

Banaskali Rural Municipality, Palpa

Voluntary Local Review of the SDGs

Report 2020 (Final Draft)

Action Aid Nepal
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Abbreviation and Acronyms

ARV: Antiretroviral Drug
BRM: Bagnaskali Rural Municipality
CBS: Central Bureau of Statistics
DHO: District Health Office
DPO: District Police Office
ECD: Early Childhood Development
ENT: Ear, Nose and Throat
HH: Households
ICT: Information and Communication Technology
LAPA: Local Adaptation Programme of Action
LGOA: Local Government Operation Act
NGO: Non-Government Organization
NHRC: National Human Rights Commission
no.: Number
ODF: Open Defecation Free
PWDs: Persons with Disability
RCC: Rod Cement Concrete
Rs.: Rupees
S.N.: Serial Number
sq. km.: Square Kilometer
SRHR: Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights
TB: Tuberculosis
UML: Unified Marxist and Leninist
UNCT: UN Country Team
VDC: Village Development Committee
VDCs: Village Development Committees
WASH: Water Sanitation and Hygines

Foreword from Chairperson of Municipality

Acknowledgement

Executive Summary

Context

The 2030 Agenda of Sustainable Development (SDGs) is the plan of action for people, planet and prosperity and to transform the world.

Being a state party of the 2030 Agenda, Nepal has formed high level government bodies to implement the 2030 Agenda and the National Planning Commission is made responsible to coordinate the process. Nepal has prepared the SDGs Status and Roadmap (2016-2030) to implement the SDGs in the country.

Localization of the SDGs is a prerequisite to achieve the SDGs in the country. Effective implementation of the SDGs' roadmap and level of achievements are largely dependent on the roles of province and local governments.

As a part of follow-up and review mechanism, the 2030 Agenda encourages member states to “conduct regular and inclusive reviews of progress at the national and sub-national levels, called National Voluntary Review (VNR).

According to the VNR report 2020, the progress of the SDGs is mixed. But, COVID-19 crisis has negatively affected most of the Goals related to social and economic development.

It is critical to strengthen the mobilization of local governments and their communities and to ensure that local governments are actively involved in all steps of the process: planning, implementation, follow-up, and monitoring of the localization strategies and priorities.

This report has reviewed the progress of the SDGs in Bagnaskali Rural Municipality of Palpa district. The municipality is divided into 9 wards and it has diversity in terms of culture, language, religion, caste and ethnicity and bio-diversity.

Objective

Main objective of this initiative was to review the situation and track the progress of SDGs at local communities and to strengthen the policy advocacies for people-centered development.

Methodology

The VLR process has covered following key thematic areas/Goals as priority:

1. Basic social services: Quality education (Goal 4); good health (Goal 3); and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (Goal 6)
2. Access to electricity (Goal 7)
3. Gender equality (Goal 5)
4. Decent work and economic growth (Goal 8)
5. Reducing inequality (Goal 10)
6. Climate Justice (Goal 13)

To review the progress key information and relevant indicators were identified, and tried to compare the status of 2015 and 2020 for each indicator. A validation workshop was organized in coordination with Bagnaskali Rural Municipality. The VLR process was started from October 2020 and its whole process was completed in March 2021. The VLR process faced some sort of difficulties to find the necessary data according to the list of indicators.

Enabling Environment

The Constitution of Nepal 2015 (Schedule 8) gives 22 powers to these local levels. Besides these single powers, there are 15 such concurrent powers that can be implemented by federation, province, and local levels. Intergovernmental Fiscal Arrangement Act, 2074 has been made to provide necessary provisions regarding revenue rights, revenue sharing, grants, loans, budget arrangements, public expenditures, and fiscal discipline of local levels.

The Local Government Operation Act, 2017 has paved a strong legal foundation towards institutionalizing legislative, executive and quasi-judicial practice of the local governments.

In order to mainstream the 2030 Agenda, the Government of Nepal had formed two High Level Committees and eight Thematic Working Committees. the 15th National Plan (2019/20-2023/2024) has also incorporated the SDGs. The sectoral national policies and plans have also tried to mainstream the SDGs.

The National Planning Commission has already provided training to the local governments to mainstream the SDGs at local level. The National Planning Commission has recently produced a resource book on SDGs' Localization.

Lumbini Province has formulated 5-year periodic plan 2020/21-2025/26 and Province Monitoring and Evaluation Guideline 2019. Lumbini Province has already organized a workshop on the SDGs and it has also prepared a baseline report of the SDGs in 2019.

According to the municipality there are about forty various policy related documents among them 19 have been published in local gadgets.

Municipality has formed four sectoral committees under its organizational set-up. In addition to above committees, Bill Formulation Committee (Bidhayn Samitee) and Local Justice Committee are also present.

Municipality has planned to work in all the sectors, but they have not set development targets. Municipality has been preparing a programme and budget annually. But it has yet to finalize its integrated periodic development plan.

Political leadership and people's representatives in the municipality do not have adequate knowledge about the SDGs. Also, they have not been able to get clear guidance about the process to mainstream the SDGs in the development process of the municipality.

Internal income, revenue sharing, Federal Government grants and province Government grants are the major sources of income of the Bagnaskali Rural Municipality currently. Total revenue of the municipality has continuously increased in the last three fiscal years.

In the municipality total allocated budgets in annual programmes and budgets are tentatively the same, but the rate of expenditure is 84 percent in the last three fiscal years, which is in increasing trend.

Suggestions: Municipality needs to prepare a comprehensive annual progress report and to organize review meetings in presence of multi-stakeholder participation every year after the fiscal year. People should be made aware about the policies, plans and budgets of the municipality and other public offices and to ensure equal and meaningful participation of all in policy and development process. Municipality must select development projects according to the demands and needs of the local people. Municipality needs to explore new sources and to increase internal revenues.

Review of Progress

Basic Social Services: Good Health (Goal 3)

The Constitution of Nepal has stated the right to free basic services from the state and every citizen has equal access to health services (Article 35). Living in a clean and healthy environment is the right of the citizens (Article 30, Constitution of Nepal 2015).

In the municipality, there are 9 health posts, 1 community health unit and 1 Ayurveda Centre providing health care services to the people. In this period, municipalities could construct new buildings to establish health posts. 64 health staff are providing health care services in the municipality.

The Health Section of the municipality is responsible for planning and regulation. Ward health posts can provide 35 to 39 types of medicines to the patients. In some health posts, space and buildings are not sufficient.

There is no emergency plan or strategy of the municipality to prevent the health crisis or epidemic outbreak.

In general, there is provision of equal access to the health service in the municipality. On an average time, distance to reach the health posts is 45 minutes in the municipality currently, which is decreased than five year ago. People often go to United Mission Hospital and Lumbini Medical College, since more facilities and services are available there.

There is no special health facility to the persons with serious disability and handicapped. Municipality is providing special health care service to the senior citizens, who are 84 years and above.

In the municipality, the proportion of birth attended by skilled health personnel increased from 30 percent (in 2015) to 57 percent (in 2019). Persons living with HIV and AIDS have decreased. People suffering from TB reached to 47 in 2019, which was only 19 five years back. In the whole municipality, malaria cases are not detected. Number of people suffering from Hepatitis B has decreased to 74, which was 159 in 2015. But, 4 leprosy cases have been found in the municipality, which was nil in five years ago. And, one Kalazar case has been detected in five years. No Lymphatic Filariasis case has been found in the last five years. One Dengue case was found in 2019, but no case has been detected in the last few years. There are 55 trachoma cases in 2019 in the municipality, which was not found in 2015.

Gastritis, blood pressure, diarrhea, diabetes, oral health, tonsil, ENT related problems, cough and respiratory problems, and skin related diseases are some health problems in the municipality area.

There are no official records of suicide cases in the municipality. But, after COVID 19 this rate is most likely to be increased as in other parts of the country. It is believed that the number of hard drug users and harmful use of alcohol have also increased little bit in the last five years.

In the municipality, the number of children suffering from Diarrhea increased to 1266 in 2019, the number was only 769 in 2015. Similarly, the case of common cold and influenza has also increased to 2209, which was 1559 in 2015. From Bagnaskali 156 persons have been infected by COVID 19 and seven persons have died so far (21 Jan. 2021, DHO Palpa).

The statistics revealed that the patients of non-communicable diseases such as cardiovascular, cancer, chronic respiratory are rapidly increasing in the municipality. According to the health posts, they are able to cover vaccination to all the targeted population.

Within the municipality 2328 families (41 percent) have done health insurance among them 373 are Dalits (67.8 percent). In some villages coverage of health insurance is reached up to 90 percent.

Haphazard construction of roads causes air pollution in the municipality especially in the dry season. Still 70-80 percent of HHs use firewood as the cooking fuel in their homes, especially to cook food for their cattle and to produce local liquors.

Municipality has adopted a Zero-Home *Delivery* policy for safe motherhood. Budget allocated in the health sector has increased in the last three years. Allocating separate budgets in the wards is a good opportunity.

Suggestions: Municipality should prepare a local health act, regulation, and it should prepare a long term and medium-term plan. Municipality needs to ensure participation of indigenous people, Dalits and minorities in planning and decision-making processes. It is necessary to establish pathology with sufficient lab services in the municipality. Municipality should provide regular training to its health staff. Municipality must ensure availability of health insurance for all families, control child marriage, provide psychosocial counseling services, improve quality of road and to give attention to non-communicable diseases.

Basic Social Services: Quality Education (Goal 4)

Constitution of Nepal 2015 clearly spells out the right to basic education of the people. Local governments are responsible for basic and secondary education (schedule 8). Bagnaskali municipality has prepared a 3-year Village Education Plan (2020/21-2022/23).

In the municipality there are 37 schools including 7 private schools. Many guardians want to admit their children in private schools. In the municipality, Chandra Secondary School located in ward 9 is providing technical education. According to the municipality, 99 percent of teachers are trained.

There is an Education Committee and Education section in the municipality. They are responsible for making policies, formulating plans and programmes. They are regulating the educational institutions in the municipality.

In general, there is equal access to the education services in the municipality. Percentage of girls who continue their education has also improved in recent years. COVID 19 has direct impact in the education sector since schools remained closed for 8-9 months.

Municipality is committed to quality education. Many schools are trying their best to improve the teaching learning environment. But, many people in the municipality believe that public schools have not been able to provide good education compared to private schools.

Education section of the municipality is unable to regulate or give instructions to the public schools. Availability of the quality education and technical education facility are becoming the challenge in the municipality.

Electricity and WASH service have been improved in the public schools in recent years. In the municipality, there is no presence of disable friendly schools.

In the municipality every public school is running ECD classes and the schools are trying to increase teaching, playing materials, and other facilities.

Net enrolment rate in primary school has reached almost 99 percent and the rate of completion of primary education is also 99 percent. But, the rate of enrolment in secondary school is only 65 percent. Rate of admission in pre-schools is 86 percent. Data shows the number of girls is higher than boys in the schools.

The average literacy rate in the municipality is 99.8 percent, in which the literacy rate of men is quite higher than women. Rates of learning achievement are 66.07 percent (Primary level), 62.33 percent (Lower Secondary Level) and 52.6 percent (Secondary level).

Municipality is getting budgets from the District Education Office. On top of the federal budget, the municipality is also allocating some budget in the education sector annually.

Suggestions: Municipality should implement Local Education Regulation and Village Education Plan effectively to improve the quality of education and educational services. Education section of the municipality should be more constructive and effective as well. Municipality should allocate adequate budget, improve computer education, raise awareness, discourage child marriage, improve of quality of the education, and create a dedicated education fund.

Basic Social Services: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (Goal 6)

Right of access to clean drinking water and sanitation is a fundamental right of the people (Article 35). Local governments are responsible to provide clean water supply and basic sanitation. They can formulate policy, laws, standard, plan, implement and regulate the WASH related activities.

Municipality has been implementing the WASH programme in the entire municipality by making a WASH plan in 2020. Municipality has already completed a campaign on "*Open Defecation Free*" municipality and it has already started the "*Complete Sanitation Campaign*".

Municipality is allocating budget in WASH programmes in its annual programme and budget every year. Bote, Dalit, Janajati do feel their participation has significantly increased in the last five years.

In the municipality, there are 91 drinking water projects and 26 projects are under construction. According to the WASH programme of the municipality, 5252 HHs have access to drinking water. In which 88.50 percent HHs have basic drinking water facilities and 5.2 percent HHs have access to safe drinking water. In the whole municipality, 72.2 percent HHs have access with piped water.

It is estimated that about 80 percent Dalit families have access to safe drinking water facility currently. Dalits are now benefiting from the *One House One Tap* programme. To the Bote community, fetching water was difficult five years ago, which has been improved.

The municipality is able to test 42.2 percent sources of water and the recent report says 42.30 percent is safe to drink. It is estimated 0.10 percent source has found the possibility of e-coli problem.

According to the municipality, 93 percent HHs have permanent toilets, whereas 4.5 percent is temporary and 2.5 percent HHs do not have any toilets. There are 3 public toilets within the area of municipality.

After COVID 19 crisis, people have become more aware about the importance of hand washing. But some people are facing health problems like diarrhea and skin diseases.

Municipality is getting funds from the Province Government in this sector. But, the municipality itself is also allocating their own budget. Municipality needs to allocate its budgets in new drinking water projects.

Suggestions: Municipality should make a local WASH policy and it has to implement its WASH plan effectively and monitor periodically. Municipality should participate in WASH MIS system developed by the Ministry of Water Supply. Municipality needs a separate plan to sustain the projects. Municipality should ensure meaningful participation of all the communities in WASH programmes.

Basic Social Services: Access to Electricity (Goal 7)

Local functions like small hydro power projects and alternative energy are the jurisdiction of local governments. They can formulate local policy, law, standard, plan, implement, monitor the hydro power project up to 1 Megawatts. They can also develop local plans and policies for alternative energy, technology development, and technology transfer at local level. There is no office of Nepal Electricity Authority in the municipality area.

The municipality is providing money to purchase iron poles. Municipality announced the Ujjyalo Bagnaskali Abhiyan (Bright Bagnaskali Campaign) four years ago. In the municipality, 97 percent of HHs have access to electricity facilities. Access to electricity has increased by 2 percent in the last five years.

It is estimated that each HHs consume 20 units' electricity per month on average. In the last few years, the numbers of enterprises have been gradually increasing and use of electricity is also increasing at the same rate.

Municipality has been allocating some money for electrification every year. Further, it is also getting some conditional grants from the federal government for renewable energy (solar panel).

Suggestions: Municipality office should establish a separate unit to look after the energy sector. Municipality should support Bote families and poor families. Nepal Electricity Authority should establish an office in the municipality. Municipality should make a separate policy and plan to promote renewable energy in its area. Villagers should be asked to use electricity as cooking fuel.

Gender Equality (Goal 5)

Right to equality is a fundamental right according to the Constitution of Nepal 2015. Every woman has equal lineage right without gender-based discrimination. Women have the right to safe motherhood, reproductive health, and participate in all state bodies. They have equal rights to property and family.

Municipality gives emphasis to organize women empowerment programmes to enhance their capacities. Further, the municipality has a policy to provide special grants to women entrepreneurs and it wants to bring programmes to bring several programmes against violence, domestic violence and trafficking, and safe motherhood.

Gender inequality has been continuously decreasing in society. But still robust actions are needed. In income generation and participation in public decision making of women is still not satisfactory. In general women have access to productive resources, but they don't have control over them. Participation of women in politics has slightly increased in recent years.

In the municipality, the wage rate between men and women is not equal for the same nature of work. In the municipality women have been gradually involved in the business sector.

There are some cases of violence against women such as women trafficking, polygamy, sexual abuses, rape and blaming of witchcraft in 2015. Women feel that violence against them has increased in the last few years. Dalit families feel that the violence against them is decreased than five years ago. Many women still believe that their sexual and reproductive health are controlled by men. 1-14-year aged girls experience psychological and physical punishment is gradually decreased due to different programmes run by NGOs in the schools.

There is no forced marriage now and young people are becoming responsible. Child marriage, unwanted and unsafe pregnancy are still the challenges in the municipality. Local women and youth say that the child marriage is increased in last five years.

In the municipality area, there is no serious problem of harmful practices that negatively impact women. In recent years, ownership of land and houses of women have been significantly increased in the municipality.

Average hours spent in domestic work by women in a day is 15-16 hours, whereas the time contribution of the men is only about 6 hours.

Almost all women have access to mobile phones in the municipality, which has sharply increased in five years. Similarly, around 25-26 percent 15-24 aged women use the internet, which has also rapidly increased in the last five years.

Except for elected women, most of the women feel that they are not allowed to participate in the decision-making process of the municipality. But elected women claim that other women are also invited in the ward level planning process.

Many women are not aware how much budget is allocated for women development. Municipality is not mandatory to allocate a fixed percentage of their total budget.

Suggestions: Municipality has to make a separate policy and plan to uplift the status of women. It also needs to allocate dedicated budgets for women and girls' empowerment. Municipality has to enhance leadership capacity of women, adopt gender responsive budget and ensure participation of women in planning, implementation and monitoring process, implement preventive, promotional and protective programmes to control violence against women and girls, ensure gender equality in every public service delivery, and promote women participation in income generation activities.

Decent Work and Economic Growth (Goal 8)

Nepalese citizens have freedom to practice any profession, carry on any occupation, and establish and operate any industry, trade and business in any part of Nepal. Similarly, every citizen has the right to employment and the right to choose employment. Agriculture and animal husbandry, agro-products management, animal health, cooperatives are the constitutional responsibility of local governments.

In the whole municipality, there are 729 enterprises including micro enterprises and small trade businesses (Economic Survey, CBS 2018). Agriculture is the main source of income of the people of Bagnaskali municipality.

Livelihood of most of the families is heavily dependent on remittance. But some young people are getting employment in three years. About 10 percent of youth, who are in villages, could get regular employment.

There is high potentiality of religious, rural and eco-tourism in the municipality. But the municipality has yet to develop a tourism master plan.

Generally, there is a tendency to go to foreign employment after completing 10-12 grades in the municipality. About 60 percent of the workforce have left their homes for employment. About 80 percent 15-29-year aged young people are unemployed and among the employed, about 70 percent have gone to Gulf countries and India. Thousands of migrants have returned from India after COVID 19 crisis. Some of the migrant workers, who have returned home after COVID 19 have started income generation business in the villages.

In terms of financial services, there are two banks in the municipality area. It is estimated that about 70 percent HHs have access to financial services. There are 32 cooperative organizations operating in the municipality.

It is estimated that about 70 percent of people have access to insurance services including health insurance, but very few people have done life insurance in the whole municipality.

About 20 percent youth have access to technical and vocational skills. Young people being involved in technical education are gradually increasing in the municipality.

Municipality has allocated some budgets for the economic development sector. It is also allocating some budgets for target groups.

Suggestions: Municipality should develop a separate policy and integrated plan for local economic development. There should be strong coordination and cooperation between three tier governments for

economic development including agriculture, livestock, trade etc. Municipality needs to fix the rate of daily wage and must ensure equal pay for men and women for the same job. Further, municipality needs to develop and implement a tourism sector master plan, mobilize competent technicians to conduct training for the farmers, develop a system to regulate cooperative organizations, develop strategies to increase access to jobs to the other caste/ethnic communities in public offices, develop a plan to emphasize the farmers to involve in commercial and modern farming, and to check the tendency of young people to go to foreign employment by providing market oriented skill development training.

Reducing Inequality (Goal 10)

All citizens are equal before law. There should be no discrimination in the application of general laws on grounds of origin, religion, race, caste, tribe, sex, physical condition of health, marital status, pregnancy, economic condition, language, region, ideology or similar grounds. Local governments are exclusively responsible for management of senior citizens, PWDs and the incapacitated.

Municipality has a policy decision to conduct the programmes to commercialize the knowledge and skills of Dalits and implement demand based programmes.

In the municipality, 17 elected peoples' representatives including 5 ward chairpersons are from Janajati. Interestingly, there are no elected representatives from Bote and Kumal communities. Currently, elected representatives take decisions themselves in local affairs. Participation of ordinary people and different communities in local affairs are not satisfactory. Municipality has made inclusion and reservation policy and it has also tried to make its budget inclusive respecting the principle of social inclusion.

According to the recent data of the municipality, there are 348 PWDs in the municipality. The municipality has formed a Local Coordination Committee and it has also formed networks at ward level.

Many young people feel that politics is not inclusive and they are not given the opportunity to remain in decision making positions. Further, youth participation has decreased in policy and decision-making processes of municipality in recent years and reservations for youths are yet to practice in the municipality.

In the municipality still, caste-based discrimination exists, but it is slowly decreasing outside of the homes.

In the municipality generally the economic status of entrepreneurs, and migrant workers are relatively well. Local people opine that the rich people are still rich and poor people are still poor, there are no significant changes in economic status. The Bote and Majhi community are comparatively backward than other communities. On the other hand, municipalities are in process to identify poor HHs and to provide identity cards to them.

Municipality has announced *Fusrahit Ghaar Abiyan* (HHs' roofs without thatched). Women's ownership and joint ownership of private properties such as lands or houses are significantly increased. Access to land is low with Dalits.

Altogether 3224 citizens of Bagnaskali rural municipality have left home for employment in foreign countries (BRM 2020). Municipality does not have any concrete policy and programmes on migration issues; however, they want to stop the young people from leaving their village.

Municipality has been providing social security allowances to Single Women (widows), senior citizens and PWDs (holding red and blue cards) as per the rule of Federal Government. Further, the municipality is also supporting the PWDs for income generation activities.

Municipality has allocated Rs. 100 million for the social security programme in FY 2017/18. Municipality is providing some funds for children, PWDs, senior citizens, Dalits, Janajatis and other minorities.

Suggestions: Municipality has to develop separate policies and plans to provide social security to the poor families, informal sector workers, widows, PWDs, senior citizens. Municipality should ensure equal access to essential services for women, Dalits, Janajati, Bote, Kumal, Muslims. Municipality is suggested to identify the PWDs and to establish a Community Rehabilitation Centre for PWDs. Municipality needs to ensure meaningful participation of all the communities, allocate budget targeting to youth for employment generation and develop leadership capacity women, Dalits, Bote and Kumal communities.

Climate Justice (Goal 13)

Every citizen has the right to live in a clean and healthy environment. Disaster management is one of the responsibilities of the local government. National Climate Change Policy has been updated to Nepal Climate Change Policy in 2019. Each local government has to formulate its Local Adaptation Programme of Action (LAPA) and local governments have to prepare a comprehensive disaster risk reduction plan. Government of Nepal has committed to send an 80 percent climate fund at local level.

It is not clear how many people are vulnerable or how many have been affected from climate change. Most of the people in the municipality don't have sufficient information about it. On the other hand, climate change is not becoming a serious concern of them yet.

It is explicitly experienced that agricultural production is decreasing, affecting human health, and affecting livelihoods of marginalized communities. They also feel the source of water is becoming dry due to rise in temperature. Many trees have been cut down at the time of construction of roads in the villages.

Municipality has formed a Local Disaster Management Committee and ward level committees have been also formed after COVID 19 pandemic. Municipality has allocated some budget for disaster management and it is organizing training on an early warning system, preparation and response for disaster risk reduction.

Farmers have started to use hybrid seeds. Uses of pesticides and insecticides have been increasing in the last five years to control the diseases and insects in farms. There is a tendency of allocating some money on the disaster management fund of the municipality annually.

Suggestions: Municipality needs to prepare a Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA), build partnership with communities and local organizations for climate actions. Further, the municipality needs a mass awareness programme, incorporate climate education in the curriculum of the schools, develop an integrated agriculture system, prepare a comprehensive disaster management plan, and a comprehensive environment protection plan.

Conclusions and Ways Forward

Federal governance system enshrined by the Constitution of Nepal 2015 is indeed a good opportunity for the people living at local level. The Constitution has clearly defined the functions. Municipality is suggested to enhance policy making and law-making capacity of elected officials and employees. Further, they also need to enhance their capacity to manage constitutional functions, and follow the Leaving No one Behind principle. All the public services should be universal, accessible, inclusive, equitable and affordable. Municipality needs to improve internal resource mobilization capacity, improve expenditure capacity and build on assertive sectoral committees.

Municipality should give attention to improvement of public finance management and reduction of fiduciary risks. Transparency, integrity, downward accountability, and effective and inclusive service delivery are important to build the public trust. Municipality can organize public dialogues to build the public trusts.

SDGs cannot be achieved without full cooperation and adequate contribution from local governments. It is necessary to make aware about the SDGs to the stakeholders and be ready to mainstream the SDGs in policy, planning and development management practices. Municipality needs to identify SDGs targets most relevant for them and then they need to make a list of progress monitoring indicators. It is also suggested to review the periodic plan, contribute to the national and provincial development targets. Also, there should be strong coordination and cooperation among three tier governments.

Further, the municipality needs to formulate sectoral plans on health, climate action, disaster management, and gender equality. It is also suggested to develop periodic plans and programmes targeting the marginalized and vulnerable population.

Municipality needs to analyze its annual budgets according to the SDGs goals. Also, they need to analyze their annual budget expenditure, ensure multi-stakeholder participation, strengthen its statistical capacity and by establishing a strong statistical unit. Municipality needs a strong monitoring system for development effectiveness. This VLR is a citizen-led process indeed. But, municipality is suggested to plan for the next VLR itself.

Chapter 1: Introduction

1.1 Context

The 2030 Agenda of Sustainable Development (SDGs) is the plan of action for people, planet and prosperity and to transform the world. All the member states of the UN have pledged to implement this agenda, which is integrated, indivisible and balanced in three dimensions of sustainable development: *economic, social and environmental*. *People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership* are identified as its critical areas. The 2030 Agenda aims to resolve poverty, hunger and inequalities; build peaceful, just and inclusive societies; protect human rights; promote gender equality; and to protect the planet and its natural resources. All the world leaders of member states including Nepal pledged "No one will be left behind". The 2030 Agenda has proposed 17 Goals and 169 global targets. All these goals are universal, indivisible and interconnected with each other.

Being a state party of the 2030 Agenda, Nepal has formed high level government bodies to implement the 2030 Agenda and the National Planning Commission is made responsible to coordinate the process. Nepal has prepared the SDGs Status and Roadmap (2016-2030) to implement the SDGs in the country.

Nepal has embarked its 15th National Periodic Plan 2019/2020 to 2023/2024 since last year. Also, it has formulated a 25-year visionary plan with a roadmap and slogan "Prosperous Nepal: Happy Nepali".

Localization of the SDGs is a prerequisite to achieve the SDGs in the country. Effective implementation of the SDGs' roadmap and level of achievements are largely dependent on the roles of province and local governments. The Constitution of Nepal 2015 has already empowered the local governments. Since local governments are close to the people and frontline service providers at the local level, they can play important roles to achieve the SDGs.

Amid some efforts of the National Planning Commission, Policy and Planning Commissions of some province governments and government agencies at federal level, the localization of the SDGs is still a big challenge in the country because most of the local governments and development actors at local level are not fully aware about the SDGs. Even though some peoples' representatives are aware about the SDGs, they are not able to integrate the SDGs in the local planning systems.

As a part of follow-up and review mechanism, the 2030 Agenda encourages member states to "conduct regular and inclusive reviews of progress at the national and sub-national levels, called National Voluntary Review (VNR). The VNR is the voluntary process led by the respective Government, taking into account different national realities, and to track progress of the Goals and targets. Nepal had participated in the VNR in 2017 and in this year 2020 and the progress reports were presented in the UN-High Level Political Forums. According to the VNR report, the progress of the SDGs is mixed. But, COVID-19 crisis has negatively affected most of the Goals related to social and economic development. Similarly, progresses are disrupted with cross-cutting goals such as Goal 5, 16 and 17. Actually, COVID-19 has created a huge pressure on human beings to revisit their existing public policies, development practices and human behaviors. The 2030 Agenda still offers the best option to reduce the worst impacts of COVID-19 and to recover better.

Despite the review progress of the 2030 Agenda is sole responsibility of the central or federal governments of the UN member states, local and regional governments, and cities of many countries have started to practice review of the SDGs on a voluntary basis, which is popularly termed "Voluntary Local Review".

If the SDGs are to be achieved, it will be critical to strengthen the mobilization of local governments and their communities. It is therefore critical to ensure that local governments are actively involved in all steps of the process: planning, implementation, follow-up, and monitoring of the localization strategies and priorities. To achieve this, they must be empowered with localized and disaggregated data, in particular in regards to gender, and also be given adequate resources to contribute to the process.

Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) should be seen as opportunities to revise policy decisions and to create more traction and a wider ownership of the goals. Local and regional governments' associations and cities are advocating for inclusion of local and regional governments in the VNRs.

As all of the Goals are directly related to the responsibilities of local and regional governments, many cities have taken several voluntary initiatives to monitor the progress of SDGs. Although no local government has

pursued the VLR in the country, they should be encouraged to practice review of SDGs' progress. Moreover, local communities should be supported to review the progress of their development in light of the SDGs.

This report has been prepared by reviewing the progress of the SDGs in Bagnaskali Rural Municipality of Palpa district by ensuring active participation of civil society local actors, youths and respective local governments.

1.2 Objective

Main objective of this initiative was to review the situation and track the progress of SDGs at local communities and to strengthen the policy advocacies for people-centered development. But, specific objectives were following:

- Engage young people and their intergenerational coalitions in the sustainable development issues at local level
- Provide strong evidence-based support for country-level advocacy, campaigns and influencing work
- Track the progress of focus themes/goals of the SDGs and level of efforts of each theme/goal

1.3 Methodology

The VLR was a rigorous process that was based on evidence, informed by high-quality, accessible, and reliable data. It applied the appropriate methodology, which are elaborated below:

Target Municipality: The VLR was conducted in the Bagnaskali Rural Municipality, which is located in Palpa district of Lumbini Province.

Selected Thematic Areas: Amid all the 17 Goals are equally important and mutually-inclusive, the VLR process has covered following key thematic areas/Goals as priority:

- 1) Basic social services: Quality education (Goal 4); good health (Goal 3); and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (Goal 6)
- 2) Access to electricity (Goal 7)
- 3) Gender equality (Goal 5)
- 4) Decent work and economic growth (Goal 8)
- 5) Reducing inequality (Goal 10)
- 6) Climate Justice (Goal 13)

Key Information and Indicators: To review the progress under proposed themes/goals, key information and relevant indicators (Annex-I) were identified, considering the indicators proposed by the Nepal SDGs Roadmap (2016-2030). Both quantitative and qualitative data/information was collected in the VLR process. The VLR process tried its best to collect disaggregated data wherever possible, in terms of gender, caste/ethnicity, economic status, ward, and migratory status. But, qualitative information remained very helpful to analyze the progress. The VLR process tried to compare the status of 2015 and 2020 for each indicator. Gender perspective was placed at the center while collecting the information. The Human Rights based approach has guided the whole VLR process. Information related Means of Implementation (MOI), especially finance was considered. Data related with the perceptions and levels of satisfaction of the local people were instrumental. Further, it was important to collect the data/information regarding the impacts made by ongoing COVID-19 crisis and response and recovery actions taken in each thematic area.

Sources of Information: Four settlements of that municipality were randomly selected for the intensive data collection. They were:

- (i) Gabtung, Chirtungdhara, Ward No. 1, Urban settlement
- (ii) Aafar, Ward No. 3, Urban settlement
- (iii) Darpuk, Ward No. 6, Rural settlement
- (iv) Alaiche Tole, Ward No. 7, Rural settlement

Amid the VLR was the citizen-led process, it was able to involve all local actors including municipality, political society, local service providers, local organizations, marginalized groups and vulnerable people. The

VLR process collected information from following sources and it reviewed both primary and secondary information collected from the various sources. Further, there were consultations with Action Aid Nepal and local partners.

- Bagnaskali Municipality Office, Ward offices, Municipal Education Section, Municipal Health Section,
- Infrastructure Development Committee, Social Development Committee, Economic Development Committee, Environment and Disaster Management Committee
- National Planning Commission
- Province Planning Commission of Lumbini Province
- Local people
- Nepal Electricity Authority
- Women peoples' representatives, Women organizations, Local women rights activists
- Child clubs, Child rights organizations
- Cooperatives
- Youth organizations
- Marginalized and Minority Communities
- Indigenous Nationalities (Janajatis)

Data Collection, Methods and Tools: Following methods were used to collect the data. Semi-structured questionnaires, formats, checklists tools were developed for the purpose of data collection.

- Review of official documents, records and profiles
- Interviews
- Focus Group Discussion

SRDC Nepal (Local partner organization of ActionAid) and youth volunteers supported to collect information in the municipality. Local partner and youth volunteers were oriented on the methodology, and data collection tools and methods. Further there were series of meetings with local partners and youth volunteers on progress of data collection. Number of relevant documents, records, reports and profiles of the National Planning Commission, the Government of Lumbini Province and Bagnaskali rural municipality were reviewed.

Data Analysis and Report Preparation: Data/information collected from the diverse sources was compiled, processed and they were analyzed by using appropriate methods. Later on, they were interpreted and conclusions were drawn. Based on the analysis and conclusions a report was prepared, which is the main outcome of the entire VLR process. The draft report was shared with the Action Aid team, local partner and municipality.

Validation Workshop: A validation workshop was organized in coordination with Bagnaskali Rural Municipality on 3 March 2021 at the meeting hall of the municipality. The draft report was shared to the elected representatives and head of sector sections of the municipality. Similarly, the validation workshop was continued on 17 March 2021 as well. The VLR report was finalized by incorporating the inputs and comments of the validation workshop. Inputs from the Action Aid Nepal were also seriously considered when finalizing the report.

Limitation: The VLR process was started from October 2020 and its whole process was completed in March 2021. The VLR process faced some sort of difficulties to find the necessary data according to the list of indicators. On the other hand, the municipality was established only four years ago, so it was difficult to get information before 2017.

CHAPTER II: Brief Introduction of Bagnaskali Rural Municipality

Bagnaskali Rural Municipality is located in the northern part of Palpa district and it is about 7 km far from Tansen Bazar. This municipality was formed by merging nine VDCs including Chirtungdhara, Pokharathok, Nayarnamatales, Khanichhap, Darlamdanda, Yamdha, Khanigaun, Barangdi and Chappani. Head office of the municipality is currently located at Chirtungdhara.

In the east, there is Rambha Rural Municipality, in the west there is Tansen Municipality, in the north there is Kaligandaki river and in the south, there is Mathagadhi Rural Municipality. The headquarter is located in Chirtungdhara. The municipality is divided into 9 wards. Total area of this municipality is 84.16 sq. km. 45 percent land of the municipality is used for agriculture purposes.

A temple of Bagnasdevi is located at the northern part of the past Chitrudhara VDC and Kali Gandaki river passes through Ramgha, Durlum Danda and Khanigaun VDC. Name of the rural municipality is determined by considering those two names.

Diversity in terms of culture, language, religion, caste and ethnicity and bio-diversity is the main characteristic of the municipality. The total population of the municipality is 28,843 and the total number of families is 5252. Average size of a family is 5.54 (WASH Plan 2020).

Table 1: Population of Bagnaskali				
Caste/ethnicity	Male	Female	Total	Percent
Janajati	7297	6982	14279	49.51
Brahmin/Chhetri	5870	5351	11221	38.90
Dalit	1503	1422	2925	10.14
Madeshi	11	9	20	0.07
Muslim	10	13	23	0.08
Marginalized	205	170	375	1.30
Total	14896	13947	28843	100.00
Source: WASH Plan 2020				

Kumal, Bote, Brahmin, Chhetri, Magar and Dalit are the major caste/ethnic groups here. Bote families (500+ persons) live in ward 6 and 7. The 49.51 percent population of the municipality is Janajati. There are some Rai and Gurung families who live in the municipality. But, the population of Magar is relatively high in the municipality and mostly they live in ward no. 1, 3 and 4.

2925 Dalits, 150 Kumal and 20 Madhesi also live in the municipality. Dalits are scattered and they are found in all the wards, but mostly they live in ward 6, whereas Kumal families live in ward 1 and 2. There are also 3 Muslim families in the municipality.

By religion, most of the people are Hindu and rest of the people believes in Christian, Buddhism and Islam. Because of migration, the population of Dalits is decreasing.

Agriculture development and religious tourism are the main development potentials of the municipality. The municipality is popular due to presence of some important religious and historical heritages such as Bagnas Devasthan, Darlam Mahakali, Mahamritunjaya Siwasan Area, Sungufa Ramnadi Dham, Malarani, Rani Mahal and Rishikeshesowr Temple. There is Baudha Santok Monastery in ward no. 1.

After promulgation of the New Constitution in Nepal in 2015, the local election was held here on 28 June 2016 and that has elected the people's representatives for the Village Executive Body and the Village Assembly. Nepali Congress and Communist Party of Nepal (UML) are two major parties in the municipality. Regarding political composition, the Executive Board of the municipality is mixed, but the board and the Village Assembly Communist Party of Nepal has majority.

Municipality has been publishing periodic bulletin called "Bagnaskali Awaaj". There are four police posts in the municipality area, which are located in Ramdi, Arya Bhanjyang, Rani Mahal and Bhusal Danda.

Because of rugged topography and poor quality of roads, it is quite difficult to travel from one settlement to another settlement, however all the wards are connected with road networks.

CHAPTER III: Enabling Environment for SDGs Implementation

Constitution of Nepal, 2015

Local government in Nepal is the third level of government division in Nepal, which is administered by the provincial governments which in turn is beneath the federal government. Article 5 of the Constitution of Nepal 2015 defines local government as rural municipalities, municipalities and district assemblies. The governing body of the rural municipalities and municipalities is referred to as the village executive and municipal executive respectively. The district assembly is governed by the District Coordination Committee. There are 77 districts with their own district assembly and 753 local levels (including six metropolises, 11 sub-metropolises, 276 municipalities and 460 rural municipalities) each with their own executive body. The Constitution of Nepal 2015 (Schedule 8) gives 22 powers to these local levels. This enables them to formulate laws to implement these powers. Besides these single powers, there are 15 such concurrent powers that can be implemented by all three levels of the state, i.e., federation, province, and local levels, in the principles of coordination, cooperation, and coexistence.

Intergovernmental Fiscal Arrangement Act 2074 (2017 AD)

Intergovernmental Fiscal Arrangement Act, 2074 has been made to provide necessary provisions regarding revenue rights, revenue sharing, grants, loans, budget arrangements, public expenditures, and fiscal discipline of the Government of Nepal, the state and local levels. The Act has provision for an Intergovernmental Fiscal Council to hold and maintain necessary consultation and coordination among the Government of Nepal, the provinces and local levels on intergovernmental fiscal arrangements.

Local Government Operation Act 2074 (2017 AD)

The Local Government Operation Act, 2074 that came into effect in 2017 has paved a strong legal foundation towards institutionalizing legislative, executive and quasi-judicial practice of the local governments. The legal mechanism was enacted as per the Article 296 (1) of the Constitution of Nepal 2015 so as to leverage local leadership and governance system. The Act has stipulated several arrangements related to authorities, duties and responsibilities of local government, assembly meeting and working system, assembly management procedures, plan formulation and implementation, judicial works, financial jurisdictions, administrative structure and district assembly, among others. This act describes the criteria to divide a province into municipalities or rural municipalities and respective rights, duties and responsibilities in different development and conservation sectors. It clarifies the rights of municipalities/ rural municipalities to form local laws, regulations and criteria for conservation of environment protected areas and species; for environmental pollution and hazard control; solid waste management etc.

Efforts of federal government to implement SDGs at national level

In order to mainstream the 2030 Agenda, the Government of Nepal had formed two High Level Committees and eight Thematic Working Committees. The National Steering Committee, chaired by the Prime Minister is the apex body. And the Implementation, Coordination and Monitoring Committee and Eight Thematic Committees are responsible for technical works at the federal level. Meanwhile, the Chief Ministers of seven provinces and chairpersons of association of local governments have been included in the National Steering Committee.

The 14th National Plan had tried to mainstream the SDGs, whereas the 15th National Plan (2019/20-2023/2024) has also incorporated the SDGs. The sectoral national policies and plans have also tried to mainstream the SDGs. SDG Need Assessment, Costing and Financing Strategy 2018, formulation of planning and monitoring guidelines to local and federal governments, and review of sectoral plans and strategies in order to align with SDGs are some important steps taken by the Federal Government. Similarly, Local Government Operation Act 2017 guides the local governments to manage the governance and development affairs in their territories.

The National Planning Commission has already provided training to the local governments to mainstream the SDGs at local level. The National Planning Commission has recently produced a resource book on SDGs' Localization. Moreover, the Municipal Association Nepal (MuAN), Local Development Training Academy, Administrative Staff College and Gandaki Province are providing support to some local governments to implement the SDGs at local level.

The Sustainable Development and Good Governance Committee of the National Assembly (upper house) is the parliament committee that looks after SDGs affairs in the Federal Parliament is also monitoring the progress and process of SDGs on behalf of the federal parliament.

On the other hand, National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has started to work on SDGs according to the spirit of Merida Declaration 2015. The UN Resident Coordinator Office in Nepal is coordinating UN processes to support SDGs and UNDP Nepal has been working as a focal point of UNCT.

Nepal has completed most of the ground works for implementation of SDGs at federal level. The idea of leaving no one behind is in line with the agenda of the new Constitution of Nepal which aims to build a prosperous, egalitarian and pluralistic society with its overarching guidance to all development policies, plans and programmes.

SDGs Status and Road Map 2016-2030 identified 479 national indicators, set milestones and targets to achieve SDGs by 2030. Initiatives for localization of SDGs have also been taken through preparation of guidelines, capacity development, and assisting in preparing results framework at province level. Local level planning guidelines and SDGs' Localization Resource books are very important tools for all local governments to mainstream the SDGs in the local development process.

Efforts of Province Government to implement SDGs in the Lumbini province

At the provincial level, like other provinces, the Lumbini government has formed the Province Planning Commission in order to manage its planning and policy works. The Province Planning Commission is headed by the Chief Minister himself. The commission is supporting the province government in making annual plans and budgets and periodic development plans. Lumbini Province has formulated 5-year periodic plan 2020/21-2025/26 and Province Monitoring and Evaluation Guideline 2019. Lumbini Province has already organized a workshop on the SDGs and it has also prepared a baseline report of the SDGs in 2019.

Local Policies and Plans of Bagnaskali

So far, Bagnaskali rural municipality has adopted following policy documents. They were officially approved by the meeting of the Village Assembly held in 2017. According to the municipality there are about forty various policy related documents among them 19 have been published in local gadgets.

- Budget Allocation Act 2074 (2017 AD)
- FM Radio Management and Operation Procedure 2074 (2017 AD)
- Executive Body Work Division Procedure 2074 (2017 AD)
- Village Council Operation Act 2074 (2017 AD)
- Executive Body Operation Procedure 2074 (2017 AD)
- Decision, Order and Authorization Verification Procedure 2074 (2017 AD)
- Code of Conduct of Elected Officials 2074 (2017 AD)
- Market Monitoring Directive 2074 (2017 AD)
- Executive Body Meeting Operation Procedure 2074 (2017 AD)
- Local Gadget Publication Procedure 2074 (2017 AD)
- Education Regulation 2074 (2017 AD)
- Local Justice Committee Working Procedure 2074 (2017 AD)
- D-Class contractor license procedure 2074 (2017 AD)
- Users Committee working procedure 2074 (2017 AD)
- Staff hire procedure 2074 (2017 AD)
- Integrated property tax management procedure 2074 (2017 AD)
- Economic Act 2074 (2017 AD)
- Cooperative Act 2074
- Financial transaction regulation and management Act 2074

Institutions and Organizational structure of Bagnaskali

Municipality has formed following sectoral committees under its organizational set-up, namely

- 1) Social Development Committee
- 2) Economic Development Committee
- 3) Environment and Disaster Management Committee
- 4) Public service and Capacity Development Committee

In addition to above committees, Bill Formulation Committee (Bidhayn Samitee) and Local Justice Committee are also present. The Local Justice Committee is settling disputes related with land, development projects and other personal or family disputes. Municipality has also formed committees to work on sports and targeted communities.

Planning, Programming and Budgeting and the SDGs

Annual programme and budget of FY 2017/18 set the vision of the municipality "Beautiful, Peaceful, Civilized Bagnaskali, Economic, Social, Tourism and Infrastructure Development for Sustainable Development". Municipality has not formed any institutional setup for the purpose of SDGs' implementation. Also, it has not been able to adapt the SDGs framework in its planning and programming process; but their activities are linked with the SDGs.

Municipality has planned to work in all the sectors, but they have not set development targets. Municipality has been preparing a programme and budget annually. But, it has not finalized its integrated periodic development plan so far. Each annual plan included 500-600 projects. But, the municipality has been classifying municipality programmes and ward level programmes.

Political leadership and people's representatives in the municipality do not have adequate knowledge about the SDGs. Also, they have not been able to get clear guidance about the process to mainstream the SDGs in the development process of the municipality.

Municipality has been practicing settlement based planning to collect the needs of the people. In case a project is not completed in the year, it is switched to the next year plan. Municipality has also started to produce annual progress reports of the municipality.

Generally, youth have also very limited knowledge about the programmes, budgets and activities of the municipality. Dalits community feels "they don't have good opportunity to participate in local policies and decision making process, however participation of them in the development process has slightly improved in the last five years". They also feel that "the municipality has no genuine programmes for them". But, the Dalit people representatives are informed about the programmes of the municipality, but their demands are not fully reflected in the programmes and budgets of the municipality.

Janajatis are participating in development works such as infrastructure works and social services, only when they get budget from the municipality and other sources. In comparison to 2015, the proportion of Janajati, who have been receiving public service, has increased in general. Similarly, participation of women is increasing in the development process in the villages in recent years.

In some villages people do not have any information, what elected representatives are doing, and what they have decided. Even, they don't know about the projects and activities of the provincial government. Only knowing people or those who have good information about the municipality and other public agencies have the opportunity to take part in the development process. There is a high chance of selection of those development projects by the influence of elite class people.

Frequent transfer of high level officers of municipality is another problem to continue the development works.

Multi-Stakeholder Partnership

Municipality has also decided to form Toile Development Organizations. NGOs namely Base Nepal and SRDC are working in the municipality in coordination with the municipality. SRDC is operating education, child rights and agriculture programmes in the municipality. READ has supported establishing libraries in the schools. In addition, farmer groups, women groups, child clubs, youth clubs, community forestry user groups,

women saving-credit groups are also present in the municipality. Youth clubs are involved in sports. Child clubs are operated by respective schools. But, entrepreneurs and business people have not been organized within the municipality area, some of them are close to Tansen Chamber. Municipality does not have a clear policy and plan to build partnership with stakeholders.

Development Finance

After promulgation of the new constitution in 2015, municipalities have been granted some financial management authorities. Internal income, revenue sharing, Federal Government grants and province Government grants are the major sources of income of the Bagnaskali Rural Municipality currently. Among them amounts of conditional grants, special grants and security grants from the Federal Government are comparatively high. Total revenue of the municipality has continuously increased in the last three fiscal years. Municipality is heavily reliant on the federal and provincial government in terms of development financing.

Table 2: Revenue of Municipality			
Revenue Heading	FY 2017/18	FY 2018/19	FY 2019/20
Internal income	3,555,708	5,255,041	7,095,234
Revenue Sharing (Federal Government)	2,637,553	51,013,616	52,490,881
Revenue Sharing (Province Government)	-	138,326	4,722,023
Royalty of natural resource (Federal Government)	-	-	-
Federal Government Grant			
Equalization Grant	-	78,000,000	91,800,000
Conditional Grant	275,116,000	226,060,500	195,382,000
Special Grant	51,341,511	-	5,445,000
Matching Grant	-	-	-
Other Grant (Social Security)	-	48,977,000	77,960,200
Province Government Grant			
Equalization Grant	-	4,082,000	4,131,000
Conditional Grant	-	9,600,000	8,000,000
Special Grant	-	-	8,198,500
Matching Grant	-	12,607,111	112,500,000
Other Grant (Social Security)	-	-	-
Other Income	-	-	-
Total	332,650,772	435,733,595	567,724,838
<i>Source: Bagnaskali Rural Municipality Office</i>			

In the municipality total allocated budgets in annual programme and budgets are tentatively the same, but the rate of expenditure is 84 percent in the last three fiscal years, which is in increasing trend. But, unfortunately, the amount of capital budgets of the municipality has been continuously decreasing, but their delivery rate is increasing with respect to the allocated budgets.

Table 3: Status of Municipality Budget			
Fiscal Year	Allocated	Expenditure	%
2017/18	415,159,883	331,170,049	80
2018/19	434,428,000	372,267,723	86
2019/20	427,763,060	370,646,801	87
<i>Source: Bagnaskali Rural Municipality Office</i>			

Municipality has provided block money to each ward in FY 2019/20 ask them to implement project as per their priority.

Recommendations

- Municipality needs to prepare a comprehensive annual progress report and to organize review meetings in presence of multi-stakeholder participation every year after the fiscal year.
- Peoples should be made aware about the policies, plans and budgets of the municipality and other public offices.
- Municipality must ensure equal and meaningful participation of all in policy and development process, especially of poor, women and marginalized communities.
- Municipality and other public offices must practice voluntary disclosure of its information.
- Municipality must select development projects according to the demands and needs of the local people.
- Voices of poor and marginalized peoples should be seriously heard by the leadership of the municipality.
- Municipality needs to improve its revenue collection and delivery capacity. Similarly, it needs to increase its capital budgets. Municipality needs to explore new sources and to increase internal revenue.

CHAPTER IV: Review of Progress

4.1 Basic Social Services

4.1.1 Good Health (Goal 3)

Enabling Environment

The Constitution of Nepal has stated the right to free basic services from the state and every citizen has equal access to health services (Article 35). Living in a clean and healthy environment is the right of the citizens (Article 30, Constitution of Nepal 2015). Victims of environmental pollution or degradation have the right to obtain compensation.

Basic health and sanitation is the political power of local governments. Health related targets and quality control at the local level should be based upon federal and province level targets and criteria. Municipality has authority to register local level clinics, giving permission for operation and regulation of general hospitals, nursing homes, diagnosis centers and other health institutions. Municipality has to regulate local level production, treatment and distribution of traditional herbs and other medicinal items. Management of health insurance along with other social security programmes; determination of minimum price and its regulation on medicines and other medical items at the local level, right use of medicines and Antimicrobial resistance minimization at the local level; purchase, warehousing and distribution of medicines and health equipment at the local level are the responsibility of the municipality. Municipality can establish health information mechanisms, and surveillance public health services along with counteractive, medicinal, reestablishment of health services and palliative health service operation. Municipality can promote healthy lifestyle, nutrition, physical exercise, yoga, to stay healthy, control and manage zoonotic and pathogenic diseases, and control the use of and increasing awareness on tobacco, alcohol and other drugs.

Similarly, ward committees are made responsible to manage ward level health institutions, conduct health clinics, increase health awareness, coordinate vaccination programmes, and conduct nutrition programmes. Further, the municipality is preparing a public health sector programme and budget annually.

Institutions and Services Available

In the municipality, there are 9 health posts, 1 community health unit and 1 Ayurveda Centre providing health care services to the people. Some sub-health posts are recently converted into health posts. In this period, municipalities could construct new buildings to establish health posts. 64 health staff are providing health care services in the municipality. Similarly, women health volunteers are providing services to nine thousand persons.

The Health Section of the municipality is responsible for planning and regulation. Ayurveda service is expanding in one more place and the municipality has planned to establish a 15-Bed hospital as per the provision of federal government. Municipality has 27 Vaccination Centers (at the rate of 3 centers in one ward). There are two minor lab services in the municipality area. There is one ambulance available in the municipality. Ambulance can reach all the settlements. Ward health posts can provide 35 to 39 types of medicines to the patients. Municipality office supplies those medicines upon the request of the health posts. In some health posts, space and buildings are not sufficient.

Health Related Programmes

Community-based directly observed treatment for tuberculosis programme (CB-DOTS), TB related programme, Micros coping camp, reproductive health programme, maternal and child health programme, nutrition programme, vaccination programme, programmes related with communicable and non-communicable diseases, mental health, and leprosy are some health related programmes. Further, procurement of medicines, capacity development training, supply of health materials and equipment, family planning, VIM camp, VP programme, Suahara programme and golden thousand days awareness and nutrition programmes are some additional programmes in the municipality.

Municipality has been providing protective materials to prevent COVID 19. It is also providing support to establish a birthing center, supply of medicines and health materials required in the municipality. In order to improve public health service, municipalities and other agencies are implementing Village Mobile Clinics, distribution of medicines to the patients with chronic diseases, visit to lactating women by women health

volunteers in 3 or 7 days, family planning camps, and awareness on COVID 19 disease programmes. In general delivery cases happen in hospitals and there are four birthing centers based in ward health posts.

Further, all the health posts are providing facilities such as check-up of diabetes patients and asthma patients. There are duper machines and other necessary equipment. Women have been provided warm clothes after delivery and they can also get Rs. 1500 transportation allowance, in case they need to go to the hospital within 42 days after delivery.

There is no emergency plan or strategy of the municipality to prevent the health crisis or epidemic outbreak. Dalits feel that their participation in the health related programming has been improved in the municipality. In general, municipalities do not have practice to invite indigenous peoples in health related planning or review meetings.

Aftermath of COVID 19 pandemic, the municipality has managed the quarantine service and provided shelter, food and health materials. It has distributed relief materials to the needy families. In the last fiscal year, the municipality has spent Rs. 65,37,223/- in COVID-19 response activities.

Access to Public Health Service

In general, there is provision of equal access to the health service in the municipality. On an average time distance to reach the health posts is 45 minutes in the municipality currently, which is decreased than five year ago. But, in some locations, people need to walk a long distance to reach the health posts. Limited transportation facilities and poor conditions of roads are creating some barriers to access the health services. Mobile clinics, monthly health checkups of senior citizens are some good efforts to increase access to healthcare services. People often go to United Mission Hospital and Lumbini Medical College, since more facilities and services are available there. Also, people used to go to Tansen bazaar, in case patients are referred from the health posts or they wish to go there.

Access to the public health service of the Janajati has increased from 75 percent to 85 percent in five years. In general, they have been getting health services equally. They don't feel any discrimination in getting services. Access of the Bote community to health posts is also improved in five years. Dalit families have full access to the public health service since there are health posts in all the wards. They need to travel 30 minutes to 2 hours to reach the health posts. There is no special health facility to the persons with serious disability and handicapped. Municipality is providing special health care service to the senior citizens, who are 84 years and above. It has been providing door to door service to them once a month. There are health mother groups in some wards.

Service Receivers

Rate of visit to the health posts is increased by 25 percent in the municipality. Since local people feel that health service is improved in their health posts and they can get free medicines from there. According to the health posts, 5019 families have received health facilities from the 9 health posts in 2019. 53 health workers are providing health services from the health posts. Daily 12 to 60 patients are visiting the health posts, but the number of patients vary from one health post to another health post. All the Bote families are receiving health care services from the health posts.

People want to get sufficient lab services within the municipality. They also want 24-hour health care service in the municipality, but which is not available in the municipality area. People have limited trust in freely distributed medicines. Also, sometimes they do not get medicines from the health posts. Interestingly, some people are not aware about the availability of free medicines from the health-posts. Service seekers expect high-level service from the health posts. Village mobile clinic programmes are very important, but some families are reluctant to provide information about the health problems because of privacy issues. Mobilization of elected representatives is very supportive to community outreach health programmes.

Situation of Health Status

In the municipality, the proportion of birth attended by skilled health personnel increased from 30 percent (in 2015) to 57 percent (in 2019). Similarly, 269 pregnant women checked up their health four times in 2019,

which was 110 in 2015 and 203 women took postnatal service regularly. 200 women aged 30-39 screened for cervical cancer in 2019.

In the whole municipality 3 persons are HIV positive, which was 6 (persons) in 2015. This shows, persons living with HIV and AIDS has decreased. Since, there are limited numbers of affected persons, they don't have their own organization, but INDRENI Nepal has worked in the municipality area targeting them. Affecting people are taking ARV.

People suffering from TB reached to 47 in 2019, which was only 19 five years back. In the whole municipality, malaria cases are not detected. Number of people suffering from Hepatitis B has decreased to 74, which was 159 in 2015. But, 4 leprosy cases have been found in the municipality, which was nil in five years ago. And, one Kalazar case has been detected in five years. No Lymphatic Filariasis case has been found in the last five years. One Dengue case was found in 2019, but no case has been detected in the last few years. There are 55 trachoma cases in 2019 in the municipality, which was not found in 2015.

In the municipality 210 persons have done permanent family planning, which is decreased to 144. The trend shows that the number of persons involved in permanent family planning is decreasing, but in contrast, persons who have done temporary family planning are increasing.

Gastritis, blood pressure, diarrhea, diabetes, oral health, tonsil, ENT related problems, cough and respiratory problems, and skin related diseases are some health problems in the municipality area. Unsafe living styles, negligence on sanitation, and personal hygiene and hand-washing have most likely increased health risks. Most of the ex-armies from Janajati suffer from orthopedic diseases and some of them have paralysis. Whereas, some are suffering from harmful use of alcohol and their health conditions become serious. Cancer, diabetes and hepatitis are some health problems of the Bote community.

Suicide, Drugs and Alcohol Problem

There are no official records of suicide cases in the municipality. But, after COVID 19 this rate is most likely to be increased as in other parts of the country. It is believed that the number of hard drug users and harmful use of alcohol have also increased little bit in the last five years. Some Janajati families are involved in production of local liquors, but some Dalit families are also doing so. Sometimes disputes, quarrel, and even beating take place in the villages due to drinking of alcohol. Sometimes police raid and destroy the local liquors. But, in fact, municipalities and local administration are not able to control local liquor production.

Road Accident

In the municipality, there has not been a serious case of road accidents in five years, but some people were injured in the accidents when they travel outside from the municipality. On the other hand, Dalits sometimes face occupational accidents during their work.

Communicable Diseases

In the municipality, the number of children suffering from Diarrhea increased to 1266 in 2019, the number was only 769 in 2015. Similarly, the case of common cold and influenza has also increased to 2209, which was 1559 in 2015. From Bagnaskali 156 persons have been infected by COVID 19 and seven persons were died so far (21 Jan. 2021, DHO Palpa).

Non-communicable diseases

Patients with cardiovascular disease have increased to 65, which was only one five year ago. Similarly, patients with cancer have reached 3, the number has increased in the last five years. And, patients with chronic respiratory disease also increased to 219, which was 180 five years ago. These statistics revealed that the patients of non-communicable disease are rapidly increasing in the municipality, which is very serious. Unfortunately, the number of persons with blood pressure taking medication has significantly risen in the last five years and the number of women is very high in comparison to men. On the other hand, 143 are diabetic patients are under medication, which is significantly raised in the last five years.

Vaccination

Number of persons who have taken 3 doses of Hepatitis B is 144, which was 90 in 2015. Population covered by complete vaccination was reached to 274, which is significantly increased. According to the health posts, they are able to cover vaccination to all the targeted population.

Health Insurance

Municipality has decided to implement a Health Insurance Programme targeting all the HHs. Within the municipality 2328 families (41 percent) have done health insurance among them 373 are Dalits (67.8 percent). In some villages coverage of health insurance is reached up to 90 percent. Health insurance helps the families to cut off their health-related expenses. Coverage of health insurance is only about 50 percent with the Bote community, which is lower than other caste groups. They have a lack of awareness and financial problems. But, the health situation has been gradually improving with them, so their health care related expenses have been reduced in the last five years. Insurance is supporting the people in terms of monetary expenditure, but still they need to spend huge amounts of money for treatment in hospitals. Many Dalit families have done health insurance, which were supported by the government. In ward no. 1, the ward committee has supported them to do health insurance free of cost. But, many Dalit families are still left behind by health insurance programme because of lack of awareness and financial problem. They argue the municipality has not supported them. In contracts, municipality officials say some Dalit families are not doing insurance, even they are economically capable to do so. Municipality is ready to provide financial support to the Dalits, but the financial burden is very high. However, there is massive health insurance; senior citizens and dispassionate persons feel some discomfort in insurance service.

Pollution

Municipality is giving emphasis to road construction. Haphazard construction of roads causes air pollution in the municipality especially in the dry season. But, the dusty environment is not taken seriously by the people and the municipality itself. Despite this, air pollution is increasing in the municipality. people are not facing direct air pollution related health problems. But, haphazard practice of burning plastics has created health problems such as cough, eye disease, headache etc. Some people have asthma problems due to poor quality of air and domestic smoke. Still 70-80 percent of HHs use firewood as the cooking fuel in their homes, especially to cook food for their cattle and to produce local liquors. Interestingly, many people are not aware that air pollution can cause disease and deaths. Similarly, the soil pollution is growing gradually due to uncontrolled use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides in farm lands. They are harming the health of the people.

Sexual and Reproductive Health

There is no concrete programme on sexual and reproductive health rights in the municipality. However, 50 percent of women and girls aged 15-49 are found aware of SRHR. In the municipality, schools have been provided sanitary pads targeting the girls, but there is the problem of distribution effectively. Schools are becoming more girl-friendly in recent years. Municipality has decided to provide additional Rs. 1500 to the mother, if she checks up four times and gives birth in a birthing center. Municipality has adopted a Zero-Home Delivery policy for safe motherhood. Health workers are reaching homes for providing postnatal care service to ensure cent percent service.

Tobacco

High blood pressure and respiratory disease are some health problems with Dalits because of smoking, tobacco and alcohol consumption. Rate of smoking of Dalits is relatively high in ward 1 and ward 2. All age groups have a habit of smoking. Young, adult and senior citizens of the Bote community have the habit of smoking and chewing tobacco. This habit is increasing with Bote youths, which has been impacting on their health. Loss of jobs, unemployment and psych-social problems are also leading the young people to be smokers.

Finance: Budget allocated in the health sector is given in the table. Some activities planned in FY 2019/20 were not implemented due to the COVID 19 crisis. Municipality is allocating sufficient budgets in the health sector. Allocating separate budgets in the wards is a good opportunity.

Table 4: Budget in Health Sector

Fiscal Year	Allocated (Rs.)	Expenditure (Rs.)	Delivery Rate (%)
2017/18	24,506,000	22,601,884	92.23
2018/19	40,725,000	36,701,370	90.12
2019/20	42,706,970	37,967,799	88.90
<i>Source: Bangnaskali Rural Municipality Office</i>			

Suggestions

- Municipality should prepare a local health act and regulation. Also, it should prepare a long term and medium term plan. Local health acts should make clear provisions to regulate private health clinics.
- Municipality needs to ensure participation of indigenous people, Dalits and minorities in planning and decision-making processes.
- Municipality has to formulate a health emergency preparedness plan to prevent from the possible epidemic outbreak or any health crisis.
- Municipality should have its own hospital and medical officers. There should be a provision of 24-hour service, availability of quality health workers and taking low charge for services. It is necessary to establish pathology with sufficient lab services in the municipality.
- All the health posts should have adequate spaces, rooms, equipment, and other facilities such as telephone, internet etc. according to the government standard.
- Municipality should provide training to its health staff regularly. There should be active health mother groups in all the wards. Health-post management committee should be more effective.
- It would be helpful, if health posts could provide all the medicines as prescribed by them. Municipality should handle this grievance of the local people.
- Village clinics should be effective and they should maintain privacy of the families.
- Municipality should regulate production of local alcohol. People involved in local alcohol production should be provided alternative employment opportunities.
- Municipality should take initiatives to control child marriage practice to protect the health of women and girls. Municipality needs to develop specific programmes to protect the SRHR of the people and to increase awareness on sexual and reproductive health to the youth in coordination with health posts.
- Municipality must ensure availability of health insurance for all families including poor, Dalits and marginalized communities. Bote families should be provided support for health insurance.
- There should be psychosocial counseling services in the municipality for those who have mental health problems.
- Municipality should improve the quality of rural roads to control dust.
- Municipality should develop preventive programmes to protect health and to reduce the health related expenses of their people. Municipality should provide health awareness to the people particularly to Bote and Kumal community. Further, the municipality needs to give attention to check non-communicable diseases such as blood pressure, diabetes etc.

4.1.2 Quality Education (Goal 4)

Enabling Environment

Education is a human right. Inclusion and equity are crucial for transformative education. Education as a common public good requires public funding. Education at primary and secondary levels is universal and adult education primordial. Constitution of Nepal 2015 clearly spells out the right to basic education of the people. Every citizen has the right to get compulsory and free education up to the basic level and the education up to

the secondary level from the state (Article 31). Local governments have been made responsible for basic and secondary education (schedule 8). For basic and secondary education, 23 specific functions of the local governments have been provisioned by the Local Government Operation Act 2017 including planning, implementation and monitoring. Bagnaskali municipality has prepared a 3-year Village Education Plan (2020/21-2022/23). This plan has clearly guided the municipality, educational institutions and guardians. Basically, it has presented the strategies for child education, primary education, secondary education, technical and vocational education, non-formal education, and higher education. In addition it has also presented the strategies to regulate private schools, school health and nutrition programmes, and safe schools.

Educational Institutions

In the municipality there are 37 schools including 7 private schools. Many guardians want to admit their children in private schools. 3072 students are studying in the private schools. There are 41 pre-primary schools in the municipality. In the municipality, Chandra Secondary School located in ward 9 is providing technical education. It has been teaching a sub-overseer course to some students. According to the municipality, 99 percent of teachers are trained. Further, schools have also established science laboratories and establish libraries in support of other organizations.

Regulation of Education

There are an Education Committee and Education section in the municipality. They are responsible for making policies, formulating plans and programmes. They are regulating the educational institutions in the municipality.

Education Programmes

The municipality has already declared all wards as literate wards. It is also implementing Child-friendly Local Governance. Now the municipality has declared child-friendly schools to all the schools, they are trying to implement a child-friendly programme, which seems impactful. Municipality has been supporting maintenance and repairing, drinking water, sanitation, and the compound wall of the schools. There is a transportation facility in two public schools, which are located in ward 5 and 9. Municipality has developed a local curriculum for grade 1 to 3 and it has also published textbooks for grade 1. But, the curriculum is still evolving.

ICT training, question paper preparation workshop, declaration of child-friendly school, school admission campaign, development of local curriculum and regular monitoring are some efforts of the municipality. Municipality is trying to include some subjects in school curriculum such as peace, gender equality etc.

Access to Education

In general, there is equal access to the education services in the municipality. There are 4027 public schools (VEP 2020). Generally primary schools are close to the students, but to access secondary schools they may need to walk up to two hours to the schools. Dalits representatives are also participating in the School Management Committee. Even though education is low with Dalits, they have started to participate in policy and programming in recent years. Dalits do not have good access to the technical school of the municipality because of lack of awareness and geographical remoteness. From the Bote community, nobody is involved in technical education. In the whole municipality, 989 girls, 135 Dalits and 104 PWDs have received scholarships in the 33 schools. Percentage of girls who continue their education has also improved in recent years.

COVID 19 has direct impact in the education sector since schools remained closed for 8-9 months. Students could not get education at that time and even most of them forgot their learning, what they learned in the past. Federal government developed a learning facilitation guideline and tried to introduce online education, but it was not successful due to digital divide and authorities could not apply this in practice. After COVID 19 the public schools have also started to practice Tole Education. Schools have been resumed, but they have not been fully operated and they have been able to follow the security standard of the government.

Quality Education Service

Municipality is committed to quality education. Many schools are trying their best to improve the teaching learning environment and they tend to introduce new teaching methods. But, many people in the municipality believe that public schools have not been able to provide good education compared to private schools. Some

parents send their babies to the private schools, even the public schools are closer than the private schools. Another reason is, teaching and learning in private schools is in English medium. Some families migrated to the cities to provide a good education to their children.

Education section of the municipality is unable to regulate or give instructions to the public schools. Availability of the quality education and technical education facility are becoming the challenge in the municipality. There is a lack of computer teachers and the numbers of teachers are not adequate as well. It is learned that education is not directly linked to the daily life and needs of the people. Many guardians opine that their investment in education is not becoming fruitful and they feel a lack of practical education. Similarly, many young people insist they are getting only theoretical education rather than practical education. However, the quality of the education is gradually improving in recent years.

Physical Facilities Available in Schools

Electricity facility is available in 37 schools and internet facility is available in 10 schools, whereas WASH service is available in 37 schools. Local people opine that WASH facilities have been improved in the public schools in recent years. Similarly, 23 schools are providing sanitary pads. In the municipality, there is no presence of disable friendly schools.

Early Childhood Development, Care and Pre-Primary Education

In the municipality every public school is running ECD classes and the schools are trying to increase teaching, playing materials, and other facilities. But, in some schools' spaces and teaching and playing materials are not sufficient. Every school has hired child education facilitators, but they get limited remuneration and their jobs are not guaranteed. Further, they don't have training and they are often asked to teach in other classes.

Situation of Education Status

Net enrolment rate in primary school has reached almost 99 percent and the rate of completion of primary education is also 99 percent. But, the rate of enrolment in secondary school is only 65 percent. Rate of admission in pre-schools is 86 percent. Data shows the number of girls is higher than boys in the schools.

The VLR could not get information about the rate of students they get involved in technical and vocational education. The average literacy rate in the municipality is 99.8 percent, in which the literacy rate of men is quite higher than women. Rates of learning achievement are 66.07 percent (Primary level), 62.33 percent (Lower Secondary Level) and 52.6 percent (Secondary level) as of 2019 (VEP 2020).

Table 5: Status of Education	
Net enrolment rate in primary education	99 %
Net enrolment rate in higher education	65 %
Literacy rate	99.8%
<i>Source: Bagnaskali Rural Municipality Office</i>	

Enrolment of women and girls in education is good. Access to education of the Janajati has been increased to cent percent in 2019, which was about 65 percent five years ago. New generation has a tendency to go to the schools. But, they tend to leave the schools after completing grade twelve.

Only about 20 percent Dalits have passed 12 classes in the whole municipality. Some Dalits also have graduate degrees. This shows level of education is low with Dalit community. However, all the Dalits have access to education, which was low five years ago. Most likely, those children do not want to enter in higher education, if their parents have low education. Poor economic condition and low level of awareness among the Dalits are the main reason for their backwardness in education. But, few Dalit students are involved in technical education. Only one woman and one man are studying graduate level from Bote community in the whole municipality. In backward communities they tend to continue their some living styles as of their earlier generations since they have limited exposures to the outer society Persons with minor disability are going to the public schools in general. Blind persons are going to Damgad Secondary School Tansen, Deaf persons are

going to Ram Tulashi Secondary School Rampur, and some mentally disabled persons are going to Bhawani Secondary School Kusum Khola.

Challenges of Education

Absences of ownership, irregular attendance of students, poor result, migration of families, lack of awareness, child marriage are some major challenges related with the education. On the other hand, fulfilment of teachers and political influence of the teachers are some problems in the public schools. Party politics in School Management Committees is another challenge experienced by the ordinary people. Teachers are not able to use their knowledge and skills in the classroom, what they learn during teachers' training. Teachers are not able to update themselves in changing contexts. Municipality itself is not able to monitor the schools. Municipality is not clear how to monitor the schools. Many young people think that the municipality is unable to provide technical and vocational education to the young people.

Although there is presence of Janajati in School Management Committees and Teachers Guardian Committees, they are not effective because of absence of clear guidance. In the case of Kumal and Bote communities, sometimes their children do not go to the school since they tend to go fishing, which is the traditional occupation of them. Similarly, at the time of festivals they do not go to schools. Students of Magar families want to join British and Indian army, so some of them leave the schools earlier.

Education Finance

Municipality is getting budgets from the District Education Office. On top of the federal budget, the municipality is also allocating some budget in the education sector annually. The municipality itself had allocated Rs. 2,354,566 in FY 2019/20, in which they could spend Rs. 1,467,085/- (62.3 percent). Similarly, for child friendly programmes, there was Rs. 2,495,000/- budget and they could spend Rs. 1,967,000/- (78 percent). Still, the total allocated budget in the education sector is not sufficient. Sometimes, municipality and schools have to wait for a long time to get expenditure authority from the District Education Office.

Table 6: Budget in Health Sector			
Fiscal Year	Allocated (Rs.)	Expenditure (Rs.)	Delivery Rate (%)
2017/18	112,583,000	107,010,141	95.05
2018/19	144,245,000	134,508,462	93.25
2019/20	155,378,567	146,856,511	94.52
Source: Bangnaskali Rural Municipality Office			

Suggestions

- Municipality should implement Local Education Regulation and Village Education Plan effectively to improve the quality of education and educational services.
- Education section of the municipality should be more constructive and effective as well. They should monitor the schools effectively.
- Municipality should allocate adequate budget in the education sector to improve learning achievements of the students. All the schools should improve computer education.
- Raising awareness about the importance of education, discouraging child marriage, improvement of quality of the education, and creating a dedicated education fund are required to improve level of education of Janajati.
- Roles of guardians are also important to improve the education of their children. It would be important to develop awareness programmes targeting the parents.
- Municipality should give high attention to technical and vocational education. Dalit students should be provided employment-oriented education. They also need awareness generation training.
- Municipality should build an enabling environment for the students of Bote community to enroll them in technical schools.

- Municipality should ensure education service to the different types of PWDs living in the municipality area.
- Municipality should make programmes for Early Childhood Development and pre-school management.

4.1.3 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (Goal 6)

Enabling Environment

Right of access to clean drinking water and sanitation is a fundamental right of the people (Article 35). Local governments are responsible to provide clean water supply and basic sanitation. They can formulate policy, laws, standard, plan, implement and regulate the WASH related activities.

Programme of Municipality

Municipality has been implementing the WASH programme in the entire municipality by making a WASH plan in 2020. Actually, the provincial government has supported this campaign. All the ward committees have planned to provide one tap for each HH. In this period, the municipality has constructed 83 new intakes and 3 RCC water tanks, 32 round tanks and 117 reservoir tanks. Similarly, the municipality could install 1627 taps in the last three years.

Municipality has already completed a campaign on *"Open Defecation Free"* municipality and it has already started the *"Complete Sanitation Campaign"*. There is no presence of a separate section under the municipality to look after WASH sector. Similarly, there is not any concrete WASH programme targeting the Dalits. But, Dalit people's representative re supporting to small drinking water and maintenance works in the municipality.

The municipality does not have any specific policy and programme targeting the Janajati, but it is estimated that 90 percent Janajati have good access to the drinking water, which was about 75 percent in 2015. This indicates improvement of access to drinking water facilities in recent years.

Policy and Decision Making

Municipality is allocating budget in WASH programmes in its annual programme and budget every year. But, the decision making process of the WASH programmes of the municipality is not adequately inclusive in terms of participation of the diverse communities. But, youth are becoming aware about the WASH in recent years because WASH programmes always seek young people in construction works. Bote families have been participating in the WASH related meeting in their villages, but they are not invited in the municipality level meetings. Some people opine that they don't have information about the WASH related policy and programmes, and even if they are discussed, no actions are taken in practice. Number of Dalits are represented in the Drinking Water project, but sometimes they are not informed about the meetings. However, they feel their participation has significantly increased in the last five years.

Situation of Drinking Water Supply

In the municipality, there are 91 drinking water projects and 26 projects are under construction. According to the WASH programme of the municipality, 5252 HHs have access to drinking water. In which, 4646 HHs (88.50 percent) have basic drinking water facilities and 271 HHs (5.2 percent) have access to safe drinking water. In the whole municipality, 2520 HHs (72.2 percent) have access with piped water. In detail, 1978 HHs have access with lift systems, 101 families have solar systems. In the whole municipality, 70 piped line system projects, 27 lift projects and 3 solar system drinking water projects are being run. They are not facing leakage problems.

Table 7: Access to drinking water	
HHs access to safe drinking water	5.2 %
HHs access to basic drinking water facility	88.5 %
HHs with limited access	4.6%
HHs with unsafe drinking water	1.8%
Source: WASH Plan 2020	

Dalit community didn't have good access to the safe drinking waters five years back. But, it is estimated that about 80 percent Dalit families have access to safe drinking water facility currently. Dalits are now benefiting from *One House One Tap programme*. To the Bote community, fetching water was difficult five years ago, which has been improved. But, the available water is still not safe, especially during the rainy season. Some of the families have a practice of drinking boiled water.

The municipality is able to test 42.2 percent sources of water and the recent report says 42.30 percent is safe to drink. It is estimated 0.10 percent source has found the possibility of e-coli problem.

Situation of Sanitation

According to the municipality, 93 percent HHs have permanent toilets, whereas 4.5 percent is temporary and 2.5 percent HHs do not have any toilets. There are 3 public toilets within the area of municipality. Similarly, the situation of sanitation and personal hygiene among indigenous people hygiene have also improved in recent years. Implementation of the Complete Sanitation Programme also helped to improve sanitation and the hygiene in the municipality area. Bote families have been provided some subsidies to construct the toilets, so about 50 percent Bote families have constructed toilets in the municipality.

Table 8: Access to Sanitation	
HHs with permanent toilets	93 %
HHs with temporary toilets	4.5 %
HHs with no-toilets	2.5%
Source: WASH Plan 2020	

Situation of Hygiene

It is estimated that about 65 percent Janajati do practice hand washing with soap, which was about 30 percent in 2015. After COVID 19 crisis, people have become more aware about the importance of hand washing. They wash their hands after using the toilet, before taking food and after touching any dirty things. Moreover, mothers also start to practice hand-wash before breast feeding and feeding to their babies. It is estimated that 75 to 90 percent Dalits have started to practice hand washing by soap water. Five years back it was very low. Similarly, the Bote community has also become aware of personal hygiene including hand washing after COVID 19, but level of awareness is still not enough. Because of negligence in personal hygiene, some people are facing health problems like diarrhea and skin diseases.

It is estimated that 71 percent HHs are practicing separation of wastes produced from homes. Even in the settlements of Janajati environmental sanitation has been improved, but they need to improve the separation of their wastes. As in other caste groups, Dalits families have also developed their habits to collect and separate the wastes, whereas only few Dalit families used that practice. Similarly, waste management practice is also improved with the Bote community. In some wards municipality and ward offices have distributed buckets for collection of trash.

Finance

Municipality is getting funds from the Province Government in this sector. But, the municipality itself is also allocating their own budget. Municipality needs to allocate its budgets in new drinking water projects.

Table 9: Budget in WASH Sector			
Fiscal Year	Allocated (Rs.)	Expenditure (Rs.)	Delivery Rate (%)
2017/18	19,542,000	16,466,089	84.26
2018/19	21,135,000	18,017,587	85.25
2019/20	23,572,500	19,307,183	81.90

Source: Bagnaskali Rural Municipality Office

Suggestions

- Municipality should make a local WASH policy and it has to implement its WASH plan effectively. Progress of WASH Plan should be periodically monitored. Municipality is suggested to support the National WASH MIS system developed by the Ministry of Water Supply.
- Sustainability of the running drinking projects is the main concern. So, the municipality needs to make a separate plan to sustain the projects. Contribution of users in terms of money and labor will be very important for sustainability.
- Municipality should ensure meaningful participation of all the communities in WASH programmes. Further, it needs to increase meaningful participation of Dalits in Drinking Water Users Committees.
- Bote community should be made more aware of personal hygiene and hand washing. Municipality should participate in WASH related meetings.
- Municipality should give full attention to functionality and sustainability of running drinking water projects. Obviously, they need maintenance funds, technical persons, and effective user's committees.
- Municipality should have a contingency plan to make sure the drinking water projects are operated even in emergency situations such as natural disasters. Sustainability of declaration of ODF municipalities is challenging.

4.2 Access to Electricity (Goal 7)

Enabling Environment

Local functions like small hydro power projects and alternative energy are the jurisdiction of local governments. They can formulate local policy, law, standard, plan, implement, monitor the hydro power project up to 1 MegaWatt. They can also develop local plans and policies for alternative energy, technology development, and technology transfer at local level. Local Governments are also responsible for management, operation and regulation of electricity distribution systems and services (LGOA 2017). Municipality has a policy to provide electricity service with a reading meter, even if the families do not have land-owner certificates.

Institutions

There is no office of Nepal Electricity Authority in the municipality area. Residents of this municipality need to go to Tansen to pay their electricity bill or some are paying bills electronically via e-sewa available in Deurali bazaar. In addition to the programmes of NEA, the municipality is providing money to purchase iron poles. Iron poles are displacing the wooden poles.

Access to electricity

Municipality announced the Ujjyalo Bagnaskali Abhiyan (Bright Bagnaskali Campaign) four years ago. In the municipality, 97 percent of HHs have access to electricity facilities. Access to electricity has increased by 2 percent in the last five years. 3 percent of HHs do not have access to electricity because of poverty and remoteness. Most of the Bote families' houses are electrified, but some are left. It is because of financial problems, unavailability of land ownership certificate with them and lack of information.

It is estimated that each HHs consume 20 units' electricity per month on average. In the last few years, the numbers of enterprises have been gradually increasing and use of electricity is also increasing at the same rate. It is estimated that 15 percent of HHs are using electricity for business purposes, which was about 5 percent in 2015. In general, supply of electricity is regular in the municipality, but sometimes it is gone at the time of maintenance in their area. But, community people have grievances that they do not respond to when they contact the electricity office or they do not come in time for repairs.

All the HHs of the Janajati have been electrified till 2019, the coverage was about 85 percent in 2015. Average use of electricity is about 20 units per HH. Average rate of use of electricity by Janajati has increased by units per month. About 27 families from Janajati have used electricity in their poultry farms.

All the Dalit families have access to the electricity now, which was about 70 percent five years ago. They use 20 to 30 units of electricity on an average per month. Electricity consumption of Dalit families per month is increased by 5 units. 5 Dalit families are using electricity for their enterprises including 3 micro-garments and 2 rice mills, but it is not clear how much electricity they consume.

Finance

Municipality has been allocating some money for electrification every year. Further, it is also getting some conditional grants from the federal government for renewable energy (solar panel).

Table 10: Budget Allocated for Electricity	
Fiscal Year	Amount (Rs.)
2017/18	5,000,000
2018/19	1,350,000
2019/20	3,700,000
<i>Source: Bagnaskali Rural Municipality 2020</i>	

Suggestions

- Municipality office should establish a separate unit to look after the energy sector.
- Municipality should support Bote families for land ownership certificates and poor families should be provided financial support to electrify their homes.
- Nepal Electricity Authority should establish an office in the municipality, so that electricity users could pay their electricity bills and do complaints in case of any problems related with electricity service.
- Municipality should make a separate policy and plan to promote renewable energy in its area. Villagers should be asked to use electricity as cooking fuel.

4.3 Gender Equality (Goal 5)

Enabling Empowerment

Right to equality is a fundamental right according to the Constitution of Nepal (Article 18, CON 2015). Every woman has equal lineage right without gender-based discrimination (Article 38, CON 2015). Women have the right to safe motherhood, reproductive health, and participate in all state bodies. No women shall be subjected to physical, mental, sexual, psychological or other forms of violence and exploitation. They have equal rights to property and family. No discrimination should be made on the ground of gender with regard to remuneration and social security (Article 18, CON 2015)

Municipality gives emphasis to organize women empowerment programmes to enhance their capacities. Further, the municipality has a policy to provide special grants to women entrepreneurs. Municipality wants to bring programmes to bring several programmes against violence, domestic violence and trafficking, and safe motherhood. Municipality has constructed 41 community buildings to benefit the women.

Discrimination Against Women and Girls

Because of ignorance and low-level awareness, gender inequality was high in the past. But it has been continuously decreasing in society. But still robust actions are needed to address the gender inequality issues. Roles of men and women are not redistributed as in other societies. In income generation and public decision making the participation of women is still not satisfactory. In general women have access to productive resources, but they don't have control over them. Personal characteristics of women are always more concerned in society than that of men. Participation of women in politics has slightly increased in recent years, but gender inequality is observed within the political parties and local politics as well. But, education of

women is progressively improved in the municipality. Level of gender equality with Janajati is relatively less than other caste groups, which is further decreased than previous years. Division of gender roles, discrimination between male and female and cases of sexual violence are still existing in Dalit communities. Gender equality is apparent in Dalit communities as in other caste groups.

Daily Wage Rate

In the municipality, the wage rate between men and women is not equal for the same nature of work. Daily wage rate is Rs. 400-500 for women, but for the men it ranges from Rs. 600-800. It differs from place to place and it depends on the negotiation between giver and taker. But, Gabtung village there is a good practice that in every Baisakh month, all the villagers sit together and fix the rate of daily wage. There is no discrimination of daily wage rate between men and women.

Women in Business

In municipality women have been gradually involved in the business sector, so women led business has reached 3 percent, which was about 1 percent in 2015. Dalit women are involving in the family business and about 5 enterprises in the municipality are led by Dalit women, which is increased in five years.

Gender Based Violence

There are no cases detected of female genital mutilation in the municipality, but there are some cases of violence against women such as women trafficking, polygamy, sexual abuses, rape and blaming of witchcraft in 2015. The reported cases will decrease in 2019 according to DPO. But, women feel that violence against them has increased by five percent in the last few years, and they also opine "violence starts from the home". Many sexual violence cases are not shared or reported. There are not serious problems of violence against Janajati women in the municipalities, but there are some cases of marital relation with close relatives. Comparatively, Janajati are open in culture. Dalit families feel that the violence against women in their community is decreased than five years ago.

Women experience violence by persons other than intimate partners increased by 10 percent than five years ago. But, most of the cases are not exposed or not reported. They become close when they need each other's support and then women become most likely to be victims. The cases are exposed when disputes start within them. But, young people views that that rape cases have been decreased in last five years. However, the municipality is also taking an initiative to organize a 16-day campaign against gender based violence.

Table 11: Violence in Palpa district		
Type	Year 2015	Year 2019
Trafficking	2	2
Polygamy	13	0
Sexual abuse	11	5
Rape	3	1
Witchcraft	1	1
Source: District Police Office 2020		

In recent years, violence against men has also increased and they led to division of families. In many instances, family disputes are apparent in those families, where husbands have gone abroad for employment. There is a high chance of blaming or stigmatization to those women, whose husbands are not present in the homes. Mistrust, over expenses, misuse of mobiles and internets are some reasons for the conflict between husbands and wives. Many women still believe that their sexual and reproductive health are controlled by men. Women are still not in position to defend themselves.

Violence against Girls

1-14-year aged girls experience psychological and physical punishment is gradually decreased due to different programmes run by NGOs in the schools. Adolescent Club, Child Club, Youth Network, Radio and TV programmes and paper media are contributions to increase their awareness.

Child Marriage

In past years, parents were fully responsible for the marriage of their daughters and there were several examples of forced marriage. But, there is no forced marriage now and young people are becoming responsible. But, there is chance of love marriage among the adolescent, even parents are not willing for child marriage. Even though, child marriage is illegal, society is not in position to resist. People believe unemployment, television and social media are responsible for child marriage. Comparatively child marriage practice is high with Janajati, Dalits and poor families. So, child marriage, unwanted and unsafe pregnancy are still the challenges in the municipality. Local women and youth say that the child marriage is increased in last five years. There are 5-6 cases of child marriage in 2020 in the municipality.

Harmful Practices

In the municipality area, there is no serious problem of harmful practices that negatively impact women. But, still society believes in some traditional thoughts such as witch-craft etc. But, there are no recorded incidents about the harmful practices.

Ownership of Private property

In recent years, ownership of land and houses of women have been significantly increased in the municipality. Similar situation can be seen with Dalit women as well. Mainly, this is because of government rule, giving concession to women in land registration fees.

Average time of work in a day

Average hours spent in domestic work by women in a day is 15-16 hours, whereas the time contribution of the men is only about 6 hours.

Access to Mobile and Internet

Almost, women have access to mobile phones in the municipality, which has sharply increased in five years. Similarly, around 25-26 percent 15-24 aged women use the internet, especially those whose husbands are in foreign employment. This rate has also rapidly increased in the last five years. Similarly, Janajati women, who have been using mobile phones, have rapidly increased since their family members have gone to foreign countries for employment. It is guessed that almost all Janajati women are using mobile phones and about 80 percent also use the internet. Similarly, access to mobile phone has been significantly increased with Dalit women in last five years. Similarly, the internet users of Dalit women are also increased in recent years. About 60 percent Dalit women have access to internet. After COVID19 crisis they provided the internet to the children for online education. So, Dalit women also take advantage of the internet service.

Women Participation in Decision

Except for elected women, most of the women feel that they are not allowed to participate in the decision making process of the municipality. But, elected women claim that other women are also invited in the ward level planning process. Representation of Janajati women in political parties have been significantly increased in the last five years and tentatively it has reached to 35 percent among women representatives. There are 3 Janajati women representatives in the executive board of the municipality, including the vice-chair. Two Janajati women are serving in public offices. Dalit women are present in the Village Assembly and Executive Body of the municipality. Physical representation of Dalit women is increased in the municipality. Similarly, representation of Dalit women is also increased in the local units of the major political parties. Low level of education is the main problem with Dalit women to reach in public positions and even they are educated, they have less chance go get jobs in public offices. It is a good practice; the municipality has taken an initiative to form an organization of single and widow women.

Finance

Many women are not aware how much budget is allocated for women development. Municipality is not mandatory to allocate a fixed percentage of their total budget, which was in practice before restructuring of local governments. About 10 percent of the budget was earmarked before five years.

Table 12: Budget Allocated for Women	
Fiscal Year	Amount (Rs.)

2017/18	259,2000
2018/19	235,6000
2019/20	243,3000
<i>Source: Capacity Needs Assessment Report, Bangnaskali Rural Municipality</i>	

Regarding public budget, there is no dedicated budget of the municipality that is targeted to the development of Janajati women and Dalit women in last five years. In fiscal year 2019/20, the municipality has allocated Rs. 100,000 for each ward. Municipality itself is organizing women empowerment programme, Violence Against Women programme, income generation programmes, sexual and reproductive health rights programme and other programmes related to women rights.

Suggestions

- Municipality has to make a separate policy and plan to uplift the status of women. It also needs to allocate dedicated budgets for women and girls empowerment.
- Municipality has to enhance leadership capacity of women, who are involved in political parties and who are serving as people's representatives.
- Municipality has to adopt gender responsive budget and ensure participation of women in planning, implementation and monitoring process.
- Municipality should implement preventive, promotional and protective programmes to control violence against women and girls.
- Municipality should ensure gender equality in every public service delivery including health, education, WASH etc.
- Municipality should make some restrictive policy to curb child marriage practices.
- Municipality should promote women participation in income generation activities.

4.4 Decent Work and Economic Growth (Goal 8)

Enabling Environment

Nepalese citizens have freedom to practice any profession, carry on any occupation, and establish and operate any industry, trade and business in any part of Nepal (Article 17, CON 2015). Similarly, every citizen has the right to employment and the right to choose employment (Article 33, CON 2015). Further, every laborer has the right to fair labor practice (Article 34, CON 2015). Agriculture and animal husbandry, agro-products management, animal health, cooperatives are the constitutional responsibility of local governments. Further, they are also responsible for management, operation and control of agriculture extension. Municipality has adopted a Child Protection Policy in 2019.

Municipality Programmes

Municipality has been providing subsidies and other support to the people involved in agro and non-agro businesses. Municipality has programmes such as distribution of seeds and providing subsidies for agriculture business. Municipality is also providing support to poor families. But, they have not been able to take adequate benefits from income generation and capacity development related programmes. To increase production and income generation activities, municipality is encouraging the farmers through various programmes and supports such as vegetable farming, horticulture, subsidy in transportation, poor support programme, modernization of agriculture, animal husbandry, improved breeding, subsidy to production and processing, insurance of livestock and crops, animal feeding, marketing, one village one technology programme etc. Through the support of the municipality, maize seed production scheme has covered 2000 ropani areas, which is implemented in ward 1 and 2 under the Prime Minister Agriculture Modernization Programme. Beekeeping is another supported area of the municipality. Beekeeping farmers of ward 1, 3 and 9 were provided beekeeping materials with 50 percent subsidy in the last fiscal year. Municipality doesn't have any dedicated programmes targeting the Janajati for their economic development.

Economic Activities and Employment Status

In the whole municipality, there are 729 enterprises including micro enterprises and small trade businesses (Economic Survey, CBS 2018). Agriculture is the main source of income of the people of Bagnaskali municipality. But some are involved in services, doing enterprises and labor works such as carpentry, mason etc. Municipality had come up with the slogan, "Agricultural Revolution, Modernization and Mechanization". It has also emphasized livestock and poultry development through an annual programme and budget (FY 2018/19). 25 farmer's groups are registered in the municipality office. Despite high potentiality of agriculture, it has not become a high priority of the municipality and it is not able to allocate sufficient budget in this sector on top of the regular agriculture budget of the federal government. Importance of functional linkage between three tier governments is explicitly observed.

Table 13: Business Firms in Municipality		
S.N.	Type	No.
1	Agriculture Cooperative	8
2	Private business firms	3
3	Fresh vegetable firms	7
4	Beekeeping firms	3
5	Cow firms	1
6	Buffalo firms	2
7	Goat firms	20
8	Fishery firms	2
9	Poultry firms	15
10	Milk collection centers	3
11	Farm products collection centre	2
<i>Source: Capacity Needs Assessment Report, Bangnaskali Rural Municipality</i>		

Most of the employees of public offices are from Brahmin caste. Agriculture and foreign jobs are the main source of income of Janajati. Livelihood of the most of the families is heavily dependent on remittance. But, some young people are getting employment in three years. About 10 percent of youth, who are in villages, could get regular employment.

As in other caste group, unemployment rate is increased in Dalit community in recent years because of low education. But they are doing their traditional business such as tailoring, aran workshops etc. The rate of youth unemployment of Dalits has also increased. Municipality has provided training and physical support to the Dalits to increase their income such as Aran Sudhar, sewing cutting training.

The traditional Baalighare (collect foodstuff) practice still exists in their area, however this kind of practice is in decreasing trend. Traditionally, Dalits mostly collect foodstuff from villagers once a year as service charge, but the foodstuff collected is not enough for them to eat, so they have to work in farms as agriculture laborers for their subsistence. In the whole municipality, only two Dalits have got permanent government jobs, including one woman.

Subsequent numbers of Janajati are running poultry farms in the municipality. Similarly, about 70 percent Janajati youth have gone abroad for employment. But, because of COVID-19 crisis, the rate of going abroad has been halted. 30 percent of people aged 15-59 years are unemployed. This has happened since they have had limited chances to join Indian and British army in the last five years. They have limited capacity to compete with others, so they have a tendency to go to Gulf countries for employment due to limited education. Bote families rely on fishing and agriculture for their livelihood. They live close to Kali Gandaki river. People living in the municipality are ignorant about the labour law.

There is high potentiality of religious, rural and eco-tourism in the municipality. But the municipality has yet to develop a tourism master plan.

Migration

Generally, there is a tendency to go to foreign employment after completing 10-12 grades in the municipality. Young people have a tendency to go to cities and foreign countries for employment since they don't see any hope in their villages. About 60 percent of the workforce have left their homes for employment. About 80 percent 15-29 year aged young people are unemployed and among the employed, about 70 percent have gone to Gulf countries and India. Thousands of migrants have returned from India after COVID 19 crisis.

Similarly, many families migrate to the city areas such as Tansen and Butwal to provide good education for their children, even if they do not leave their private properties like lands and houses. So, population is slowly decreasing in the villages of the Bagnaskali municipality and their farm lands are becoming barren.

Financial Services

In terms of financial services, there are two banks in the municipality area. One is Nepal Bank Limited, which is located in ward no. 1 and second bank is Rastriya Banijya Bank, which is located at Arya Bhanjyang. Number of women having bank accounts have significantly increased in the last five years, because their husbands or sons have gone to foreign countries for employment. It is estimated that about 70 percent HHs have access to financial services. Dalit families have opened their bank accounts, which is significantly increased in last five years.

There are 32 cooperative organizations operating in the municipality. About 80 percent Dalit families have access to cooperatives. Rising number of members of Dalit women in cooperatives is very encouraging. Municipality has started to monitor the cooperatives. Also, the municipality wants to facilitate the cooperatives to initiate income generation programmes and to make their members self-reliant.

About 50 percent of Janajati have access to financial institutions like banks and cooperatives. Establishment of banks in the municipality, distribution of social security allowances from the banks and transaction of remittance money through banks are attributed to the access of financial institutions of the Janajati. On the other hand, the numbers of members of cooperatives from Janajati have rapidly increased in the last five years. It is estimated about 80 percent of families of Janajati are associated with the cooperatives.

But, in last year, the municipality has signed a contract with Nepal Bank Limited to provide soft loans to start the business of young people. Some of the migrant workers, who have returned home after COVID 19 have started income generation business in the village.

Child Labor

In the municipality, there is no serious problem of child labour. But, because of poverty child labor practice is existed in the Dalit families. However, municipality has declared it as child labor free municipality. There is not serious problem of child labour in Janajati community.

Insurance

It is estimated that about 70 percent of people have access to insurance services including health insurance, but very few people have done life insurance in the whole municipality. Coverage of health insurance with Janajati is rapidly increased after starting a health insurance programme in the municipality.

Skill development

About 20 percent youth have access to technical and vocational skills. Young people being involved in technical education are gradually increasing in the municipality. Some young people are doing their own business without taking any support from the government.

Finance

Municipality has allocated some budgets for economic development sector. It is also allocating some budgets for target groups. It has allocated some budgets to Janajati for collective ginger farming in the FY 2019/20. Budgets and programmes to the Dalit community is not sufficient. Municipality has allocated Rs. 700,000 for youth involvement in agriculture.

Table 14: Budget in Economic Development Sector			
Fiscal Year	Operation (Rs.)	Capital (Rs.)	Total (Rs.)
2017/18	13,650,000	13,935,500	27,585,500
2018/19	14,524,200	86,201,000	100,725,200
2019/20	11,496,500	3,963,500	15,460,000
<i>Source: Capacity Needs Assessment Report 2020, Bagnaskali Rural Municipality</i>			

Further, the municipality has allocated a block amount Rs. 477,000 in the heading of labour and employment sector in FY 2019/20. Because of the COVID 19, the municipality was not able to spend all the budget last year.

Suggestions

- Municipality should develop a separate policy and integrated plan for local economic development.
- There should be strong coordination and cooperation between three tier governments for economic development including agriculture, livestock, trade etc.
- Municipality should give high priority to agriculture development and allocate its own budgets on top of federal budgets
- Municipality needs to fix the rate of daily wage and must ensure equal pay for men and women for the same job.
- Increasing awareness and emphasis on education are important for the upliftment of the economic status of Bote community. In addition, Bote community should be educated on labor law.
- Municipality needs to develop and implement a tourism sector master plan.
- Municipality needs to mobilize competent technicians to conduct training for the farmers and to distribute quality seeds for promoting commercial farming.
- Municipality requires a system to regulate cooperative organizations and monitor them regularly
- Municipality needs to develop strategies to increase access to jobs to the other caste/ethnic communities in public offices.
- Municipality needs to develop a plan to emphasize the farmers to involve in commercial and modern farming rather to persist subsistence farming.
- Municipality requires to check the tendency of young people to go to foreign employment, the municipality needs to develop a strategic plan to promote self-employment. Municipality should provide employment oriented skill development training to the youth.

4.5 Reducing Inequality (Goal 10)

Enabling Environment

All citizens are equal before law. There should be no discrimination in the application of general laws on grounds of origin, religion, race, caste, tribe, sex, physical condition of health, marital status, pregnancy, economic condition, language, region, ideology or similar grounds. Governments can make special laws for the protection, empowerment or development of those citizens, including backward women, children, Dalits, Janajati, minorities etc. Article 24 of the constitution explains about rights of the citizens against untouchability and discrimination. Article 26, protects the right to freedom of religion of the citizens. Similarly, Article 40 gives right to Dalits to participate in all bodies of state. On the other hand, Article 39 and 41 give rights to children and senior citizens. Social Justice is another fundamental right mentioned in Article 42. Local governments are exclusively responsible for management of senior citizens, PWDs and the incapacitated.

Municipality has a policy decision to conduct the programmes to commercialize the knowledge and skills of Dalits and implement demand based programmes. Municipality wants to implement skill development and empowerment programmes to support socio-economic development of Janajati. Similarly, the municipality has taken several decisions to support senior citizens and PWDs.

Inclusive Participation in Decision Making

In the municipality, 17 elected peoples' representatives including 5 ward chairpersons are from Janajati. Interestingly, there are no elected representatives from Bote and Kumal communities. Currently, elected representatives take decisions themselves in local affairs. Participation of ordinary people and different communities in local affairs are not satisfactory. Municipality has made inclusion and reservation policy and it has also tried to make its budget inclusive respecting the principle of social inclusion.

In general, access to Janajati has relatively good access in politics. But, this is not the situation with Bote and Kumal communities. On the other hand, Janajati are not very much aware about the policy and programmes of their municipality. But, the level of awareness of the Bote and Kumal community is quite low.

It is the good practice that the municipality has promoted child network, Dalit networks and women networks at ward level. They also have their network at municipality level. Dalits community and poor families feel that they are still discriminated against in society and public affairs. However, the municipality is organizing interaction programmes between Dalits and Non-Dalits. Dalits people opine that public agencies are not inclusive as envisioned by the Constitution of Nepal. Dalits are still backward in comparison with other caste groups. Main reason for their backwardness is the low level of awareness with them. Their demands are not adequately included in the local plans and programmes and they feel their voices are not heard. There is also discrimination within Dalits in terms of participation and public grants.

According to the recent data of the municipality, there are 348 PWDs in the municipality. After adoption of Rights related to Persons with Disability Act, the municipality has formed a Local Coordination Committee and it has also formed networks at ward level. 342 PWDs including 114 women and 228 men have already received identity cards, according to the government criteria of classification. 127 PWDs received identity cards last year. It is yet to get identity cards by other PWDs.

Many young people feel that politics is not inclusive and they are not given the opportunity to remain in decision making positions. Most youths are not optimistic about the political parties. and they do not trust policies and systems. Very few young people are interested in politics and they have some access to political parties. Young people feel that there is nepotism and favoritism in politics and even they do not educate the youth about politics. Further, youth participation has decreased in policy and decision making processes of municipality in recent years and reservations for youths are yet to practice in the municipality.

Caste-base Discrimination

In the municipality still, caste-based discrimination exists, but it is slowly decreasing outside of the homes. But, still high caste families do hesitate to allow the Dalits in their homes. But, in general the indigenous nationality community does not feel any serious discrimination against them. Unfortunately, the Dalit community is facing the practice untouchability between different Dalit communities, but is slowly decreasing. Municipality is planning to declare an untouchability free municipality. There is inequality between Dalits and non-Dalits in terms of economic, political, and social status. But, these are gradually decreasing in the municipality.

Income Inequality

In the municipality generally the economic status of entrepreneurs, and migrant workers are relatively well. In addition, those who get regular pensions and who are in government jobs also have good income. Roughly, families earn Rs. 30 thousand to Rs. 3 million per year. Income inequality is explicitly reflected in the education sectors, since rich families send their children to the private schools. Local people opine that the rich people are still rich and poor people are still poor, there are no significant changes in economic status. Generally, the income gap is low with higher caste groups such as Brahmin. Dalit families have limited cash income and they are not able save the money. Bote and Majhi community are comparatively backward than other communities in terms of income, ownership of properties and level of awareness. Minority communities

such as Bote and Kumal are marginalized in the municipality, who have been left behind in comparison to other communities. Bote families live in ward 6 and 7, whereas Kumal families most live in ward 1 and 2. 60 percent of Kumal communities depend on daily wages for their livelihood. They also depend on agriculture and laborers. There is no significant change in their lives in the last five years. On the other hand, municipalities are in process to identify poor HHs and to provide identity cards to them.

Wealth Inequality

Municipality has announced *Fusrahit Ghaar Abiyan* (HHs' roofs without thatched). Women's ownership and joint ownership of private properties such as lands or houses are significantly increased, which is very encouraging. Awareness programmes and training organized by various organizations, government policy of concession of registration fees in case of women, and growing understanding to have joint land-ownership certificates are main reasons for increasing access to land ownership of women. Similarly, the owners of land and homes of Janajati women have increased in the last five years; the reason is the same in case for other women. Economic status of Indian and British army pensioners and those who have land at the roadsides are rich, but ownership they have a tendency to migrate to the cities. Only a few Bote families have good economic conditions. Access to land is low with Dalits.

Safe Migration

Altogether 3224 citizens of Bagnaskali rural municipality have left home for employment in foreign countries (BRM 2020). Municipality does not have any concrete policy and programmes on migration issues; however they want to stop the young people from leaving their village. Municipality is providing some money to young people for agro-business, but they do not seem effective. Similarly, the municipality office has a record of 332 women in foreign employment. Facilities and safety of the women migrant workers largely depend on the companies where they work. But, there is high risk of being physically and sexually abused, particularly in Gulf countries.

Social Security

Municipality has been providing social security allowances to Single Women (widows), senior citizens and PWDs (holding red and blue cards) as per the rule of Federal Government. Single women get Rs. 2000/month and senior citizens above 70 years get Rs. 3000/month. Red card holder PWDs get Rs. 3000, whereas Blue Card holder PWDs get Rs. 1600/month. The allowances are transferred to their bank accounts. Municipality has also formed committees to support them. Further, the municipality is also supporting the PWDs for income generation activities.

Finance

Municipality has allocated Rs. 100 million for the social security programme in FY 2017/18. It has also started an online service to provide social security allowances. Municipality has allocated a block amount Rs. 19,805,000 under the heading gender equality and social inclusion in FY 2019/20. Ward committees have been allocating some block budgets targeting the women, youth, PWDs, Dalits and Senior citizens. Municipality has also established a child fund. It has allocated Rs. 100,000,000 for the child programme in FY 2018/19. Similarly, special grants are provided to the Kumal and Bote communities by conducting Kumal Upliftment Programme and Bote Upliftment Programme. Municipality has been providing some grants to the child network and youth networks to implement the programmes as per their needs. But, the youth targeted budget is decreasing. Even though the municipality provided skill development training to the young women, they have not been able to start earning business. The municipality is organizing various programmes targeting the PWDs, such as distribution of warm clothes, relief materials and support aids like wheelchair.

Table 15: Budgets Allocated for Target Groups

Fiscal Year	Children	PWDs	Senior Citizens	Dalits	Janajati	Muslims	Minorities

2017/18	30,400,000	595,000	700,000	600,000	1,500,000	0	200,000
2018/19	30,500,000	600,000	700,000	600,000	1,800,000	0	250,000
2019/20	31,487,000	632,500	627,500	675,000	2,453,500	0	200,000
<i>Source: Capacity Need Assessment Report 2020, Bagnaskali Rural Municipality</i>							

Suggestions

- Municipality has to develop separate policies and plans to provide social security to the poor families, informal sector workers, widows, PWDs, senior citizens. But, they should adapt values of equity and equality and they should discourage discrimination and stigmatization of society.
- Municipality should ensure equal access to essential services for women, Dalits, Janajati, Bote, Kumal, Muslims.
- Municipality is suggested to identify the PWDs according to the PWDR Act and Regulation, keep proper records of them and to provide the identity cards as early as possible. Municipality needs to establish a Community Rehabilitation Centre for PWDs.
- Municipality needs to develop separate and long term programmes to uplift minority communities of the municipality such Bote and Kumal communities.
- Municipality needs to ensure meaningful participation of all the communities in all the local affairs including policy formulation and budgeting.
- Municipality needs to allocate budget targeting to youth for employment generation including in agriculture.
- Municipality needs to develop leadership capacity women, Dalits, Bote and Kumal communities.

4.6 Climate Justice (Goal 13)

Enabling Environment

Every citizen has the right to live in a clean and healthy environment. Disaster management is one of the responsibilities of the local government according to the constitution of Nepal. Nepal is one of the parties of Paris Agreement Climate 2015. To strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters, the Government of Nepal, in 2017, has started to prepare the National Adaptation Plan. The Government of Nepal incorporated the climate change integration in the development planning process. For example, as its commitment to building resiliency and reducing the risks from changing climate, the 2011 National Climate Change Policy has been updated to Nepal Climate Change Policy in 2019. Nepal has recently amended its Nationally Determined Commitment (NDC). Each local government has to formulate its Local Adaptation Programme of Action (LAPA) and local governments have to prepare a comprehensive disaster risk reduction plan. Government of Nepal has committed to send an 80 percent climate fund at local level.

Impact of Climate Change

It is not clear how many people are vulnerable or how many have been affected from climate change. Most of the people in the municipality have heard about the climate change, but they don't have sufficient information about it. On the other hand, climate change is not becoming a serious concern of them yet.

It is explicitly experienced that agricultural production is decreasing because of the impact of climate change. Climate change is also affecting human health in the municipality, but they don't have much idea how and to what extent they have been affected. Bote families feel that they don't get sufficient fish in the rivers in the last few years, which could be one of the impacts of climate change.

As in other communities and caste groups, Janajati are also negatively impacted by climate change. They experience the climate change has increased various diseases to their cereal crops and they have been losing indigenous variety of crops. Indigenous varieties could resist the pests and diseases.

They also feel the source of water is becoming dry due to rise in temperature. Many trees have been cut down at the time of construction of roads in the villages.

There is no incident of human loss of climate change with Dalits. They have been experiencing problems of infections of crops, loss of production, land slide etc.

Efforts of Municipality

Municipality has formed a Local Disaster Management Committee and ward level committees have been also formed after COVID 19 pandemic. Municipality has allocated some budget for disaster management and it is organizing training on an early warning system, preparation and response for disaster risk reduction. Despite having these works, the municipality has not been able to work on disaster management in a planned manner. Municipality has planned to initiate plantation programmes and recharge of ponds in the municipality.

Climate Actions

There is no specific programme on climate change problems in the municipality. The municipality is not able to follow the national policies related to climate change.

But, they have started to use hybrid seeds. Uses of pesticides and insecticides have been increasing in the last five years to control the diseases and insects in farms. Local farmers have also started to practice climate change adaptive farming.

Young people also feel negative impacts of climate change and it has negatively impacted the lives of the people. Anomaly of precipitation caused by climate change has direct impact on agriculture and obviously agriculture practice in Nepal heavily relies on monsoon rains. Wildfire, landslide, and drying of water sources are other impacts made by climate change. People have experience of growing mosquitos in their villages. But, people are not aware about climate change.

Plantation of bamboo to protect the land has been practiced by the Janajati. Protection of forest and plantation are some good measures taken by the municipality to check the impact of climate change.

Finance

There is a tendency of allocating some money on the disaster management fund of the municipality annually. In FY 2019/20, it has allocated Rs. 1 million.

Table 16: Budget in Forest, Environment and Disaster Management sector	
Fiscal Year	Amount (Rs.)
2017/18	73,689,000
2018/19	3,625,633
2019/20	74,389,030
<i>Source: Bagnaskali Rural Municipality Office</i>	

Suggestions

- Municipality needs to prepare a Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA), build partnership with communities and local organizations for implementing local level climate actions.
- Municipality needs a mass awareness programme to awaken the people on climate change. But, for doing so, they need to manage some budgets.
- Municipality needs to incorporate climate education in the curriculum of the schools.
- Municipality needs to develop an integrated agriculture system for climate change adaptation and mitigation and to preserve seeds of local varieties of cereal crops and vegetables.
- Municipality needs to prepare a comprehensive disaster management plan to prevent possible risks.
- Municipality is encouraged to develop a comprehensive environment protection plan including promotion of sustainable consumption and production, 3Rs principles for waste management, forestation, watershed

management, recharging of ponds, embankment, promoting of clean clay stoves, biogas, and massive use of renewable energies.

CHAPTER V: Conclusions and Ways Forward

Federal governance system enshrined by the Constitution of Nepal 2015 is indeed a good opportunity for the people living at local level. Being a local government, its constitutional functions are clearly stated as political rights by the Constitution under schedule 8. They have full authority to make their own policy, laws and regulations through the legitimized process to implement those rights. It is suggested to **enhance policy making and law making capacity** of elected officials and employees of the municipality considering the local contexts and needs. Further, they also need to **enhance their capacity to manage constitutional functions** by formulation of plans, programmes and budgets, and development of human resources at local level. But, they should strictly **follow the Leaving No one Behind principle**. All the **public services should be universal, accessible, inclusive, equitable and affordable**.

Municipality is heavily relying on the federal government and province government to meet the financial needs for its day to day operation and to implement development programmes. So, **improving internal resource mobilization capacity** is another important area, where the municipality should take concrete action. It needs to find out the possible areas from where they can collect taxes and fees. Further, the municipality and its agencies need to increase their **expenditure capacity** of their budgets in all the sectors. **Assertive sectoral committees** can play a very important role in the municipality.

Municipality should give attention to improvement **of public finance management** and **reduction of fiduciary risks**. Maintaining fiscal discipline is quite difficult, but it is not impossible. **Transparency, integrity, downward accountability, and effective and inclusive service delivery** are important to build the public trust. Municipality can organize public dialogues at ward level and village level periodically to build the public trusts.

SDGs cannot be achieved without full cooperation and adequate contribution from local governments. It is necessary to **make aware about the SDGs** to the elected officials, local political leaders and employees of the municipality. Municipality should be ready to **mainstream the SDGs in policy, planning and development management practices**. They can organize intensive training and provide technical support to align their systems and practices in line with the SDGs.

Municipality needs to identify SDGs targets most relevant for them and then they need to **make a list of progress monitoring indicators**. It is suggested to set the targets on each monitoring indicator to be achieved by the end of 2030. It is also suggested to **review the periodic plan**, which is yet to be finalized. But, periodic development plans should consider schedule 8 and 9 of the Constitution of Nepal 2015 and it should be comprehensive, result-oriented and realistic. Every development effort of the municipality should **contribute to the national and provincial development targets**. Also, there should be strong **coordination and cooperation** among three tier governments.

Further, the municipality needs to **formulate sectoral plans** on health, climate action, disaster management, and gender equality. It is also suggested to develop periodic plans and programmes targeting the marginalized and vulnerable population such as PWDs, Bote, Kumal, Dalits, senior citizens, informal sector workers, farmers, Youth, Children etc.

Municipality is mandated to prepare its annual plan and budget and approve them from municipal assembly. But, the municipality needs to **analyze its annual budgets according to the SDGs goals**. Also, they need to **analyze their annual budget expenditure** and how they are spending their budget in the SDGs goals.

Multi-stakeholder participation is a key to achieving the SDGs, which is equally important for local governments as well. So, Bagnaskali Municipality should mobilize its available local capacities and to build partnership with political parties, local entrepreneurs, NGOs, cooperatives, community based organizations, user's groups, women, farmers, child network, young people, Janajati, Dalits, minorities, PWDs, senior citizens etc. Building partnership is instrumental to build collaborative governance at local level. They also need to build partnerships with neighboring municipalities and need to work together by making common programmes.

Measuring SDGs progress requires updated, accurate, and disaggregated data of indicators. So, the municipality should **strengthen its statistical capacity** and sufficient data should be available. For this

municipality has to *establish of a strong statistical unit* under its office. Municipality needs to make a strong *monitoring system for development effectiveness* and to sustain their development gains.

This *VLR is a citizen-led process* indeed. It helps to empower the local citizens and youths, and then encourages them to do best efforts towards sustainable development. Municipality is suggested to plan for the next VLR and take a lead role. But, that should be open, inclusive, participatory and transparent. Federal and provincial government need to provide support to do so.

Annex-I
List of SDGs Indicators

Themes/Goals	Information required	Indicators
Structure of population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population by gender Population diversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total population Male Population Female Population Sexual and Gender Minorities Population by age group Population by caste/ethnicity Population by migration status Population by religions Population by ability
Policy and Enabling Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating local ownership Policies, plans and frameworks, strategies Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) Institutional Setups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level of ownership and realization of the 2030 Agenda by local political leaders, elected representatives and other actors National policy, plan, framework and/or guideline to implement the SDGs Province policy, plan, framework and/or guideline to implement the SDGs Municipal policy and law related to the SDGs Municipal plans or decision related to the SDGs Municipal institutional mechanism to implement the SDGs Policies and strategies of federal, province and local governments to embrace the principle of LNOB
Basic social services Good health (Goal 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Universal health coverage HIV/AIDS Drug Control Road traffic accidents Sexual and Reproductive Health Non-communicable disease Communicable disease Neglected diseases Access to family planning of reproductive age population Hazardous chemicals, air pollution, water and soil pollution and contamination Tobacco Control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Efforts of municipality and other agencies for health care services Maternal mortality rate Life expectancy at birth Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel Under-five mortality rate Neo-natal mortality rate Number of new HIV infected Tuberculosis incidence (per 100,000) Malaria incidence (per 1,000) Hepatitis B prevalence (per 1000,000) Leprosy case Kalazar cases Lymphatic Filariasis cases Dengue cases Trachoma cases Children under five diarrheas in last 2 weeks Confirmed Influenza cases Cardiovascular disease

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cancer • Diabetes • Chronic respiratory disease • Suicide mortality rate (per 100,000) • Population of hard drug users • Population of harmful use of alcohol • Death rate of road traffic accidents (per 100,000) • Contraceptive prevalence rate • Fertility rate • Adolescent birth rate • Women having 4 antenatal care visits • Institutional delivery • Women postnatal care visits • Infants received 3 doses of Hepatitis B • Women aged 30-39 screened for cervical cancer • People with HIV receiving Antiretroviral combination therapy • Population with raised blood pressure taking medication • Population with raised blood sugar taking medication • HHs with 30-minute travel time to health facility • Poor people enrolled in health insurance • Population with large HHs' expenditures on health care • Population covered by vaccines • Mortality rate attributed to HH air pollution • Mortality rate attributed to unsafe WASH • Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisoning • Population use tobacco • Health sector budget in municipality • Adequate stock of essential medicines • Health workers' density in municipality (per 1000 population) • Health emergency preparedness measures
Basic social services Quality education (Goal 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality education service • Early childhood development, care and pre-primary education • Technical, vocational and tertiary education • Employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efforts of municipality and other agencies for education • Net enrolment rate in primary education • Primary level completion rate • Dropout rate in primary level • Gross enrolment in secondary education (9-12 grades) • Attendance to early childhood education • Youth and adults taken technical and vocational education

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literacy and numeracy • Culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity • Teacher training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Girls' enrolment in technical and vocational education • Girls' enrolment in tertiary education (graduate level) • Total students with scholarship coverage • Boys/girls ratio in primary education, secondary education and tertiary education • Literacy rate, total, male, female and Sexual and Gender Minorities • Incorporation of peace, gender equality, environment, human rights in educational course • Budget in education of municipality • School with access to electricity • School with access to internet • Schools with access to WASH facility • Disability friendly schools • Trained teachers
Basic social services Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (Goal 6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universal access to WASH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efforts of municipality and other agencies for WASH facilities and water resource management • Population using safe drinking water • Population with piped water supply • Population with basic water supply coverage • Water loss in the water distribution system • HHs with E. coli risk level in HHs water • HHs with E. coli risk level in source water • HHs using improved sanitation • Urban HHs with toilets connected to sewer system • Population with wash their hands with soap • Households with regular solid waste collection • Municipal budget allocated for WASH • Policies and procedures to participate local people in WASH decision making
Access to electricity (Goal 7)	Access to electricity facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efforts of municipality and Nepal Electricity Authority for electrification • HHs with access to electricity • Electricity consumption per capita • HHs they use of electricity for doing enterprises • Regularity of supply of electricity
Gender equality (Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discrimination against 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate of daily wage men and women

5)	<p>women and girls</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender based violence/harassment • Harmful practice • Unpaid care and domestic work • Participation and equal opportunity in political, economic and public life • LGBTIQ • Women equal rights to economic resources, access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources • Enabling technology to promote the empowerment of women • Sound policies and enforceable legislation 	<p>labors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women experience life-time physical and sexual violence • LGBTIQ experience life-time physical and sexual violence • Girls (1-14 aged) experience psychological and physical punishment • Women experience violence by persons other than intimate partners • Girls aged 15-19 are married or in union • Women 15-49 have undergone female genital mutilation • Average hours spent in domestic work by women • Seats hold by women in local assembly • Seats hold by women in local executive • Seats hold by women in local units of major political parties • Women led enterprises • Women in local level public offices • Women and girls aged 15-49 aware about SRHR • Poor, discriminated and marginalized groups receiving special support and service provisions related to sexual health • Women and girls' ownership to land or house • Women/girls they use their own mobile • Women they use internet (aged 15-24 year) • Local budget allocated for gender equality and women empowerment
Decent work and economic growth (Goal 8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Growth • Economic productivity • Resource efficiency • Productive employment • Youth employment, education and training • Child labour, forced labour and child soldiers • Labour rights and safe and secure working environments • Capacity of domestic financial institutions and access financial services • Migration and mobility of people, migration policies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efforts of municipality and other agencies to increase economic growth in agriculture, trade, industry, and service sectors • Per capita GDP growth • Number of Micro, small and medium enterprises • Access to financial services • Population (16+ age) with bank account • Access to cooperatives • Unemployment rate of total workforce • Youth aged (15-24 years) not in education, employment or training • Youth unemployment rate • Child labor • Fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries • Practice of labor rights • Insurance coverage

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Migration rate • Effectiveness of migration policies
Reducing inequality (Goal 10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic growth of poor • Status of inequality with diverse population • Discrimination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marginalized and vulnerable population • Local policies and efforts for promoting social inclusion, affirmative measures • Consumption inequality • Income inequality • Wealth inequality • Gender inequality • Gender, caste and ethnicity-based discrimination
Climate Justice (Goal 13)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact of climate change • Climate actions for adaptation and mitigations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efforts of municipality and other agencies for climate actions and to build resilience • Population who are vulnerable • Number of HHs affected by climate induced disasters • Impact of climate change in agriculture • Impact of climate change in health • Local Adaptation Plan • Community Adaptation Plan • Climate actions • Climate education in school curricula • Indigenous practices and technologies for climate adaptation

Annex-II

Reference Materials

WASH Plan 2020, Bagnaskali Rural Municipality

Annual Policy, Programme and Budget 2017/18, Bagnaskali Rural Municipality

Annual Policy, Programme and Budget 2018/19, Bagnaskali Rural Municipality

Annual Policy, Programme and Budget 2019/20, Bagnaskali Rural Municipality

Annual Policy, Programme and Budget 2021/22, Bagnaskali Rural Municipality

Village Education Plan (2020/21-2022/23)

Bagnaskali Awaaz, Trimester Bulletin, Issue 1, Year 4, 2077 Jestha-Srawan, Bagnaskali Municipality

Bagnaskali Awaaz, Trimester Bulletin, Issue 10, Year 3, 2077 Baisakh, Bagnaskali Municipality

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SDGs Localization Resource Book, National Planning Commission, Nepal 2021

Municipal Capacity Needs Assessment Report 2020, Bagnaskali Municipality, 2020

Status and Roadmap: 2016-2030, National Planning Commission, 2017

Progress Assessment Report: 2016-2019, National Planning Commission, 2020

Baseline Report of Province No. Five, Sustainable Development Goals, Province Planning Commission, Government of Province, Province No. Five, 2019

Annex-III
Focus Group Discussions

S.N.	Date	Target Group	Venue	No. of Participants
1	18 December 2020	Youth	Chirtungdhara	19
2	11 November 2020	Janajati	Chirtungdhara	16
3	8 December 2020	Local Peoples/Bote community	Darpok	25
4	18 December 2020	Dalit community	Chirtungdhara	22
5	26 November 2020	Women	Chirtungdhara	23
6	18 November 2020	Local peoples	Alaichhe	17
7	12 November 2020	Local Peoples	Gaptung	15
8	28 November 2020	Local Peoples	Aphar	27
9	28 December 2020	Municipal staff	Municipal office	11

Annex-IV
Persons met/Interviewed

S.N.	Date	Name of person	Organization
1	28 November 2020	Dr. Narayan Prasad Poudel	National Planning Commission
2	15 January 2021	Mr. Gunaram Khana	Bagnaskali RM, Education section
3	17 January 2021	Mr. Dhurba Parajuli	Bagnaskali RM, IT section
4	20 January 2021	Mr. Mani Ram Ahikari	Bagnaskali RM, Health section
5	21 January 2021	Mr. Ganesh Nepali	Bagnaskali RM, Livestock
6	23 January 2021	Mr. Bharat Ghimire	Bagnaskali RM, Planning Section
7	26 January 2021	Mr. Koshal Raj Paudel	Bagnaskali RM
8	21 January 2021	Mr. Dhana Rana	Bagnaskali RM
9	15 January 2021	Mr. Rajesh Bohora	Bagnaskali RM. Agriculture Section
10	4 March 2021	Dr. Bishnu Prasad Gautam	Province Planning Commission

Annex-V
Some Photos





Focus Group Discussion with Indigenous Nationalities (Janajati)





Validation Workshop



Validation Workshop



Group Discussion in Validation Workshop



Meeting with SRDC Team