

WATER

WATERSHED ASSOCIATION FOR TRAINING, EMPLOYMENT AND RESOURCE UTILIZATION

(Founder President Dr Dilip Kumar Paul, Former ADG (IWM), ICAR & Additional Commissioner, Min of Agril. GOI)

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About US

THE WORLD IS EXPERIENCING AN UNPRECEDENTED ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS OF **WATER SCARCITY**, SOCIAL UNREST, **CLIMATE CHANGE**, **COVID 19** PANDEMIC COUPLED WITH THE PROBLEM OF INEQUALITY OF VARIOUS SORTS. 80% OF THE WORLD'S RESOURCES AND WEALTH IS CONTROLLED BY 600 INDIVIDUALS RESULTING IN SEVERE INEQUALITY TO SOCIETY DUE TO AGGRESSIVE NATURE OF BUSINESS ETHICS MAJORITY OF THE PLANET EARTH GOES TO BED HUNGRY.

WATER (WATERSHED ASSOCIATION FOR TRAINING EMPLOYMENT AND RESOURCE UTILIZATION), NEW DELHI (1990) IS A CIVIL SOCIETY LEAD PLATFORM FOR SPREADING THE MESSAGE '**GLOBAL GREEN VISION FOR LOCAL ACTION**' SPEARHEADED BY WATER RELATED DEVELOPMENT AS PRACTICED BY ANCIENT INDIAN CULTURE.

WATER IS PRIMARILY CONCERNED HOW BEST THE CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATION CAN HELP IN TACKLING THE BURNING PROBLEMS OF 'COVID 19 PANDEMIC', INCREASING WATER SCARCITY+ SANITARY IN POPULATED AREAS LIKE URBAN SLUMS' TO MEET THE IMMEDIATE **CHALLENGES OF WATER & FOOD WHICH ARE MAKING A MAJOR CONCERN TO BOTH THE UNDERSTANDING AND THE MANAGEMENT RESPONSE TO THE LIVELIHOOD AND WATER BROUGHT INTO FOCUS BY CORONA VIRUS PANDEMIC.**

Concern

WATER is striving to create awareness and understanding of heterogeneous rural society and urban clusters for meaningful implementation of key initiatives propagated by national and international research and developmental organizations on water scarcity, **Climate Change adaptation vis a vis livelihood, water management for agriculture**, and meet the **Challenges to the livelihood and water crisis** as it relates to agriculture, health .

Hypothesis

One has to look forward to explore the possibility of the ethics of Simple living with judicious use of the natural unadulterated resources like rainfall, runoff water, unfertilized natural fertile soil, the age old adventures of natural and simple living in rural society, which is, according to **Rabindranath Tagore**, an exponent of cultural and rural resurgence (established the first scientific rural learning center at SRINIKETAN attached to Viswa Bharati, Bolpur, West Bengal,1914).

Influenced by food, livelihood and environmental degradation under irrigated/drought and water scarcity condition WATER is concerned with the overarching developmental and research question for India : ***how can we grow more food and sustain rural livelihoods with less water in a manner that is socially acceptable and environmentally sustainable. How can civil society movement and partnership with Government program alleviate the above concern***

WATER believes and tries to propagate and create awareness about the befitting use of water and its management for a just and simple social system with scientific backup for economic and efficient living, in context to the present conditions in India & other similar developing countries.

Aims and Objectives

Aims: WATER seeks to enable various stake holders like smaller NGOs, Project Implementing Agencies, Water Users Associations (WUAs), Self Help Groups (SHGs), User Groups (UGs), Fishery Interest Groups (FIGs), Small and Micro Enterprises (SMEs), Start Ups and enterprising individual with ambition to realize this vision into a reality through real time networking. The idea is to help in solving the problem of food, livelihood,health and education of the area/watershed concerned with the ongoing programmes of Governments/Donor Agencies gradually and sustainability on scientific line with help and assistance by the people themselves.

Objectives: WATER is striving for holistic development along with:

- Creation of compassion and fellow feelings, skill and leadership quality, initiative for taking up sustainable independent livelihoods enterprise with local resources
- Promote small area based resource, WHTs, Ponds, Open Wells, Check Dams, Nulla Bundh, Irrigation Channel, Drainage channel for soil and water management on scientific line (based on WATER BUDGETING) with the assistance of the Thrift Groups (WUAs, FIGs, Self Help Groups/User Groups) for water secure villages as a first step for rural rejuvenation/industrialization. Water scarcity management with appropriate farming system suited for the farmer and his small land holding.

- **Livelihood/employment** generation especially in the low productive/high potential backwards states (specially in left extremism dominated areas of Eastern India)
- sustainable productivity improvement and equity in income generation through “Auto Functional Concept” and ‘Global – Cal Mission’ (think globally and act Locally) make it a movement for a green society. It promotes market oriented enterprises development by promoting bio regenerating/organic and vedic/natural agriculture for resource conservation and its sustainable management (being practiced from time immemorial in its area of activities)
- Reduction of poverty by focusing on alternate use of existing resources and gradual technical & commercial management aspects by result oriented capacity building of small village based NGOs/farmers/SHGs/youth Clubs with locally available/produced products and resources for livelihood development.

Our Team

Philosophy: WATER has adopted the procedure to involve the available experienced personnel of the area in a sustained short/long term contractual arrangement for wide awareness/activities development with the stakeholders for effective solution through community action. Modus operandi is to tie with existing ongoing projects, resource/research organizations, scientist/resource persons, developmental experts, financial institution to supplement each other and bring them to a common meeting point for pro village/poor and grass root development. The location specific community related problem like skill development, land degradation, environmental deterioration, water management (excess and scarcity) and livelihood development are taken up.

Legal Entity: The Association initially worked only at Hazaribagh Jharkhand, till 1996 and subsequently registered as an All India nonprofit research cum developmental voluntary association at National Capital Territory of Delhi vide Reg. No.S-33251 of dated 13.7.1998, to enlarge its philosophy, ideas, activities & objectives.

State Chapters: In keeping with its philosophy of long term meaningful networking for scientific works and initiatives WATER has developed facilities at various states starting with its initial place of work at Barka Gaon Road, Sirsi village, Hazaribagh, Jharkhand where it has its own Campus with training/lecture rooms, nursery/vermi compost/ bee keeping/agro forestry/rain water management/micro irrigation units operated by SHGs in its surrounding 7 districts/villages.

Head Quarters Facility: WATER subsequently shifted HQ's at Delhi Goela Vihar Phase II, Goela Dairy Delhi--71 near Sector 10 Metro Station Dwarka. Head Quarters building is equipped with modern office facilities/ library/meeting hall/Guest rooms etc

Networking: WATER has also developed facilities for long term initiatives/networking for voluntary social works at all the place of its activities/works for meaningful presence at WB, Jharkhand, Bihar, Haryana, MP etc. At other places Kerala, Rajasthan, UP, Assam, Mizoram, Nagaland etc WATER has networking facilities.

Institutional Arrangements: Presently WATER constituted a national Panel of Experts/Consultants (as per need) with the guidance of the Governing Body / State Chapters. Secretary assisted by President/Vice President/GB members is looking after the activities/works along with the Joint Secretaries at state chapters.. At the State Chapters Joint Secretary (State Chapter) and nominated/hired experts/consultants and employed staffs are looking after the project activities. WATER has developed extensive networking and liaison with Central Govt Ministries/State Departments and State Agricultural Universities and other Resource and Voluntary Organizations.

Activities

Over the years WATER had been working in the field of literacy/health/women and child development/urban poverty alleviation programs/Bhagidari Activities in Delhi/tribal area development on watershed approach, women and gender positive activities, technology transfer on environment /agriculture/agro forestry/ horticulture/agro processing/ animal husbandry/fisheries and value chain for marketing for better price to producers . It has taken up large scale soil and water conservation/ water harvesting and utilization/supplemental irrigation & watershed development, organic farming in Haryana, MP, Jharkhand/Bihar and West Bengal over the last 25 years.

Partnerships

WATER is presently a collaborating partner of IARI, PUSA Institute/ICAR on the adaptive research initiatives. Consortium partner in the WB-GEF funded 'Strategic Intervention in Agriculture for Climate Change Adaptation' Project outlay of IARI, PUSA(2009 to 2014), worked as a grass root implementer of the project at MEWAT, Haryana, for the dry land eco system. It involved 4 clusters of villages (9 Nos) at Nuh Block for developing a model of sustainable agriculture based livelihood system for the villagers through 'on farm' and 'off farm' activities.

Achievements

Completed Project No.1 (2003-06) CAPART/Ministry of Rural development funded “Organisation of Beneficiaries at Nuh, MEWAT, Haryana” .

Completed Project No.2 (2007-10) DOLR Funded Technology Extension and demonstration “Demonstration, extension and training of water management technology (TOT) for productivity improvement and economic sustainability of aqua-terrestrial farming system on wastelands under humid areas of West Bengal”.Burdwan West Bengal, funded by DOLR, Ministry of Rural Development, GOI.

Completed Project No.3 (2008-10) Water Management, More Crop per Drop, Farmers Participatory Action Research Program (FPARP), Funded by Min. Water Resources, GOI at JHARKHAND at 7 districts of Jharkhand (2007-2010).

Completed Project No.4 (2009-13). Supporting Organisation to IARI, PUSA New Delhi in Climate Change Adaptation Project (World Bank-GEF funded US\$ 2.45 Million) Haryana, MEWAT, Nuh, named ‘Strategies to Enhance Climate Change adaption in Adverse Region’(2009-14)”

Ongoing Programme

INTEGRATED WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME (IWMP), WEST BENGAL

WATER has taken up Project Activity in the district of Birbhum and West Medinipur during 2011-12. As a result of this WATER has been declared as Project Implementing Agency by the DRDA/ WBSWDA vide Govt of West Bengal Order dated 05.06.2012 issued by WBSWDA, writers Building, Kolkata (Table bellow).

Accordingly WATER has taken up various Preparatory phase Project Activity as per Annual Action Plan and hired WDTs 4 in all of the 4 IWMP project as per GOWB rules and trained and are being utilized for all the IWMP related activities in collaboration with Village Committee (Gram Sabha), Panchayat Samities and Block/ District Rural Development Agency. WATER has completed the Entry Point Activities (EPA) in 90% of the villages totaling 122 nos after awareness programme and approval by Gram Sabha and Block (BDO)/ Panchayats and Watershed cum Development Cell(WCDC) at the DRDA at district. WATER has taken up Institution and Capacity Building programme after due awareness and capacity building activities for WDTs, GP members, WC members, SHG and UGs and villagers and landless and marginal farmers. WATER has completed all the 4 Detailed Project Report itself with marginal assistance from Experts hired by WATER. WATER has completed all the approved expansion phase of work phase activities as per fund availability(only 30-35% of the estimated DPR target was made available) for which the Watershed Committees and watershed Associations and SHG and UG groups took active part in all 16 Micr5owatershed committees in all the 4 IWMP projects (Tables 1 to 9)

Table 1. Districtwise details of IWMP Projects for development by WATER (2011-20)

District Name	Office of the Watershed Cell cum Data Centre (WCDC)	Project Implementation Agency (PIA)	No. of watersheds	Name of the Watershed & (Block Name)	No. of the Project in PPR	Total geographical area (in Ha.)	Effective project Area (in Ha.)	Estimated Project Cost Rs Lakh
Paschim Medinipur	DRDC, Paschim Medinipur	President, Watershed Association for Training Employment Resource utilisation (WATER)	1	Bhaluka (Jamboni)	WMP-14 / 2011-12	3,249	3000	450
			1	Laboni (Binpur-II)	WMP-15 / 2011-12	3,946	3000	450
			1	Dakai (Binpur-II)	WMP-16 / 2011-12	4,258	3200	480
Birbhum	District Rural Development Cell (DRDC), Birbhum	President, Watershed Association for Training Employment & Resource utilisation (WATER)		Ajay Illambazar (Illambazar)	WMP-04/ 2011-12	7,329	3500	420.00

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• Web-site: <http://waterindian.org.in>

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IWMP Project offices

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WORK PHASE ACTIVITIES IN MEDINIPUR WATERSHEDS



CONSTRUCTION LARGE WATERHARVESTING TANKS IN RANIPAL MICRO WATERSHED



RRAISING SEEDLINGS IN MURSERIES



PLANTATION IN WASTELANDS



ANIMAL HUSBANDRY BASED LIVELIHOOD (GOAT REARING) FOR ASSETS LESS PEOPLE SS PEOPLE



LAYING OF FIBER BASED POLYTHENE SHEET FOR PERCOLATION LOSS PREVENTION



IRRIGATION CHANNEL



CULVERT ON DRAIN

ENTRY POINT ACTIVITIES BIRBHUM, ILLAMBAZAR, WB INDIA



PLANTATION IN WASTE LANDS

