



The 13th National Groundwater Symposium

19 March 2025, Janakpurdham, Nepal



Proceedings of the 13th National Groundwater Symposium Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Development and Management of Groundwater in Nepal

Organized by



Proceedings of the
13th National Groundwater Symposium

**Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable
Development and Management of Groundwater in
Nepal**

Hotel Mithila Yatri Niwas, Janakpurdham, Madhesh Province,
March 19, 2025

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The organizers of the 13th National Groundwater Symposium extend their gratitude to all participants, presenters, and distinguished guests for making the event on “Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Development and Management of Groundwater in Nepal” a great success. We sincerely acknowledge the invaluable support and collaboration of our partners and institutions whose commitment was instrumental in achieving the objectives of the symposium.

Special thanks are extended to the Water and Energy Commission Secretariat (WECS); Ministry of Energy, Irrigation and Water Supply (MoEIWS); Madhesh Pradesh; WaterAid Nepal; International Water Management Institute (IWMI) Nepal; Welt Hunger Hilfe (WHH) Nepal; Sabal Nepal; UNICEF; and Smart Phone for Water- Nepal (S4W Nepal). We also gratefully recognize the collaboration of the Center for Applied Research and Development (CARD); Kurita Water and Environment Foundation (KWEF); Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Thailand; and the Interdisciplinary Centre for River Basin Environment (ICRE), University of Yamanashi (UY), Japan, as well as the support and coordination of local governments.

Our appreciation goes to the Organizing Committee, Technical Committee, and office staff of the organizing institutions for their dedication and effort in ensuring the smooth conduct of the symposium.

Finally, we thank all participants for their active engagement and valuable insights during the sessions. We look forward to your continued collaboration in advancing sustainable groundwater management in Nepal and to meeting again at the next symposium.

Organizers

Center of Research for Environment, Energy and Water, Nepal (CREEW)

The Small Earth Nepal (SEN)

Kathmandu Valley Water Supply Management Board (KVSMB), Government of
Nepal

PREFACE

The 13th National Groundwater Symposium on “Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Development and Management of Groundwater in Nepal” was held on March 19, 2025, in Janakpurdham, as part of the Nepal National Glacier, Water, and Weather Week (NNGWWW) 2025. The event brought together experts, policymakers, researchers, and community representatives to address the growing groundwater crisis in Madhesh Province and explore sustainable management approaches.

Since its inception in 2009, the National Groundwater Symposium has become a key platform for sharing research, fostering policy dialogue, and promoting collaboration among government agencies, academic institutions, and development partners. This year’s symposium emphasized the urgency of science-based, coordinated, and community-driven actions to counter groundwater depletion, recharge decline, and increasing extraction pressures in Nepal’s Terai region.

The discussions and panel sessions underscored the importance of bridging gaps between policy, research, and practice, advancing data-driven groundwater management, and strengthening inter-governmental coordination. The symposium reaffirmed Nepal’s commitment to sustainable groundwater governance and called for collective action toward ensuring water security and resilience for future generations.

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Center of Research for Environment, Energy and Water, Nepal (CREEW)

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A. Introduction

1. Background

Groundwater, while often unseen, is a critical component of the global freshwater supply. It represents the largest source of liquid freshwater on Earth, accounting for approximately 99% of all liquid freshwater resources¹. This substantial reserve constitutes about one-third of the world's total freshwater (excluding ice caps and glaciers)². It plays a vital role in supporting human populations and ecosystems and provides drinking water for an estimated half of the world's population, especially in rural areas lacking centralized water distribution systems³. Furthermore, approximately 25% of the water used for irrigation relies on groundwater sources⁴. Beyond its direct uses for human consumption and agriculture, groundwater sustains baseflow in rivers, supports vital ecosystems, and holds cultural significance for many communities worldwide. It also plays a crucial role in regulating both water quantity and quality.

Nepal has recognized the increasing importance of groundwater resources, particularly in the face multiple stressors such as climate change, urbanization, increasing population, and impacts on surface water availability⁵. This recognition has led to active engagement in groundwater management discussions, exemplified by the annual National Symposium on "*Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Management of Groundwater Resources in Nepal*." It was initiated in 2009 by the Center of Research for Environment, Energy, and Water (CREEW) and The Small Earth Nepal (SEN), the symposium has become a key platform for stakeholders to address groundwater-related issues⁶. Over the years, the symposium has garnered support from a diverse range of organizations, including:

- **Agencies from the Government of Nepal**
Kathmandu Valley Water Supply Management Board (KVWSMB), Groundwater Resources Development Board (GWRDB) (formerly), Water and Energy Commission Secretariat (WECS)
- **Universities/Academic and Research Institutes/Centers**
Center for Water Resources Studies (CWRS)/Institute of Engineering (IoE)/Tribhuvan University (TU), Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Thailand, Interdisciplinary Center for River Basin Environment (ICRE), University of Yamanashi, Japan
- **International NGOs**

¹ <https://www.unesco.org/reports/wwdr/2022/en>

² Margat, J., & Van der Gun, J. (2013). *Groundwater around the world: a geographic synopsis*. Crc Press.

³ M. Smith, K. Cross, M. Paden, P. Laban (Eds.), Spring – Managing Groundwater Sustainably, IUCN, Gland, Switzerland (2016), [10.2305/IUCN.CH.2016.WANI.8.en](https://www.iucn.org/10.2305/IUCN.CH.2016.WANI.8.en)

⁴ UN World Water Development Report 2022: <https://bit.ly/40HLwsX>

⁵ <https://dwri.gov.np/un2023waterconference/Position-Paper.pdf>

⁶ <https://www.creew.org.np/groundwater-symposium/>

WaterAid Nepal, International Water Management Institute Nepal (IWMI Nepal), Kurita Water and Environment Foundation (KWEF), Japan

- **Research-based NGOs**

Environment and Public Health Organization (ENPHO), SmartPhone4Water Nepal (S4W-Nepal)

The symposium provides a crucial forum for policymakers, water managers, researchers, academics, and entrepreneurs to exchange knowledge and discuss solutions related to groundwater policy, planning, management, research, and technology.

The Groundwater Symposium is held annually under the umbrella of the Nepal National Water and Weather Week (NNWWW), led by the WECS and supported by various national and international organizations. NNWWW coincides with UN World Water Day and World Meteorological Day (March 22nd and 23rd, respectively). From 2025 onwards, the NNWWW has included the World Glacier Day marked on 21 March. So, it has been named NNGWWW.

The symposium's focus has evolved over time:

- **2009-2013:** Local focus on groundwater in the Kathmandu Valley.
- **2014-2023:** National focus on groundwater issues.
- **2024:** Expanded to include a regional perspective.
- **For 2025:** While retaining its national focus, the symposium strengthens engagement with local and provincial governments and for the first time held outside of Kathmandu, engaging stakeholders at the municipal level.

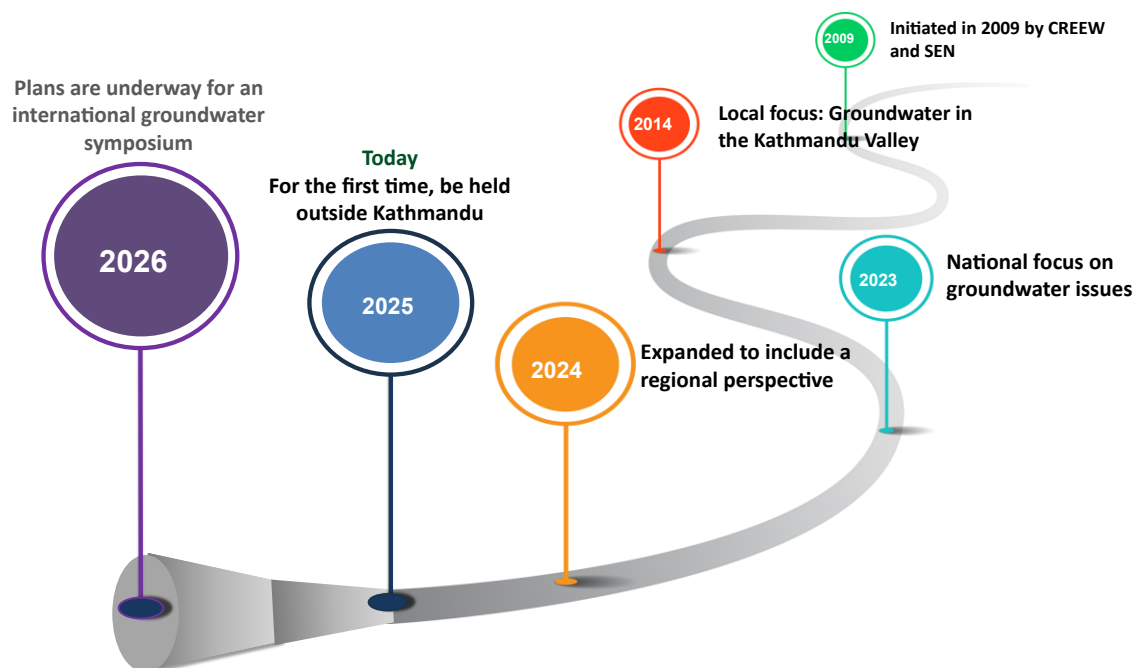


Figure 1: Evolution of the National Groundwater Symposium

This year's symposium, held in Madhesh Province, aligned with World Water Day 2025's theme on Glacier Preservation and placed a special focus on the declining groundwater levels in the Terai region. The symposium hosted 116 participants, including policymakers, researchers, and community representatives. While female participation was relatively low, their contributions were significant.

2. The Urgency of Groundwater Security: Why the Symposium in the Terai Region?

The Terai region of Nepal, a lifeline for agriculture and drinking water, heavily depends on groundwater resources⁷. Groundwater depletion, arsenic contamination, and industrial pollution continue to threaten the health and livelihoods of millions in the Terai⁸. Uncontrolled deforestation and extraction activities in the Chure region are disrupting the water cycle, leading to a decline in groundwater levels both locally and in the lower plains, as evident in the Kamala River basin, where groundwater depth increased from 2.4 meters in 2008 to 7.2 meters in 2015, reflecting the broader regional impact on groundwater⁹. A study conducted in Siraha District revealed that groundwater levels in boreholes had started to decline in certain areas, especially in the northern Bhabar Zone, emphasizing the localized challenges within the larger regional context. Despite this decline, 88% of the groundwater in the Terai region that could be sustainably abstracted based on annual recharge remains untapped, presenting a significant opportunity for increased groundwater utilization¹¹.

Groundwater levels in the Terai fluctuate by about 3 meters annually and remain generally stable over the long term, but a decline in seasonal variation suggests that changing rainfall patterns – characterized by fewer rainy days and higher intensity – are increasing surface runoff and reducing percolation to the water table¹². Despite abundant groundwater resources, water scarcity in many parts of the Chure and Bhabar regions of Madhesh Province is exacerbated by over-reliance on irrigated agriculture, with groundwater failing to meet growing demand in many areas due to deepening water tables, rising population density, and seasonal droughts, particularly in rural settlements where deep tube wells are costly and often

⁷ Understanding Groundwater for Proper Utilization and Management in Nepal: <https://publications.iwmi.org/pdf/H039311.pdf>

⁸ Water scarcity and excess: water insecurity in cities of Nepal: <https://doi.org/10.2166/ws.2023.072>

⁹ Singh, D. (2016). A study of the effect of Chure degradation on water: A case of Kamala Basin in Nepal (Briefing Paper No. 19). South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWTEE). <https://sawtee.org/publications/Briefing-Paper-29.pdf>

¹⁰ From source to tap: Improving water supply in Lahan, Nepal. https://washmatters.wateraid.org/sites/g/files/jkxoof256/files/from-source-to-tap-lessons-from-improving-water-supply-in-lahan-nepal_0.pdf

¹¹ Urfels, A., McDonald, A. J., Krupnik, T. J., & van Oel, P. R. (2020). Drivers of groundwater utilization in water-limited rice production systems in Nepal. *Water International*, 45(1), 39–59. doi:10.1080/02508060.2019.1708172

¹² Bharati, L., Sharma, B. R., & Smakhtin, V. (2016). *The Ganges River Basin: Status and challenges in water, environment and livelihoods*. Routledge - Earthscan, Oxon, UK

¹³ Study of the uses of subsurface water resources in Province 2 (Madhesh Province). <https://chureboard.gov.np/storage/files/study-of-the-uses-of-subsurface-water-resources-in-madhesh-province1697725759.pdf>

inadequate to meet demand¹³. While many regions in the Terai fail to tap into the potential of the available groundwater, others face severe water scarcity, underscoring the importance of understanding aquifer dynamics and fostering knowledge share among local stakeholders for effective and sustainable groundwater management.

3. Aims and Objectives of the Symposium

The primary objectives of the Groundwater Symposium 2025 are:

1. **Increase Awareness** - Emphasize the importance of groundwater resources, challenges, and the need for sustainable management.
2. **Facilitate Knowledge Exchange** - Share research findings, innovative solutions, and best practices related to groundwater conservation, policy, and technology.
3. **Strengthen Multi-Stakeholder Collaboration** - Enhance coordination among researchers, policymakers, water managers, local governments, and communities for effective groundwater governance.
4. **Promote Sustainable Groundwater Solutions** - Identify actionable strategies, including climate-resilient water management, recharge techniques, and pollution control measures.
5. **Integrate Groundwater Management into Policies** - Advocate for evidence-based groundwater policies at local, provincial, and national levels, ensuring long-term sustainability.

The symposium was aligned with World Water Day 2025's theme on Glacier Preservation, emphasizing the urgent need for integrated water resource management in Nepal's Terai region.

B. Structure of the Symposium

The National Symposium on Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Management of Groundwater Resources in Nepal was structured to facilitate multi-stakeholder engagement, evidence-based discussions, and actionable policy recommendations. The event featured a combination of keynote addresses, expert presentations, panel discussions, and interactive sessions to ensure a comprehensive exploration of groundwater challenges and solutions.

1. Inaugural Session

The symposium commenced with an inaugural session, setting the stage for discussions on groundwater sustainability. It included:

- **Welcome Address:** Delivered by Dr. Rabin Malla, Executive Director, CREEW, highlighting the symposium's significance and its evolution since 2009.

- Welcome Remarks: Provided by Ms. Sumitra KC, National Researcher - IWMI, emphasizing the importance of groundwater management.
- Keynote Speech: Delivered by Prof. Dr. Krishna Prasad Sah, focusing on groundwater sustainability, policy gaps, and future directions.

Key Takeaways:

- Groundwater levels are declining due to over-extraction and insufficient recharge mechanisms.
 - Water stress in Madhesh Province is approaching severe scarcity levels (Falkenmark Water Stress Index).
 - Sustainable groundwater management requires a balance between agricultural demand, climate adaptation, and policy interventions.
 - Call for moving beyond discussions and implementing practical solutions at all levels.
- Remarks by the Remarks by the Special Guest, Er. Ganesh Shah, Former Minister for Environment, Science and Technology, GoN
 - Stressed the need for innovation in water harvesting and the revival of traditional water conservation techniques.
 - Advocated for ethical and legal frameworks to regulate groundwater extraction and recharge.
 - Remarks by the Remarks by the Special Guest, Er. Ram Kumar Khanga, Act. Secretary, MoEIWS, Madhesh Province
 - Highlighted the interdependence of groundwater and the Chure region and the need for sustainable surface water development.
 - He also stated that groundwater cannot be a long-term alternative to surface water, especially in the face of recurring droughts.
 - Remarks by the Remarks by the Special Guest, Mr. Manoj Kumar Sah, Mayor Janakpurdham Sub-Metropolitan City
 - Called for better coordination among federal, provincial, and local governments to ensure sustainable groundwater policies.
 - Emphasized the role of surface water irrigation development in reducing pressure on groundwater resources.
 - Remarks by the Remarks by the Special Guest, Dr. Sohan Prasad Sah, Vice-chairman, PPPC, Madhesh Province
 - Expressed concern that various studies provide conflicting conclusions on groundwater availability, calling for comprehensive research.
 - Stressed the need for multi-sector collaboration to address overlapping projects and ensure strategic investment in groundwater conservation.

- Remarks by the Chief Guest: Hon. Minister Shesh Narayan Yadav (MoEIWS, Madhesh Province), acknowledging the groundwater crisis and reaffirming the government's commitment to sustainable management.
 - Acknowledged the severity of groundwater depletion in Madhesh Province.
 - Assured the government's commitment to implementing effective groundwater management policies.
 - Stressed the importance of scientific research and actionable policies to balance extraction and recharge.
- Remarks by the Session Chairperson, Dr. Dhundi Raj Pathak, President, CREEW, with this the inaugural session was terminated.



Figure 2: Group photo taken during the symposium

2. Partner Session (IWMI Nepal): Harnessing Rain and Floods for Groundwater Sustainability

This session also served as an Inception Workshop for Technical Assistance on Sustaining Climate and Disaster Risk Resilient and Low Carbon Development in South Asia.

Key Discussion Points:

- The need for climate adaptation strategies to address erratic rainfall and groundwater depletion.
- Potential of managed aquifer recharge (MAR) to enhance long-term water security.
- Data-driven governance and policy recommendations for groundwater management.

3. Roundtable Panel Discussion: Sustainable Management of Groundwater Resources for Water Security in Madhesh Province

A Roundtable Panel Discussion, moderated by Prof. Vishnu Prasad Pandey, brought together representatives from:

- WaterAid-Nepal: Er. Kabindra Pudasaini – Emphasized policy-driven water security measures and local-level engagement.
- WHH-Nepal: Ms. Biju Dangol – Urged a shift from activity-based projects to systemic interventions.
- KVWSMB: Mr. Prabin Chandra K.C. – Called for evidence-based policymaking and community awareness.
- UNICEF Nepal: Ms. Arinita Maskey – Stressed the need for inter-sectoral collaboration in groundwater management.
- CDAFN: Mr. Nagdev Yadav – Highlighted grassroots challenges and the importance of localized solutions.

Key Takeaways:

- Urgent need to bridge the gap between research, policy, and implementation.
- Establishing a Community of Practice (CoP) for knowledge exchange and stakeholder coordination.
- Greater coordination among government agencies, NGOs, and local communities to avoid overlapping projects and ensure impactful interventions.

4. Closing Session

The symposium concluded with:

- Summary of Discussions: A synthesis of key insights and priority action areas.
- Call to Action: Encouraging stakeholders to move beyond discussions towards implementation and collaboration.
- Closing Remarks: Delivered by Bhawani Shankar Dongol, Executive Director, SEN, emphasizing the symposium's role in shaping Nepal's groundwater sustainability strategies.

The event successfully fostered collaboration among researchers, policymakers, and practitioners, paving the way for scientific, policy-driven, and community-inclusive solutions to groundwater challenges in Nepal.

C. Conclusion: Actionable Outputs and Recommendations

The National Groundwater Symposium 2025 successfully provided a strategic platform for multi-sectoral dialogue on groundwater sustainability in Madhesh Province. While numerous research initiatives and projects have been conducted, the key takeaway from this event was the urgent need for coordinated action, evidence-based policies, and sustainable groundwater management solutions.

Moving forward, the recommendations outlined above will serve as a roadmap for ensuring groundwater security in Nepal's Terai region. The insights gained from this symposium will be shared with government agencies, research institutions, donors, and development partners to drive impactful and collaborative actions. The actionable outputs and recommendations can be summarized as follows:

Policy and Governance

- Develop a comprehensive groundwater management policy integrating recharge strategies and regulatory measures.
- Strengthen inter-governmental coordination (federal, provincial, and local levels) to ensure holistic groundwater governance.
- Promote transboundary groundwater cooperation with neighboring Indian states to address shared water challenges.

Technical and Research-Based Interventions

- Invest in managed aquifer recharge (MAR) systems to enhance groundwater replenishment.
- Expand hydrological monitoring networks and implement data-driven decision-making.
- Encourage research on climate resilience strategies to combat erratic rainfall and groundwater depletion.

Community Engagement and Sustainable Practices

- Enhance local-level awareness through community-based education and knowledge-sharing.
- Incorporate indigenous knowledge in groundwater conservation practices.
- Strengthen the role of private sector and development partners in piloting innovative water management solutions.

Annex I: Event Agenda & Program Schedule



The 13th National Groundwater Symposium

Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Development and Management of Groundwater in Nepal

March 19, 2025 (07:30-15:30 Hrs.) | Hotel Mithila Yari Niwas, Janakpurdham, Nepal

Program Schedule (As of March 19, 2025)

Inaugural Session		MC: Mr. Sunil Kumar Yadav
07:30-08:30	Registration with Refresher (60 minutes)	
Session Chair: Dr. Dhundi Raj Pathak, President, CREEW		
08:30-08:35	Welcoming the Dignitaries on Dais	
08:35-08:40	Opening and Welcome Remarks	Dr. Rabin Malla, Executive Director, CREEW
08:40-08:45	Welcome Remarks	Ms. Sumitra KC, National Researcher - IWMI
08:45-09:05	Keynote Presentation मधेश प्रदेशमा भूमिगत जलश्रोतको दिगो विकास र व्यवस्थापन	Prof. Dr. Krishna Prasad Sah, Director, Chandra Engineering Consultants, Janakpurdham
09:05-09:15	Remarks by the Special Guest	Er. Ganesh Shah, Former Minister for Environment, Science and Technology, GoN
09:15-09:20	Remarks by the Special Guest	Er. Ram Kumar Khanga, Act. Secretary, MoEIWS, Madhesh Province
09:20-09:25	Remarks by the Special Guest	Manoj Kumar Sah, Mayor Janakpurdham Sub-Metropolitan City
09:25-09:30	Remarks by the Special Guest	Dr. Sohan Prasad Sah, Vice-chairman, PPPC, Madhesh Province
09:30-09:40	Remarks by the Chief Guest	Mr. Shesh Narayan Yadav, Hon. Minister, MoEIWS, Madhesh Province
09:40-09:45	Remarks by the Session Chairperson	Dr. Dhundi Raj Pathak, President, CREEW
Group photo session and short break		(09:45-10:00)
10:00-12:30	Partner Session (IWMI Nepal): Assessing Change in Groundwater Use for Sustainable Management	
10:00-10:40	Context Setting and Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Background and Objectives Methodology and Approach (Technical) Methodology and Approach (Governance) Methodology and Approach (Water balance) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Nirman Shrestha, IWMI Mr. Anuj Mishra, IWMI Ms. Sumitra KC, IWMI Dr. Anil Aryal, IWMI





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March 19, 2025 (07:30-15:30 Hrs.) | Hotel Mithila Yari Niwas, Janakpurdham, Nepal

10:40-Onwards	Group Activity, Photo and Working Tea	
10:45-11:40	Group Activity/Plenary Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of local issues and priorities and discussion on stakeholder roles • Group I and II: Technical Group III and IV: Governance and Social 	Group Facilitators [Anuj Mishra, Nirman Shrestha, Sumitra KC, Anil Aryal]
11:40 - 11:55	Group Presentation by Group Facilitators	
11:55 - 12:15	Questions and Discussion: Open Floor	
12:15 - 12:30	Wrap up and closing	ADB representative
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closing remarks • Vote of thanks 	Nirman Shrestha, IWMI
Lunch and Networking		(12:30-13:30)
Roundtable Panel Discussion: Sustainable Management of Groundwater Resources for Water Security in Madhesh Province		
Moderator: Dr. Vishnu Prasad Pandey, Professor (Water Resources), IoE, TU, Nepal		
13:30-15:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation • Roundtable Panel Discussion • Reflection on Roundtable Panel Discussion 	Panelists: Er. Kabindra Pudasaini, WaterAid-Nepal Ms. Biju Dangol, WHH-Nepal Ms. Arinita Maskey, UNICEF Nepal Er. Prabin Chandra K.C, KVWSMB Mr. Nagdev Yadav, CDAFN
15:15-15:30	Vote of Thanks and Closing Remarks	Mr. Bhawani Shankar Dongol, Executive Director, SEN

Acronyms:

- ADB - Asian Development Bank
- CDAFN - Community Development & Advocacy Forum Nepal
- CREEW - Center of Research for Environment, Energy and Water
- GoN - Government of Nepal
- IoE, TU - Institute of Engineering, Tribhuvan University
- IWMI - International Water Management Institute
- KVWSMB - Kathmandu Valley Water Supply Management Board
- MoEiWS - Ministry of Energy, Irrigation and Water Supply
- PPPC - Province Policy and Planning Commission
- SEN - The Small Earth Nepal
- UNICEF Nepal - United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, Nepal
- WHH-Nepal - Welthungerhilfe Nepal



Annex II: Brief biographies of keynote speakers and panelists

Keynote Speaker

Prof. Dr. Krishna Prasad Sah

Director, Chandra Engineering Consultants

With over 25 years of expertise in water resource management and hydrogeology, Prof. Dr. Krishna Prasad Sah is a leading authority on sustainable water solutions in Nepal. In his keynote address, he highlighted the challenges of declining groundwater recharge rates and the need for evidence-based policymaking to counter the growing crisis in Madhesh Province.

Roundtable Panel Discussion


Moderated by **Prof. Vishnu Prasad Pandey**, the panel brought together representatives from diverse organizations committed to addressing Nepal's groundwater challenges.

The discussion centered on bridging gaps between research, policy, and practical implementation.

- **Er. Kabindra Pudasaini (WaterAid Nepal)**
A seasoned water resource engineer, Er. Kabindra Pudasaini champions policy-driven water security measures and emphasizes local-level engagement. His work has significantly advanced community-based water management initiatives in Nepal.
- **Ms. Biju Dangol (WHH-Nepal)**
As a technical expert at Welthungerhilfe Nepal, Ms. Biju Dangol advocates for transitioning from isolated, activity-based projects to systemic, integrated water solutions. Her experience in program management has been key to scaling sustainable interventions.
- **Mr. Prabin Chandra K.C. (KVWSMB)**
A dedicated hydrogeologist with the Kathmandu Valley Water Supply Management Board, Mr. Prabin Chandra K.C. focuses on evidence-based policymaking. His research and outreach efforts have enhanced community awareness and improved water resource assessments.
- **Ms. Arinita Maskey (UNICEF Nepal)**
With a robust background in emergency WASH, Ms. Arinita Maskey has been instrumental in fostering inter-sectoral collaboration to address groundwater challenges. Her expertise ensures that water management solutions are inclusive and contextually relevant.
- **Mr. Nagdev Yadav (CDAFN)**
Serving as the chairperson for the Community Development & Advocacy Forum Nepal, Mr. Nagdev Yadav brings grassroots perspectives to the forefront. He highlights localized challenges and the importance of tailored solutions that directly address community needs.

Key Takeaways from the Roundtable Panel Discussion

- **Bridging the Gaps:** There is an urgent need to close the divide between research, policy formulation, and on-ground implementation.
- **Community of Practice:** Establishing a Community of Practice (CoP) is essential for fostering knowledge exchange and ensuring effective stakeholder coordination.
- **Enhanced Coordination:** Greater collaboration among government agencies, NGOs, and local communities is crucial to avoid duplication of efforts and to ensure that interventions are both impactful and sustainable.



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March 19, 2025 | Hotel Mithila Yatri Niwas, Janakpur, Nepal

Roundtable Panel Discussion

Sustainable Management of Groundwater Resources for Water Security in Madhesh Province

Moderator



Dr. Vishnu Prasad Pandey
Professor
IOE, TU

Panelists



Er. Kabindra Pudasaini
Team Lead, Beacon Initiatives
WaterAid-Nepal



Ms. Biju Dangol
Technical Expert
WHH-Nepal



Ms. Arinita Maskey
Emergency WASH Specialist
UNICEF Nepal



Er. Prabin Chandra K.C.
Hydrogeologist
KVWSMB



Mr. Nagdev Yadav
Chairperson
CDAFN

