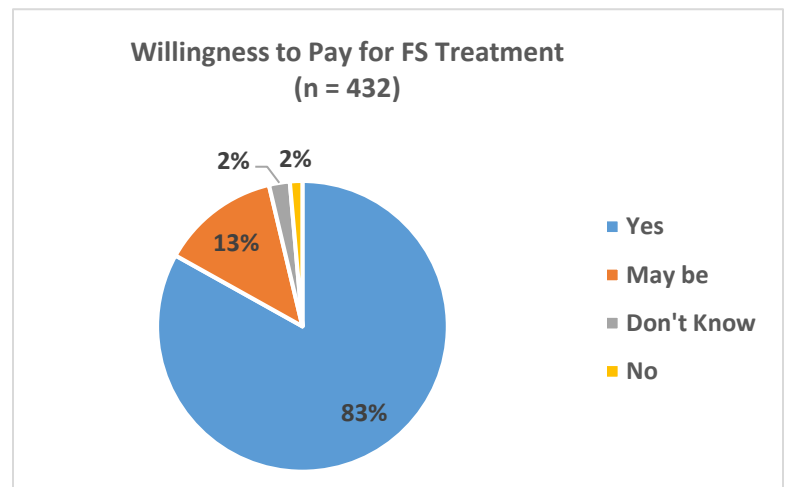
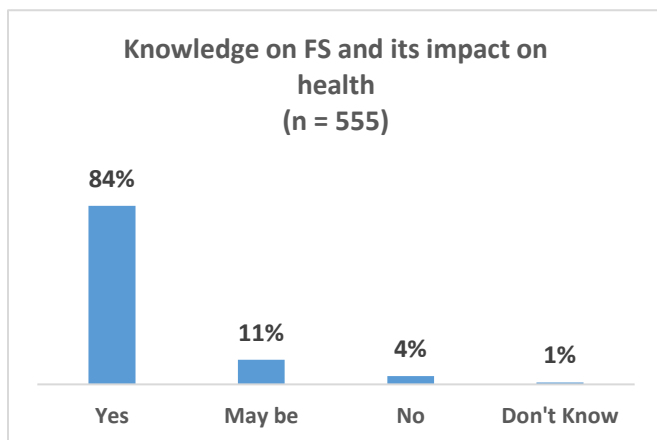
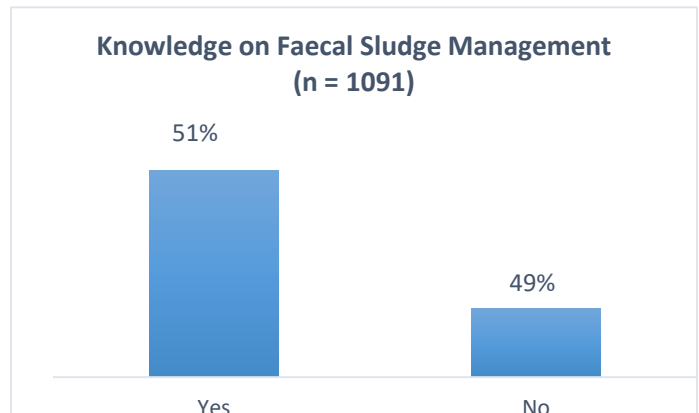


Knowledge, Attitude and Practice of General Public on Faecal Sludge Management (FSM)

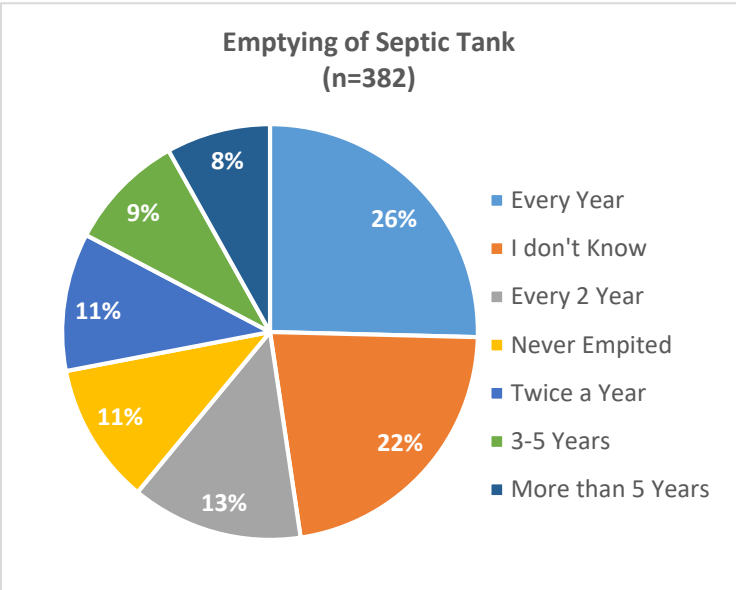
Despite of having toilets in each household (HHs) of Nepal, safely managed sanitation and generated faecal sludge remains as a challenge. On top of this, its safe disposal has yet to be concern for all. Considering this fact, a survey on Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) was conducted on the bustle areas of Kathmandu cities (Ratnapark, Lagankhel, Suryabinayak), with the support of Paschim Paaila volunteers. The data was collected using KoBo Collect Toolbox application using smartphones with structured questionnaire from 1091 random pedestrians using simple random sampling procedure.

From the survey, data revealed that more than half of the respondents (51%) had knowledge about Faecal Sludge Management (FSM). However, amongst the people with the knowledge on FSM, 77% have misconception that Faecal Sludge (FS) is disposed to the river.

Only 42% of respondents have knowledge about FSM and its impact on health. Majority of respondents (78%) having knowledge on FSM respond that FS can be treated and amongst them 83% are willing to pay for treatment of FS.



Upon asking 1091 respondents about faecal sludge collecting containment at household level, 64% responded that they have sewerage connection, 35% had septic tanks and remaining 1% have other containment such as pit and biogas production system. The survey also revealed that, amongst the septic tank user, only 26% of user emptied septic tank every year, and 11% of them have not emptied their septic tank till now. For the septic tank users who have been desludging the septic tank every year, 45% respondents use mechanical emptying service for emptying septic tank while 21% uses manual emptying service and about 35% uses both services. The interesting fact about cost, respondents have been paying for desludging their septic tank ranged from less than Nrs 500-2000 where highest percent of respondents are paying in the range of Nrs. 5000 - 6000 per desludging time.



While treatment and safe disposal of faecal sludge is crucial, it is equally important to build local capacity to increase public awareness on FSM. The study shows that only half of the general public were aware on FSM, therefore, clear understanding of FSM including local capacity development for FSM regulation, monitoring and implementation is essential. For this, support from the community people including all associated stakeholders is vital for management of FS in rapidly urbanizing cities.