

Joint Sector Review (JSR)-II

The Joint Sector Review II conference was organized by Ministry of Urban Development on 31 March and 1 April 2014 at Godavari. The Honourable Minister of Urban Development Dr Narayan Khadka was the chief guest. Mr Kishor Thapa, Secretary of MOUD was the chair in the opening session of the conference.

The key objectives of the conference were to assess the sectoral strengths, identify sectoral shortcomings, and frame appropriate strategies to move the sector in more harmonized manner. The JSR II focused on eight themes: institutional frameworks and capacity building; sector financing; functionality and sustainability; monitoring and evaluation; sanitation and hygiene; water quality; gender equity and social inclusion; disaster risk reduction and climate change. And to review each these topics, eight thematic groups were formed. A series of brainstorming sessions, meetings were held to identify core issues, review policy, capture learning and compliance, recommend appropriate strategic action to accelerate the progress to meet national targets. Five Learning Visit Teams (LVT) were also formed to visit five development regions to capture challenges, gaps, opportunities and innovations. A total of 55 participants took part in the learning visits.

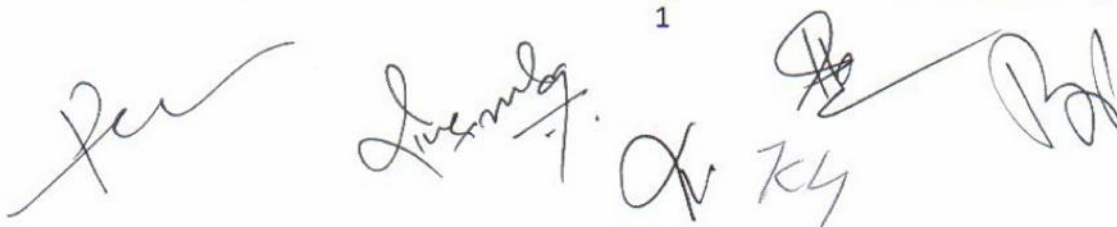
The conference was participated by 200 participants, with representatives from government, development partners, I/NGOs and civil societies from the central and five development regions. 30% of the participants had attended the JSR I in 2011.

We recognize the enabling environment created by JSR I in harmonizing the sector to develop joint working culture and foster mutual trust and cooperation among stakeholders. We also recognize that JSR I created enabling environment for gearing up sanitation social movement, increased sanitation coverage significantly and ensured assurance to meet the national target.

We recognize that there is a huge resource and capacity gap on reaching the un-reached for access to water supply coverage. In this context, we pause to recognize the Melamchi Water Supply Project as a national pride project, and collectively wish for its completion before Baisakh 2073 (April 2016). We are further committed to reducing non-functionality of water systems, delivering reliable higher level water service. There is a need of appropriate strategies for sustainable management of ODF zones and promoting total sanitation and hygiene.

We envision that all Nepalese people enjoy adequate and safe drinking water and sanitation facilities for gaining improved hygiene behaviors, healthy life and clean houses, villages and cities in Nepal with nationwide campaign of No WASH-No House, No WASH-No school and No WASH-No office.

In this journey, we are committed to follow the envisaged path, to consider field realities in service delivery, and to comply with existing policies, plans, directives, acts, SACOSAN V declarations, pertinent sectoral discourses and research findings. Government institutions, Development Partners and International/Non- Government organization and all concerned stakeholders who

The bottom of the page features several handwritten signatures in black ink. From left to right, there is a long, flowing signature, a signature that appears to be 'Laxmi', a signature that looks like 'K4', and two more distinct signatures on the right side.

agree to allocate financial resources, provide technical support and harmonize intervention, philosophy and ideas in line with government sectoral policies, plans and strategies.

We agree to improve WASH governance in all programme and service delivery at all levels to ensure accountability, transparency and equity.

We have a strong realization that waste must be transformed into energy and agricultural inputs for better livelihood and environmental sustainability. As such, we are committed to establish proper mechanism and supportive policy environment conducive to explore and introduce appropriate technologies so that waste produced at household, institutions and public places are recycled and utilized optimally as economic value.

We -- the representatives from the Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sector related Ministries, Government Departments, Development Partners and Civil Society Organizations -- express our solidarity and commitments to render services and facilities in equitable manner to materialize the vision of the JSR-II as well as of the national goal of universal access to water and sanitation facilities by 2017 by executing following the declaration points.

A. Institutional Framework and Capacity Building :

1. Transform existing NSHSC and NSHCC to NWASHSC and NWASH CC respectively with full WASH accountability;
2. Establish legal identity of WASH Coordination Committees (WASH-CCs) at all levels by synchronizing with Local Self Governance Act, 2055 and upcoming Water Supply, Sewerage and Sanitation Act;
3. Formulate a common WASH Operation Directive for harmonized intervention in rural and urban sub sectors;
4. Promote WUSCs and their federation a legitimate and capable organization by maintaining strong linkages with WASH-CCs for ensuring transparent, accountable and effective service delivery;
5. Develop CHRDU as a Center of Excellence for WASH related capacity building intervention and standardize benchmarks, capacity development modules/packages of the wider WASH sector.

B. Sector Financing:

1. Formulate WASH sector financing strategy as an integral component of the WASH Sector Development Plan which enables implementation of district and sub district WASH plans with due focus on unreached and un-served population;
2. Allocate 5 - 20 percent budget for functionality component from the total WASH budget through Annual Development Plan;
3. Seek additional financial resources to improve safe water facilities to the selected district head quarters, urban areas and emerging towns as per Nepal Drinking Water standard, 2005;
4. Develop policy provision to obtain grants and loans from development/commercial/financing banks institutions for improving service level as outlined in the co-financing directive of the WASH sector.

C. Monitoring and Evaluation:

1. Strengthen and strongly implement web-based monitoring and evaluation system for the entire sector. Promote result-based fast track methods of collection and generation of sectoral data and information under the leadership of WASH-CCs;
2. Assess periodic performance of the WASH sector as per agreed sector monitoring indicators;
3. Reinforce WASH sector M&E issues with the Minimum Conditions and Performance Measures (MCPM) of MoFALD and regular monitoring frameworks of health and education sector to evaluate the performance accordingly.

D. Functionality and Sustainability:

1. Critically review and revise existing "Coverage and Functionality Survey Guideline" and collect, compile, disseminate and utilize M& E information for future planning purpose under the strong leadership and guidance of DWASHCC;
2. Mandatorily implement minimum water tariff system to recover at least operational costs for rural utility/operators with special attention to GESI aspects;
3. Introduce appropriate/alternative technological options and multiple use of water for livelihood;
4. Empower and strengthen utility operators/WSUCs and introduce business plans with tripartite agreement among WUSCs, V/MWASHCC (local bodies) and support agencies and in line with Water Supply Service Operation Directive, 2012;
5. Encourage and promote rehabilitation and reconstruction of existing water supply and sanitation projects, including formulation of specific guideline, with an aim to improve higher services and discourage investment in the name of new projects.

E. Sanitation and Hygiene

1. Prohibit open defecation through legal provision in the upcoming WASH Act. Introduce and enforce local norms, rules and regulations through local authority;
2. Promote and sustain ODF and hygiene behaviours through consistently implementing post-ODF/total sanitation interventions;
3. Prepare an evidence-based comprehensive "The State of Sanitation" to systematically showcase social sanitation movement and to promote knowledge management;
4. Mainstream health, education and other institutions and professionals, academia, political leaders, WSUCs, youth and women, media, child clubs, civil society networks to accelerate ongoing sanitation social movement;
5. Formulate a complete urban sanitation strategic framework to complement the Clean City Programme.

F. Water Quality:

1. Intensify implementation of National Drinking Water Quality Standards, 2005;
2. Mainstream and scale up Water Safety Plan as integral component of water supply and sanitation projects;
3. Introduce and implement water quality improvement interventions in outbreak-prone districts with priority, and effectively utilize available regional WQ testing labs;

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4. Collect water quality data from water service providers, and share with surveillance agencies.

G. Gender Equity and Social Inclusion:

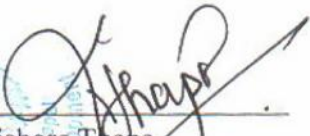
1. Implement GESI Operational Guideline 2013 (MoUD) of the WASH sector and allocate adequate budget;
2. Promote GESI responsive technological options, promotional packages and service delivery mechanisms.


H. Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA)

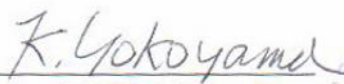
1. Mainstream CCA/DRR in upcoming Water Supply, Sewerage and Sanitation Policy and Act;
2. Introduce CC and DR-resilient actions as integral component in ongoing WASH interventions;
3. Allocate up to 5% budget of the WASH sector for CCA and DRR for disaster mitigation and to timely reinstate projects affected by disasters;

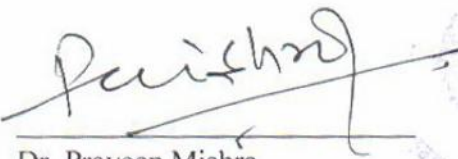
All participants of the JSR II agree to implement the actions outlined above.

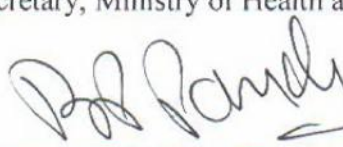
The Detailed Action Plans for deliverables will be completed by the end of April 2014 and share to the Sector Stakeholder Group.



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