

School WASH survey: A summary

Objective and methods

The school WASH survey was related to the project Output 1.6 that is on institutional disabled- gender friendly toilets. The report notes that only 40 institutional (school) toilets have been completed of the targeted of 220.

Objective of the survey was to collect the necessary school WASH information for the basis of planning and implementation according to the project targets. The survey enabled the project to receive a baseline level information, and to find out the potential for further implementation efforts in the 27 core RMs.

The data presents the school WASH status at the end of 2018 in the project core RMs. The results are expected to reflect the general status in the working area.

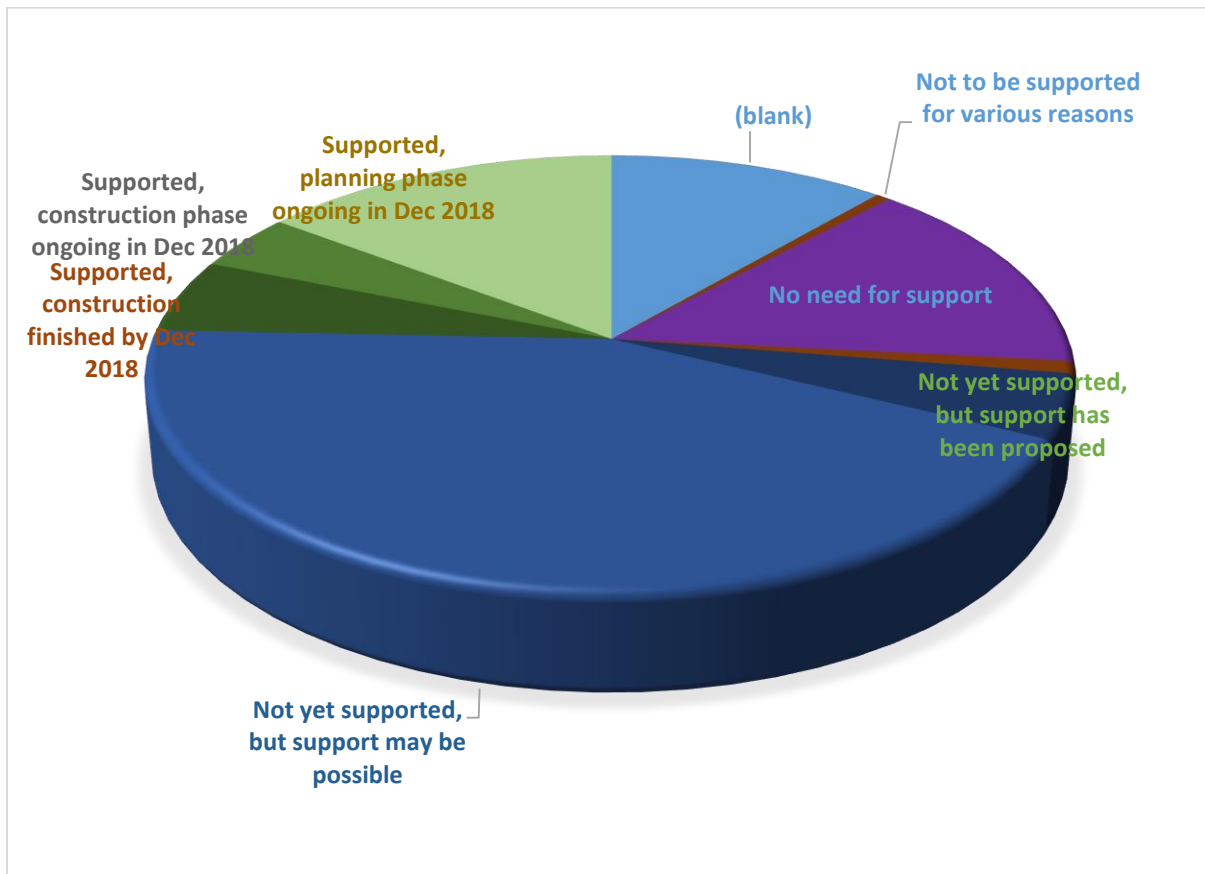
The survey was done in cooperation with the Education Office of the RM, and the RMPMC. It was carried out by RMSU staff (LF and TF), coordinated by the GWRO, in December 2018 – January, 2019. The survey was based on information that is easily available at the municipality office, and by calling the teachers/contact persons at schools. The survey reporting was done through filling in a school WASH status matrix (an Excel sheet), prepared by the FS. The data (excel document) was sent to the respective RMPMC, WRA, DTL, and FS for further analysis.

Some aspects of the survey

- Included all schools of all core RMs, except Bhageshwor RM (data not received).
- Total 879 schools - 646 schools with some sort of existing facilities
- Out of the total 879, there were around 700 primary schools
- On average there were 233 students per school
- Approximately 600 disabled students in the 879 schools

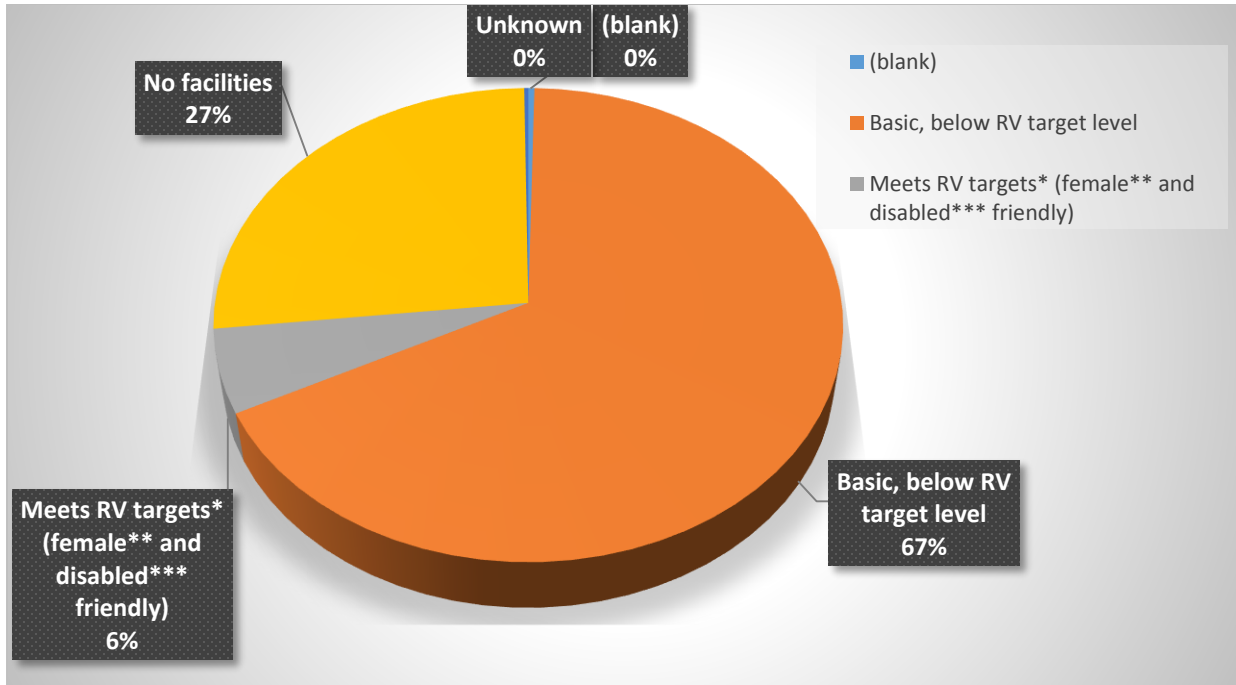
Support possibilities

One of the main questions for the project implementation was the amount of possibility to support the local schools in WASH. The survey data (Figure below) concluded that 25% of the schools were already supported by the project in a way or another, mainly as a beneficiary institution of a water supply scheme; but not as a separate school WASH scheme (green colours). The survey reporters reported that 49% of the schools were potential for further support (dark blue colours). According to the survey results, 26% of the schools were not potential for project support (no information, or no support possibility for various reasons – brown, violet, and light blue colours).

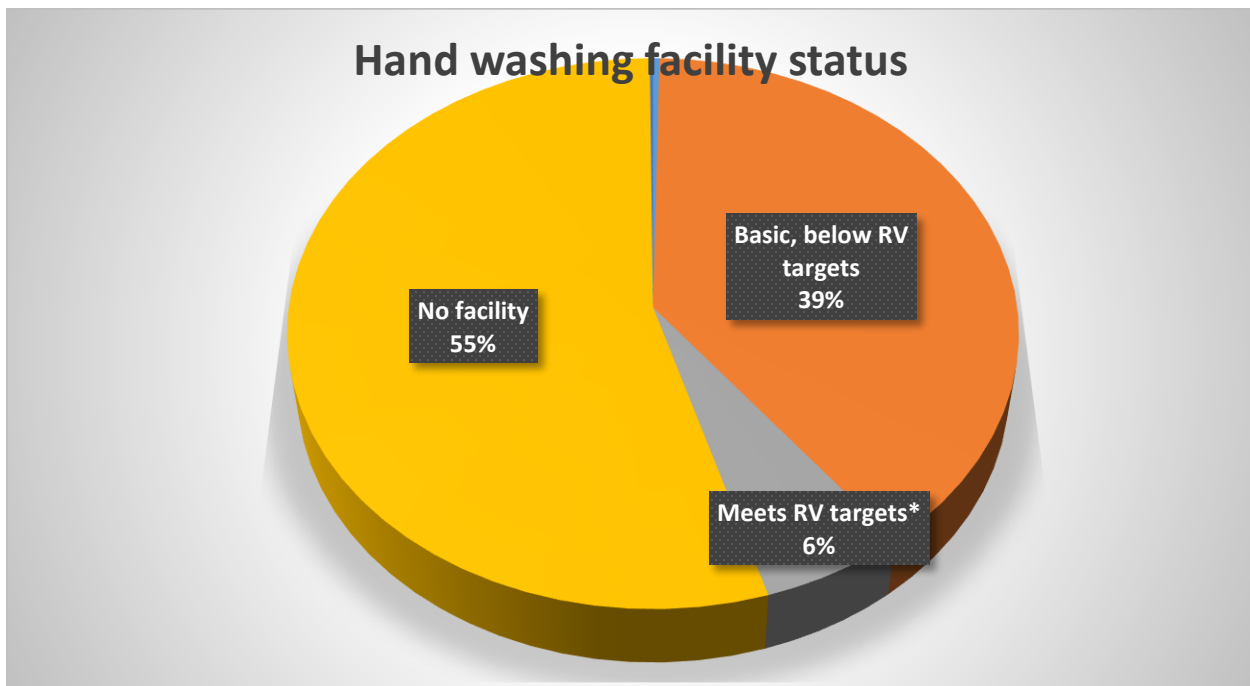


WASH facility service levels

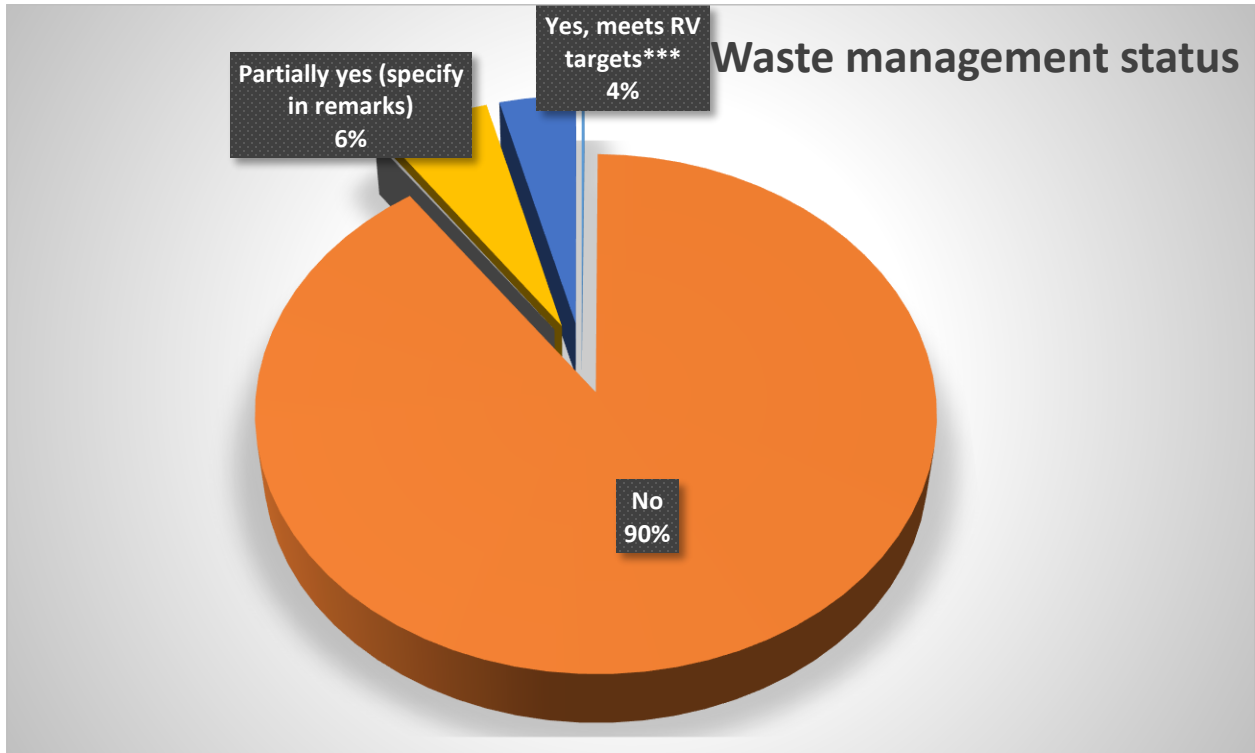
Two thirds of the schools had a basic WASH facility that does not meet the project target level. 27% of the schemes did not have any type of WASH facility at schools. 6% had female and disabled friendly facilities, which were built by the project.



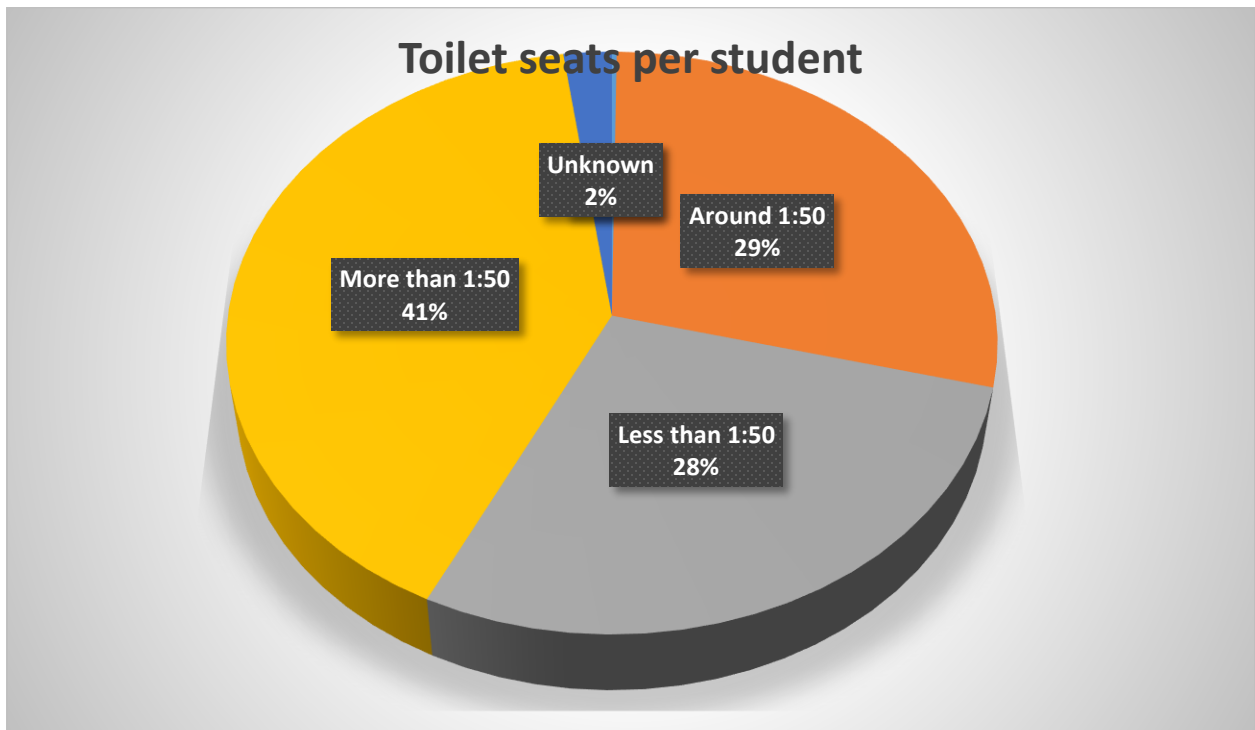
The hand washing facility status was poor: More than half of the schools did not have a facility for hand washing at all, whereas the project-supported 6% had an adequate facility.



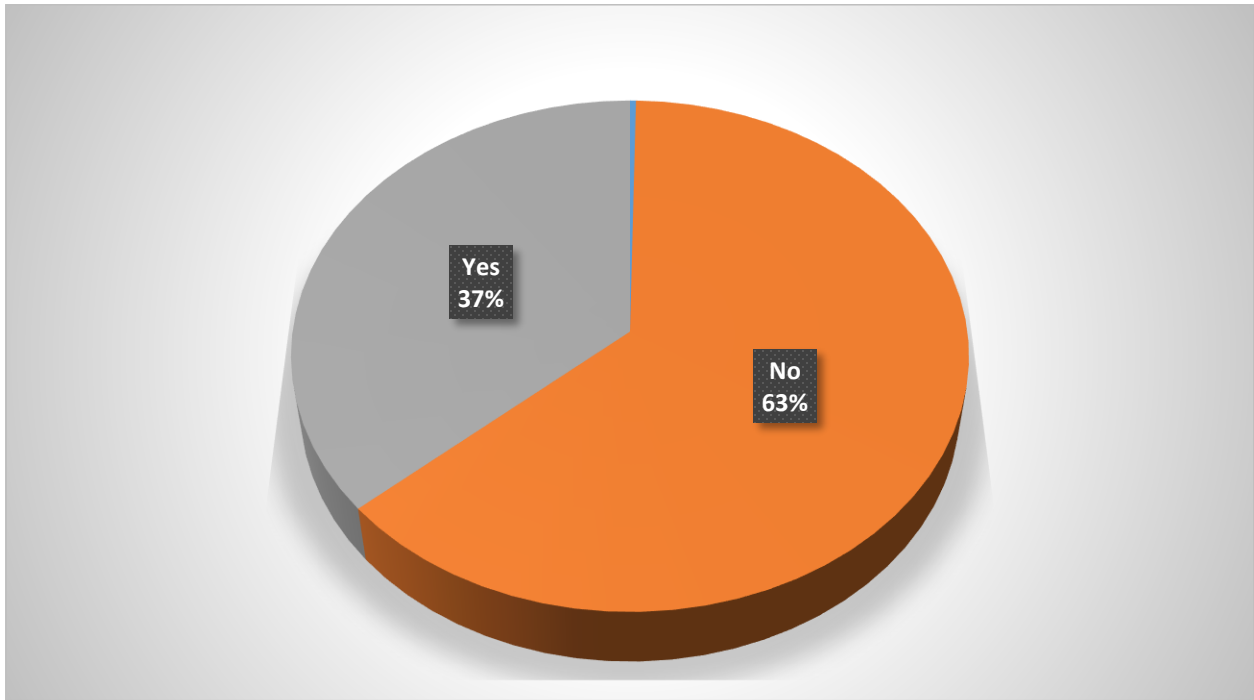
Waste management of the facilities is almost non-existent. 90% of the schools reported no systematic waste management whatsoever, and 4% of the schools met the RVWRMP target level.



There are generally enough toilets seats per student in the schools that have facilities, but around one third of the schools has less.

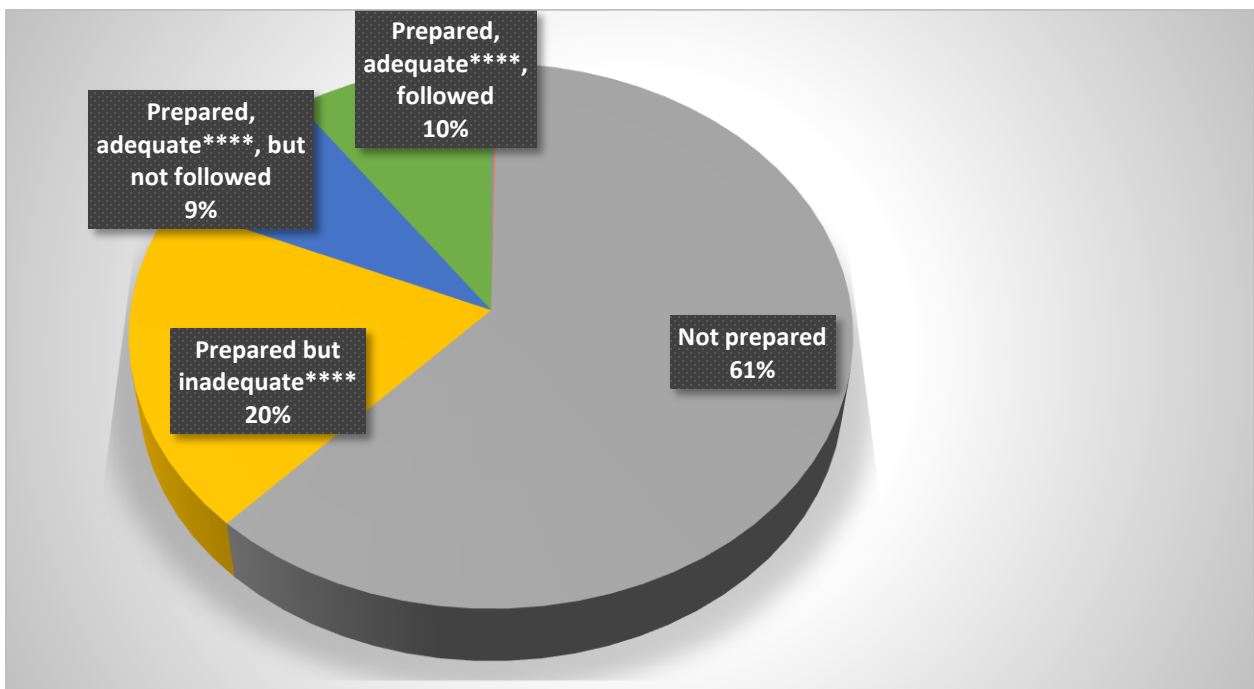


Two thirds of the schools had no segregated facilities for girls and boys. This is because most of the schools were at primary level where the segregation is not compulsory.



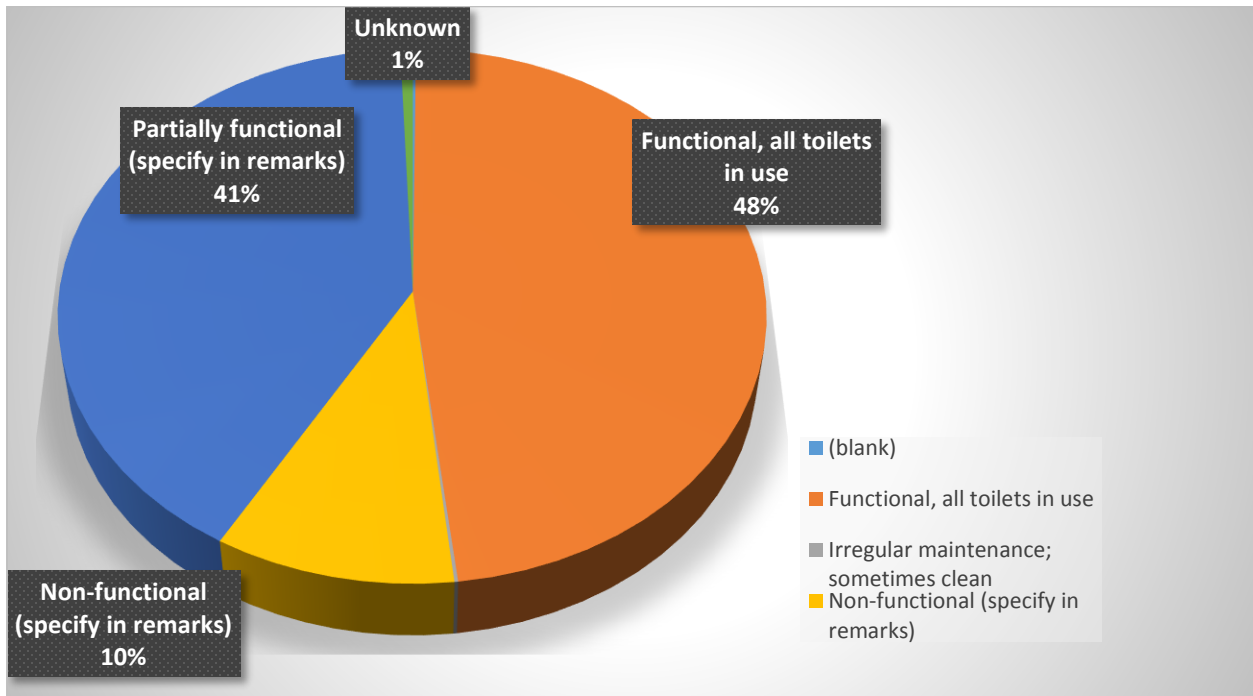
WASH planning status

Majority of the schools had not prepared a WASH/development plan. Many of the schools that had prepared the plan had not followed it, or the plan was reported inadequate. Only 10% of the schools followed an adequate WASH/development plan.

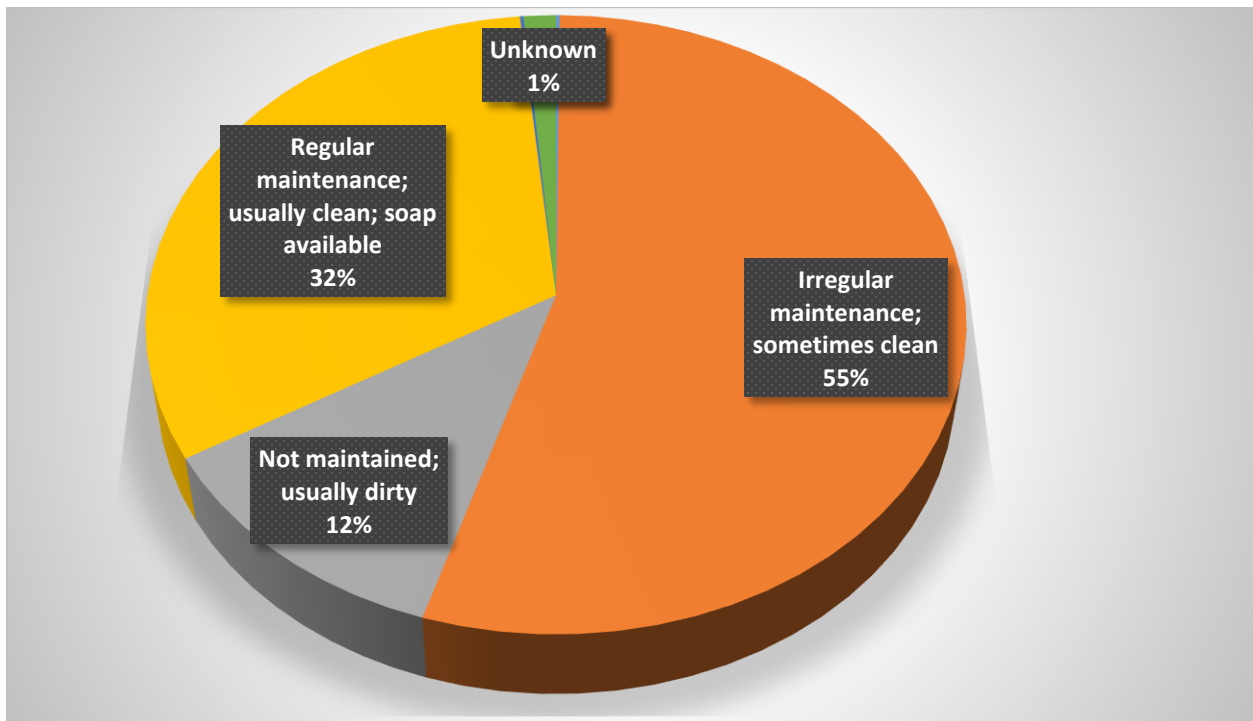


Functionality and maintenance status of existing facilities

The status of the existing facilities (73% of all schools) is moderate: Nearly half of the facilities are fully functional, whereas 10% is totally non-functional.

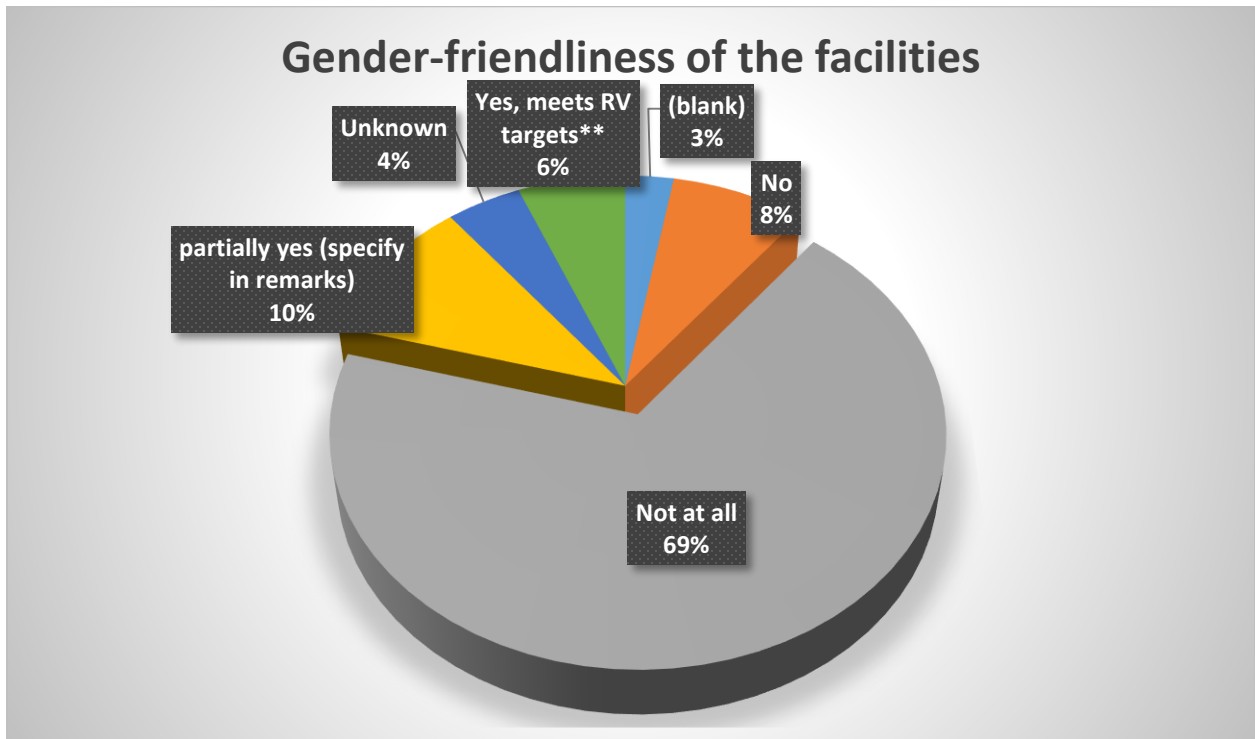


The maintenance status is rather poor: Only one third of the facilities were regularly maintained, whereas 12% were practically not maintained at all.

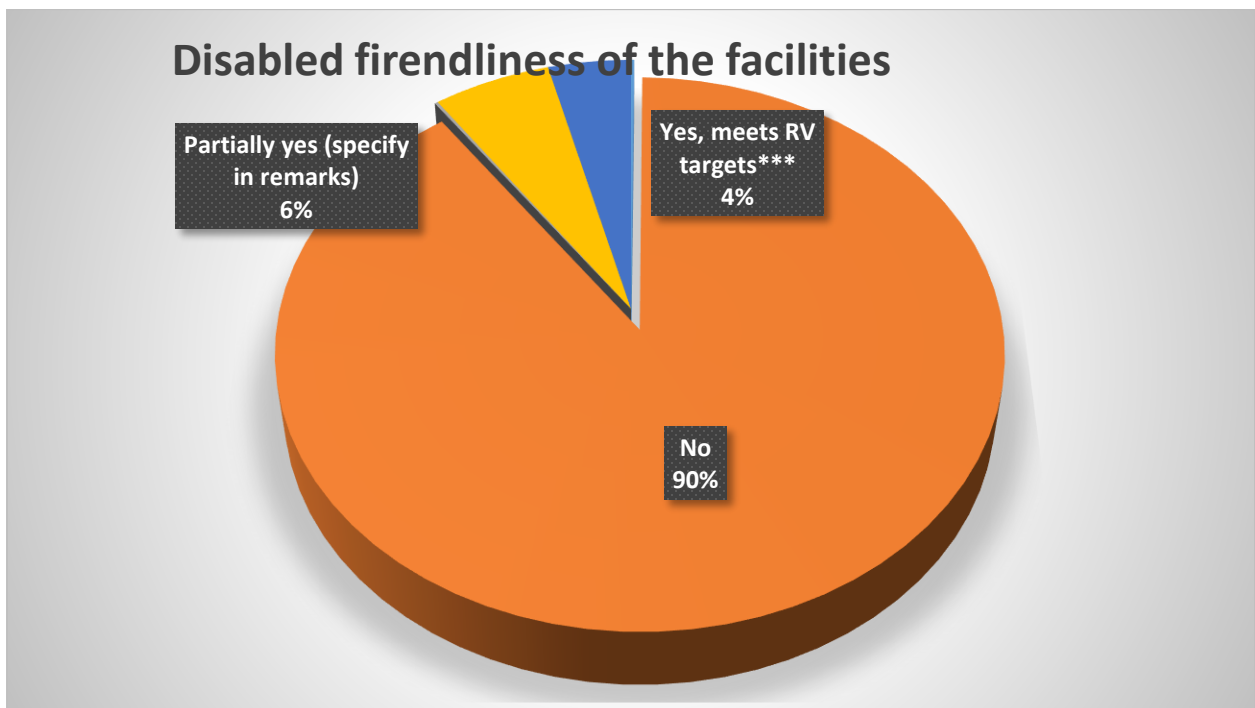


Disabled and gender friendliness of existing facilities

Of the existing facilities, more 76% were regarded not gender-friendly, whereas only 6% met the project target level.



Almost no facility in the project area was seen disabled-friendly. Only 10% had some sort of disabled-friendly facilities.



Conclusions

The survey indicated that there is a great need and theoretical potential for further school WASH support by the project. The general service level of the facilities is quite poor, and one fourth of the schools do not yet have any kind of WASH facilities. The schools have a lack of proper planning of the school development and WASH. The school WASH facilities are generally not disabled nor gender friendly. The project must ensure that these aspects are properly accounted for in the RVWRMP supported schools.

The main doubts in this regard from the project side are linked to the observed lack of genuine willingness of to invest in WASH, and to the unsustainability of operation and maintenance of the school facilities. The survey data reinforced the presence of these doubts. Therefore, selecting the most potential schools that can be seen potentially sustainable is important.

There is a possibility to invest more in school WASH planning, behavior change, institutional capacity building, and facility renovations in the willing and potential schools that already may have basic level facilities.