

Pilot Implementation of FSM Standard in Nepal

Status: Ongoing

Project Partner:

Funded by: Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)

Project Partner: Kathmandu Valley Water Supply Management Board (KVWSMB), Nepal Bureau of Standards and Metrology (NBSM), Innovative Solution Pvt. Ltd.

Project Area: Mahalaxmi Municipality, Lalitpur; Godawari Municipality, Lalitpur; Waling Municipality, Syangja

Project Duration: January 2019 to December 2021 (Phase I)
January 2022 to December 2023 (Phase II)

Aim

- To contribute to achieve SDG 6.2

Project Description

Like in many developing countries, over 70 percent of the population in Nepal rely on Non Sewered Sanitation (NSS) services such as pit latrines and septic tanks (Source: Central Bureau of Statistics (2011), Government of Nepal). As the number of municipalities has now increased to 293 (2017) from 58 (2014) with many of the small and emerging towns also being classified as municipalities, the percentage of households connected to septic tanks has further increased. However, NSS and Faecal Sludge Management (FSM) systems in cities, small and emerging towns are poor and unregulated due to various reasons. Inadequate policy and budget priorities, weak policy enforcement, lack of standard designs and its implementation, ignorance towards adopting and adhering to safely managed sanitation system are few key reasons for poor management and haphazard disposal of fecal sludge into the environment and river resulting to significant public health risks and environmental pollution.



Installation of Septic Tank at Mahalaxmi Municipality

With this backdrop, Environment and Public Health Organization (ENPHO), with the support of Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) is implementing 'Pilot Implementation of FSM Standard in Nepal' project for the management of basic on-site domestic wastewater services in Municipalities.

To achieve these objectives, ENPHO is collaborating with the Municipalities, Kathmandu Valley Water Supply Management Board (KVWSMB), Nepal Bureau of Standards and Metrology (NBSM) and other relevant stakeholders. This project is the first of its kind in Nepal and globally.

As part of the piloting, the project is adopting a City-Wide Inclusive Sanitation (CWIS) principles while establishing and implementing a fully functional FSM service delivery model addressing the entire sanitation service chain- containment, transportation, treatment and end use/disposal in Mahalaxmi Municipality and its replication in the other two Municipalities.



Submission of Faecal Sludge Dewatering Plant design report to KVWSMB

Project Outputs

- For the promotion of safe containment and use of standard septic tank, ENPHO installed Ready to Install (RTI) septic tank with soak pit in a public toilet in Ward-2, Bishankhunaryan in Godawari Municipality and at a health post in Ward-6 office premises, Lele;
- 29 Municipal staff and 39 engineers from consulting firms in Mahalalaxmi Municipality trained on standard septic tank design;
- 119 sanitation workers (15 percent female) from Kathmandu Valley oriented on occupational health and safety (before, during and after work);
- Organized orientation program on Citywide Inclusive Sanitation and Integrated Municipal Information System (IMIS) to the then Mayor and Department Chiefs of Mahalaxmi Municipality;
- Organized learning visit program in Vadodara, India for the representatives from KVWSMB, PID and private companies to provide learning opportunities about possible treatment technologies for FSM and its replication in the project;
- Prepared project document for implementation of IMIS in Mahalaxmi Municipality and its readiness assessment in one town of Nepal;

- Five municipal staff members of Mahalaxmi Municipality oriented on IMIS;
- CWIS orientation organized in Mahalaxmi and Godawari Municipalities;
- 3-D animated video on Lubhu Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant produced for awareness/training programs ;
- Organized orientation program on CWIS and shared FSM By-Laws development process in five municipalities of Sudurpaschim Province (Dhangadi Sub-Metropolitan City, Dhangadi; Bedkot Municipality, Kanchanpur; Mahakali Municipality, Darchula; Dipayal Silgadhi Municipality, Doti and Jayaprithivi Municipality, Bajhang);
- Mobile booth campaign organized in five non-sewered wards (ward 6-Siddhipur, ward 7-Changathali, ward 8-Lubhu and Sankhadevi, ward 9-Lamatar and Dhungin Buspark and ward 10-Lakuri and Fedikhola) of Mahalaxmi Municipality to raise awareness on Faecal Sludge Management (FSM), proper septic tanks and use of PPE by sanitation workers. Despite challenging COVID situation, more than 200 community people visited the booth and directly benefitted from the campaign;
- Produced IEC materials and disseminated them through social media and campaigns;
- Reached more than 1,75,000 views of the animated video to raise awareness on safety, dignity and healthy lives of sanitation workers;

