



# SEMI-ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT FY06

## 2075/76 – CY2018/19 (17.7.2018-15.1.2019)

### BRIEF 2-2019



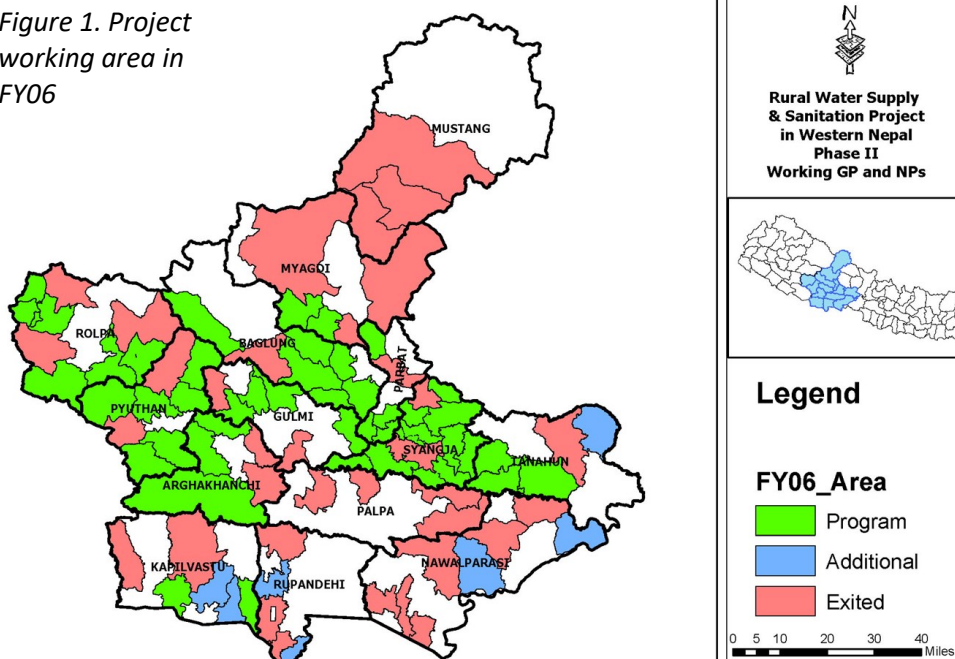
Ministry for Foreign  
Affairs of Finland

FCG

#### SUMMARY

This Brief presents the RWSSP-WN Phase II Semi-Annual Progress Report for the first half of the sixth Fiscal Year (FY06). It covers the six-month period of Nepali FY 2075/076 (July 17, 2018 to January 15, 2019). Semi-annual report focuses on short-term progress and completion of planned activities, and reports whether the project implementation is on track compared to the plans. It presents the progress of both the programmes funded through the Municipality WASH Units (M-WASH Units) and their Municipality WASH Funds (MWFs), and the work funded through Technical Assistance (TA) accounts. This is the last year of the Project, the target being that all programmes shall be completed and cleared by the end of May 2019.

Figure 1. Project working area in FY06



Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project in Western Nepal Phase II (RWSSP-WN II)

Project duration: 09/2013-09/2019

#### Project stakeholders:

- Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Government of Finland (GoF)
- Ministry of Finance, Government of Nepal (GoN)
- Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFaGa)
- Department of Local Infrastructure (DoLI)
- Municipalities (both *Gaunpalikas* and *Nagarpalikas*)
- Technical Assistance (TA) consultant: FCG International (Finnish Consulting Group Ltd.) [www.fcg.fi](http://www.fcg.fi)

**Implementation:** Municipality WASH Units & Municipality WASH Funds

**Report type:** Semi-Annual Progress Report

**Prepared by:** Project Support Unit (PSU)

**Submitted:** January 31, 2019

**Report distribution:** Public

## OVERALL OBJECTIVE

RWSSP-WN II works for improved health and fulfilment of the equal right to water and sanitation for the inhabitants of the project area through a decentralized governance system.

## THREE RESULT AREAS

**Result 1.** Access to sanitation & hygiene for all achieved and sustained in the project working municipalities

**Result 2.** Access to safe, functional & inclusive water supply services for all achieved and sustained in the project working municipalities

**Result 3.** Strengthened institutional capacity of government bodies to plan, coordinate, support and monitor the Water Users and Sanitation Committees and other community groups in the implementation, operation and maintenance of domestic water, sanitation and hygiene programmes in a self-sustainable manner

## WORKING AREAS FY06

**Western Development Region:** Arghakhanchi, Baglung, Gulmi, Kapilvastu, Myagdi, Parbat, Syangja & Tanahun

**Mid-Western Development Region:** Pyuthan & Rolpa

**Province 4:** Baglung, Myagdi, Parbat, Syangja, Tanahun & Nawalparasi East

**Province 5:** Arghakhanchi, Gulmi, Kapilvastu, Rupandehi, Pyuthan & Rolpa

The number of district was reduced from 14 to 10 at the start of FY06. Yet, with additional funding from GoF both Rupandehi and Nawalparasi districts are back in the programme from February 2019 onwards.

## OVERALL PROGRESS

The final year is on the track as far as the original Red Book budget and related work plan is concerned. Table 1 below summarises the progress against the targets as set in the Annual Work Plan FY06. **Annex 1** shows the semi-annual progress since FY01 for all indicators, **Annex 2** for the active schemes and **Annex 3** for the capacity building events held during the reporting period.

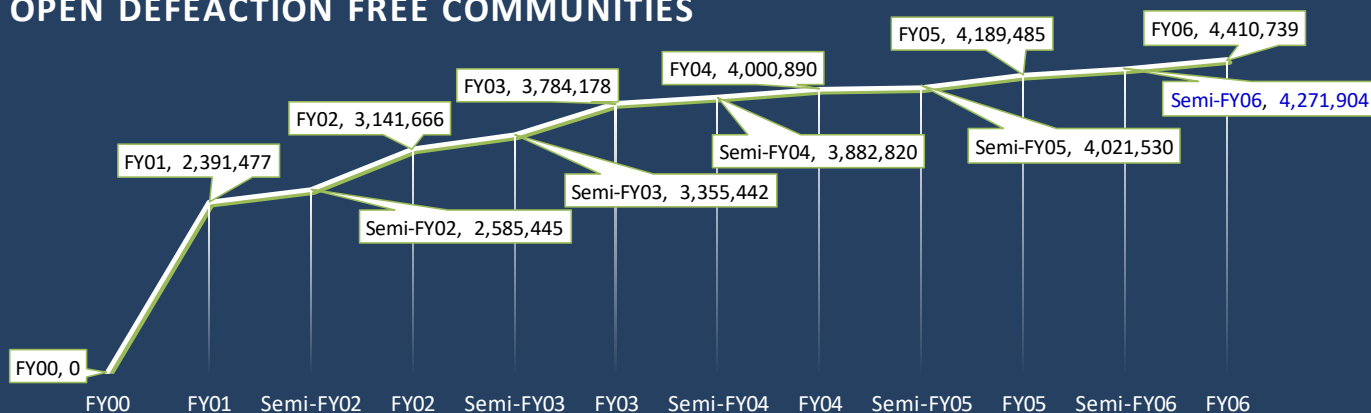
Table 1. Cumulative progress against targets and results indicators	Cumulative Semi-FY06	Semi-FY06 Achievement (target in AWP FY06)	Phase II Targets
150,000 people benefit from access to improved water supply	183,955	8,972 (35,386)	210,000 *Original 150,000
Beneficiaries from post-construction supported schemes (schemes with WSP++)	169,246	12,675 (43,429)	200,000
More than 250,000 people benefit from capacity building activities	311,775	13,705 (28,432)	326,500 *Original 250,000
R1.1. # Open Defecation Free environment	4,271,904 population, 82,419 direct beneficiaries since FY05	1 wards 884 HHs and 5,304 beneficiaries	All declared ODF; 5 Wards remain in Kapilvastu district
R1.2. # of institutions/schools/public spaces toilets with access to hand washing	240	0 (2)	242 *Original 220; no new PIS in FY06
R1.3. # of households declared for Total Sanitation	30,412	9,503 (39,915)	50,000
R2.1. # of water supply schemes apply a Water Safety Plan with CCA/DRR components	428 schemes; 81% of schemes with WSP++	46 (149)	90% of gravity, lift and overhead tank schemes in Program municipalities.
R2.2. # of WUSCs inclusive and capacitated to provide sustainable services.	Out of 581 WUSCs*, 91% registered with statute; 90% have O&M Plan; 89% collect water tariff; 97% have Village Maintenance Worker/Pump Operator; 72% have gender balance and 63% have both gender and ethnic balance AND a woman in a key position.  * Gravity, overhead tank and lift scheme WUSCs in Phase II new; Phase I Carry Over; Phase I Improved and Phase I schemes that have received post-construction support in Phase II		
R2.5. # of schools and institutional/public locations have safe and functional water supply with accessible water points to all users	346	54 (80)	420 *Original 300

## RESULT 1 AREA PROGRESS: SANITATION & HYGIENE

13 out of 14 RWSSP-WN II working districts are declared Open Defecation Free (ODF). Of these Rupandehi district was declared ODF during the reporting period (21.12.2018). The remaining district Kapilvastu is well on track but the concerns on true ODF, i.e. use of toilets by all family members at all times, remains a challenge. Total 5,304 people benefitted from the new household latrines directly in the Project working area. As part of the completion process, the Project is currently verifying the status and geotagging the location of all 580 Public, Institutional and School toilets constructed since RWSSP-WN Phase I. There should be no new public toilets being constructed anymore, yet, two are still lagging behind from the previous year. Local ownership and with that, future sustainability, remain challenges.

Chart 1

### BENEFICIARIES IN 14 DISTRICTS OPEN DEFECTION FREE COMMUNITIES



## TOTAL SANITATION

During the reporting period **total 9,503 new households with over 57,000 people fulfilled Total Sanitation criteria**, i.e. all indicators as described in the Nepal National Sanitation and Hygiene Master Plan.

The Total Sanitation programme was continued together with the water supply schemes, funded by the municipalities alone.

### THEORY MEETS PRACTICE AT HARINAS RURAL MUNICIPALITY, SYANGJA DISTRICT

Ms. Jhan Maya Parajuli, Vice-Chairperson, Harinas Rural Municipality, Syangja district, was one of the participants in the national Dignified Menstruation Day Program in City Hall in Kathmandu on 28 May 2018, the trip sponsored by RWSSP-WN. She was inspired by the event, and requested the Project to facilitate a Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) session to 23 schools in her municipality. The 3 days training covered total 23 schools (basic to secondary) with their 38 teachers and 78 students. The agenda included both theory and practical reusable pad-making. The participants were happy with the event, first of its kind ever for them. A local tailor is planning to take the reusable pad making a step further in her local business, too. The further product development continues.

*Case Box by Ms. Kalpana Dishwa, B.Sc. in Nursing (Community health), working as the Field Specialist in RWSSP-WN; facilitated the events.*



Photo 1. Practical session at the MHM training in Harinas, Syangja district.

With the availability of additional funds from the Government of Finland, the Total Sanitation activities can be scaled up again as a programme of its own right over the remaining months.

This is needed for the sustainability of ODF achievements as it is evident that it is not only in Tarai where not all households have permanent toilets or not all are using their their toilets.



## WSP TRAINING

During the reporting period, RWSSP-WN II started WSP++ Training impact surveys. As of 21.1.2019, total 12 water schemes participated in the survey, including 12 women-only and 12 men-only group interviews, with one group interview with the entire WUSC. The survey data are collected from Baglung, Gulmi, Parbat, Pyuthan and Syangja districts.

In general, women WUSC members answered that landslide, flood water, surface water, source depletion, road construction, less funds in their account, lime problem in water source, and open defecation are the risks which may affect their water scheme in the future. In addition to the above, the men's groups added that lighting and water turbidity are other important risks.

The surveys will continue until March 2019 as part of WSP++ trainings, this case box presenting some preliminary findings.

*Case by Ms. Bishnu Gurung, WSP++ Engineer who during the reporting period trained also the Gorkha Welfare Scheme staff in Eastern Nepal in WSP++*

## RESULT 2 AREA PROGRESS: WATER SUPPLY

The cumulative number of water supply beneficiaries in Phase II is 183,955.

In total with the recharge ponds, there are 136 active construction schemes going on at the end of January 2019.

Chart 2 shows where the 598 schemes of Phase I and Phase II are in the Sustainable Development Goal indicators. The main limiting factor is the 'services in the premises'; in the chart less than 5 minutes go-fetch-return is considered to be on premises or on plot. Total 238 Phase I and II water schemes have private connection, serving 118,142 people.

Chart 3 shows the beneficiaries of the Phase II new water supply schemes, and Chart 4 the cumulative progress since the first year of the RWSSP-WN Phase II.

The Phase II reached its original target of 100,000 water supply beneficiaries already on its 4th year, and with the additional funding the target was increased to 150,000. It now is likely that 214,000 will be reached if all on-going schemes can be completed.

Chart 2

SDG Water services indicators & 598 RWSSP-WN schemes

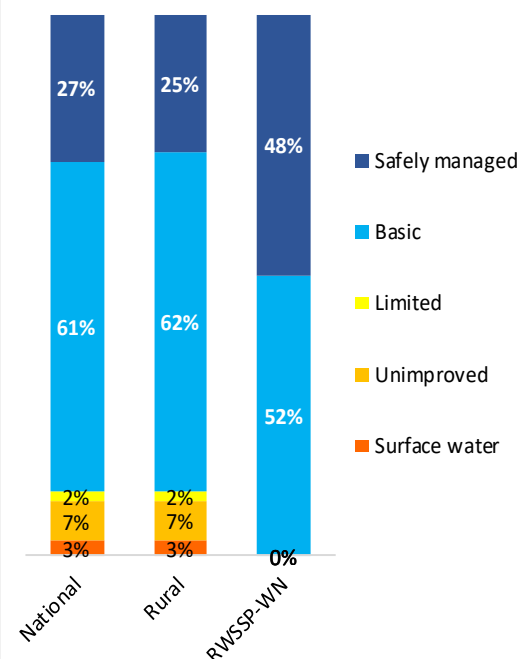


Chart 3 N - 183,955

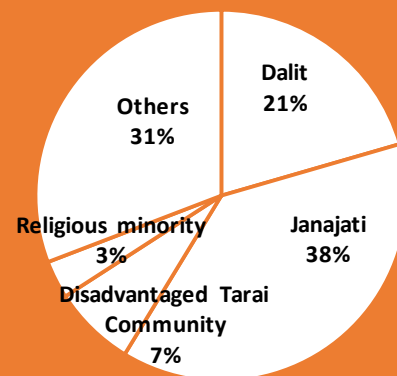
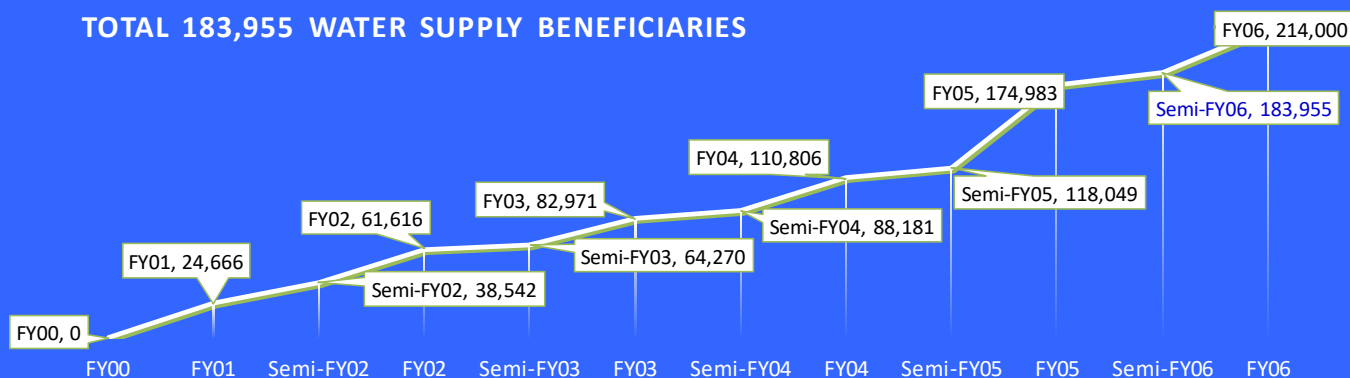


Chart 4 RWSSP-WN PHASE II  
TOTAL 183,955 WATER SUPPLY BENEFICIARIES





## RESULT 3: CAPACITY BUILDING

There were total 337 capacity building events with total 13,629 participants during the reporting period. Only those events where participant lists were collected (i.e. event included such as lectures and discussions), are reported in the participant figures. Of all participants, 52% were women and 48% men. Out of all events, 60% were according to the Step-by-Step, the participants being mainly WUSC members.

One-third (28%) were sanitation and hygiene related, mostly funded fully through the municipalities own resources. The remaining were days celebrations: World Toilet Day, World Disabled Day, and Global Handwashing Day events. In Putalibazaar and Fedikhola Municipalities in Syangja district, the Municipality WASH Units organized also Gender Violence Day events. With the additional GoF funding, capacity building programme can be geared up again, focusing on Water Safety Plans and Total Sanitation.

## EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES TO TRAINING

Chart 6

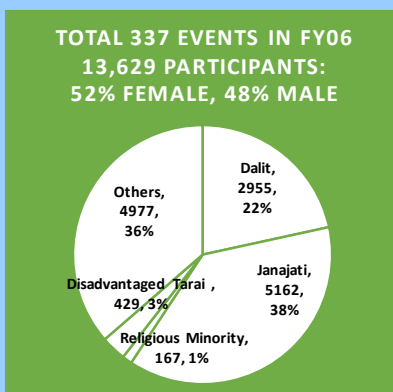
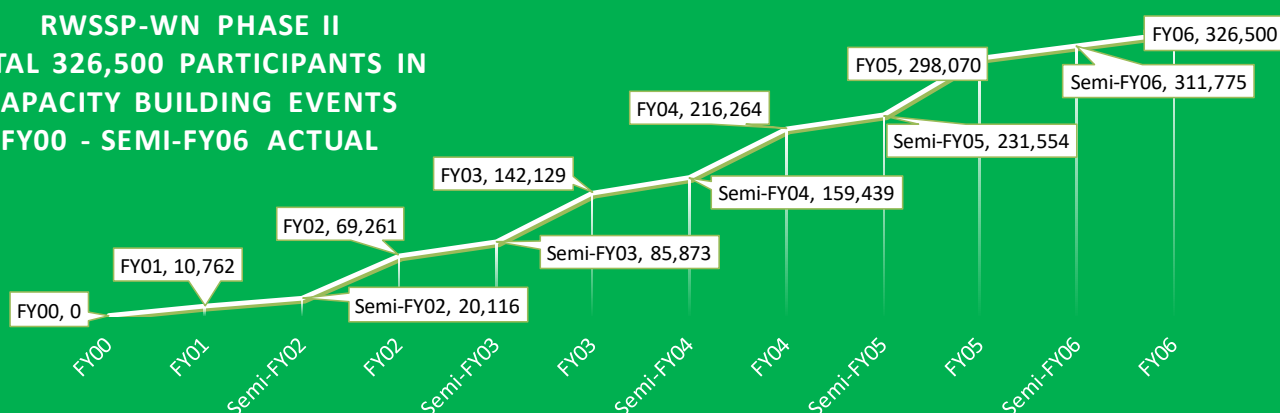


Chart 5

**RWSSP-WN PHASE II**  
**TOTAL 326,500 PARTICIPANTS IN**  
**CAPACITY BUILDING EVENTS**  
**FY00 - SEMI-FY06 ACTUAL**



## HUMAN RESOURCES

At the end of the reporting period, the National Long Term Experts' team has been reduced to two Specialists and eight District WASH Advisors. There is only one International expert, the contract of the Field Specialist ended in early November 2018. There are also one WSP++ Engineer, one WSP++ Facilitator, the National Field Specialist and four Technical Facilitators funded through the TA Monitoring & Evaluation budget.

## FINANCIAL RESOURCES

The total FY06 budget as entered by PCO into LMBIS is NPR 179,052,000 (EUR 1,378,016 with rate EUR:NPR 125), this including the costs related to Project Coordination Office in Pokhara and DoI Secretariat in Kathmandu. Together with the municipalities contributions, the total annual budget is NPR 189,477,200. During the reporting period the additional EUR 500,000 funding to the Municipality WASH Funds from the Government of Finland has been in the process. The process was completed only January 27, 2019. The time is now running out, and it is highly unlikely that all EUR 500,000 (NPR 60,000,000) can be utilized and cleared within the next three months. Considering GoN, GoF and municipalities budgets with the GoF additional funds, *52% of the budget has been released, the actual expenditure is 54% of the released and 28% of the budget.* All GoF Red Book budget has been requested and released to the municipalities WASH Funds (MWFs). By the end of CY2018, all GoF budget through MWFs was requested and released.

## Municipality WASH Fund monitoring during the reporting period

- 1) Maharajganj Municipality, Kapilvastu on 10.01.2019 (26 Poush075).
- 2) Suddhodhan RM, Kapilvastu on 11.01.2019 (27 Poush075).
- 3) Shitganga Municipality, Arghakhanchi on 13.01.2019 (29 Poush075).
- 4) Bhumikasthan Municipality, Arghakhanchi on 14.01.2019 (30 Poush075).

The MWF Monitoring is highly important activity during the remaining period. Final MWF monitoring to all 50 municipalities should be

## CROSS-CUTTING OBJECTIVES: CCA & DRR

Climate change adaptation (CCA), mitigation and preparedness, as well as Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) are important cross-cutting objectives both for Nepal and Finland. In RWSSP-WN, these are embedded into Step-by-Step approach. They are first considered in the Planning Phase Feasibility Study. If the scheme is feasible, WUSC is formed and receive orientation to operation and maintenance (O&M) and Water Safety Plan ++ (WSP++) as part of the WUSC Preparatory Workshop. WUSCs familiarize with concepts of climate change, natural hazards, water safety and spring-shed management in a practical way. This helps WUSCs to identify potential risks and come up with solutions. After the orientation, necessary improvements are made in the scheme design before starting its implementation. Later in the Post-Construction phase WSP++ is introduced again if not already integrated into O&M Plan.

*For more: Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction in the Work of RWSSP-WN, RWSSP-WN Brief 13-2018*

**At the time of semi-annual reporting, the Project had provided post-construction support to 385 water schemes with 171,810 beneficiaries. Total 436 schemes received WSP++ training, 246 schemes received training in CCA/DRR, 398 schemes have organized O&M related training that in many cases is about WSP as well, and 87 received post-construction investment support to take action, mostly for source protection and other DRR related works.**

## CHALLENGES FOR THE REMAINING PERIOD

There are 137 active construction schemes as of 31.1.2019. Some were affected by the delays in releasing GoN contributions from the District treasuries; some because of the late approval of the Annual Work Plan which resulted in also the GoF funds being available only from November onwards. At the time of submitting this report, the Municipalities are finalizing the annual work plans considering the GoF additional funds and their own related matching funds. The Ministry of Finance, Nepal, made the GoF additional funds available for the municipalities 27 January, 2019. **Time** is now the critical factor.

### Studies & Visibility in FY06

Total 42,281 visits from various parts of the world at our web-site [www.rwsspwn.org.np](http://www.rwsspwn.org.np) since 20.12.2015, of which 8,276 over Calendar Year 2018.

#### Articles in the Rural Infrastructure Journal (SERDEN):

1. Sanna-Leena Rautanen; Min Basnet & Kalpana Dishwa: *Developing Municipality WASH Plan for Harinas Rural Municipality, Syangja district*
2. Aura Liski & Min Basnet: *Improving spring source yields in the Nepali mid-hills – research, best practices and systematic follow-up wanted*
3. Sanna-Leena Rautanen; Pamela White, Sangita Khadka & Kalpana Dishwa: *Menstruation, WASH and Why it Matters*
4. Chandra Bista & Bipin Poudel: *Terai Sanitation: Challenge and Solution*
5. Sanna-Leena Rautanen; Tej Ojha; Bashu Dev Pandey & Bishnu Gurung: *Lifting water for the unserved - but for how long? Functionality of 100 Lift Schemes in RWSSP-WN*

#### FY06 Brief-series available at [www.rwsspwn.org.np/briefs2018](http://www.rwsspwn.org.np/briefs2018) & [/briefs2019](http://www.rwsspwn.org.np/briefs2019)

6. RWSSP-WN Brief 10-2018: *Lift water schemes functionality - Learning from 100 schemes*
7. RWSSP-WN Brief 11-2018: *Tube well scheme functionality - Learning outcomes of RWSSP-WN II*
8. RWSSP-WN Brief 12-2018: *Annual Progress Report FY05 \**
9. RWSSP-WN Brief 13-2018: *Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction in the everyday work of RWSSP-WN*
10. RWSSP-WN Brief 1-2019: *Municipality WASH Plan Case Harinas, Syangja district*
11. RWSSP-WN Brief 2-2019: *Semi-Annual Progress Report FY06 \**

#### 6<sup>th</sup> International Dry Toilet Conference - Dry Toilet Conference 2015 – Solutions. August 22-25, 2018, Tampere, Finland:

12. Sanna-Leena Rautanen: *Wicked Open Defecation – Contemplations from Nepal*
13. Min Prasad Basnet: *Sustaining sanitation movements generating livelihoods for low income households*
14. Bipin Poudel: *Revamping the Sanitation Ladder: Need of a separate EcoSan ladder*

#### Article in an international peer reviewed scientific journal:

15. Rautanen, Sanna-Leena & White, Pamela (2018) Portrait of a successful small-town water service provider in Nepal's changing landscape. *Water Policy* 20:84–99. doi: 10.2166/wp.2018.006

*\* Not counted as 'studies' in Table 1*