Ministry of Water Supply and Sanitation
In collaboration with Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC)

Menstrual Hygiene Management Policy Consultation Workshop, February 9-10, 2017

Closing speech by WSSCC National Coordinator, Mr. Guna Raj Shrestha

In his speech during the closing ceremony, Mr. Guna Raj Shrestha stated that when working on ODF campaigns in different communities, MHM issues should be included, as without proper solution of a community’s MHM issues it cannot be declared as ODF.

He questioned, what are the consequences in a girl’s education if she is missing 4-5 days of school only because of menstruation? He linked the issue to human rights: “There are rights, but people lack knowledge of these rights.”

He stated that different organizations and groups from the government sector, NGOs and INGOs are working to improve MHM, but lack proper coordination. Therefore there should be some standard to which all groups can refer to.

He focused on role of media and stated that media involvement is very important for addressing MHM issues and sharing awareness.

He suggested that change or improvement in educative curriculum should be made, with inclusion of MHM topics.

He concluded his speech by suggesting that, the four related ministries - Ministry of Water Supply and Sanitation, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Work - should coordinate with different national and international organizations to address the outcome of the workshop and improve MHM.