

Project status, October 2024 - January 2025



Young Changemaker Anita Bohara, during a water protection workshop in Sweden.

Our partnership has been characterized from the start by good collaboration, high activity, and significant progress in Godawari, with Lele water supply system as one of many examples. Therefore, it was especially difficult to see Godawari affected by floods and landslides after a challenging rainy season.

Beyond the human suffering, the natural disaster caused extensive damage to infrastructure across the entire municipality. Resources were redirected to assist those in need, protect public health, and conduct repairs. Meetings in our project had to be paused for a time, and planned activities were delayed.

Despite these setbacks, our WOP activities continue, thanks to the impressive dedication of the municipality, its staff, and WaterAid Nepal. Their efforts cannot be praised enough. We are happy to see our project and individual members receive well-deserved recognition, like when Anita Bohara was acknowledged as a Young Changemaker by GWOPA or when our project was mentioned as a good example at the World Urban Forum in Cairo.

We are now entering our final project phase and look forward to a final exchange trip to Nepal in May.

Thank you for your support.

RECENT activities

- Natural disaster response in Godawari Municipality
- Restoring damaged pipeline in Lele
- GIS Knowledge exchange, Vakin/Beacon project
- 3 day WASH Leadership and Capacity building training
- WASH Plan data update
- Presentation at GWOPA Webinar: Digitalization
- Stall at National WASH Advocacy summit, Kathmandu
- WaterAid Nepal: Project performance review
- Developed worker safety training for sanitation workers
- Team Vakin workshops on SOP, asset management, tariffs, solid waste/sludge
- Meeting and visit to Thaiba DWAST with the Ministry of Water Supply and Kathmandu Valley Water Supply Management Board
- High level visit from Japan
- Construction of minilab in Lele

Flood Response: supporting hygiene kits

During the rainy season, the region was hit by heavy rains, flooding, and landslides. Godawari Municipality was one of the most affected municipalities. In this difficult time, project partner WaterAid Nepal joined forces with Godawari Municipality to provide aid.



Distribution of hygiene kits, september 2024

WaterAid Nepal, in collaboration with Nabil Bank and Everest Bank, provided hygiene kits to 190 households severely affected by floods and landslides in Godawari Municipality. The beneficiaries were identified in close coordination with the Godawari Municipality Disaster Management Unit, ensuring support reached the most vulnerable communities. The hygiene kits were prepared in accordance with the standards set by the Government of Nepal.

Godawari Municipality, Mayor, Mr. Gajendra Maharjan, personally distributed the hygiene kits to the affected families. The initiative was successfully executed through the coordination of the Godawari Prabalya WASH Team, reinforcing a collaborative effort to enhance public health resilience in disaster-affected areas.



Mayor Gajendra Maharjan personally distributed hygiene kits to affected families

A Step Towards Sustainable Waste Management

Solid and fecal waste management remains a persistent challenge in Godawari Municipality. The Paaganban Improvement Plan is a step towards a more sustainable waste management in Godawari.



Group photo, Paaganban Area

While several communities have adopted better waste management practices, some clusters still require awareness and intervention. One such area is Paaganban, where haphazard waste disposal has posed serious environmental and public health risks.

To address this issue, Godawari Municipality, in collaboration with Ward No. 11 and with technical support from the Godawari Prabalya WASH project, organized a one-day orientation and action planning session for community leaders.

The session was facilitated by Mr. Anand Gautam, WOP Coordinator, with the close support of Ms. Anita Bohara, Senior Engineer at Godawari Municipality.

Discussions focused on identifying key challenges, their underlying causes, and sustainable solutions. As a result, community members agreed to enrol in private waste collection services, marking a significant step toward improved sanitation.

The first phase of improvement works is already underway, with full implementation targeted for April 2025.

Lele Water Supply Project: Progress update



The Lele Water Supply project has achieved remarkable progress, with 80% of construction completed.

This including the reservoir tank, pump house, guard house, and distribution network. The technical team, along with the Lele Water and Sanitation Users Committee (Lele WSUC), is working towards full completion by mid-April 2025.

The Godawari Prabalya WASH team is assisting in governance aspects, such as household-level meter installations, scientific tariff calculations, and water quality monitoring. Efforts are also underway to enhance community awareness about water conservation and sustainable management practices.



Construction work, Lele

National WASH Advocacy Summit

The Godawari Prabalya WASH team, represented by Anand Gautam and Anita Bohara, actively participated in the National WASH Advocacy Summit.

The event, attended by approximately 500 representatives from all 77 districts of Nepal, was chaired by the Joint Secretary, with the Minister of Water as the Chief Guest.

Supported by WaterAid Nepal, Godawari Prabalya WASH set up an informational stall to showcase its initiatives in Godawari Municipality.

Dignitaries, including Honorable Minister Pradip Yadav and senior government officials, visited the stall and learned about the project's impact.

Various sessions throughout the summit fostered critical discussions on WASH policies and strategies, with further engagement opportunities scheduled for the following day.



Minister Pradip Yadav visiting the Godawari Prabalya WASH stall

WASH Plan Data Review

The WASH Plan Data Review is strengthening post-disaster resilience in Godawari municipality.



NWASH data update, Godawari Municipality

The devastating floods and landslides in Godawari Municipality on September 27–28, 2024, caused severe damage to water supply infrastructure, with 63 Water Supply Schemes (WSSs) either fully or partially destroyed.

In response, Godawari Municipality, with technical support from Godawari Prabalya WASH, conducted a WASH Plan data review session to update damage as-

sessments and guide future investments.

The Chief Administrative Officer urged all technical staff to participate actively in the update process. AVIYAN Pvt. Ltd. provided guidance on data collection methodologies to ensure accurate reflections of losses. This initiative will help rebuild resilient water and sanitation systems that support long-term community recovery.

My perspective: Environmental engineer

"The role of sanitation workers in effective waste management is incredibly ' important – they deserve more appreciation." - Cecilia Almroth, Vakin.



- What is your role in Godawari Prabalya WASH?

- I am an environmental engineer at Vakin, focusing on waste and recycling. In the project, I lead the workflow for solid waste and support the workflow for integrated water resource management (IWRM).

- What do you think is the biggest difference between waste management in Sweden and Nepal?

- In Sweden, we have the necessary conditions in place, including support from legislation at all levels, logistical solutions, and behavioral changes. In Nepal, they are in the early stages of implementing measures for a sustainable system to protect health, water, and the environment.

- How would you describe Solid Waste Management progress in Godawari?

- Through surveys and discussions with various stakeholders, we see that the need is identified and that there is a willingness for change and collaboration. During my first visit, it was emotional to witness the situation of sanitation workers. Equally moving is seeing the improvements already achieved, such as training and better working conditions. The role of sanitation workers in effective waste management is incredibly important—they deserve more appreciation

- What have you learned from the project?

- A lot about Nepal, but also about

Vakin—how and why we do things the way we do. When we receive questions, we need to examine our own methods and how we have developed them. The broader perspective—how waste affects water quality - becomes very clear in this project.

- What is your main message for Godawari, on sustainable waste management and water protection?

- To adopt a perspective that addresses not only what is visible, such as littering, but also what is not visible, which can impact water quality. To base decisions on facts and use legislation as support. Everyone must take responsibility for waste because it affects everyone—households, businesses, and municipalities alike.

Project Performance Review

On January 3, 2025, WaterAid Nepal hosted a Project Performance Review (PPR) workshop for the Godawari Prabalya WASH project, ensuring quality and sustainability.



Project performance review at WaterAid Nepal

On January 3, 2025, WaterAid Nepal hosted a Project Performance Review (PPR) workshop for the Godawari Prabalya WASH project. The primary objective was to assess progress, identify areas for improvement, and ensure alignment with WaterAid Nepal's Program Quality Standards and the project's strategic approach.

Mrs. Anita Bohara, the project's focal point, delivered an insightful presentation covering achievements, challenges, and mitigation strategies from October to December 2024. She also outlined key activities planned for the next quarter (January to April 2025).

Senior Finance Coordinator-WaterAid Nepal, Mr. Nilama Khatri provided a financial overview, emphasizing the importance of developing a sustainability plan. Mrs.

Euden Koirala, Head of People, commended the project team's dedication and highlighted the need for effective documentation and lesson-sharing. Data Analyst Mrs. Saheli Maharjan raised concerns about data collection and reporting processes, stressing the importance of accuracy and consistency.

The meeting reinforced the strong partnership between WaterAid Nepal and Godawari Municipality, demonstrating how local governments can lead and sustain WASH initiatives for long-term impact.

Knowledge exchange and workshops

Team Vakin has used an involuntary pause in the project to exchange experiences and summarize information to aid our colleagues in Godawari.



From one of Team Vakin's workshops

In October, Team Vakin had to pause meetings so that our colleagues in Nepal could focus on emergency response efforts following the natural disaster in Godawari. Instead, we have worked on compiling best practices from our organization and others to support the development of plans, routines, and guidelines.

Anglian Water and Vakin have engaged in an exchange of experiences regarding their roles as supporting partners in the Beacon Project and the EU-WOP initiative Godawari Prabalya WASH. This time, the theme was GIS—how it is used in each organization and in the collaborative projects in Nepal.

The meeting included six employees from Vakin, six from Anglian Water, and two from WaterAid Nepal. Everyone contributed valuable insights and questions on the topic. The groups agreed to organize a future meeting focused on questions and discussions about how to

best support our colleagues in Nepal on their digitalization journey. With support from WaterAid Nepal, we are continuing our collaboration with the Beacon Project, where there are many valuable examples to draw inspiration from.

In October, Team Vakin conducted a workshop with examples from three small schale SOP:s and Vakin's own routines. The result was a draft content for a handbook with guidelines and SOP for operation and mainenance.

In January, Team Vakin conducted four workshops on different themes: Health and safety training for sanitation workers, Asset Management and tariffs, SOPs for water facilities, and Waste and sludge from a water and environmental protection perspective. Insights and reference documents was shared with all project partners.

FSTP - High level engagement

The search for a suitable location for a fecal sludge treatment plant (FSTP) continues, with high level meetings and discussions with local committees and municipal leaders.



Discussing possible FSTP locations

A high-level delegation, including officials from the Ministry of Water Supply and Kathmandu Upatyaka Khanepani Limited, visited Thaiba to review the Decentralize Waste Water Treatment Plant. During discussions with the Thaiba DWAST Management Committee, concerns were raised about the proposed FSTP site being in a flood-prone area. As an alternative, Paagan was identified as a potential site, pending community consultations and municipal approvals.

Key Participants:

- Engineer Yogendra Chitrakar – Lead, Fecal Treatment, Kathmandu Valley

- Engineer Amit Ranjit – Chief, Waste Section, Department of Water Supply and Sewerage Management
- Engineer Sunil Acharya – Consultant and FSTP Design Specialist
- Dr. Dol Prasad Chapaig – Deputy Manager, Kathmandu Upatyaka Khanepani Limited
- Engineer Sitaram Karki – Godawari Municipality
- Engineer Anita Bohara – Godawari Municipality
- Sarbagya Shrestha – Head of Programme, WaterAid Nepal
- Anand Gautam – WaterAid Nepal

Consultation with Godawari Mayor and Ward No. 11 Chair

The Godawari Prabalya WASH team met with municipal leaders to discuss the initiation of an FSTP at Paagan Ban. While no land-related issues were identified, the team agreed to engage the Community Forest Management Committee for further consultations. The municipality also plans to seek financial support from the Kathmandu Valley Water Supply Management Board.

High level visit from Japan

In January, Godawari Municipality welcomed a Japanese delegation to Godawari and the Lele project site.

A Japanese delegation, including Moeko Yoshitomi (Deputy Director, Water and Sewerage International Affairs Office, Japan) and Takeo Yamaguchi (Technical Advisor, JICWELS), visited Godawari Municipality and Lele Site Office

At the Lele Ward Office, Ms. Anita Bohara presented project achievements, highlighting tariff-setting mechanisms and water quality improvements. Delegates visited intake areas and inspected new infrastructure, expressing strong appreciation for the municipality's proactive measures to ensure safe drinking water and sanitation.



Japanese delegation visiting Lele



Enhancing Capacity: Material Support

Capacity building remains a cornerstone of the Godawari Prabalya WASH project. The initiative has already provided comprehensive training on Water Safety Planning (WSP) and water quality monitoring

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As part of these efforts, the project has supported the procurement of essential materials, including water quality lab equipment, for the Lele Users Committee. With a designated lab space provided by the Lele Ward Office, WSUC is in the process of recruiting a staff member for routine water quality checks and reporting. The WaterAid Nepal team, in collaboration with Godawari Municipality and VAKIN, is developing a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the lab, in alignment with Nepal's National Drinking Water Quality Standard 2079.



Water quality monitoring

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Godawari Prabalya-WASH Website at www.godawarimun.gov.np/en

UPCOMING activities

- Asset management, budget and business development training
- IWRM training and IWRM plan development. Orientation to WSUCs about spring sources conservation
- Technical input for formation of WASH unit, formation of Water Tariff Commission and preparation of Water Resource Directives
- Sanitation worker exposure visit
- Exposure visit Bangladesh
- CWIS plan development
- Communication strategy
- FSTP construction
- Refresher sessions for the Godawari Water Partnership Network
- Water quality training and lab establishment at Lele
- Municipality level orientation of Water and Sanitation Regulation 2081, recently promulgated by Nepal Government
- Trip 4 to Nepal in May