



MONITORING VISIT REPORT

Simle and Jalkheni Sub-Watershed



JULY 2, 2025

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1. Background:

The MaWRiN project aims to support the government and local stakeholders in managing the Marin watershed while strengthening the long-term climate resilience of Indigenous peoples and local communities. The project's objective is "to enhance the climate resilience of Indigenous people and local communities in the Marin watershed through nature-based solutions and livelihood diversification".

A range of activities have been implemented under this initiative. Proper documentation and reporting of these efforts are essential to demonstrate the program's outputs, outcomes, and impacts to donors and stakeholders. In this context, a field visit has been planned in the MaWRiN project areas. The visit will focus on photo monitoring, as well as providing necessary on-site support to ensure effective implementation of activities and to assess progress on the ground. It will also serve as an opportunity to analyze and discuss key interventions, achievements, challenges, and lessons learned.

2. Objectives of visit

The main objective of this monitoring visit is to enhance awareness of program interventions in the field and to gather feedback that will contribute to the improvement of the program moving forward. In addition, the visit plan to assess and analyze the implementation of field activities, engage with field teams and community members, and discuss ground-level realities. These efforts aim to strengthen ongoing work and inform future strategies and actions.

Specific Objectives:

1. To monitor the implementation and effectiveness of field activities.
2. To provide recommendations for future intervention strategies, with a focus on program delivery, coordination, communication, and field monitoring.

3. Methodology:

The monitoring visit conducted using a participatory approach. It involved on-site visits to intervention areas, along with interactions with beneficiaries, community members, and other relevant stakeholders.

4. Areas to be visit:

The visit included engagements with stakeholders in two sub-watersheds: Simle and Jalkeni. In Simle, the focus was on the water source protection initiative and a fishery pond project. In Jalkeni, the monitoring centered around plantation activities designed for environmental restoration and climate vulnerability reduction.

5. Date of monitoring visit and mode of vehicle:

The monitoring visit is scheduled for 2 July 2025, and transportation will be arranged using a hired four-wheel vehicle.

6. Monitoring Team:

- Sanu Thapa
- Bushnu Bhusal
- Bikash karna
- Nisha Silwal
- Praful Singh

7. Findings and Observations

Water Source Protection – Simle Sub-Watershed

Discussions with community members and observation of local infrastructure in Simle revealed significant improvements in access to clean and reliable drinking water. Historically, Simle’s water sources carried cultural significance and were once actively used, but over the years, they were left unmanaged and neglected.

The primary causes of water scarcity in the area included environmental degradation, the drying up of natural springs, and a lack of structured infrastructure. Recognizing the urgent need for a sustainable water solution, the community had conceptualized a Drinking Water Scheme (DWS), but lacked the financial and technical resources for implementation.



The MaWRiN project played a critical role by providing both technical guidance and financial assistance, enabling the community to turn their plans into reality. This particular DWS was selected due to the area's high vulnerability and lack of access to safe water. Currently, the scheme is serving six households, with the water supply generally considered adequate. Special efforts were made to ensure equitable distribution, particularly prioritizing poor and disadvantaged households. The scheme has also contributed to



Figure 2 Measurement of water tank supported by project

reducing climate vulnerability by improving water security and reducing reliance on exposed and unreliable sources. Community feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. Residents report increased motivation to take ownership of the system, and there are active plans to expand the water supply and formalize community-led maintenance structures to ensure long-term sustainability.

However, some challenges remain. Community members expressed the need for extending pipeline connections from the water tank to individual households. Additionally, they noted that documentation requirements are somewhat burdensome, creating difficulties in managing the workload. Regarding registration, current regulations require submission of a request letter after 35 days. A request for backdated registration has been made, and approval is expected soon, although time management remains a challenge.

2. Plantation Activities – Jalkeni Sub-Watershed

In shikhardanad, the plantation initiative was implemented in areas previously characterized by land degradation, open grazing, and susceptibility to landslides. 25 HHs and 6 bigha

agricultural land also vulnerable due to potential of landslides.

The main goal was to restore vegetation, reduce soil erosion, and improve the local ecosystem.

A substantial number of saplings covering a

large area of degraded

land were planted through collective community action. The community actively participated in planting and maintenance activities. The project provided technical guidance, saplings, fencing support, and incentives to encourage participation. The survival rate of planted species is currently high, and many of the saplings have taken root and are growing well.

Benefits reported by the community include improved microclimates, better soil stability, and reduced landslide risks. In the long term, the plantation is expected to generate fruits, fodders and fodder, contributing to local livelihoods. The reduction in environmental vulnerability was particularly evident in areas previously prone to erosion. Plantation management is currently overseen by the Community, who are responsible for protecting and conserving the planted areas. They have taken steps to reduce threats, such as building fences around 31 M, enforcing grazing restrictions. The community has also expressed interest in expanding plantation activities and reinforcing current efforts with additional conservation strategies. They are planning for establishing forest guard as well.

8. Key Action Points

Based on observations and community feedback, the following action points are recommended:

- 1. Facilitate Household-Level Water Connections:** The community in Simle has requested the extension of pipelines from the central water tank to individual households. Addressing this need will enhance water accessibility and user convenience, particularly for vulnerable families.



Figure 3 Plantation- Lemon and Lichhi

2. **Rehabilitate Water Sources in Simle:** Certain water sources remain degraded and require renovation to ensure long-term water security. Restoration work should be prioritized to increase supply reliability and system redundancy.
3. **Simplify Documentation Procedures:** Current documentation and reporting requirements are perceived as burdensome by local actors. Streamlining administrative tasks or providing technical support can reduce workload and improve implementation efficiency.
4. **Address Registration Timeline Challenges:** The existing policy requiring submission of registration requests within 35 days has posed logistical difficulties for remote communities. Flexibility or adaptive measures, such as backdating, should be institutionalized to accommodate field realities.
5. **Facilitate Inter-Committee Coordination:** It is recommended that a joint meeting be convened between the Sub-Watershed Coordination Committee, User Committee, and Monitoring Committee. Such engagement will promote shared understanding, enhance coordination, and ensure cohesive decision-making.
6. **Implement Plantation Site Protection Measures:** After completing the plantation, we can install tree guards using locally available bamboo sticks or tree branches. This will help protect the saplings from direct exposure to rain and wind, thereby increasing the survival rate of the planted trees
7. **Enhance Monitoring and Data Collection Systems:** Strengthening the collection, analysis, and use of monitoring data at the field level will improve tracking of project outcomes, support adaptive management, and enhance transparency.
8. **Conduct Capacity-Building for Local Stakeholders:**
9. Training and workshops on infrastructure maintenance, natural resource management, and governance should be organized to empower local institutions and ensure long-term sustainability.
10. **Support Forest Guard Recruitment and Site Oversight:** Plans to appoint a dedicated community member for the protection of restored forest areas should be expedited. This will safeguard plantation sites and foster a sense of responsibility and ownership.
11. **Expand Ecological Restoration and Livelihood Integration:** The community expressed strong interest in scaling up the plantation initiative to degraded lands and incorporating fruit- and fodder-bearing species to support food security and income generation. This should be explored and integrated into future planning cycles.

Conclusion

The monitoring visit to the MaWRiN project sites in Simle and Jalkeni sub-watersheds confirmed that the interventions are generating meaningful environmental and social impacts. Notably, the improved water infrastructure in Simle and the plantation work in Jalkeni are enhancing climate resilience, protecting natural resources, and empowering communities. The active involvement of local people, their enthusiasm for long-term maintenance, and their ownership of the initiatives are promising indicators for sustainability. However, several operational and administrative challenges require prompt attention to ensure continued momentum. Sustained investment in community empowerment, monitoring systems, and adaptive programming will be essential to maximize the long-term benefits and to replicate successes across similar contexts.

9. Check Lists:
9.1 Photo Plates





9.2 Newly formed committee (SWCC, UG, M&E Group):

1. Name and address of committee
2. Linkage between user committee and sub watershed coordination committees - Relationship of user committee and sub watershed coordination committees
3. Executive committee members (Disaggregated-Male/female, age group) details
4. How were they selected committee members? What were the selection criteria?
5. How many women are there in the group and what are their ethnic composition?
6. Date of establishment and contact number
7. Does the group have own constitution?
8. Clarity about the objective, right and responsibility
9. What are the capacity building activities carried out? List of activities.
10. Date and frequency of monitoring
11. Major findings/achievements of the monitoring
12. What is major stakeholder for coordination? How's the frequency of coordination and communication?
13. How's the frequency of organizing meeting of committee including minuting and the major agenda of discussion in the meeting. Who is responsible for management of minutes? Is there any specified person?
14. What are the issues challenges faced during monitoring?
15. How the issues can be addressed? Any recommendation/suggestion?
16. what are the activities do you (committee) conduct?
17. Any other pertinent issues?

10.2 Plantation:

1. What was the condition of the plantation area before? (degraded, open grazing, landslide prone etc.)
2. What was the purpose of plantation? How many saplings/seedlings were planted?
3. How much area has covered by the plantation?
4. How many people (who) were taking part in the plantation?
5. What was the support for the plantation?
6. How well grown are the planted species?
7. What are the benefits that community have got and what are the expected benefits in long run?
8. Is there any significance reduction of vulnerabilities of the community because of plantation? If yes, what is that and how it has reduced the community vulnerability?
9. What is the management practices of plantation? Who are responsible for management and conservation of the planted species?
10. How the threats of plantation have been minimized? (if so)
11. What are the upcoming plans of community? (additional plantation, conservation efforts and so on)

10.3 Drinking Water:

1. How was the drinking water facility in the past? What are the difficulties, how far was the source, how much time consume to fetch water, how it has affected on hygiene and sanitation etc.)?
2. What were the factors of creating drinking water problems in the village?
3. What was the people's plan to have Drinking Water Scheme (DWS) in the village? (if any)

4. What was the project support on drinking water scheme? How much resources have been invested on it? (also mention other supporting agencies if applicable and community contribution as well)
5. Why this particular drinking water scheme was selected?
6. How many HHs/populations getting service from this DWS? Does the water is adequate for the community?
7. How water has been distributed in the village? Are poor and disadvantages people getting benefits or not?
8. What are the current benefits of the DWS? link with questionnaire 1)
9. How water being used in the village? What are the purposes of DWS?
10. Does this DWS contributes for income generation of the community? If yes, how? (add saying of someone)
11. How this DWS contributed to women? Does it help to reduce the workload of women? If yes, how?
12. How this DWS reduces climate vulnerability of the area?
13. What is the people's perception now?
14. What are their plans in the days to come?

10.4 Fishery Pond support

1. Location
2. Total number of households benefitted
3. How is community participation, involvement, engagement and ownership?
4. Beneficiary selection criteria
5. What was your source of livelihood before Support? How much was the daily/monthly/yearly income?
6. How did you manage your daily hand to mouth before?
7. What was the constraints, limitation and experiences of getting income earlier?
8. How many family members are there in your family?
9. What and how project supported to her/him? Why she/he was interested to do this particular means of livelihood?
10. What is the current status of IGA? Was there scale up in the initial support?
11. How much is the income these days?
12. What are the areas of expenses?
13. How the current income supported her/him to manage his/her daily expenses?
14. How have women benefitted from support?
15. Are they received fish farming training? Are they capable of managing it commercially?
16. What is the future plan?

10.5 Sub-Surface water harvesting:

1. How was the irrigation facility in the past? What are the difficulties, how far was the source, how much time consume to fetch water etc.)?
2. What were the factors of creating problems in the village?
3. What was the people's plan for irrigation Water Scheme in the village? (if any)
4. What was the project support on it? How much resources have been invested on it?
5. Why this particular area was selected?
6. How many HHs/populations getting service from this service? Does is adequate for the community?

7. How water has been distributed in the village? Are poor and disadvantages people getting benefits or not?
8. What are the current benefits of the SSW?
9. How water being used in the village? What are the purposes of SSW?
10. Does this SSW contribute for income generation of the community? If yes, how? (add saying of someone)
11. How this SSW contributed to women? Does it help to reduce the workload of women? If yes, how?
12. How this SSW reduces climate vulnerability of the area?
13. What is the people's perception now?
14. What are their plans in the days to come?

10. Itinerary:

S · N	Date of visit	Time		Activities	Location	Remarks
		From	To			
1	2 July- 2025	7.00AM	6.00 PM	Jalkeni Sakhauri Sub-Watershed	Plantation	KII, FGD, Site Visit
2				Simle Sub- Watershed	Fishery Pond	KII, FGD, Site Visit
3				Simle Sub- Watershed	Water sources protection for Drinking water	KII, FGD, Site Visit