



Rural Water and Sanitation
Project in Western Nepal Phase II
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INSTITUTIONALIZATION AND UPSCALING THE MUS APPROACH IN WESTERN NEPAL?

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II

INTERNATIONAL MUS WORKSHOP

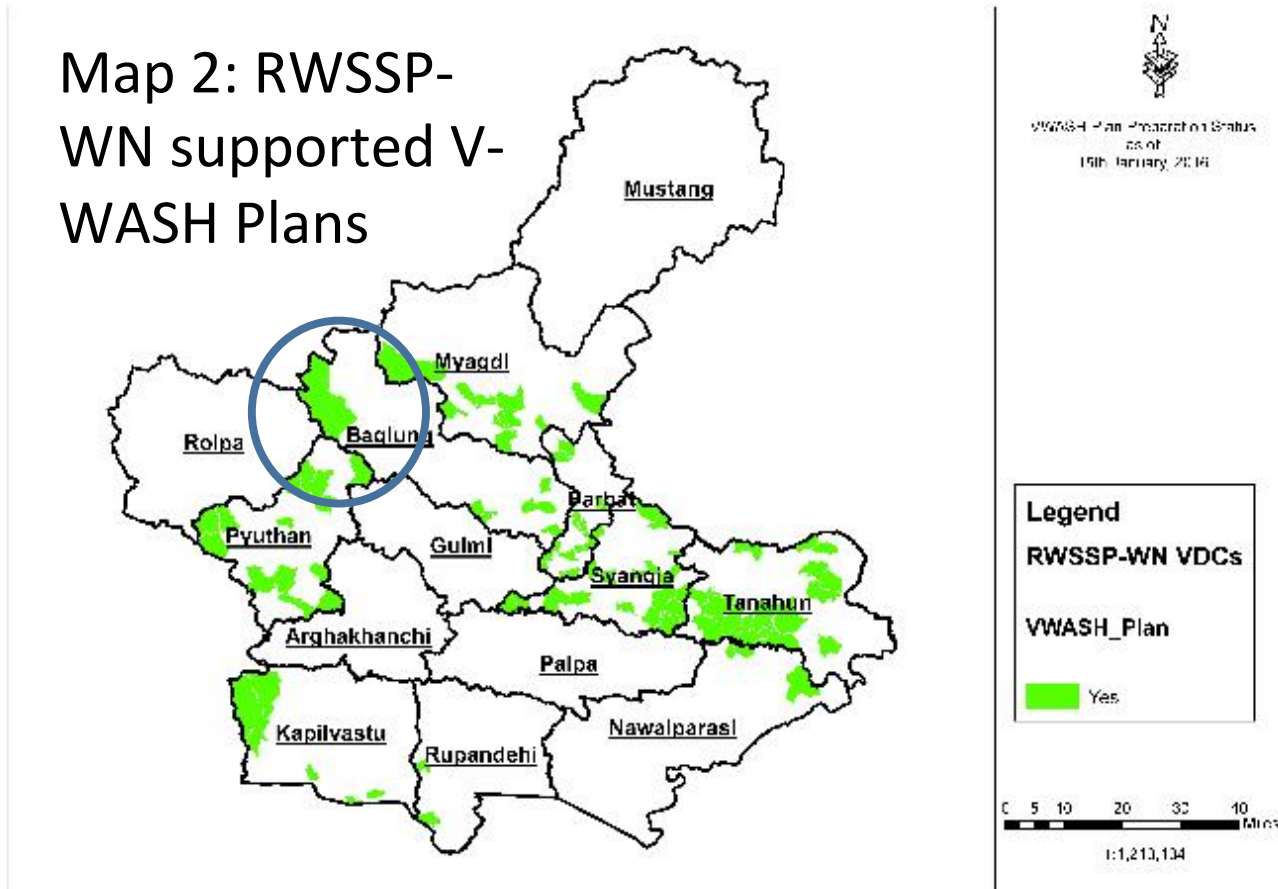
Kathmandu, 25-26 February, 2016



Background to RWSSP-WN II

- Case Nishi VDC, Baglung
[1 min video clip](#)

Map 2: RWSSP-WN supported V-WASH Plans





Introduction

- Focus on intermediate level → local governance & decentralized context
- Focus on local governments, strategic planning, capacity development & community support
- Important for scaling up: embedding MUS into local (government) planning cycle





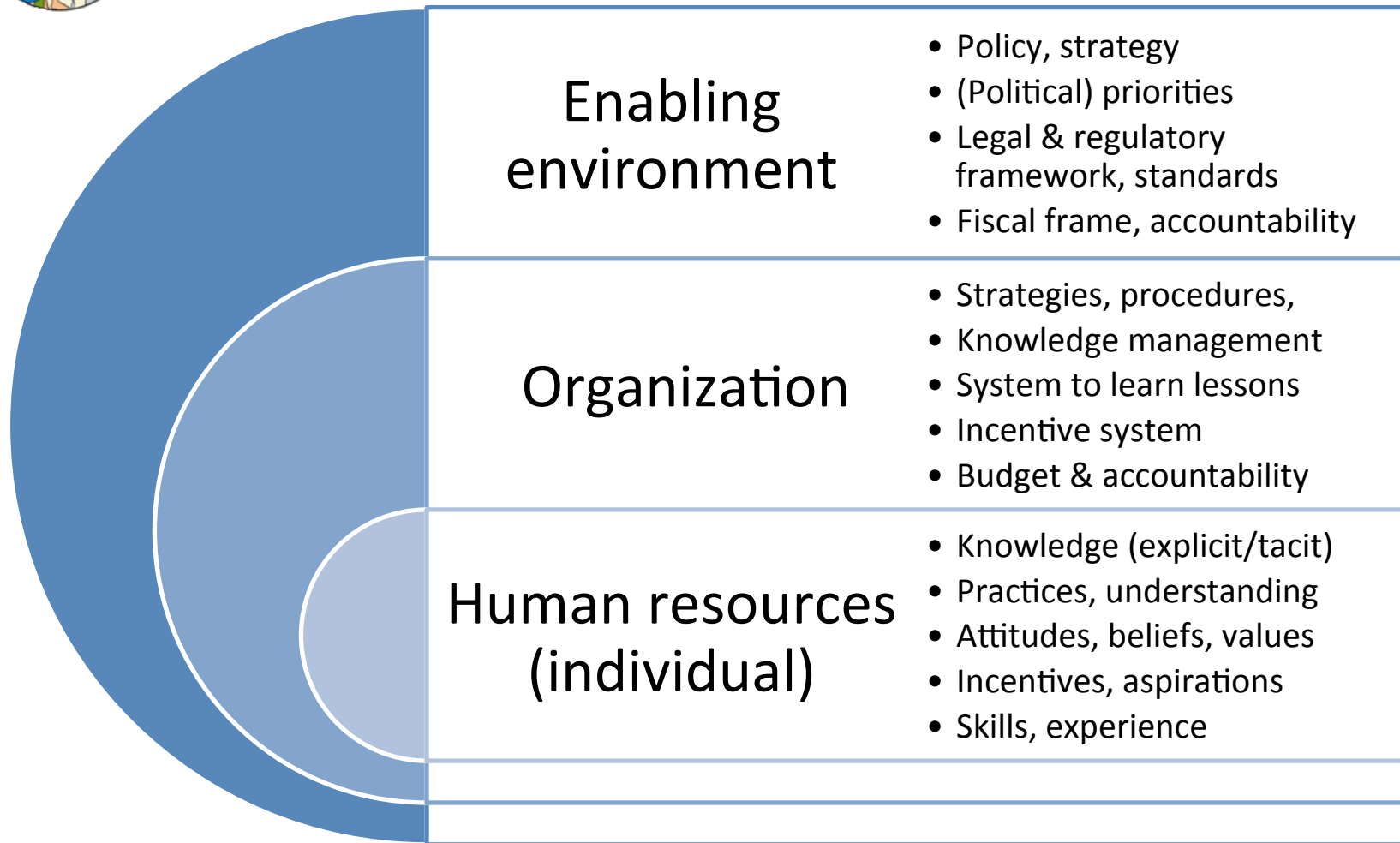
Methods

- Based on interviews & survey amongst the staff & district stakeholders (N-22, total 20 statements)
- Qualitative analysis
- Study done in bi-lateral water project RWSSP-WN II (www.rwsspwn.org.np)
- Study area: Western development region





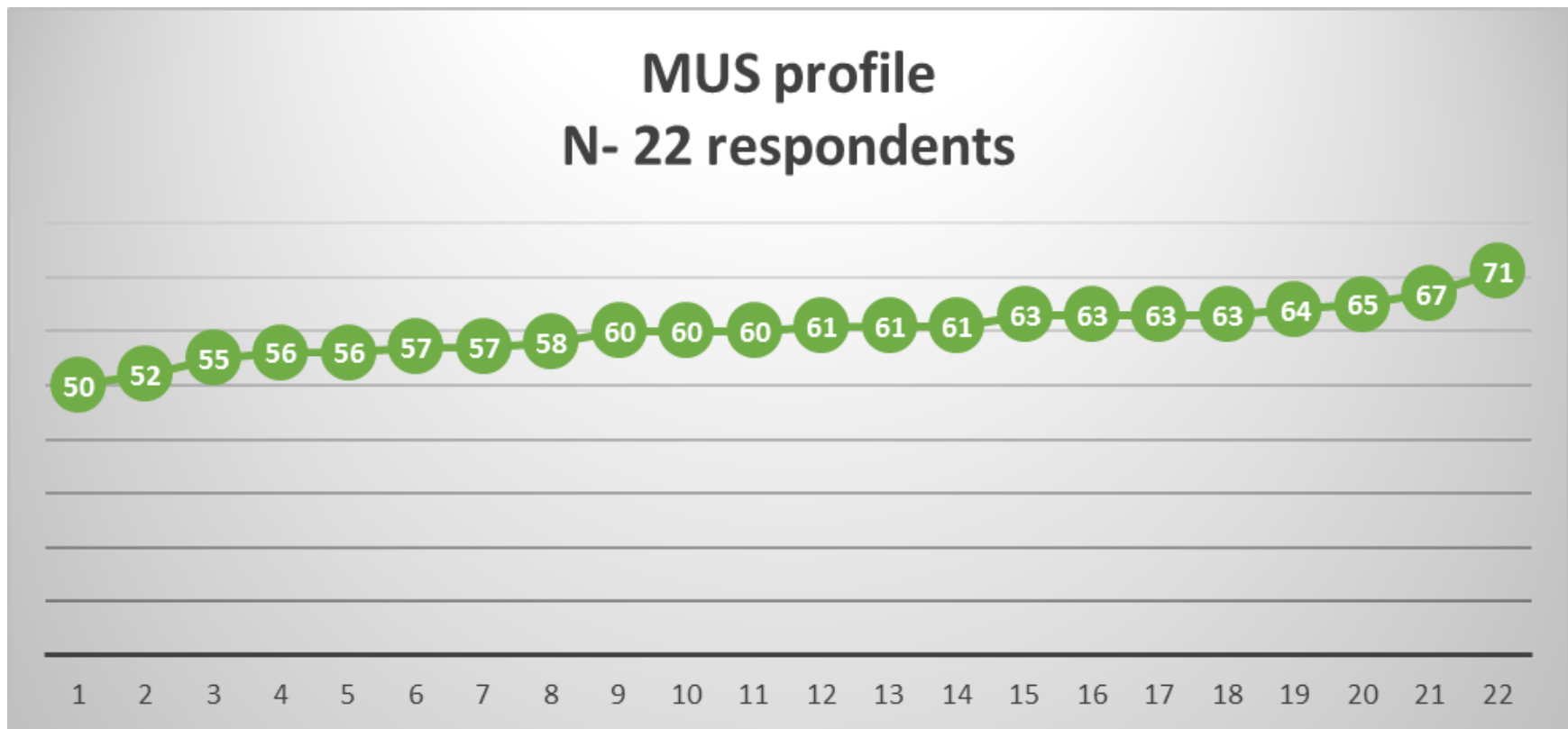
Frame of reference





MUS Optimists?

“MUS Optimist” respondent would have scored 5 for each strongly MUS optimistic statement -> max 100.





Results: Enabling environment

- Strategy: 60% agreed that RWSSP-WN II is offering MUS option actively
- Priorities: 82% “there is demand for MUS in communities at present”
- Standards: 68% “technical standards are not a problem”
- Financial: 50:50 whether District Development Fund budget headings limit budgeting for MUS





Results: institutional

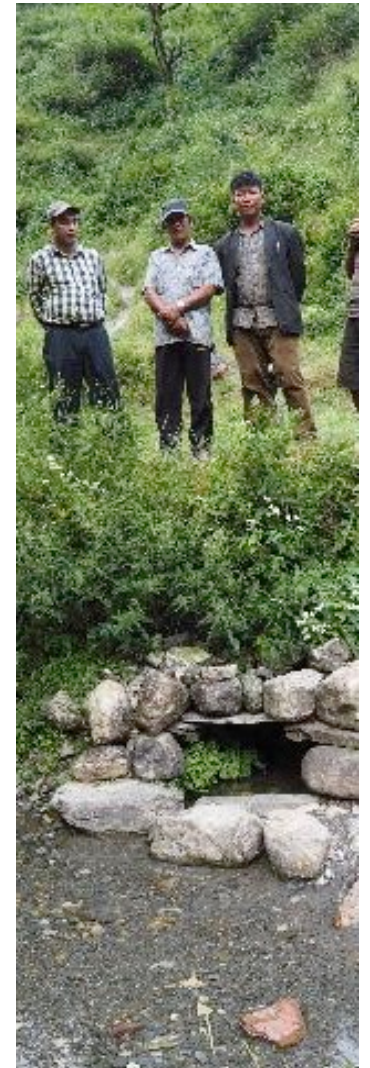
- Procedures: 50% “MUS is not complicated to report”
- 77% MUS is “technically complicated to design”
- Incentive system: we are not sure about incentives for WUSCs -> 50% undecided, 30% agreed
- Budget & accountability: 63% “per capita cost is not a problem”





Results: human resources

- Knowledge: 50:50 “local government stakeholders (DTO, DWSSDO) do know about MUS”
- Practices: 82% “Communities use water for multiple-uses anyway, MUS would be a natural option”
- Incentives: 50% undecided!
- Skills, experience: 45% “We have skilled staff in district who can design MUS and give guidance to communities accordingly”







Conclusions

- Enabling environment: MUS choice needs to be made ‘easy’, not something rare that needs “a lot of explaining”
- Institutions: Cross-sectoral context adds complexity – livelihoods opens up many options. Does it help WUSC?
- Human resources: Capacity at all levels counts! Critical mass of aware & skilled people needed, both those who can plan & mobilize, and those who can design & implement





Conclusions

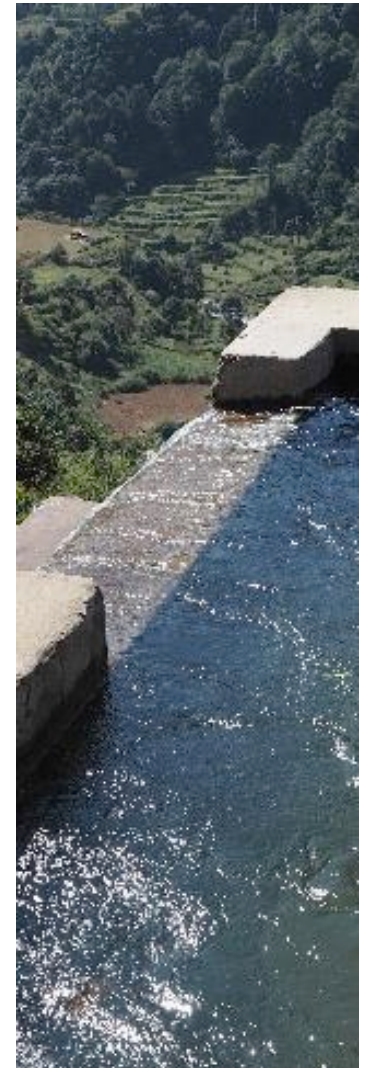
- Is there a demand for MUS in the communities? Yes!
- Are we truly promoting MUS as an option? Somehow...
- Are our various stakeholders aware of MUS options? Which ones? Community-scale? Unclear!?
- Are we aware ourselves? Can we climb water ladder if we do not know what it looks like? Conceptually still vague





Recommendations

- Time for MUS to become part of the regular options, not only a pilot curiosity
- Technical design standards for MUS
- MUS schemes need to be one of the options, not something exceptional that needs a lot of explaining ->
- MUS awareness targeting intermediate level planners:
 - MUS = a range of options & applications
 - MUS = can be only marginally more expensive
 - MUS = technically not necessarily complex





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