

Final Evaluation Report

Your Details	
Full Name	Janardan Mainali
Project Title	The spatial pattern of habitat quality of surface water in Setikhola Watershed, Pokhara, Nepal
Application ID	26386-1
Date of this Report	04/24/2022

1. Indicate the level of achievement of the project's original objectives and include any relevant comments on factors affecting this.

Objective	Not achieved	Partially achieved	Fully achieved	Comments
Compare several different spatial statistical approaches in modelling water quality				We published a research paper that compares different spatial considerations of water quality parameters in the watershed.
Identify factors affecting water quality				In the publication, we identify prominent factors affecting water quality as well as aquatic biodiversity.
Create a web portal for water quality information				We created a water quality web map based on the data we collected.

2. Describe the three most important outcomes of your project.

a). We published one research paper looking at factors affecting water quality in the watershed. This is an open-access journal.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.indic.2020.100096>

b). Our second paper based on this project which reports aquatic phytodiversity and macroinvertebrates just got accepted at the Aquatic Botany journal.

c). We created a land cover map of the watershed as well as developed a water quality portal. Webmap Link:
<https://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=e37acb16400345799e81409684ace809&extent=83.8617,28.2846,84.0946,28.3892>

3. Explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled.

Because of the inaccessibility of some of the sites we were able to sample about 90 sites only.

4. Describe the involvement of local communities and how they have benefitted from the project.

- During data collection, we consulted with local stakeholders including the Birds Society of Pokhara and Pokhara Lake Management Committee.
- We hired two students from a local university campus for our work and trained them in water quality data collection from lakes and rivers.
- We participated in various local community meetings.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, we plan to continue the water as well as habitat quality monitoring of various lakes and rivers.

6. How do you plan to share the results of your work with others?

We like to publish more scientific papers, white papers, and public web portals for water data.

7. Looking ahead, what do you feel are the important next steps?

We plan to develop new ideas to continuously monitor water quality in this watershed. We also plan to engage with the local municipality, lake management committees, and other NGOs.

8. Did you use The Rufford Foundation logo in any materials produced in relation to this project? Did the Foundation receive any publicity during the course of your work?

We included the Rufford Foundation as a funder of our project in our research publications.

9. Provide a full list of all the members of your team and their role in the project.

Janardan Mainali – Leader

Kanchan Devi Upadhyay- Graduate student assistant

Achyut Bhandari- Undergraduate assistant

Birkha Bahadur Gurung—Undergraduate assistant

10. Any other comments?

We thank The Rufford Foundation for funding this work and allowing us to focus on the scientific aspect of the habitat quality in this important watershed of Nepal.