

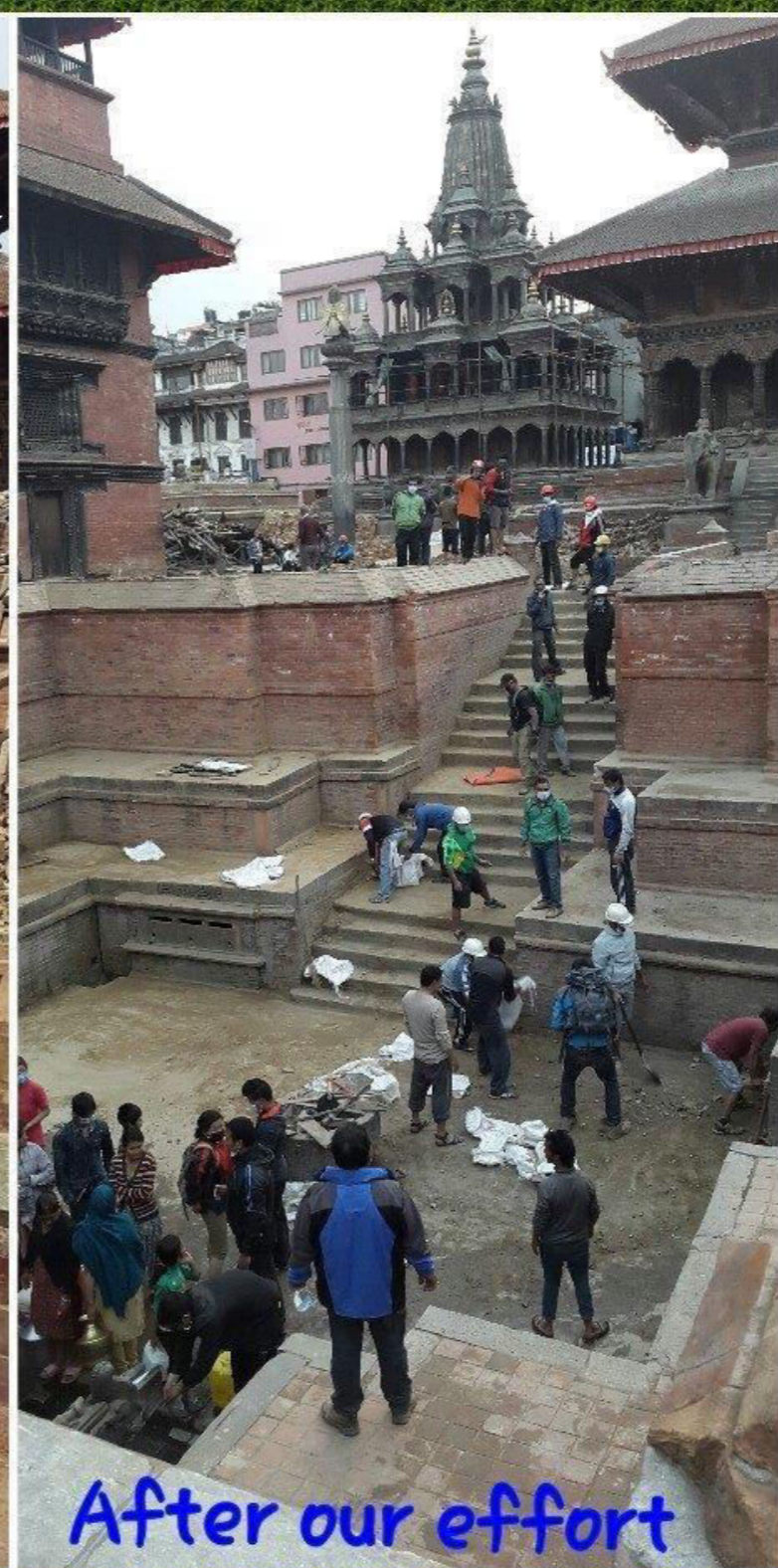
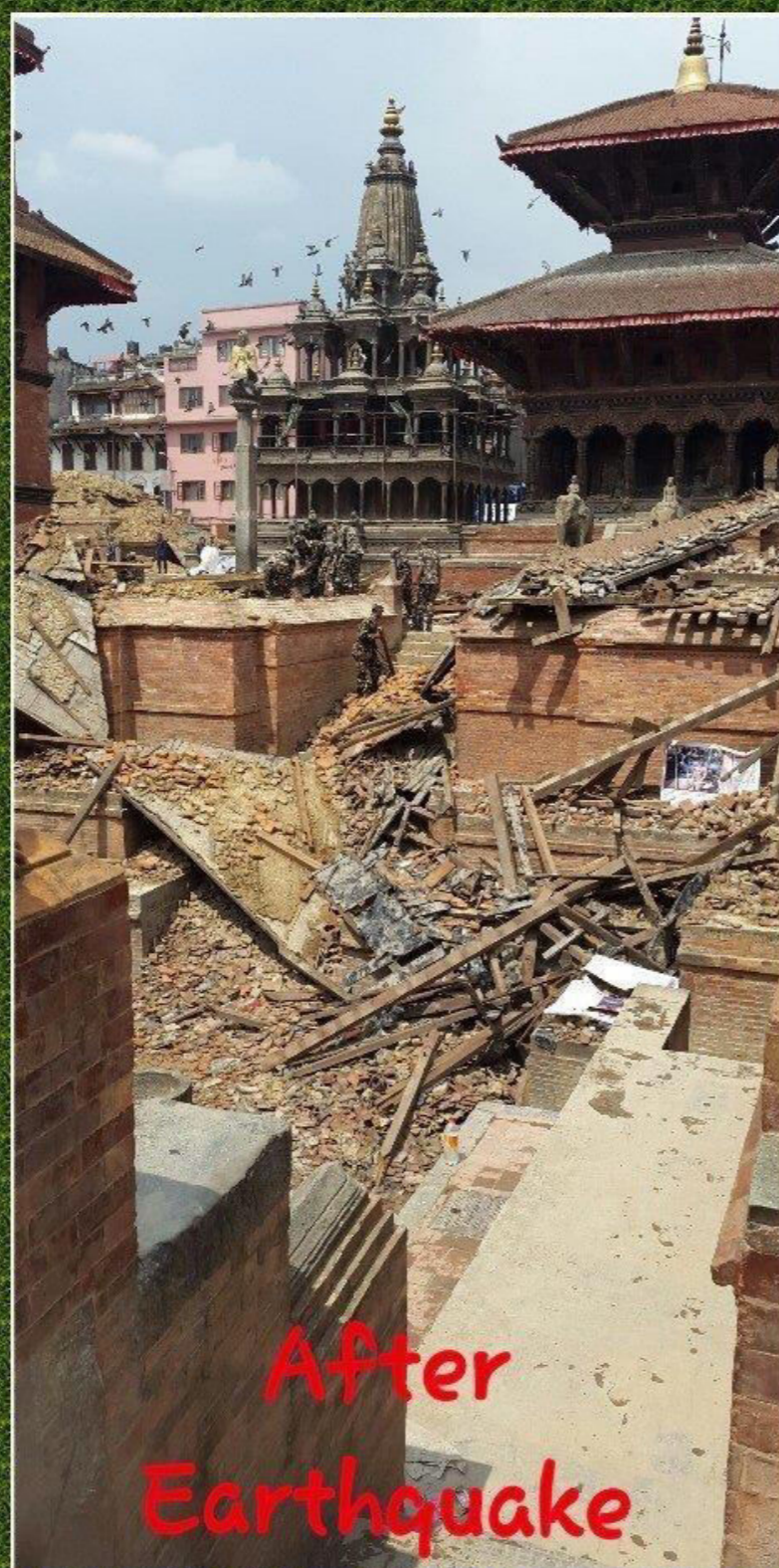
Traditional Infrastructure, Modern Flows: Cultural Politics of Development in the Kathmandu Valley



Olivia Molden (Department of Geography University of Oregon), Dr. Aditi Mukherji (ICIMOD), Nicholas Griffin (Wake Forest Law School).

Funded by UO Geography Department and Center for Asia Pacific Studies; Association for Pacific Coast Geographers Larry Ford Field Study Award and Margaret Trussell Scholarship

Nepal earthquake



Failure of the formal grid



KUKL urged to supply water twice a week

REPUBLICA

KATHMANDU, March 7

Constituent Assembly (CA) member Nabindra Raj Joshi on Friday asked the Kathmandu Upatyaka Khanepani Limited (KUKL) to distribute drinking water at least twice a week.

Joshi, accompanied by more than four dozens party cadres and consumers, reached the KUKL's head office to convey the problems faced by water-starved consumers to the authority.

"Listening to the grievances about drinking water has become part of my daily routine," he said. "I have asked the officials to distribute water at least twice a week in the areas where water does not reach through KUKL supply line and also find ways to increase the quantity," he added. Joshi

quality of drinking water. In the letter, Joshi has also urged the KUKL authority to conserve historical stone spouts and wells.

He also inquired about present status of water production and efforts made by the officials to explore new sources to increase production. He assured the officials help from the government in their efforts.

Water-starved consumers have started to throng KUKL's main office to complain about water crisis.

Due to increasing hours of load shedding and dry season, production of drinking water has been shrinking. Consumers have to wait more than 10 days to collect drinking water.

The distribution section of KUKL said that growing

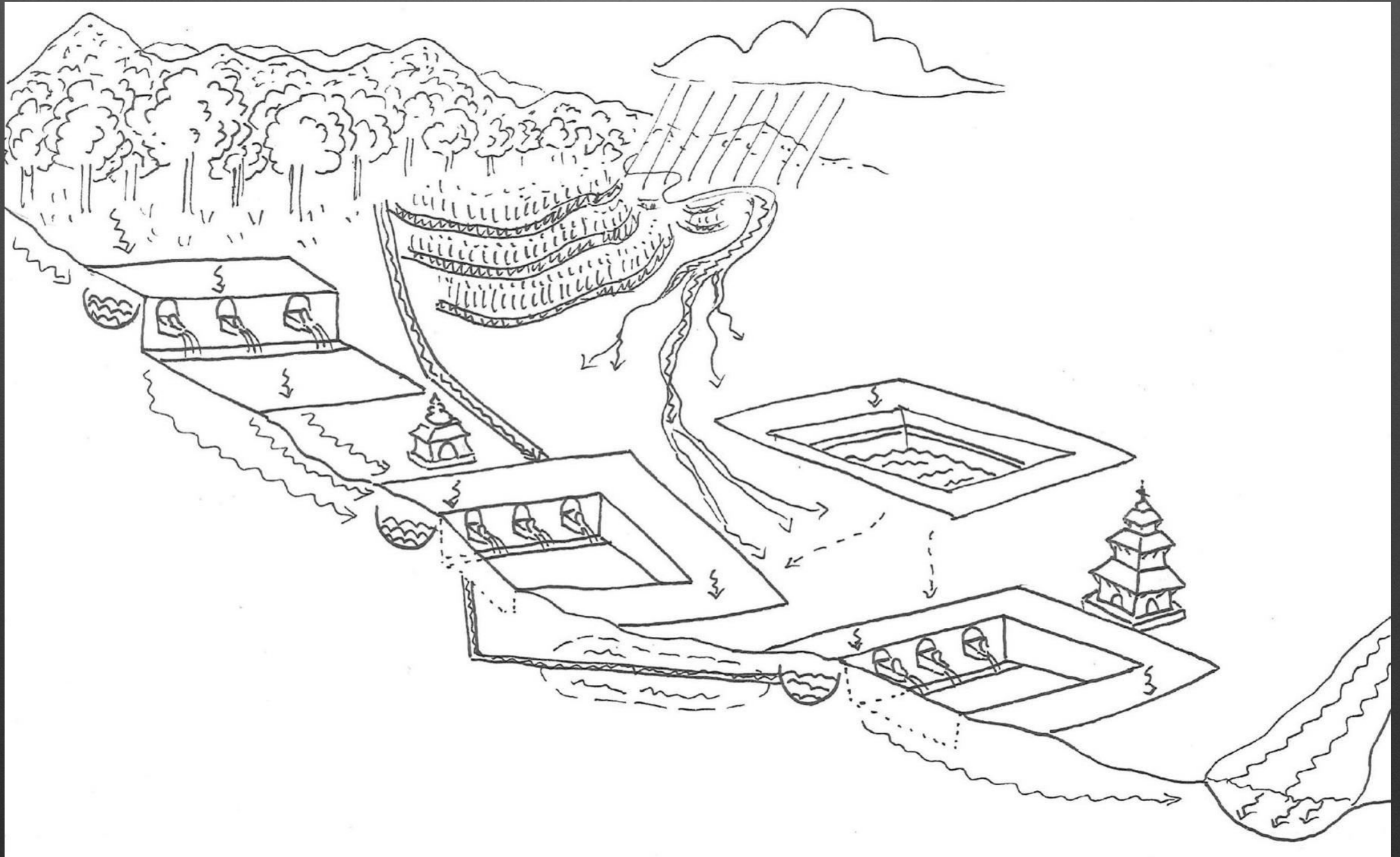
How do different institutions interact with the spout system?



Methods and study area



The Stone Spout System



**10% of the Valley relies on
spouts**



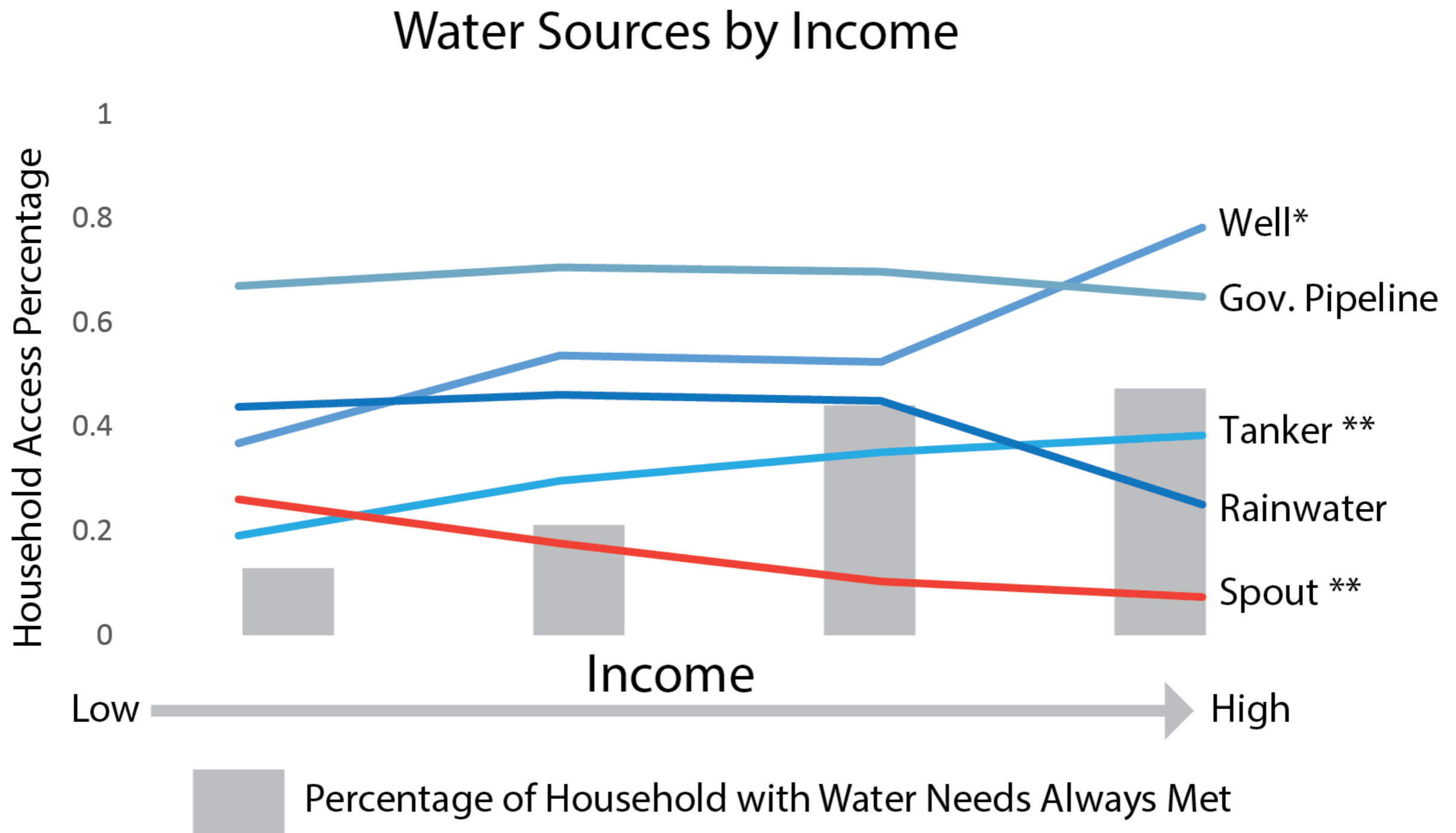
2,000 years of spout water



Introduction of the piped water network



Finding 1: Correlation between income and water source access



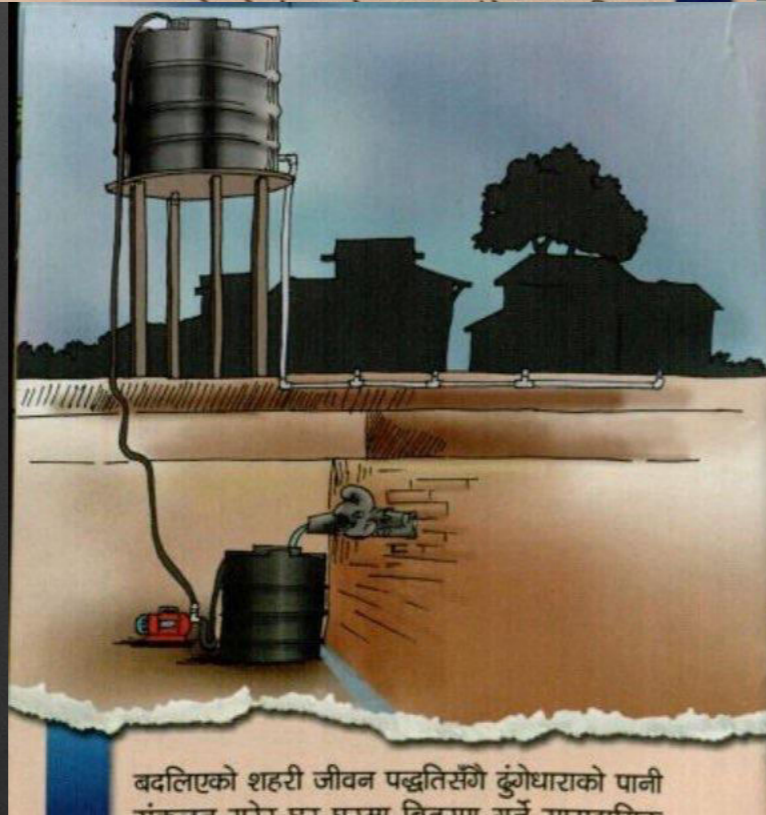
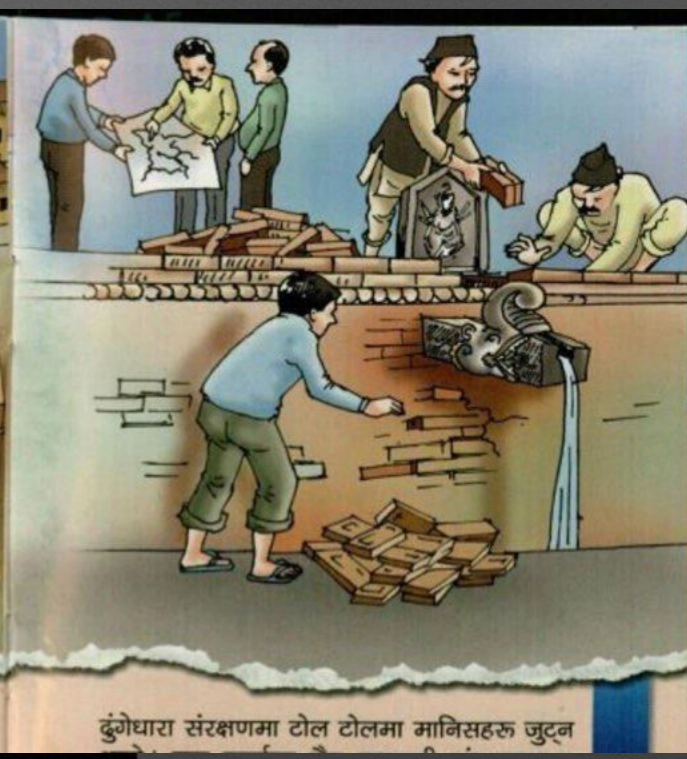
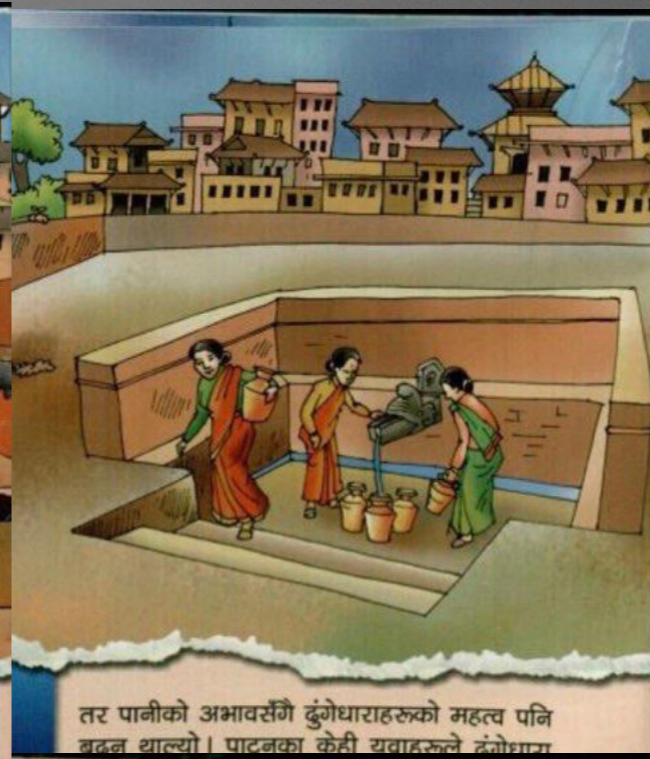
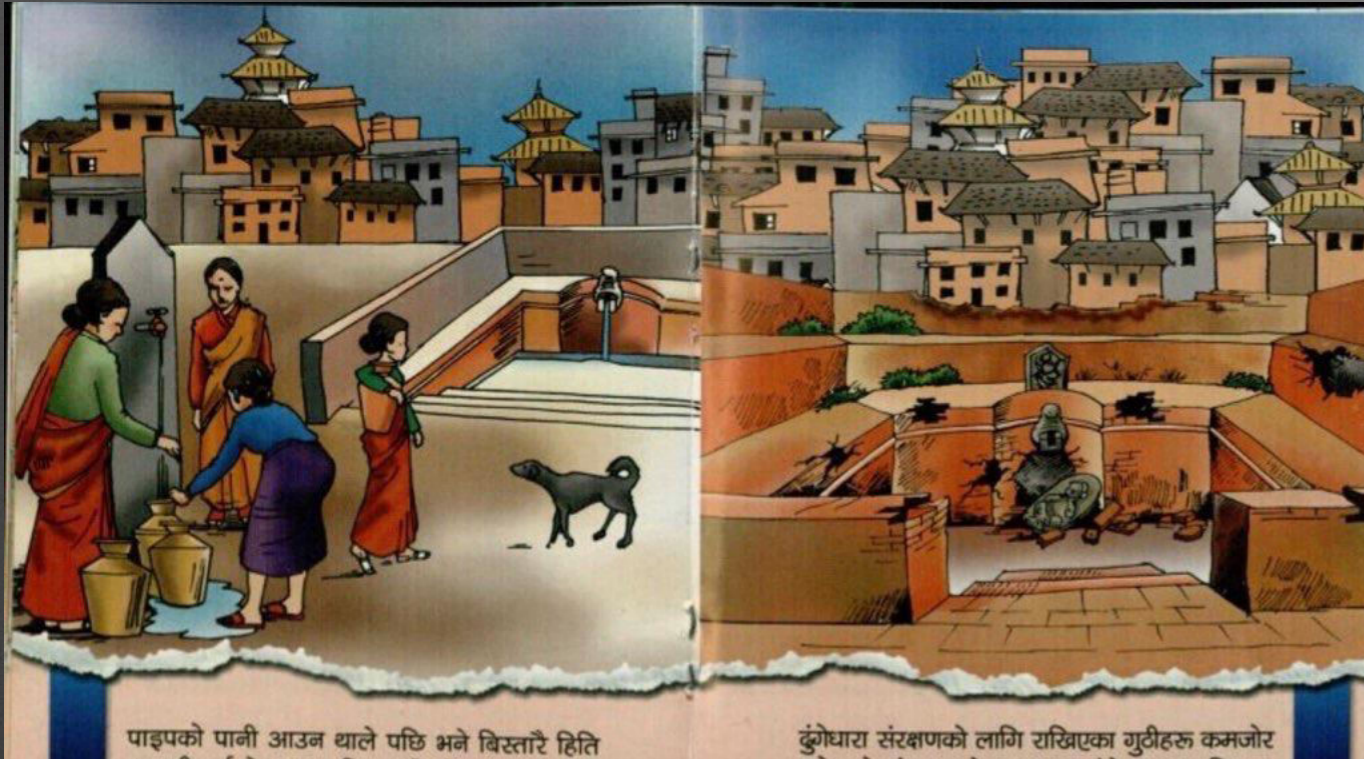
* Pearson's Chi Square less than 0.01, ** less than 0.05



Finding 2: Income is not the only factor



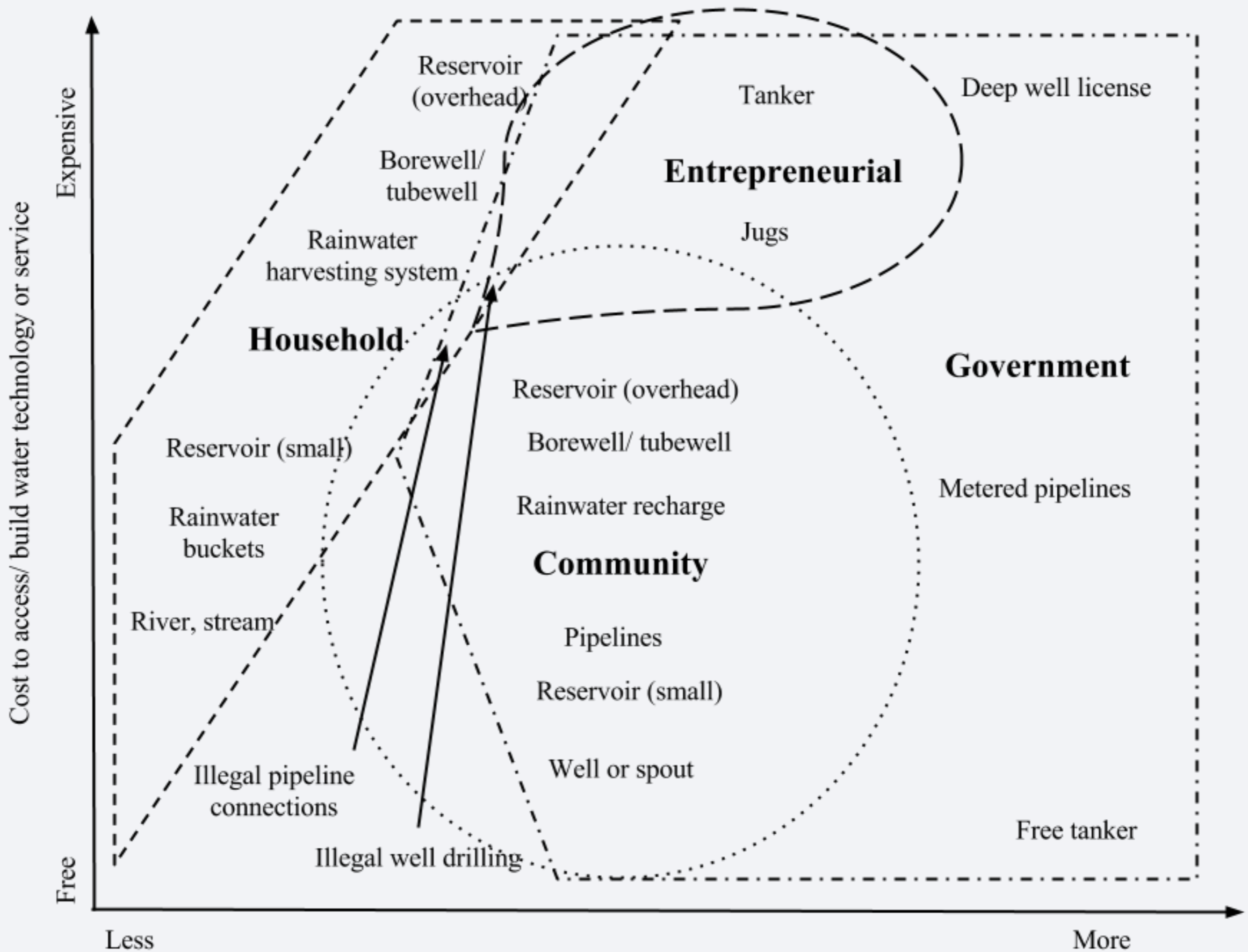
Key finding 3: Infrastructure represents culture not just utility



Key finding 4: Multiple sources of water and scales of water governance matter



Kathmandu's Water Meshwork: Overlapping Modes of Water Supply



Key finding 5: Policies/ agreements conflict between institutions

National laws:

1956 Monument Act

1992 Water Resources Act

“Keep the monument in its original form.” Does not protect the intangible significance or function of a stone spout.

Umbrella act governing all water use and water resource management in the country. Vests ownership of all water sources in the State.

International law:

Nepal is party to international treaties that could give protection to spouts i.e. UNESCO heritage or env ones, but they only enter into force when the heritage has been listed.



Pipe dreams and the urban meshwork beyond Kathmandu

KMC: Melamchi project failed to repair roads

- Post Report



KATHMANDU, JAN 29 - [Kathmandu](#)

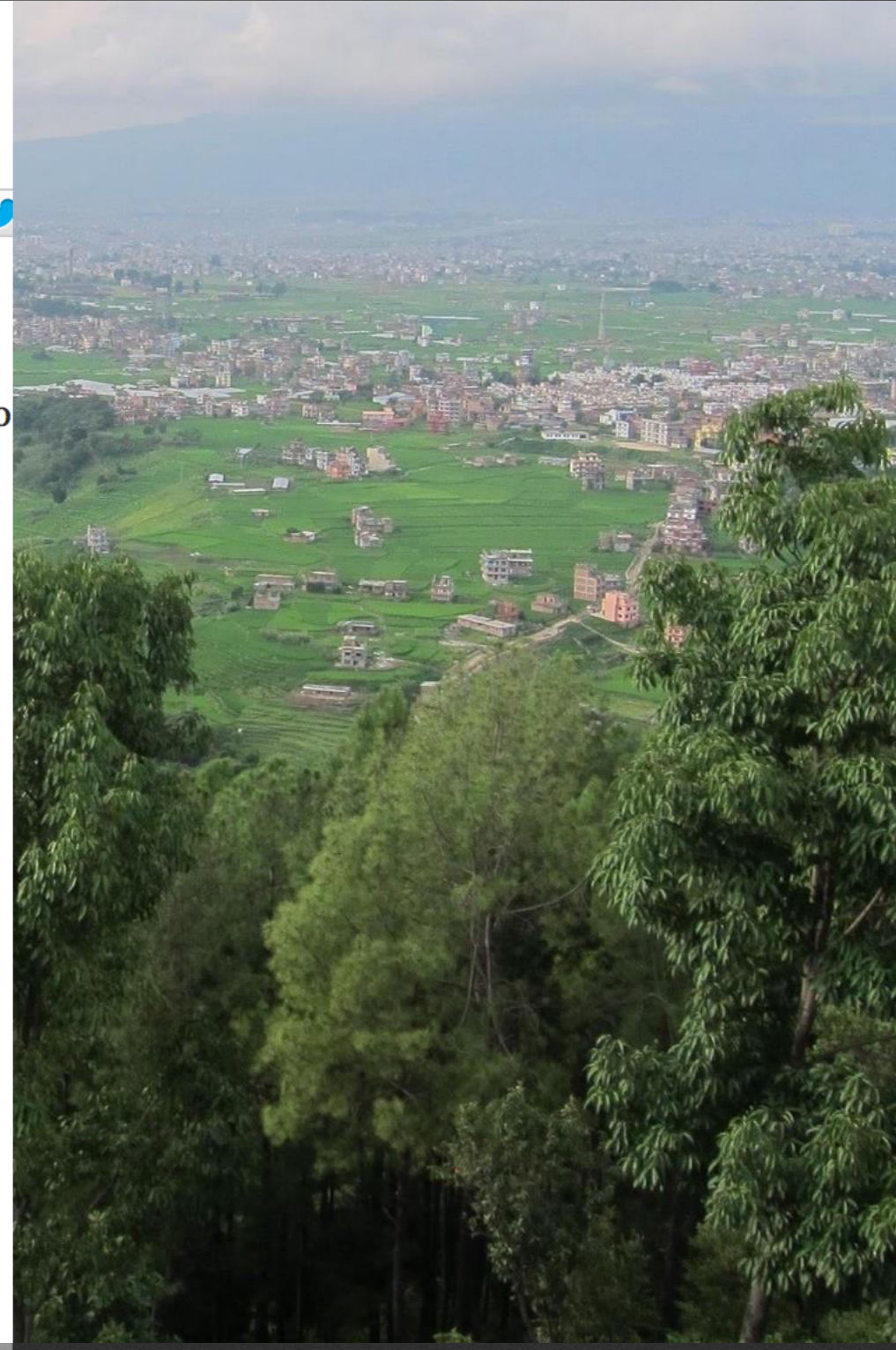
Metropolitan City officials have expressed

dissatisfaction saying that the Melamchi drinking water project authorities failed to live up to their commitment to reconstruct the roads damaged due to pipe installation.

“They expressed commitment to repair each damaged road,” said Sanjay Raj Upadhyay, Road Department chief of the metropolis. “But, they have failed to do so,” he said.

As per the plans, Melamchi authorities were supposed to install pipes in smaller roads initially and switch to larger roads. However, most roads, including major thoroughfares, have been messed up due to the ongoing pipe installation work.

In recent days, the Melamchi authorities have expedited their work mostly in major residential areas in the Capital with an aim to achieve their target of facilitating entire households with drinking water by 2016. The [Kathmandu](#) Upatyaka Khanepani Limited, responsible for the installing the pipes, has a target to complete the 700 kilometre water distribution network and 55 kilometre bulk distribution system in the [Kathmandu](#) valley by mid-April next year.



Thank you!

Also many thanks to research participants, Dr. Katie Meehan, my family and Nicholas Griffin



“To give the gift of water is the greatest gift of all”