



Government of Nepal
Ministry of Health and Population

“No Time to WASTE: Together for Healthy Nepal”

“स्वस्थ नेपालका लागि सँग सँगै”



First National Workshop on Environmental Health, Healthcare Waste Management and Water Sanitation and Hygiene in Health Facilities, 10-12 December 2019, Kathmandu

Our Commitments (*Unofficial Translation*)

1. The federal government will formulate medium- and long-term strategies for the sustainable management of Environmental Health, Healthcare Waste Management, and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in health facilities, including all necessary acts, policies, rules and standards as well as appropriate methodologies, technologies and equipment. Provincial and local governments will adapt these policies and guidelines to their own contexts, taking care not to contravene federal laws. The designated federal government will play a coordination and facilitation role in implementation.
2. A roadmap for healthcare waste management will be prepared and implemented this as a campaign.
3. The practice of proper segregation at source, as per approved standards; disposal of infectious waste only after disinfection through the use of appropriate non-burning technology; and a model of Integrated Healthcare Waste Management will be developed and scaled up gradually based on best practices.
4. We will develop a collaborative framework which brings together stakeholder ministries, organisations and agencies working on Environmental Health, Healthcare Waste Management, and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in health facilities. A separate unit and/or responsible person will be assigned for implementation, monitoring, evaluation and regulation at federal, provincial and local levels, as necessary.
5. We will promote occupational safety and social protection measures for service providers, professionals and people involved in waste management.
6. We will develop, pilot and scale-up a model information system on Healthcare Waste Management and Water Sanitation and Hygiene in hospitals and healthcare facilities.
7. We will ensure that a waste management system and waste audits conducted by skilled personnel are mandatory elements during the establishment, operation, renewal and upgrading of health facilities.
8. We will coordinate, collaborate and partner with the three tiers government and the private sector to promote the capacity building and management of skilled human resources in Environmental Health, Healthcare Waste Management and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in health facilities.
9. We will promote climate change resilience measures in health programmes to reduce the adverse effect of climate change on public health.
10. We will scale up good practices, lessons learned and cost-effective programmes which follow the 4R principles (i.e. **Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle**) and will discourage the use of plastics and related products.
11. We will consider aspects related to Environmental Health, Healthcare Waste Management, and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in the design and planning of all health facility-related programmes, bearing in mind the responsibilities of the three levels of government and following the principles of coordination, collaboration and co-existence.
12. We will promote studies, innovation and research, and prioritise the use of evidence which is generated in this sector.