

Pabitra Thapa Khatayat (left) and Nanda Khatayat (right) who spread awareness on sanitation and hygiene in their village. Surkhet - Nepal.



Nepal WAI Led by Simavi



WATER
additional
30,157
people reach
safely managed
water

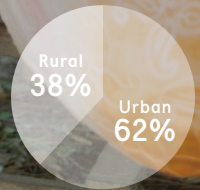


SANITATION
additional
54,042
people reach safely
managed sanitation
services



HYGIENE
additional
44,561
people reach basic
hand hygiene
service level

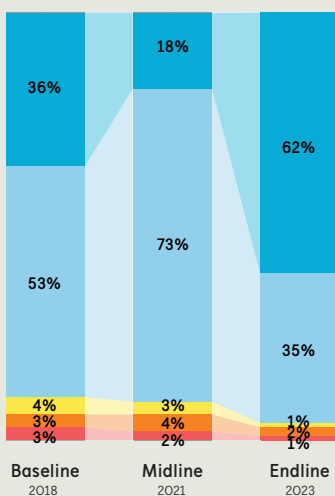
PROGRAMME COVERAGE:
2 urban areas
2 rural areas



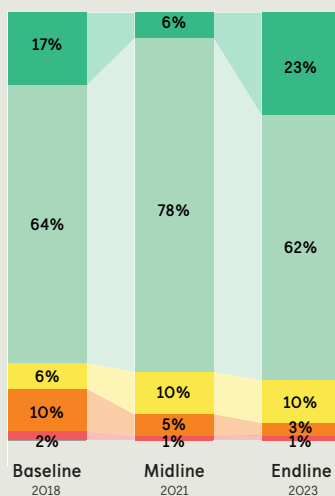
**TOTAL POPULATION
IN INTERVENTION AREAS:
211,507**

Municipality	District	Province
Barahataal Rural Municipality	Surkhet District	Karnali Province
Bheriganga Municipality		
Kohalpur Municipality	Banke District	Lumbini Province
Baijanath Rural Municipality		

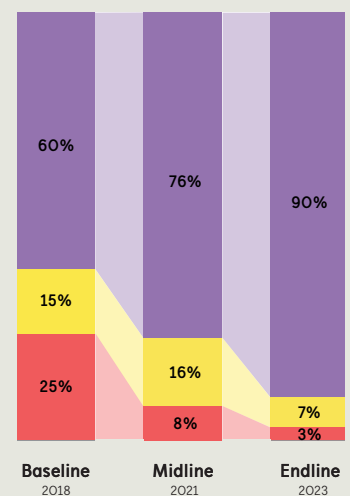
WASH service levels - Baseline to Endline



Water



Sanitation



Hygiene

● Surface water ● Unimproved ● Limited
● Basic ● Safely managed

● Open defecation ● Unimproved ● Limited
● Basic ● Safely managed

● No facility ● Limited ● Basic

Key achievements along the pathways



Pathway 1: Behaviour Change and Demand Creation

The programme has seen a rise in awareness and an increased demand for WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) services. Communities have taken a proactive approach by accessing WASH loans through cooperatives. More than 500 households borrowed a total of NPR 66,75,00 achieving an impressive 95% return rate. These funds were used for various purposes, including acquiring household water treatment systems, connecting to piped water sources, and constructing toilet and septic tank facilities.

Improvements in hygiene practices, such as 90% of respondents having handwashing facilities with soap, is a direct result of behavioural changes.

There has also been a surge in the demand for pit emptying services, particularly in the urban municipality of Kohalpur. This surge has led to a significant increase in service providers, rising from three at the programme's initiation to 12 during the endline assessment.

The programme successfully engaged with 98 community groups, facilitating regular meetings and discussions aimed at enhancing household hygiene and sanitation practices. The consistent provision of WASH education served as a catalyst, creating a demand for water and sanitation services, ultimately contributing to an expanded coverage area.



Pathway 2: Improved WASH services

The endline evaluation of the WASH sub-programme highlights significant advancements in the outreach and sustainability of WASH products and services, improvements in the WASH market, and increased participation of women as entrepreneurs. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and the resultant restrictions that heavily impacted sales, WASH service providers demonstrated resilience.

At the programme's outset, 11 previously non-functional water supply systems were successfully brought into operation. Subsequently, 3,892 households gained access to piped water systems. The program played a pivotal role in assisting water

systems to develop climate-resilient water safety plans, contributing to incremental improvements in the quality of their services. The installation of chlorine dosing units in water systems facilitated water quality enhancements, ensuring the provision of safely managed water services to 62% of households.

Additionally, schools and healthcare centers exhibited notable improvements in their WASH services. All healthcare centers in Baijanath and Kohalpur municipalities increased their WASH Fit scores, surpassing the 50% threshold. Similarly, school WASH services made commendable progress towards achieving a three star rating.



Pathway 3: Strengthened WASH Governance

Significant progress has been made in strengthening WASH governance to ensure safely managed WASH services are ensured for the communities. Adopting a system strengthening approach, the programme supported all four municipalities to develop WASH plans to guide them in their annual planning and budgeting processes. Municipalities also developed policies and guidelines to steer effective WASH service provision and to create a coherent and supportive legal and policy environment tailored

for municipalities. This alignment was crucial to ensure that local governments operated within a clear legal framework, fostering transparency, accountability, and consistency in their functions. Dedicated WASH units were also established in all municipalities to ensure WASH related issues were prioritized and there was sufficient capacity to address them. WASH budget spending for all municipalities has seen a significant increase of 112%, highlighting the growing recognition of the need for WASH investments.

