



 SNV/Paul Tyndale-Biscoe (CS WASH Fund MERP)

# Water for Women: Nepal

Improving the health, equality and wellbeing of communities with *Beyond the Finish Line*: inclusive and sustainable rural water supply services in Nepal

Access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) is essential to health and wellbeing.

Water for Women is partnering with SNV Netherlands Development Organisation to deliver *Beyond the Finish Line* to reach an estimated 20,600 people with inclusive and sustainable rural water supply services in Nepal.

Gender equality and social inclusion are central to Water for Women. Actively involving all people within communities (women, men, marginalised groups, people with disabilities) ensures more equitable and inclusive processes, which lead to more effective and sustainable outcomes in WASH.

Water for Women is the Australian Government's flagship WASH program and will be delivered over five years from 2018 to 2022.

Partnering with

**SNV** **UTS** Institute for Sustainable Futures

Sanitation Water Hygiene

Benefiting an estimated **20,600** people



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## Beyond the Finish Line: inclusive and sustainable rural water supply services in Nepal

The Australian Government is committed to delivering effective and sustainable WASH access. Water for Women will contribute to Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG6), water and sanitation for all.

Approximately one quarter of Nepal's population lives below the poverty line and the country suffered a major setback in 2015 with the earthquake causing significant damage to existing infrastructure.

Development outcomes in WASH are improving at different rates for different groups. With the outmigration of men to cities and foreign countries, the demography is highly skewed and rural villages are populated predominantly by women, children, older people, and people with disabilities.

Access to basic water supply is 87.4%, however out of the 41,205 rural water supply schemes:

- Only 26% are fully functional
- 45% require repair
- 29% need to be rehabilitated or require a new system

Nepal's new constitution creates a strong foundation for an inclusive society, ending all forms of discrimination, and aiming for equal outcomes for people from all origins, identities, and conditions.

The benefits of improved, safe access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) are clear. Not only does access to WASH prevent disease and death, but it also has profound, lasting socio-economic impacts on a community and its ability to prosper, particularly for women and girls.

*"Through Water for Women, we have the opportunity of realising the commitment of the new constitution of Nepal for gender and socially inclusive development processes and outcomes and achieving the human right to water"*

- Ms Nadira, Khawaja, SNV Nepal WASH Sector Leader

*Beyond the Finish Line* will support opportunities and benefits in WASH for everyone in the community, with its emphasis on gender equality and social inclusion.

The project aims to develop inclusive and resilient water supply services and hygiene behaviour change communications in households, schools and health care facilities in the two target districts.

Expected benefits by 2022 include:

- 40,000 additional people with access to basic water supply;
- 30 additional institutions (health facilities, schools) with access to basic water supply;
- 40,000 additional people practicing handwashing with soap;
- 10,000 additional students practicing handwashing with soap;
- 2,000 additional female students practising safe menstrual hygiene management at school;
- 500 additional people with disabilities with accessible WASH facilities at home.



Water for Women is proud to be partnering with SNV Netherlands Development Organisation and other partners: Institute for Sustainable Futures, University of Technology Sydney and the Ministry of Water Supply and Sanitation together with the National Federation of Disabled in Nepal and CBM Australia.



Research Partner

*Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in WASH*



Research Partner

*Water Supply and Gender*