

No. W-11042/16/2010-Water
Government of India
Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation

8th Floor, Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodi Road,
New Delhi – 110 003

Dated the November 23, 2011

To

**The Principal Secretaries / Secretaries
In-charge of Rural Water Supply
Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra, Punjab, Karnataka,
Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu , Gujarat & Rajasthan**

Subject : National Drinking Water Security Pilot Projects in Over-Exploited Blocks

Sir,

1. The launch workshop of the National Drinking Water Security Pilot Projects in Over-Exploited Blocks was held in Pune, Maharashtra on 9-10th September, 2011.
2. The Proceedings of Workshop are enclosed (Annexure 3) for perusal.
3. The following actions need to be taken up by your State, as a follow up to the workshop:

<u>Action</u>	<u>Time Line</u>
(a) Selection of Support Organizations (If necessary, involving State Level Agencies like IIMs, reputed Management Institutions / Universities, etc.)	30/12/2011
(b) Putting together a team with State, District and Block Level representatives for the Pilot project	30/12/2011
(c) District-level meetings / workshops involving all Stakeholders (both official and non-official Including PRIs).	30/12/2011

4. The names of Nodal Officers who shall be handling the Pilot Projects at the MDWS and at WSP, for the support of the States are placed at Annexure (1).

The names of Nodal Officers of each State as informed by the State are at Annexure (2). In case the State has identified some other Nodal Officer, the same may please be communicated to this office and WSP urgently.

5. It is requested that urgent action be taken in moving the process forward as per the time schedule.
6. It is reiterated that preparation of the Pilot Projects, is a part of the Support Activities under NRDWP.

Yours faithfully,

Encl : As above


(Sujoy Mojumdar)
Director
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Copy to:

1. All Engineers-in-Chief in charge of Rural water Supply in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra, Punjab, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu , Gujarat & Rajasthan
2. Mr Juan Costain, Team leader, WSP SA
3. Copy to TD NIC for hosting on website

Launch Workshop on National Drinking Water Security Pilot Projects in Over-Exploited Blocks

September 9-10, 2011, Pune, Maharashtra

Workshop Proceedings

In order to gain knowledge and experience on planning and executing drinking water security approaches the MDWS, in collaboration with 10 states, has decided to pilot drinking water security in 15 over exploited blocks. A workshop had been organized at Pune on 9th and 10th September to launch the pilots. Dr. Mihir Shah, Member Planning Commission, GoI was the chief guest. Mr. Navin Kumar, Secretary MDWS, and Mr T.M. Vijaya Bhaskar, Joint Secretary MDWS guided the workshop proceedings. Senior officers and elected representatives from the pilot states/ districts/ blocks actively participated in the workshop. Water and Sanitation Program (WSP) assisted MDWS in the design and management of the workshop. A brief note on the workshop proceedings is given below.

Session-1: Inaugural Session

Mr. T. M. Vijay Bhaskar, Joint Secretary, MDWS, Govt. of India, welcomed the participants and briefed the participants on the strategy, approach and the details of the pilot program on "Achieving Drinking Water Security through Convergence and Participatory Integrated Water Management". He explained that the pilot program envisages adopting a three-pronged approach of

- i. Implementing source sustainability measures through convergence with MGNREGS, Integrated Water Resources Management Program, Participatory Watershed Development Program and National Rural Drinking Water Program
- ii. Participatory Integrated Water Resource Management led by GPs
- iii. Preparation of Drinking Water Security plans by GPs.

He shared the details about the concept and various steps involved in designing and executing the pilots.

Mr. Navin Kumar, Secretary MDWS, Govt. of India stressed on the importance of addressing the Water Security issue by informing the participants on the changes observed in per capita water availability since last five to six decades. The primary reason, as explained, is increasing population, increasing urbanization and competition of water use for different purposes. Overall economic and social development in the country has also raised people's aspirations reflecting the same in demands for higher level service delivery. The National Strategic Plan reflects the same and has identified five key strategic areas that need to be addressed to reach this high level of service delivery.

These are:

- Enable participatory planning and implementation including source protection
- Water quality management
- Sustainable service delivery
- Strengthening decentralization, and
- Building professional capacity at all levels.

He explained that the concept of water security is all encompassing and working on the same will result in achieving higher level of service delivery as well as sustainability. The Pilot Program shall provide a testing ground and shall generate learning that will be useful for scaling up the approach to the entire country.

It was explained that the current approaches have been useful to increase access to large areas; however there is a need now to re-orient the front line officers in PHEDs and other departments to take up a facilitation role. Critical actions that need to be planned include :-

- Active networking with other departments especially, Rural Development Dept, Water Resource Dept and Agriculture Dept for developing plans and implementing the same in an integrated manner.(Mere coordination is not enough and integration should be aimed at)
- Strengthening local governments and community institutions. He explained that the Ministry has developed a 'Management Devolution Index' to measure the extent of devolution in each state and aims at incentivize the same. The details were explained by the Joint Secretary.

Shri Kumar informed about the plan of making water quality standards mandatory and its phase-wise implementation. The need for innovative approaches for this critical area was emphasized in the address.

Mr. Christopher Juan Costain, Regional Team Leader, WSP, at the outset emphasized the need to ensure gender balance in ensuring quality services. He informed that India has high ground water dependency for multiple uses and the same is increasing which poses threat to the water sector. The issue of availability of safe water is coupled with problems of water quality where half of the water supply reportedly has quality problems as per the WHO standards. Agriculture is one of the major consumers of ground water. Modernization has put forth new and intensive demands on water use. All these factors together signify the need of addressing water security issue. The solution cannot be found in isolation by a single sector and/or by a group of stakeholders. The same needs to be addressed in a holistic manner by involving the users and empowering them to plan for water use to meet the needs of agriculture, drinking water, sanitation, and industry. The critical challenge is to be build "ownership" among users to manage water resources effectively.

The success of the pilots will be in creating awareness among stakeholders not only for understanding the challenges of water security but confirming that they not only know the

problem; they also have the plan to address the challenge. The situation then will be transformed to "I know the issues and I have a plan to address the same."

The Key Note Address by Dr. Mihir Shah, Member, Planning Commission, Govt. of India started with sharing of significance attached to the initiative. He enumerated the learning from 11th Plan and the focus areas of the proposed 12th Plan. The assessment and review of 11th Plan implementation has identified "U without Q syndrome" i.e. 'Universalization of access without Quality'. The 12th plan aims to address this critical aspect by focusing on:

- Overall water resources management (the pilots are a right step in this direction)
- Service delivery –not just infrastructure creation
- Multi-disciplinary and multi-stakeholder approach, and
- Appropriate decentralization

Dr. Shah informed that the Planning Commission is also working on creating an appropriate legal and institutional framework for water resources management. The proposed legislations will include (i) a new Ground Water law to address issues of nature and ownership of ground water resource, (ii) Water Resources Regulatory law to address conflicts arising due to multiple uses and users, and (iii) National Water Framework law to support new changes

Dr. Shah pointed out the need of gearing to address financial resource constraints and positioning of WATSAN programs as overall health improvement activity, as more resources will be made available to health and education sectors. He emphasized that though subsidies are essential, subsidy models cannot provide long term solutions and thus credit based inputs to meet WATSAN needs should be planned. The social capital developed through large SHG network needs to be integrated with WATSAN through NRLM.

He observed that majority of government programs suffer from constraints relating to improving quality, integrating soft elements like capacity building, social development, use of latest advancements of technology and sound monitoring systems. Investments by donors in these areas can bring in cutting edge changes in effectiveness of the programs.

Dr. Shah pointed out the critical elements for the pilot initiative. These included

- Mapping of aquifers – creating a database of water resource to work out strategies for managing scarce resource
- Creation of a fund at Gram Panchayat level for sustainability measures
- Integration of sanitation as an important component during planning for water security
- Working towards building financial sustainability by dovetailing resources from various programs and planning and introduction of credit support for WATSAN interventions through NRLM

Dr. Shah promised all the support for the Planning Commission for the pilots and wished the pilots all the best.

Session II - Case Study Session

The second session started with an over arching presentation by Mr. JVR Murty, Water Institutions Development Specialist, WSP highlighting the current situation with respect to RWSS services in the country, the key areas of concern and ways to address the same. A few experts from various resource organizations shared their experiences from the ground and provided inputs to various aspects of drinking water security planning. The cases were:

-Water budgeting and local water use regulation by community from Andhra Pradesh Farmers Managed Groundwater Systems (APFAGMS) project in Andhra Pradesh. The case was presented by Dr. Konda Reddy from APFAGMS.

-Community management of defined aquifers- pilot experiences from Maharashtra. The case was presented by Dr. Umrikar from GSDA, Government of Maharashtra

-Use of impounding reservoirs to ensure drinking water security –experiences from the World Bank funded RWSS project (Jal Nirmal) in Karnataka presented by Mr. R.P. Kulkarni, Dy. Project Director, Government of Karnataka

-Community managed drinking water security in drought prone areas –experiences from Madhya Pradesh, presented by Dr. Indira Khurana, Water Aid.

Session III- Open Discussion and Agreement on Next Steps

The post lunch session was devoted to open interaction and discussion with participants. Dr. Shah, Mr. Navin Kumar and Mr. Vijay Bhaskar clarified a number of doubts raised by the participants. The participants made a number of well thought suggestions. The key suggestions were

Suggestions on implementation strategies as well as interventions to be included in the pilots covered the following points.

- Inclusion of Sanitation in the villages covered as an important component of the pilots.
- "Water Security" needs to be defined in detail. This can include -house water connections to all, planning for proper storage, supply of safe drinking water, sanitation covering both bath and toilet, along with other factors.
- Defining standards of service – both at policy level as well as in consultation with community members at village level
- Major thrust needs to be laid on promoting transparency and integrating specific interventions for this purpose.
- Criteria for selection of support organizations.
- Need of planning state specific interventions and approach based on the guiding principles defined for the pilot program
- Need of integrating learning from the experience of "Pani Panchayat" started in Maharashtra. Experience covers mechanisms for water sharing, equitable distribution and delinking of land and water

- Thrust on capacity building of SO(NGOs) as well as government departments to plan and implement community managed interventions (integration of actions and process similar to experience of WASMO, Gujarat)
- DWSC to include members from Agriculture, Irrigation, Ground Water Departments along with Health, Women and Child Welfare and Education Dept
- Providing clarity on Basin as a unit of interventions and institutional arrangement/relationships with administrative boundaries to implementation teams
- Priority to be given to Irrigation for livelihoods in water use planning at village level

Mr. Navin Kumar, Secretary, MDWS, Govt. of India outlined the next steps to further the implementation of pilots.

The following action points, and timelines for the states were discussed for immediate action and agreed upon in the workshop.

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|---|------------------------|
| 1. Selection of SOs (NGOs) | December 30, 2011. |
| 2. District Level Meetings | December 30, 2011 |
| 3. Exposure visit of staff (including block level) to APFAMGS (AP) and Aquifer Management Project (Maharashtra) | As suitable, in groups |

It was decided that MoDWS, and WSP will take the lead in developing a training module for the pilot teams, and this training module will be completed by 31.01.2012

Mr. Sujoy Majumdar, Director, MDWS thanked all the dignitaries, participants and organizers. Towards, the end, he requested the states to follow the timeline and agreed to provide support by sending further guidelines for selection of NGOs as well as blocks, based on discussion during the workshop. He requested the support of the technical Support Agency for this purpose.

Nodal officer for the Pilot Projects from Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Govt of India.

Sr. No.	State	Name	Designation	Tele No. Mobile	Tele No. Office	Email
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Nodal officers for the Pilot Projects from WSP

Sr. No.	States	Name	Designation	Tele No. Mobile	Tele No. Office	Email
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2	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu	Mr. Mariapp Kullappa	Water and sanitation specialist	09848159046	01141479419	mkullappa@worldbank.org
3	Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan	Mr. Suseel Samuel	Water and sanitation specialist	09873883336	01141479419	ssamuel@worldbank.org

Nodal officers for the Pilot Projects - States

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