, maintaining personal hygiene. Similarly, discouraging the restriction and harmful practices during menstruation cycle, as well as adopted the safe practice of disposing of pads by burying.</li> </ul>
5.	Leadership & advocacy skill development and organizational management & sustainability training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Some WASH groups are actively participating in WASH activities and raising voices for their WASH rights for that they coordinate with the ward level to resolve issues.</li> <li>✓ Some of the group members have been elected as ward members.</li> <li>✓ Community WASH groups are willing to form their groups into sustainable organization and they have been supported and guided continuously by SS. Some of the groups have in group registration process. Similarly, some group members are engaging in organizing themselves in TLOs.</li> </ul>
6.	Lobbying and Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 128 advocacy and lobbying initiatives were facilitated to ensure WASH services and products in affordable cost to the community WASH groups and for health rights on WASH through WASH groups and able to get subsidy for water supply pipeline up to 15-50%, similarly, ward and municipalities allocated budgets for free sanitary pads in schools to girls and water filter (bio-sand and clay), Water quality test, WASH soft loan from cooperatives as well.</li> </ul>

How much leverage did your programme bring in Phase 2? You may include the details of how this was calculated as part of the Annex.

	WATER	SANITATION	HYGIENE	TOTAL
Community WASH Group Investments	Rs. 6493725	Rs. 3279273	Rs. 282130	Rs. 10055128
Private Sector	Rs. 2966000	Rs. 445000	NA	Rs. 3411000
Public Sector	Rs. 404000	Rs. 17000	Rs. 37990	Rs. 458990
External Donor (Suaahara, Cordaid Nepal, ACT Alliance Nepal Forum)	Rs. 716875	NA	NA	Rs. 716875
Total	Rs. 10580600	Rs. 3741273	Rs. 320120	1,46,41,993

Note: - Please see detail leverage in Annex 2

Did you make any changes following the Mid-line Evaluation results? If yes, what were they?

- SS initially targeted 98 community WASH groups from both working districts. But due to extremely remote wards (very difficult to reach in ward 6 in Barahataal rural municipality and ward 3,12 in Bheriganga municipality). Hence the number of groups reduced to 95(49 in Banke and 46 in Surkhet district).

Evidence for these approaches can be provided in Annex section.

- Photographs are attached in annex 3.

What risk aversion measures did you undertake during this phase? How did it impact your implementation?

1. Due to the dispersed settlement of the community. Hence 10 community educators were recruited for both working districts.
2. Difficulty gathering participants for different programs during initial days. Therefore, the field staff decided to meet with the groups regularly and encourage them.
3. Although 98 groups were initially chosen, despite frequent and consistent help, some groups were passive and some never held a meeting, that is why SS stopped providing them support.
4. To conduct the major strategic activity of the organization such as CODE facilitation in all working areas, safety measures such as using masks, maintaining social distancing etc. were taken during the COVID pandemic.
5. Landslides and flooding in Barahataal Rural Municipality of Surkhet District disrupted significant operations and hindered community educators from reaching the groups during the monsoon. The events were therefore put off till later.

## 5. STORIES OF CHANGE <1 page or maximum of 500 words>

<Please include a significant story of change>

### ***Lifting and Shifting women's work burden through access to water: Stories of Change***

In Kohalpur municipality, tube wells, taps, boring wells, and ponds are the major reliable drinking water sources. Since few years, drying up fast of groundwater has been noticed, due to which the community people in Kohalpur Municipality have been facing challenges of water shortage. Declining underground water level triggers water shortage during summer. Similarly, the haphazard extraction of groundwater for commercial purposes (Water park) also led to the depletion of underground water level. The issued such as many residents taps that were fetching underground water from 100 feet had dried up due to deep boring. This has compelled community people to search for other sources of water and travel too far to fetch a jar of water. Similarly, community people could not afford for deep boring since its cost high. Subsequently, water contaminated with toxic and heavy metals as microbes is also major issue since community people direct consume water led morbidity rate high.

After the intervention of WASH SDG Programme in the Kohalpur municipality, the community WASH groups have undergone significant changes through the WASH SDG initiative. Daily life has become easier after installation water supply tap especially for women in Kohalpur Municipality of Banke. This was made possible by the regular group discussions, CODE facilitation, frequent coaching from community educators to community WASH groups. Here they shared issues and created demand for tap installation. Hence SS facilitated in linking the community WASH groups with the WSUC for concession. The Sanasahari Water Supply Users Committee provided 50% concession in water supply tap installation for more than 700 HHs in Kohalpur Municipality.

The social initiator and community WASH group member of Kohalpur Municipality, Nandakala Khatri had struggled for water supply tap installation. She says *'I already had planned to install tap before joining this programme, but I was alone that time, and I used to hesitate to put my request. Similarly, the charge for water tap installation was too high. After connecting with this programme, I was not alone, I came with a huge group, and through the support from group and guidance of SS, my community got 50% concession for tap installation from Sanashari Water supply users committee.*

Clean water is something the Kohalpur Municipality ward 's residents are hugely proud of. Nandakala Khatri says *"The time we use to spare in collecting water has been utilities other major activities. We drink straight from the tap, and nowadays we don't get sick very often, and the money we would have spent on medical care is now being used to fund the education of the children and we have understood that investment in such basic facilities is the way of sustainable development. Water supply led my daily life has become so easy that I am used to it. I am raising awareness to other community people'.*

She further says *"Similarly, working alone was very difficult but in group has become easier. I had heard about more hands make more easier, but now it has been practically proven for me after installing tap.' This formed group will continuously sustain & conduct similar to these (WASH related) activities, and I will make sure of it for my benefit & for group benefit.*

Poonam Khatri from Kohalpur ward number 5 says, " During summer the handpump used to get dry and was very difficult to fetch water. Now it has become easy for us to use water daily after installation of water supply tap in affordable price. I'm very happy that the water is now sufficient for my family. Now I don't have to stress about water insufficiency problems anymore."

## 6. APPROACH TO SUSTAINABILITY <0.5 page>

What did you do to ensure sustainability of your interventions across the different target groups (schools, communities, government institutions, WSUCs and water systems, entrepreneurs)? Evidence for these approaches can be provided in Annex section.

1. SS conducted series of trainings which supported the community WASH groups for developing leadership and advocacy skills take stand and amplify their voice for WASH rights.
2. Community WASH groups were trained for the systematic ways of identification of resources (resources of cash and kind) group savings, bookkeeping, basic concept of proposal writing, minute writing, and official application writing skills which support them for the organizational development.
3. Developed into loose and informal network of WASH group (1 Group member from each group of municipalities) to capable incorporate themselves either in municipality level WASH Main Committee (WMC) or TOLs or develop into community-based network organizations (1 in each district)

## 7. PROJECT LEARNING AND REFLECTIONS <0.5 page>

What could have been done better? How would you do differently? Reflect on the programme implementation approach, partnership between WASH Alliance members both Nepali and Dutch.

Project learning and reflection

- ✓ Behavior change is long term process and its take time whose impact is sustainable, hence, to make a lasting difference must continue long after it is introduced.
- ✓ Local resource identification and mobilization is essential for sustainability. Therefore, locally led concept is essential.
- ✓ Even in the pandemic situation, with precaution, home visits and coaching on the prevention of Coronavirus is supportive to increase hygiene behaviors of the families.
- ✓ Coordination and support from the local government and stakeholders make easy access and affordable WASH services.
- ✓ People, communities, civil society, and informal and formal institutions play vital roles in bringing about changes in the system.
- ✓ Focusing efforts on strengthening community ownership and empowerment, while also strengthening leadership and government accountability towards the citizens.

Several of the activities and programs that were intended to be carried out in coordination with consortium partners during the WASH SDG intervention could not be done so owing to a lack of communication and information exchange. Likewise, the interaction and relationship-building with local government and stakeholders were inadequate in SS since the coordination and relationship-



building segment was expected to be conducted by another partner, making it challenging to integrate community organizations with the public and private sectors.

SS has more than 25 years of proven experience of community facilitation through Facilitation for empowerment and social transformation (FEST) strategic approach. FEST approach has been designed for the community facilitation to identify the major issues/needs and encourage to solve by themselves rather than teaching them. This approach let the community group to put their thought and encourage them to come up with possible ideas independently. The experience from other programme, SS has learned that the role of SS with community groups as well as with the public and private sectors has effective result in service sustainability. Therefore, for WASH SDG programme, SS implemented this strategy to facilitate issues/need identification and with its possible solution as well as support in resource identification by linking the community development groups to public and private sectors for the sustainability WASH services. Similarly, through the WASH SDG programme, SS working with the consortium partners, has experienced learnings and sharing opportunities on water sanitation and hygiene service provision. In conclusion, SS has learned that the participatory approach of different sectors in execution of WASH programme makes WASH services provision sustainable and well as accountability toward services provision.

#### 1. Annex 1: Community WASH Group Members Details



List of group  
Members.docx

#### 2. Annex 2: Details of Leverage



Community Level

Action Plan\_compil:



CODE Impact

\_Aggregated.docx

#### 3. Annex 3: Photographs



July-December,2022  
\_WASH supportive F