

# India Water Partnership Report for February, 2015

## PART- I: CORE ACTIVITY REPORT

### I. Review of State Water Polices of Goa and Tamil Nadu by India Water Partnership in line with National Water Policy- 2012 in the context of climate change

During 2014, the India Water Partnership completed the review of State Water Policies of Bihar and Gujarat in line with National Water Policy-2012 in context of climate change with the support of one of its network partner Institute for Resource Management and Economic Development (IRMED). In line with the recommendations of the India Water Partnership, both State Governments are going to revise their water policies in context of climate change based on the state level consultations held in both the States. On the similar lines, the India Water Partnership is going to review the State Water Policy of **Goa** and **Tamil Nadu** as part of its Work Plan for 2015.

#### **Review of other State Water Policies for Selection of Two States for intensive Review during 2015**

In the month of February, 2015, the India Water Partnership with the support of IRMED has collected information on the current status of state water policies of other remaining States. During the review, it was observed that only 14 states, viz. Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Goa, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Sikkim, Rajasthan and Jharkhand have announced their state water policy beginning from 1994 to 2013, while the states of Delhi, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli have adopted the national water policy.

#### **Meeting with Different Government of India Departments/Agencies for selection of Two States for Review**

For selection of two States (Goa and Tamil Nadu), discussions were held with central government departments/agencies dealing with water resources which usually interact with their state level counterparts. These included Ministry of Water Resources (Policy & Planning Division), Central Water Commission, Planning Commission, National Water Development Agency. During the discussions, it emerged that the following considerations may be kept in view for the selection of the two states.

Tamil Nadu state water policy was announced in 1994. It was the first state in India to do so in the wake of the 1<sup>st</sup> National Water Policy of 1987. Its revision is overdue. It is also understood that the state government would be interested in its revision. Hence, input from this study would have the promise of a good outcome. Goa's water policy is also quite old, announced in 2000. Hence, this state too is understood to be receptive of the idea of revising its policy. Goa is a state which is highly susceptible to the effects of global warming associated with climate change because of the dominance of coastal influence. These two states are situated far from each other and belong to different agro-climatic zones. Based on the above criteria, the two states viz; **Tamil Nadu** and **Goa** have been selected for the study during 2015 by India Water Partnership.

## II. Reviewing and Analyzing the State Level Regulatory and Institutional Framework of the States of Kerala, Nagaland and Uttarakhand to operationalize the National Water Policy (NWP)-2012

In 2014, the India Water Partnership reviewed and analysed the State Level Regulatory and Institutional Framework of the States of **Karnataka, Maharashtra** and **Meghalaya** to operationalize the National Water Policy-2012 with the support of its network partner Indian Environment Law Offices (IELO). As part of the Work Plan of 2015, the India Water Partnership with the support of IELO is reviewing and analysing the State Level Regulatory and Institutional Framework of **Kerala, Nagaland** and **Uttarakhand** on the similar lines.

### Criteria for selection of States

- **Nagaland:** This state was selected keeping in mind its unique governance on account of Article 371 A of the Constitution of India. Article 371 A is a peculiar *“special provision with respect to the State of Nagaland”* only stipulating that no act of Parliament relating to (i) religious or social practices of the Nagas (ii) Naga customary law and procedure, (iii) administration of civil and criminal justice involving decision according to Naga customary law (iv) ownership and transfer of land and its resources is applicable to the State unless approved by State Legislative Assembly. This assumes significance qua management of water resources in the state. Further, the state is in the process of drafting its water policy. Another significant enactment is the *Nagaland Communitisation of Public Institutions and Services Act, 2001* that delegates the powers and functions of the State Government to the local traditional institutions in matters connected with the management of local public utilities, public services and the activities of the State Government connected with water supply, education, roads etc. The interplay of such enactments to vision articulated in National Water Policy-2012 requires analysis.
  - **Kerala:** This state was selected to bring in the southern state perspective in dealing with various facets of water management and conservation. The State has a *Water Policy, 2008* with objectives to: adopt integrated and multi-sectoral approach for planning, development and management of water resources; consider micro watersheds as the basic unit for the conservation and optimal utilization of water resources for achieving resources sustainability; integrate the problems and prospects of water resource systems by considering river basin as the basic unit; emphasize the importance of comprehensive watershed conservation and management plan etc. The state has Kerala Water Authority established by *Kerala Water Supply and Sewerage Act 1986* to perform function of planning of the state's water supply and sewerage requirements, preparation of state plans for water supply and disposal of waste water. Additionally, state enacted the *Kerala Ground Water (Control and Regulation), Act, 2002* to regulate abstraction of groundwater, *Kerala Paddy and wetland Act, 2008* to conserve paddy land and wetland, *Kerala Protection of River Banks and Regulation of Removal of Sand Act, 2001* to protect river banks and river beds from large scale dredging of river sand.
  - **Uttarakhand:** This state was selected to analyse the water management framework in a hill context keeping in mind impact of climate change on water resources in the Himalayan state. The state enacted *The Uttarakhand Water Management and Regulatory Act, 2013* that
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provides for establishment of a Water Management Regulatory Authority to ensure judicious and equitable management of water resources in the state as well as its proper allocation and optimal utilization. The state is also in the process of enacting a new water policy.

In February 2015, the review was undertaken for the State of Nagaland and it will continue in March, 2015 too.

### **III. Preparatory Work for Celebrating World Water Day-2015**

Based on the theme "**Water and Sustainable Development**" of the World Water Day-2015, India Water Partnership has started preparatory work for celebrating World Water Day-2015. India Water Partnership has planned to celebrate World Water Day-2015 in the country at following 7 places:

1. Udaipur (Rajasthan) under WACREP Phase-I in association with network partner AFPRO on **22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2015**;
2. Mandsaur (Madhya Pradesh) in association with Shivana Area Water Partnership on **22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2015**
3. Madurai (Tamil Nadu) under WACREP Phase-I in association with network partner DHAN Foundation
4. New Delhi on **20<sup>th</sup> March, 2015**
5. Gurgaon (Haryana) in association with Municipal Corporation, Gurgaon on **22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2015**
6. Kundli, Sonapat (Haryana) in association with Ashoka University on **17<sup>th</sup> March, 2015**
7. Meerut (Uttar Pradesh) in association with network partner NEER Foundation on **22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2015**

For celebrating World Water Day at Kundli, Sonapat (Haryana), the India Water Partnership has first time entered into a non-financial strategic partnership with Ashoka University. During the celebration, there would be a panel discussion on the theme "**Water, key to sustainable development**". Mr. Rajendra Singh, Magsaysay Awardee and Chairman, Tarun Bharat Sangh would be the Chief Guest.

For celebrating the World Water Day at New Delhi, India Water Partnership is seeking association with UNDP.

### **IV. Participation in Meetings, Seminars, Workshops, Conferences, etc.**

#### **(i) 15th Delhi Sustainable Development Summit (DSDS) 2015 from 5-7th February, 2015 at New Delhi**

The 15th Delhi Sustainable Development Summit (DSDS) 2015 on Sustainable Development Goals and Dealing with Climate Change was organized by TERI from 5th to 7th February, 2015 at New Delhi.

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The inaugural address was delivered by **HE Mr Laurent Fabius**, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development, France & Former Prime Minister, France & President, COP 21. The Ministerial Address was given by Mr. Suresh Prabhu, Hon'ble Minister of Railways, Government of India and Mr. Prakash Javadekar, Hon'ble Minister of State for Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India. Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary-cum-Country Coordinator, India Water Partnership participated in following events of DSDS:

### **1. Session on "From MDGs to SDGs and Addressing Climate Change"**

Key messages of the session were (i) For sustainable development knowledge sharing and open dialogue are keys to resolving the climate change issues; (ii) The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and climate change are mutually supported and dependent. The world would have to come to terms with the synergy between the two processes of climate change and SDGs; (iii) Climate change cannot be dissociated from the overseas development agenda and both are interdependent on each other; (iv) SDGs cannot be achieved without addressing climate change and that common but differentiated responsibilities need to be taken care of to ensure financial and technical support to vulnerable countries.

### **2. Special Address by Mr. Ban Ki-Moon, Secretary General, United Nations**

Mr. Ban Ki-Moon in his address said that embracing climate change as well as sustainable development is necessary as they are connected and are two sides of the same coin. He also stressed on the fact that governments should provide the framework and private organizations (including think tanks) too must share their ideas to build a more prosperous and resilient world.

### **3. Session on "The Agreement that the World Needs at COP 21"**

This session focused on the urgency of taking action in adapting to the impacts of climate change. Key messages of the session were; (i) India's wish that the agreement in COP21 would propel the world on the path of comprehensive climate action. Careful balance needs to be maintained between adaptation and mitigation; (ii) Technology transfer from developed to developing nations is a mechanism to combat climate change; and (iii) It was stated that US states are not just adapting to energy efficiency and clean energy but is also willing to support India in evolving a clean fuel policy. It was highlighted that the US mission is trying to reduce carbon emission by 28% by 2025 and sticking to goal of maintaining temperature rise below 2 degrees.

### **4. Session on Technologies for Communities: Improving Groundwater Management in India in association with UNDP**

In this session, the panelist shared their experiences and case studies from Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan about community involvement in ground water management. The discussion focused on establishment of a global governance system to manage the shared resources which does not fit into one nation boundary. The important message emerged during the

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deliberation was that ground water governance should be aligned with scientific solutions and ground water science.

**(ii) National Workshop on Scaling-up of Climate Smart Agriculture: Potential and Challenges on 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2015 at New Delhi**

Dr.VeenaKhanduri, Executive Secretary-cum-Country Coordinator, India Water Partnership participated in a National Workshop on “**Scaling-up of Climate Smart Agriculture: Potential and Challenges**” organized by one of its network partner; Development Alternatives on 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2015 at New Delhi.

The workshop aimed to discuss the following:

- To build a common understanding on the emerging relevance and significance of climate smart agriculture;
- To share the lessons and experiences of climate smart agriculture from the South Asian region;
- To identify effective means of implementation for mainstreaming climate smart agriculture in policy and planning; and;
- To discuss the challenges, potential and opportunities for scaling-up climate smart agriculture.

**(iii) Meeting with UNDP Officials for organizing World Water Day-2015 at New Delhi on 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2015**

For celebrating World Water Day at New Delhi, the Executive Secretary-cum-Country Coordinator, India Water Partnership had a meeting with UNDP officials on 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2015. In the meeting UNDP officials informed that the Chief Guest will be Ms Uma Bharti, Honorable Minister of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of India and Regional Director, UNDP and senior officials of UNDP and one representative from Ministry of Environment and Forest & Climate Change, Government of India would be the other invitees. There will be release and presentation of WWD report and screening of UN Water Film and announcement of Stockholm Water Award.

It was agreed by the UNDP that they would invite the IWP network partners from Delhi and the adjoining areas and provide space for display of IWP/GWP documents.

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## **PART- II: WACREP PHASE-I REPORT**

### **Assessment of vulnerability to climate change on water resources, commons, agriculture system and animal husbandry in Sinhar watershed in Bhinder Block in Udaipur district of Rajasthan**

India Water Partnership with the support of Action for Food Production (AFPRO) undertook the following activities in the month of February, 2015:

#### **1. Village level monthly meeting with Core group members**

A total number of six village level meetings were organised in the villages namely; Gajpura, Beripura, Raila, Khedafala, Kapadionka Kheda and Dhawadiya with core group members including cluster core group members and village elders. Purpose of the meetings was to discuss (i) Intercultural operation for the Rabi crop (weeding and fertilizer requirement for various crops); (ii) Participatory irrigation system and numbers of irrigation required for the crops; (iii) Harvesting of grass in all the pasturelands; (iv) Status of physical work of soil and water conservation in pastureland; and (v) Scaling-up of homestead vegetable cultivation for the sale in market.

There were 119 participants (71 males and 48 females) in the meetings.

#### **2. Meeting for Cluster level committee members:**

A meeting was organized as 'cluster level meeting' with the 18 participants from all respective project villages held at Bhavyadhara Training centre, Rayla on 27 February-2015. Objectives of the meeting were to (i) Share the learning and experiences during village level meeting with group members; (ii) Discuss the status and their views on total grass production, crop and vegetable productions etc.; (iii) Discuss participatory irrigation system and numbers of irrigation required for each crop; and (iv) Discuss on Farmers Field School (FFS) agriculture, livestock and water regarding learning and experiences etc. and its follow-up.

#### **3. Activities under Farmers' Field School (FFS) Agriculture**

Under FFS (Agriculture), the farmers requested for the wheat variety, which requires less water and short maturity period, therefore in consultation with the experts from local Agriculture College, AFPRO recommended variety no. 4037 of wheat. Under WACREP, the AFPRO supported 25 kg seed of wheat and 5kg seed of gram each to 24 farmers who are the members of FFS. During the process, data was also collected relating to water available in the irrigation wells, pumping hours, types of crops, irrigated area, capacity of pumps, availability of water etc. for the vulnerability assessment.

#### **4. Activities under FFS (Water)**

Under FFS (Water), renovation work of one well got completed at Chunakawela (Khedafala) village. The well is shared by 5 small and marginal farmers that would help in irrigating about 1 ha agricultural land. As a result of renovation and with parapet wall, the storage capacity got increased and the beneficiaries are planning to grow minimum three crops.

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Under FFS (Water), a training program was also organized on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2015 at Chunakawela village to enhance the capacity of group of farmers (Males and Females) with regards to proper management of water with collective efforts for ground water recharge systems and also developing habit of judicious use of irrigation. There were 23 participants (12 women and 11 Men). During the training, different methods of water conservations and groundwater recharge were shared with the participants.

### Activities planned for March, 2015

- **Finalization of a scientific Report on “Vulnerability Assessment on Water and Water bodies with Adaptation options”** containing information on climate change scenario on water resources.
- **Finalization of a scientific Report on “Vulnerability Assessment with providing basket of Adaptation options in the sectors of Agriculture, Water, Animal Husbandry and commons”** with an Adaptation framework on all the sectors for the region.
- Regular Village level and cluster level meetings with core group members for review and further planning for project sustainability, outcomes, experiences, scaling-up the learning etc.
- Linkages with different government departments for sharing the learning of the WACREP Phase-I.
- Planning for organizing the Farmers Experience sharing workshop including finalizing the date and venue to be held during March 2015.
- Consolidation and documentation of activities/ sub-activities wise outcomes under the project for inclusion in the final project report.

## PART- III: WACREP PHASE-II REPORT

### I. Climate Resilient Development- A Case Study of Mashi Sub-Basin in Rajasthan

India Water Partnership is undertaking this activity with the support of one of its network partner; Centre for Environment and Development Studies (CEDS) based at Jaipur, Rajasthan. The following major tasks have been proposed:

- (i) **GIS Survey** : Mapping of land resources, water resources and human resources of the area;
- (ii) **Conducting socio-economic survey**: data collection on land, livestock, population, extraction of water, livelihood patterns, etc.
- (iii) **Adaptation/mitigation strategies**: Field survey on adaptation strategies for Society, Government agencies and for Policies, etc.
- (iv) **Climate change impact analysis**: data collection on temperature, rainfall, humidity, groundwater aquifers, wind velocity, etc.

For the purpose of GIS survey, coordination with Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), Hyderabad was made to procure satellite data (remote sensing data) for the Mashi Sub-Basin in **February, 2015**. At the same time work has started for developing socio-economic field survey questionnaire and secondary data collection.

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## **II.Promotion of Integrated Water Resource Management in Peri-Urban Settings (Action Research to develop innovative IWRM Investments)**

India Water Partnership with the support of one of its network partner; TARU Leading Edge, New Delhi is undertaking this activity. The following major sub-activities have been planned:

- (i) Selection of water stressed area that needs knowledge and technical support in planning, organizing and preparing investment plan to address water and sanitation needs;
- (ii) Initiation of action research in selected area with objectives to develop innovative IWRM investment-Desk Research, Reconnaissance visits to the field area, understanding challenges;
- (iii) Conducting a workshop based on findings of the action research;
- (iv) Development of action research framework based on available tools, instruments, sampling, secondary/primary data collection methods, mapping of stakeholders;
- (v) Implementation of developed action research framework; and,
- (vi) Preparation of IWRM Plan and Advocacy Plan

In the month of February 2015, the following activities have been undertaken:

**Literature Review:** A literature review (government sources, media reports and published articles in books and journals) to identify current strands of peri-urban research, especially as they relate to the National Capital Region of Delhi (NCR-Delhi) has been started. The study also involves collection of secondary sources of data to trace the growth of (NCR-Delhi), the drivers of urbanization and their implications for water resources in the NCR.

**Exploratory field visits** was made in many villages of **Gurgaon** to identify potential sites for research and the key issues for in-depth investigation and research. The criteria for visiting these villages was based on various levels of their being peri-urban in terms of the extent of land use change – with consequent implications for occupational diversification, the varying distance from the city, the period since when land use change had occurred and the nature of governance structure (Panchayat versus Gurgaon Municipal Corporation) and water stress/quality levels. Group discussions with critical people such as village headmen and youth leaders were held to explore the major issues related to changing water use and access, specifically in terms of the implications due to urbanization.

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