

Monthly Round-Up – June 2021

EVENTS & OBSERVANCES

World Environment Day 2021: Ecosystem Restoration



World Environment Day (WED) is celebrated on June 5 every year to spread awareness about environment conservation as well as taking better actions to fight climate change. This year the theme 'Ecosystem Restoration' focused on a global mission to revive billions of hectares, from forests to farmlands, from the top of mountains to the depth of the sea. The pandemic that the world has witnessed for more than a year has shown disastrous consequences on the ecosystem. The fact remains that only in a healthy environment we can enhance people's livelihood, counteract climate change, and stop loss of biodiversity.

While a lot is happening around us for environment conservation, Water For People India team promoted in house plantation drive and campaigning to raise awareness to leave the planet slightly better for our future generations.

More than 400 people including children, teachers, guardians local government representatives participated to observe World Environment Day across five districts in West Bengal and Odisha. Activities like plantation drive in public places, collaborating with local government (Panchayats and Block level), slogan writings, online



poster making and painting activities along with sharing of videos on the importance of environmental protection were organized following COVID-19 protocols. WED activities organized in schools in Hooghly district, West Bengal received media coverage in the leading Bengali newspaper 'Aajkal'.

SPONSORED BY  5th June WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 

#WED2021 Activities by Mohalla Committees in Urban Slums & Rural Bengal

 Community Cleanliness Drive	 Cleaning of Community Toilet	 Spreading Bleaching Powder
 Tree plantation	 Community Meetings	 Insecticidal spray in drain

ITC MISSION SUNEHRA KAL

Water For People India in collaboration with Sri Ram Foundation organized a plantation drive in Purnahiya block, Sheohar district, Bihar.

COVID-19 RELIEF AND RESPONSE

COVID-19 Vaccination: An Important Tool to Help Stop the Pandemic



The pandemic has impacted almost every corner of life, causing global economies to stall, changing the way we work and interact with our loved ones, and stretching healthcare systems to the limit. Governments around the world have been forced to implement restrictions on human activity to curb the spread of the virus.

COVID-19 vaccination is now offering a way to transition out of this phase of the pandemic. Vaccines are a critical tool in the battle against COVID-19, and getting vaccinated is one of the best ways to protect yourself and others from COVID-19. Equitable access to safe and effective vaccines is critical to ending the COVID-19 pandemic, so it was hugely encouraging to see Water For People India working tirelessly with partners to generate awareness to 'get their shot' to protect people, starting with the most vulnerable.



Water For People India team in Ward 2 of Beeda Chhapra village in Paschim Panchayat, a new village in Sheohar district, Bihar explained how COVID-19 vaccination is a safer way to help build protection. Informative videos were used to bust myths and misconceptions about vaccination and encouraging villagers to get vaccinated. Similarly, in Ward 5 of Bashiya Sheikh Panchayat in Piprahi block, people were made aware of vaccination to fight against Corona by showing audio and video clips. People were made informed on reported side effects to COVID-19 vaccines which have mostly been mild to moderate and short-lasting. They include fever, fatigue, headache, muscle pain, chills, and pain at the injection site.

Water For People India in collaboration with district officials, Water For People India and its partners - Sarvshree Seva Sadan and Mahila Vikas Grameen Shilp Kala Prashikshan Sansthan – participated in a campaign to encourage villagers to get Covid jab through a gift distribution drive. From all five blocks, around 20 people were felicitated for getting the vaccination.



Safe and effective vaccines are making a significant contribution to preventing severe disease and death from COVID-19. As vaccines are rolling out and immunity is building, it is important to continue to follow all of the recommended measures that reduce the spread of COVID-19. This includes physically distancing yourself from others; wearing a mask, especially in crowded

and poorly ventilated settings; washing your hands frequently; covering any cough or sneeze in your bent elbow, and opening windows when indoors.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES

Kumbhi Wagholi Village Receives Water After 22 Years



Kumbhi Wagholi, a small village in Achalpur block, in Amravati district, Maharashtra received water after almost 22 years through the implementation of piped water supply scheme and active support of Water For People India Trust, Block Panchayat, and communities.

Another village from a group Gram Panchayat, Jawlapur, has a meagre population of 412 with 91-95 households. A tribal village, almost all the people are landless farm workers who often migrate to earn their livelihood. People of the village are overjoyed with the piped water supply initiative being undertaken in their village to ease their water woes. The work on providing water to each household through the pipeline was implemented for last 4-5 months under project “Mission Paani”, supported by Reckitt Benckiser India Private Limited (RB). Water For People India Trust in collaboration with RB is implementing a pilot initiative as part of *Mission Paani* campaign with a twin goal to “conserve and respect” water in two blocks - Achalpur and Chandurbazar - in Amravati district, Maharashtra. The flagship initiative aims to generate consciousness, action, and behaviour change to protect and conserve water resources while instilling a sense of respect and conservation habits within communities.

CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

Virtual Hygiene Awareness Sessions

Safely managed water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services are an essential part of preventing and protecting human health during infectious disease outbreaks, including the current COVID-19 pandemic. Good WASH and waste management practices, that are consistently applied, serve as barriers to human-to-human transmission of the COVID-19 virus in homes, communities, health care facilities, schools, and other public spaces. With Covid-19 restrictions in place, Water For People India Trust in collaboration with NSE Foundation have explored team talent to create and generate informative videos in local dialects to educate people with the right information on personal health and hygiene, do’s and don’t’s during Covid-19, importance of handwashing, menstrual hygiene management, solid and liquid waste management, safe drinking water, proper nutrition, and toilet usage. The videos were circulated via Whataspp, which has enabled wider circulation and reaching the communities in far-flung areas in Rajnagar Block, Birbhum District of West Bengal.

