



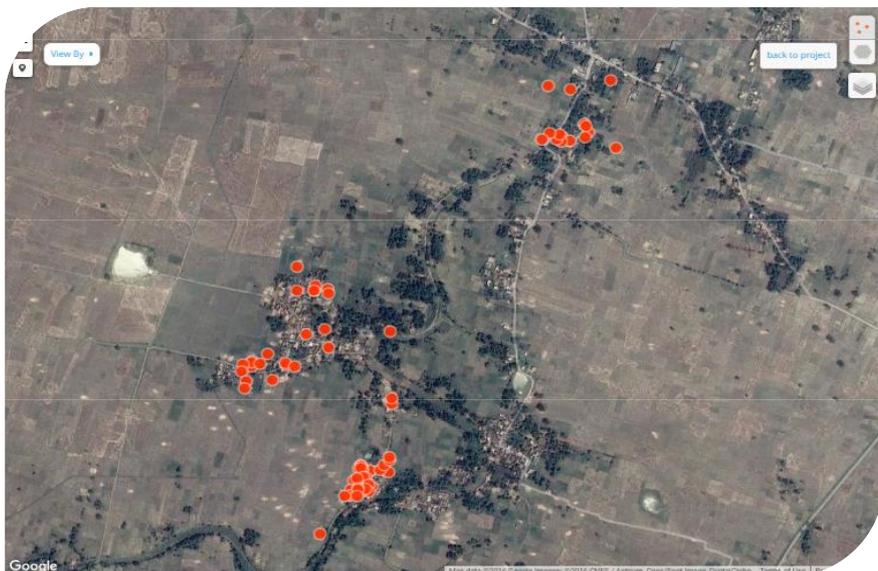
Sanitation and Change in a Year – Revisiting 217 households in Silautiya-1, Rupandehi District **RWSSP-WN BRIEF 10-2016**

WHAT DID WE STUDY?

In 2015, Silautiya Ward 1 was included in a large study conducted by RWSSP-WN II to verify whether the areas declared as Open Defecation Free (ODF) truly are ODF. The study, which was conducted in Western Nepal, covered 27 Wards in 19 VDCs and 4 municipalities of which 23 Wards were declared ODF. The total sample included 5,517 household observations.

Out of the study locations, Silautiya Ward 1 was revisited again exactly 12 months after the first study to see what had changed, to what extent the ward was now ready to be declared as 'ODF' and to move towards Total Sanitation, to explore how the change had happened and what were the success factors. The study contributes to further improvement of approaches and tools for sanitation promotion.

This Brief focuses on the results of one Ward alone, Silautiya, located in the Tarai plains of Rupandehi district.



Ward 1 of the Silautiya VDC, Rupandehi district

What did we ask?

- ➔ Had Silautiya Ward 1 changed enough to be declared Open Defecation Free (ODF)?
- ➔ What influenced the change?

This study was coordinated by Ms. Kalpana Dishwa, RWSSP-WN II, and analysed and written by Sanna-Leena Rautanen. The data was collected in June 2015 and again in June 2016. The complete report is available upon request from RWSSP-WN II.

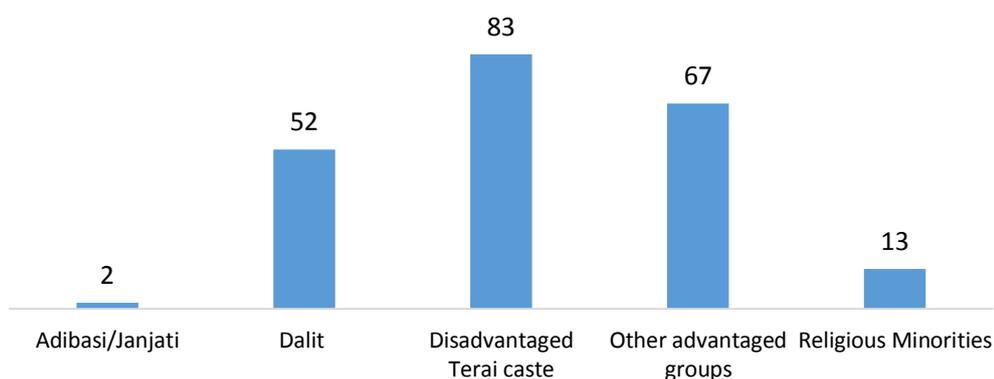
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WHAT WAS THE METHODOLOGY AND SAMPLE?

The study was made in Silautiya VDC Ward 1 in Rupandehi district. The location was selected for the large sanitation study in 2015 as it represents a Tarai plains VDC that was meant to be declared ODF in the nearby future. In Nepal, the Southern belt Tarai is considered as the most challenging environment from the sanitation point of view, partly because of the very high population density and population growth, mixed communities, and the presence of the Indian border. India is still subsidizing toilets – something that many people are still expecting also in Nepal.

In 2015, the sample “total number of households in the Ward 1” was 260, but in 2016 the number had reduced to 217 households. Interestingly, the number was significantly higher in 2015 when many households were still expecting a household subsidy for latrine construction. The perspective had changed in 2016 when it was clear that no latrine subsidy was going to be received but instead, the VDC WASH Coordination Committee (V-WASH-CC) set a punishment for those who would not complete their latrines on time for the ODF declaration. In 2015, the study was made through household surveys, and in 2016 the enumerators used smart phones and KoBo Toolbox application that allowed to map the findings for future reference. Figure 1 below shows the ethnic composition of the Silautiya-1 households.

Figure 1. Ethnicity and number of the studied households
N=217



Environmental sanitation counts! For many Tarai communities, drainage causes critical sanitation problem. Poor drainage as in these photos contaminate the shallow tube wells, and breed mosquitoes.

Management of solid and liquid waste, as well as animal waste, are the logical next steps towards Total Sanitation.

WHAT DID WE FIND OUT?

Do all households have a toilet?

Yes, in 2016 practically all households did have a toilet (Figure 2) and the remaining were under construction. It appeared that the V-WASH-CC would not need to apply any punishments at least in this ward. The change to the previous year is dramatic.

What kind of toilets?

Practically all who have toilets, have improved toilets. Out of these, majority (84%) are single-pit water pour (Sulabh) type of latrines, 9% are double pit, 1.8% septic tanks and 1.8% biogas toilets. In the future, sustainability may be an issue if the households will or cannot construct the second pit. Single-pit latrines will be challenging to empty.

Are the toilets used?

In 2015, the toilet use rate was very low, and in 2016 despite of the high toilet coverage, the rate lacks behind (Figure 3, see also next page)

To what extent Total Sanitation is evident?

Total Sanitation aspects as identified through observations do lack behind in surprisingly many ways (Figure 4). Even very simple items such as washing platforms and utensil drying racks are absent.

Figure 2. Households with toilet

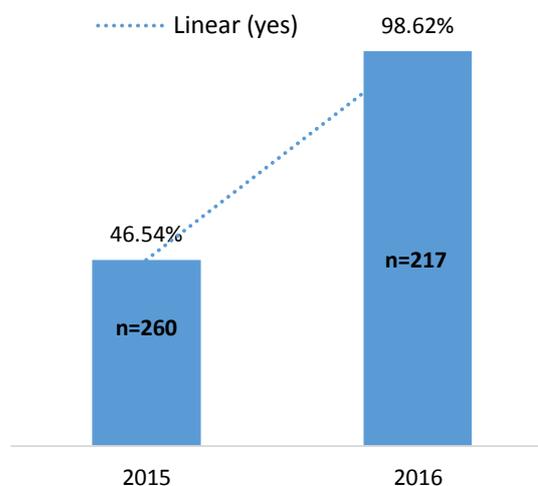


Figure 3. All family members use the toilet

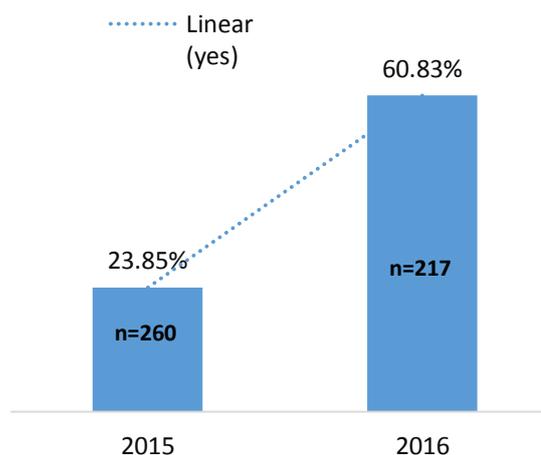
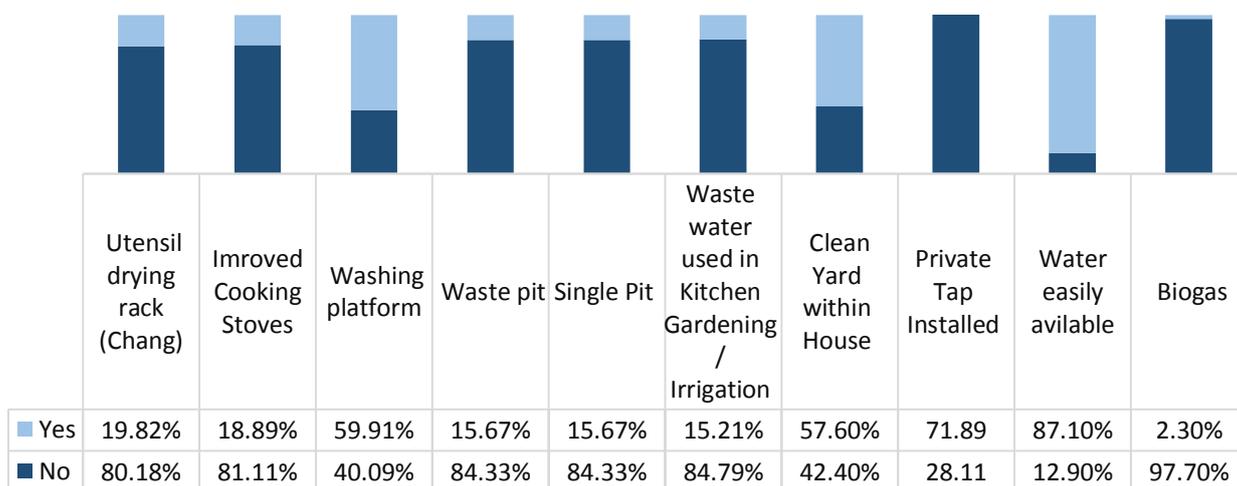


Figure 4. Households having Total Sanitation Facilities (%)
N=217



WHO IS NOT USING THE TOILET?

➤ Are the toilets used?

The use of toilets has improved compared to the situation one year before. Figure 3 shows that when in 2015 about a quarter (24%) used a toilet, in 2016 two-thirds (61%) do. This figure should be 100%: having a toilet must mean that it is also used and that everyone uses it!

➤ Who is not using?

The Figures 5 to 7 show the results and the change by the age group. In 2015, the usage was equally low across all age groups, but in 2016 the differences are clear. The biggest change is in the age group 5-59 where now practically all who have a toilet, use a toilet. Yet, in these households the small children are still not using the toilet, perhaps because their open defecation is not considered as a harmful issue.

➤ Are we missing some people out because of their age?

Figure 5 calls attention to the small children and their sanitation behaviour. Figure 7 indicates that the present approaches are not reaching the elderly who may also have entirely different thinking about priorities and behaviours.

Figure 5. Toilet used by under five year old family members

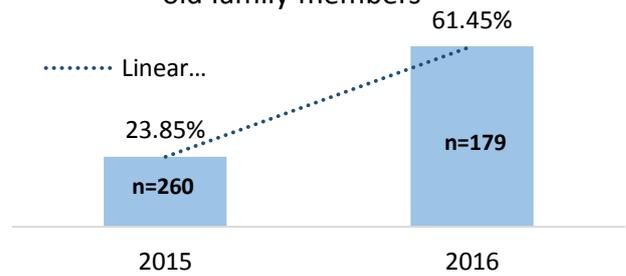


Figure 6. Toilet used by 5-59 year old family members

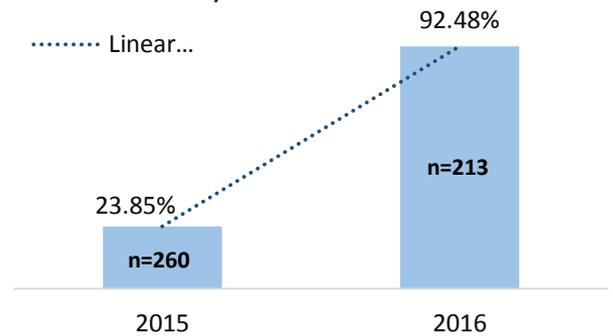
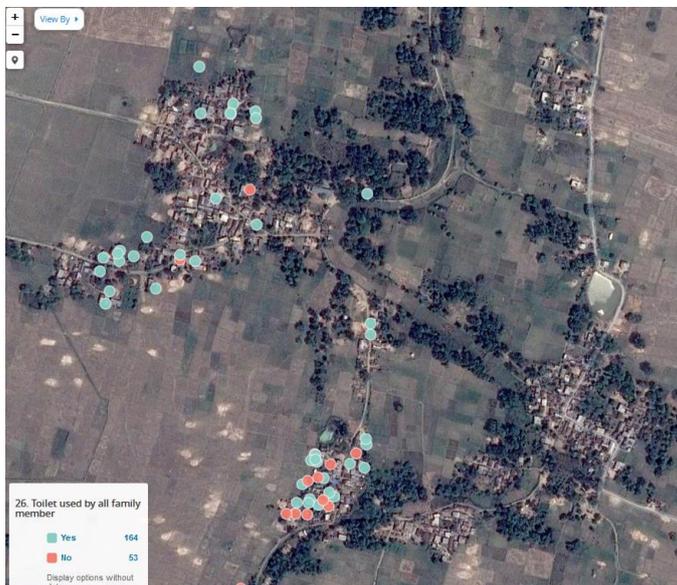
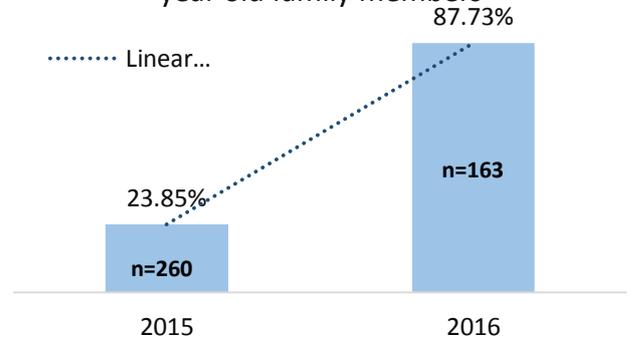


Figure 7. Toilet used by 60 or over 60 year old family members



Map showing the households where not all family members are using the toilet. Non-users must be revisited again!

HOW DID THE CHANGE HAPPEN?

➔ Support Persons (SPs):

Applied Four Strategic Approaches (See picture on the right).

➔ Village Development Committees (VDC):

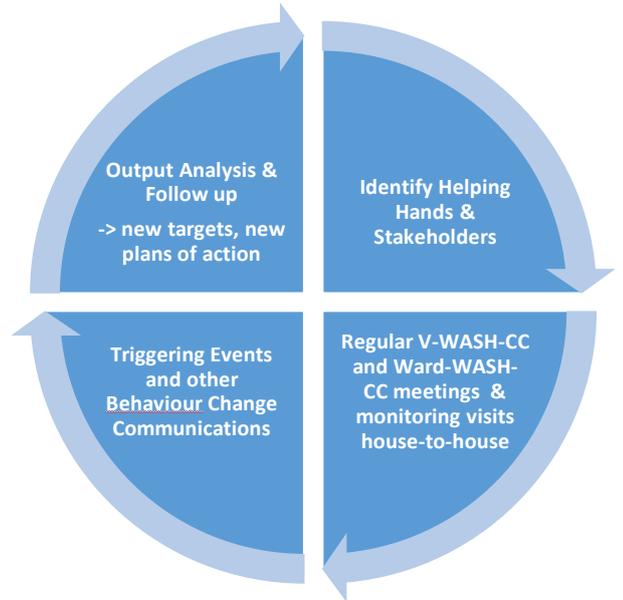
Community mobilization through advocacy and triggering events which received lots of attention by the community people. Lead Triggers were selected to work within their own communities and VDC.

Follow up at regular intervals from V-WASH-CC and jointly with D-WASH-CC.

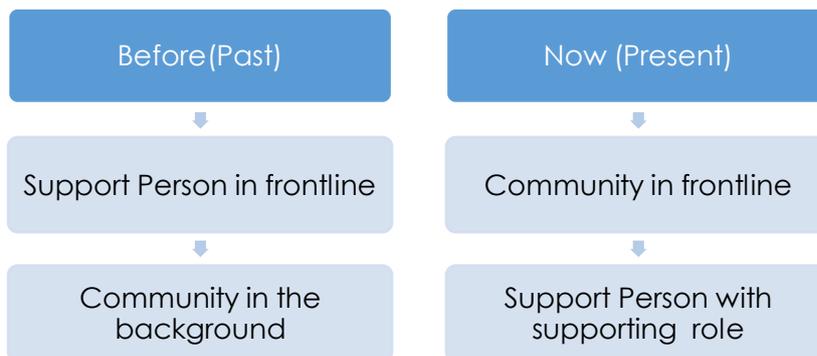
Sanctions and coercive power to those who are stubborn – this was applied only as the last option.

➔ Ward WASH Coordination Committee (W-WASH-CC):

Ward Citizen Forums (WCF) were strengthened to take the leading role in their corresponding wards. Activities were implemented through WCFs which formed Male groups (>20 people) with local members from different backgrounds such as local leaders, teachers etc. In Terai, men carry mostly the role of a decision maker and the head of a family and that is why it was important to activate local men to convince the community about the importance of sanitation. The male groups used male-to-male approach in ward-level household visits in order to spread information directly to the family heads.



Support Persons applied Four Strategic Approaches



SPs changed their working framework by stepping back themselves

WHAT ARE WE CONCLUDING? RECOMMENDING?

- ➔ Within all the 217 households of the ward, only three households had a toilet still under construction. This means Silautiya was ready to be declared ODF.
- ➔ The study findings strongly show that a change in sanitation can take place within a fairly short period of time if there is a joint effort in making the change happen. This means that the community itself prioritizes and participates in the change, for example by monitoring and visiting individual households one by one.
- ➔ The approach applied consisted mostly of households counselling and household level activities.
- ➔ We aim to follow up the case again 12 months after the Silautiya VDC ODF declaration. At that time, we will follow up also the Total Sanitation aspects of sanitation, perhaps adding another ward to cross-check ODF sustainability and Total Sanitation status.

DEFINITIONS

Open Defecation Free (ODF): “no feces are openly exposed to the air”. According to the Government of Nepal National Sanitation and Hygiene Master Plan (2011), collection of feces in a direct pit with no lid is considered as a form of open defecation, whereas a pit with a fly proof lid qualifies for ODF. The Master Plan sets the following criteria for ODF situation: 1) There is no open defecation in the designated area at any given time; 2) All households have access to improved sanitation facilities (meaning facilities that hygienically separate human excreta from human contact) with full use, operation and maintenance; and 3) All the schools, institutions and offices within the designated areas must have toilet facilities. Given the above definition and criteria, it is not obligatory for households to have fully permanent toilets in order to be declared ODF. The Master Plan does however suggest that toilets should have permanent structures at least up to the plinth/floor level.



In densely built communities there may not be room for a toilet within the housing compound itself. The toilets are built outside on common or public lands. These toilets are at risk of never getting completed, or becoming less used. At least two of the toilets in this photo do not have privacy – another reason for not being used.

REFERENCES & SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Dishwa, Kalpana (2016). Rapid Assessment on ODF verification of Siluatiya VDC, Ward 1 in Rupandehi District. Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project in Western Nepal Phase II (RWSSP-WN), Project Support Unit, FCG International, 10 p.

Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project in Western Nepal Phase II (RWSSP-WN) (2016). Sanitation Study Report Part I. RWSSP-WN Phase II Project Support Unit, FCG International, 45 p. Available from www.rwsspwn.org.np

Government of Nepal (2011), National Sanitation and Hygiene Master Plan.



RESULTS INDICATORS FOR RWSSP-WN II

This study relates to the RWSSP-WN II Purpose-level indicators 3 and 4, and Result area 1:

Purpose-level indicator 3: No one practices open defecation (all districts declared ODF)

Purpose-level indicator 4: All ODF districts have developed post-ODF strategy and ensured access to post-ODF support to their VDCs

Result 1 (Component 1): Access to sanitation and hygiene for all achieved and sustained in the project working districts.

- Indicator Result 1.1 # of VDCs declared ODF
- Indicator Result 1.3 # of Wards declared for having achieved total sanitation (wards within which each household complies with at least four out of five main TBC criteria as listed in the National Sanitation and Hygiene Master Plan)

Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project in Western Nepal Phase II is a bilateral development cooperation project funded by the governments of Nepal and Finland, and implemented through local governments and users' groups under the Department of Local Infrastructure Development and Agricultural Roads (DoLIDAR), Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development. RWSSP-WN II works in 14 districts in Western and Mid-Western development regions in Nepal.

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