

Godawari-Prabalya- WASH Newsletter

May-August 2023



PROJECT STATUS, MAY - AUGUST 2023

Godawari Municipality has endorsed a local WASH Act, regulating water and sanitation.

The period has included two important trips. Team Nepal represented the project and presented the project at the 5th Global WOPs Congress in Bonn. In August, a delegation from Nepal visited Sweden.

The project is progressing according to plan in terms of time, budget, and activities. We have made the most progress in terms of data collection and efforts to improve water quality and secure water production in Lele.

The Fecal Sludge Treatment Plant (FSTP) and sewerage treatment plant is in a planning phase including a land acquisition process and a revised design. The next step is to develop an activity plan.

Regarding waste, we had a great start during the trip to Sweden, where we dedicated a day to waste, recycling, and sustainable landfills.

Our project manager, Matthias Grimm, leaves Vakin. We thank him for his commitment and valuable contributions to the project.

ACTIVITY UPDATE

Data management:

- Training on N-WASH to enumerators
- Ward WASH data collected

Management/Governance:

- Godawari WASH Act
- Water Source and river protection campaign

Water production:

- Source protection and reservoir tank construction
- Water Safety plan training

Sanitation:

- Land Acquisition process
- Revised design and estimate of Treatment plant
- High level meeting with Kathmandu Valley Water Supply Management Board

Solid waste:

- Solid Waste Management Training at Ward Level
- Awareness Campaign

WOP Program Support:

- WOP congress Bonn
- Knowledge exchange, Sweden
- High level delegate visit



WASH plan data collection at Ward no 5.

A partnership between Vakin, WaterAid and the municipality of Godawari in Nepal, led by UN Habitats Global Water Operators Partnership and funded by the European Commission. Through knowledge exchange and mentorship, we will strengthen Godawari's work with sustainable water, sanitation and waste management.





Representatives from Godawari Municipality and Godawari Prabalaya WASH attended GWOPA WOP 5th Congress in Bonn. Anand Gautam and Anita Bohara presented on session” Beyond infrastructure: sustainable management models for rural water and sanitation service delivery”.

They shared the case study ”Improving the enabling environment for effective management of rural water and sanitation services by water and sanitation user committees in Godawari Municipality, Nepal”.

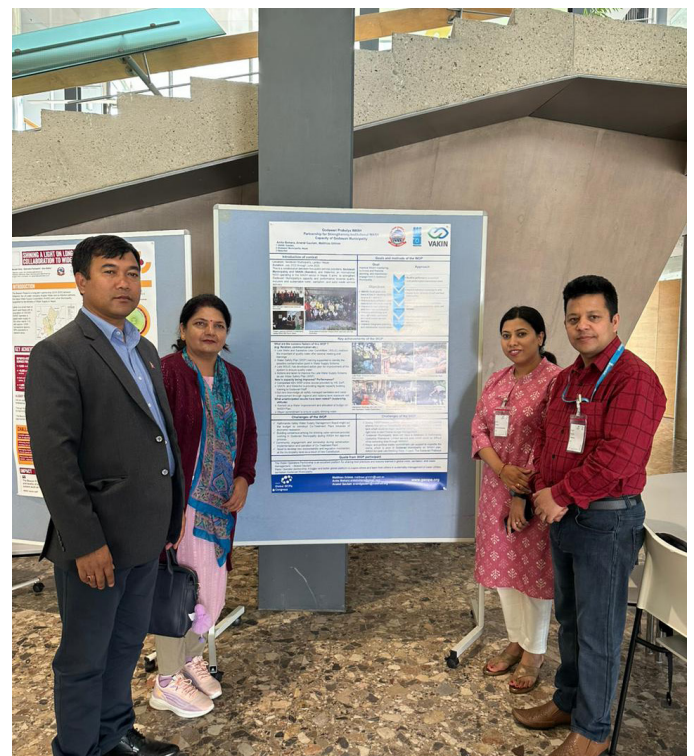
During the congress, Godawari Prabalaya WASH displayed a poster including all updates on the project to visitors in Bonn. The mayor, deputy mayor, and other team members got the chance to learn best practices of other WOPs, with many interesting presentations and networking opportunities.



Nepali Team at the 5th Global WOPs Congress.



Above: Project presentation, Anand Gautam



Right: Project poster display. Gajendra Maharjan, Mayor; Muna Adhikari, Deputy Mayor; Anita Bohara, Anand Gautam.

A partnership between Vakin, WaterAid and the municipality of Godawari in Nepal, led by UN Habitats Global Water Operators Partnership and funded by the European Commission. Through knowledge exchange and mentorship, we will strengthen Godawari’s work with sustainable water, sanitation and waste management.





Team Vakin, Godwari and WaterAid, including Godawari Prabalya WASH steering group, at Vakin.

VISIT IN SWEDEN

Team Vakin has had the pleasure of welcoming our project partners from Godawari and WaterAid Nepal to Sweden for an eight-day knowledge exchange.

The visit started in Stockholm, with meetings with Svenskt Vatten, Sida, and WaterAid Sweden. At Svenskt Vatten, we gained insights into the challenges Sweden faces with significant investments in water and sewage, climate change, and new EU directives. Team Nepal also had the opportunity to present our project and establish important connections at Sida and WaterAid Sweden.

We had a wonderful time, with great opportunities for mutual learning, teambuilding, and cultural exchange. Team Vakin is grateful for the opportunity to showcase our mission and our everyday life. Together, we are building a sustainable society.



Project presentation at SIDA, Stockholm.

A partnership between Vakin, WaterAid and the municipality of Godawari in Nepal, led by UN Habitats Global Water Operators Partnership and funded by the European Commission. Through knowledge exchange and mentorship, we will strengthen Godawari's work with sustainable water, sanitation and waste management.





PEER TO PEER EXCHANGE

The journey continued with a week in Umeå, with guided tours, presentations, meetings, workshops, shadowing of Vakin's employees, trainings and knowledge exchange:

- We visited a Swedish home to observe how roles and responsibilities are divided between Vakin and the customer.
- We conducted field studies with a focus on water quality, where engineers from Godawari measured groundwater levels, collected water samples, and followed the path of water from the source to tap.
- Other activities included best practice in use of measurement data and maps, leak detection, and pipeline maintenance.
- We visited many facilities, including small and large water treatment plants, sewage treatment facilities, recycling centers, and a waste management center.
- Umeå Municipality showcased city planning from a sustainability and gender equality perspective.
- We also visited a school and the university's science center, Curiosum, which aims to spark young people's interest in technology and science.



Engineer Sunil Shrestha measuring ground water levels.



Above: Water Protection session

Left: Visit in a Swedish home, roles and responsibilities.



FEEDBACK FROM GODAWARI

Anita Bohara, environmental engineer:

- Everything has been rewarding, especially the various field trips around Umeå and the exchanges with Vakin's employees. During the week, we have gained a lot of inspiration and many ideas about how we can collaborate. We are impressed and inspired, and now we will see how we can make what we have experienced work in our reality and for our residents.

- Is there anything you have seen at Vakin that you can directly apply?

- Our full day with peer to peer-exchange was very rewarding. In addition to the practical work of ensuring water quality, we also got many ideas on how we can increase awareness of occupational health and safety issues in our municipality.

- Sunil Shrestha and Sitaram Karki, engineers in drinking water production and waste water treatment, what will you bring home from Sweden?

- It is very interesting for us how you work on water protection. But also worker safety, risk management, and your systematic work with routines and checklists.

- Anand Gautam, coordinator from WaterAid Nepal, what do you think has been the best part of the visit?

- There are several aspects that I have appreciated very much. One part was the visits in Stockholm to Sida, Svenskt Vatten, and WaterAid Sweden, where I got to showcase our project. It's a good start for future collaborations.

- In Umeå, I was very impressed by the recycling center, the work you do in water protection, and all the data you collect. We have also received excellent presentations from Umeå Municipality; the gender perspective and the inclusion of everyone in city planning are impressive.



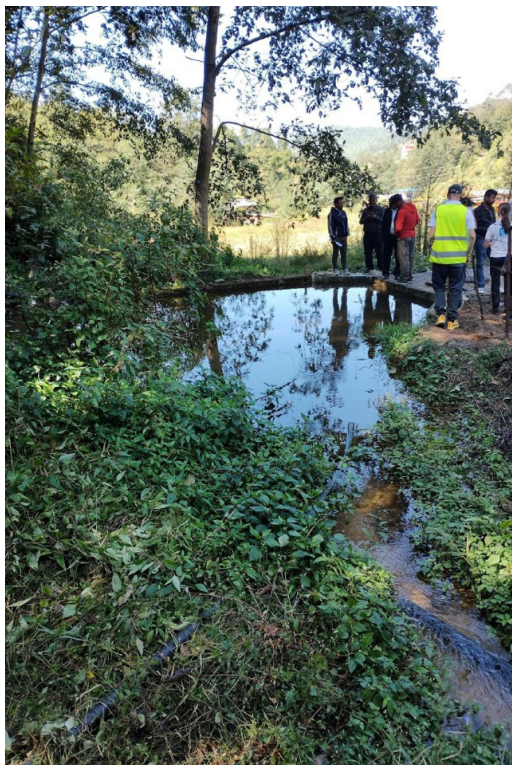
Maintenance technician Jimmy Solander and Sunil Shrestha in the maintenance workshop.



One of many meetings, discussion on the topic how to attract young and educated employees.



LELE PROJECT UPDATE



Lele water source, before and after construction.



Swedish parliamentarians visit at the construction site in Lele.

There has been a lot of construction work at Lele, including water source protection and a new reservoir.

Measures have been taken to reduce risks of contamination and increase capacity in Lele.

SWEDISH PARLIAMENTARIANS VISIT LELE

Three parliamentarians from Sweden, Alexandra Anstrell, Ann-Sofie Lifvenhage, and Maria Stockhaus, along with Moushumi Shrestha, Honorary Consul General, have visited Nepal and Lele, as a successful example of development in the region.

A partnership between Vakin, WaterAid and the municipality of Godawari in Nepal, led by UN Habitats Global Water Operators Partnership and funded by the European Commission. Through knowledge exchange and mentorship, we will strengthen Godawari's work with sustainable water, sanitation and waste management.





WATER SAFETY PLAN TRAINING PROGRAM, LELE

Lele WSUC, Water Quality training.

Earlier this year, Vakin provided capacity building training to Godawari staff on Water quality and water sampling. With inspiration from this knowledge exchange, Team Godawari has provided training to Lele Water Users Sanitation Committee (WUSC)

The training program was focused on the Water Safety Plan introduction and its seven steps implementation process developed by Nepal government.

The participants were selected from members and users of Lele WUSC, teachers and Female Community Volunteers. Anand Gautam and Anita Bohara facilitated the training, engineers Sunil Shrestha and Sitaram Karki briefed the technical details of the system.

The training included:

- roles and responsibilities, water quality, water safety plan
- field observation visit, observation on intake, transmission line, reservoir tanks, distribution and households

Participants listed major causes that could contaminate the water in intake, transmission line, reservoir tanks, and households tap, which resulted in a risk matrix..

Some of the risks observed were contamination of the source from cattle, flood water and land slides, and damage/leakage on open laying pipelines.

A partnership between Vakin, WaterAid and the municipality of Godawari in Nepal, led by UN Habitats Global Water Operators Partnership and funded by the European Commission. Through knowledge exchange and mentorship, we will strengthen Godawari's work with sustainable water, sanitation and waste management.





CLEAN GODAWARI RIVERS

CLEAN RIVERS - A WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY EVENT

Godawari municipality with technical support of Godawari Prabalya WASH organized one day interaction program with women leaders in Godawari Municipality on occasion of World environment day. Objectives:

- Encourage women leaders to share their experience cleaning on Godawari Rivers.
- Make an action plan to clean the rivers in Godawari municipality
- Share how Godawari Prabalya WASH strengthens the institutional capacity of Godawari municipality

Mr. Gautam briefed about the objective of the interaction session. He also highlighted the how Godawari Prabalya WASH project was supporting to strengthen institutional WASH capacity of Godawari municipality

Three national level speakers shared their experience working on Bagmati Cleaning Campaign on of the big river in Kathmandu valley, environment projects and volunteer work.

Priya Lamichhane shared how she was working to empower women for the conservation of environment. She has been working to clean the Bagmati river and requested to all participants to make commitment for social contribution.

Aruan Upreti started her speech by highlighting the menstrual health, and encouraged all women to care for personal. "Once women have good health, they can contribute to the society.

Lila Mani Paudel shared how he learnt to work as the volunteer to change the society, how he used to clean the ponds and recharge the ponds in rainy season and how those recharge ponds helped to protect environment and to increase the discharge of springs sources. He shared how volunteers were mobilized to clean Bagmati river.

All participants took an oath:
If not now, when?
If we don't, who will?



Sharing of content of the Godawari Municipality WASH Act

PROJECT CONTACTS:

Nepal: Anand Gautam, anand.gautam@wateraid.org

Sweden: Elin Bäckman, elin.backman@vakin.se

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

A partnership between Vakin, WaterAid and the municipality of Godawari in Nepal, led by UN Habitats Global Water Operators Partnership and funded by the European Commission. Through knowledge exchange and mentorship, we will strengthen Godawari's work with sustainable water, sanitation and waste management.

