



ACTIVITIES IN INDIA MADHYA PRADESH



The AgWater Solutions Project

The aim of the project is to identify the factors that influence successful adoption and upscaling of small-scale agricultural water management (AWM) interventions and to provide a set of evidence-based tools and recommendations that support increased investment and policies to improve AWM adoption. The project is being undertaken in two states in India, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal, and five countries in Africa, Zambia, Ethiopia, Ghana, Tanzania and Burkina Faso. This short update is designed to provide stakeholders with details of the current status of the project, including project activities to date and what is being planned for the future.

Activities to Date

Inception and Midterm Workshops

An inception workshop for the entire project was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in May 2009. The project plan was discussed and work plan details were agreed for all countries. In January 2010, a midterm project workshop was held in Lusaka, Zambia, which was attended by representatives from each country. The participants reviewed progress, adapted work plans, and further detailed outputs and outreach plans for all countries.

Situation Analysis of AWM Technologies

The nongovernmental organization (NGO), Centre for Advanced Research and Development (CARD), based in Bhopal, carried out the Situation Analysis for Madhya Pradesh in 2009. The purpose of this was to provide background material on and analysis of:

- Existing environmental, hydrological and climatic conditions;
- National institutional and policy frameworks related to AWM;
- Typologies of existing AWM practices and their geographic spread;
- Key actors who are supporting the development of AWM in each region; and
- Promising AWM solutions that merit further detailed study.

A report based on the Situation Analysis has been prepared and a summary is available as **a briefing note on the project website**.

Stakeholder Consultation Workshop

A Stakeholder Consultation workshop was held on January 8, 2010. More than 50 participants representing different stakeholders – academia, NGOs, policymakers from various departments of the Government of Madhya Pradesh, private sector, financial institutions and several international organizations - participated. Some of the diverse issues addressed during the workshop were:

- Framing the context of AWM in Madhya Pradesh State;
- Sharing the experiences of the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) in Madhya Pradesh and elsewhere;
- Discussing and identifying gaps in the results of the Situation Analysis; and
- Setting priority interventions for promising AWM technologies in different agroecological regions.

A number of AWM solutions were prioritized at the workshop. These formed the basis for more detailed cases studies which are discussed below.

The workshop report has been summarized and is available as **a briefing note on the project website**.



Field Level Case Studies

Based on the results of the Situation Analysis and the State Consultation, the project is carrying out a number of detailed case studies. These are briefly described below.

Decentralized rainwater harvesting

Decentralized rainwater harvesting structures (Rewa Sagar) constructed in Dewas District are being assessed as a possible AWM solution in regions suffering from acute water scarcity. A detailed farmer survey was undertaken in Khategaon and Tonk Khurd blocks to assess the financial viability of investment in these structures and the possibilities of scaling-up this intervention in other parts of the Dewas District and other regions of Madhya Pradesh. The data has been collected and is currently being analyzed.

MGNREGA as a tool for improving AWM in Madhya Pradesh

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is a nationwide government scheme which guarantees employment in rural areas. A large portion of the MGNREGA funds are focused on construction, which has

implications for improving water security in rural areas (e.g., by constructing water harvesting structures or irrigation systems). The AgWater Solutions Project has initiated a study to assess MGNREGA as a model for improving AWM. A household survey was undertaken in Jhabua, Khargaon, Mandla and Balaghat, and the data is currently being analyzed.

Accelerating adoption of low-cost drip irrigation

Drip irrigation offers important avenues for conserving water and improving water use efficiency. The project case study assesses low-cost drip irrigation technology in Madhya Pradesh to ascertain what factors have contributed to, or facilitated, its adoption by farmers who have already invested in this technology. It also considers what the constraints are to adoption for resource-poor farmers who have not invested in drip irrigation thus far. The fieldwork is currently underway.

Future Plans

- The detailed case studies will be completed and reports produced in early 2011.
- Preliminary project findings will be shared at technical meetings as soon as the draft reports are complete.
- The case studies will be formulated into “solutions” and “business models” with the support of various stakeholders.
- Solutions that are seen as being applicable in several countries will be developed into “investment briefs”.
- Stakeholder engagement will continue through a series of consultations to discuss emerging outputs and proposed solutions, and to support the development and implementation of business models.

Key Project Contacts

- Coordinator and project contact point – Dr. Ravinder P. Malik, IWMI
- Project Ambassadors for India – Mr. P.S. Vijay Shankar, Samaj Pragati Sahayog, India; Mr. Manas Satpathy, Professional Assistance for Development Action (PRADAN), India; and Dr. Mercy Dikito-Wachtmeister, Global Water Partnership (GWP), Sweden

For more information and copies of the briefing notes mentioned in this update, please see the country page on the project website:

<http://awm-solutions.iwmi.org/india.aspx>

If you would like copies of any of the reports mentioned in this update please contact the Project Secretariat (awmsolutions@cgiar.org)

