

# MAKING POKHARA

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## A PUBLIC TOILET FRIENDLY CITY



## **Making Pokhara a Public Toilet Friendly City**

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She has worked in the field of adolescent girls of Nepal as a president of the National Girls Network, Nepal and during that time she had successfully hosted a program named 'Girls with President' at the office of Hon'ble President of Nepal. She believes that youths have a fire in them to fly high and chase the sky.

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## **LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

PMC	Pokhara Metropolitan City
SDG's	Sustainable Development Goals
UN	United Nations
VDC	Village Development Committee
CBO's	Community Based Organizations
BS	Bikram Sambat
EIU	Economic Intelligence Unit
UTI	Urinary Tract Infection
NGO's	Non-governmental Organizations

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Nepal is undergoing a devolution and decentralization process, shifting responsibilities and resource and local governments have excessive powers and responsibilities. Article 30 of the Constitution of Nepal 2072 provides for the right of every citizen to live in a clean and healthy environment while Article 35 provides for the right of every citizen to have access to clean drinking water and sanitation. The Local Government Operation Act, 2074 identifies Wards as responsible for the construction, operation, and maintenance of public toilets, as well as collecting household waste and managing surface water.

Pokhara being a tourism hotspot of Nepal needs to build more public toilets to be a smart and livable city. In today's world public space for people is one of the crucial components of 'Livable Cities'. Using a public space is the right of people and people need public spaces even more during the time of disasters. A poorly managed toilet can be a transmission factor of many infectious diseases that can even threaten human existence. Going out is much difficult for women as they are vulnerable to urinary tract infection (UTI) than men. 'Holding on' is difficult for those women who are on their period, are pregnant and new mothers. Even the people with different other health issues find it difficult to 'hold on' as they need toilets more often.

Often we see public toilets as a matter of Public health and hygiene only but the unavailability of the public toilet can hinder the overall development process as it is also a part of public service delivery, basic human right, a matter of mobility and inclusiveness, factor for attracting tourist and a base for a sustainable city. Many countries in the world now have



started doing revolutionary practices in different fields to give people more facilities and make the cities livable. The transparent public toilets in Japan, rotating toilets with a self-cleaning system in Swedes, cost-effective Sulabh Sauchalaya in India could be taken as an example of how different countries in the world are advancing their public toilet facilities for their citizens.

After observing the situation of 13 public toilets locations out of 41, we feel that Pokhara needs more public toilets at appropriate locations. The existing public toilets in Pokhara need a sustainable management plan as well as there is a need for strict monitoring from the local government i.e. PMC office. Uniformity in budget allocation, collaboration with the private sectors such as hoteliers of Lakeside, management contract with private parties could be the better step from the government side whereas the citizens should use the public toilets properly as protecting the public entity is a duty of every citizen.

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Pokhara is the capital of Gandaki Province, as well as the Pokhara metropolitan city, is one of the largest municipality with a total number of 33 wards covering entire valley and few hills of Kaski District of Nepal. It is the only Metropolitan city of the Gandaki Province and is the largest metropolitan city of Nepal in terms of area. The city covers an area of 434.24 KM square. This Metropolitan city is almost 9 times larger than Kathmandu and 18 times larger than Lalitpur. Pokhara city has a population of 4,14,149 which makes it the second-largest city with a population in the country.

Public toilets are not only an important part of a livable city but also the right of every citizen. Article 30 of the Constitution of Nepal 2072 provides for the right of every citizen to live in a clean and healthy environment while Article 35 provides for the right of every citizen to have access to clean drinking water and sanitation. But even today, the citizens are deprived of such rights provided by the constitution, and the unavailability of public toilets in Pokhara can be taken as an example. The lack of public toilets is a challenge to health as well as mobility and equality.

Nepal, with the Constitution of Nepal 2015, becomes a federal democratic country from a unitary system of government. In the new federal set up Nepal has federal, state, and local government in a total of 761 governments. The sub-national government is 760 numbering 753 local government and 7 state governments. With the adoption of a new constitution in 2015, Nepal is undergoing devolution and decentralization processes, shifting responsibilities and resources. The constitution has provided 5 schedules with the jurisdictions' to three tiers of the government with both absolute and shared jurisdiction. Each layer of the government has its own legislative and executive jurisdiction. The local government is provided with schedule 8 with 22 sets of the jurisdiction where they have absolute jurisdiction. The schedules 7 and schedule 9 consist of concurrent power of federal state and local government. There is one clarity under the new constitution, it is the role of the Ministry of Water Supply, which is the lead ministry responsible for planning, implementation, regulation, and monitoring and evaluation of sanitation programs in Nepal. Nepal's decentralization process has shifted powers, responsibilities, and resources to local governments.

In 2017, the Local Government Operation Act, 2074 replaced the 1999 Local Self Governance Act. In line with the new Constitution, the Act assigns exclusive powers for “Basic health and sanitation” to the municipalities and extends powers to local government for implementation, monitoring, and formulation of policies, strategies, and standards. Another responsibility of municipalities includes awareness-raising and management of health care and waste, including collection, re-use, treatment, and disposal. The Act identifies Wards as responsible for the construction, operation, and maintenance of public toilets, as well as collecting household waste and managing surface water.

According to the data prepared by the Environment Department of PMC in coordination with all 33 ward offices, there is a total of 41 public toilets in the metropolis. The data does not include toilets in various places other than public places, such as toilets inside offices, toilets within religious sites, toilets within various clubs, mother groups' buildings, and toilets within tourist sites. Most of the public toilets mentioned in this fact are constructed with the financial and technical support of the PMC office and are managed by local communities. The public toilets in these different places are not women-friendly and disable friendly and some of them are unusable due to lack of adequate water. Although PMC has planned to construct public toilets in 12 places in 2075/76 and allocated Rs 10 million for the construction of toilets in 2076/77, the results have not been yet satisfied.

## **2. OBJECTIVE, METHODOLOGY, AND SCOPE OF THE STUDY**

### **2.1 OBJECTIVE**

The general objective of this study is to analyze the current situation of public toilets in Pokhara and provide recommendations to make Pokhara a public toilet friendly city.

The specific objectives are;

1. To access the number and present condition of public toilets in Pokhara
2. To examine the problems related to public toilet management
3. To identify the public toilet issue commonly discussed by the people in Pokhara

### **2.2 METHODOLOGY**

The study was based mainly on qualitative data. The Questionnaire Method was used for Primary data collection. The questionnaire schedule comprehensively incorporated the objectives of this research. Close-ended and contingency questions have been used in the questionnaire. The quantitative data about the situation of public toilets was derived from statistical analysis of the field survey, interviews in which the sanitation staff of the different public toilets was asked about their problems while managing public toilets. The data of the public toilets was prepared by the Environment Department of PMC. The consultation was done with the experts to get background knowledge.

### **2.3 SCOPE OF THE STUDY**

The following research is qualitative as well as a quantitative examination of the public toilets in PMC and is concerned with the data provided by the Environment Department of PMC. The 33 wards of the PMC was the primary study area. The researcher has done a field survey of only 33% of the public toilets which may not represent the situation of all the public toilets in Pokhara.

### **3. WHY PUBLIC TOILET IS NECESSARY**

#### **3.1 IT IS A PART OF PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY**

“A public service is a service benefiting the public that is provided by the government because it is underprovided by the market. The public benefits from outputs and outcomes of the given service, not merely inputs. For instance, buildings, textbooks, teachers, assurance of pedagogical training, and quality instruction, are all inputs for delivery of education service, but the public service is to yield an output of students with skills” (World Bank, 2014).

Good public service delivery is an essential component of good governance. Nepal is going through a dedicated decentralized system after adopting the federal system in 2015. The three different levels of government have their rights and responsibilities. The resources available in the country are also divided to get maximum benefits from them. The Local Government Operation Act adopted in 2074 has provided exclusive power to the local governments for implementation, monitoring, and formulation of policies, strategies, and standards. Among many responsibilities of local governments, awareness-raising and management of health care waste are one of them. The ward offices are responsible for the construction of and operation and maintenance of public toilets. Local governments must ensure accountability and transparency as they are the major authorities to deliver public service. The lack of public toilets is an issue of providing safe private spaces for people to do their business.

#### **3.2 IT IS A MEANS OF EXERCISING HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHT**

In 2015, the United National General Assembly declared sanitation a universal human right. This means that everyone, everywhere, has the right to a toilet. The availability of public toilets impacts positively on inclusiveness, mobility, people's health, and quality of life. The availability of public toilets is intervened with many other universal human rights and is essential to an adequate standard of living. Article 30 of the Constitution of Nepal 2072 provides for the right of every citizen to live in a clean and healthy environment while Article 35 provides for the right of every citizen to have access to clean drinking water and sanitation.

Poor sanitation is linked to the transmission of diseases such as cholera, diarrhea, dysentery, hepatitis A, typhoid, polio, and exacerbates stunting. It reduces human well-being, social and economic development due to impacts such as anxiety, risk of sexual assault, and lost educational opportunities. Open defecation perpetuates a vicious cycle of disease and poverty. The countries where open defecation is most widespread have the highest rate of IMR as well as the highest levels of malnutrition and poverty, and big disparities of wealth. (WHO)

A poorly managed toilet can be a transmission factor of many infectious diseases that can even threaten human existence. Going out is much difficult for women as they are vulnerable to urinary tract infection (UTI) than men. 'Holding on' is difficult for those women who are on their period, are pregnant and new mothers. Even the people with different other health issues find it difficult to 'hold on' as they need toilets more often. Though Kaski district is recognized as the first ODF district of Nepal, lack of public toilets is still an issue to sustain the achievement of ODF.

### **3.3 IT IS A MATTER OF MOBILITY AND INCLUSIVENESS**

The social and physical roles of public toilets in city life are undeniable; they are the reflection of our culture and civilization (Antony and Dufrense, 2007). A public toilet is not just important from a public health perspective but also various dimensions such as human rights, quality of life, mobility, and equality. Lack of public toilet facilities affects the daily life of people and creates difficulty in mobility especially for children, women, people with disabilities, and elderly people. Lack of public toilets stopped them from going out as often as they would like. It results in hindering the social participation of people. Though building a public toilet is a very basic thing, it is always ignored by the authorities. These conditions have made many people limit the amount of time they are away from home, and in some cases, can be a major contributory factor in stopping them from leaving home altogether. Lack of public toilets is very distressing for older people, causing social isolation, embarrassment, and discomfort.

Toilet limitations significantly restrict people's mobility in cities and their ability to take part in public life (Knight and Bichard, 2011). Public toilets available in Pokhara are not enough for the people living in Pokhara and even the available toilets are not accessible to all the

people including people with disabilities, old age people, women, and the LGBTIQ community. Such problems created by inaccessibility hinders the inclusiveness of society. The inaccessible public toilets reflect discrimination in terms of gender, ability, and age present in the society and it excludes those people from the public sphere. Hence, an inclusive toilet provision is necessary for proper city planning, a high degree of social participation, and sustainable development.

### **3.4 IT IS A FACTOR FOR ATTRACTING TOURISTS**

In the tourism industry, the availability of quality public toilet matters a lot. The well designed, accessible, and clean toilet can be proven as a revenue booster of any tourism destination. Pokhara being a tourism hotspot of Nepal needs more public toilets than it has now. The journey of Pokhara Metropolitan City towards a smart city cannot be completed without building smart and accessible public toilets in the main tourism/crowded area. Pokhara welcomes thousands of tourists every year which has a significant contribution to the economy. Though the tourism industry creates huge revenue in the economy of Pokhara, the facilities provided to the tourists are not sufficient. Facilities including transportation, varieties of foods, accommodation, recreational activities, proper sanitation, availability of public toilets, etc. play a crucial role in attracting tourists from all over the world. Though Pokhara is naturally beautiful the unavailability of Public toilets in the city can play a negative role in attracting tourists.

Unavailability of a public toilet in tourism destinations like Pokhara may lead to creating a negative image on the eye of both domestic and international tourists which affects the tourism industry as a whole. Proper public toilet facility can raise the standard of tourism destination as it is counted as a basic facility for tourists. Tourists who visit Pokhara often complain about the unavailability of public toilets in the main locations of Pokhara such as Lakeside, Chipledhunga, Prithiwichowk. The unpleasant experience of public toilets may distract tourists. Without addressing the basic issues such as public toilet facilities, different master plans for tourism cannot give desirable results.

### **3.5 NECESSARY FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (GOAL NO. 6)**

Nepal has made significant progress in expanding access to water and sanitation over the last few decades despite tremendous challenges such as poverty, difficult terrains, and



conflicts. Compared to 46 percent in 1990, ninety-five percent of households now have access to improved water resources and sixty-two percent of households are using an improved sanitation facility, up from 6 percent in 1990. But the Functional status of water schemes and the quality of water remains poor with 71 percent of all water sources and 91 percent of those used by the poorest quintile contaminated with Escherichia coli bacteria. Only 25 percent of the water supply is reported to be fully functioning and almost 40 percent require major repairs. Open defecation is still practiced by 16 percent of the population (UNICEF, 2018).

Target 6.2 of Sustainable Development Goals states “By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.” Nepal is one of the member states of Sustainable Development Goals also known as Global Goals and it seems to take a lot of hard work to reach these goals. To achieve these goals Nepal needs to focus on the various aspects of development.

Figure 1: Why Public Toilets are Important?



#### **4. COMPONENTS OF A LIVABLE CITY**

A livable city can be simply defined as a city in which people can easily access basic facilities such as housing, employment, public transport, education, clean environment, adequate food, public spaces and parks, health services, etc. These essential ingredients of a livable city promote the good health and wellbeing of people.

The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) publishes an annual Global Livability Ranking, which ranks 140 cities for their urban quality of life based on assessments of stability, healthcare, culture and environment, education and infrastructure. Austria's capital, Vienna has ranked the most livable city among the 140 cities surveyed by The Economist Intelligence Unit for the second year in a row. Melbourne, Australia, had been ranked by the EIU as the world's most livable city for seven years in a row, from 2011 to 2017. Vienna maintains a near-ideal 99.1, separating it from the Australian city by only 0.7 points. The Syrian capital, Damascus, was ranked the least livable city of the 140 assessed in 2018 and 2019, reflecting the impact of the ongoing conflict in that country. *(Wikipedia)*

Public space for people is one of the crucial components of 'Livable Cities'. Using a public space is a right of people and people need public spaces even more during the time of disasters. Massive earthquake in Nepal in 2015 can be taken as an example to understand how important public space is. Even the Sustainable development goals by United Nations have focuses on making more public spaces for people in the world. Goal no 11 of the Sustainable Development Goals aims to make the cities sustainable by the end of 2030. Target 7 of the goal no 11 aims to provide universal access to safe, inclusive, and accessible, green public spaces in particular for women children, older person and person with disabilities, Nepal being one of the members stated of UN, the planning commission of Nepal has set the targets. More than half of the population of the world live in cities and it is projected that by 2050 two thirds of the world's population will be urban. The global goals adopted by the UN cannot be achieved without significantly transforming the way we build and manage our urban spaces. In the present context, rapid urbanization in developing countries like Nepal has resulted in growth in rural to urban migration. This unmanaged migration in long run affects the sustainability of a city. Making cities sustainable means expanding opportunities for people in different sectors such as business, career, safe and

affordable housing, resilient societies, and economies. To make a city sustainable, investment in public transport, creating green public spaces, and improving urban planning and management is needed.

The Swachha Bharat Abhiyan or Clean India Mission initiated by the government of India prescribes one public toilet for 100-200 males and 100-400 females respectively. According to the data prepared by the environment department of PMC there are only 41 public toilet locations and the ratio of public toilets and population of PMC is 1:10,101. This means that PMC do not have enough toilets for its citizens. As being one of the most developed economy and a top tourism destination of the Gandaki Province as well as the nation, it is up to much discussion about the newly constructed regional International airport could be next point to increase PMC's population.

## **5. INTERNATIONAL PRACTICES**

In the present context, public toilets have an image of dirty, dark, smelly, and dangerous all around the world but few cities are moving towards changing the image of public toilets with the use of modern technology. According to the study done by Lifestyle.inq Eastern Asia and Europe have the cleanest toilets in the world. Some of the cities with the cleanest toilets are given below.

### **4.1 Tokyo, Japan**

The 'Tokyo Toilet Project' by the Nippon Foundation has installed transparent toilets in two different parts of Tokyo, Japan. The transparent design of the toilet in Tokyo can be taken as an example of the modern public toilet in the world as it has changed the image of public toilets from dark, dirty, smelly, and scary to attractive, smart and accessible. The Nippon Foundation built transparent toilets with the aim everyone can use those toilets. According to them, the toilets are accessible to all people regardless of age, gender, and disability. The foundation said that Japan was known as one of the world's cleanest countries and that its public toilets were cleaner than most others around the world. The main aim of installing a transparent toilet in the parks is, allowing people to see how clean they are before deciding to use them, at which point they turn blurred. The bathrooms are made of colored "smart glass," which turns blur when the stalls are locked. The transparent system also helps users to see whether anyone is using a toilet or not.

More than 300 restrooms were refurbished from 2017 to 2019, according to the Japan Tourism Agency. Before that, 40 percent of the country's public restrooms consisted of squat stalls rather than Western-style commodes. The government had sought to phase them out before the Olympics, which have been postponed because of the coronavirus pandemic. But while some appreciated the new toilets' advanced technology, some Tokyo residents said they were misplaced in exposed public spaces and were perhaps better suited elsewhere.

### **4.2 Shanghai, China**

The new bathrooms in Shanghai are part of China's efforts to extend artificial intelligence (AI) into almost every aspect of daily life. They come hot on the heels of smart trash cans and AI-powered traffic lights. Each stall has a human body sensor, using infrared rays and ultrasound to detect the person inside and how long they have been sitting there, according to a document

released by the city government. Sensors also monitor the air quality inside the cubicle and a water-saving feature will adjust the water level based on occupancy time.

#### **4.3 Zurich, Switzerland**

Zurich city of Switzerland has the third cleanest public toilets in the world according to lifestyle.inq. Most of the public toilets in the city are easily accessible, clean, and spotless. Anyone can easily find public toilets at the bus/train station, park, restaurants, tourist sites, and cable car platforms but the users have to pay some amount to use the toilets.

#### **4.4 Stockholm, Sweden**

In Stockholm city, public toilets are made with so many technological advancements. The seats of the toilet are rotating with a self-cleaning system that keeps the toilet clean and gives users a pleasant experience. Almost all of the public toilets are situated in an easily accessible area such as bus stops, train stations, and tourist sites. Most of the toilets require some amount of fee to use where some can be used free of cost. All the restrooms are well maintained, and they have a symbol for ladies and gents restrooms, so they're easy to identify.

#### **4.4 Sulabh Sauchalaya, India**

Sulabh Sauchalaya is the innovative idea of a non-profit social organization in India named Sulabh International. Sulabh Sauchalaya has received international acclaim and was featured by BBC horizon as the top five innovations in the world. Mr. Bindeshwar Pathak founded the organization in 1970 to address two burning issues at that time such as poor hygiene and discrimination in India.

After much research, he designed the two pit pour-flush compost toilet known as Sulabh Sauchalaya as a replacement for bucket toilets used across most of the villages in India. The ecological compost toilets not only provided low-cost environmentally-friendly toilets to millions of people in India but also ensured freedom to scavengers from manual scavenging. The scavengers were rehabilitated by Sulabh to ensure that poverty would not force them back into this profession. By early 2019, Sulabh was maintaining 9000 pay-and-use toilets and had rehabilitated more than 1 million scavengers. Sulabh had set up 1.5 million individual toilets and 60 million government toilets had been constructed based on the Sulabh design. While Sulabh's business model was widely hailed as sustainable and also replicated around the world, the pay-and-use model still faced challenges. In several urban

slums, people still preferred to defecate in the open as most of them were unable to either afford the pay-and-use facilities or were unwilling to do so. (Sulabh International, 2019)

## 6. OBSERVATION

During the study, we visited some of the public toilets in Pokhara and conducted an on-site study. We also interviewed some of the people who managed those toilets on daily basis. In some of the toilets, we couldn't go inside because of the smell of the toilets. Public toilets are not only the right of citizens but they should be protected by the citizens. Citizens must properly use public toilets because a poorly managed toilet can be a home for many dangerous diseases.

**Table 1** Frequency analysis

S.N.	Title	Percentage		Remarks
		Yes	No	
1.	Different toilets for men and women	70	30	
2.	Proper board	60	40	
3.	Accessible to people with disability	30	70	
4.	Accessible to senior citizens	30	70	
5.	Accessible to children	40	60	
6.	Availability of dustbin	30	70	
7.	Proper lock	60	40	
8.	Proper light	40	60	
9.	Availability of water/tap	70	30	
10.	Availability of soap	40	60	
11.	Payment to use the toilet	70	30	Rs. 5 for short toilet and 10 for long toilet.
12.	Regular staff for sanitation	40	60	

*Source: Field Survey, 2020*

Among the 13 public toilets, we visited 70% of the toilets have different toilets for men and women whereas 30% do not have different toilets for men and women. 60% of the toilets have a proper visible board to segregate toilets for men and women and 40% do not have the board. Only 30% of the toilets are accessible to people with disabilities and 70% are not



disabled-friendly. Senior citizens can use 30% of the toilets as 70% are not accessible to them. 40% of the toilets are child friendly whereas 60% are not. Only 30% of the toilets have dustbin whereas 70% do not have dustbin. 60% of the toilets have a proper lock but the rest 40% do not have proper lock they even have broken doors. 40% of the toilets have proper light whereas 60% do not have lights. The water facility is a must for public toilets but only 70% of the toilets have tap water whereas 30% do not have a tap and 60% of the toilets do not have soap. 70% of the toilets charge people to use it whereas 30% were for free, mostly they charge 5 Rs for a short toilet and 10 Rs for a long toilet. Only 40% of the toilets have regular staff who clean them on daily basis and 60% do not have any staff for cleaning.

While visiting the public toilets we found that it's very hard to manage the toilets because of uncivilized activities of people. Most of the staffs shared about their problems while managing the toilets and most of the problems were common. Building the necessary physical infrastructure for the people is a responsibility of the state, but the citizens must use it properly and protect it. During the observation, the researcher found that there is a lack of effective monitoring from local authorities for maintaining the standard. Improper use of public toilets can lead to the spread of various diseases and even increase the risk of infection. Many people are affected when a public toilet is littered, so first of all, the citizens themselves should be aware and use the public toilets properly.

Figure 2: Problems of Public Toilet in PMC

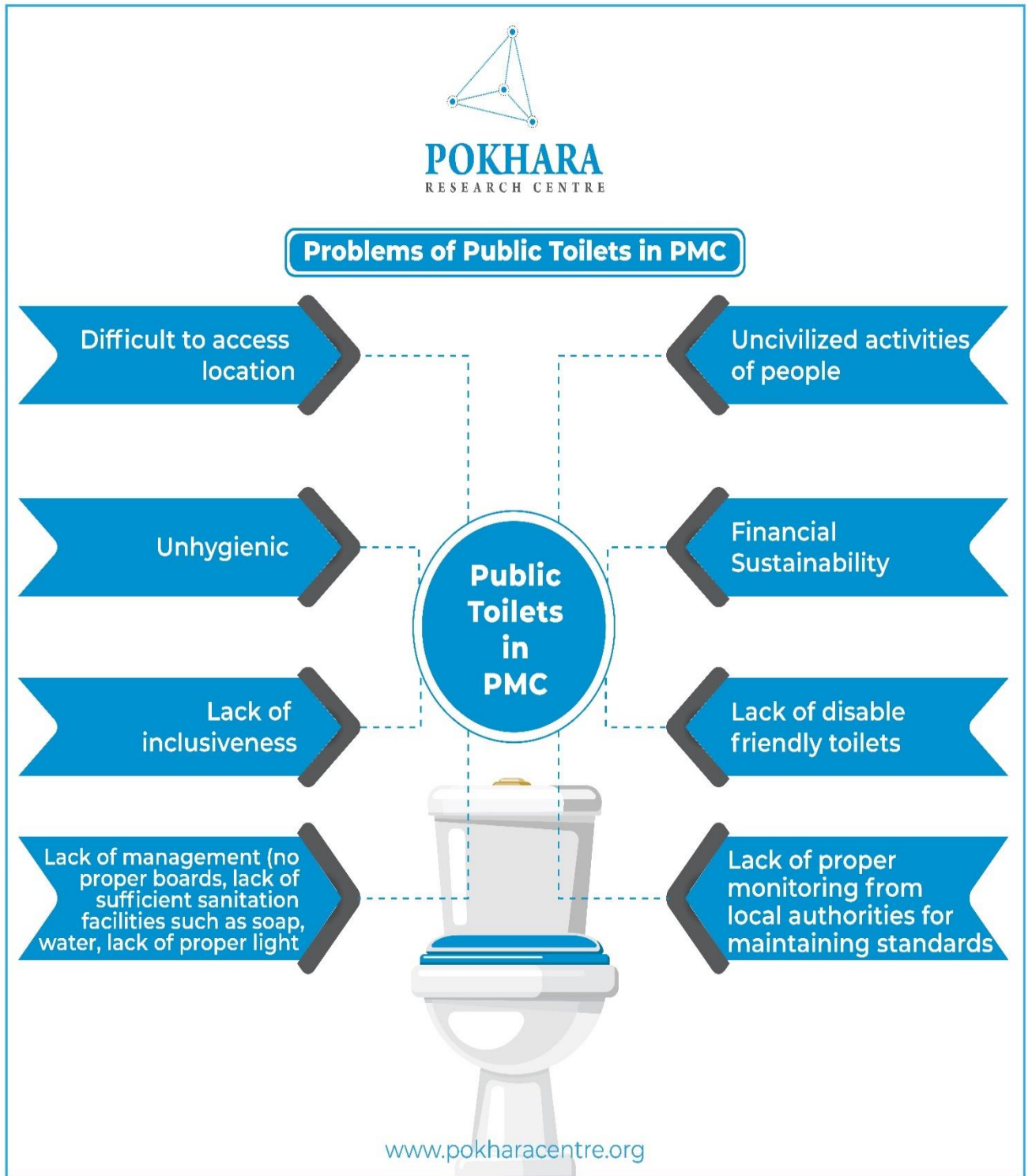
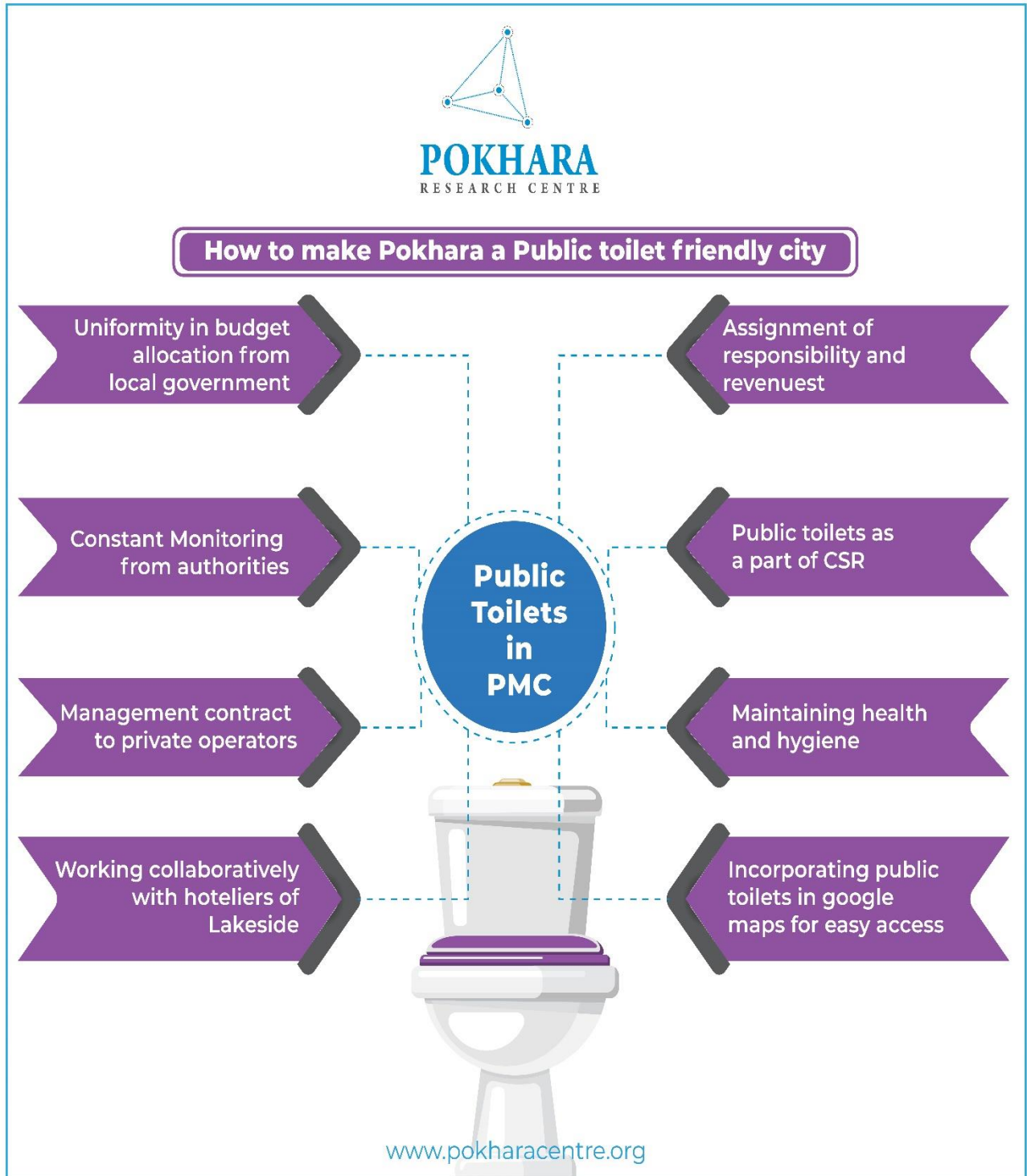


Figure 3: How to Make Pokhara a Public Toilet Friendly City



## 7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- Budget allocation

Analyzing the budget of PMC there is no uniformity in budget allocation for the public toilets on its yearly programs. The budget was provisioned for the fiscal year 74/75 but the budget heading was missing from the 76/77 and 77/78. PMC must consider the regularity of budget heading to manga construction, repairs, and maintenance of the public toilets.

- Assignment of Responsibilities and Revenues.

As the world is going towards a sustainability approach, the management and operation of public toilets are also important. Keeping the environment around the public toilets clean and well-managed is also important. The current practice is subletting out the operation and revenue collection is to some private person but the cost is not enough PMC consider the amount of revenue collected and incentivize the operator so they are motivated for the cleaning and operation. PMC can make it a source of Revenue by letting corporate houses advertise their product and services on the premises of public toilets.

- Incorporating public toilets into Google Maps for easy access

The local people as well as the tourists find it difficult to know the exact location of public toilets in Pokhara since their exact location is not trackable on google. Adding the toilet locations in google would make people easier to find the location of the toilet.

- Public Toilet as a Part of CSR.

Business Complex and Business Houses could build a public toilet at their buildings and make them a part of their CSR. Along with this, incentives such as tax concession, tax abatement could be promoted for the people to motivate them in constructing Public toilets. The public toilets can provide an important location for the advertisement purpose.

- Immediate solution

During the observation, the researcher found that there were no LGBTIQ friendly toilets in moreover, public toilets were not friendly to be children, women, and people with disabilities. The toilet missed adequate water, electricity, and a convenient place to defecate. For starters, the PMC could immediately work to repair non-functional toilets, ensure mobile toilets in more significant areas where the flow of people is high.

- Working collaboratively with the hoteliers of Lakeside

Lakeside is the most important tourist destination of Pokhara and is often considered as the reflection of Pokhara to the national and international tourists. PMC working collaboratively with the hotels and restaurant owners of lakeside and around to provide the restroom to any general public without paying for service can be an important solution for the issue of public toilets around lakeside. of course, PMC should think about incentives such as tax concession, rebates which could be a win-win situation for all. Moreover, making the washrooms of public service organizations available for the public could be an important issue.

- Bundle contracts.

Bundling several public toilet complexes into a single contract would simplify municipal administration and reduce the monitoring burden to individual contractors. The bidding criteria for operators, for example, giving a weighting of 80 percent to operational factors and 20 percent to financial aspects can be effective from the public service delivery aspect. Effective monitoring and enforcement of contract conditions must be placed for the operators to maintain the quality of the public toilets in PMC.

## 7. ANNEXES

**Table No. 2 Public toilets in Pokhara**

S.N.	Ward No.	Location of the Toilet	Number of Toilets	Managed by	Remarks
1.	1	K.I. Singh Pool	2	Taxi business association	
2.	2	Baglung Bus Park	1		
3.	5	Parsyang Garden	1		
4.	6	Barahighat, Hallanchowk, Basundhara Park, Gaurighat, Aambot Ghat	7	Fewa Boat Association	
5.	7	Puspalal Park and Land and revenue office	2	Land and Revenue office, Puspalal park	
6.	9	Inside & outside old bus park	3	Sahara Club, Satyashwar mother's group and PMC	
7.	11	Kahu Dharahara (under construction)	1	Ward office	
8.	13	Amaarsingh Chowk	1	Ammarsingh business committee	
9.	14	NA	1		
10.	16	Lamachaur	1	Nawa Aadarsha Community	
11.	19	Thuli Pokhari	1	NA	
12.	21	Mattikhan, Manakamana, Tyaksi Chowk, Foksing, Maidan, Majhgaun and Adhikari Gaun	8	Local CBO's	
13.	26	Majh ko mul Picnic spot, Khaste Lake, Gunde Lake	5	Local CBO's	
14.	27	Picnic spot near Dipang Lake	1	Local CBO's	
15.	29	Bhandardik	1	Sana Sahari Khanepani	
16.	30	Powerhouse, Sishuwa School Chowk	2	Electricity Office and Education resource office	

17.	32	Majhuwa	1	Local Youth Club	
18	33	Building of Gandaki Aama Samuha and Sheraa besi Aama Samuha	2	Aama Samuha and Sheraa besi Aama Samuha	

Figure 4: Details of Public Toilets in PMC

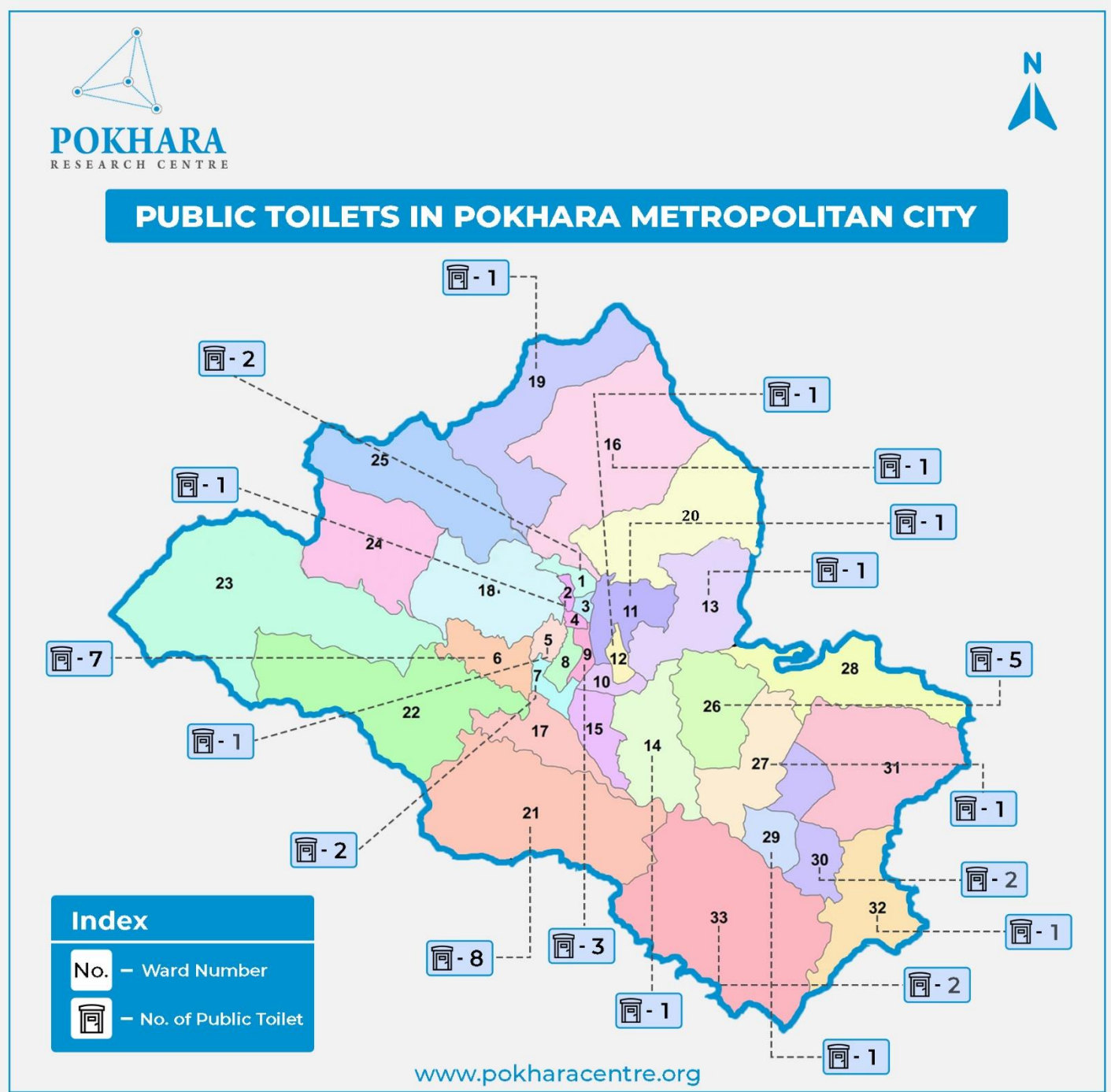
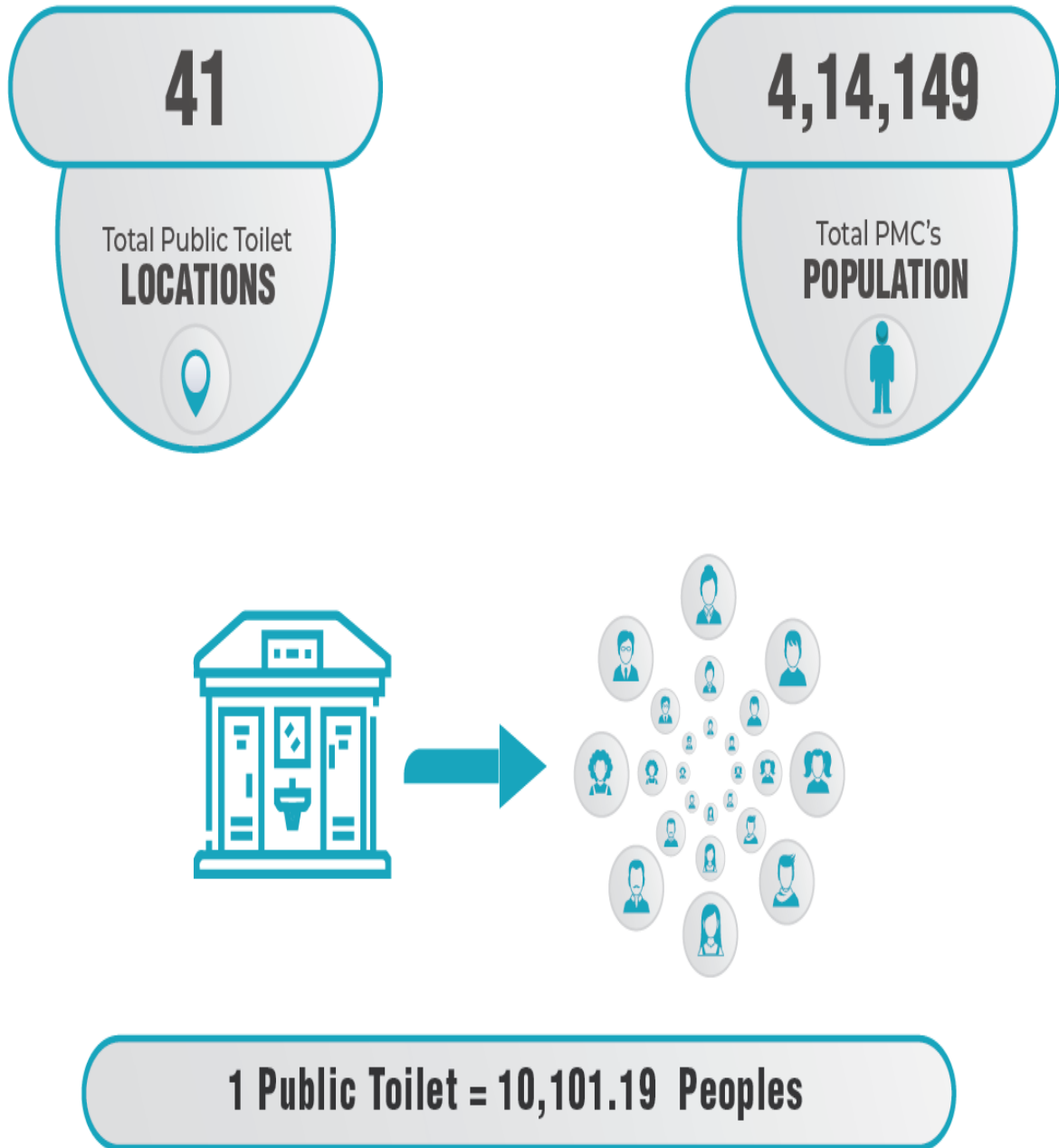


Figure 5: Proportion of Public toilets and population of PMC



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# ABOUT US

**Pokhara Research Centre (PRC)** is a research based non-partisan organization based in Pokhara. Established in 2019, PRC focuses on socio-economic dimensions of domestic public policy research.

Guided by the motto of “**Economic Freedom with Good Governance**”, PRC is following the international principle of individual choice and liberty translated into equal opportunity of enterprise, rule of law and the democratic principle of free expression as a tool to design its programs and initiatives, creating positive impact at the province level, through policy reform; PRC works under three broad functional domain; Research, Training and Advocacy.

PRC's one of the flagship program Pre-Parliamentary Support Program (PPSP) aims to train youth of Gandaki Province in law-making and public policy. The primary role of a PPSP Fellow is to deliver extensive research support to their assigned MP for their parliamentary work. The organization is also focusing on other youth training program on free market, entrepreneurship and economic freedom in the region supported by Atlas.

The organization core values are; Creating public values, Evidence based policy making, the investment approach to public service delivery. PRC intervenes on areas viz. Enterprise Development, Economic Policy Reform, Governance & Advocacy and Public Policy Delivery.

The organization has launched program such as Gandaki Discourse, Political Economic Discussion Series (PEDS), and Formation of Gandaki Leader Circle (GLC) dedicating it to establish itself as the state level policy think tank.

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