



**Government of Nepal  
Water and Energy Commission Secretariat**

**Launching and Inception Workshop of the Global Water  
Leadership in a Changing Climate Programme**

**30 March 2022, Wednesday**



**GWP Nepal/Jalsrot Vikas Sanstha**  
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## Acronyms

AGWA	Alliance for Global Water Adaptation
CWPs	Country Water Partnerships
DWSSM	Department of Water Supply and Sewerage Management
FCDO	Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
FNCCI	Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
GWLP	Global Water Leadership Programme
GWP	Global Water Partnership
GWPO	Global Water Partnership Organisation
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
JMP	Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation
JVS	Jashrot Vikas Sanstha
MoWS	Ministry of Water Resources
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
ODF	Open Defecation Free
PCC	Programme Coordination Committee
SWA	Sanitation and Water for All
TV	Television
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WECS	Water and Energy Commission Secretariat
WHO	World Health Organisation
WRM	Water Resources Management

## Executive Summary

*The GWPO in collaboration with UNICEF and strategic partners is implementing Global Water Leadership (GWL) in a Changing Climate Programme in Nepal with funding support from FCDO to accelerate climate-resilient systemic change by supporting to establish effective, evidence-based policies and strategies and implement inclusive, climate-resilient water policies and strategies. The GWP Nepal/JVS and UNICEF will implement WRM and WASH components respectively. In response to the request of GWP Nepal/JVS and UNICEF, WECS has established a Programme Coordination Committee on 11 March 2022 under chair of the Secretary and organised a Launch and Inception Workshop on 30 March 2022 in collaboration with its partners.*

*The main objective of the Launch and Inception Workshop was to inform multi-stakeholders about the GWL Programme components, outputs, and outcomes with key activities to sensitise stakeholders about the Programme and seek inputs on implementation approach. About 80 participants attended the Launch and the Workshop.*

*Welcoming the guests and participants, Mr. Surya Nath Upadhyay, Secretary-General at GWP Nepal/JVS highlighted adverse impacts of climate-induced disasters such as landslides, floods and drought on water resources and WASH services, and expected GWL Programme to promote inclusive and climate-resilient water resources and WASH services, build resilient society, help people and natural resources to adapt and build resilience to climate change, generate knowledge and evidence-based information to policies and formulate legislations, and identify areas for climate investment, and means to access climate finance.*

*Mr. Lal Induruwage, Regional Coordinator, GWP SAS appreciated Nepal's efforts in making water sector climate-resilient, and shared GWP's vision and mission to ensure water security and advance governance and management of water resources for sustainable development. Mr. Induruwage believed, GWP knowledge, experience and learning would help to implement GWL Programme through extensive multi-stakeholder consultations. He expressed his happiness to see Nepal much ahead in implementing GWL Programme and hoped to make it more effective for securing water in Nepal.*

*Dr. Budhi Setiawan, UNICEF Nepal Country Office highlighted UNICEF's works and support in Nepal in providing basic WASH services; informed over 340,000 people directly affected by climate-induced incidents in the last five years with 37 percent children and youth along with economic loss of over US\$ 141 million; and urged to accelerate progress on climate-resilient WASH serves and IWRM against the backdrop of the 2030 Agenda, Paris Agreement and International Decade for Action on Water for Sustainable Development. Dr. Setiawan reiterated UNICEF's commitment to support the Government in implementing climate change mitigation and adaptation works for WASH, in boosting national leadership and capacity to strengthen the systems and address financial constraints.*

*Er. Tires Prasad Khatri, Joint-Secretariat at MoWS shared updated information on WASH services and improvement in health, and highlighted adverse impacts of climate change on WASH services, including damage of over 50 drinking water and sanitation projects each year due to landslides and floods. Er. Khatri believed GWL Programme would make WASH services climate-resilient and informed Government engagement in formulating Drinking Water and Sanitation Policy, Bill and WASH Master Plan keeping climate-resilience, water & sanitation services at the centre. Er. Khatri informed government commitments on this GWL Programme and expected its contribution to achieve SDG 6, NAP and NDC targets.*

*Launching the GWL Programme, Er. Dinesh Kumar Ghimire, Secretary of the Government of Nepal underscored the need for meeting commitments on SDG 6 and expressed commitment of the Government and willingness to take full ownership of the GWL Programme by working jointly with GWP and UNICEF and other partners to achieve the desired outcomes. Expressing billions of people affected from the lack of safely managed drinking water, handwashing, and sanitation services, Er. Ghimire appreciated the support of FCDO to implement this GWL Programme to improve resilience, health and livelihood of poor and vulnerable communities in LMICs and expected for enhancing political ownership and water sector governance along with addressing bottlenecks and barriers, identifying investments and accessing to climate finances to make inclusive and climate-resilient water resources and WASH services. Er. Ghimire informed the formation of a Coordination Committee to facilitate and coordinate this GWL Programme.*

*Mr. Saraju Kumar Baidya, Joint-Secretary at WECS, in his closing remark, shared experiences on the adverse impacts of climate change and climate-induced landslides, floods, and drought, and possible extreme weather in future. Recalling the Constitutional and fundamental right of people to clean and safe drinking water and sanitation, Mr. Baidya expected support of the GWL Programme in meeting national and international commitments on SDG 6, NDC targets and in implementing prioritised adaptation programmes on water resources and WASH sector.*

*Dr. Kapil Gyawali expressed his sincere gratitude to Er. Dinesh Kumar Ghimire, Secretary and Chief Guest for Launching the GWL Programme and for meaningful statement and guidance. He also expressed his gratitude to all speakers for their valuable and enlightening remarks on WRM and WASH services and commitment to support GWL implementation. He thanked all invitees and participants and urged for active participation in the Inception Workshop.*

*Under the chair of Er. Tires Prasad Khatri, four presentations were made in the Inception Workshop. Sharing the key issues and challenges to resilient and inclusive water management, Mr. Lal Induruwage outlined number issues and challenges in water sector, including climate change adaptation, water-related disasters coping and preparedness, trans-boundary water issues, shortage of water supply and sanitation facilities along with inadequate capacity, and challenges from climate-induced hazards. Recalling state of IWRM, Mr. Induruwage advised priority actions for IWRM implementation with focus on implementing critical laws, harmonising policies and coordination structures, expanding stakeholder participation, creating mechanisms for data capture and sharing, expanding partnerships to unlock co-financing opportunities, and increasing revenue for IWRM. He highlighted actions, inter alia, related to political will, and provide technical, financial & political support to government for implementation of IWRM activities.*

*Ms. Arinita M. Shrestha, WASH Specialist at UNICEF, presenting a paper on key challenges and barriers on climate-resilient WASH programming in South Asia outlined climate risks such as flooding, landslides, heatwaves, sea level rise, glacier melting, and monsoon with greater effects to children, and informed every child exposed to at least one climate and environmental hazard, and 129,426 children affected with economic losses of US\$ 141 million during 2016-2021 period in Nepal. Ms. Shrestha informed UNICEF's core programme in Nepal that includes eco-zone programme, children-centred disaster risk reduction, climate-resilient WASH, and shock-responsive social protection. She summarised key challenges and barriers such as lack of understanding, insufficient data, competing priorities, service delivery models, focus on 'infrastructure' than 'service' etc to advance climate-resilient WASH services, and explained opportunities to ensure sustainability of WASH services, strengthen communities, promote water safety and security, and leveraging large-scale climate financing. Ms. Shrestha shared UNICEF's support to the Government of Nepal to identify and address climate risks and bottlenecks for inclusive and resilient WASH services and develop climate/WASH monitoring systems and capacity strengthening.*

*Mr. Batu Uprety presented outputs, outcomes and impact of the GWL Programme in improving resilience, health and well-being for poor and vulnerable people in LMICs. Highlighting vulnerability and relevant policies and plans on WRM and WASH sectors in Nepal, Mr. Uprety shared GWL workplan for 2022-2024 with activities for output 3 (identify and address systemic and financial constraints) which include developing snapshot and methodology with programme partners, facilitating in-country multi-stakeholder change processes on IWRM and climate-resilient WASH services, supporting to advance climate-resilient plans and policies for water, and developing capacity, sharing knowledge and communicating results along with sub-activities. He also shared Programme management arrangements such as government-led Coordination Committee, technical support from GWL Global Team and Regional Coordinator, and internal coordination from GWP Nepal/JVS on WRM.*

*Presenting a review-based draft Stakeholder and Gender Analysis to seek comments and suggestions from the participants, Mr. Batu Uprety listed review of existing policies, master plans and strategies, legislation and guidelines on GESI, including institutional responsibilities and women's status on asset ownership and access to finance, education, decision-making and governance, participation in civil service, workforce and other sectors. He highlighted Nepal's approaches on stakeholder's participation through stakeholders' engagement guidelines and project-specific plans. Mr. Uprety summarised difficulty in identification of stakeholders & their meaningful participation, inadequate hearing 'patience', overlapping institutional responsibilities, legal ownership on land and property, climate-induced water insecurities, and ineffective coordination mechanisms as key gaps and drivers while root causes and barriers are related to multi-culture and multi-ethnicity, societal rules and traditions, lack of understanding, and issues of 'privilege group'. He outlined opportunities to increasing stakeholder's engagement, making GESI-friendly policies, laws and guidelines, and making GESI focal points effective, reservation, increasing engagement in decision-making process, and exploring livelihood improvements and equal pay for equal work etc.*

*Mr. Uprety listed priority areas for gender transformative approaches such as advancing livelihood improvement programmes; making forest governance GESI-sensitive and responsive; ensuring at least 33% women in Water User Committee etc. He highlighted key stakeholders for GWL programme ranging from policymakers to general people at national and sub-national levels and shared the study recommendations related to, inter alia, encouraging mandated institutions to make WRM & WASH service climate-resilient, developing national policy on stakeholder engagement, harmonising GESI policies, linking gender responsive budgeting indicators in sector programmes, identifying and mobilizing GESI-sensitive social change agents and leaders, etc.*

*Six participants participated in discussion and flagged issues related to reduction in water quantity in pine forests and need for coordinating drinking water and forestry sectors to minimise policy contradictions in accessing water from protected areas, support of GWL Programme on WASH in remote areas, unclarity in building capacity and composition of a Coordination Committee for this GWL Programme. Participants also flagged to analyse 2021 population census data, if available, need to look gender into continuum, consider sector stakeholder analysis, and share the draft report of Stakeholder and GESI Analysis.*

*At the end, Er. Tires Prasad Khatri thanked presenters, appreciated participants for raising issues and sharing experiences, and reiterated government's commitment to effectively implement the GWL Programme with partners*

# **Chapter 1**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background**

The Global Water Partnership Organisation (GWPO) in collaboration with the UNICEF is executing Global Water Leadership (GWL) in a Changing Climate Programme with funding from UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) to implement this Programme in seven countries (Central African Republic, Malawi, Nepal, Palestine, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda) to accelerate climate-resilient systemic change by supporting to establish effective, evidence-based policies and strategies and implement inclusive, climate-resilient water policies and strategies. The GWL Programme was started in April 2021 and will last till September 2024. The SWA (Sanitation and Water for All), JMP (UNICEF/WHO Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation), World Health Organisation (WHO) and AGWA (Alliance for Global Water Adaptation) are strategic partners of this Programme.

This government-led Programme has three outputs and two outcomes. The outputs are: (i) strengthened leadership and collaboration in water resources, and water, sanitation & hygiene (WASH) governance at global and national levels; (ii) evidence, norms and standards to inform inclusive and climate-resilient water and sanitation policies and strategies; and (iii) Government partners supported to identify and address systemic and financial constraints that impede progress on water resources management (WRM) and WASH to improve sector performance. The Programme outcomes are: (i) more poor and vulnerable people in Low- and Medium Income Countries (LMICs) use resilient, safely managed water and WASH services; and intermediate outcome is that LMICs implement inclusive and resilient policies and strategies for water and WASH services which will have cumulative impact (improved resilience, health, and wellbeing for poor and vulnerable people in LMICs). This Programme has two components – WRM and WASH services. In Nepal, GWP Nepal/Jalsrot Vikas Sanstha (JVS) will implement WRM component and UNICEF will implement WASH component.

The GWP Nepal/JVS and UNICEF jointly informed the Government of Nepal – Water and Energy Commission Secretariat, and Ministry of Water Resources – about the GWL Programme on 2 March 2022 and requested the Government to lead the Programme. Both organisations made commitment to jointly and/or individually support in implementing GWL activities. In response to this request, the Water and Energy Commission Secretariat (WECS) established a Programme Coordination Committee (PCC) on 11 March 2022 with representation from water resources and

WASH sectors under the chair of the Secretary of WECS. To start the Programme, WECS organized a Launch and Inception Workshop on 30 March 2022, Wednesday in collaboration with its partners. The GWP Nepal/JVS supported WECS in organizing the Launch and Inception Workshop in Kathmandu.

## **1.2 Objective of the Launching and Inception Workshop**

The main objective of this Launch Programme and Inception Workshop was to inform multi-stakeholders about the GWL Programme components, outputs, and outcomes with key activities. Specifically, this event was organised to:

- sensitise stakeholders, implementing partners and inform about implementation arrangement of the GWL Programme; and
- seek inputs on implementation approach to contribute for inclusive and climate-resilient policies, plans and programmes on WRM and WASH services.

## **1.3 Process**

The GWP Nepal/JVS and UNICEF discussed on approaches to inform the Government about this GWL Programme and wrote official letter jointly to lead this Programme. The Government was encouraged to coordinate and provide guidance and leadership and organise a Launch event in March 2022. The Government decided to organise it on 30 March 2022. The GWP Nepal/JVS with support from GWP South Asia provided logistic and technical supports along with presentation of workplan and initial outcomes of the Stakeholder and GESI study. UNICEF also supported in organising this event by making statement in the Launch event and presenting paper on WASH component in Inception Workshop.

This report includes guidance, concerns and inputs as expressed by the speakers during the Launch and paper presenters in the Inception Workshop. It also includes concerns, ideas and suggestions of the participants raised during the Workshop. Key aspects of this Programme Launch and Inception Workshop are summarised in chapters 2 and 3 respectively.

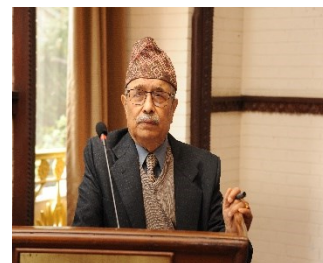
## Chapter 2

### LAUNCH OF THE GWL PROGRAMME

WECS organised the Launch of the Programme and Inception Workshop to inform water sector multi-stakeholders about the GWL Programme. The Launching focused in generating interests and showing commitment while Inception Workshop focused on sharing issues, challenges, and generic workplan (Annex 1). About 80 participants attended the Launch and the Workshop (Annex 2). The following sections highlight the concerns and ideas as stated during the Launching of the GWL Programme.

#### 2.1 Welcome Speech and Highlights of the GWL Programme

Mr. Surya Nath Upadhyay, Secretary-General, GWP Nepal/JVS welcomed the guests and participants and highlighted key issues related to knowledge, skill, water use and WASH sector despite Nepal being rich in water in rivers and poor in supply to people as was clearly noticed during the Covid-19. Highlighting the observed and experienced importance of water for human beings and all lifeforms. Mr. Upadhyay stressed that water resources and WASH sectors are adversely affected



further by climate change phenomenon in the recent years; effects of climate change are clearly observed due to snow melting and glacier retreating, and climate-induced disasters such as landslides, floods and drought. Recognising these challenges, Mr. Upadhyay informed that GWL Programme is under implementation under the leadership of the Government in collaboration with the UNICEF and other partners with support from FCDO, UK to promote inclusive and climate-resilient water resources and WASH services in Nepal. Mr. Upadhyay informed its motto to build resilient society and institution.

Mr. Upadhyay highlighted the objectives of the GWL programme to contribute to make inclusive and climate-resilient focussed policies and plans, help people, community and natural resources to adapt to and build resilience to climate change, generate knowledge and evidence-based information to formulate legislations at national, provincial and local levels as per the Constitutional provision, identify areas for climate investment, and also identify means to access climate finance. He believed this Programme to greatly contribute to develop and test tools to better manage water resources and provide WASH services and appreciated the Government for its leadership to provide better framework of policies and tools and identify areas for climate investment along with finding ways to access finance.

## 2.2 Remarks

### 2.2.1 Mr. Lal Induruwage, Regional Coordinator, GWP South Asia

Mr. Induruwage appreciated Nepal's efforts in making water sector climate-resilient and in organising this Launch programme. He informed GWP's vision – a water secure world, and GWP is a network of over 3,000 partners with 69 accredited Country Water Partnerships (CWP's) and 13 Regional Partnerships. He also informed GWP's mission to advance governance and management of water resources for sustainable development. Mr. Induruwage further informed that GWP SAS was launched in 2002 and partnership applies to Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) solutions to improve water management for Sustainable Development.



With a mission to promote water security and climate resilience in South Asia, Mr. Induruwage emphasized that the GWP supports for multi-stakeholder partnership for improved water governance like of GWL Programme that aims to make inclusive and climate-resilient water resources and WASH services through extensive multi-stakeholder consultations; and GWP provides knowledge resources and capacity building activities for solving water problems. He expressed his happiness to see Nepal very much ahead in implementing GWP programmes each time, and this will encourage partners to join GWP Nepal to make this GWL Programme more effective for securing water in Nepal.

### 2.2.2 Dr. Budhi Setiawan, UNICEF Nepal Country Office

Highlighting the works of UNICEF in the last five decades in Nepal, Dr. Setiawan informed significant evolution in WASH situation from basic services in the past to focus on quantity and quality at present. Dr. Setiawan also informed that over 340,000 are directly affected by climate-induced incidents like floods, landslides and avalanches in the last five years with 37 percent children and youth; UNICEF study in 2021 showed 82 percent of children and young people at risk from one or more hazards; these incidents have over US\$ 141 million of economic losses; and hence urged to accelerate progress on climate-resilient WASH serves and IWRM against the backdrop of the 2030 Agenda, Paris Agreement and International Decade for Action on Water for Sustainable Development.



Appreciating the Government in developing Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and National Adaptation Plan (NAP) to pave the way for climate-resilient communities and services, Dr. Setiawan reiterated UNICEF's commitment to support the Government of Nepal in implementing national goals on climate change mitigation and adaptation works for WASH, in boosting national leadership and capacity to analyse and strengthen the systems and address financial constraints on water resources and WASH, and in creating and maximising opportunities to bolster climate resilience among children and families across Nepal through the GWL Programme.

### **2.2.3 Er. Tiresh Prasad Khatri, Joint-Secretary, Ministry of Water Supply**

Mr. Khatri shared updated information about increase in WASH services from 37 percent of the total population in 1990 International Drinking Water Decade to 94 percent at present; Nepal declared as ODF (Open Defecation Free) country with significant progress in basic WASH services, and improvement in health sector; and urged to address technical and managerial challenges to sustain these achievements. Informing about the damage of over 50 drinking water and sanitation projects each year due to landslides and floods, and submergence of sanitation facilities, including the tragic of Melamchi drinking water project last year, Mr. Khatri highlighted adverse impacts of climate change on WASH services, and investment of only 1.8 percent despite of need for a minimum of 3 percent of GDP to achieve SDGs which clearly shows financial gaps.



Er. Khatri informed around 70 percent investment in drinking water and sanitation at the global level which is only 30 percent in Nepal and urged to keep WASH sector in the centre of development. Er. Khatri believed the possible contribution of GWL Programme in making WASH services climate-resilient and informed Government engagement in formulating National Drinking Water and Sanitation Policy, umbrella Drinking Water Bill and WASH Master Plan keeping climate-resilient water and sanitation services at the centre and will address climate change, pollution, disaster risk management, and quality improvement, along with internalization of adaptation and mitigation in local level programmes. Er. Khatri informed government commitments for joint implementation of this FCDO supported GWL Programme and expected contrition from GWL to achieve SDG 6, NAP and NDC targets.

### **2.3 Statement by the Chief Guest**

Launching the GWL Programme in Nepal by lightening the lamp, Er. Dinesh Kumar Ghimire, Secretary of the Government of Nepal and Chief Guest of the event underscored the need for meeting international commitments on SDG 6 and expressed his happiness, commitment of the

Government and willingness to take full ownership of the GWL Programme by working jointly with GWP and UNICEF and other partners to achieve the expected outputs. Highlighting the importance of water and effects to over 2 billion, 2.3 billion and 3.6 billion people worldwide due to lack of safely managed drinking water services, basic handwashing services, and sanitation services respectively, Er. Ghimire appreciated the support of FCDO UK to implement this GWL Programme to address these challenges and improve resilience, health and livelihood of poor and vulnerable communities of 10 LMICs.



Er. Ghimire informed WECS commitment for facilitation and monitoring of this GWL Programme for its effective outcome through the implementation of activities to overcome identified bottlenecks and barriers from multi-stakeholder processes. Er. Ghimire expected for enhancing political ownership and water sector governance, along with identification of investments and access to climate finances from the Programme to make inclusive and climate-resilient water resources and WASH services. Declaring the Launch of the GWL Programme, Er. Ghimire informed the formation of a Coordination Committee under the chair of the Secretary of WECS to facilitate and coordinate the GWL Programme and expressed best wishes in delivering its outcome and impacts.

## 2.4 Closing Remarks

Speaking from the chair, Mr. Saraju Kumar Baidya, Joint-Secretary and Head of Water Resources Division, WECS shared his long-standing experience on the adverse impacts of climate change with increase in heavy rainfall and climate-induced landslides, floods, and drought and possible extreme weather in future which has directly affected water quantity, quality and availability. Recalling the Constitutional and fundamental right of people on clean and safe drinking water and sanitation, Mr. Baidya expected the possible contribution of this GWL Programme in meeting national commitment to achieve SDG 6, and NDC targets and to provide basic water and sanitation services to 99 percent of the total population by 2030, and in implementing prioritised adaptation programmes on water resources and WASH sector as mentioned in NAP to help poor and climate vulnerable people and communities to adapt and build resilience to climate change impacts.



Mr. Baidya advised the participants to attend the Inception Workshop for more information and better understand the GWL Programme objectives, outcomes and activities.

### **Vote of Thanks**

Dr. Kapil Gyawali, Senior Divisional Engineer at WECS expressed his sincere gratitude to Er. Dinesh Kuman Ghimire, Secretary and Chief Guest for Launching the GWL Programme and meaningful statement and guidance. Dr. Gyawali also expressed his gratitude to Er. Tiresh Prasad Khatri, Joint-Secretary at MoWS for remarks and commitment to effectively implement the GWL Programme, and Mr. Saraju Kumar Baidya, Joint-Secretary at WECS for sharing important information on climate change impacts and expecting contribution to implement SDG 6, NDC targets and NAP priorities from this GWL Programme.



Dr. Kapil Gyawali thanked and appreciated the highlights made by Mr. Surya Nath Upadhyay, Mr. Lal Induruwage for his remarks with focus on sub-regional perspectives, and Dr. Budhi Setiawan, UNICEF Country Office Nepal for his valuable and enlightening remark on WASH services, climate change impacts and future support to the Government of Nepal. Dr. Gyawali thanked all invitees and participants and urged for active participation in the Inception Workshop.

## Chapter 3

### INCEPTION WORKSHOP

The Launching of the GWL Programme was followed by the Inception Workshop under the chair of Er. Tiresch Prasad Khatri, Joint-Secretary, Ministry of Water Supply. The GWP and UNICEF presentations focused on key issues and challenges in advancing resilient and inclusive water management and WASH services. The GWL Nepal workplan and outcomes of the Stakeholder Analysis and GESI study were shared in this workshop. Each presentation is summarized below:

#### 3.1 Key Issues and Challenges to Resilient and Inclusive Water Management

Sharing updates on *key issues and challenges to resilient and inclusive water management*, Mr. Lal Induruwage, Regional Coordinator, GWP South Asia outlined key issues and challenges such as climate change adaptation in water and agriculture sectors along with productivity and food security, water-related disaster coping and disaster preparedness, trans-boundary water issues, over exploitation of ground water, rapid urbanisation & industrialization and shortage of water supply, sanitation and wastewater management, and energy security and its impacts on water, food, hydropower development and river degradation. He highlighted issues related to inadequate capacity, use of information technology and renewable energies, and challenges from climate-induced hazards. Mr. Induruwage highlighted key aspects of SDG 6, potential multi-stakeholders and importance of IWRM.

Mr. Induruwage shared the outcome of 2017 baseline reporting and state of South Asian countries on IWRM requiring more country action to improve enabling environment, strengthen institutions and participation, apply management instruments and access to financing. He advised priority actions for accelerating IWRM implementation with focus to: (i) implement critical laws; (ii) harmonise cross sectoral, interagency policies and coordination structures; (iii) establish and/or expand stakeholder participation in water decision making at all levels; (iv) create robust, transparent, unified platforms and mechanisms for data capture, and information sharing at all levels; (v) build, strengthen, and expand partnerships to unlock co-financing opportunities; and (vi) increase revenue for IWRM such as through water pricing and taxes. He highlighted actions related to political will at the highest level possible, prioritise integrated approaches to land and water management, enhance partners' support to the government, and provide technical, financial, and political support to government for full implementation of IWRM activities.



### 3.2 Key Challenges and Barriers on Resilient WASH Services

Presenting a paper on *key challenges and barriers on climate-resilient WASH programming in South Asia*, Ms. Arinita M. Shrestha, WASH Specialist outlined climate risks in South Asia namely flooding, landslides, heatwaves, sea level rise, glacier melting, monsoon and precipitation and informed that approximately 1 billion children (nearly half of the world's children) live in extremely high-risk countries. Sharing the impacts of climate change on children in South Asia, Ms. Shrestha informed: (i) every child exposed to at least one climate and environmental hazard, shock, or stress; (ii) four countries classified as extremely high-risk in UNICEF's recent Children's Climate Risk Index; and (iii) worry of 69 percent of youth on the impact of climate change in future. She said, 181 people died from climate-induced disasters in Nepal and 129,426 children were affected with economic losses of US\$ 141 million during 2016-2021 period.



Ms. Shrestha shared study findings on reduction in quantity and quality of water, average annual loss of US\$ 1.6 billion and 1.18 percent of GDP in Nepal from climate-related hazards and presented four implementation streams on climate-resilient WASH, namely targeting, adaptation, water security, and continuity of services through risk-informed programme. She informed that UNICEF's core programme in Nepal includes eco-zone programme, children-centred disaster risk reduction, climate-resilient WASH, and shock-responsive social protection where climate-resilient WASH aspires to make communities water safe by engaging young people in water testing, mapping and awareness raising.

Ms. Shrestha summarised key challenges and barriers such as lack of understanding, insufficient capacity, insufficient data, competing priorities, risk analysis limitations, service delivery models, focus on 'infrastructure' but not on 'service', perception to develop WASH services climate-resilient separate project/funding, WASH not being a key national priority, and lack of understanding on climate rationale and additionality concept to advance climate-resilient WASH services. She said, opportunities exist to ensure sustainability of WASH services, strengthen communities, and development & economic sectors, promote water safety and security, and leveraging large-scale climate financing. She shared UNICEF's support to Nepal on two activities namely to: (i) identify and address climate risks and bottlenecks for inclusive and resilient WASH services; and (ii) develop climate/WASH monitoring systems and capacity strengthening.

### 3.3 GWL Programme and its Workplan

Mr. Batu Uprety presented outputs, short-term and long-term outcomes (mentioned in 1.1 above), having impact of the GWL Programme in improving resilience, health and well-being for poor and vulnerable people in LMICs. Informing the nature of GWL Programme (government-led, multi-

stakeholder change process, and defining strategies for overcoming identified bottlenecks and barriers), Mr. Uprety shared key activities such as developing snapshot and methodology with programme partners, facilitating in-country multi-stakeholder change processes on IWRM and climate-resilient WASH services, supporting to advance climate-resilient plans and policies for water, and developing capacity, sharing knowledge and communicating results. He also shared outputs which are related to country consultations to identify bottlenecks and validation of results, form working groups, and support for integration and implementation of strategies into gender transformative climate-resilient policies and plans.



Highlighting vulnerability and relevant policies and plans on WRM and WASH sectors, including strategies and key principles for GWL Programme implementation, Mr. Uprety shared Nepal's workplan for 2022-2024 with activities for output 3 (identify and address systemic and financial constraints) which are in line with the global activities listed above. He also shared Programme management arrangements that focused on government-led Coordination Committee, technical support from GWL Global Team and Regional Coordinator, and internal coordination from GWP Nepal/JVS on WRM.

### 3.4 Highlights of the Stakeholder Analysis and GESI Study

The GWP Nepal/JVS also shared the key aspects of the draft *Stakeholder and Gender Analysis towards Inclusive and Resilient Water Resources Management* in Nepal, carried out to analyse stakeholders and gender for multi-stakeholder change process, to seek comments and suggestions from the participants. Presenting on behalf of the GWP Nepal, Mr. Uprety shared the reviewed list of policies, master plans and strategies, legislation and guidelines on Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI), including institutional responsibilities (such as of Parliamentary Committees, Commissions, Ministries and Departments, federations and NGOs, academe and others), and highlighted the state of GESI at WRM and WASH sectors along with Constitutional, policy and legal provisions on GESI and women's status on asset ownership and access to finance, education, decision-making and governance, participation in civil service, workforce and other sectors. He also shared recent approaches stakeholder's participation through stakeholders' engagement guidelines and project-specific plans.

Mr. Uprety shared key gaps and drivers and summarised difficulty in identification of stakeholders and their meaningful participation due to low education and understanding of issues or impacts, inadequate hearing 'patience' of the proponent, overlapping responsibilities of institutions, legal ownership on land and property, climate-induced water insecurities, and ineffective or non-functional coordination mechanisms. He outlined the root causes and barriers related to multi-culture and multi-ethnicity, societal rules and traditions, lack of understanding on or politicising

issues, and focus on issues of 'privilege group' along with key opportunities such as increasing frequency of stakeholder's engagement and enhanced 'self-motivation' for participation, making GESI-friendly policies, laws, guidelines, and GESI focal points effective, reservation for women and marginalized communities, increasing engagement in decision-making process, and exploring livelihood improvements and equal pay for equal work etc.

The study includes priority areas for gender transformative approaches such as advancing livelihood improvement programmes; making forest governance GESI-sensitive and responsive; ensuring at least 33% women in Water User Sanitation Committee and other communities, including representation of vulnerable groups in key positions; promoting equal employment and equal wage opportunities; and intervening on policy and law, access to resources, decision-making and benefits, and capacity building, including stakeholder engagement, and inter-sectoral coordination. Mr. Uprety highlighted key stakeholders for GWL programme ranging from policymakers to general people at national and sub-national levels with approaches for their meaningful participation and their level of interest and influence in policies and plans. He also shared the study recommendations which are related to, *inter alia*, encouraging mandated institutions to make WRM & WASH service climate-resilient, developing national policy on stakeholder engagement, harmonise GESI policies, linking gender responsive budgeting indicators with institutional outputs, organising more interactive meetings, identifying and mobilizing GESI-sensitive social change agents and leaders, and developing men's skill to promote gender-balance etc.

### 3.5 Discussion

Six participants flagged issues and shared their experiences on above presentations and advised for making Programme activities effective. Issues and experiences are as follows:

- Studies and experiences showed reduction in water quantity in pine forests, and a study concluded 5 times less water in pine forests of Kavre district. Local people have similar experiences in pine forests of far west Nepal, and this requires to coordinate drinking water and forestry sectors, taking into consideration the right to water and policy contradictions in accessing water from protected areas.
- Presentation did not include activities of GWL Programme in treating wastewater and providing WASH services in remote areas. It is unclear on capacity building activities as it did not include capacity of whom, type of capacity required and how to build capacity etc. along with composition of a Coordination Committee for this GWL Programme.
- GESI report has extensively reviewed national efforts (policies, legislations, institutions and guidelines) and looks women focussed, and it is encouraged to consider 2021 population census data, if available for further analysis.

- Availability of quality water is a major issue and drying-up of drinking water sources has increased burden to women and hence urged to look gender into continuum, and consider sector stakeholder analysis.
- It is encouraged to share the draft report of Stakeholder and GESI Analysis

Presenters appreciated concerns and issues of the participants and Mr. Uprety advised to share the draft Stakeholder and GESI report with the participants for inputs & suggestions.

### **3.6 Chair's Remark**

From the chair, Er. Tiresch Prasad Khatri thanked presenters, appreciated participants for raising issues and sharing experiences, and reiterated government's commitment to effectively implement the GWL Programme.

## Annex 1

Government of Nepal  
Water and Energy Commission Secretariat

### Launching of the Global Water Leadership in a Changing Climate Programme

Venue: Hotel Yak and Yeti, Durbar Marga, Kathmandu

Date: 30 March 2022 (Chaitra 16, 2078), Wednesday

Time: 13:00 – 17:30 hours

Collaborators: GWP Nepal/JVS and UNICEF Nepal Country Office

#### Part I

### Launching of the Global Water Leadership Programme

Master of Ceremony: Ms. Neha Basnet, GWP Nepal/Jalsrot Vikas Sanstha

Time	Particulars
13:00 – 13:30	Arrival of the Participants Tea/Coffee
13:30 – 13:35	Arrival of the <b>Chief Guest</b> Er. Dinesh Kumar Ghimire, Secretary, WECS
13:35 – 13:40	<b>Chair:</b> Mr. Saraju Kumar Baidya, Joint-Secretary, Water Resources Division, Water and Energy Commission Secretariat
13:40 – 13:50	<b>Welcome Speech and Highlights of the GWL Programme:</b> Mr. Surya Nath Upadhyay Secretary-General, JVS/GWP Nepal
13:50 – 14:25	<b>Remarks</b> - Mr. Lal Induruwage, Regional Coordinator, GWP South Asia - Dr. Budhi Setiawan, UNICEF Country Office Nepal - Er. Tiresa Prasad Khatri, Joint-Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources
14:25 – 14:40	<b>Statement</b> by the Chief Guest Er. Dinesh Kumar Ghimire, Secretary, Water and Energy Commission Secretariat
14:40 – 14:45	Vote of Thanks Dr. Kapil Gyawali, Senior Divisional Engineer, WECS
14:45 – 14:55	<b>Chair's Remark</b> Mr. Saraju Kumar Baidya, Joint-Secretary, WECS

14:55 – 15:30 Tea/Coffee Break

Part II  
**Inception Workshop on Global Water Leadership Programme**

Master of Ceremony: Ms Neha Basnet

<b>Time</b>	<b>Particulars</b>
15:30 – 15:35	Chair: Er. Tiresh Prasad Khatri, Joint-Secretary, Ministry of Water Supply
15:35 – 15:45	Key issues and challenges to resilient and inclusive water management Mr. Lal Induruwage, Regional Coordinator, GWP South Asia
15:45 – 15:55	Key Challenges and Barriers in Advancing Resilient WASH Services Ms. Arinita M Shrestha, WASH Specialist, UNICEF Nepal
15:55 – 16:05	Questions & Answers
16:05 – 16:15	GWL Programme and its Work Plan Batu Uprety, Jalsrot Vikas Sanstha/GWP Nepal
16:15 – 16:30	Highlights/Outcomes of the Stakeholder Analysis and GESI Study JVS/GWP Nepal
16:30 – 16:45	Questions & Answers
16:45 – 16:55	Chair's Remark Er. Tiresh Prasad Khatri, Joint-Secretary, Ministry of Water Supply
	<b>End of the Programme</b>

17:15 – 17:45    Media briefing

17:45 onwards    Interaction and Dinner

*End of the Launching and Inception Workshop of the GWL Programme*

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## Annex 2

### List of Participants in the GWL Programme Launch and Inception Workshop

Date: 30 March 2022, Wednesday

Venue: Hotel Yak and Yeti, Durbar Marga, Kathmandu

SN	Name	Designation	Organisation
1.	Anil Bhadra Khanal	Chairman	Society of Public Health Engineers Nepal
2.	Anju Wagle (Ms)	Section officer	Ministry of Energy
3.	Arinita M. Shrestha (Ms)	WASH Specialist	UNICEF
4.	Ashish K. Sah	Freelancer	Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation
5.	Ashok Ghimire	Media Personnel	Rrastriya Samachar Samiti
6.	Bal Bahadur Gharti	Sociologist	National Water Supply & Sanitation Training Center
7.	Bashu Dev Pant	Media personnel	
8.	Batu Krishna Uprety	Manager	GWL Programme, GWP Nepal
9.	Bharat Kumar Sapkota	Office support	Jalsrot Vikas Sanstha
10.	Bibhuti Ojha	Researcher	Nepal Engineering Collage
11.	Bikash Shrestha	Media Personnel	AP 1 TV
12.	Budhi Setiawan (Dr.)	Chief Health	UNICEF Nepal Country Office
13.	Chetman Budathapa	Member- Secretary	Farmers-Managed Irrigation System Promotion Trust
14.	Dandi R. Bishwakarma	WASH Specialist	UNICEF
15.	Dibya Ratna Kansakar	Advisor	Jalshrot Vikas Sanstha
16.	Dinakar Khanal	SD Engineer	Water and Energy Commission Secretariat
17.	Dinesh K. Ghimire	Secretary	Water and Energy Commission Secretariat
18.	Dipak Babu Ghimire	Officer	
19.	Duna Acharya	Section Officer	
20.	Gayatri Joshi (Ms)	Engineer	Water and Energy Commission Secretariat
21.	Go Eun Park	Consultancy Officer	UNICEF Nepal County Office
22.	Harish C. Lamichhane	Senior Engineer	Lalitpur Metropolitan City
23.	Janak Khanal	Officer	
24.	Janak Kumar Jha	Economist	Water and Energy Commission Secretariat
25.	Kala Nidhi Poudel	Joint-Secretary	Water and Energy Commission Secretariat

26.	Kapil Gyawali, PhD	Senior Divisional Engineer	Water and Energy Commission Secretariat
27.	Kapil Joshi	Senior Program Officer	FEDWASUN
28.	Kedarnath Sharma	Joint-Secretary	Ministry of Finance
29.	Krishna Acharya	officer	Ministry of Energy
30.	Lal Induruwage	Reg. Coordinator	Global Water Partnership, South Asia
31.	Laxmi Prasad Upadhyay	Joint Secretary	Depart. of Water Supply & Sewerage Management
32.	Lekh Nath Bagale	Under-Secretary	Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation
33.	Madhu S. Khanal	Senior Divisional Engineer	Depart. of Water Supply & Sewerage Management
34.	Maheshwor Shrestha	Joint-Secretary	Ministry of Energy, Water Resource and Irrigation
35.	Maheswor P. Yadav (Dr.)	Manager	Nepal Water for Health
36.	Man Bahadur Pariyar	Engineer	Ministry of Urban Development
37.	Megh Ale	Vice-president	National Association of Rafting Agencies
38.	Naresh Sharma	Agri-Economist	Department of Agriculture
39.	Naveen M. Joshi	Chairperson	Farmers Managed Irrigation System Promotion Trust
40.	Neha Basnet	Program Officer	Jalsrot Vikas Sanstha
41.	Omkar Shah	Joint Secretary	National Women Commission
42.	Paula Schoberlein (Ms)	Consultant WASH & Environment	UNICEF Regional Office
43.	Pawan Chand	Senior Divisional Engineer	Water and Energy Commission Secretariat
44.	Prabhat Shrestha	Joint Secretary	Ministry of Water Supply
45.	Pradeep Shakya	Photographer	Annapurna Photo
46.	Pramita Maharjan	Sr. Project Coordinator	Water Aid Nepal
47.	Pramod Karki	Senior Officer	Ministry of Agriculture & Livestock Development
48.	Prashanna Pradhan	Senior Programme Manager	Environment and Public Health Organisation
49.	Rabin Man Shrestha	Head of the Department	Kathmandu Metropolitan City Office
50.	Rajendra Aryal	Chairperson	Federation of Drinking Water & Sanitation Users Nep
51.	Rajesh Shrestha	Engineer, Hydrologist	Department of Electricity Development
52.	Ram Chandra Poudel	Geo-technical, Civil Engineer	Melamchi Water Supply Development Board
53.	Ratna Pd. Lamichhane	Chief Divisional Engineer	Ministry of Water Supply

54.	Rita Khadka (Ms)	Sr. Divisional Hydrologist	Department of Hydrology and Meteorology
55.	Rojeena Manandhar Ms	Officer	Nepal Water for Health
56.	Rubika Shrestha (Ms)	Water supply and Sanitation Specialist	World Bank
57.	Sabina Kharbuja (Ms)	Sr. Divisional Engineer	Water and Energy Commission Secretariat
58.	Samundra Prasad Sigdel	Finance Officer	Farmers Managed Irrigation System Promotion Trust
59.	Samyam Parajuli	Officer	DWSSMB
60.	Saraju Kumar Baidya	Joint-Secretary	Water and Energy Commission Secretariat
61.	Saroj Gautam	Media Personnel	AP 1 TV
62.	Shailendra Guragain	Chair & CEO	Samriddhi Energy Pvt. Ltd./ FNCCI
63.	Shreya Neupane	Media Personnel	AP 1 TV
64.	Sishir Shrestha	National Reseracher	International Water Management Institute
65.	Som Nath Poudel	President	Jalshrot Vikas Sanstha/GWP Nepal
66.	Subash Thapa	Media Personnel	AP 1 TV
67.	Sudan Raj Panthi	Professor	World Health Organization
68.	Sunil Kumar Das	Joint-Secretary	Ministry of Water Supply
69.	Surat K. Bam	Senior Divisional Engineer	Depart. of Water Supply & Sewerage Management
70.	Suresh Acharya	Secretary	Ministry of Water Supply
71.	Surya Nath Upadhyay	Secretary-General	Jalshrot Vikas Sanstha/GWP Nepal
72.	Tej Binod Pandey	Engineer	Kathmandu Valley Water Supply Management Board
73.	Tejendra Bdr. G.C.	Coordinator	GWL Programme/GWP Nepal
74.	Tiresh Prasad Khatri	Joint-Secretary	Ministry of Water Supply
75.	Umesh Balal Magar	Network Coordinator	Nepalese Youth for Climate Action
76.	Upendra Gautam (Dr.)	Treasurer	Jalsrot Vikas Sanstha
77.	Urmila Subedi (Ms)	Officer	NARMA Consultancy
78.	Yubaraj Karki	Office Support	Jalsrot Vikas Sanstha