

## Monthly Newsletter – February 2020

### WATER FOR PEOPLE INDIA

#### ❖ VISITS

##### 1. Mr. Mark's visit to India



Mr. Mark Duey, Chief Programs Officer, Water For People made a week-long visit to India from 23<sup>rd</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020. On behalf of Water For People India team, Ms. Meena Narula, Country Director and Mr. Wakeel Ahmad Siddiqui, Director Programs accompanied Mr. Duey during his visit to State teams in Bihar and West Bengal. On 25<sup>th</sup> February 2020, Mr. Duey interacted with colleagues from Project Sheohar and later visited JEEViKA - Bihar Rural

Livelihoods Promotion Society for a meeting with CEO Mr. Balamurugan D. and Mr. Rajiv Singh, Administrative officer. JEEViKA CEO appreciated Water For People India's work in Bihar particularly in Sheohar district and discussed ways to further strengthen the partnership.

As part of his visit to West Bengal, Mr. Duey inaugurated a Model mini piped water scheme at Ghatdurlabhpur Korapara Village in Chandrapur Gram Panchayat, Rajnagar Block and a Fluoride Filtration system in Lauberia Village in Khoyrasol Block on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2020. The team also held a discussion with the Water User Committee about the existing problems, solutions and operation and maintenance of the inaugurated facility.



#### ❖ EVENTS

##### 1. Destination 2030 Launch



The first launch call of Water For People's Destination 2030 was held on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020 in presence of Mr. Mark Duey, Chief Programs Officer, Water For People; Ms. Meena Narula, Country Director and Mr. Wakeel Ahmad Siddiqui, Director Programs (India). All state teams (Maharashtra, Assam, Bihar, Odisha and West Bengal) proactively participated in the virtual discussion to make Everyone Forever, a global and gold standard to deliver sustainable WASH (SDG 6), especially to those left behind. The discussion aimed to deliberate on a new

long-term vision for Water For People and ways to leverage and increase the impact X10 and build off the success of the Current Strategy 2017-2021 and India Strategy 2018-2023.

##### 2. 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference and Expo on Water & Waste Management

The 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the International Conference and Expo on Water and Waste Management (WWM) was held from 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> February 2020 in Hyderabad, India.



The two-day conference aimed to bring forth the present status of water and waste management in India and to discuss and deliberate the challenges faced with technological solutions. Ms. Meena Narula, Country Director, Water For People India was invited as one of the speakers to share her views in one of the WWM 2020 tracks titled '*Women Leaders in WWM.*' Ms. Narula highlighted the intrinsic relation between women and water and the need to make them an integral part of the decision-making process.



### 3. Symposium on Water Governance: Issues and Challenges

A two-day symposium on the theme "Water Governance: Issues and Challenges" was held on 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020 in Bihar Museum, Patna. The symposium was organized by Development Management Institute, Patna in collaboration with UNICEF Bihar as part of the celebration of its Sixth

Foundation Day. Magsaysay Award winner Dr. Rajendra Singh, popularly known as 'Jal Purush' (Water Man of India) inaugurated the event as the Chief Guest. Dr. Singh also released his book '*Main Hi Jal Hoon*' (I am Water) on the occasion. Water For People along with other international partners was invited to take part in the event and interact with scholars, researchers, policymakers, practitioners and innovators. The experts talked about fostering community participation in water governance, issues in groundwater use and availability in two separate technical sessions.

### 4. Inauguration of Community Toilet in Howrah

To achieve universal access to inclusive WASH and end open defecation, a community toilet block under ITC project Mission Sunehra Kal was inaugurated on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2020. The renovated toilet catering to around 80 people is gender-friendly with separate enclosures, a change room with incinerators and urinals with handwashing stations. This is the second rural community toilet and first in Chaturbhujkathi colony of Kandua panchayat in Howrah district, West Bengal. A WATSAN committee (5 females; 4 males) has been formed with Panchayat Pradhan as the Secretary for regular operation and maintenance of the facility.



## ❖ CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

### 1. Street Business Workshop in Uganda



Street Business School (SBS) organized a week-long Entrepreneurial Training Program from 9<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> February 2020 in Kampala, Uganda aimed to end extreme poverty by training a new generation of entrepreneurs. The workshop witnessed participation from India, Nepal, Uganda, Congo and Kenya. Mr. Safdar Ali and Ms. Sujata Tripathy from Water For People India participated in the Train-the-Trainer Immersion Workshop and successfully graduated in Street Business Management designed

to train people from marginalized sections of the society to become entrepreneurs and alleviate poverty. Water For People India as a Global Catalyst Partner of SBS will contribute to poverty alleviation by motivating people to use locally available resources for business.



#### ❖ IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES

##### 1. Resolution Passed in 11 Gram Sabhas for implementation of VWSSPs

Water For People India Amravati team implemented an action plan for the preparation of Village Water Safety Security Plan (VWSSP) in 18 villages with an aim to introduce a holistic and participatory planning approach, with clear guidance on institutional roles and responsibilities and financing to address issues on water sustainability. The VWSSPs were prepared with the active participation of villagers with inputs for the validation of plans and further submitted for approval in 11 Gram Sabhas with a resolution passed for their implementation to address source sustainability, water quality (both bacteriological and chemical), operation and maintenance issues, as well as provisions for replacement and expansion.

##### 2. Provision of Pipe Water Supply in Pipadari Village

Water For People India Trust in partnership with Colgate Palmolive (India) Limited conducted a source sustainability test aimed at providing water to 85 households in Pipadari village situated in Kakadari Gram Panchayat in Chikhaldara Block, Amravati district, Maharashtra. Villagers as part of shramdaan (mass movement) contributed to pipeline excavation for HH connection and rising main pipeline. As part of the intervention, Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTC) with a stand post has been provided to every household in the village with construction of 30,000 litres storage tank by the district administration. Water For People India team has formed a 12-member Village Water Sanitation Committee to look after the implementation work and the operation and maintenance post completion of the scheme.

