

ANNUAL REPORT -2011-12

Water For People-India Trust

Preface

In 2012, initiatives of Water For People India Trust was to promote maintenance management system in 5 more blocks of south 24 parganas district. The project aimed to equip the local people with necessary training and other technical knowhow as a hand pump mechanics. The project was a joint initiative of Water for People India trust and South 24 Parganas Zilla Parishad to meet the needs of trained hand pump mechanics in the local areas in order to bring down the down time of hand pump / water system to below 24 hours. The project was implemented by a local NGO in Budgebudge-I and II, Kakdwip, Mathurapur-II and Basanti. A total of 42 local people including 2 women were trained as hand pump mechanics. However, the initiative in Mathurapur_ii and Basanti block has been started in the year 2011. The local government mainly Block administration and Panchayati Raj Institutions has played an important role to execute this project. Gram Panchayat and Civil Society Organization have selected the local people for the training and introduce them in the community.

I sincerely thank to all the government department and officials for their active involvement in succeeding the project. I also extend my gratitude to my partner for their dedication and active role in executing the project in the field.

I thank my colleagues for their support to translate this project in the field.

Projects implemented in 2012

In 2012, two projects have been implemented (namely Rural water supply project and School Water, sanitation and hygiene education project) with co-funding from South 24 Parganas Zilla Parishad and ARGHYAM. South 24 Parganas Zilla Parishad has provided funds for creating bore well fitted with India mark-II hand pumps in 18 different locations spreading in 4 blocks of south 24 Parganas district. The location was jointly selected by the local government and partner NGOs of Water For People India Trust. Those communities were selected for sinking of new tube well, which lack access to drinking water facility and had to travel more than government of India standard to fetch water. As per the Government of India, people should have access to drinking water source within 2.6 Kms round trip. A detailed feasibility study was undertaken before finalizing the site. The feasibility study includes understanding the social condition, depth of ground water table, the current source of drinking water for the community, quality of the ground water etc. While for the school, feasibility study involves understanding privacy, adequacy of the # of enclosures in the sanitary block, running water facility and all other parameters applied for the community water supply.

1. Rural Water Supply Project

The Rural Water Supply project was executed by 2 Partner NGOs of Water For People –India Trust with the support of respective block administration and PRIs in 4 blocks in 2011. The project was focused on sinking of India Mark-II tube well in 18 locations spreading 4 Blocks in



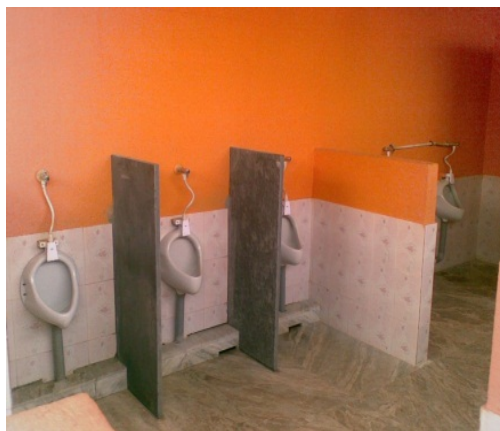
South 24 Parganas district. The South 24 Parganas Zilla Parishad has provided entire materials of India Mark-II tube wells and labour cost. Zilla Parishad has provided a primary site list for verification to finalize. The implementing NGOs, PRI and respective block administration took the lead of finalizing the prior to execution. The implementation strategy aims to involve all the stakeholders from government machinery, community and civil societies in the planning, execution and monitoring process. The role of each stakeholder was defined in the agreement was signed between South 24 Parganas Zilla Parishad and Water For People-India Trust. The users were motivated and influence to contribute a part of the infrastructure mainly to build their ownership over the facility.

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 4 Blocks of South 24 Parganas in 2011.
- (ii) Demonstrate an efficient way of providing drinking service for other sector players to replicate in other geography.
- (iii) Demonstrate a model of community owned maintenance mechanism for the water system which does not depends on government or other external support service to sustain the facility.

2. **School water, sanitation and hygiene education project.**

In the year 2011, the water and sanitation facility has been created in 6 high schools in the district of North 24 Parganas. The project aimed to provide arsenic free water (wherever affected with Arsenic) to the school children and create an improved sanitation facility for the school children. ARGHYAM, an Indian organization has provided funds for this project. Through this project a total of 6000 school children has got access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation facility. The project has also focused on promoting better hygiene habits among school children by undertaking the hygiene education activities. The project laid a special focus on creating changing and disposal facility for the menstruating girls. 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 of better school environment.



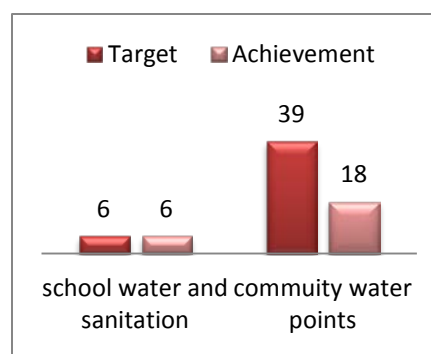
The objectives of the project are as follows:

- (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 in 2011.
- (ii) Bring a positive change in the water and sanitation behaviors among children of 6 schools by carrying out intensive hygiene education activities.
- (iii) Bring all the stakeholders together to demonstrate a model of better water and sanitation environment in 6 schools within 2011

Target Vs Achievement

Rural Water Supply Project:

Sinking of 18 India mark-II tube well is a part of the project that we started in the 2010. The entire project aimed for sinking of 177 tube wells in 8 blocks within two years' time (2010 and 2011). In 2010, a total of 138 against the total final sites 156. Sinking of tube well in remaining 18 locations was undertaken in 2011. The remaining 21 sites were found with tube well already installed by others.



School water, sanitation and hygiene education program:

The water and sanitation facility has been created in 100% of the schools planned under ARGHYAM supported SWASH program for North 24 Parganas for the year 2011. This project has been able to support 6000 school children with water and sanitation facilities. The hygiene education was another activity carried out throughout the project period to bring a positive change in the behaviors of children.

=====