

Project status, May-September 2024



Group photo, City wide inclusive sanitation (CWIS) training

We are now entering our final project year in Godawari Prabalya WASH. The activities we planned are being implemented one by one, with gradual improvement in sustainable water use, sanitation, and solid waste management.

This period, heavy rains have affected Godawari and Nepal, where floods and landslides have caused damaged infrastructure and water quality problems in the area. Fortunately, the constructions in Lele were not affected. Both the Godawari and WaterAid Nepal teams have been working very hard with di-

saster response activities. Still they have managed to plan and perform many project activities, admirable!

Our Water Operator Partnerships Advisor Jeanne Cole has left our project for a new career in the water business. Thank you Jeanne for everything you have done, for your expertise, guidance and friendship. We will miss you!

We would also want to thank everyone who has contributed to and participated in various activities during this period, together, for a sustainable future.

RECENT activities

- Godawari Municipality WASH Plan endorsed.
- 3 day Water Safety Plan training for Water sanitation users committees (WSUC).
- 3 day Citywide Inclusive Sanitation (CWIS) training for elected bodies and staff of Godawari Municipality.
- Lele: construction of rapid sand filter, pump house and reservoir tank completed, also 3 km of distribution line.
- Draft report on solid waste survey and data collection completed.
- Dialogue with vendors and sanitation workers to improve worker safety.
- Integrated water resource management (IWRM): Collected surface water data, IWRM plan discussions.
- Godawari Municipality has started operation of a Water Quality Mini Lab.
- Support of cholera response efforts.

Disaster response in Godawari Municipality

The months of July and August 2024 were particularly devastating for Godawari Municipality as heavy monsoon rains severely impacted Kathmandu Valley and several provinces across Nepal.



Damage from flooding

The municipality experienced numerous incidents of landslides and flash floods, causing significant disruption. Landslides blocked key road networks, while homes across various wards suffered partial damage.

Flash floods severely impacted agricultural lands, individual residences, public infrastructure, and other properties, resulting in substantial economic losses. To date, over 70 disaster incidents have been official-

ly recorded within the municipality. In response, the Environment and Disaster Risk Management Section, along with the Municipal Rapid Response Team (RRT), conducted comprehensive risk assessments and provided temporary relief, including plastic sheets and gabion boxes.

They also coordinated with government agencies to secure funding and additional resources to mitigate risks. The municipality effectively

mobilized its police force and heavy machinery, such as JCBs, to clear blocked roads and restore access.

Furthermore, the Municipal Disaster Risk Management Committee convened to prioritize the development of a Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan (DPRP), ensuring a systematic approach to managing future risks and enhancing resilience against disasters.

Cholera Emergency: Rapid Response

On July 19, 2024, a cholera case was reported in rehabilitation centre, Ward No. 14 of Godawari Municipality. In response, the Godawari Rapid Response Team (RRT) promptly sought support to contain the outbreak and prevent further transmission to other areas.



Water Safety Plan orientation

The Godawari Prabalya WASH team participated in a meeting organized by the RRT to coordinate the response efforts.

The RRT, along with district and provincial health staff, visited the rehabilitation center to investigate the cholera outbreak. After conducting water source tests on both well water and the supplied water system in rehabilitation centre, fecal coliform contamination was detected in both samples. Heavy rainfall in the area a few days prior was identified as a possible cause, as it likely resulted in overflow from septic tanks, leading to groundwater contamination.

In response, WaterAid Nepal was requested to provide urgent orientation sessions to key stakeholders,

including members of the Water and Sanitation Users' Committee, health workers, ward chairs, and municipal section chiefs. The purpose of the orientation was to ensure water quality control in both the municipal water supply system and at the household level.

Mr. Anand Gautam, WOP Coordinator, led the orientation on water safety plan (WSP), Nepal drinking water quality standard 2079 and the critical importance of chlorination. Practical demonstrations were provided on how to perform chlorine dosing both at a large scale and at the household level.

Additionally, Mr. Gautam provided guidance on the importance of water quality monitoring and proper septic

tank construction for long-term water safety, during a meeting organized by the District Health Office of Kathmandu.

WaterAid Nepal further supported the municipality by supplying 95 Free Residual Chlorine (FRC) test kits, enabling rapid water quality testing to ensure effective chlorination.

Thanks to the coordinated efforts of multiple agencies, no new cholera cases have been reported in Godawari Municipality as of now. However, the municipality remains vulnerable to waterborne diseases due to the ongoing challenges with water quality.

Lele project update



Distribution pipeline, Lele

The construction work at Lele continues ahead of schedule, although some activities have been delayed due to heavy rainfall.

The Godawari Prabalya WASH team, alongside the technical team from Godawari Municipality and the Lele Water and Sanitation Users Committee (WSUC), with support from a consulting partner, is actively advancing the second phase of the Lele Water Supply Scheme.

Despite challenging weather conditions, including on-going rainfall, construction efforts have been persisted uninterrupted.



Construction work, Lele

Lele project update

Construction work progress:

- 3 km of distribution pipeline
- One 50-cubic-meter reservoir tank
- One pump house
- One rapid sand filter
- A 3-day Water Safety Plan training for WSUCs from Godawari Municipality

In parallel with the construction, the Godawari Prabalya WASH team has also facilitated the development

of the WSUC charter. The WSUC is now officially registered with Godawari Municipality, marking a significant milestone in its operational framework.

Mr. Raj Kumar Shrestha, Chairperson of the Lele Water and Sanitation Users Committee, remarked on the noticeable improvements in water quality this year, particularly during the rainy season.

“Even with the heavy rainfall, we observed no turbidity in the drin-

king water, which I believe is a result of last year’s intake protection work,” he stated. This highlights the effectiveness of earlier infrastructure improvements in ensuring water safety and quality.

The successful collaboration and continued progress on the Lele Water Supply Scheme reflect the strong commitment of all involved parties to deliver a reliable and sustainable water supply system to the community.



Construction work, Lele

WASH Plan Data Validation Workshop

The WASH plan data validation workshop was held on July 25, 2025 in Godawari municipality.

AVIYAAN Pvt. Ltd presented the detailed data of the WASH plan. Data has been collected using the N-WASH Apps developed by the Ministry of Water Supply.

The objective of the validation workshop was to review existing data and to fill the gaps if there was any data missing, although, ward level validation had been already done in 14 wards.

This event brought together elected officials, municipal staff, members of the Water and Sanitation Users Committee (WSUC), and representatives from NGOs and INGOs working in the WASH sectors in Godawari municipality. Participants reviewed their data and seemed quite happy to see their household tap pictures with detailed information and a brief of the water supply system.

Mr. Man Bahadur Khadka, Chief Administration Officer of Godawari municipality, thanked Godawari Prabalya WASH team, for the large scale of data collection. He committed to utilizing this data in the planning process of Godawari municipality on WASH.



Data Validation Workshop



My perspective: Maintenance technician

"Long-term thinking and a holistic perspective are also important. Quick and cheap can become difficult and expensive in the long run." - Jimmy Solander, Vakin.



- What is your role in Godawari Prabalya WASH?

- I am a maintenance technician and leak detection specialist. I support the water and sanitation workflows in technical solutions and provide an overview of methods and work practices at Vakin.

- Soon you will take the stage at a Swedish conference. Tell us about that!

- I will be a speaker at Teknikträffen, a national user and information meeting focused on pipe inspection and leak detection. Our project is being highlighted as a good example of international collaboration.

- What are the highlights for you in the project so far?

- Definitely the trips, visiting a place I most likely wouldn't have seen otherwise. Even though we can meet online, it is so valuable to see things with your own eyes. Also for us to get to know each other, building relationships.

- What have you learned from the project?

- Networking is valuable, with our project partners and within our own organisation. I have gained insights into water production that have been valuable in my own work.

During the project, there have been several opportunities to explain and discuss how we work, which also provides a deeper understanding of one's own work.

- What have inspired you?

- The fast pace in Nepal, quickly and efficiently. Still they take time to include stakeholders and users in decisions.

- What is your main message for colleagues in Nepal, and globally?

- Curiosity is a good thing. There is always experience to draw from others, you are rarely first in history to do something. You might not be able to copy a solution, but you can adapt an idea to your own reality.

Long-term thinking and a holistic perspective are also important. Quick and cheap can become difficult and expensive in the long run.

WASH Plan - Shaping the future

Godawari municipality has endorsed a WASH plan in their annual general assembly on September 1, 2024, shaping the future of investment in Godawari Municipality.



Sharing WaterAid Nepal monitoring mechanism during CR-WASH training.

The Godawari Prabalya WASH project has provided financial and technical support for the preparation of a WASH plan. The NWASH app, prepared by Ministry of water supply, used to collect the data.

The municipality NWASH dashboard has been created which provides detail information of water supply schemes, WSUCs' functionality, detail of spring sources, schools, health care facilities, public toilet information, unserved community and ongoing projects on WASH.

The WASH plan provides the detailed information of how much investment is required in water, sanitation and hygiene in Godawari municipality for 10 years to achieve safely managed water and sanitation. It also supports to avoid the duplication of the project, save the investment cost, and utilization of resources in proper places.

The NWASH dashboard is a live online system which can be updated in regular basis if there are any changes

in water supply schemes. Godawari municipality can use the information taken in WASH plan for proper planning, future investment in WASH and identify the possible resources.



Survey of Water Supply and household sanitation.

Solid Waste: Analysis and survey report

The report "Solid Waste Management in Godawari Municipality: Household Analysis and Contractor Survey" is released, with valuable input on waste management.

The primary goal is to develop a comprehensive action plan for the municipality's long-term solid waste management. The first step was to conduct data collection on household-level and assess the status of private contractors providing these services to the municipality. The objectives are:

Identification of unserved areas: This involves identifying unserved areas where residents lack access to solid waste management services from private contractors or the municipality. Feedback from these residents was gathered to understand their needs for solid waste management services.

Identification of quality of service provided by private contractors: This involves assessing the adequacy of services provided by private contractors, including collection frequency, cost, service quality, and local feedback for service improvement.

Estimating household waste for future solid waste management planning: This entails evaluating the volume of waste produced by individual households, categorized

by material type, and estimating the total weight of solid waste generated by each household.

Identification of status of private contractors: This involves assessing the readiness of private contractors offering solid waste management services, including their financial status, staff availability, equipment, and personal protective gear as well as gathering their insights on advancing solid waste management in the municipality.

Experts at project partner Vakin have provided feedback on the report. In general, most respondents acknowledge their individual responsibility for solid waste management, they are willing to segregate the waste, to use municipal services and to pay for solid waste management services. Clearly people can also see benefits from improved waste management / an excellent waste management. Improved public health is considered one of the biggest benefits of an excellent waste management along with cleaner surroundings and reduced environmental pollution.



Solid waste survey

Building Inclusive Cities: CWIS training

Godawari Municipality and Godawari Prabalya WASH successfully organized a three-day training on City-Wide Inclusive Sanitation (CWIS), September 10 to 12, 2024.



CWIS training



Godawari Municipality, in partnership with Godawari Prabalya WASH, successfully organized a three-day training on City-Wide Inclusive Sanitation (CWIS) from September 10 to 12.

The 45 participants included municipal representatives, sanitation professionals, and community leaders focusing on inclusive sanitation solutions for sustainable urban development.

The training was structured into three key components: an orientation session, a series of 12 training sessions facilitated by national-level CWIS experts, and a field visit. The training concluded with participants preparing action plans to drive CWIS initiatives within the municipality.

During the field visit, participants had the opportunity to observe the SMART toilet at Jawalakhel and the Decentralized Wastewater Treat-

ment System (DWATS) in Thaiba, Ward No. 14.

The SMART toilet site visit provided practical insights into innovative sanitation technologies and provided a model for replication across the municipality.

Participants also learnt about public interest on sanitation and challenges to manage DWATS.

Building Inclusive Cities: CWIS training

"We are dedicated to making impactful changes in sanitation that will benefit our community for years to come" - Gajendra Maharjan, mayor, Godawari Municipality



Gajendra Maharjan, mayor, Godawari Municipality



CWIS training, group photo

Mayor Gajendra Maharjan, speaking at the orientation session, expressed his commitment to investing sanitation sector in Godawari. He pledged to allocate the necessary budget to begin constructing a Fecal Sludge Treatment Plant (FSTP) in Pagaa-ban or another suitable location within the municipality. "We are dedicated to making impactful changes in sanitation that will benefit our community for years to come," the mayor emphasized.

The training received positive feedback from participants, who expressed a strong commitment to applying the knowledge gained in their ongoing sanitation efforts. Mr. Man

Bahadur Khadka, Chief Administration Officer (CAO), highlighted the importance of the training, stating, "This training has given us practical tools to enhance the sanitation services in our community."

Romlala Lala Maharjan, Chairperson of DWATS, shared a personal reflection, stating, "I used to think that my work in fecal sludge management was detrimental to my family and personal life, but this training helped me realize that I am contributing to a greater cause. I am proud to be part of this effort, thank you for inviting me"

The pre- and post-training evaluations demonstrated significant

improvement in participants' understanding of CWIS principles and approaches, with many expressing satisfactions with the content and delivery of the sessions. Participants also developed action plans to implement their learnings, marking a strong step forward in improving sanitation services in Godawari Municipality.

This successful CWIS training has laid a solid foundation for sustainable, inclusive sanitation efforts in Godawari, with committed leadership and motivated participants driving future initiatives.

Worker safety: Sanitation workers update

The Godawari Prabalya WASH project and Godawari Municipality, has developed an action plan aimed at improving working conditions for sanitation workers at the Harisiddhi segregation center.

The owner of the segregation center has also pledged support for the implementation of this plan.

Mr. Anand Gautam and Ms. Anita Bohara from the Godawari Prabalya WASH team visited the center to observe the solid waste segregation process and meet with the sanitation workers on August 23, 2024.

During the meeting, key issues were discussed between the workers and the owner of the facility. While separate toilets for women sanitation workers have been constructed, and masks and aprons provided, workers reported reluctance to use the masks due to discomfort and warmth.

One major concern highlighted

was the lack of formal employment agreements between the sanitation workers and the owner. Workers are paid based on the quantity of waste collected each day, which complicates access to benefits such as health and accidental insurance. The absence of formal contracts leaves the workers in a vulnerable position, especially in terms of occupational health and safety

To enhance the working environment, it was recognized that additional improvements are needed, such as the construction of bathing and changing rooms, and better access to personal protective equipment (PPE), including masks, aprons, boots, and other safety-related materials.

Interviews with sanitation workers also revealed gaps in their understanding of the importance of using PPE for their health and safety. To address this, a one-day orientation program is planned, along with an exposure visit to another segregation center in the Kathmandu Valley, where sanitation workers operate in a safer environment.

This initiative underscores the commitment of the Godawari Prabalya WASH project and Godawari Municipality to improving the welfare and safety of sanitation workers, ensuring they are protected and supported in their essential work.



Sanitation workers at a solid waste segregation center

Communication: project visibility

In Godawari Prabalya WASH, we take every opportunity to proudly present our project.

Newspaper articles, radio interviews, podcasts, seminars, social media posts, channels for internal communication or even this newsletter are examples on how to increase project visibility. Why is it important? Communication is knowledge sharing, it builds relations, teamwork, networks and make things happen.

Communication is a profession. Like every other activity it is most effective if it is planned, well performed and evaluated. But at the same time communication is something anyone can contribute to - by sharing stories, being an ambassador, providing facts or taking an active role in planning and activities.

On May 22, representatives from Vakin visited the Swedish Parliament, participating in a seminar on water, sanitation, and hygiene. The seminar was attended by representatives from many organisations with extensive experience in international cooperation and development projects. We are very proud to present our project as one of many examples of the power of knowledge exchange across borders.

We have many examples, where partner representatives have made our project, WOPs or our work for a sustainable society visible. Some topics include international collaboration, tariffs, gender perspective, maintenance, drinking water quality, systematic improvement and long term investments. Thank you for inviting us - and for sharing our stories!!

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Elin Bäckman, Vakin, representing Godawari Prabalya WASH at a Swedish Parliament seminar.



Anand Gautam, article on local WOPs in Wash Khabar