



NRCs frontline volunteer being inoculated  
PC: Rabin Dhakal, Doti

## Water, Sanitation And Hygiene (WASH) For All

### ✖ Background

Nepal has completed its first phase of the COVID-19 vaccination drive after receiving one million Covishield vaccines, manufactured by SII from the Indian government. Health and security workers were among the first to be inoculated. NRCS staff and volunteers along with other frontline workers were also inoculated. NRCS especially played a vital role in spreading the encouragement for vaccination to hesitant masses. According to the statistics provided by the Ministry of Health and Population 184,857 received the jab from 201 booths in 77 districts. Over 21 million Nepalese (72% of the population) need to be vaccinated against COVID-19, as vaccines produced so far have not been tested on children up to 14 years of age.

### COVID-19 Situation Overview (as of 26 February 2021)

Description	Nepal	Global
# of confirmed cases	273,872	112,981,257
# of patients recovered	270,223	63,719,414
# of death	2,767	112,981,257
# of people in isolation	882	21,893,568
# of countries affected	191	

(click for updates): <https://covid19.mohp.gov.np/#/>  
<https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>

### ✖ Path to total sanitation in Nepal

Nepal Government declared the nation Open Defecation Free country on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019. This is the minimum requirement of total sanitation (*safely managed sanitation services*). The Total sanitation initiative supports attaining the sanitation ladder to meet Nepal's commitment to sanitation that is SGD Goal No.6 and target No. 6.2.1. This initiative has also fulfilled the bridging gap between MDG to SDG. Nepal made the **SDG roadmap** where sanitation milestones have been envisaged.

As per Total Sanitation Guideline 2015 of Nepal, it has already stepped into the 1st stage i.e. clean community (Post ODF) stage. In this stage, the major focus is on behavior change and increment of additional sanitation services at the household and public level. To reach the total sanitation final stage, it needs to move forward to the path of the total sanitation continuum.



### Nepal's SDG Roadmap of Sanitation

S.N	Indicator	2022	2025	2030
1	Households using improved sanitation facilities which are not shared (%)	78.7%	85.7%	95%
2	The proportion of the population using latrine (%)	83.8%	90%	98%
3	Sanitation coverage (%)	89.9%	93.3%	99%
4	Urban households with toilets connected to sewer systems/ proper FSM (%)	62%	74%	90%



IEC on indicators of total sanitation

Every level/stage is defined by its progressive indicators such as basic level (ODF) comprises 3 indicators, the 1<sup>st</sup> stage has 7 indicators, the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage has 9 indicators and the 3<sup>rd</sup> stage has 8 indicators.

NRCS has been involved in the total sanitation movement since its inception in Nepal. NRCS has facilitated and supported local governments to announce ODF in more than 305 Village Development Committees (VDCs) through its district chapter offices and various partners. After promulgation of the Total Sanitation Guideline in 2015, NRCS has facilitated the announcement of 6 VDCs as a clean community and now working in different municipal areas of Dailekh, Palpa, and Sindhuli districts as well as other districts through our district offices.

**"This is a long path to go in total sanitation continuum to attain the total sanitized status in the country".**

## ✖ NRCS approach

### Sustainable drinking water services



RM-WASH-CC President participated in drinking water scheme handover program and owned the responsibility  
PC: Krishna Subedi, NRCS, HQs

household towards their respective drinking water scheme. To use water daily, users will have to operate and do maintenance job of the scheme. For the sustainability of the drinking water schemes, the project considered the following process as agreed by NRCS and Water User Committee (WUC):

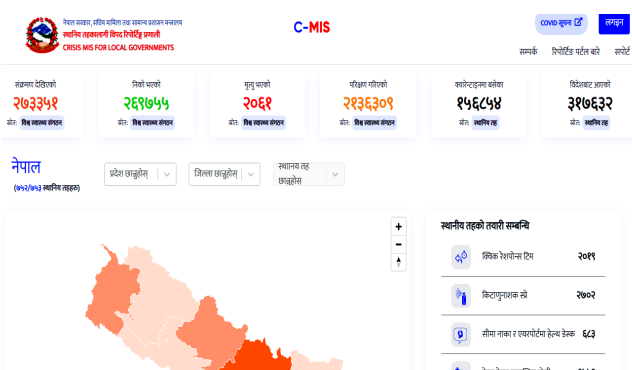
- ◆ Form inclusive WUC per water scheme.
- ◆ Apply water safety plan in the water schemes.
- ◆ Handover all responsibility of the scheme to the WUC and local government.
- ◆ Maintain the bank account for the operation and maintenance (O&M) fund of the schemes.
- ◆ Provision of caretaker in the scheme.
- ◆ Provision of O&M toolkits and spare items per water scheme.
- ◆ Water tariff system implementation.
- ◆ Conduct WUC meetings on regular basis.
- ◆ Continuous coordination and collaboration with local government as well as other relevant stakeholders for major repair and maintenance in the future.

Availability of safe water results in positive change in the sanitation and hygiene behavior of the community such as decrease in diarrheal diseases. One-house one-tap approach has created a sense of ownership among the users so on so forth water user committee (WUC) is self-motivated towards water tariff system which ensures the sustainability of their system. In addition to it, water safety plan (WSP) prepared in the initiation of WUC has added value ensuring the sustainable use of safe water of their system. NRCS believes in partnership for the sustainability of its activities. Thus, a partnership with the community as well as the local government was done for the construction of the schemes. After the completion of construction, schemes are officially handed over to the respective WUC along with the certificate of completion in ownership of local government. A public hearing is conducted for the transparency of the financial activities carried out during the construction. As the schemes are co-funded by the community and the local government (in kind or cash), it also prolongs the sustainability of the schemes.



RM-WASH-CC President Inauguration of Household level tap  
PC: Krishna Subedi, NRCS, HQs

## ✖ Strengthening government lead C-MIS (CRISIS Management Information System) portal



Dashboard view of C-MIS web portal  
Click to open the page <https://crms.mofaga.gov.np/>

Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA) has established C-MIS portal for local government which serves as a web-based platform where they can upload the updated information related to COVID-19 preparedness and response within their administration territory. This portal is public however, the data access is limited to the information officer of local government offices.

NRCS is playing a vital advocacy role to municipal government for the regular update of the information into the portal. NRCS has initiated its advocacy interventions in 100 municipal areas. Till now, NRCS with support of UNICEF Nepal have given Information Management (IM) training to Information officers of 58 municipal areas and is planning for the gradual rolling out to other municipal areas with support from International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC). NRCS frontline workers and staffs are providing collected data to municipal government for timely upload into the portal. NRCS is also developing its IM system in its headquarters which will be utilized for the systematic collection and visualization of data which shall be then in synced with the government portals.



## ✦ Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) in Action



COVID-19 review & planning meeting at NRCS HQs  
(PC: Uddhav Nepal, NRCS, HQs)



NRCS staff and volunteer actively involved in vaccination drive  
(PC: NRCS facebook page)



Installation of multicolor wastebin in Kachanakawal health post  
(PC: NRCS, Jhapa)



Construction of utensil dryer nearby private tap  
(PC: Purna Prasad Hamal, Salyan)



Demonstration of proper handwashing with soap in the community  
(PC: Santosh Sharma, NRCS, Sunsari)



Bucket & soap distribution at Mahakali Municipality-9  
(PC: NRCS, Kanchanpur)



CGD friendly toilet in Shree Nepal Rastriya Secondary School ,  
Dailekh (PC: Kiran K. Acharya, NRCS, HQs)



## ✦ Highlight stories

### Bhurunge, aims to be a clean community

Bhurunge cluster lies in Naumule rural municipality ward number 3 of Dailekh district. Multiple ethnic caste people are dwelling in the cluster with a total of 34 households. Previously, the cluster was quite behind on



Handwashing promotion in Bhurunge community  
PC: Shashiram Pun Magar, NRCS, Dailekh

basic sanitation and hygiene practices but after the launch of Inclusive water, sanitation and hygiene promotion (IWASH) project supported by Korean Red Cross, there have been several activities ongoing in the community such as hygiene and sanitation education classes, as well as door-to-door visit with the help of which their sanitation and hygiene knowledge has increased.

Now, people are being aware of the use and maintenance of their sanitation units and are also improving their hygiene behavior. The local government has rigorously supported the project but currently, the community on their own is leading in conducting the hygiene and sanitation activities. As the community is focused on achieving all the indicators of total sanitation they aimed to set example of being the first total sanitized community of their cluster soon.

## ✦ Coordination and collaboration

All NRCS actions related to COVID-19 are in-line with GON MOHP, HEOC guidelines and initiatives. NRCS province offices, district chapters and sub-chapters have remained in close contact with local authorities and has supported their plan for quarantine, isolation and holding site assessment, establishment and management. Participation in district disaster management committee meeting in all districts. Participation in WASH cluster meeting (national and provincial) and other meeting such as media interaction program.

## ✦ Upcoming/participated event

- ♦ Red Cross and Red Crescent menstrual hygiene management experiences series 1: menstrual hygiene management in disaster contexts- 25th Feb, 2021
- ♦ Menstrual hygiene management partners' alliance meeting- 26th Feb, 2021
- ♦ Water security and climate change conference- 1st to 4th March, 2021
- ♦ WASH literature club meeting (Austrian RC)
- ♦ WASH cluster meeting in every two weeks

## Contact Detail

Sagar Shrestha, Director, Community Development Department

email: [sagar.shrestha@nrccs.org](mailto:sagar.shrestha@nrccs.org)

Amar Mani Poudel, Deputy Director, Community Development Department

email: [amar.poudel@nrccs.org](mailto:amar.poudel@nrccs.org)

Suvechhya Manandhar, PMER Coordinator, Community Development Department, WASH Division, email: [suvechhya.manandhar@nrccs.org](mailto:suvechhya.manandhar@nrccs.org)

## Contributors

Kiran K. Acharya (WASH Engineer), Sirjana Devkota (PMER Officer), Krishna Subedi (Program Coordinator), Kshitiz Acharya (WASH Coordinator), Ram Prasad Bhandari (Project Officer, Salyan), Shashiram Pun Magar (Motivator, Dailekh), Community Development Department, Disaster Management Department, Health Department, Junior/Youth Department and Humanitarian Values and Communication Department

## ✦ Beneficiary voice

### My gratitude to NRCS



Ram Yagya Bahadur B.K  
PC: Ram Prasad Bhandari, NRCS, Salyan

I, Ram Yagya Bahadur B.K. (40), am a resident of Darma rural municipality ward no. 6, Malikchatole, Salyan. Our community had been facing a high scarcity of drinking water as compared to other villages of ward no.-6. We had been long requesting rural municipality to construct a drinking water scheme but the budget allocated by the rural municipality was not quite enough to fully construct the scheme, so we were looking out for other potential options.

Out of our misery, we came to know that NRCS Integrated Community Resilience Project (ICRP), supported by the Finnish Red Cross has been started in our ward as well. With no delay, our community went to the ward office asking for the recommendation so that NRCS can co-fund the construction of our scheme as we already had some funds with us. Then after, our scheme was selected amongst other prioritized schemes.

We were quite excited as the process was carried out quite quickly than our expectations. We formed a inclusive water users' committee, roles and responsibilities were divided and NRCS provided the training on pre-construction of the water scheme. Altogether, 6,586 meters of pipeline and 80 taps have been constructed for 77 households, a school, a community health center and a playground. "I am very grateful to NRCS for providing access to safe drinking water to the community in their own yards."

## घरमा बस्दा कसरी स्वस्थ र व्यस्त रहन सकिन्छ ?

योग, ध्यान तथा प्रार्थना गर्नुहोस्

परिवारका सबै सदस्य मिली घरआँगन सफा गर्नुहोस्

साथी, इष्टमित्रसङ्ग फोन, सामाजिक सञ्जालबाट सम्पर्कमा रहनुहोस्

आफूलाई मन पर्ने रचनात्मक कार्य (चित्रकोर्ने, पेन्टिङ्ग, आदि) गर्नुहोस्

पुस्तक पढ्नुहोस्

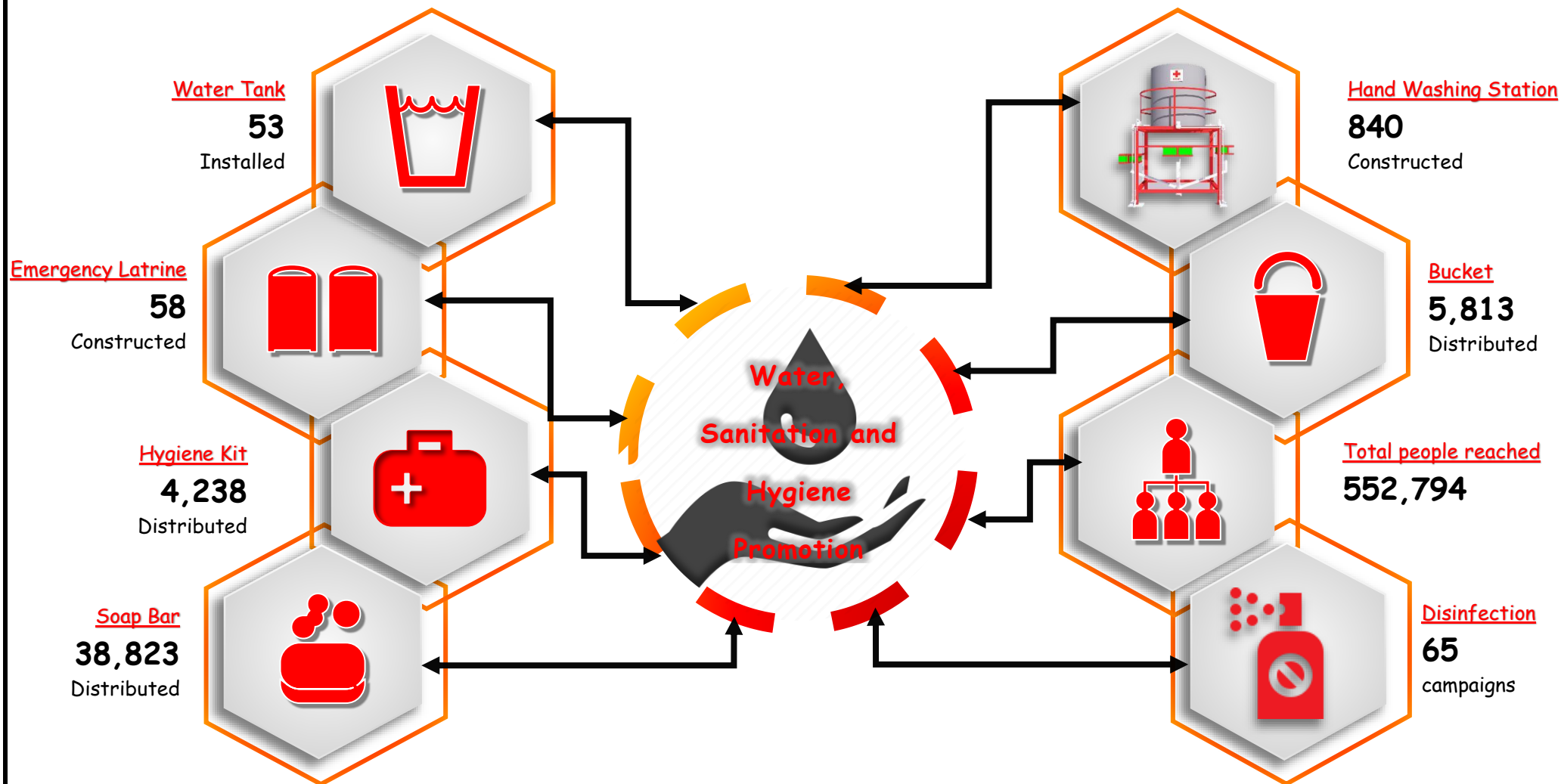
संगित सुन्नुहोस् । नृत्य गर्नुहोस् ।

बालबालिका र जेष्ठ सदस्यको कुरा सुन्नुहोस्

नेपाल रेडक्रस सोसाइटी

# WASH

## COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE OPERATION



Update as on 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2021

Source: [https://bit.ly/NRCS\\_COVID19\\_Dashboard](https://bit.ly/NRCS_COVID19_Dashboard)