

ANNUAL REPORT -2010

Water For People-India Trust



Background

Water For People-India Trust, a non-governmental, non-profit organization came into existence in the year 2008 to carry out programs supported by in-country fund. Water For People-India, being a branch of Water For People- USA, faced difficulties to accept funds from government and any Indian agency and thus failed to build direct link with government and other agencies in India due to legal compliances. This legal compliance also imperils to follow the Water For People's global strategy and approach which emphasis on leveraging maximum hardware support from government. The existence of Water For People - India Trust had therefore required to capitalize the scope of in-country funding likely to be highly potential to meet the funding leverage goal and easy way to establish direct link with government leading to mainstreaming our concept with government. Water For People-India office had no option to accept government fund other than linking with partners, which on the other hand depends on the expertise of the partners for the particular project.

The existence of Water For People-India Trust, which can legally accept all kind of in- country funds, has appeared to be a solution towards capitalizing the above opportunities to scale up our operations. During next two years of its existence, it has effectively mobilized resources from government and other Indian donors for water and Sanitation program in community and schools. The annual report of 2010 describes the details of the project implemented by Water For People –India Trust with the different in-country funds.

Preface

The effort made in 2010 means that our organization Water For People-India Trust has provided access to potable water to over 45000 population, the highest number since its inception. The access to safe water is the basic human right and achieving which transforms lives. The world's poorest people can lead the healthy and productive live with access to safe water and sanitation within easily reachable areas, and knowledge about hygiene habits. Yet the billion lacks these vital services and 4000 children die every day from easily preventable diseases caused by unsafe water. Water For People –India Trust began its mission in the year 2009 with an aim to provide access to potable water and improved sanitation and in the year 2010 it has able to reach out a desired number of people. Our approach focuses on working with the government bodies and PRIs to demonstrate the way out towards the current challenges water inaccessibility and maintenance. Our aim for next 5 years is to reach out more than one million people with access to potable water and improved sanitation facility with the in-country leveraged funding. Our monitoring to the services we offered is continued until they become sustainable. We are grateful to the government departments, PRIs and CSOs who support us and the staff for their diligence to succeed the mission.

Projects implemented in 2010

In the year 2010, Water For People-India Trust, has implemented two projects (namely Rural water supply project and School Water, sanitation and hygiene education project) with co-funding from South 24 Parganas Zilla Parishad and ARGHYAM respectively. The aim of the Rural Water Supply project was to increase access to potable water for over 42000 population spreading in 177 locations in 8 Blocks while the other one aimed at reaching out over 6000 school children in 6 schools with adequate water and sanitation facility in North 24 Parganas and Nadia District with the period from 2010 -2011.

1. Rural Water Supply Project

The Rural Water Supply project was executed by 3 Partner NGOs of Water For People –India Trust with the support of respective block administration and PRIs in 8 blocks in 2010. The project was focused on sinking of India Mark-II tube well in 177 locations spreading 8 Blocks in South 24 Parganas district. The South 24 Parganas Zilla Parishad has supported the project with entire materials of India Mark-II tube wells and labour cost for 6 Blocks while Water For People-India Trust has contributed entire labour cost and around 15 % material cost for 2 block. In the beginning, South 24 Parganas Zilla Parishad had provided site for entire 177 tube wells offering a leisure to the implementing NGOs, PRI and respective block administration to finalize sites during execution. The implementation strategy was agreed to be applied as per the approach and strategy of Water For People's ongoing water program in the rural West Bengal. There was an agreement signed between South 24 Parganas Zilla Parishad and Water For People-India Trust to define the role and responsibilities of all the stakeholders involved in the project. The project has been jointly funded by the District administration stands and Water For People India Trust. The materials that the district provided in the project are mobilized from Unicef.

The objectives of the project:

- (i) Demonstrate a model of multi -stakeholders involvement (such as PRIs, Government Administration, Civil Society Organisations, Village Development Committees) in execution of rural water project in 8 Blocks of South 24 Parganas District during the period from April 2010 to March 2011.

- (ii) Initiate collective effort to establish a community owned and long lasting maintenance mechanism for each water sources by helping users to be self sufficient owning the maintenance cost of the water sources forever.
- (iii) Involve all the stakeholders at Block level and gram Panchayat for effective execution of the project as well as to mainstream the community owned maintenance system with block administration of 8 blocks within 2010-2011.

2. School water, sanitation and hygiene education project.

ARGHYAM, an Indian organization, has started working with Water For People-India Trust as co-funder of SWASH project since 2009 and continued till 2010. In the year 2010, ARGHYAM has supported for 6 schools equally spreading over Nadia and North 24 Parganas district. The project was focused on promoting better hygiene habits among school children by creating adequate water and sanitation facility and carrying out the hygiene education activities. The project was designed in a fashion to promote public-private initiative involving the school authorities, civil society organizations and private donor institutions towards the aim better school environment.

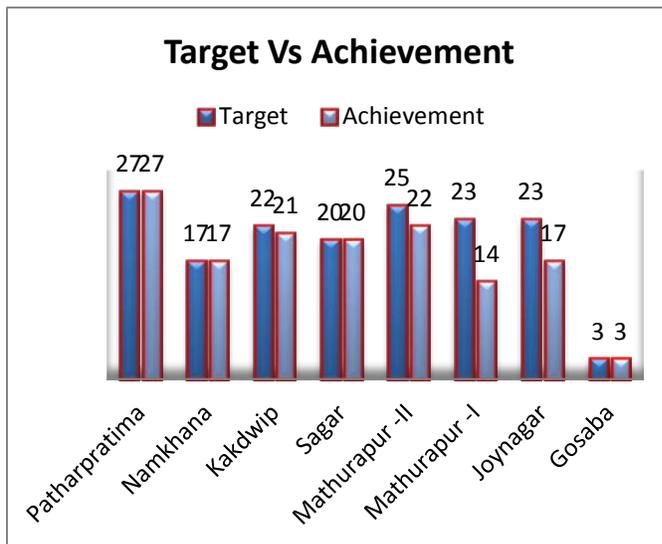
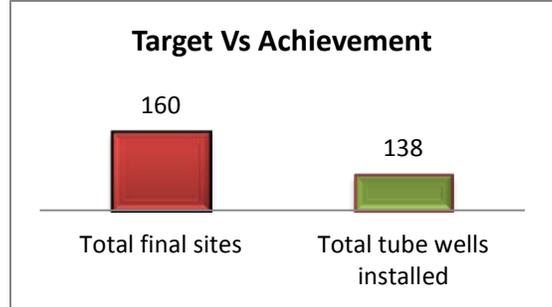
The objectives of the project are as follows:

- (i) Improve school water and sanitation environment, with focus on addressing adequate water and sanitation facility and menstrual hygiene management issues for school going adolescent girls in 6 schools within the period 2010 - 2011.
- (ii) Bring a positive change in the water and sanitation behaviors among children of 6 schools by carrying out extensive hygiene education activities within 2010 - 2011.
- (iii) Bring all the stakeholders together to demonstrate a model of better water and sanitation environment in 6 schools within 2010-2011

Target Vs Achievement

Rural Water Supply Project:

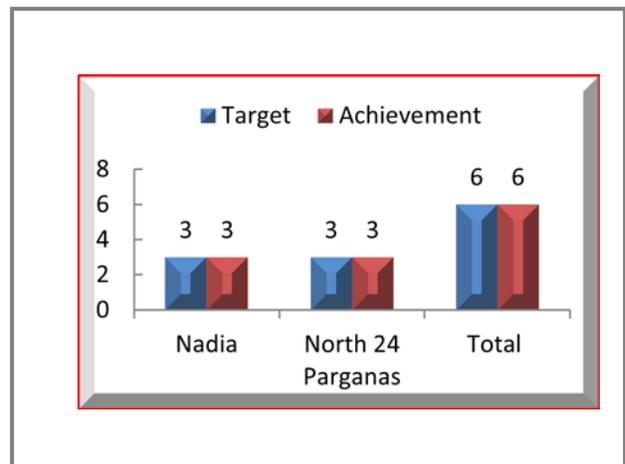
160 sites were finalized by partner NGOs and respective Block Administrations during project execution against total 177 planned sites in all 8 blocks. During the project execution, 17 locations were found with tube wells already installed by some other agencies. Under this project, Tube well was installed in 138 locations against the total 160 final sites. The 8 blocks are namely Sagar , Patharprotima, Mathurapur-I & II, Basanti, Kakwdip, Namkhana and Jainagar.-I. The Block Sagar and Patharprotima are the existing operational block Water For People-



operational block Water For People-India where 47 tube wells have been installed through this project. Water For People –India has aimed to reach out every family, every school and every clinic in patharprotiman and Sagar block under the framework ‘**Everyone Forever**’. As per the government record, both the blocks are covered with the adequate drinking water facility except some scattered habitations lack access to water facility within the radius 1.6 Kms.

School water, sanitation and hygiene education programme:

The water and sanitation facility has been created in 100% of the schools planned under ARGHYAM supported SWASH program for North 24 Parganas and Nadia district. This project has been able to support more than 6000 school children with water and sanitation facilities. Both the districts, North 24 Parganas and Nadia are also the existing operational areas of



SWASH program of Water For People-India and being targeted to bring under the framework of 'Everyone Forever' in the next Country Strategy Plan for 2012 to 2015. The hygiene education is being carried out in all 6 schools to bring a desired level of changes in the hygiene behaviors of children.

Immediate Impact

The aforesaid rural water supply project has provided access to potable water to over 39000 populations and thus reduced the chances of infections / diseases caused by use of unsafe source. The access to safe water source within easily reachable areas has also resulted the use of safe source for vital domestic purposes that the people managed with the pond water before. The project has appeared to be a successful learning model of multi stakeholders involvement in rural water supply project. The main stakeholders are namely all level PRIs members, government administration and community leaders. The concept of community contribution in terms of labour has increased the ownership attitude among the users. The SWASH programme has succeeded improving the water and sanitation environment in 6 schools benefiting over 6000 children. The adequate water and sanitation facility in the school campus has reduced the risk of health hazards caused by inaccessibility of potable water and improved sanitation facility. The change room facility for the adolescents has reduced the chances of their absenteeism during the menstruating days.

Lesson learned

As demonstrated by the rural water supply project, the collective effort between government and non- government organizations is likely to be a better option for successful implementation of the government program as well as to create cross learning platform for replication of the good practices in large scale. The collective effort of government administration, PRIS and NGOs has appeared to be a better driving force for successful execution of any project. The involvement of village level PRI member is a potential option to motivate target groups for their contribution and to empower them owning the maintenance cost of the water source forever. The joint effort for the rural water supply program has also offered a scope to all the stakeholders learning about the usefulness and challenges of the community contribution. The project has offered us a learning opportunity about the risk areas to be considered in the planning process in case of project like sinking of tube well. There is high chance of miss boaring and thus loss of pipes especially in the area where fresh water table gone down beyond 1000 fits. There is also high risk of not having the desired proportion of community contribution especially if the project is implemented just before the election. The project



has become an example to the district administration, PRI members and NGOs about challenges and possible solutions in case to step forward with such project in future. The project has become an example to the Water For People India Trust and its partner NGOs about the importance of involvement of PRIs members to gain the community participation.

Some case stories

Jainagar-I Block

1. 58 families out of total 200 families in Neotala village under Khankurdaha Gram panchayat in Jainagar-I block lacked access to safe source for drinking water for more than 2 years. The total 58 families and a ICDS centre were dependent on tap, the only source of drinking water is situated around more than 1.6 Km away from the hamlet. The new water source (India Mark-II handpump), installed by Baikuntapur Tarun Sangha with the support of Unicef, WATER FOR PEOPLE-India Trust and Zilla Parishad in the year 2010 has dissolved the problems.
2. The people in Haldarpara in Dweyanganj under Khankundaha Gram Panchayat in Jainargar-I block suffered from getting access to safe water sources for more than 1 year. The people of the that hamlet use to collect drinking wter form a tube well in high school. During the school holidays they had to look for another tube well which is situated in a market place around 1.5 Km away from the hamlet. In the year 2010, the Baikuntapur Tarun Sangha (BTS) has installed a India Mark-II tube well with the support of Unicef, WATER FOR PEPL-India Trust and South 24 Parganas Zilla Parishad. The peope is no more depedent on tube well outside and has got access to a safe source situated in their hamlet.



Mathurapur-I Block

1. Around 40 families in North L.N.Pur Colony in I.N Pur village and Gram Panchayat suffered from the access to the safe source for potable water within their community. They used to collect the drinking water from a tube well situated in the Gram Panchayat office, more than 1.6km away from the community. The use of safe water for domestic purposes was very limited and thus led to the frequent occurrence of water-related diseases. In the year 2010, the Civil Society Organisation, namely Sabuj Sangha, with the help of some partners as mentioned above installed an India Mark-II tube well. The community has helped to succeed the installation in a manner of contributing labour for filling up the place for the platform.
 
2. The people in Satghara village of Debipur Gram Panchayat had no option of getting drinking water other than the tube well in a primary school situated more than 1.7 km away from the community. The high pressure on that tube well led to the frequent occurrence of non-functionality more often.

Mathurapur-II Block

1. The school children of Sasanpara F.P school use to collect drinking water from a tube well situated more than 1 Km away from school. 30 families around the school used the same source for their drinking purpose. The village Sasanpara belongs to the Khari Grampanchayat under Mathurapur-II block. The tube well that they were previously using was very prone to bacterial contamination due to the poor condition of the platform. In the year 2010, the Civil Society Organisation, namely Sabuj Sangha, has installed a tube well in the Primary School campus (fitted with India Mark-II) with the above mentioned supporters. The community and school are no more dependent on the tube well outside the school. The quality of the tube well has been found potable as per the water testing result of the government recognised testing Lab.
 