

India Water Partnership Monthly Report for April, 2011
(Prepared by : Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary, IWP)

I. Rajasthan adopts IWRM in its New State Water Policy – need capacity of all stakeholders

The new Rajasthan State Water Policy which came into force on 18th February, 2010 has incorporated Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) as part of the Policy. India Water Partnership with the support of zonal water partners first organized two consultation meetings in Jaipur Rajasthan in 2010 to review the new state water policy keeping in view the role of Non Governmental Organization in its implementation. During these consultations it was emerged though New Water Policy focuses on implementation of IWRM principle in the State, but there is very little understanding of IWRM among the stakeholders in the State. The policy does not define the clear cut role of NGOs and PRI members. How it will be implemented at the ground level is not clearly defined.



Mr. Roussel, Ms Joulie, Mr. Anil Mehta



Workshop Participants

The recommendations of these two meetings suggested that capacity building of NGOs, PRI members, etc. who are working at ground level, is urgently needed, at the same time knowledge enhancement of Water User Groups, farmers, village community is necessary for better and effective implementation of the policy.

In continuation of India Water Partnership efforts during 2010 for building capacity of all stakeholders who would be engaged in implementation of IWRM in Rajasthan, IWP with the support of its partner organization Jheel Sanskaran Samiti (JSS), Udaipur invited all Rajasthan based stakeholders who contributed in the review of new water policy and are also engaged in European Union supported IWRM State programme in Rajasthan for a Brainstorming session on IWRM organized at Udaipur,

Rajasthan on World Water Day, 22nd March, 2011. Dr Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary, IWP and Mr. Anil Mehta, IWRM expert strongly feels that IWP initiated and created a better understanding of IWRM in the context of Rajasthan by involving all stakeholders. The first step was to bring together local authorities and key stakeholders at one platform to take the lead in improving planning and management practices, drawing on each other synergy. IWP and JSS have also built a good relationship with State EU-SPP IWRM officials by inviting them in Capacity Development programme which would give a strong support to EU led IWRM process in Rajasthan.

In continuation of IWP's efforts for promotion of IWRM, a Capacity Development workshop for different stakeholders on IWRM, second in series, was organized on 22nd April, 2011 at Udaipur by JSS with the help of its strategic partners-Vidya Bhawan Polytechnic and Dr Mohan Sinha Mehta Memorial Trust. The workshop was attended by 200 participants, including NGOs, Water User Associations (WUAs), elected representatives of Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs); and farmers. Apart from that, the representatives of European Union- Rajasthan State Partnership Programme (EU-SPP) and officials of Water Resources Department, Government of Rajasthan also participated and interacted. Ms Julie Laudel (IWRM expert, EU-SPP) and Ms Magalie Vuillet (Junior IWRM expert, EU-SPP) participated in the workshop under the leadership of Mr. J M Roussel (Team Leader, EU-SPP).



Media coverage of the Workshop in Daily Hindi newspaper called "Pratahkal" dated 23rd April, 2011

The workshop had media coverage in 6 Hindi newspapers namely; ApranTimes, Pratahkal, Udaipur Express; Dainik Bhaskar, Rajasthan Patrika, Dainik Navjyoti dated 23rd April, 2011. The news cutting above was covered in Daily newspaper "Pratahkal"¹. The prominent stakeholders (Sewa Mandir, Gandhi Manav Kalyan Samiti, CASA, SPWD, FES, ALERT, Wells for India, Arpan Sewa Sansthan, Praytna Samiti, Hanuman Vikas Samiti, Jagaran Jan Vikas Samiti, Chandpol Nagarik Samiti, Jheel Hiteshi Manch and Jwala Sansthan) who are already involved in preparation of IWRM plans at village level under the EU-assisted programme actively participated in the workshop.

¹ The heading of the newspaper reads as "Policy on IWRM ready". Part of the 2nd para reads as "The workshop was organized by Jheel Sanskaran Samiti with the support of India Water Partnership". The 3rd para reads as "NGOs, Water User Groups, Village Heads, Subject Matter Specialists and representatives of European Union participated".

The workshop was convened by Mr Anil Mehta and Mr Nand Kishor Sharma. A comprehensive but user friendly "IWRM Capacity Development Manual" prepared in Hindi was given to all the participants.

The workshop was inaugurated jointly by Ms Neelima Khetan (Ex CEO, Sewa Mandir), Mr. Riaz Tehsin (President, Vidya Bhawan), Prof Jagat S Mehta (Former Foreign Secretary, Government of India & President, JSS) and Mr. J M Roussel (Team Leader, EU-SPP). Ms Khetan explained various provisions of the state water policy in the context of IWRM and appealed for effective strategies and partnerships for successful implementation of IWRM. Mr. Anil Mehta gave his interactive presentation on "Understanding IWRM"; and elaborated GWP/IWP continued efforts for IWRM capacity building of different stakeholders. The workshop was conducted in seven sessions viz ; (i) Inaugural Session ; Technologies of Watershed Management and Water Resources Development; (ii) Panchyat Raj System & IWRM; (iii) Inclusive & Participatory Development; Water Ethics of Rajasthan ; and Mechanisms for Conflict Management & Resolution; (iv) Livelihood Issues ; (v) IWRM & Ecological Concerns; and the last (vi) Valedictory Session.

During valedictory Ms Priyanka Singh (EO, Sewa Mandir), Mr V S Mehta (President, Dr M S Mehta Trust) and Mr J M Roussel (Team leader, EU-SPP) expressed the need of synergic efforts and collaborations for the successful implementation of IWRM. Mr Roussel expressed his willingness to partner in capacity development programmes of GWP/IWP; and for more collaborative efforts in the state of Rajasthan.

The capacity building workshop would pave the way for adoption of a strong IWRM and effective implementation of new Rajasthan Water Policy in the State. Efforts of IWP by involving all stakeholders would set the platform for achieving the IWRM objectives in the State of Rajasthan.

II. Data Collection by IWP West Zone Water Partnership- on Wainganga Integrated River Basin Management Master Planning

Wainganga river sub-basin is a major river sub-basin of Godavari River for which preparation of Integrated River Basin Management Master Plan with negotiated approach has been taken as a holistic approach. As reported in our March, 2011 report that collection of data was expected to be completed by March end, however, it could not be completed and the work continued during April, 2011 also. In April, 2011, following activities were undertaken.

- Data was collected on hydrology and groundwater survey from various water resources departments in Nashik, Aurangabad and Pune.

- List of villages categorized into watersheds and the area under each village has been received.
- Groundwater Survey and Development Agency (GSDA) of Govt. of Maharashtra has provided more than 5,500 recorded lithologs of Piezometers and a location map of the installed Piezometers. The GSDA will provide census of wells classified into domestic, industrial and irrigation which will be used for analysis of water usage in watersheds.
- Data on the quality of the groundwater has also been received along with a list of villages suffering from fluoride, nitrite and iron poisoning.
- Hydrology data like rainfall – autographic rain guage and standard rain guage stations, computed discharge, water level, evaporation, daily temperature, humidity, wind speed and wind direction, etc. for various locations in the Wainganga basin since 1994 (or since inception of the monitoring station) has also been obtained.
- Mr. Manish Ranjankar (BNVSAM), a member of the stakeholder group held several meetings with the Department of Fisheries in Nagpur during the month of April for getting a general overview of the fisheries in the region.

III. Water Conservation Technologies in Rainfed Districts of Jharkhand

Jharkhand State is facing serious water problem over the years, as a result the whole State was declared drought affected in last two years. Hence, there is a need to create awareness on water conservation methods at large scale. India Water Partnership with its partner NGO, Action for Food Production (AFPRO) is involved in documenting the best practices to sensitize communities/ NGOs/ CBOs on affordable water management practices adopted by the other organizations in the state of Jharkhand. During April, 2011 AFPRO started collecting information on community practicing low cost water saving technologies. In this process, interaction with IWP partner SPWD experience was discussed in detail. SPWD is practicing low cost water saving technologies for agriculture in three agro climatic zone covering 12 rainfed districts of Jharkhand. During consultative review meetings conducted by AFPRO with SPWD officials, it was learnt that the System for Rice Intensification (SRI) method of rice cultivation ensures higher yields, requires less water, as well as many other benefits. Discussing the various challenges involved in SRI method of cultivation under rainfed conditions, the SPWD officials advised for formulating suitable methodologies for 'rainfed areas.

The strategy focuses on promotion of short to medium duration paddy (baad swarna-90 days variety, birsa -110, Lalat, Abhishek) adopted by partner organization SPWD. Since the variety was of medium duration, it is recommended to reduce the spacing from 1 feet to 25 cm and subsequently to 20 cm. This was done since the tillering potential of short and medium duration variety is less. The farmers are so much encouraged by the results of SRI that they are taking paddy in the summer season. 1000 farmers were covered in six blocks in 2010.

The findings and experience of other partners of IWP will help to document the evidence based low cost water technologies which would be shared during the Sensitization workshops in Jharkhand with officials of Water Resource Department, PRIs, Water User Groups and Public Health Engineering Department officials.

IV. Participation of Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary, IWP in a Workshop on “Nanotechnology for Safe Water : Strategies and Partnerships to benefit the Bottoms of the Pyramid

On the initiative of Dr. K Vijya Lakshmi, Alternate R C Member, India & Vice President, Development Alternatives (DA), an IWP partner a workshop on “Nanotechnology for Safe Water : Strategies and Partnerships to benefit the Bottoms of the Pyramid” was organized by DA with the support of Department for International Development (DFID) and Department of Science & Technology (DST), Govt. of India was organized at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi on 21st April, 2011. Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary, IWP participated in the workshop. Officials of DST, Centre for Nano Materials, Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, World Bank, The Energy & Research Institute (TERI), US Embassy and many research institutions and industry representatives from TATA Chemicals, Eureka Forbes, Thermax participated in the workshop. Some of the IWP partner organizations also participated.

The DA has been researching the potential of nanotechnology to provide safe drinking water to the Bottom of the Pyramid (BoP) population. In this context, DA organized two workshops one at Bangalore on 4th March, 2011) and the second on 8th March, 2011 in association with DST. This workshop was third and the concluding workshop in order to move forward and strategize workable models to get feasible nanotechnology solutions for water purification to the BoP.

The workshop concluded with the note that learning from these workshops would be taken forward to a potential Phase-II DFID action research programme. This would involve the experts in multi-stakeholder processes to evaluate and pilot feasible approaches to enable nanotechnology to reach the BoP. The results of this action research would be widely share and disseminated.

IV. Participation of Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary, IWP in India Water Forum-2011

India Water Forum, 2011 was organized by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), New Delhi in association with the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Water Resources; Ministry of Rural Development; Ministry of Urban Development and Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India to address the dynamics of water and climate change in the context of India and South Asia Region from 13-15th April 2011 at India Habitat Center, New Delhi. The India Water Forum 2011 was aimed at exploring new strategies and technologies for water security while being eco-friendly

and ensuring sustainable development. This forum was attended by policy makers, researchers, industrial experts and water practitioners. The forum was inaugurated by **Md. Hamid Ansari**, Hon'ble Vice President of India. **Dr Farooq Abdullah** Hon'ble Minister Ministry of New and Renewable Energy Government of India, **Mr Salman Khurshid** Hon'ble Minister Ministry of Water Resources Government of India, were the distinguished guests.

Dr. R K Pachauri, Director-General, The Energy and Resources Institute, **Mr Ashok Jaitly** distinguished Fellow and Director, Water Resources Division of The Energy and Resources Institute, were also present during inaugural and thematic discussions. **Mr. Suresh Prabhu**, GWP Ambassador & Former, Chairman, GWP-South Asia, Mr. Santosh Deshmukh from IWP partner organization Jain irrigations, Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary, IWP and Dr. Jasveen Jairath, RC member India participated and actively contributed in this 3 day International Forum. The India Water forum 2011 addressed the dynamics of water and climate change, and deliberated on significant issues specific to water security, means to resolve the same by investment in natural infrastructure, monitoring efficient usage, application of new technology etc. This forum was attended by more than 200 International and National participants.