

Women-Led Private Sector Innovations In Municipal Waste Management, A Case of Batawaraniya Sundar Nepal Pvt. Ltd., Butwal, Nepal

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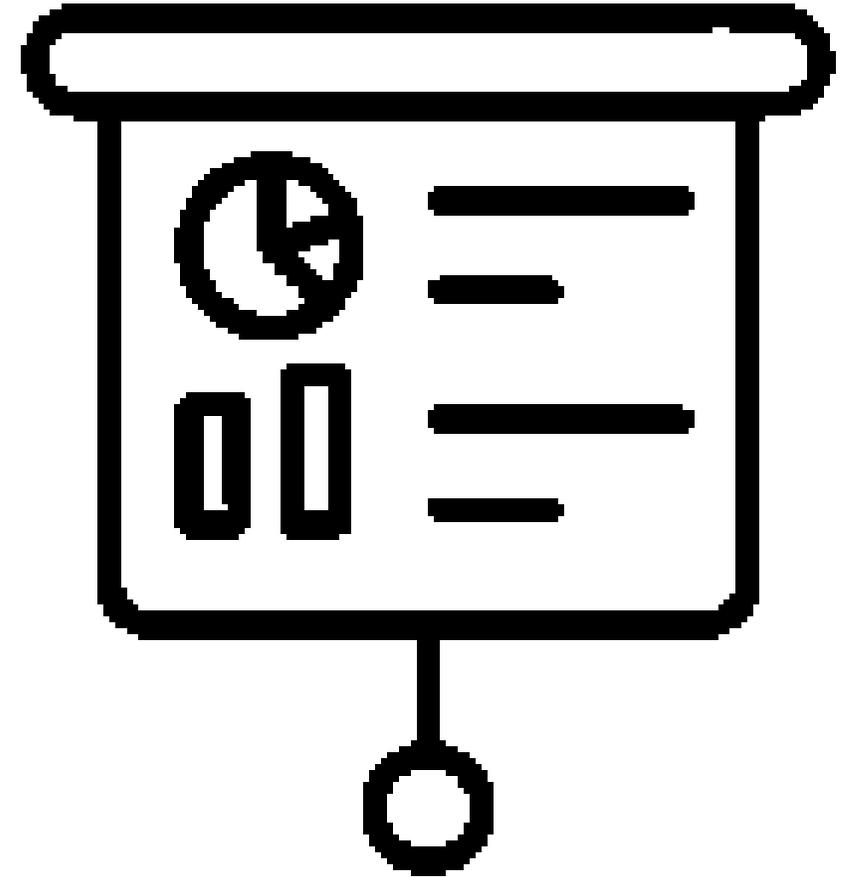
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Presentation Outline

- Background and Organizational Overview
- Objective of the initiatives
- Operational Model
- Key Outcomes and achievements
- Key Challenges
- Strategic Recommendations
- Key Takeaways



Background



- Rapid urbanization is increasing pressure on municipal waste systems in south Asia including Nepal
- Waste collection and processing remain limited and inefficient
- Significant gender gap in leadership within the waste sector
- Women manage over 80% of household waste, yet their contributions remain informal
- Women entrepreneurs face limited access to finance, contracts, and fair procurement
- Limited capacity to operationalize GEDSI
- GEDSI treated as an add-on, not a core business Strategy

Organizational Overview



- Women-led private company founded in 2013 in Butwal, Nepal **Batawaraniya Sundar Nepal Pvt. Ltd., Butwal, Nepal** (50% women staff) (45% migrant workers)



- Inclusive Public–Private–Community Partnership (PPP) model, Gender- Responsive model,



- Focus on inclusive, community-centered waste services



- Links WASH, gender, livelihoods & climate resilience

Objective of initiatives



- Showcase innovative, gender-responsive waste management practices under an inclusive PPP model
- Examine how government support, community engagement, and private innovation create sustainable systems in waste management
- Contributions to the circular economy, resource recovery, and women's economic empowerment



Company's Operational Model – Inclusive Public-Private Partnership (PPP)



- Municipality: land ,vehicles ,infrastructure & trainings
- Private Company: collection, segregation, safety
- CBOs/Communities : awareness and behavior change

Innovations in Practice



- Dual waste collection (Organic and inorganic)
- Composting & plastic recycling partnerships
- Waste-to-resource entrepreneurship
- Mothers' groups/TLOs/Youth clubs as change agents for recycling initiatives
- Quarterly Meeting with staffs and municipal focal persons
- Psychosocial and PPE support
- Door-to-door services in informal settlements (subsidized user fees)
- Safe timing and lighting for women collectors
- Regular health check-ups with all costs fully covered
- Payment of wages as per the Labour Act of Nepal

Key Outcomes and achievements

Reliable municipal waste services

Less waste to dumping site-
Community & youth engaged

Women in leadership roles for Solid
Waste Management

Women's economic empowerment -
Local products from waste

Occupational health safety of
sanitation workers



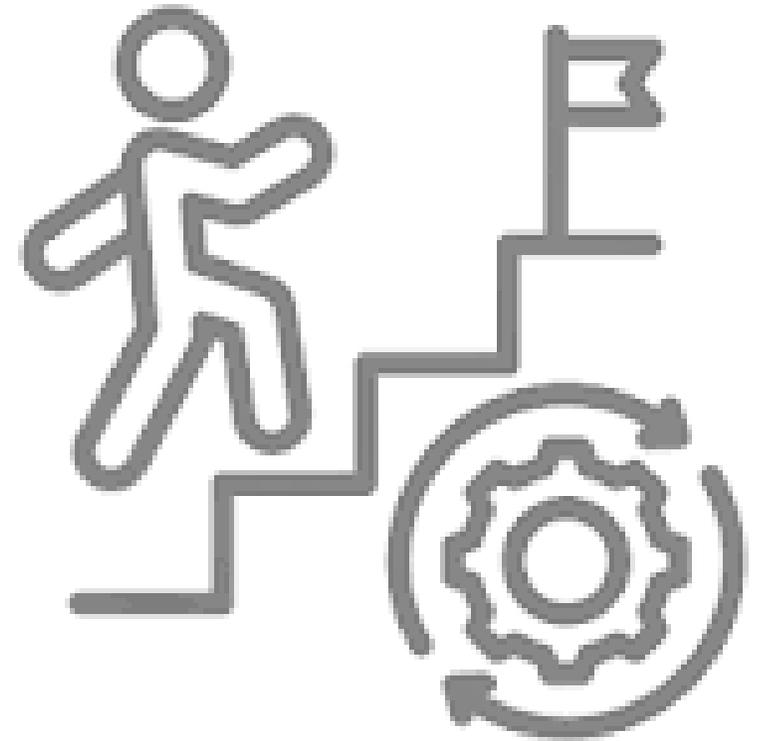


Impact – Transforming Lives Through Inclusive Sanitation Work

"I work as a sanitation worker in Butwal city and have benefited from a **flexible, family-friendly work environment** under our women-led management. I received **full maternity support** and was assigned to a nearby work location, which allowed me to balance work and family. Through this supportive environment, I gained **confidence and skills** to start my own **household recycling small business**, and my experience has inspired **more women to enter waste and environmental services**" – Rupa B.K Sanitation workers

Key Challenges

- Gender bias in bidding /procurement for Solid Waste management
- Limited financial incentives and unclear support hurt investor confidence
- Inadequate of ISO-standard landfill & technology for SWM
- Migrant sanitation workers face
- Limited inclusion in worker unions, networks, and decision-making platforms



Strategic Recommendations

- Institutional recognition for women-led private enterprises
- Inclusive PPP model for SWM- GEDSI principles within government procurement and PPP policies
- Financial & tech support in waste processing and recycling technologies
- Develop a dedicated national policy for sanitation workers, including migrants, covering rights, wages, safety, and social security.



Let's Join Hands Across South Asia



- Community engagement is central to climate-resilient SWM
- Inclusive PPP frameworks in SWM
- Link climate action with livelihoods of community
- Regional Framework for Migrant Sanitation Workers' Rights
- Regional Platform for Sanitation Workers' Voices

Thank You

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