

India Water Partnership Monthly Report for May, 2011
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I. Irrigation Water issues discussed with Minor Irrigation Department , Dhenkanal Division, Orissa for redressal

As reported earlier that Parimal Area Water Partnership (PAWP) had been formed in Dhenkanal district of Orissa on 15th June, 2010 by Arun Institute of Rural Affairs, (AIRA), with the technical and financial support of India Water Partnership (IWP). Under the PAWP, 2 Local Area Water Partnerships (LAWP), 1 each in the Northern Ramial and Southern Indrajeet clusters, comprising of 8 Micro Area Water Partnerships (MAWPs) in each LAWP have been constituted.

10 villages (Salpada, Kusumjodi, Anlaberani, Khuntabati, Khatuahata, Jaka, Dakshinaposi, Kotagara, Kamagara and Kanpal under **Inderjeet Nallah**, 5 villages (Bhagirathipur, Jadapal, Kadua, Mahulpal and Godisahi) under **Chadeichhada & Kalabila Nallah** and two villages (Manitri and Jagannathpur) under **Sakha Ramial** which are exclusively dependant on land farming had to suffer a complete loss (90%+) on their summer vegetables and oil producing crops i.e, sesame and sunflower crops due to short supply of water from these water sources. To overcome this situation, PAWP Convener in collaboration with a district level farmers forum called "Dhenkanal Zilla Krushi Paribesh Suraksha Parishad" discussed this problem and after probing, it was learnt that 4 new power and steel plants of medium range apart from the existing plant of NTPC (National Thermal Power Corporation) that are situated in the up-stream locations have caused the short supply of water. All these plants are drawing water from Samal Barrage and pull-wells on river Brahmani as well as from the incomplete main canals that hold water caused the low water level downstream and hence affected the farmers of these villages. As discussed in the LAWP and PAWP meetings, following action points have been taken:

- i) LAWP representatives Binayananda Sahoo, Barun Sahoo and Dibakar Sahoo met and discussed with the Junior Engineer & Assistant Engineer of Minor Irrigation Department, Kamakhyanagar to take up additional minor structures (new as well as repair of water harvesting/holding) on the Indrajeet Nallah before onset of Monsoon.
- ii) PAWP representatives Pramod Sethy, Parshuram Behera, Rabi Mallik and Convener Pradeep Sahoo met and discussed the water scarcity (short supply problem) with the Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Department, Dhenkanal Division with a request-cum-memorandum on behalf of the farming people of PAWP.
- iii) Also PAWP Co-Conveners G. S. Das and N. Mohapatra and members P. R. Behera and B. Sahoo have put in applications for technical information inclusive of development plan on the above water sources with the Executive Engineer, M.I. Division under RTI provisions.

After receipt of information on the development plan from district irrigation officials, the PAWP would discuss the issue and share the information with all stakeholders (farmers, water user groups, local panchyati raj representatives, etc.) by the end of June or early July to press for needful action by the sub-district/district/state level water authorities. (As per official predications the relatively early approaching of monsoon this year, PAWP is planning to get things done before the coming summer with continuous perseverance.)

PAWP Participation & Collaboration:

- i) PAWP members participated in local consultations/meetings of "Dhenkanal Zilla Krushi Paribesh Suraksha Parishad" (covering the district) and "Parimal Swarajya Vichar Manch", a Gandhian-Sarvodaya forum (covering the sub-district) on the water-environment issue and action.

PAWP members also participated in the sub-district level consultation on water, environment and livelihood issues held at Aluajharan on the 22nd of May 2011. PAWP Convener Shri P. Sahoo has been nominated as an adviser to the above forums.

ii) LAWP members P. Behera, P. K. Sethy, R. N. Barik, R. C. Behera and D. Khilar participated in the “Shree Farmers & Water Management” convention jointly organized by the District Agriculture Office (Dhenkanal) and a local NGO ISWO at the Old Zilla Parishad Hall, Dhenkanal on 11th of May 2011.

Plan for Pre-Khariff Season Convention of PAWP

As per the decision of the LAWPs, the above convention is planned to be held at Bhagirathipur during the 3 day long Rajo festival (from 14th to 16th June, 2011). Water and farming officials (Minor Irrigation/Irrigation/Pani Panchayat/Agriculture/Horticulture/Rural Development/RWSS etc.) apart from farmers’ forums and media houses from the district and sub-district level will attend this Convention.

II. Steps taken for Fishery development plan, one of the sub-plans of the Integrated Water Resources Development and Management Plan (IWRD&MP) for Wainganga river sub-basin by Western Zonal Water Partnership coordinating agency of IWP

In 2010, West Zone Water Partnership Coordinating Agency, Gumukh Environment Trust for Sustainable Development, Pune (Gomukh Trust, Pune) started the planning process for preparation of IWRD&MP for Wainganga river sub-basin and held several meetings of the stakeholders to formulate the strategies for preparation of the plan with the financial support of India water partnership.

In 2011, the preparation of the plan kicked off with collection of primary and secondary data (from January-April) on many aspects of the plan except for fisheries. In May, 2011, Gomukh Trust focused on collecting data related to fishery as fishery development is one of the sub-plans of the IWRD&MP for Wainganga river sub-basin since a large number of fishing community resides in and around it. Promotion of fishery in the sub-basin will provide employment opportunities to enhance the socio-economic condition of the poor fishing community. Fisheries also offer opportunity to integrate tourism for angling and water-sports, and also create possibilities of exporting fish produce, and other fish byproducts.

All types of information from Zilla Parishads, Reservoir authorities, Fisheries Departments and their branch offices have been collected. Data of Bhandara district has been collected and data from Gondia, Gadchiroli, and Chandrapur districts is awaited. An inter-agency meeting was organized by the Godavari River Basin Corporation on the 31st May 2011, where details of the larger Godavari basin planning were discussed. Issues related to co-ordination between various agencies working on the sub-basins of Godavari river (Wainganga is one of the sub-basin of Godavari river) were discussed along with the process for bringing integration in the various sub-plans. Individual agencies were asked to present the work they have completed, the problems that they faced while completing the project and suggestions to the Water Resources Department for improving the planning process were discussed. Approaches for making water balance studies and water utilization were also discussed.

The Gosekhurd Dam is the biggest reservoir project in the Wainganga basin, which is under construction since the late 1980's. It is a highly controversial reservoir, and has faced severe problems in land acquisition, cost overruns, etc. The Gosekhurd Dam is an important case study in the Wainganga Planning project, as the region is suffering from a severe irrigation backlog and many impounding projects may be considered for addressing this gap. As part of the case study, a pre-impoundment and post-impoundment study will be done. Accordingly, data for the pre-impoundment condition from Bawanthadi-Wainganga confluence to Dhapewada has been obtained, and the post-impoundment data is being gathered. A special meeting will be held on 13th June 2011 for discussing the action plan for this study.

Consultation with various groups for planning

As part of the Gosekhurd Case study, WZWP coordinating agency have contacted the government representatives as well as the representatives of the project affected persons (PAPs) to discuss the causes of dispute in land acquisition, the packages, and delivery of the schemes. WZWP contacted the ex-Collector of Nagpur Division, Mr. Sanjay Mukherjee, who was responsible for accelerating the land acquisition process and negotiations with PAPs. Beside this, Shri Vilas Bondge of the Gosekhurd Prakash Grastha Sangharsh Samiti, who has been responsible in education, lobbying and representing the Gosekhurd PAPs at the national level was also contacted.

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III. Case studies on water savings and water harvesting technologies adopted in villages of Jharkhand

Water crisis in eastern India in the last two years has resulted to declare Jharkhand a drought affected state. 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. To examine the water saving technologies as an instrument against climate change in drought affected Jharkhand state, AFPRO with the technical and financial support from India Water Partnership started collecting information on community practicing water saving technologies.

Five case studies on water savings and water harvesting technologies adopted by people covering Hazaribagh, East Singhbhum, Latehar, and Ranchi districts of Jharkhand State under different projects of Government and State government were discussed during the visit of project area and interaction was made with the beneficiaries. The studies provide insights on appropriate technological options, process followed for execution and lessons that can be drawn for replication. These cases reflect Ground Water Recharge through Rooftop Rainwater Harvesting – Improving Source Sustainability (Case study of **St. Albert's College Ranchi city**), System of Rice Intensification (SRI) Cultivation: More Rice with Less Water (Case study of **Turkatar Village, Balumath Block, Latehar District**), Increase Storage Capacity of Check dam ensures protective Irrigation (case study of **Dasokhap village** located in the **district of Hazaribagh**), Photovoltaic Water Pumps: Alternative Option for No Electric Zone (Case study of **Kanabandh Village, Churchu Block, Hazaribagh**), Drip Irrigation system: Potential Water Saving Agricultural Technique (Case study of **Village Gohala, Block Musabani, East Singhbhum**).



Water lifting by using Photovoltaic Water Pumps

The case related to Drip Irrigation mainly talks about the lack of knowledge and capacity at local level. This also contributes in the learning that the subsidiary driven equipment/ hardware support alone cannot help the communities until it is combined with the capacity building for utilization, repair and maintenance. On the contrary, the Photovoltaic water pumps case in tribal village Kanabandh of district Hazaribagh shows that any technology if implemented properly ensures sustainable, reliable and long lasting system. The advantage

of Solar Water Pumping system is low operating cost and low maintenance and is most suitable option where irregular supply of electricity persists. During discussion with the beneficiaries of the village, it was also learnt that executing agency had not only implemented the Solar Water Pumping system but also trained the villagers for repair and maintenance. The case studies will be discussed and disseminated in forthcoming meetings at district level sensitization workshop on water saving technologies.

IV. Participation of Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary, IWP in AWIS Partners Workshop organized by Water Integrity Network (WIN) at Berlin, Germany

Dr. Veena Khanduri represented Global Water Partnership-South Asia (GWP-SAS) & India Water Partnership (IWP) in AWIS Partners workshop organized by WIN Secretariat at Berlin, Germany on 19th & 20th May, 2011. Representatives from nine organizations participated in the workshop.

The Annotated Water Integrity Scan (AWIS) partners' workshop was the first step in establishing collaboration with the partners that recognize the added value of AWIS and are prepared to include the same in their work plans. Mr. Teun Bastemeijer, Director of WIN gave a brief of the AWIS which was developed in 2010 in collaboration with WIN Secretariat, Germany and International Water and Sanitation Centre, The Netherland. Explaining to the participants, Dr. Teun said that AWIS responds to the call made in 2008 Global Water Corruption Report for participatory and qualitative tools to analyze corruption and enhance integrity of water services development and delivery. The aim of the workshop was to share the AWIS tool with partner organizations, receive the feed-back from them and discuss potential improvement of the methodology, plan the dissemination of AWIS and define the next steps.

Participants were divided in two working groups. Necessary improvements of the AWIS manual were identified by the first group and it was agreed that promotional material and a number of short documents should be produced to make the AWIS tool more accessible to interested groups of people. Second group discussed potential contexts, in which the tool could be applied, the stepwise approach for the preparation of an AWIS workshop and the necessary follow up. The different partner organizations committed to explore their programme portfolios and activities at the country level. Dr. Ulrike Pokorski, GIZ suggested that a WIN representative could present AWIS at GIZ to find ways as how to integrate AWIS in to GIZ programmes. Dr. Veena Khanduri, GWP- South Asia/ IWP suggested that Maharashtra and Rajasthan would be potential states in India to implement AWIS in GWP/IWP country programmes.

It was decided that the experiences made with AWIS will be shared and the partner organizations will contribute to further developing the methodology and producing a final AWIS manual.