



IWP Newsletter

India Water Partnership (IWP)
Newsletter (May to August, 2020)

Foreword

In an effort to acquaint the readers of the recent developments and major tasks undertaken by India Water Partnership, we bring to you the second newsletter of the year 2020.

The current issue of the IWP newsletter highlights the activities that IWP undertook in the months between May and August, 2020. While most of the meetings and discussions were held online, some dialogues and consultations were held on ground when the lock down was relaxed. The issue also covers various training sessions that the IWP staff undertook to hone their skills and capabilities to effectively work amid the pandemic.

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Core Activities

I. The Water Champions Youth Fellowship Program 2020:

The Water Champions Youth Fellowship-2020 aims at empowering youth by providing relevant and comprehensive work experience in water sector. IWP is undertaking this activity in collaboration with one of its network partners, Centre for Youth (C4Y). The fellowship will induce young students to enhance their understanding on India's water concerns. Due to the lock down imposed by the Government of India because of CoVID-19, C4Y and IWP team decided to launch this fellowship through online platform and now converted into virtual fellowship. During their virtual placement, the fellows will work on different Water Smart Solutions projects based on the secondary information and enriching experience of the partner organizations to which they will be attached. While the process of planning the flow of activities, designing of brochure started in the month of February, 2020 the program picked momentum in the latter half of May, 2020 when applications were sent out to universities, colleges and academic institutions, to partner organizations who would host the fellows and to the experts to become a part of the jury panel. The next step of the process was completed on June 15, 2020 with the close of the online application portal. Around 70 applications from graduate and postgraduate students were received from 10 universities, academic institutions and colleges in Delhi-NCR. 45 shortlisted students were interviewed on 30th June and 1st July, 2020 by a jury panel of eleven eminent experts drawn from various organizations. Er. Avinash C. Tyagi, Vice President-IWP, who has been associated with the program since inception (2019), was also a part of this panel. The interview was chaired by Shri Girraj Goyal, Director - IEC, Department of WR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India. Out of 45 students interviewed, 13 students were finally selected to form Cohort-02

THE ORIENTATION WORKSHOP:

A three days Online Orientation Workshop was jointly organized by IWP & C4Y from July 13th - 15th, 2020. The orientation workshop along with the 13 sessions, spread over 25 hours was carefully

designed to give the fellows a preview into the water sector and related issues in the country before they actually embark on their journeys to work with the organizations dealing with water and allied sectors. Shri U. P. Singh, I.A.S. Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India was the Chief Guest on this occasion who inaugurated this virtual ceremony and enlightened the fellows with his rich experience about water sector in India. This workshop was organized for the young students who were selected as fellows of Cohort 2.0. The virtual workshop focused on diverse range of issues in the water sector, specifically on the



Shri U.P. Singh, I.A.S., Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti at the Online Orientation Workshop along with other panelists

thematic areas namely, access to safe drinking water, water security and climate change, river rejuvenation and tributary management, water literacy through digital media, water security and availability amid COVID-19, water efficient agriculture management, groundwater conservation and rainwater harvesting, water policies and governance. Water literacy, communication, blog writing, social media and documentation were also the thrust areas of the workshop.

On completion of the orientation workshop, the 13 selected fellows were placed in partner organizations. The first webinar to map the progress of the fellowship program was organized on 28th August, 2020 where the fellows, their mentors and head of the organizations were invited to share their experience and the work done so far.



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2. Mainstreaming National Water Mission by promoting Community Action for Village Water Security in the shared Gandak Basin

IWP is undertaking this activity in collaboration with one of its network partners Indian Environment Law Organization (IELO). Before starting the field work a Skype meeting was organized by IELO on 15th June, 2020. Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary-cum Country Coordinator and Ms. Sudha Kumari, Research Associate, IWP attended this meeting with IELO and its associate local partner; Samagra Sikshan Evam Vikas Sansthan (SSEVS), Bettiah, Bihar to discuss the village level water cooperation between Bihar and Nepal. During the meeting, the current situation and challenges of the villages located in the adjoining border areas were discussed. Water is the main issue for people of the project area because the area is rocky and bore well and dug well cannot be created in these areas so they have to depend on the Pandai River stream water which comes from upper villages of Nepal located at border to the lower villages of West Champaran District of Bihar.



In summer the upper villages stop the water for their use therefore the lower villages cannot get water. Although Har Ghar Nal ka Jal Yojana (Piped Water Supply in every House Program) has already been implemented by Bihar Govt. in these areas but as the area is rocky, the Yojana is not successful here. So to create the awareness in these villages, suggestions were given by SSEVS to conduct 2-3 small meetings in each villages and a baseline survey was also suggested by IWP during the discussion. Moving forward, a dialogue was organized by SSEVS on 29th June, 2020 in order to build capacity of the villagers



FDG held on 31.08.2020 at Khairatiya

on various water issues. The dialogue focused on water cooperation among the both end users. In this dialogue, Mr. Swapan Joshi, a known environmentalist was also invited to deliver a talk. This resulted into the capacity orientation and sensitization of stakeholders present in the Meeting. In the months of July-August, the two planned activities were undertaken with limitations due to COVID-19 and severe floods in Gandak River and its impact on the transit at the Indo-Nepal open border. The activities undertaken were; (i) NGOs engagement with communities of the project villages; (ii) FGDs by the local Partner NGO in the villages to understand the current scenario.

Accordingly, the field visits were made by the IELO local NGO; SSEVS, Bettiah and their representatives after the easing of the lockdown and having FGDs towards organizing the Gram Shivir with trans-boundary cooperation. On the visits, the villagers informed about the many changes at the ground level in a span of a year and recent developments of piped water (Nal-Jal) Scheme of the State Government.



The overhead water tank in the Bhiknathodi village under the 'Har Ghar Nal Ka Jal'

3. Preparation of Small Modules on Rapid Urbanization, Drinking Water, Sanitation and Waste Water Management and organize Training session for Diverse Stakeholders and Dissemination through Mass Media and Social Media

WP is undertaking this activity in collaboration with one of its network partners; Jheel Sanrakshan Samiti (Lake Conservation Society). The project is aimed to interact with all stakeholders and wider community on water centric, Eco-sensitive urban planning and water and waste water management. Such training sessions, interaction and dissemination would be reflected in governmental policies and ensure participation of citizens which in turn ensure the planned and water centric urban and peri-urban development. In July, 2020 the experts associated with the project regularly interacted with each other. The team of experts finalized the following topics to be included in the modules:

- Redefining urban planning: water centric urban planning development.
- Peri urban as resource base.
- Water conservation techniques in urban and peri-urban areas
- Eco technological treatment of waste water.
- Every house - eco house.
- Surface and ground water management in urban areas.
- Urban Planning and Development in the context of pandemics.
- Role of Regulatory bodies in peri urbanization.
- Promotion of Water Conservation method in communities to develop entrepreneurial mindset.

In this context, a workshop on the topic, "Urban Planning and Development in the context of pandemics" was organized on 19th July 2020, wherein the experts discussed widely on the subject "CoVid-19 and Smart City Projects: redefining objectives and works. In order to make cities and towns in Udaipur climate friendly, clean, healthy and beautiful a second dialogue was organized in the month of August 2020 by Lake Conservation Society, Lake Mitra Institute and Gandhi Manav Kalyan Samiti on "Water and Forest Focused Urban Development" under the aegis of India Water Partnership. Dr. Anil



Mehta said that policy makers, government agencies and common citizens will have to work together for water - centric urban development. In August, 2020 It was decided to add the issue of Urban drainage also in the module for which a consultation on Peri Urban as Resource Base was held on 2nd August 2020 with the experts and key stakeholders. Dr. Anil Mehta, Principal Vidya Bhawan Polytechnic, shared the basic idea and then deliberations were made. Another consultation and dialogue with stakeholders and experts on Redefining Urban planning: Water Centric Urban Planning Development was held on 23rd August 2020. The town planning advisor of the Government of Rajasthan, Mr. H S Sancheti shared the important aspects of water centric planning and explained the concept. The dialogue and consultation

also discussed the basic concepts of urbanization which is useful for capacity building of the common stakeholders. Further, a dialogue and consultation on **Every House - Eco House** with the stakeholders and the experts was held on 31st August 2020. The basic components of Green buildings were identified;

and how it helps in healthy, joyful and efficient life was deliberated. The participants referred various citations and explained the concept and dimensions of green buildings. The discussion was well taken up by the mass media for education and capacity building of citizens and other stakeholders.

4. Stakeholder Consultation on Monitoring Framework for Sustainable Development Goal 13 (Climate Change) in Madhya Pradesh

IWP is undertaking this activity with the technical support from its partner, IPE Global. As part of this activity, IPE Global will organize a stakeholders' consultation to discuss on the monitoring framework for the SDG - 13, climate actions in Madhya Pradesh. The consultation will be organized in partnership with State Knowledge Management Centre on Climate Change, EPCO, state nodal agency on climate change, Government of Madhya Pradesh with the participation of all relevant stakeholders for seeking their inputs and suggestions to finalize the proposed monitoring framework. As part of the process of developing a monitoring framework for the SDG - 13 and finalization of State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC), the Stakeholder Consultation webinar is proposed to be organized on 20th October, 2020. The webinar is aimed at bringing together all the stakeholders to have detailed discussions on a monitoring framework for the SDG 2030 and Madhya Pradesh State Action Plan on Climate Change (MPSAPCC).

OBJECTIVES OF CONSULTATION

The objectives of the webinar are as follows:-

1. To share and discuss synergies between SDGs and Madhya Pradesh State Action Plan on Climate Change.

2. To capture and incorporate inputs, feedback and recommendations of all the stakeholders on the proposed framework.
3. Strengthen partnership among all the project stakeholders.
4. Agreement on framework for the next steps and timeline.

PROPOSED FRAMEWORK FOR SDG AND SAPCC INTEGRATION

M&E Framework will use a mixed design that combines elements of both SDGs and SAPCCs frameworks. The following types of indicators will be selected for the M&E Framework for SAPCC and SDG monitoring in Madhya Pradesh.

•**Generic indicators:** Comprising the outreach (area, communities and people addressed) and indicators on policy, capacities, infrastructure and knowledge management which are cross sectoral in nature. These set of indicators would help in understanding the climate preparedness of the respective state.

•**Sectoral indicators:** Comprising state-specific indicators for monitoring the climate sensitive sectors of Water, Forestry and Biodiversity, Agriculture and Livestock, Renewable Energy and Urban Planning and Disaster Risk Reduction.

5. Stakeholder Mapping and Development of GIS Platform to support decision making for Tributaries Management in Hindon River basin

IWP is undertaking this activity in collaboration with one of its network partners, Tree Craze Foundation. Through this activity, a GIS platform will be developed as decision support system for Multi-stakeholder Platform (MSP) for Hindon & Ganga

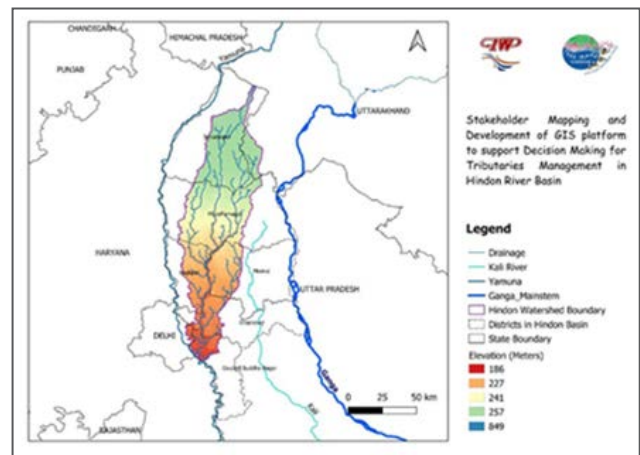
Tributary Management. The overall objective of the activity is to collate all available GIS data, map the key stakeholders, and key features of Hindon Basin to develop a decision support system. IWP organized a conference call with Tree Craze Foundation and

GIC India for stakeholder mapping and awareness generation workshop for school children through GIS platform. Desk studies to identify the GIS data were initiated in the month of June, 2020.

In July 2020, a precise boundary of the study area has been derived viz. the Hindon Basin and all the available datasets were mapped in Quantum GIS. Hydrological analysis is completed for Hindon River, using 30 metre resolution SRTM data. The resultant data include flow direction, flow accumulation, stream network, and watershed boundary. The villages were mapped along the entire stretch of Hindon River and its tributaries along with the estimates of MSW generated by them (2019). Most of the STPs and CETPs were found to be concentrated in the Ghaziabad district and only one STP is installed in Saharanpur district. In Meerut District, majority of the drains carrying sewage meets Kali River. In Baghpat district, no STP is installed and not even proposed, hence all the sewage generated from the district is discharged untreated into the Hindon River. During the study, 110 wetlands were identified in the Hindon Basin (78 on the Hindon mainstream from Saharanpur to Ghaziabad 15 on Krishna River, and 17 on Kali-west). An online meeting through Google Meet was organized on 28th July, 2020 with Tree Craze Foundation, 2030 Water Resources Group

Consultant Ms. Pallavi Vishnoi and her expert team members from Geovale and Dr. Umar Saif from GIC India to seek support from Geovale and their expert GIS team members to contribute for the ongoing activity.

The overall objective of this meeting was to understand the earlier study done by Geovale team in Hindon River basin and how we can collaborate with them and elaborate and generate the resources to collate all available GIS data, map the key stakeholders, and key features of Hindon Basin to develop a decision support system for Multi Stakeholders Platform (MSP) for the River Hindon Basin. The meeting was concluded with the suggestions for the further collaboration to strengthen this alliance.



Online Training Sessions

1. Training on Organizing Efficient & Effective Virtual Meetings on 18th -19th June, 2020:

Global Water Partnership (GWP) - SEA Regional Office organized an online training to help build the capacity of Country Water Partnerships (CWPs) and all GWP partners for those who were interested to understand more on how to organize efficient and effective virtual meetings. This two days online training was conducted on June 18 and 19, 2020 in the most effective and efficient way. The training was designed and organized to build the capacity of CWPs and GWP on how to design, prepare, manage and evaluate virtual meetings using Zoom platform. The targeted participants were from CWPs and

GWP partners in South East Asia and South Asia region. Around 25 participants from GWP South Asia and South East Asia region attended this training. From IWP Sudha Kumari, Research Associate and Rahul Naithani, Communication Officer attended the training session. The lead trainer was Mr. Fany Wedahuditama, Regional Coordinator of GWP SEA and the co-trainer was Adhitya Wirayasa, Knowledge Management and Communication Officer of GWP-SEA. The training was conducted through online video conference tools (Zoom).

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2. IWP Staff Participation in virtual engagement training from 15th to 17th July, 2020.



Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary, IWP along with the staff attending the virtual engagement training organised by GWP.

Global Water Partnership (GWP) conducted virtual engagement training through zoom and interpretation from 15th - 17th July, 2020 to support Country Water Partnerships (CWP) to how to organize meetings / workshops / conference through virtual platform.

The training was based on two sessions:

- Building Blocks of virtual events, with a focus on design (purpose - process - tools - results).
- Practical aspects of designing a virtual event (agenda, roles, tools, checklist) and how to efficiently engage participants (tools and techniques).

In the two day session the participants were taught how to use various features such as breakout sessions, whiteboard, polling translation options to make virtual meetings more conducive and efficient. IWP staff comprising of Dr. Veena Khanduri, ES cum Country Coordinator, Mr. Mangla Rai, Research Associate, Ms. Sushma Sharma, Accounts Officer, Ms. Sudha Kumari, Research Associate and Mr. Rahul Naithani, Communication Officer attended the Training.

3. Training on GST attended by Finance Officer IWP on 23rd July, 2020

A webinar and virtual training session organized by Tele solution on how to generate ranges of invoices with multiple items and their respective GST rates was attended by IWP Accounts Officer on 23rd July, 2020 from 12.00 p.m. to 2.00 p.m. The main discussions were based on the topics such as how to create a company to enable the GST features, how to generate ledgers so that it would be able to calculate GST automatically while generating invoice

etc. Several examples were used to make participants clearly understand the concepts. The main learning from the webinar was the use of Tally 9 ERP in the generation of GSTR-1, GSTR-3B and GSTR-4- which are the different forms of the GST return. It automatically collects all the data & performs a validation check to make sure the return is error free. This webinar was very helpful in understanding the GST and its features on tally.

4. Online Consultation on Principles to Address Water Related Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) under the COVID-19 Pandemic held on 30th July, 2020.

While the world faces dire consequences of the COVID- 19 pandemic, the threats of water-related disasters remain as imminent now as before CoVid-19. Availability of safe water has become an issue of concern in the whole world. Situations are complex and overwhelming in areas affected by both disasters and pandemics. Thus, implementation of DRR strategies and pre-emptive actions that factor

in the current pandemic are needed to protect areas impacted by water-related disasters. Keeping the above in mind the High-level Experts and Leaders Panel on Water and Disasters (HELP) launched the 'Draft Principles on Investment and Financing for Water Related Disaster Risk Reduction' at 8th World Water Forum in 2018 in Brazil. The principles offer practical advice to decision makers, practitioners,

and all stakeholders on how to prepare and respond to avoid magnified impacts due to co-occurring disasters, including in the context of COVID-19. The Global Water Partnership (GWP) along with the HELP and with support from the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) organized an online consultation on 30th July, 2020 for the Asian Country Water Partnerships of Global Water Partnership - China, Central Asia and Caucasus, South Asia and South East Asia. Nearly 90 participants from Asia representing institutions that work with and influence investment and financing for water-related disaster and pandemic efforts participated in the consultation.

The purpose of this consultation was to discuss and gain insights on how to practically implement key suggestions proposed in the HELP Principle to Address Water-related Disaster Risk Reduction under Covid-19 Pandemic as the Asian region then faced the monsoon season.

The consultation was attended by five GWP and IWP members from India - Mr. Yugandhar Mandavkar, Executive Secretary, GRASP, Dr. N. B. Mazumdar, Hon. Chairman of Sulabh International Academy

of Environmental Sanitation and Public Health, Dr. Ravinder Kaur, Regional Council Member, GWP South Asia & Principal Scientist at Water Technology Centre, Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), Er. Avinash C. Tyagi, Vice President, IWP and Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary-cum -Country Coordinator of IWP.

Prof. Santosh Kumar, Head - Governance, Public Policy and Inclusive Development Department, National Institute for Disaster Management, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India presented his views on Water-related DRR during Covid-19 in the Indian context. Prof. Kumar said that while India has a 70% recovery rate for Covid-19 patients, an informed and flexible risk management model needs to be developed to tackle the pandemic and water induced disasters simultaneously. He said that there must be collaboration between regional and sub-regional agencies and the local government bodies should be strengthened to deal with the disasters along with the support of Civil Bodies and NGOs. He added that financial resilience must be developed by altering the monetary and fiscal policies and redesigning the disaster response protocols.

Meetings/ Webinars

1. Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) for Hindon & Ganga Tributary Rejuvenation Working Group Meeting: Agricultural Water Management on 8th May, 2020

In continuation of Water Quantity Management Meeting held in the month of April, 2020 the first working Group Agricultural Water Management meeting was held on 8th May, 2020 through WebEx. The main objectives of the meeting were:

- Identifying relevant stakeholders and potential areas of intervention in Agricultural Water Management in the Hindon Basin;
- Discussing the issues, challenges, best practices and successful models for developing effective Agriculture Water Management programs.

The meeting was chaired by Department of Agriculture, Government of Uttar Pradesh and convened by Multi-Stakeholders Platform (MSP) Secretariat 2030 WRG. The Task Force members who attended this meeting were INTACH; SWARA (GoUP); ITC Uttar Pradesh; Mawana Sugars, Meerut; IISR; NABARD; Uttar Pradesh State Bio Energy Development Board and India Water Partnership. Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary -cum- Country Coordinator, IWP suggested an integrated approach to sensitize the farmer groups for water conservation practices.



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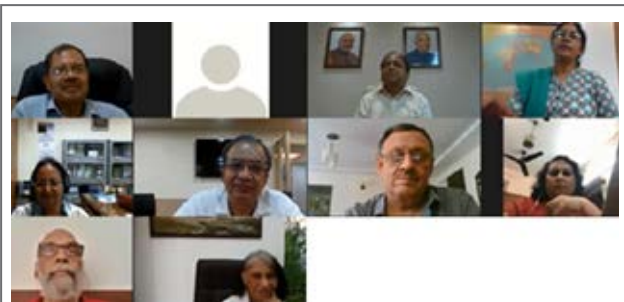
2. Webinar on Water Conservation, livelihood and Sustainable development organized by the GPGC and the Government of Uttarakhand on 5th June, 2020

On the occasion of World Environment Day - 5th June, 2020, the Government PG College Maldevta (Raipur) Dehradun in collaboration with Government of Uttarakhand organised an international webinar on "Strengthening the Economy of Rural India through Sustainable Fisheries and Agriculture in COVID Era". The Chief Guest of the webinar was Shri Subodh Uniyal Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture (Govt. of Uttarakhand) and Guest of Honour was Dr. R. Dobhal, FNASc, DG, and UCOST. Total number of participants who attended the webinar was approx. 150. The inaugural session was addressed by the Chief Guest. Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary-cum-Country Coordinator, IWP participated as a panelist and presented her views on water conservation, livelihood and sustainable future and also discussed about the current water scenario and its importance for life.



https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/ecosystem-concept-flat-style_2739699.htm#page=3&query=Water+Conservation&position=13

3. 43rd Board of Governors Meeting of IWP held on 21st August, 2020 through Zoom Video Conference



IWP Board Members at the 43rd Board of Governors Meeting

The 43rd Board of Governors Meeting of IWP was held on-line through Zoom on 21st August, 2020 under the Chairmanship of Mr. R K Gupta, President, IWP. In the meeting, a one minute silence was observed to pay homage to late Dr. K A Haq, former Chair, GWP South Asia and the members welcomed Dr. Nilufa Islam, new Chair of GWP-South Asia. Progress report of IWP activities from the period January-July, 2020 was presented. Facilitation

of IWP for submission of IWRM data on SDG 6.5.1 to United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) by India's Focal Point and facilitation of IWP for GWP Water Change Makers Award-2020 was reported. The Board appreciated efforts of IWP for mobilizing maximum submission of good stories from India for GWP Water Change Makers Award-2020 thus making IWP eligible to bag an award of Euro 1000. Matters relating to governance issues were discussed and important approvals obtained.



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