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## Research Article

# KARNALI APPROACH: ROLE OF WATER AND SANITATION GOVERNANCE

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## ABSTRACT

The abstract presents recommendations that aim to foster development, equality, and inclusivity in the water and sanitation sectors, building upon existing policies and laws. Implementing these recommendations will contribute to equitable access, social justice, and sustainable development in the sector. Key recommendations include integrating various dimensions into water and sanitation development, enforcing the Constitution of Nepal 2015 for equal rights and social justice, adopting inclusive and participatory approaches outlined in the Local Governance Operation Act 2017, incorporating the Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Operational Guidelines 2017 into WASH programs, aligning the Nepal WASH Sector Development Plan with the SDGs, and effectively implementing the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Act 2079 and the WASH Act of municipalities to ensure citizens' rights and prioritize equity and inclusivity. The KARNALI approach recommends, emphasizing stakeholder involvement, community empowerment, and sustainability for effective water and sanitation governance, including needs assessment, resource utilization, knowledge sharing, barrier removal, and innovation.

## KEYWORDS

Causative construction, syntactic, semantics, predicate, subject, object.

## INTRODUCTION

The development contains economic, social, cultural, human, environmental, political, and technological aspects, with a current focus on distribution, social issues, quality of life, economic growth, reduced inequality, and poverty reduction. Definitions highlight social equality, transformative structures, well-being,

problem-solving, and learning. The 2015 Constitution of Nepal promotes equal rights and social justice, especially in water and sanitation, ensuring proportional representation for women in decision-making. The Local Governance Operation Act 2017 in Nepal fosters inclusive and participatory approaches in

water and sanitation, tailoring programs to local needs and amplifying stakeholders' voices. The Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Operational Guidelines 2017 prioritize gender equality and social inclusion in water and sanitation through analysis, capacity-building, and partnerships. The Nepal WASH Sector Development Plan (2016-2030) emphasizes rights, equity, and empowerment for accessible and safe water and sanitation, with a focus on marginalized groups and mainstreaming gender equality and social inclusion. The SDGs aim for universal access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene by 2030, emphasizing inclusivity and equity, with SDG 6 specifically focusing on water and sanitation. The Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Act 2079 in Nepal ensures citizens' right to clean water and sanitation, with shared responsibilities among government levels, emphasizing equity and inclusion.

The KARNALI approach prioritizes stakeholder involvement, community empowerment, participatory development, and sustainability in water and sanitation governance, encompassing knowledge, accessibility, resources, accountability, learning, and innovation.

## OBJECTIVE

The objectives of the "KARNALI Approach: Role of Water and Sanitation Governance" are:

1. To analyze the current state of water and sanitation governance, identify challenges and opportunities, and align with the KARNALI approach to enhance water and sanitation governance.

## MATERIALS AND METHOD

The research method for the lettuce cultivation study involved conducting a systematic literature review, which included gathering information from diverse

sources such as scientific journals, books, conferences, and reputable online platforms. The purpose was to collect relevant data on lettuce cultivation materials and methods. Data collection focused on extracting valuable details, including experimental findings, recommendations, and best practices across various aspects of lettuce cultivation. The collected data were organized into specific topics. Data analysis identified patterns, trends, and areas of agreement, as well as gaps and inconsistencies in the literature. The synthesized information provided an unbiased assessment of the strengths and limitations of the identified materials and methods. Key findings, including important considerations, successful practices, and challenges, were summarized. The study concluded by providing recommendations for implementing best practices and suggesting areas for further research, thus contributing to existing knowledge and offering practical insights for lettuce growers.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

### Concept and Definition of Development:

Development encompasses economic, social, cultural, human, environmental, political, and technological dimensions. Historically focused on income, it overlooked distribution and social issues. Existing development aims for improved quality of life, economic growth, reduced inequality, and poverty reduction. Definitions vary, such as social equality (Sen), transformative structures (Friedmann), well-being and choices (Elkan), problem-solving (Biddle and Giddle), and learning and cooperation (Brokensha and Hodge), highlighting diverse dimensions and objectives.

### Constitution of Nepal 2015

The 2015 Constitution of Nepal promotes equal rights and social justice, particularly in water and sanitation, and eliminates discrimination based on caste, ethnicity, religion, language, gender, and untouchability. Article 38(4) guarantees proportional representation for women, empowering them in water and sanitation decision-making. The constitution aims to create an equitable and inclusive society with equal access to water and sanitation, emphasizing diverse perspectives and active participation.

#### **Local Governance Operation Act 2017**

The Local Governance Operation Act 2017 promotes inclusive and participatory approaches in the water and sanitation sectors of Nepal. It prioritizes the involvement of local intellectuals, professionals, and marginalized groups. By embracing inclusivity, the act tailors water, and sanitation programs to local needs, enhancing effectiveness. It fosters a holistic and equitable approach, considering unique contexts and ensuring stakeholders' voices are heard.

#### **Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Operational Guidelines 2017**

The Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Operational Guidelines 2017 prioritize GESI in WASH, ensuring equal rights and opportunities. They integrate analyses, capacity-building, and partnerships to foster an inclusive society. By incorporating GESI principles, the water and sanitation sector promotes equality, inclusivity, and social justice for sustainable outcomes.

#### **Nepal WASH Sector Development Plan (2016-2030)**

The Nepal Water Supply, Sanitation, and Hygiene Sector Development Plan (2016–2030) aims for accessible and safe water and sanitation services. It emphasized a rights-based approach, equity, and empowerment. Capacity development targets

marginalized groups by implementing cross-subsidy mechanisms and mainstreaming Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in WASH systems.

#### **Sustainable Development Goals**

The SDGs aim for universal access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene by 2030, emphasizing inclusivity and equity. Achieving this requires improved water quality, efficiency, and community participation. SDG 6 focuses on water and sanitation, aiming for universal access and ecosystem protection through collaboration at all levels.

#### **Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Act 2079**

The Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Act 2079 in Nepal ensures citizens' rights to access clean water and sanitation. Responsibilities are shared among different levels of government. The Act mandates the provision of basic services, raising awareness, operating wastewater systems, and maintaining infrastructure. Equity and inclusion are emphasized.

#### **Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Act of Municipalities**

The WASH Act of municipalities ensures citizens' rights to accessible water and sanitation, emphasizing regular, clean, and quality services without discrimination. It aims to protect and fulfill these rights according to existing laws. The Act emphasizes equal access to water and sanitation, highlighting the importance of consistent, quality services for all, irrespective of discrimination.

#### **KARNALI Approach to Water and Sanitation Governance**

The KARNALI approach prioritizes stakeholders' involvement, community empowerment, participatory development, and sustainability for water and

sanitation governance. It involves needs assessment, community mobilization, proper planning, resource utilization, implementation, and monitoring. This approach aims to achieve inclusive water and sanitation governance through knowledge, accessibility, resources, accountability, learning, and innovation. The "KARNALI" approach is divided into two wheels: one wheel is "KAR", and another is "ALI," and the "N" is the bridge of the two wheels.

### Knowledge, Accessibility, and Resources

Knowledge, accessibility, and resources (KAR) play a crucial role in water and sanitation governance. Extensive knowledge of systems, targets, and transformation drives social change in this domain. Accessibility is essential to ensure inclusivity and overcome barriers related to outcomes, service provision, and controlling circumstances. Moreover, resources encompassing financial, human, natural, technological, informational, and institutional aspects are vital for effective water and sanitation governance. Efficient management and utilization of these resources contribute significantly to human well-being and foster economic growth.

### Nature of Implementation

The implementation of knowledge, accessibility, and resources is essential for water and sanitation governance. It includes applying knowledge gained, removing barriers, promoting inclusivity, and effectively utilizing resources. This comprehensive approach contributes to economic growth, poverty reduction, sustainability, social equity, and innovation, leading to societal change in the water and sanitation sectors.

**Accountability, Learning, and Implementation/Innovation**

The water and sanitation governance approach prioritizes accountability, learning, implementation, and innovation. Accountability ensures the transparent and effective delivery of water and sanitation outcomes. Learning enables the application of knowledge for societal change. Accessibility focuses on providing equal access to water and sanitation interventions. Resource implementation is essential for sustainable water and sanitation services. Innovation drives continuous improvement by adopting new methods, promoting inclusivity and efficiency, and exploring new sources. These elements collectively contribute to equitable outcomes, accessibility, knowledge-driven development, and positive change in the water and sanitation sectors.

### CONCLUSION

Development encompasses various dimensions and objectives, such as economic, social, cultural, and environmental aspects. The Constitution of Nepal 2015 promotes equal rights, social justice, and proportional representation for women in water and sanitation decision-making. The Local Governance Operation Act 2017 encourages inclusive and participatory approaches, tailoring programs to local needs. The Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Operational Guidelines 2017 prioritize GESI in WASH, promoting equality and social justice. The Nepal WASH Sector Development Plan (2016–2030) focuses on accessible and safe water and sanitation services, while the SDGs emphasize universal access and collaboration. The Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Act 2079 and the WASH Act of municipalities ensure citizens' rights to clean water and sanitation, emphasizing equity and inclusivity.

The KARNALI approach prioritizes stakeholders' involvement, community empowerment, and sustainability in water and sanitation governance. It



involves needs assessment, community mobilization, planning, resource utilization, implementation, and monitoring. The "KARNALI" approach is divided into two wheels: "KAR" (Knowledge, Accessibility, and Resources) and "ALI" (Accountability, Learning, and Implementation/Innovation). Knowledge, accessibility, and resources are crucial for water and sanitation governance, driving social change, and ensuring inclusivity. Implementation involves applying knowledge, removing barriers, and utilizing resources effectively. Accountability, learning, and innovation are emphasized, ensuring transparent outcomes, knowledge-driven development, and positive change in the water and sanitation sectors.

### RECOMMENDATION

The following recommendations aim to promote development, equality, and inclusivity in the water and sanitation sectors, building on existing policies and laws. Implementing these recommendations will contribute to equitable access, social justice, and sustainable development in the sector.

- Integrate economic, social, cultural, and environmental aspects to achieve comprehensive water and sanitation development.
- Ensure the enforcement of the Constitution of Nepal 2015, including equal rights, social justice, and proportional representation for women in decision-making.
- Implement inclusive and participatory approaches as outlined in the Local Governance Operation Act 2017, tailored to local needs.
- Fully integrate the Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Operational Guidelines 2017 into WASH programs to promote equality and social justice.

- Align the Nepal WASH Sector Development Plan with the SDGs to ensure accessible and safe water and sanitation services for all.
- Effectively implement the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Act 2079 and the WASH Act of municipalities to uphold citizens' rights and emphasize equity and inclusivity.

KARNALI Approach: To promote effective water and sanitation governance, it is recommended to adopt the KARNALI approach. This involves prioritized stakeholders' involvement, community empowerment, and sustainability. It is crucial to conduct thorough need assessments, mobilize the community, and utilize resources effectively. Additionally, promoting knowledge sharing, removing barriers, and fostering innovation are vital for driving positive change in the water and sanitation sectors.

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