Pilot Implementation of FSM Standard in Nepal-Mahalaxmi, Lalitpur as Pilot Municipality

**Status: Ongoing**

**Project Partner:** Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Mahalaxmi Municipality, Kathmandu Valley Water Supply Management Board (KVWSMB), National Bureau of Standards and Metrology (NBSM)

**Project Area:** Mahalaxmi Municipality and replication in two Municipalities (to be identified)

**Project Duration:** January 2019 to June 2021

**Aim:**
- To test the application of ISO 24521 guidelines for the management of basic on-site domestic wastewater services and thereby help improve environmental sanitation conditions in Mahalaxmi Municipality, and;
- To draw lessons from this piloting experience and evidence to recommend adoption of the ISO 24521 guidelines at the national level through policy and practice changes.

**Project Description:**

ENPHO is supporting pilot implementation of the ISO 24521 guidelines for the management of basic on-site domestic wastewater services in Mahalaxmi Municipality. To achieve this objective, ENPHO is collaborating with the Municipality, KVWSMB, NBSM and other relevant stakeholders. The project, which is supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) under grant assistance, is the first of its kind in Nepal and globally.

The Project has three interrelated expected outputs:

- **Output 1:** National adoption of ISO 24521 guidelines by National Bureau of Standards and Metrology;
- **Output 2:** Implementation of ISO 24521 guidelines in Mahalaxmi Municipality as a pilot initiative and, based on lessons learnt, replicate in an additional Municipalities; and
- **Output 3:** Documentation of impact of implementation of ISO 24521 FSM guidelines and influence policy and practices on domestic wastewater management.
Project Outputs:

- Assessed sanitation situation of Mahalaxmi Municipality;
- Prepared sanitation situation assessment report of the Municipality;
- Established sanitation cell in the Municipality with one dedicated Municipal Engineer to undertake sanitation functions in the Municipality;
- Construction of standard septic tanks made mandatory in all new house design permits in the Municipality;
- ISO 24521 guideline nationally adopted by Nepal Bureau of Standards and Metrology;
- Prepared detailed project report of FSTP;
- Approval of FSM By-Laws by Mahalaxmi Municipality.

Major Achievements:

- National adoption of ISO 24521 Guideline
- Approval of FSM By-Laws by Mahalaxmi Municipality for safely managed sanitation services

Sanitation Situation Assessment Report (left) and FSM By-Laws (right)