

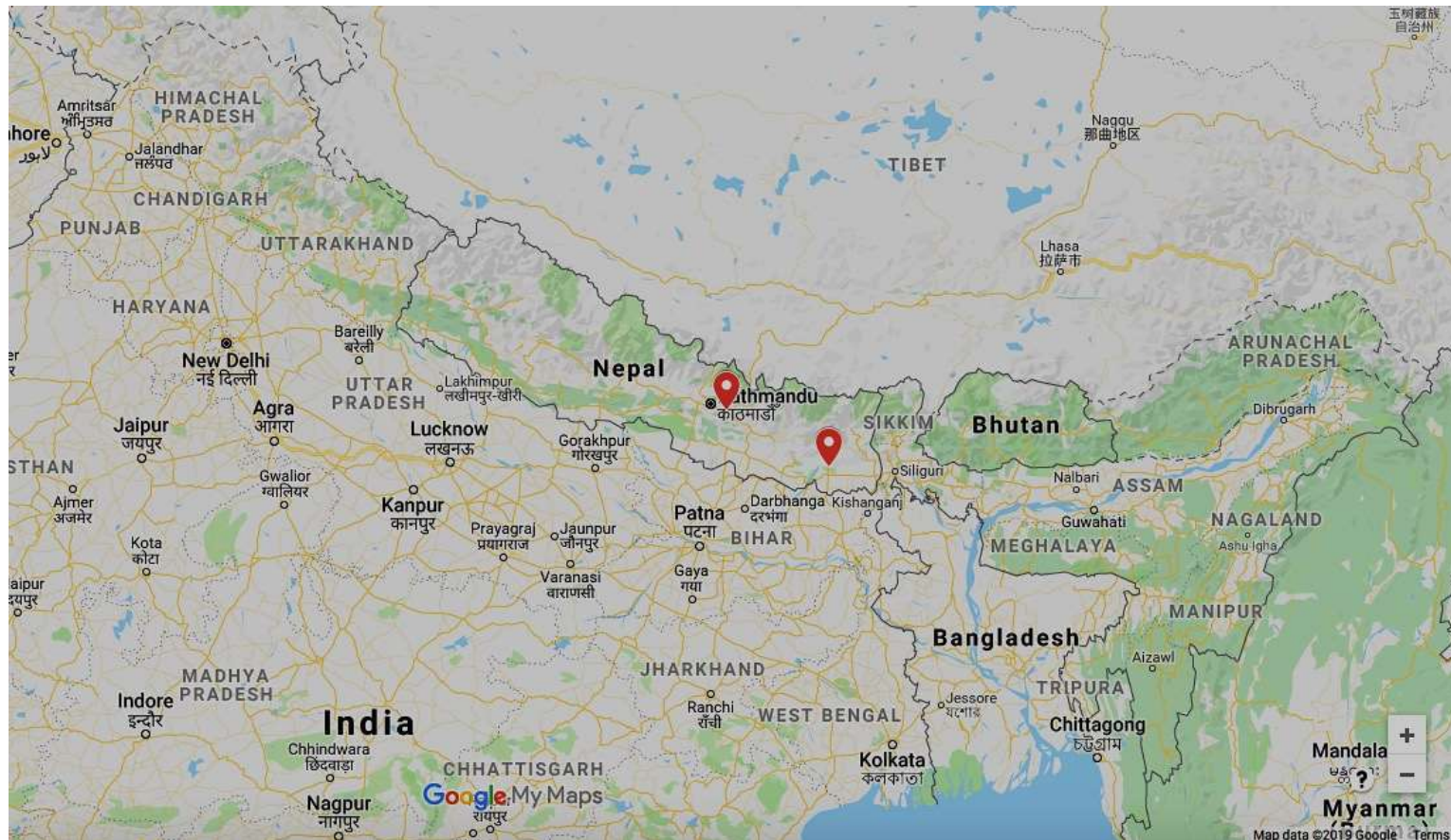
Science, policy and practice : Insights from collaborative water forum (*Pani Chautari*) in Nepal



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Map showing location of cities

- Dhulikhel – hill-top town, 30km east of capital (Kathmandu)
- 1441 meters above the sea level
- 32162 people in 52 sqkm
- Dharan – foothill town of Mahabharat, 380 km southeast of Kathmandu
- 350 meters above the sea level
- 137705 people in 1892.32 sqkm

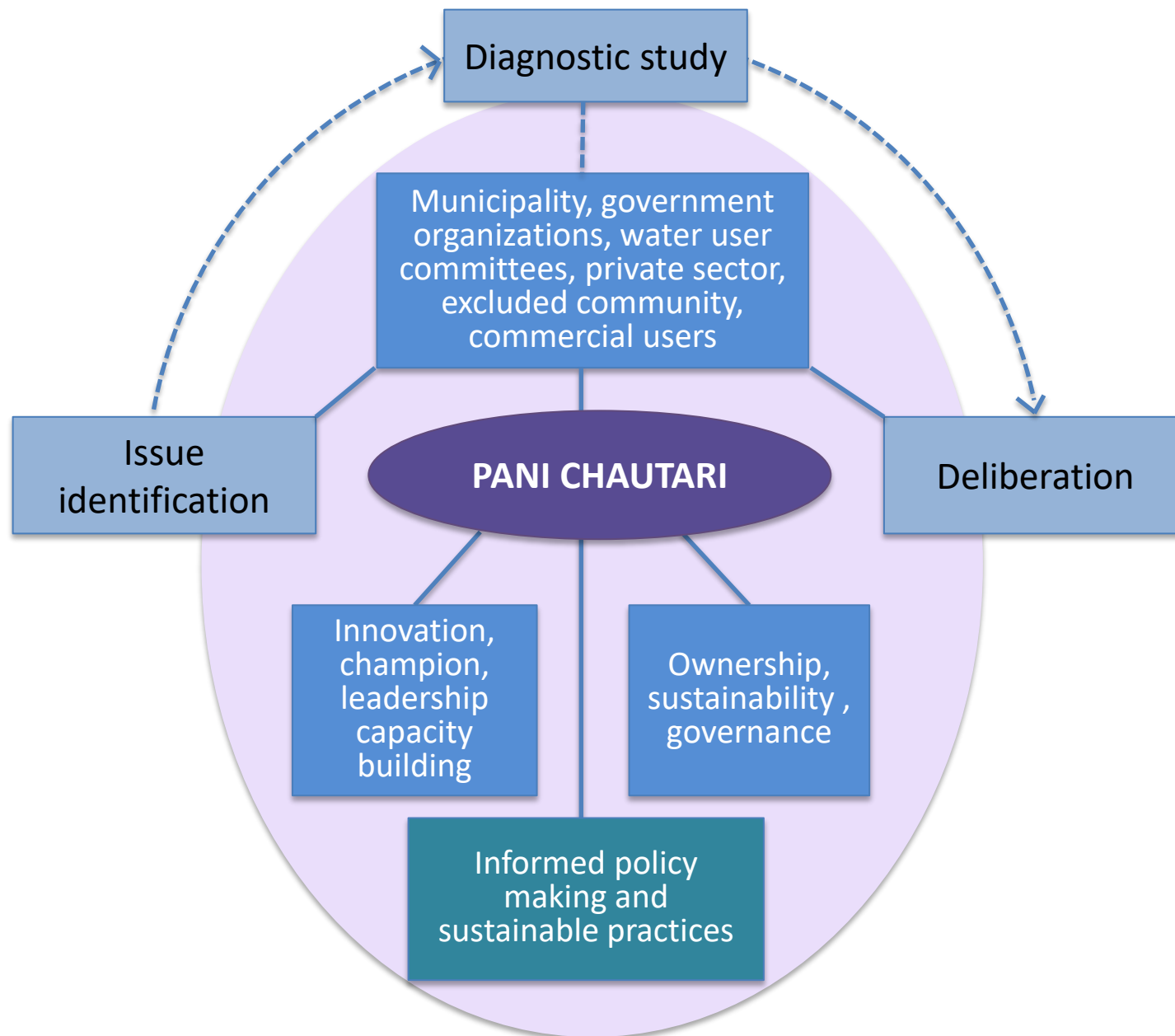


The water and climate in the Himalaya

- Himalayas are known as the “Water Tower of Asia”
- The region is vulnerable to climate change
- In Nepal- 58.4% people live in rapidly urbanizing small towns
- Springs, streams and rivers are the main source of drinking water
- Increasing demand-decreasing supply
- Too much and too little water



Pani Chautari: Conceptual design



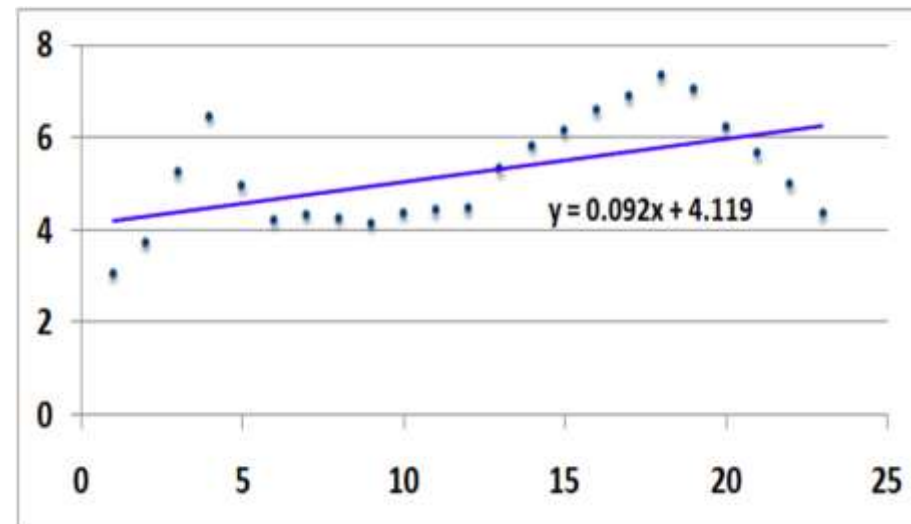
Collaboration approach and innovation

- Multi-stakeholder platform
- Collaboration among academic and practitioners community
- Open deliberation
- Discuss on problems and identify solutions followed by piloting and up scaling
- Lead by municipality
- Demand driven
- Links science with local policy and practice



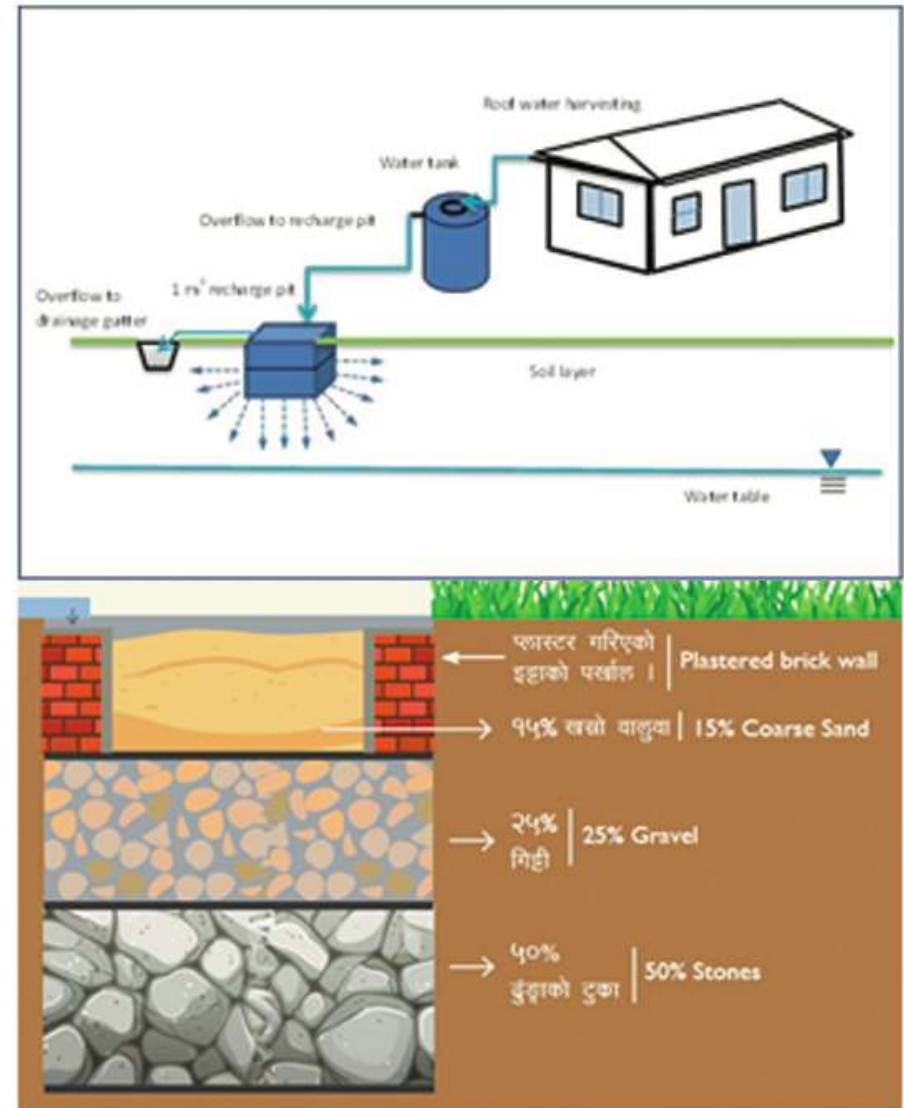
Solution tested in Dhulikhel

- Series of recharge ponds and contour trenches
- Co financed by municipality, community (water and forest users groups) and research institute
- Use of simple geohydrology and local knowledge
- Water discharge in the drying springs enhanced gradually



Solution tested in Dharan

- Recharge pit to avoid flash flood and recharge ground water
- Training to masons to construct recharge pits
- Municipal policy – now mandatory recharge pit while building new buildings



Key opportunities and way forward

- Importance of science, policy and practices to make cities resilient
- *Pani Chautari*
 - strengthen capacity of city level water champions
 - broker partnership and foster innovations on climate adaptive and equitable water management
- *Pani Chautari* tool kit with flexibility to contextualize and use in different contexts



Thank You