

Completion Report
on
Policy sensitization of good practices on Solid Waste Management Project (SWMP)

Submitted to

Prepared by

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1) Background and Rationale:

NCCR is a consortium partner from Nepal to implement the Research Project entitled “Challenges of municipal solid waste management: Learning from post-crisis governance initiatives in South Asia”. NCCR is implementing the project in Nepal. In the past 2 years very interesting and innovative practices of the solid waste management have been observed at local level. Local households manage the waste at source by using 3R principle’ (reduce, reuse, and recycle). They produce less, segregating degradable and non-degradable wastes. The organic or the degradable waste has been managed by using composting that reduces up to 75 percent of the wastage. The remaining 25 percent inorganic or the non-degradable waste is taken out of the house. Out of the 25 percent waste collectors pick up for commercial purpose (to collect and sell the irons, plastics and other reusable). So, only few wastes are disposed in landfill sites. The households have also started new practices of making meals in more regulated manners that reduce the production of waste. They store the kitchen waste (mostly peels of fruits and vegetables) in a separate container or in flower pots to make compost.

City dwellers have started to segregate waste coming from their houses, shops, industries, mill factories, businesses and offices, into organic and inorganic waste. However, these novel practices have to disseminate in the wider scale, which is only possible by creating public awareness and mobilizing media is one of the best options to reach these local practices to policy community.

2) Objectives:

Main objective of this small project is to sensitize policy and decision makers to scale up the good practices in municipal solid waste management and finally contributing to the SDG6 and other SDGs

3) Description (including SDGs addressed):

This project directly contributes to the SDG 6 (Water and sanitation) and complements to other SDGs like SDG1, 2, 3 and 5. The main idea of this project is to extract good practices from the research, organize a panel discussion inviting federal level policy makers and planners, province level policy makers and local government representatives, local stakeholders and researcher in a national television to discuss these successes and ways of scaling up in wider level across the country. It will be moderated discussion and the moderators will ask the policy makers how they can take these successes in the policy and planning so it will be institutionalized. Once they make commitment at mass media it will exert pressure for them to take the issue further and local stakeholders make follow up. The most important in this action project is to extract few key messages/successes and purchase appropriate time of one of the national televisions for a round table to disseminate the findings.

4) Timeline of Activities:

This will be a 1-2 months very small project of few thousand rupees. Most common activities are extracting key messages from the completed research by Dr. Ghale and working with a journalist from the Neitizen Media Private Ltd. to organize round table discussion and dissemination and report reporting.

5) Issues of Solid Waste Management

5.1) Policy related concerns:

1. Strengthening local government not addressed adequately in terms of legal arrangements, institutional provisions and technical soundness;
2. Strengthening coordination among federal-provincial-local levels as well as local governments-waste producers-landfill sites related stakeholders including local communities;
3. Lack of monetary and other benefits to the victims of waste disposals;
4. Inadequacy of waste disposal technologies and equipment;
5. Narrow political understanding of waste management;
6. Non-compliance of waste related conflict management in a proper way;
7. Gap in alignment of conceptual and procedural aspects of federal-provincial-local level policies; and
8. Non-prioritization of capacity building, monitoring, and evaluation by federal, provincial and local governments.

5.2) Gender related concerns:

1. Women in SWM chain and their stake in terms of participation, representation and voice to influence decisions;
2. Women responsive safety measures specially during Covid-19 pandemic;
3. Recognition and supporting women led institutions in formal contractual collaboration with municipalities for waste management; and
4. Women's participation in decision making in terms of landfill sites selection, waste segregation, disposal and product diversification for employment and income for livelihoods.

5.3) Inter-sectoral collaborations:

1. Collaboration within the infrastructure, environment and agriculture sectoral units within the municipalities such as establishment of housing code of conduct for greenery, urban farming, terrace farming etc.;
2. Collaboration between municipalities and Agriculture Knowledge Centers (AKCs) in decomposable waste management for composting and safe production; and

3. Information sharing and knowledge exchange in making use of subsidies, collaborate for trainings, use of durable products for farming etc.

5.4) Federal context:

1. Federal government has three major roles such as i) policy guidelines; ii) technological support; and iii) funding. In this context, vision of federal and provincial planning commission's on waste management is still a big concern;
2. Capacity of three tiers of government in waste management;
3. Institutional mechanisms at the federal level to provide framework and support to province and local governments; and
4. Innovative approaches taken up by the local governments in waste management.

5.4) Management of hazardous waste:

1. Holistic vision of federal, provincial and local governments in management of overall waste specially of hospital related wastes;
2. Long term impact of hazardous waste in environment, water, animal and aquatic bodies like fish, drinking water sources;
3. Impact on forest plants due to chemical mixtures;
4. Exposure to and health hazard of waste segregators; and
5. Community participation, role of government and private sectors in managing hazardous wastes.

5.6) Role of private sectors:

1. Vision of government to mobilize private sectors in waste management;
2. Formal mechanisms for private sector mobilization and level of their presence (international, national, local companies); and
3. Capacity of private sector in waste management e.g. transport, protective gears, technical knowledge, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), regularization of payments.

6) Main issues delivered in the TV show (see report in the annex 1 below):

A) Context:

- Federalization and institutional mandates: unclarity of mandates specially of policy such as Planning Commission outlook and institutional framework to execute policies with human resources;
- Inter-sectoral collaborations: The local palikas has the mandate to manage wastes; function as one window system for all sectoral services such as physical

infrastructure, environment, agriculture etc. with technical supports from technical agencies such as AKCs;

- Major actors: emerging roles of private sectors; individual entrepreneurs; social entrepreneurs such as CFUGs and municipal collaborations; and development partner interests to support in SWM.

B) Issues:

- Role of women workers: women are indispensable actors in the SWC, however their roles being inadequately recognized, represented, transformed and valued e.g., skill enhancement for waste based enterprising e.g. CFUGs, WGs, Waste management
- Visibility and formalization of women lead institutions: women in municipal decision-making structures, coop of waste women workers but not included in formal contracts by municipalities, targeted benefits to women-led SWM based enterprises
- Women responsive supports: specific concerns such as COVID impacts and responsiveness such stigmatization, livelihoods challenge, lack of women responsive safety gears
- Inter-sectoral connections: Women led business and provisions e.g. Rooftop farming, Chandan Fiber
- Women participation/representation in federal mechanisms e.g. Planning Commissions, Municipalities etc.

C) Evidences:

- Survey results
- Voices/verdicts from actors
- Negative impacts on settlements, water, forest
- Pandemic, joblessness, stigmatization
- Public debate and voices

D) Way forward:

- Inter-sectoral cooperation/collaboration/coordination
- Mandatory contractual arrangements e.g. women cooperatives
- Link with enterprising groups for waste-based skills
- Subsidization for waste chain management and safe production
- Budget provision

Annex 1: Report on TV show from Neitizen Media Private Ltd.

Completion Report

**Challenges of municipal solid waste management:
Learning from post-crisis governance initiatives in
South Asia to produce and broadcast TV Programme**

Submitted To

NCCR

Shobhahiti, Lalitpur

Submitted By:



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1. Background

“Challenges of municipal solid waste management: Learning from post-crisis governance initiatives in South Asia” is being implemented in Nepal by NCCR. In the past 2 years very interesting and innovative practices of the solid waste management have been observed at local level. Local households manage the waste at source by using 3R principle’ (reduce, reuse, and recycle). They produce less, segregating degradable and non-degradable wastes. The organic or the degradable waste has been managed by using composting that reduces up to 75 percent of the wastage. The remaining 25 percent inorganic or the non-degradable waste is taken out of the house.

Netizen Media partnered with NCCR in this assignment to produce TV programme and broadcast it via national television based on municipal solid waste management. Netizen Media identified, selected and invited the guests (Dr. Yamuna Ghale, Research Director of NCCR) based on their expertise in the subject matter. At the meantime the Netizen Media also invited local government representatives (Mr. Ramesh Maharjan, Mayor of Kirtipur Municipality, Basanta Adhikari, Joint Secretary of MoFAGA) for their views and ideas regarding the matter. The television programme was broadcasted via Sagarmatha Television on 21st January 2022. Netizen Media runs its own television programme named Sankalpa which airs every Friday at 8:30 P.M. and is re-broadcasted on Saturday 10:30 A.M.

2. Format of the Programme

The programme was interview show. There was remote interview conducted with the guest regarding the subject matter. Joint Secretary of Ministry of Federal Affair and General Administration, Basanta Adhikari and Information officer of Ministry of Forest and Environment, Navaraj Pudasaini gave the interview to Netizen Media remotely and presented their research and findings regarding solid waste management in Kathmandu.

Other two guests were present in the studio of Netizen Media to express their valuable ideas and views regarding solid waste management. Dr. Yamuna Ghale, Research Director of NCCR and Mr. Ramesh Maharjan, Mayor of Kirtipur Municipality was present during the interview. They expressed the plans and policy of Nepal government regarding solid waste management and the present situation of it.

3. Key issues of the Discussion

Dr. Yamuna Ghale spoke from the technical perspective while Mr. Ramesh Maharjan spoke from his experience regarding Kirtipur Municipality. Joint Secretary of Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration, Basanta Adhikari and Information officer of Ministry of Forest and Environment, Navaraj Pudasaini shared their perspective and plans from the government's side.

Dr. Ghale revealed that this research is done in India, Sri Lanka and Nepal. Private sector, education institute, NGOs and various researchers collaborated for this research. She expressed that there is high women participation in solid waste management. According to her, household waste management is good but public and communal waste management can be significantly improved. She emphasized on Reuse and Reduce policy of waste alongside segregation of the waste at home and lack of long-term planning and study from government. She also expressed in lack of collaboration amongst different government agencies and different tier of government in waste management.

Mr. Ramesh Maharjan who is also the mayor of Kirtipur Municipality shared his experience and the activities organized by the local government to manage the waste. According to him only 6 tons of waste is sent to landfill site from Kirtipur Municipality which is almost 50% less than before. He also emphasized on how support from different government agencies and all tier of government in technical and financial level can significantly improve the waste management. He also expressed how there should be national plan from federal government to manage the waste.

4. Dissemination of the Programme

The programme was disseminated through Sagarmatha Television and promoted through social media.

Dissemination: The programme was disseminated through Sagarmatha Television via Sankalpa program on 21st January 2022, Friday at 8:30 P.M. and it was re-broadcasted on 22nd January 2022, Saturday at 10:30A.M.

Promotion: The program was promoted and posted in the YouTube channel of Netizen Media and online news portal of Netizen Media as well as email was circulated about the program.

5. Link to the Episode

For full episode visit this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rczd-9ikip4>

Photographs

