



MUS Approach Framework: Scaling up of MUS in Nepal

Prachanda Pradhan



Outline of presentation

- **Conceptualization of MUS**
- **Institutional arrangement in Nepal and place of MUS**
- **Legal arrangement and policy aspects**
- **Implementation of MUS**
- **Actors of MUS Implementation -INGO/ NGO etc**
- **Scaling up of MUS and Strategies for institutionalization of MUS**



Conceptualization of MUS

- **Multiple use services have gained recognition as an approach to water services that meet people's need of rural and peri-urban areas. MUS approach focuses on hh / direct benefit**
- **Physical, socio-economic and institutional context influence on the mode of MUS**
- **Research findings have concluded that there are conditions to be fulfilled for implementation of MUS**



Conditions for MUS

- **1. Livelihood improvement as the driver**
- **2. Technologies**
- **3. Institutions**
- **4. Financing**
- **5. Sustainable water resources.**



Types of MUS

- **Homestead scale MUS which is more on households with marginal landholdings**
- **Considered as useful approach towards poverty alleviation**
- **Along with drinking water use, water is also used for vegetable cultivation as well as for livestock .**
- **They bring more income to these households**



Community scale MUS

- **Community scale MUS would have large number of members in the use of MUS and different types of water use**
- **1. drinking water, water storage for agriculture purpose, livestock use, fishery , domestic use etc**
- **2. water use services for milling, hydropower, agriculture purpose, organizational support for marketing of products.**



Water Sources for MUS

- **Gravity flow of water**
- **Rainwater harvesting and water storage**
- **Ground water extraction with the help of fuel, electric or solar pump or manual extraction**
- **The type of water resources influence on the MUS model.**



Institutional arrangement in Nepal and place of MUS

- **Several institutions are involved in water use in Nepal. These institutions are involved in Policy and Planning**
- **1 Ministry of Energy: deals with policy relating to micro and small hydro-power**
- **2. Ministry of Irrigation (all category of irrigation systems including non-conventional irrigation systems, but not specific to MUS)**
- **3. Ministry of Urban Development with department of Drinking Water. Uni-sector approach of water use**



Con'ted

- **Ministry of Agriculture Development with department of Agriculture helping the small scale irrigations and crop production.**
- **Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development having extended offices at district level and VDC level. Rural drinking water Supply is the responsibility of this ministry, implemented through DOLIDAR and district development committees. However, the agency attempts to implement sector approach in drinking water supply.**
- **Individuals and community also play important role under Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local development.**



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- **Ministry of Science Technology and Environment looking at the impact of the status on water resources as the impact of climate change**
- **Ministry of Cooperatives and Poverty Alleviation and Commission on Poverty Alleviation. This agency is potential agency for the adoption of MUS approach for poverty alleviation in the rural area**
- **The National Planning Commission as an agency responsible for steering the development at national level as well as at the rural level can very well influence on the poverty issue and multiple water use services.**



Legal arrangement and policy aspects

- There were several legal documents relating to drinking water supply both in urban and rural areas. In 2015, Government of Nepal brought out National Sector Development Plan(SDP) for Drinking Water and Sanitation. In that document , it clearly mentioned that Sector Development Plan does not cover agriculture and water management issues. Sector Development Plan focuses only on WASH.
- There are number of Acts and Regulations relating to drinking water. They are:
- Directives on Water Supply Services (2012), National Hygiene and Sanitation Plan (2011), National Urban Water Supply Sanitation Sector



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- Policy (2009), Water Supply Tariff Fixation Commission Act (2006), Water Supply Management Board Act (2006). National Policy and Strategy on Rural Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation (2004) Drinking Water Supply Regulation (1998) , Water Resources Act (1992)
- Irrigation Policy 2014 briefly mentions about multiple use of water services. Part of this activity is undertaken by NCID unit of DOI. DOI is piloting a project on multiple water use services at Ripen –Dhotar Irrigation System in Sindhupalchowk district.



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- **The Water Resources Strategy of Nepal, 2002, National water Resources Plan documents also do not include MUS approach. Even IWRM approach is not included except it is mentioned in couple of places. Neither MUS is mentioned in the government policy to be delivered by the President in the parliament , nor in government budget nor has it been part of poverty alleviation program of the Ministry of Cooperatives and Poverty alleviation or that of Poverty Alleviation Fund.**



Implementation of MUS

- **The MUS is basically implemented by the NGOs and INGOs in a project mode. It has not come to a program mode.**
- **Neither policy nor government agency has supported MUS as a program as of now**



MUS supporters and implementers

- Donor agencies like USAID, DFID
- INGO : IDE
- NGOs: SAPPROS, CEPRED etc



Scaling up of MUS and strategy of MUS institutionalization

- Research findings indicate that MUS has demonstrated sustainability of the systems by owning them by the community. The stakeholders evolved rules and regulations for operation and maintenance of them . (F. Clement.2014)
- Other studies have also shown its effectiveness for increased productivity, addresses poverty issues, helps increased income of the marginal landholding households.



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- **By and large, donors and government of Nepal have followed sector approach in drinking water and irrigation sector. Large part of the national program of drinking water and irrigation do not yet have inclusion of MUS Approach.**
- **Though MUS approach and different MUS modes are proven useful yet could not get in road in the government policy for increased productivity of agriculture , human resources and , poverty alleviation**
- **Homestead scale MUS Mode helps increase benefit and provides opportunity for better planning of water services.**



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- **Community scale MUS Model provides community participation in decision making,, benefits derived by the poor, women and sick people.. It provides opportunity for better planning,, encourage users to make decision about water use.**



Supporting Environment for Scaling up

- Need to look at two levels:
- **A .Intermediate level: Three factors are to be taken into consideration**
 - Participatory planning approach (assessment of existing facilities and potentialities for more benefit)
 - Initiate long term support for multiple water use services (technical, institutional, financial and sustainable water resources)
 - Effort to streamline the MUS for scaling up



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- Advocacy for conducive legal and institutional arrangement
- Encourage adoption of integrated approach as against the sector approach



Who and How?

- **As mentioned earlier, MUS is only in project mode. Evaluations have proven the benefit of MUS approach and Modes. But?**
- **Who would take the initiative?**
- **How will the program be translated into regular program for those rural area benefitting to the marginal landholders**
- **This has also potentiality of extending irrigation facilities which has not or can not cover by traditional irrigation systems.**



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- **Which agency in the government should take the responsibility to promote, expand , consolidate and stabilize MUS?**



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- **With one centrally located agency for overall guidance and supervision.**
- Other agencies can play a supporting role.
 - Users, Users Associations and local service providers (CBO)
 - NGO and INGO can play role but depends on the type of NGO
 - (three types of NGOs: a. fire fighter type, b. intermediary support providing type and c. thrust towards policy and program)



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- Local government and Citizen's organization
- Knowledge centers (training program, research and dissemination of knowledge)
- Network at district level and national level for Advocacy of MUS.



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Points to be considered for scaling up MUS

- At Community MUS level-example of Lumle
- Nagdhunga (Dhikurpokhari) individual HH level MUS
- Relation of MUS in DDC and VDC, limited
- WRDWSS-single purpose
- Limitations Mandate, Drinking water plan, limitation imposed by PWD and Procurement code???
- Linkages among projects through exposure training programs.(Meeting with Sanne Rena)