



**India Water Partnership
ANNUAL REPORT**

2019-2020



INDIA WATER PARTNERSHIP (IWP)

76-C, Sector- 18, Institutional Area Gurgaon 122 015 (Haryana)

T: (+91-124) 234 8022 (D); (+91-124) 2399421, Extn: 1403 & 1421

F: (+91-124) 239 7392

E: iwpmee@gmail.com; veena@cwpm-india.org

www.cwpm-india.org

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ABBREVIATIONS

C4Y	:	Centre for Youth
CCA	:	Climate Change Adaptation
DRR	:	Disaster Risk Reduction
DWSM	:	District Water and Sewerage Mission
FDG	:	Focus Group Discussion
FHTC	:	Functional Household Tap Connection
GPS	:	Geographical Positioning System
GWP	:	Global Water Partnership
INTACH	:	Indian National Trust for Arts and Cultural Heritage
IUWM	:	Integrated Urban Water Management
IWP	:	India Water Partnership
IWRM	:	Integrated Water Resources Management
JJM	:	Jal Jeevan Mission
NCR	:	National Capital Region
NGO	:	Non-Governmental Organization
PRA	:	Participatory Rural Appraisal
SAPCC	:	State Action Plan on Climate Change
SHG	:	Self Help Group
SWE	:	Small Water Enterprise
SWNI	:	Safe Water Network India
UNICEF	:	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
VWSC	:	Village Water Sanitation Committee
WASH	:	Water Sanitation and Hygiene

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COORDINATOR

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are grateful to Global Water Partnership (GWP) and Global Water Partnership-South Asia for providing financial support for undertaking various activities in 2019-20 as per our Countries priority areas in water sector coinciding with GWP Strategy 2014-2019.

We are thankful to our network partners who joined hands with us for undertaking various assignments and provided strategic inputs and suggestions to accelerate our efforts on water conservation, water management and mitigate climate change affects in the Country.

We also acknowledge the support received from community, farmers, PRI members, students, Self-Help Groups and Line Departments for smooth implementation of our activities across the various States.

We express our sincere thanks to our Board of Governors; Regional Council Members, GWP-South Asia and Honorary Members for their valuable suggestions and guidance from time to time which enabled us to complete all the activities successfully during the reporting year.

Finally, we express our appreciation to WAPCOS Ltd. for hosting the India Water Partnership (IWP) Secretariat and providing kind contribution and the administrative support.

(Dr. Veena Khanduri)

Executive Secretary-cum-Country Coordinator

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT



MR R K GUPTA

President

India Water Partnership (IWP)

It is my honor to present the Annual Report of India Water Partnership for the year 2019-2020.

The impact of climate change has increased the variability of rainfall in terms of occurrence, intensity and distribution. Thus, water availability and its spatial distribution in our country are going to be significantly altered. The effects of climate change and the subsequent water availability thereof needs to be addressed in a holistic manner before it is too late.

India is the biggest user of groundwater in the World and it is biggest source of drinking water and agriculture in the country. The water requirement for agriculture is considerably high in India. About 62% of the groundwater is extracted annually for irrigation whereas the replenishment rate is not satisfactory in comparison to the water withdrawals. So sustainability of groundwater resources has emerged as a big challenge. Increasing pollution in

the water bodies is making unsafe for humans and livestock. Around 70% of surface water in India is polluted. Therefore providing safe water to the humans and livestock is also a cause of concern.

India Water Partnership is making efforts to make the people aware about importance of water, conserving and managing it judiciously through mass awareness generation campaigns in different parts of the country, by involving its network partners spread across India.

In 2019-2020, India Water Partnership focused interventions on; Integrated Urban Water Management (IUWM) and its best practices; promoting and training youth on innovative water solutions; improving public health & livelihood through women in small water enterprises; climate resilience, etc. Case studies, news lines, and policy briefs on IWRM, Climate Change, and Sustainable water management were developed and widely disseminated electronically and through print media to better understand human response to disasters and climate change. Policy recommendations were prepared to mainstream women in local safe water supply through safe water enterprise contributing towards the UN SDGs 2030 Goal 6.1 "Safe Drinking Water for All".

IWP presented Multi-stakeholder approaches for IWRM and Drought Management in a side event of UNCCD COP-14, organized jointly by World Meteorological Organization (WMO), World Bank and GWP at New Delhi. The collaborative efforts between the GWP, WMO, World Bank contributed directly to COP-14 and the event provided practical recommendations with a view to sustain the momentum in the overall 70 countries, developing and implementing Drought Management Plans and Policies as part of the UNCCD Drought initiative.

India Water Partnership also facilitated India Water Week Secretariat in organizing a Panel Discussion on "Re-orienting the Water Education to Address Water related Challenges" during India Water Week-2019.

Various activities undertaken by India Water Partnership presented in this report are available on our website <https://cwp-india.org/> under the publications section.



ABOUT IWP

IWP is a non-profit network based organisation working towards the goal of propagating, promoting and supporting Integrated Water Resources Management in India. IWP is accredited by the Global Water Partnership (GWP), as the Country Water Partnership, thus also known as GWP-India. IWP serves as an independent and non-partisan voice on water management issues to influence policies, augment cooperations & collaborations and enhance stakeholders' participation. The initiatives of IWP are aligned with goals of GWP and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in the country.

IWP exhilarate its wide range of high calibre network partners to undertake critical & unbiased analysis of issues, empower local communities, stimulate public awareness, and create dialogues & exchange of information between the individuals, agencies and the governments. IWP organises dialogues, forums and events to deliberate on strategic water issues and also participate in various international events facilitated by GWP and other international institutions. The organisation catalyses impact driven activities through its network partners for conserving the natural water resources and enabling access to clean drinking water and healthy life.

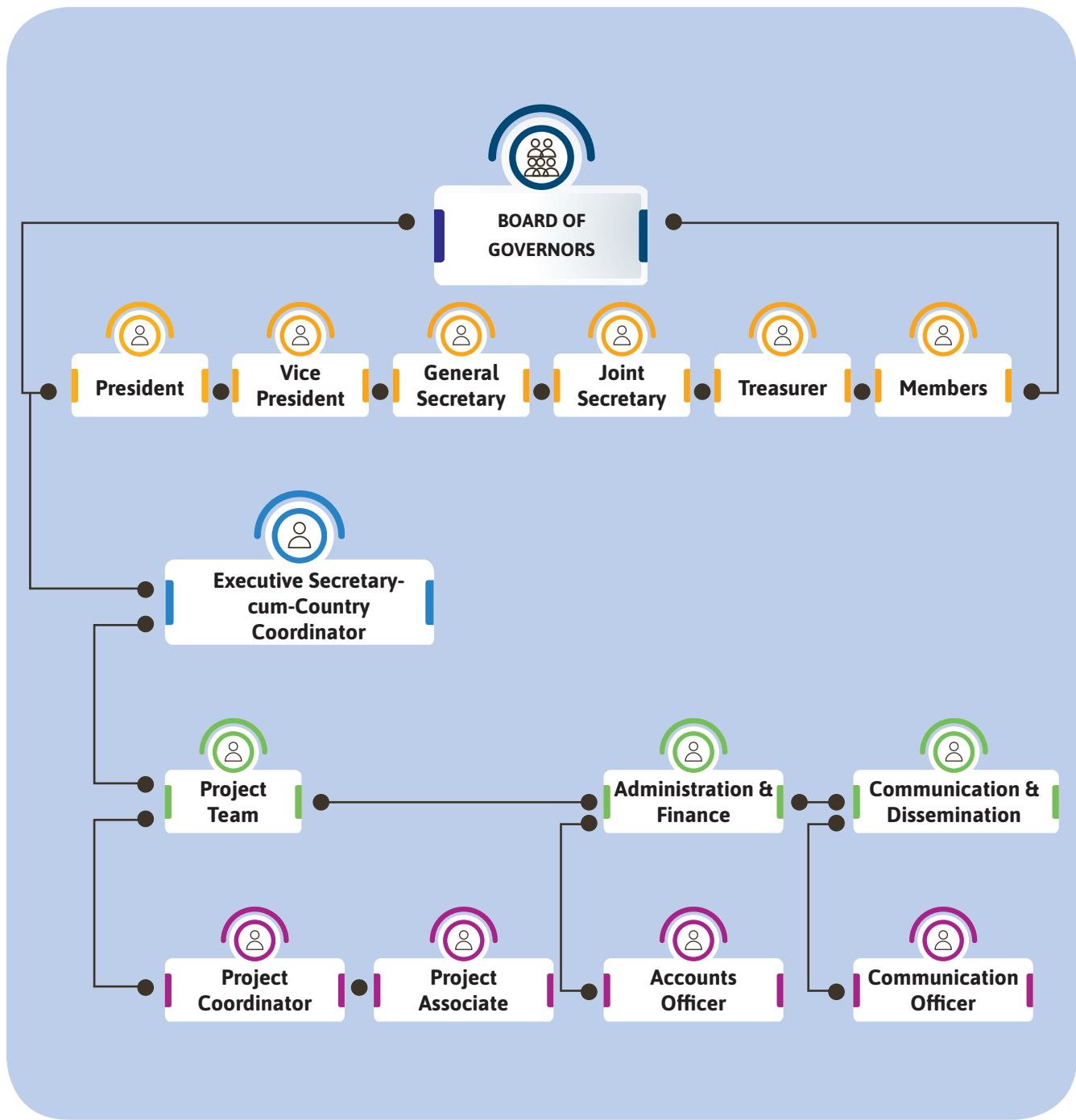
Our Network Partners

IWP carries out its activity through its 117 network partners spread across 22 States of the country. Besides this, the Zonal Water Partnerships (ZWPs) established in six zones of the country are helping IWP to achieve its objectives within their zones. The State-wise list of Life partners and Annual partners are given on page no. 37 & 38 of the Report.

Our Board of Governors

The governance and management of IWP is entrusted to a Board of Governors. The Board comprises of 10 members including President, Vice-President, three senior officials of Government of India, two senior officials from State Governments and three members from leading network partners; one each as General Secretary, Joint Secretary and Treasurer. The Board of Governors approve annual work plan & budget as per country's water priority areas, appoints Auditors and steers proper governance and technical functioning of IWP.

IWP ORGANOGRAM



IWP THRUST AREAS



PROMOTE use of low cost water saving technologies.



ENCOURAGE traditional methods of water conservation



SUPPORT use of safe drinking water and effective sanitation methods



SUPPORT gender mainstreaming in water management



PROMOTE water use efficiencies in urban areas, especially amongst disadvantage population



PROMOTE water use efficiencies in peri-urban areas



CREATE awareness on interconnectedness between water and climate change



STRENGTHEN area water partnerships for resolving local water related issues.



FOSTER cooperation among Water User Associations/ Water User Groups/ Water Regulatory Authorities at district and State level for planning and managing river basins through participatory approach



CONTRIBUTE in policy advocacy on efficient water governance

Major Highlights

- IWP engaged youth in its programs/projects as per GWP Youth Strategy-2015.
- 5 Innovative Water Smart Solutions explored.
- 5 Photo Slides and Infographics developed.
- 10 Blog post developed.
- 5 Case Studies documented on Best Water Management.
- 5 Youth trained on Sustainable Water Management.
- 15 Engineers/Water Managers trained on IUWM Planning and implementation.
- An IUWM Training Module developed.
- Prepared a Compendium documenting 10 Case Studies on best practices using IUWM approach from different States of India.
- 2 Case Studies prepared on Safe Drinking Water.
- 28 Women SHGs trained on Operation & Maintenance of Small Water Enterprises.
- 3 Case Studies on Vulnerability in Brahmaputra River Basin and Community Response on DRR & CCA prepared.
- One Policy Brief on “Hopes of Endurance in the Hinterland of Risk: Life in the Islands of the Brahmaputra River, Assam.
- Four Policy Briefs prepared on (i) Participatory Basin Wide Process for Hindon River Rejuvenation; (ii) Mobilizing Youth for Water Resources Management; (iii) Role of Women Led Small Enterprises in Public Health; and (iv) A Multi-Stakeholders Approach to Rejuvenate Hindon River.



2019-2020 PROJECT INSIGHTS

Water Champions Youth Fellowship Program 2019



As per the NITI Aayog Composite Water Management Index 2018, India suffers from the worst water crisis in history, with millions of lives and livelihoods are under threat. In the country, 600 million people face high to extreme water stress and about three-fourth of the households do not have safe drinking water in their premises. With nearly 70 percent of the water contaminated, India is placed at a lowly 120th position amongst 122 countries, in terms of the water quality index. In view of the limited availability of water resources and the ever-increasing demand for water, sustainable management of water resources gains high priority.

This poses a great responsibility on each of us, especially the youth, to manage our water resources for a sustainable and self-reliant future. It is the youth, the most vibrant and dynamic segment of the country's population, who can bring about a marked difference and play a greater role in sustainable water management. Global Water Partnership (GWP), through its Youth Strategy 2015 to "unite and strengthen voices of youth for a water secure world" and the new GWP Strategy 2020-2025, has recognized this important inclusion of the youth and their unique capabilities to support the decision-making process for water resources management.

India Water Partnership (IWP) in association with its network partner, Centre for Youth (C4Y), launched an innovative **Water Champions Youth Fellowship Programme** in 2019 under GWP Goal-2 (Generate and Communicate Knowledge), with the main objective to foster and empower sustainable youth leadership in the country, and build up their capacity to develop sustainable solutions for water security.

The key objectives of the program were to

- Raise awareness and social consciousness on the country's pressing water concerns;
- Understand and strategize issues at ground level that deal with the water crisis in the country;
- Develop leadership skills and innovations among the youth in ideating water smart solutions;
- Contribute positively in the partner organization's working processes on water related concerns; and,
- Execute innovative ideas and solutions in consultation with the partner organizations.

5 young, bright and enterprising students were chosen to work on innovative water smart solutions in the Fellowship program.

The six-month intensive Fellowship Programme aimed at empowering young leaders by providing them with relevant and comprehensive work experience in the water sector.

After launch of the programme, invitations were sent to 300 students enrolled with 30 specialized educational institutions in Delhi NCR, to nominate students pursuing Bachelor and Master Degrees in environmental studies, environmental management and B.Tech (Environmental Engineering), water resources management for the fellowship program. 50 applications were received and after an intensive on-line interview, 5 bright enthusiastic and eager students were selected for fellowship programme.

An orientation program followed, after which the selected fellows were placed with premier non-profit organizations working in water and allied sectors, to identify and begin the work on innovative water smart solutions. These organizations were Development Alternatives, ICLEI South Asia, Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) and Tree Craze Foundation.

Outcomes and Imprints

The 2019 Fellowship contributed towards (i) Developing Sustainable Youth Leadership in the country; (ii) Nurturing of confident future leaders; (iii) Holistic exposure of youth to water related issues; and (v) Empowering youth to create a sustainable future; and, (iv) Infusing unique and fresh perspectives in the partner's organization projects and their work process.

Capacity building and practical orientation, mentoring, contribution to water smart solution projects, monitoring, documenting and communicating the learning's were the key outcomes of the fellowship program.

The innovative water smart solutions developed by the fellows are: (i) Integrating Urban Water Management (IUWM) principles and Sustainable Water Management in the City of the Future (SWITCH) toolkit process to support the rejuvenation of Bhalswa Lake in North-West Delhi; (ii) Development of a questionnaire on 'Water and Environment Quest for School/ University students' to assess water awareness amongst school children at primary, secondary and higher levels, with the idea to increase participation of School and University students in Jal Shakti Abhiyan of Government of India; (iii) Plan for revival of the Hauz-i-Shamsi Lake in South Delhi, by replicating the efforts made for Hauz Khas Lake rejuvenation by INTACH, using the tertiary treated water from Vasant Kunj, New Delhi, (iv) Laboratory testing of 'Transparent Jerry Can', a cost effective and easy to use disinfectant that works on the principle of Solar Water Disinfection for improved access to safe drinking water; and (v) Create innovative solutions on Jal TARA Filter, a community Bio-sand Filter, identified as a practical approach to address the two worrying issues of water accessibility and water quality, used for water purification to improve drinking water quality.

5

**innovative
water-smart
solutions**

5

case studies

5

**photo slides/
infographic
narratives.**

10

**blog
posts.**

**Holistic
exposure to
water concerns/
solutions for
empaneled
Fellows.**

Anjali Yadav
Placed with ICLEI South Asia
Project: Implementation of Integrated Urban Water Management (IUWM) projects to support the rejuvenation of Bhalswa lake





Reviving the Bhalswa Lake

The condition of the Bhalswa lake is deteriorating at a rapid pace due to the dumping of effluent/sewage originating from nearby dairies and residential areas, among other reasons. This project, aims at restoring the Bhalswa Lake to an ecosystem that can sustain life. It is based on the principles of Integrated Urban Water Management (IUWM). Once holistically implemented, these principles will help to revive the condition of the lake.

PROBLEMS

- Highly contaminated water
- Waste from the nearby dairies and residential areas present in the water
- Lack of oxygen in water
- High Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)
- Increased algal growth in the lake water
- Slightly high pH levels (acidity)
- Absence of biodiversity and water fauna



BENEFITS OF RESTORING THE LAKE

- Availability of clean drinking water
- Recharge of groundwater
- Provision of refuges for wildlife
- Development in the ecotourism industry
- Aesthetically pleasing for people

SOLUTIONS

The implementation of Integrated Urban Water Management (IUWM) principles and Sustainable Water Management in the City of the Future (SWITCH) toolkit will enable us to:

- Analyse the urban water cycle
- Understand the impacts of possible interventions
- Collect primary baseline information
- Assess water demand
- Identify core areas and integration targets
- Support action planning
- Strategically prioritize actions
- Ensure better management of the water quality of the lake
- Boost the capability of Indian local governments to undertake reforms in the water sector

Kiran Khokhar
Placed with Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH)
Project: Revival of Hauz-i-Shamsi lake





Proposed Plan for the Revival of Hauz-i-Shamsi lake

Lakes and wetlands are rapidly disappearing due to the rise of urbanization. Delhi has lost more than a hundred water bodies in the last few decades and the loss of such water resources will inevitably lead to water insecurity in the future. One such lake is the Hauz-i-Shamsi lake which was once a leading example of the ancient water management systems in Delhi.



PROBLEMS

- Discharge of waste and sewage
- Lack of regular cleaning
- Insufficient water quantity in the lake
- Lack of periodic desilting and dredging
- Insufficient number of channels and drains that are connected to the reservoir

SOLUTIONS

The proposed solutions are a replicate of Hauz Khan lake which was done by INTACH using tertiary treated water from Vasant Kunj STP.

- Bioremediation
- Drawdown
- Aeration
- Dredging
- Disposal of leaves and dry sweeping
- Introduction of fish and free-floating vegetation
- Pruning of trees
- Creation of littoral zone

Thus, the empaneled Fellows underwent an experiential learning curve, to gain knowledge and experience on water issues and their rising concerns, strengthened through the mentorship and support from the partners, all of which helped them to strategize and execute their innovative ideas. The Fellows also explored their strengths and leadership potential over the course of the program.

For more details, refer to the full report on the IWP website, here <https://cwp-india.org/?p=5216>.



2019-2020 PROJECT INSIGHTS

Capacity Building of Urban Local Bodies in Rajasthan on Integrated Urban Water Management (IUWM) to support Sustainable Development Goals

Increased unpredictability and variability, both in the intensity and frequency of rainfall and temperature, has impacted the availability of water in the Country and the State of Rajasthan is not an exception. Poor management of basic services (water, waste water and solid waste management) and apathy towards traditional local water sources, have added to the current water crisis and the mounting water scarcity in Rajasthan. The priorities of the State's water agencies have broadened from a mere water resources development to encompass water allocation and water resources management. But, the institutional capacity of the agencies responsible for water resources and services management has not been able to keep pace with the changing times. Thus, there is a need to mobilize resources and skills to create awareness on water management, especially to help cities transition from a conventional, singular approach to an Integrated Urban Water Management process. This includes generating awareness among local institutions and augmenting technical skills in the staff engaged in water resources management and

Capacity building of 15 local engineers and water managers, will promote use of IUWM principles in 6 cities to become more water secure, benefitting more than 38 lakh people living there.

water-related services. It must be the focus of the State and Central Governments water agendas to build a strong human resource base that includes trainers, researchers and water management professionals with multidisciplinary skills.

India Water Partnership (IWP) in collaboration with ICLEI-South Asia (a strategic network partner

of GWP) implemented a pilot project “**Integrated Urban Water Management Planning and Implementation to support Sustainable Development Goals**” under GWP Goal-2 (Generate and Communicate Knowledge). The main objectives of the project was to (i) Support development of smart and sustainable growth in cities by prioritizing water agenda; (ii) Create, enable, institutionalize and promote inclusive

Outputs of the program:

- Flexible, Training module created for delivery of IUWM Training Program.
- Case study matrix booklet developed to document best cases and approaches on IUWM.

governance mechanisms by considering IUWM approaches and principles; and (iii) Build capacity of urban local bodies to undertake water sector reforms to close the urban water loop that will help in conservation of lake/water bodies in the long term.

Under this pilot project, various training programs were conducted to familiarize the city level water managers to the concept and principles of IUWM for State level dissemination of IUWM initiatives. For this, water supply systems of six project cities

Few Case Studies Success snippets:

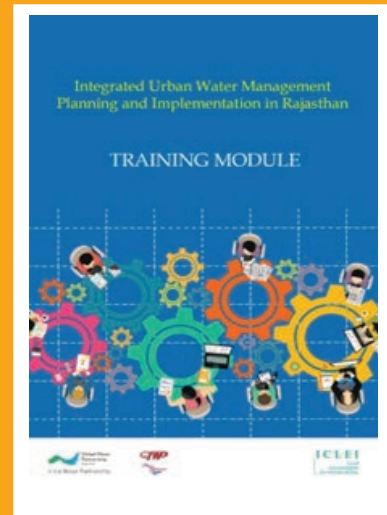
- Earthen dam renovation in Alwar, helped revive Arwari River.
- BOD and pH levels of Hauz Khas Lake in Delhi fell; resulted in cleaner lake environment & aquatic life revival.
- Overall Non-Revenue Water (NRW) reduction from 36% to 9.9%, per capita water consumption fell from 193 lpcd to 170 lpcd, in Jamshedpur, Jharkhand.
- 110 MLD freshwater saved, sufficient to meet needs of 0.8 million people in Nagpur, Maharashtra.
- Rs 6.36 crore savings/year achieved through energy-efficient measures, wind energy generation and route re-engineering in Surat, Gujarat.
- Revival of ancient temple tank ‘kalyani’ defunct for 40 years through community participation in Mulbagal, Karnataka.
- Annual savings of 2.36 million in Umaid Heritage Township, Jodhpur, Rajasthan.

(Ajmer, Alwar, Barah, Bundi, Jaipur & Kishangarh) were mapped to identify major areas for interventions. The training programs successfully promoted the need for rules and regulations for water management that looks at adopting integrated and collaborative approaches for developing plans and preparing designs for water management.

Outcomes and Imprints

A Training Module on IUWM was designed and developed to impart various trainings to the Water Managers, Municipal Engineers, Public Health Engineering Department Engineers and Sanitation Workers in the six project cities. Besides this, a Compendium documenting 10 case studies, inclusive of the best practices and approaches on Integrated Urban Water Management was taken out under the project.

The complete report along with the Training Module is available on IWP website, at <https://cwp-india.org/?p=5211>, while the compendium of case studies can be referred here <https://cwp-india.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Compendium-of-Case-Studies-on-Integrated-Urban-Water-Management.pdf>



Generating Livelihoods and Improving Public Health through Women Social Entrepreneurship in Small Water Enterprises

Women's role in water resource management is critical and well recognized, yet the implementation of methods and strategies to go beyond gender based obstacles for women's equal participation in water resource management remains a challenging task. In India 600 million people suffer from moderate to severe water stress, more than 1,40,000 children under the age of five die every year due to diarrhea and nearly two lakh people die every year due to inadequate access to safe drinking water. The crisis is worsening, with women, especially the girl child, disproportionately burdened with water collection; not only spending four to six hours

every day for it, but also taking care of the family when anyone falls sick. To mitigate this water crisis, more and smaller water enterprises are being set up in India. Rapid, cost-effective decentralized water purification systems owned and operated locally by women social entrepreneurs provide affordable safe drinking water. However, they are usually managed by men as they are considered more proficient and better skills. Further, at grass root level, the myth that women are not technology savvy and lack business skills is widespread.

IWP in association with its partner Safe Water Network India (SWNI), that imparts skill training

to women entrepreneurs and Self-Help Groups (SHGs) who manage iJal Stations which provide affordable and reliable access to safe water, undertook a research study. The study on **“Generating Livelihoods and Improving Public Health through Women Social Entrepreneurship in Small Water Enterprises”** was carried out in the areas where the Safe Water Network India has already established Small Water Enterprises (SWEs), locally called iJal water stations. The purpose of this research was to assess how women from SHGs or social women entrepreneurs can be mainstreamed to own and operate their safe water treatment plants for improving public health and increasing their livelihood.

Under the study, the primary survey was conducted using quantitative and qualitative research methodologies. A total of 28 women operators, entrepreneurs and women SHGs were interviewed from pre-selected six villages

in Medak district and four villages in Warangal district, Telangana State. Sarpanchs (Village Heads) and Village Water Sanitation Committee (VWSC)/ Ward members were also interviewed to gather inputs. Next, a comparative study was conducted to assess the performance of 30 women-run iJal stations against the performance of 30 stations operated by men on the Small Water Enterprise Performance Standards based on social, operational, financial, institutional and environmental (SOFIE) parameters.

The study was segregated by conducting interviews with (a) 16 SHGs women working with SWEs; (b) 12 SHGs women not associated with SWEs; and, (c) Comparative study between the performance of the women run iJal station with those operated by men using the voluntary guidelines of SOFIE.

In addition, secondary research was also conducted to identify the current policies of



Interview with Sarpanch and Ward members, at Suraram village, Medak district, Telangana

More than 90 per cent of women interviewed agreed that they had been benefited by innovations and capacity building programs' and received monitoring and handholding support from SWNI.

The findings shed light on the many opportunities made available to women who, through SWEs, assume local leadership positions within the community water supply chain—overseeing source water protection, leading community water boards, acting as communicators, bringing about change in safe water delivery, managing local water disputes, etc. and serve as role models in the process.



A women operator at Kothawada iJal station, Warangal, Telangana

the Union Government and State Government of Telangana that can promote women to own their safe water source and also help generate livelihoods for women by way of SWEs.

The research study examined the transformation of the role women and girls play in their respective communities, as SWEs allow them to step outside their homes and seek education and skill development.

The study also illustrates women's monthly income of INR 3,000-4,500 through SWEs which yields both social and financial transformations. It also brings forth the challenges faced by SHGs,

The iJal program has given me a job opportunity within the village near to my home, Purra Kishtamma, member SHG, operator for SWNI iJal station.

women associated with SWEs and puts forward recommendations to mainstream women as water social entrepreneurs through SWEs. A Monitoring and Evaluation visit was undertaken by Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary-cum-Country Coordinator, IWP on 30th November, 2019

to assess the performance of one selected iJal station in Medak district owned and operated by a women entrepreneur. After the visit suggestions and recommendations were provided to improve the performance of iJal stations.

Outcomes and Imprints

The program proved that rural women/SHG/semi-literate women can readily attain skills in technology and finance to manage micro-enterprises, generate income and improve their livelihoods. The SWE initiative has empowered SHG women as water entrepreneurs, which helps change their livelihoods in a more significant manner, than those in cottage industry, art craft production and agriculture labour, etc.

It has enhanced their social stature, their contribution in family decisions, as well as demonstrated their boosted confidence. It has also improved their access to economic resources and drudgery reduction with men assisting them in collecting water from SWEs on their bicycles/two wheelers.

The study also provides evidence for policy recommendation to mainstream women in local safe water supply through SWEs and thus contributes towards the UN SDGs 2030 , Goal- 6.1: safe drinking water for all; Goal 5: gender equality and Goal 8: sustainable growth, and indirectly contributes towards Goal 1:reduction of poverty.

The iJal stations have provided livelihood opportunities to the rural poor women and helped them improve their financial status. Also, it has provided safe drinking water to the poor rural women who otherwise were travelling long distances to fetch water which was not potable.

To read the detailed report, please click on the link here: <https://cwp-india.org/?p=5218>

“ A catalytic effect was seen through the expansion of the program in neighboring district of Sangareddy in Telangana State. ”

Community Resilience to Water induced Disasters and Climate Change: A Research Study and Documentation of Good Practices in selected River Islands of the Brahmaputra River Basin, Assam

The Brahmaputra River is one of the large river systems of the world, fifth largest in terms of average discharge and second highest in sediment load with 804 million tons/km² at Pandu, Assam and 1128 million tons/km² at Bahadurabad, Bangladesh. Originating at the Angsi glacier in Burang County in Tibetan Autonomous Region of China at an elevation of about 5,300 meters, where it is known as the Yarlung Zangbo or Tsangpo, the river traverses 1,625 km in China, 918 km in India, and 337 km in Bangladesh. The river, during its majestic journey from the 'Roof of the World' (Qinghai-Tibet Plateau) to the deltaic lowland in Bangladesh, passes through very different topography, climate and landscapes nurturing diverse ecosystems, habitats, human societies and cultures.

The entire length of about 800 km of the Brahmaputra River and some of its tributaries in Assam are dotted with numerous islands (locally called *char* and *chapor*) of different shapes and sizes. Many of these islands are permanently inhabited, a few temporarily and some barren. Entirely at the mercy of the river's geomorphological and eco-hydrological characteristics and the seasonal cycles of flooding, erosion and channel migration, the *chars* are in a state of physical change throughout the year, due to aggradation and denudation.

People who live on these *chars* are highly

vulnerable to a number of water-induced hazards like flooding, river erosion and land degradation due to excessive siltation. Low rate of literacy, poor socio-economic conditions resulting in poverty, lack of development infrastructure such as drinking water, health, sanitation, hygiene and nutrition; and overall marginalization due to remoteness from the mainland are the factors that make them even more vulnerable. Climate change, with its overwhelming and penetrative impact on the water and river regime has rendered these hazards erratic and at times more frequent and intense, thus increasing their inherent vulnerability.

IWP collaborated with its network Aaryanak in undertaking this research study on "**Community Resilience to Water induced Disasters and Climate Change: A Research Study and Documentation of Good Practices in selected River Islands of the Brahmaputra River Basin, Assam**". The purpose of the study was to understand the impact of the water induced disasters and climate change on a section of vulnerable population and document the practices they have adopted to reduce vulnerability and enhance resilience to disaster and climate risks in three rivers islands located in the Brahmaputra River.

The research study was conducted in thirteen villages located in three populous river islands of the Brahmaputra basin viz. Chalakura Char

(Seven villages), Dhubri District; Salmora Mouza (Two villages), Majuli District and Kobu Chapori (Four villages), Dhemaji District. The study mainly (i) analyzed the factors responsible for making the people vulnerable to water induced hazards and climate change and (ii) examined the practices and strategies adopted by them to be able to live in extremely adverse conditions in the existing physical, environmental and socio-economics contexts. The study has led to major findings that are applicable to the three study sites in particular and all *char* areas in the Brahmaputra flood plain in general. Salient recommendations, both for the studied *chars* as well as for riverine islands of the State too have been provided for effective Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and inclusive sustainable development.

Primary research methods were deployed for generating empirical information using PRA

(Participatory Rural Appraisal) techniques such as Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), key informant interviews, participatory landscape and resource mapping, transect walk, historical timeline etc. Secondary data was collected from standard sources such as scientific papers, reports, books, grey literature etc.). Geospatial technology (Satellite data, Remote sensing, GIS, GPS) was used for landscape analysis.



Participatory Rural Appraisal exercise with rural communities in the study area

Outcomes and Imprints

The study concluded that the river islands are highly disaster-prone areas of Assam; the community vulnerability depends on a complex combination of various factors of which erosion is the biggest source of threat, and whose history of settlement has been determined by a shifting river course of the Brahmaputra River. Ineffective, inadequate and poorly implemented structural measures adopted to protect chars from flood and erosion is the prime reason of large exposure of the inhabitants

“
About 14,228 people living
in 2,939 households will
benefit directly/ indirectly
from this research and
advocacy intervention.
”

of the river islands to riverine disasters. Besides this, climate and water dependent livelihoods, lack of electricity, lack of proper implementation of Government's policies and schemes, and political influence make the communities more vulnerable; even as the adaptation practices in the region that include traditional knowledge, skill and wisdom as well as community's own innovation, adaptive living house designs, changing agricultural practices and labor outmigration are features worth noting.

The study came up with important recommendations that include; to treat river islands and their people as a special case and prepare specific policies and action plans for them; follow a comprehensive population census; sensitize communities on the existing Government programs, policies and schemes; early warning flood provisions; implement specially designed women empowerment programs; usage of renewable sources like solar energy;



Riverbank erosion in the study area

mobile boat-based healthcare units; use of cost-effective technology for preservation of seeds, vegetables, crops; revise the State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC) with emphasis on vulnerability of riverine islands and their inhabitants; connect populated river islands (with regular boat services); sustain traditional pottery making; register the migrants and create a data base of them; adopt a progressive Relief and Rehabilitation Policy for people who have lost their lands and assets due to erosion; and account for the impact of structural interventions in rivers like embankments, dams, bridges, etc.

Besides this, the study also unraveled a host of inter-correlated factors that determine the vulnerability of the people living in the project sites and highlights an important aspect of our governance mechanism viz; non-implementation or poor execution of existing policies and programs. The rich repertoire of traditional knowledge, innovative adaption strategies and resilience practices have been documented under this study; even as the advocacy campaign conducted during the project is expected to influence policies in the coming days in favor of vulnerable communities for making them more resilient to disaster and climate risks. Salient results of the study were shared with important stakeholders both from project sites and state level agencies in a workshop held on 9th January, 2020 in Guwahati, Assam and suggestions/recommendations have been incorporated in the report.



View of the Workshop held in Guwahati, Assam on 9th January, 2020 with the Important stakeholders and State Level Agencies

Outcomes and Imprints

The study steered to better pre-understanding of the vulnerabilities of the people living in the three study sites to the impact of water induced hazards and climate change, mainly in the form of annual flooding, riverbank erosion, land degradation due to sand deposition and storms. Vulnerability was examined in the context of the physical impact of hazards, environmental situation, socio-economic conditions, livelihood, WASH scenario, gender and marginalized population.

The study has led to documentation of best practices and strategies of communities in response to the impact of hazards. The communities were sensitized about disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. The report also summarizes major recommendations and observations on the policy discourse.

“ We expect a catalytic effect that the project and dissemination of its work will help to get more funds for additional works in similar lines in some other river islands of Assam. ”



Children using Bamboo craft to cross over the flood waters for their routine works

A Policy Brief entitled “Hopes of Endurance in the Hinterland of Risk: Life in the Islands of the Brahmaputra River, Assam” prepared under this research study can be seen on IWP website with the link:<https://cwp-india.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Policy-Brief-on-Hopes-of->

[endurance-in-the-hinderland-of-risk-Life-in-the-islands-of-Brahmaputra-River-Assam.pdf](https://cwp-india.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Policy-Brief-on-Hopes-of-endurance-in-the-hinderland-of-risk-Life-in-the-islands-of-Brahmaputra-River-Assam.pdf) and the complete report containing three case studies, conclusions and recommendations can be accessed from the IWP website, here <https://cwp-india.org/?p=5220>



EVENTS ORGANIZED AND PARTICIPATED

Interdepartmental Round Table Workshop for Ganga Tributary Management & Hindon River Vision Development – 8th April, 2019

A Ganga tributary management approach has been developed by Government of Uttar Pradesh with the Hindon sub-basin as demonstration area.

Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary-cum-Country Coordinator, IWP participated in an Interdepartmental Roundtable Workshop on “Ganga Tributary Management & Hindon Vision Development” organized on 8th April, 2019 at Directorate of Urban Bodies and Training Centre, Lucknow. The main objective of the workshop was to collect inputs for a vision as starting point for Integrated River Basin Management in the Hindon basin. Dr. Veena Khanduri told that India Water Partnership is working with 2030 Water Resources Group on a large scale for the Hindon River rejuvenation since 2015.

Panel Discussion during 4th Asia Pacific Forum on Urban Resilience and Adaptation on Climate Adaptive Water Management at New Delhi – 16th April, 2019

A Panel Discussion was organized during “4th Asia Pacific Forum on Urban Resilience and Adaptation”

on 16th April 2019 at New Delhi on the session “Climate Adaptive Water Management”. Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary-cum-country Coordinator, IWP participated in the session which focused on (i) Climate induced challenges to water resource management and collaborative approaches for integrated water management; (ii) Socio-economic, demand-led strategies for managing water withdrawals for various uses; (iii) Decision support tools and management framework for Integrated Water Resources Management ; (iv) Role of climate modeling in water resource management; and (v) Models and framework for innovative financial opportunities in water sectors investment for future water utilities: Urban Water Finance.

FICCI Ladies Organization (FLO) – Uttarakhand Women Achiever’s Award Ceremony – 24th April, 2019

The FICCI Ladies Organization (FLO) - Uttarakhand, the Women’s Wing of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), organized FLO Women Achiever’s Award on 24th April, 2019 in Dehradun, Uttarakhand to felicitate women achievers who have had a great impact on skill development, business mentorship, entrepreneurship, education and legal areas in the State.



Dr. Veena Khanduri (standing 4th from left top)

This award is annually presented by FICCI to the women who have done exemplary and commendable works and play as a role model for women who seek to empower themselves to higher goals and aspirations in their chosen fields. Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary-cum-Country Coordinator, India Water Partnership was one of the 15 awardees conferred with this award for her distinguished work in water sector and women empowerment.

Cleaning Activity and Plantation Drive at Chhat Ghat along Yamuna River -24th June, 2019

To commemorate its Golden Jubilee, WAPCOS Ltd. (Host Institution of India Water Partnership) organized a pre-event by cleaning four Ghats



View of Chhat Ghat- Yamuna River Bank

(sacred places on river banks as per Indian philosophy) namely; Chhat Ghat, Kudsia Ghat, Yamuneshwar Ghat and Shyam Ghat, located along the banks of River Yamuna. The cleaning was followed by plantation drive along the above four Ghats on 24th June, 2019. More than 600 persons from WAPCOS Ltd., India Water Partnership (GWP-India) staff and 7 network partners of GWP-India and other NGOs from Delhi-NCR participated in the events for this noble cause. Theme of these events was **“Our River, Our Future”** and **“Plant Tree, Save Life”**.

Mr Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Hon’ble Minister of Jal Shakti, Government of India was the Chief Guest and Mr Rattan Lal Kataria, Hon’ble State Minister of Jal Shakti, Government of India was Guest of Honour who graced this historic occasion. This event was also attended by Mr U P Singh, I.A.S., Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India, Ms. T. Rajeshwari, I.A.S, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India and senior representatives of Central Water Commission, Central Ground Water Board and others.

Mr. Gajendra Singh Shekhawat; Mr. Rattan Lal Kataria and Mr. U P Singh in their address highlighted importance of saving the rivers (clean/pollution free) with holistic water management. The Hon’ble Union Minister of Jal Shakti spoke about the present water crisis in India and advocated for vigorous efforts for revival and rejuvenation of traditional water bodies with people’s participation. The entire event was covered by media with feedbacks and views of important dignitaries and officials. The link is: <https://youtu.be/u-X2mFcDaoA>

National Conference-cum-Exhibition & Awards on “Innovative Water Solutions organized by Assocham – 28th June, 2019

The Associated Chamber of Commerce of India (ASSOCHAM) organized a “National Conference-cum-Exhibition & Awards” on “Innovative Water Solutions” on 28th June, 2019 at New Delhi. Objective of the conference was to create knowledge sharing and networking platform for research & development, demonstration & development of solutions in the context of water conservation, water treatment and water use efficiency. The conference was attended by more than 70 participants including Government of India representatives, industry representatives, academia, researchers and NGOs. Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary-cum-Country Coordinator, IWP attended the Conference. The speakers focused on the workable business models, investments, research & new development and bridging the gap between Government and industry to design innovative generic solutions for optimal water management for wider adoption. The conference was inaugurated by Mr. Ganjedra Singh Shekhawat, Hon’ble Minister of Jal Shakti, Government of India. Addressing the audience, the Minister said that water is a common agenda and for the common men/women and the Corporates have to come on one Board to achieve the Government stupendous task to provide safe drinking water to every household by 2024. The Hon’ble Minister also stressed that Government of India is committed to stop the flow of raw sewage into Ganga river by 2022.

Regional Training Workshop on Climate Resilient WASH and Climate Financing (16-18th July, 2019)

Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary and Country Coordinator, IWP attended the Regional Training Workshop on Climate Resilient Wash and Climate financing organized by UNICEF Regional Office for South Asia (ROSA) UNICEF Headquarters Water and Climate Division in collaboration with GWP in Kathmandu, Nepal from July 16-July 18, 2019.



Objective of the training was to develop the capacity of UNICEF and GWP Country Water Partnerships of South Asia, WASH Practitioner’s in the region on climate resilience and financing, supporting GWP Country Water Partnerships with the implementation of the Strategic Framework at all levels including; carrying out WASH Climate risk assessments to support countries to access climate funds through the development of fundable proposals. Later on Country Water Partnerships of GWP-South Asia made presentation of their respective country specific project concept notes. Dr. Veena Khanduri presented two concept notes with respect to India.

Roundtable Discussion on Ganga Tributary Governance (9th September, 2019)

A Roundtable discussion on multi-stakeholder partnership for Ganga Tributary Governance was held on 9th September, 2019 at National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) office, New Delhi. The meeting was organized by 2030 Water Resources Group in collaboration with NMCG and Uttar Pradesh State Mission for Clean Ganga (SMCG) chaired by Director General, National Mission for Clean Ganga. The chief invitees' were delegates from Mongolia who shared their successful case studies and examples of tributary management and river conservation ideas of their country. Participants from government, civil society and research organizations attended the meeting and shared their views on the Hindon River for the current and future rejuvenation plans. Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary-cum-Country Coordinator represented IWP in the Roundtable and shared her views on the Nirmal Hindon Rejuvenation Partnership experiences and challenges.



NMCG officials interacting in Round Table on Ganga Tributary Governance

Changing minds on Drought Management: the Economic case organized by Global Water Partnership during UNCCD COP 14 at NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh (11th September, 2019)

UNCCD-COP 14 was organized in India from 2nd to 13th September, 2019 at India Expo Centre Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh. 196 countries with over 5,000 water and climate change professionals participated during UNCCD-COP14 from across the globe. Environment Ministers from 94 countries were present in the conference. The theme of the COP14 was "Restore land to sustain life". Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Mr. Narendra Modi inaugurated the High Level Segment (HLS) of UNCCD COP14 on 9th September, 2019 in the presence of Heads of the United Nations and other international organizations, leaders of States and Ministers from many countries.

COP14 UNCCD COP14, New Delhi, India (September 2 - 13, 2019)

- Date: 2nd – 13th September, 2019.
- Venue: New Delhi, India.
- Theme: Restore Land to Sustain Life.

Global Water Partnership (GWP) in association with World Meteorological Organization (WMO), World Bank, and United Nations Convention to Combat Drought Desertification to Combat Drought Desertification, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations will organize a side event on "Changing Minds on Drought Management – sustaining Action, the economic case".

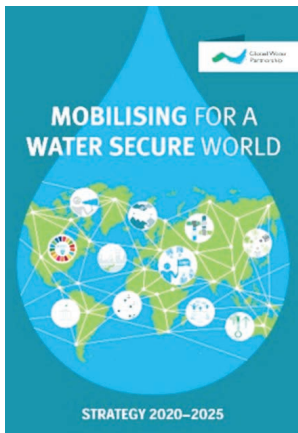
During the side event, Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary-cum-Country Coordinator, India Water Partnership will participate as a panelist and make presentation on "IWP perspective on multi-stakeholders approaches on IWRM and Drought Management".

For further information log on to: <https://www.unccd.int/convention/conference-parties-cop14-2-13-september-new-delhi-india>

Official side event
CHANGING MINDS ON DROUGHT MANAGEMENT
UNCCD COP14, 11th September 2019, 08:00-09:30, Room: ME7-02

PROGRAMME:
Moderator: Cecilia Nardines Lemos, UNCCD
08:00 – 08:15: Welcome and Opening, Ashi, Howard Bamsey, Chair Global Water Partnership
08:15 – 08:30: Introduction of the side event
08:30 – 08:45: Presentation of the side event
08:45 – 09:00: Presentation of the side event
09:00 – 09:15: Presentation of the side event
09:15 – 09:30: Presentation of the side event
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12:00 – 12:15: Presentation of the side event
12:15 – 12:30: Presentation of the side event
12:30 – 12:45: Presentation of the side event
12:45 – 13:00: Presentation of the side event

During this period, a side event "Changing Minds on Drought Management: The Economic Case" was also organized by GWP on 11th September, 2019. GWP Chair, Mr. Howard Bamsey, Mr. Frederik Pischke, Senior Network Officer GWP Eastern Africa & GWP Southern Africa and Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary-cum-Country Coordinator, IWP attended the side event. The side event was launched by the GWP Chair.



The GWP Chair and Executive Secretary-cum-Country Coordinator, IWP jointly launched the GWP Strategy 2020-2025. The GWP Chair explained the main components of the strategy. Link for GWP strategy is GWP Strategy 2020-2025.pptx

In the panel discussion, Dr. Veena Khanduri spoke on Multi-Stakeholder Approaches for IWRM and Drought Management. She discussed about the framework of drought management which can help India to develop a proactive approach. She also highlighted that droughts affect 42 per cent of India's land while another 6 per cent is exceptionally dry plane. Link of the article captured by "Down to Earth" Magazine is <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/climate-change/unccd-cop14-experts-stress-the-need-to-assess-long-term-drought-impacts-66665>



GWP Chair, Mr. Howard Bamsey and Dr. Veena Khanduri during the panel discussion with other delegates

Great Ganga Run at Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi (15th September, 2019)

National Mission for Clean Ganga, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India organized "**Great Ganga Run**" at Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi on 15th September, 2019 as a part of Jan-Andolan (Peoples' Movement) to seek support of the general public and to bring about positive change in minds of the people on water conservation and river rejuvenation. The Great Ganga Run witnessed presence of around 16,000 people (youth, students, men & women) from Delhi National Capital Region.

Panel Discussion on Re-orienting the Water Education to Address the Water-Related Challenges organized by India Water Partnership (25th September, 2019)



Conceptualized and organized for the first time in 2012, the India Water Week is a regular forum where the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India discusses talks, strategizes with eminent stakeholders through seminars, exhibitions and sessions to build public awareness, to get support to implement key strategies for conservation, preservation and optimum use of available water. The 6th India Water Week (IWW-2019) was organized from 24th to 28th September, 2019 at Vigyan Bhawan and Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts, New Delhi on the theme "**Water Cooperation – Coping with 21st Century Challenges**" focusing on need and importance of water use across all sectors.

IWP facilitated the India Water Week-2019 Secretariat by organizing a Panel Discussion on 25th September, 2019 on the topic of **“Re-orienting the Water Education to Address the Water-Related Challenges”**.



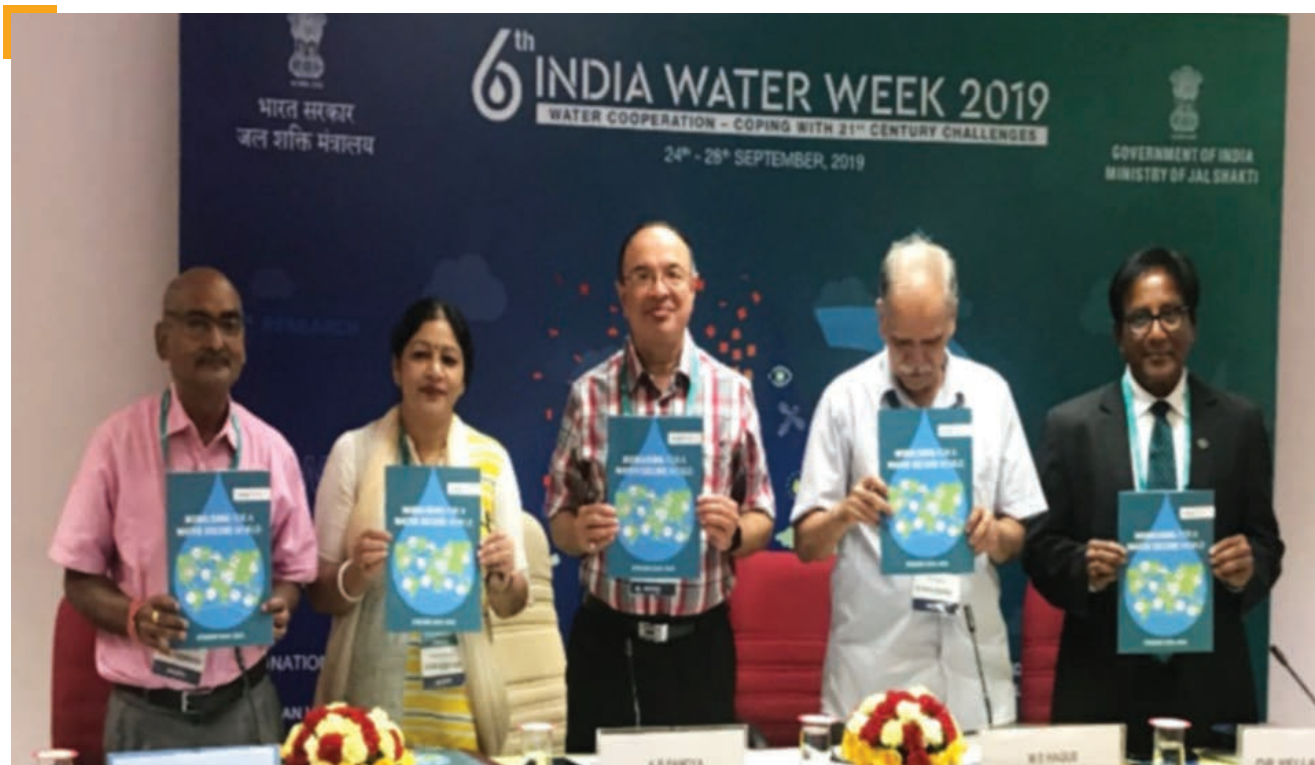
Chair, Co-chair and Panelists During panel Discussion

Aim of the panel discussion was to address the need of a holistic water education system for sustainable development, re-orienting the existing water education system and developing

a platform for academia, scientists, hydrologists and professionals to share their experiences and suggestions. It is felt since long that the country's water resources face several problems like increased water stress, erratic rainfall, soil erosion & sedimentation, anthropogenic causes, etc.

To overcome this, it was advocated that water education should be such that it goes beyond teachings of hydrology, designing of hydraulic structures and water planning and must be multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinarian.

The presentation was followed by the launch of GWP Strategy 2020-2025. The Strategy argues for agility and urgency for water augmentation. The main purpose of the Strategy is to guide how the GWP network will work between 2020 and 2025 for water conservation and better water resources management around the globe.



Launch of GWP Strategy 2020-2025

One Day Introductory Training on “River Basin Management Cycle and Implementation: How to Protect and Improve Water Environment” (30th September, 2021)

GIZ India (Indo-German Project “Support to Ganga Rejuvenation”) in collaboration with the National Mission for Clean Ganga organized one day introductory training on “**River Basin Management Cycle and Implementation: How to Protect and Improve Water Environment**” in New Delhi on 30th September 2019. Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary-cum-Country Coordinator, IWP attended the training program.

Participation of Mr. Debnath Shaw, Regional Council (RC) Member, GWP South Asia and Dr. Veena Khanduri, Country Co-coordinator-cum- Executive Secretary, IWP in the 25th RC Meeting in Bhutan (19th to 20th October, 2019)

The 25th Regional Council Meeting of GWP-South Asia was held on 19th & 20th October, 2019 in Thimpu, Bhutan. Mr. Debnath Shaw, RC member, GWP-South Asia and Dr. Veena Khanduri, Country Coordinator-cum-Executive Secretary, IWP attended the meeting. On the first day three sessions were held, the first session was introductory session which was presided by Dr. Khondaker Azharul Haq, Regional Chair, GWP South Asia. The second session was based on the reports and updates on Regional Office and Country Water Partnerships (CWPs). During third session discussions were held on GWP Strategy 2020-2025 & three year GWP SAS Work Plan.

On the second day, two sessions were held. The first session was based on GWP- South Asia Governance in which discussion was held on accreditation re-check of GWP-South Asia CWPs, Regional Programs, Upcoming Asia Pacific Water Summit in 2020 and strengthening and sustainability of CWPs. The second session was on governance issues; like retirement of Country Chairs/RC Members/new appointments, decision and venue of next RC meeting and appointment of auditors for 2020 etc. Concluding remark was given by Dr. Khondaker Azharul Haq, Regional Chair, GWP-South Asia.

Sixteenth meeting of Sectional Committee, WRD 24 at New Delhi (12th December, 2019)

The 16th meeting of Sectional Committee, WRD-24 on “**Environmental Assessment and Management of Water Resources**” was held in New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Mr. Amrendra Kumar Singh, Chief Engineer (EMO), Central Water Commission, Government of India.

Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary-cum-Country Coordinator, IWP as a member of WRD-24 participated in the meeting.

IWP Board of Governors Meeting (Steering Board Meeting) and Annual General Body Meeting (GWP-India Partners Meeting) organized at New Delhi (13th December, 2019)

IWP organized its 42nd Board of Governors Meeting (Steering Board Meeting) and 17th Annual General Body Meeting (GWP-India Partners

Meeting) on 13th December, 2019 at WAPCOS Ltd. Head Office, New Delhi. In the meeting, the Board of Governors were informed about finalization of Road Map for IWP; Audit Report for F.Y 2018-2019 was confirmed; Auditors for F.Y 2019-20 were appointed; status of activities from August, 2019 to till November, 2019 were presented; and matters of strategic nature were reported to the Board of Governors.

In the Annual General Body Meeting (GWP-India Partners Meeting), decisions taken in the previous Board of Governors Meeting held in 2019 were ratified; Audit Report for F.Y 2018-2019 was adopted; Activities undertaken by IWP from October, 2018 to November, 2019 were presented; and matters of strategic nature were reported to the members present in the meeting.

Meeting of District Water and Sewerage Mission under Jal Jeevan Mission at Worthy Deputy Commissioner Gurguram Mini Secretariat (23rd December, 2019)

A meeting of District Water and Sewerage Mission (DWSM) under Jal Jeevan Mission was held at Worthy Deputy Commissioner, Gurguram Mini Secretariat (Haryana) on 23rd December, 2019 under the Chairmanship of Mr. Mohammed Imran Raza, I.A.S, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Gurugram, Haryana. Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary-cum-Country Coordinator, IWP as a member of DWSM, Gurugram attended the meeting along with Mr. Rahul Naithani, Communication Officer, IWP.



View of 17th Annual General Body (GWP-India) partnership meeting

Welcoming the Additional Deputy Commissioner, Gurugram and the participants, Mr. Sanjay Kumar, District Consultant, DWSM said that Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 15th August, 2019. The aim of JJM is to provide Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) to every rural household of India by 2024 by involving Gram Panchayats and Village Water & Sewerage Committees (VWSCs). There will be paradigm shift after implementation of JJM in rural drinking water supply sector, Mr. Sanjay Kumar said. The District Consultant also apprised the participants regarding their role & responsibilities under DWSM.

The Chair directed District Development & Panchayati Raj Officer, Gurugram to facilitate constituting Village Water & Sewerage Committee in each village of Gurugram District, Haryana by 31st December, 2019 so that the target of providing FHTCs could be achieved in phases.

Lecture by Prof. Sudipta Sen, Department of History, University of California on "Ganga and the pulse of Civilization: The future and past of India's Great River" (3rd January, 2020)

With an aim to educate people about the cultural heritage and importance of India's longest and holiest river, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India organized the first session of Prof. Sudipta Sen, Department of History, University of California lecture series on Ganga. His lecture on "Ganga and the pulse of Civilization: The future and past of India's Great River" was organized on 3rd January, 2020 at the National Gallery of Modern Art, New

Delhi. Shri U. P. Singh, I.A.S, Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India and Shri Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, I.A.S, Director General, NMCG were present in the lecture. Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary-cum-Country Coordinator also participated in the lecture.



Mr. U. P. Singh, Mr. Rajiv R. Mishra and Dr. Sen on the stage for the Q&A session

Prof. Sudipta Sen began his lecture by quoting Jalluludin Rumi, a 13th Century mystic poet who wrote "Ganga belongs not only to India or this world but to the entire universe". Prof. Sen emphasized on the cultural significance of the river that runs through the country and has been the lifeblood of human settlement. The lecture delved upon how Ganga is much more than a river since it has seen rise and fall of various reigns and empires along its course. According to him, Ganga is a force mightier than any artificial human effort and needs to be preserved at all cost. Prof. Sen talked about various anthropogenic factors, big hydrological developments like dams which have exacerbated and changed the hydrology of the river overtime. Prof. Sen said "We cannot restore back (the quality of water) of Ganga of Chanyaka, Harshavardhan or even Akbar's time however, we need to create a cleaner Ganga for the future generations". He congratulated NMCG for its cognizant and continuous effort to address issues related to cleaning this river.

Participation of IWP Staff in a meeting with UNICEF Delhi Officials on 30th January, 2020 (Post ROSA Training Workshop, Kathmandu (Nepal) held from 16th to 18th July, 2019)

Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary-cum-Country Coordinator along with Mr. Rahul Naithani, Communication Officer, IWP and Dr. K Vijayalakshmi, Former Board Member, IWP attended a meeting with UNICEF officials on 30th January, 2020 at New Delhi to discuss the way forward for India that emerged from discussions and meetings at ROSA training workshop held in Kathmandu, Nepal from 16th to 18th July, 2019 and further association with UNICEF. Highlights of the discussions were; (i) UNICEF-WASH Framework - Impact of WASH Practices on the stakeholders, developing or adapting to water potential solutions (technical, policy-related or otherwise), analyzing solutions that can be replicated and conducting monitoring and evaluation; (ii) Incorporation of WASH principles with Climate Resilient Practices and Climate Change Agenda;

(iii) The impact of Climate Change on WASH Sector. WASH and Climate Resilience need to gain a major priority in State Action Plans; and (iv) 16 Priority States identified by UNICEF in India where the interventions will be done are; Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Bihar, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Assam, West Bengal, Gujarat, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala and Jharkhand.

IWP displayed its work on Youth Mobilization and Gender Inclusion in Gyanotsav 2020 - Festival of Knowledge (14th & 15th January, 2020)

Invited by one of its network partners, IWP participated in an exhibition that was organized as a part of Gyanotsav 2020 (Festival of Knowledge), by Bhagat Phool Singh Mahila Vishwavidyalaya (BPSMV), Sonipat district, Haryana in association with Shiksha Sanskriti Utthan Nyas. The aim of exhibition was to bring various educational institutions, organizations and individuals at one platform, where innovative ideas and practices



IWP Staff at exhibition held at BPSMV



Mr. Rahul Naithani interacting with students at IWP Stall

can be exchanged in the fields of education, contemporary classroom teaching methods, innovative pedagogies, community engagement for natural resources management.

The Gyanotsav 2020 was a two day conclave held on 14th & 15th February, 2020 on the theme of “Innovative and Creative Practices in Education for a Better Tomorrow”. IWP participated in the exhibition on 14th February, 2020. The central idea of IWP’s stall was to exhibit its outstanding and rigorous contribution in field of making India a water secure country by the means and ways of Youth Mobilization and Gender Inclusion. Mr Rahul Naithani, Communication Officer, IWP assisted by Mr Naresh Kumar, Field Assistant, IWP displayed IWP’s work on youth mobilization during the festival. The exhibition involved live interaction with students, teachers, spectators, etc. about contribution of IWP towards inclusion of youth and women as one of the most important stakeholders for promoting water security and effective water management in India which is also in line with GWP Youth Strategy.

Participation of IWP in a workshop on the theme “Pavitra Ganga Project (Sacred Ganga Project): Unlocking Wastewater Treatment, Water Re-Use and Resource Recovery Opportunities for Urban and Peri-Urban Areas in India (27th February, 2020)

India’s water resources are under severe stress resulting from over exploitation and pollution, Pavitra Ganga (Sacred Ganga) Project links directly to the Flagship Namami Gange Program of Government of India that builds existing cooperation between European Union and India, supported by national governments. The objective is to fulfill Sustainable Development Goal-6 by unlocking the environmental and economic benefits of municipal wastewater treatment and reuse solutions for urban and peri-urban areas in India by focusing on three pillars (i) People; (ii) Planet; and; (iii) Profit. A workshop on the theme “Pavitra Ganga Project (Sacred Ganga Project) : Unlocking Wastewater Treatment, Water Re-Use and Resource Recovery Opportunities for Urban and Peri-Urban Areas in India” was organized by “The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)”, a GWP partner at New Delhi on 27th February, 2020. Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary-cum-Country Coordinator, IWP attended the workshop. The innovative wastewater treatment and reuse technologies being developed and piloted in the Pavitra Ganga Project “Sacred Ganga Project” in Delhi and Kanpur were briefly presented as it is important to better understand the current wastewater situation and practices, what is the past experiences with wastewater treatment, reuse and resource recovery are, and how to envisage the further of wastewater treatment, reuse and resources recovery in India.

GLIMPSES OF 2019-2020 ACTIVITIES



PUBLICATIONS

ICLEI
Local
Governments
for Sustainability

Global Water Partnership
GWP

INTEGRATED URBAN
WATER MANAGEMENT

CASE STUDIES

Issue No. 001/2020

Global Water Partnership
India Water Partnership

News Line

Role of Women Led Small Water Enterprises in Public Health

Background

Women's role in water resource management is critical and recognized, yet the implementation of methods and strategies to get beyond gender-based obstacles to women's equal participation in water resource management remains a challenging task. This engagement of women in managing water remains high priority. In India 600 million people suffer from inadequate access to water. More than 140,000 children under the age of five die every year due to diarrhea and about two lakh people die every year due to inadequate access to safe water. The crisis is worsening and women and especially the girl child are typically disproportionately burdened not only with water collection spending time to collect water but also caring for sick family. To mitigate this problem successfully small water enterprises are being set up. Rapid, cost-effective decentralized water purification systems owned and operated locally by women social entrepreneurs provide affordable and drinking water. Usually they are managed by men as they are considered more skilled and better at financial management. There exists a wealth of women's business and leadership skills, especially in the unutilized grass root level. Safe Water Network India (SWNI) has inspired skill training to women entrepreneurs and SWNI Help Groups (HGs) who manage 600,000 litres of water daily for the people of India.

India Water Partnership (IWP) collaborated with its network partner, SWNI for an activity under the Global Water Partnership's strategy Goal 1 - Gender change in policy and practice of its core program 2019 to "improve operations and sustainability of Small Water Enterprises (SWEs) managed by SWNI Help Groups or women social entrepreneurs in Madhya Pradesh, India for their managerial efficiency and make a case for expansion". The purpose of this project was to assess how women from SWNI managing HGs can be mainstreamed to own and operate safe water resource plants for improving public health and increasing their livelihood. Through this study the project assessed the capability of 20 women from SWNI who are operating and managing HGs.

Objective

Objective of the activity was to develop an online live case study on SWNI as a sustainable and make a case for scaling HGs to them to set up safe water facility and expand, then, bringing livelihood and dignity to them as well as inclusive in water based domain and public health improvement.

Global Water Partnership
India Water Partnership

Integrated Urban Water Management
Planning and Implementation in Rajasthan

TRAINING MODULE

ICLEI

Issue No. 002/2019

Global Water Partnership
India Water Partnership

News Line

Mobilising Youth for Water Resource Management

Background

Sustainability and Youth
Youth population in India is expected to reach 34% of its total population in 2020. Youth have a huge potential for innovation and their voice has to be taken into account. Sensitization and education of youth about water concerns and related issues imbibe a sense of responsibility among young population for managing the water resources towards the goals of sustainability and self-reliance. In order to ensure that the actions made towards sustainable development including water management, the inclusion of a dedicated water generation like the SWNI is a better security for sustainable development in an increasing water stressed world becoming important.

To foster and empower Sustainable Youth Leadership in the country, and build their capacities on developing sustainable solutions for water security, Centre for Youth (CY) and India Water Partnership (IWP) collaborated to initiate 'CY-IWP Water Champions Youth Fellowship Programme 2019'.

Water Champions Youth Fellowship 2019
The purpose of this year-long endeavor was to provide opportunity for the young fellows to engage intensively with India's premier environmental organizations working on water as its priority. The programme engaged the youth with the partner organizations who have been working in the water resource management sector.

The initiative was focused on students pursuing bachelor and master degree in subjects related to environment, sustainability or water issues in universities across Delhi and National Capital Region (NCR). Five students were selected from a pool of twenty shortlisted applicants to form the first cohort of Water Youth Champions. The journey of the five fellows from their selection process followed by the orientation workshop on water issues and placement with partner organizations and the mentoring support, working professionally on water conservation issues and developing or implementing water small solution has been an impact driven change process for the young fellows.

Development Alternatives, ICLEI South Asia, Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) and The Centre Foundation were the prominent sector specialist partner organizations. The fellows were placed with the partners and the mentors facilitated the process of development of innovative 'Water Smart Solutions' by the fellows on issues such as lake conservation, accessibility to safe drinking water for low-income families and developing awareness tools for Delhi and NCR.

Programme Design

The inaugural edition was launched to build young leaders capacities to understand and appreciate the issues of water conservation. The capacity building & practical orientation, mentoring, contributing in proposing water smart solution, monitoring, documenting and communicating the learning were the key components of this programme.

- Orientation Workshop - Mentorship - Program Mapping Workshops
- Project Brief Frameworks and Communication & Documentation Collaborative
- Felicitation Ceremony

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Global Water Partnership
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News Line

Participatory Basin Wide process for Hindon River Rejuvenation

Background

Hindon, a tributary of Yamuna River, originates in Saharanpur District, from Upper Shivalik Hills in Lower Himalayan Range and flows through six districts of Uttar Pradesh namely Saharanpur, Muzaffargarh, Jansi, Baghpat, Ghazabad and Ghazibagh (Hazar) with its confluence with Yamuna River towards south of Bareilly Region in Gauramabad Hazar district, downstream of Delhi. The river is entirely silted and has an approximate catchment area of 30% land. The Hindon River in the past years had clean and safe water, but in the recent years due to substantial water abstraction & severe pollution loads, the river and its tributaries on now of the verge of drying. A lot of efforts has been made by the Government of Uttar Pradesh, HGOs, VOs and the people in the past, however a holistic basin level approach is still needed to rejuvenate the river and its tributaries.

Process for Hindon Rejuvenation

2015: Identification of the problem & mobilization of stakeholders
2016: Multi-stakeholder identification & capacity building
2017: Multi-stakeholder identification & capacity building
2018: Multi-stakeholder identification & capacity building
2019: Multi-stakeholder identification & capacity building

India Water Partnership and 2000 Water Resources Group (2000 WRG) started initiatives in the basin with stakeholder mapping for inclusiveness and engagement with administration, law department, farmer groups civil society etc. since 2015. A high-level vision was developed with intensive stakeholder consultation through the Hindon Vision Committee & workshops in every Hindon District. The vision and consensus of good practices was also launched by the then Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh in June 2016. Wide stakeholder engagement commenced in the basin level committee on March 21, 2018 by Chief Secretary, Uttar Pradesh and one Hindon basin committee chaired by Divisional Commissioner, Meerut & Saharanpur. 2000 WRG and India Water Partnership represented and participated as a member of Committee constituted by Government of Uttar Pradesh. Further, an agreement to establish multi-stakeholder River Rejuvenation Partnership (RRP) was signed on August 25, 2017 between WRG (United International France Corporation (on behalf of 2000 Water Resources Group) and India Water Partnership for following:

- Activities undertaken with involvement of RRP: WAPSCG & 2000 WRG
- District wide stakeholder identification
- Primary data collection
- Hindon work plan and roadmap
- Capacity building & awareness generation among stakeholders
- Technical expertise for basin wide development and execution
- Monitoring & evaluation of impact towards achieving the vision of a healthier river

Divisional Commissioners, Meerut took a role of all these initiatives and supported Hindon Rejuvenation efforts by giving a new name to the existing program as "Hindon Rejuvenation (RRP)" at the 14th Secretariat's Meeting from the Office of Divisional Commissioners, Meerut.

Actions taken under NHI

In 2017

- India Water Partnership (IWP), in collaboration with local stakeholders has facilitated plantation from 31.07.2017 to 08.10.2017 in two districts (Ghazabad and Baghpat).

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Global Water Partnership
India Water Partnership

News Line

A Multi-stakeholder Approach to Rejuvenate Hindon River

Background

A multi-stakeholder approach provides a practical framework to integrate all the different pockets of development into a larger picture for measuring the impact. Multi-stakeholder partnerships involve organizations from different societal sectors working together, sharing risks and combining their unique resources and competencies in ways that can generate and realize value towards shared partnership and individual partner objectives, often through more innovative, more sustainable, more efficient and/or more equitable approaches.

India Water Partnership is working with 2000 Water Resources Group (an innovative public-private civil society platform) since 2015 for Hindon river rejuvenation. The 2000 Water Resources Group and India Water Partnership brought together stakeholders across the Hindon River basin, to develop a collective approach to river rejuvenation. Good practices emerged by State Government, NGOs, Research Organizations, and Citizen Action Groups were recorded and shared with the stakeholders, to integrate all the efforts, actions and best works a holistic approach to rejuvenate Hindon River and its tributaries was felt utmost importance. State government with all stakeholders developed an integrated vision that focus on entire river eco-system across different water user sectors. The Government acknowledged that unless tributaries are cleaned up, the Ganga River basin will not get properly rejuvenated. Since Hindon River basin is one of the most polluted tributaries of River Ganga, effective abatement of pollution and maintaining minimum ecological flow in the Hindon River Basin is of highest priority.

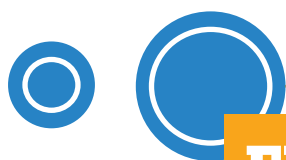
MSP for Ganga/Hindon River Rejuvenation

- Creation of multi-stakeholder platform for rejuvenation of Hindon River and its tributaries

The continuous efforts of stakeholders led by 2000 WRG and IWP persuaded Government to constitute a multi-stakeholder platform. A Ganga Basin management approach is being developed by Government of Uttar Pradesh with the Hindon sub-basin as demonstration area. For this purpose, a multi-stakeholder platform has been established under Government Order (No.41727-5-2018-4642/18) dated 18 February 2019. The MSP secretariat is hosted under the state mission for clean Ganga, with the support of 2000 WRG (Water Resource Group). After the Govt. order MSP steering board was constituted and India Water Partnership has been selected as one of the members in steering board. IWP Vice President is representing as member in the steering board of formation of MSP. An inter-departmental round table workshop about Ganga tributary Management and Hindon Vision Development was organized on 08 April 2019 at Directorate, Urban Bodies and Training Center, Lucknow. The main objective of this meeting was to collect inputs for a vision on starting point for integrated River Basin Management in the Hindon Basin. IWP also provided facilitation to TTC Consultants for organizing interviews and discussions with selected Hindon stakeholders across six districts of UP, for vision document development.

Purpose of MSP

- Basin-wide information sharing, coordination, knowledge exchange and collaboration.
- Develop tangible project proposals to ensure implementation of the Hindon Vision.
- Provide a feedback loop with inputs into the formal government process.



FINANCIAL REPORT

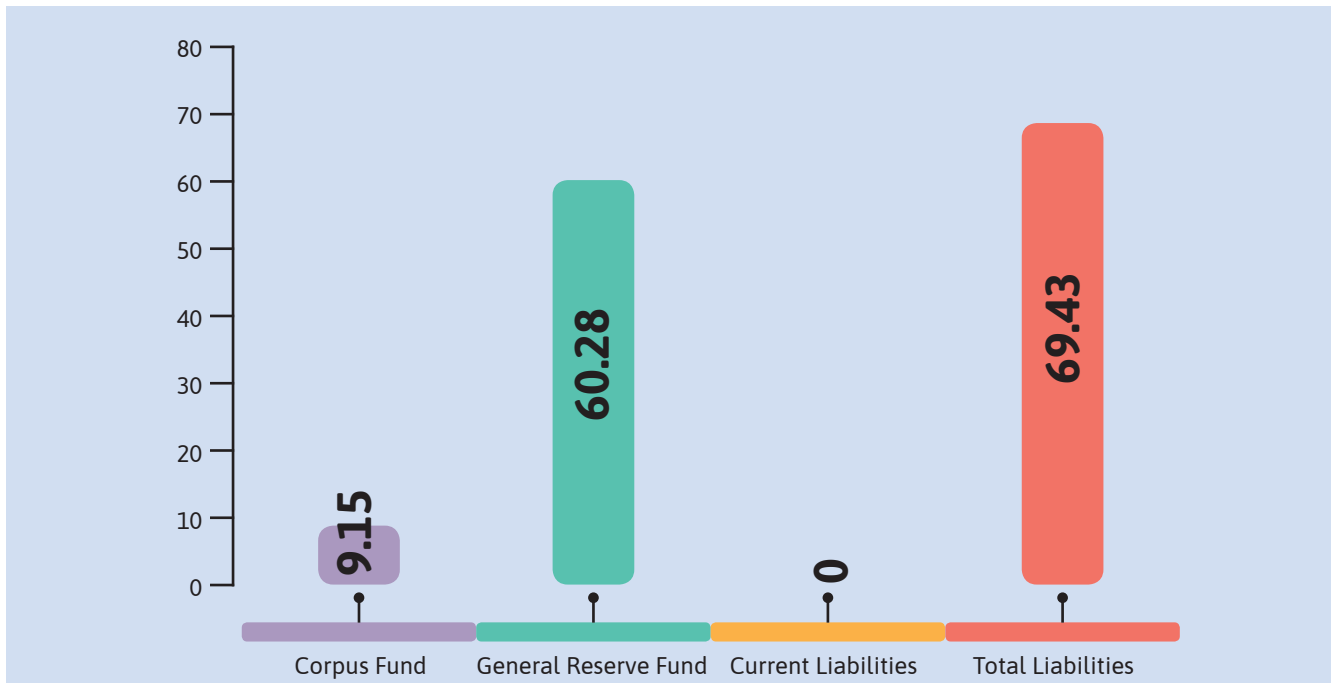
2019-20 Financial Position

Expenses Head	Amount (in Rs Lacs)
Office Running Cost	10.04
Host Institution Fees	1.72
Increasing finance access to women social entrepreneurs for SWE in Telangana	1.83
Capacity Building of Local Urban Bodies on Integrated Urban Water Management in Rajasthan	2.23
Water Champions Youth Fellowship Programme 2019	1.68
Creation of Multi-stakeholders Platform for Hindon River Rejuvenation	1.50
Community resilience to water induced disasters and climate change in river islands of Brahmaputra River Basin, Assam	2.56
Knowledge dissemination Workshop in Guwahati, Assam	1.26
Programme Management and Monitoring & Evaluation	1.15
Board & Annual General Body Meetings	1.29
Mainstreaming National Water Mission by Promoting Community Action for Village Water Security in the shared Gandak Basin	0.39
Preparation of Small Modules on Rapid Urbanization, Drinking Water, Sanitation & Waste Water Management and Dissemination	0.10
Youth Fellowship to Young Master -Water Sector	0.43
Total Expenses	26.18

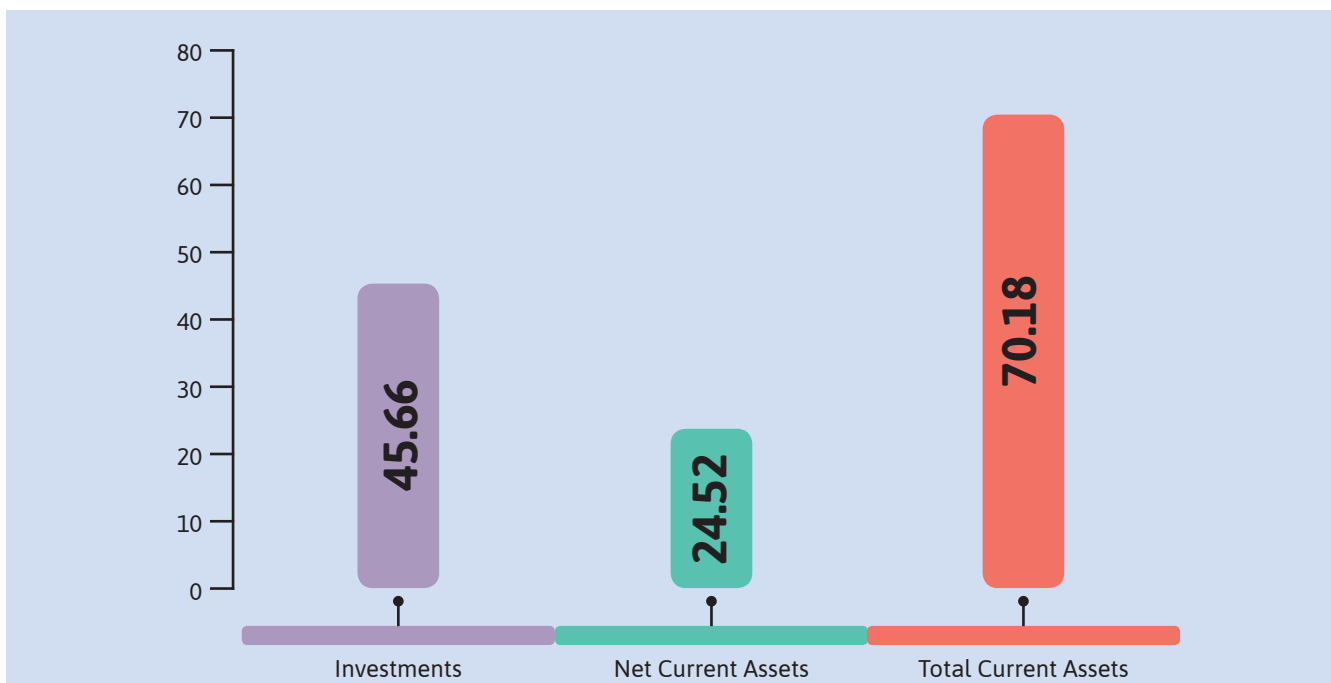
Income	Amount (in Rs Lacs)
CORE Funds	22.97
WACREP Funds	3.58
Annual Membership	0.12
Interest on FD's & Saving Accounts	3.70
Management Cost receipts	1.06
WRG -2030 Hindon Multi Stakeholders Implementation	3.50
Total Income	34.93
Surplus in FY 2019-20	8.75

Statement of Affairs

Liabilities (Rs. Lacs)



Assets (Rs. Lacs)



LIFE PARTNERS

State	Partner Name	State	Partner Name	State	Partner Name
Andhra Pradesh	Rural Integrated and Social Education Society	Delhi	Safe Water Networks, India	Madhya Pradesh	Lake Conservation Authority
	■ Association for Active Service in Rural Areas		■ Society for Development Alternatives		■ Madhya Pradesh Institute of Social Science Research
Assam	AARANYAK		■ Society for Promotion of Wastelands Development		■ NAVDEEP
Bihar	Institute of Environment & Eco. Development		■ Sulabh International Social Service Organisation		■ Shivana Area Water water Partnership
	■ Welfare India		■ Taru Leading Edge	Maharashtra	Eco Needs Foundation
Delhi	Action for Disaster Resilient and Inclusive Development		■ WAPCOS Ltd.		■ Gomukh Environmental Trust for Sustainable Development
	■ Action For Food Production		■ Water Aid (UK) India Liaison Office		■ Grass Root Action & Social Programmes
	■ All India Women's Conference		■ Water Community India		■ Indian Association & Aquatic Biologists
	■ Alternative Futures	Gujarat	■ Project ASBAH		■ Indian Social Welfare Society
	■ Angelique International Limited		Institute of Rural Management, Anand		■ Indian Water Works Association
	■ Central Soil and Material Research Station,		■ N.M. Sadguru Water &Dev Foundation		■ Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd.
	■ Centre for Youth		■ Self Employed Women's Association		■ Pani Parishad
	■ CMSR Foundation	Haryana	Indian Environment Law Organizations		■ Pravara Institute of Research and Education in Natural and Social Sciences
	■ Exhibitions India Pvt. Ltd.		■ PRAGYA		■ S G G S Institute of Engineering and Technology
	■ ICLEI South Asia		■ S.M. Sehgal Foundation		■ Society for Promoting Participative Eco-system Management
	■ Inspire Network for Environment		■ Xplorer Consultancy Services Pvt Ltd		■ Women's Water Forum
	■ Institute for Development Initiatives		■ JS Water Energy Life co. Pvt. Ltd.		■ Yusuf Meherally Centre
	■ Institute for Human Development	Himachal Pradesh	PRAKRITI		■ Yuva Gram Vikas Mandal
	■ Institute for Resource Management and Economic Development	Jammu & Kashmir	South Asian Voluntary Association of Environmentalists	Manipur	Zougam Institute for Community Resources
	■ Institute of Economic Growth		Humanity		Adarsha Seva Sangathan
	■ IPE Global Limited	Jharkhand	Department of Applied Mechanics and Hydraulics	Orissa	Arun Institute of Rural Affairs
	■ Jaguar Overseas Limited		■ National Institute of Advanced Studies		■ Association For Awareness and Welfare Activity For Down-Troddens in Society
	■ Kirloskar Brothers Ltd.	Karnataka	■ SSJV Projects Pvt. Ltd.		
	■ Linqoa Consulting Partners		■ Samyuktha		
	■ Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd	Kerala	Institute of Regional Analysis		
	■ Mr. S.C. Jain (Individual Partner)	Madhya Pradesh			

State	Partner Name
Orissa	Association for Rural Area Social Modification, Improvement and Nestling Banki Anchalika Adibasi Harijan Kalyana Parisad Grmaya Bikash Manch Institute for Rural Development and Planning Narichetna Mahila Institute SADHANA Society For Rural Advancement And Democratic Humanitarian Action Society for Women Action Development The CHETANA UDYAMA
Punjab	Guru Arjun Dev Institute of Development Studies
Rajasthan	Centre for Environment and Development Studies Indian Institute of Rural Management Institute of Development Studies Jheel Sanrakshan Samiti
Tamil Nadu	DHAN Foundation Human Formation Organisation

State	Partner Name
Tamil Nadu	Terra Firma Mr. G. Bhaskar (Individual Partner)
Telengana	Society for Participatory Development Indian Association of Aquatic Biologists Institute of Resource Development and Social Management Sarvodaya Youth Organization WORLD
Uttar Pradesh	Aroh Foundation Empowering People for Development International Development Centre Foundation Janhit Foundation NEER Foundation Sharda University Retas Enviro Solutions Pvt. Ltd.
Uttarakhand	Indian Association of Hydrologists, Indian Water Resources Society Pan Himalayan Grassroots Development Foundation
West Bengal	Akshaynagar Pallisri Sangha

State	Partner Name
West Bengal	Kalyani Institute for Study, Planning and Action for Rural Change Nutanhat Development Society Tafa Palli Milani Sangha Shatmonisha Santi Sangha

ANNUAL PARTNERS

State	Partner Name
Andhra Pradesh	Share The Vision Voluntary Organisation Deva Organization Rural Development Society
Haryana	JS Water Energy Life co. Pvt. Ltd. Mr. Vikas Pathak (Individual Partner)
Uttar Pradesh	Shramik Bharti Green India Corporation Tree Craze Foundation



NEW MEMBERS JOINED IWP

J S Water Energy Life Co. Pvt. Ltd., Haryana

J S Water Energy Life Co. Pvt. Ltd, a Company based in Udyog Vihar, Gurugram, Haryana is engaged in bio-remediation of stressed water bodies dealing in 3 specific domain viz; bio-remediation, fish & prawn culture, agriculture and the product line constitutes of: 1. Nualgi Lakes/Ponds, Nualgi STP/ETP, Nualgi Rivers for bio-remediation of water bodies, 2. Nualgi Aqua for fish and prawn culture; and, 3. Nualgi foliar which is nutrients for plants (substitute for harmful fertilizers).

Retas Enviro Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Uttar Pradesh

The Retas Enviro Solutions Pvt. Ltd. located in NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh is promoting water conservation by the means of rain water harvesting structures in areas of its operation.

OUR PROJECT PARTNERS IN 2019-20

We thank our partners for their unstinting support in carrying out our project activities successfully



STRATEGIC PARTNER - 2030 Water Resources Group



SOCIAL MEDIA



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INDIA WATER PARTNERSHIP (IWP)

76-C, Sector- 18, Institutional Area Gurgaon 122 015 (Haryana)

T: (+91-124) 234 8022 (D); (+91-124) 2399421,

Extn: 1403 & 1421 F: (+91-124) 239 7392

E: iwpneer@gmail.com; veena@cwp-india.org

www.cwp-india.org