

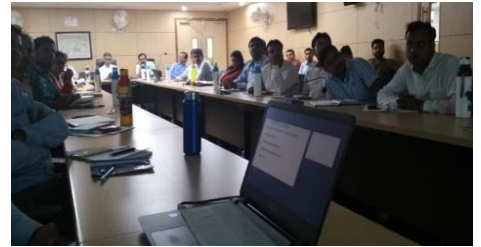
Monthly Newsletter – June 2019

WATER FOR PEOPLE INDIA

SIGNIFICANT PROGRAM INITIATIVES

1. Workshop on ‘Development of tool kit for ODF-S’ in Bihar

Lohiya Swachh Bihar Abhiyan (LSBA), the government aegis under Rural Development Department, Government of Bihar organized a workshop on ‘Development of tool kit for Open Defecation Free - Sustainability’ (ODF-S) on 13th June 2019, at the JEEViKA state office in Patna, Bihar. The meeting was chaired by Shri Balamurugan D, who is the State Mission Director of LSBA.



Along with Water For People India, other international development partners participated in the workshop and presented their views, opinions and valuable suggestions during the event.

The objective was to build a synergy between government and development partners, to share their WASH related experience and innovations in Information, Education, Communication (IEC) and Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) that aided in developing the tool kit for ODF-S.

LSBA is committed to make Bihar free from open defecation through proactive participation of its people and giving focus to BCC. Its mission primarily focuses on the key aspects of communication through IEC activities intended to trigger and motivate communities.

2. Visit of Xylem member to EF Block in West Bengal

Mr. Vikram Nanwani, Senior Director, India Technology Center, Xylem Inc. visited the EF program in Patharpratima Block of South 24 Parganas District on 6th June, 2019. On behalf of Water For People India team, Ms. Meena Narula, Country Director accompanied Mr. Nanwani during the visit. The team visited the piped water supply scheme in Digambarpur Gram Panchayat (GP) and one Community water point in Banashyamnagar GP in Patharpratima Block. Besides visiting the facility, discussions were held with the water user committees, team managing operations and maintenance (O&M) and members of the GP.



3. Implementation of water supply scheme in Chikhaldara, Maharashtra

For the natives of Dhomanbarda village of Chikhaldara Block (Amravati district), a piped water supply scheme construction was undertaken to benefit all 57 households in the village. Prior to this, a source sustainability test was conducted to assess the sustainability of the open well to be used as the source for the village water supply scheme. The entire excavation work for laying the pipeline was done by the villagers as part of their contribution. A 15,000-litres capacity ground level reservoir was constructed to tackle persistent water issues and ensure safe water supply to all the households. In addition, stand post construction was undertaken for each household. The Gram Panchayat and Sarpanch took the responsibility for the provision of electric

connection to supply water. The proposal was prepared and submitted for approval to the Rural Water Supply Department.

The testing of the water supply scheme was held on 25th June 2019. During the testing, water was released and reached the households through individual connections. The villagers expressed jubilation to receive water supply at their doorstep for the first time.



KEY EVENTS

1. Second BIWA Meeting

The 2nd meeting between the partner organizations involved with Bihar WASH Alliance (BIWA) was organized on 14th June in Patna, Bihar. The meeting aimed to discuss and agreed to have a regular advocacy and include government as stakeholders to interact and orient them on water and sanitation updates. The meeting proposed to involve media to sensitize and propagate relevant advocacy issues. The forum would also act as a link to national networks and organize quarterly meetings. Later a discussion was held regarding the flagship programs and developed an exhaustive presentation highlighting the status, program, gaps and recommendations. Sub-committees were finalized for making the same on Water, Humanitarian crisis, Sanitation and Faecal Sludge Management, Menstrual Hygiene Management, WASH in Institutions, Households and Urban Sanitation.

2. CSR Summit in Rajasthan

The Rajasthan Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Summit 2019 was organized by the Industries Department, Government of Rajasthan and co-hosted by NGOBOX on 4th June, 2019. The conclave provided a platform to assimilate the possibilities of development through CSR in the state by bringing together companies, NGOs, Government, Social Enterprises and Advisory Firms to share and learn best practices and discuss opportunities for future collaborations.



Eminent personalities and representatives from the government and Corporate houses also participated in the event. Panel discussions were held on topics like Child Nutrition and Child protection; Education empowerment through scholarship programs; Road safety as a CSR priority; and creating livelihood opportunities for women and youth through CSR. Additionally, the Rajasthan CSR Awards 2019 were distributed to encourage companies, CSR foundations and implementing partners for delivering high impact outcomes through CSR projects and adopting a multi-stakeholder approach leading to excellence in project

deliverables. In WASH domain, Tata Trust, Hindustan Zinc were the potential donors. During the event various corporate organizations also showcased their work through exhibition stalls.

3. District level Sharing Meeting held in Birbhum, West Bengal



A district level sharing meeting was held in Birbhum on 12th June, 2019 which was attended by Sabhadhipati, Birbhum Zilla Parishad, Additional District Magistrate and Additional Executive Officer Birbhum Zilla Parishad, Executive Engineer of Public Health Engineering Department, District Nodal Officer, Mission Nirmal Bangla, Block Officials and Panchayat representatives from both Khoyrasol and Rajnagar Block, Nirman Sahayak from all 15 Gram Panchayats, Sub-Inspector (School) of Rajnagar and Khoyrasol, Child Development Project Officer of Rajnagar and Khoyrasol,

District Fluorosis Consultant (Dept. of Health and Family Welfare), staff members from District Sanitation Cell and Water For People India Trust team.

The meeting provided a platform to introduce Water for People India Trust and National Stock Exchange Foundation, discuss importance of WASH in context of 'Everyone Forever', highlight progress sharing and forthcoming plans on WASH intervention in communities, schools and Anganwadis; and the opportunities for future convergence with the District. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks with assurance of full support from the District and the respective blocks towards implementation of the program including co-financing.

