

# ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

WATER FOR PEOPLE INDIA TRUST



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# **Message from the Managing Trustee**



It is with deep pride and heartfelt gratitude that I present our **Annual Report for the year 2023–2024**. This report is not only a reflection of our strategic goals and performance but also a chronicle of the enduring spirit, innovation, and community partnership that define Water For People India Trust.

Over this past year, our teams in, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Assam, and other regions have worked relentlessly to ensure that every individual has access to safe water and sustainable sanitation.

#### **Our mission**

ensuring that every community, regardless of its location or

challenges, benefits from improved water and

#### **Sanitation Services**

has driven every initiative and program we have implemented. We have reaffirmed our commitment to using evidence-based practices, cutting-edge technologies, and capacity building to empower communities to lead their development journeys.

Central to our achievements this year has been the power of collaboration. Whether through engaging directly with local governments, forging new partnerships with sector experts, or investing in the professional development of local engineers and community champions, we have witnessed first-hand how collective action can foster transformative change.

Our work with our sector partner organizations such as Water for People, UNICEF, Aga Khan Rural Support Program (India), Arghyam, Watershed Organization Trust (WOTR), PRASARI, Tomorrow's Foundation, 4S, GramVaani, ECHO and more alongside local government bodies has been instrumental in advancing our shared vision. Initiatives like the digital monitoring

system using the mWater tool, the promotion of grey water management practices, and the establishment of circular economy through faecal sludge treatment facilities producing high quality organic fertilisers highlight our innovative approach and commitment to sustainability.

As we continue our journey, the realities of climate change are becoming increasingly evident.

Its impact touches every aspect of our work—depleting water sources, intensifying natural disasters, and threatening the sustainability of existing infrastructure.

In response, we have made a deliberate and strategic shift towards Water Resource Management (WRM) through our watershed and water conservation project in collaborations with 3M and Atlas Copco.

Notably, we are thrilled to celebrate ten years of our enduring partnership with ITC, a collaboration that has grown in depth and impact—strengthening community systems, building resilient infrastructure, and setting examples of scalable CSR engagement. Internally, we continue to invest in our people and organizational culture.

Moreover, our focus on empowering communities has produced inspiring change stories that resonate beyond statistics and figures.

We have supported women entrepreneurs to become leaders in sanitation, trained local masons to embrace cost-effective innovations in toilet construction, and ensured that even the remotest schools have access to reliable water sources. It is these personal and community-level successes that remind us of the human impact behind every strategic decision made by our Trust.

While our programs have yielded significant improvements in infrastructure and service delivery, they have also built lasting capacities among local institutions.



Our robust engagements in policy dialogue with the government's invitation to the table and capacity development have ensured that best practices in water resource management and sanitation become embedded in local governance structures.

Our progress is a testament to what can be achieved when communities, experts, and government bodies work together toward a common purpose.

As we celebrate these accomplishments, we also acknowledge the challenges ahead and the need for continual adaptation in a rapidly changing world.

I extend my sincere thanks to all our sector partners, population served, and team members.

Your trust, support, and dedication inspire us to keep pushing the boundaries in our quest for water security and sustainable sanitation for all. As we move forward, let us continue to embrace collaboration, innovation, and community engagement to not only meet our targets but exceed them—ensuring a future where every person enjoys the right to a healthy, dignified life.

From intensive training programs for technical support teams to comprehensive workshops for Panchayats and community groups, we have reinforced the foundations that will sustain these achievements long into the future.





## **About Water For People**

Water For People India Trust is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) in underserved communities across India. Established in 2008, the organization focuses on sustainable, community-driven solutions, empowering local populations to manage and maintain their water resources. They have an established presence in Bihar, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Odisha, Jharkhand and Assam where they have been implementing comprehensive safe water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion (WASH) initiatives.

Water For People India Trust (WFPIT) is an affiliate of Water for People USA implements programs directly and also through locally registered non-government organizations in the country. WFPI has implemented programs in the states of West Bengal, Bihar, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Odisha and Assam. In all, nearly 1.5 million people have been reached through community drinking water and sanitation, WASH in public institutions and market-led approaches to sanitation. By 2023, WFPI programs aim to benefit 2.7 million people directly. We aim to build capacities at the district level which will contribute to organizational commitments, thereby indirectly benefiting 14.8 million people.

Our Everyone Forever model focuses on comprehensive service provision while ensuring sustainability through community contribution, health, and hygiene promotion, setting up operations and maintenance systems, and conforming to government schemes and provisions. For community development members undertake collective action to generate solutions for common problems. During this process, individuals and groups of people are empowered to take conscious decisions and harness skills to affect change within their community. The organization has long-term programs to achieve Everyone Forever in the states of West Bengal, Bihar and Maharashtra.

Since the launch of JJM and SBM (G), WFP has established a Technical Support Unit (TSU) to provide tailored technical assistance. This support is being extended to the governments of Bihar, West Bengal, Assam, and Maharashtra to help ensure safe and reliable rural water supply services. Currently, TSUs have been set up in 10 districts across three states. WFPIT's primary objective is to design and implement high-quality water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) programs and projects that directly contribute to improved health and well-being of marginalized communities.



# Significant Achievements in WASH Governance and Services

During the reporting period, the Water For People India Trust (WFPIT) made notable strides in improving water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) systems across the project intervention states in India, with a focus on governance, community empowerment, and capacity building. A major highlight of this period was the organization's concerted efforts in Assam to reinforce governance mechanisms and improve the state's piped water supply systems. Emphasis was placed on ensuring that every household had access to safe and adequate drinking water. Recognizing that infrastructure alone cannot guarantee sustainability, Water For People India prioritized empowering the human workforce behind water services. By investing in the cpacity of engineers, frontline workers, and community leaders, the initiative transformed these individuals into advocates for equitable water access and reliable service delivery.

Water For People India's Technical Support Unit (TSU), which has been active since 2022 in Bihar, continued to deliver strong support in ensuring delivery of safe water with renewed vigor. Collaborating closely with the Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) and the Panchayati Raj Department (PRD), WFPIT conducted in-depth consultations and training activities. These included training for PHED engineers, gram pradhans, pump operators, and community members, specifically focusing on the operation and maintenance of infrastructure, installation of water metering systems, and the implementation of use-based fair pricing mechanisms. This multi-level training approach helped enhance local ownership, ensure better accountability, and promote efficient use of water resources.

WFPIT's partnerships were also instrumental in scaling its impact. Key sectoral collaborators, including UNICEF, Aga Khan Rural Support Program (India), Arghyam, and the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore, brought technical expertise and research support to strengthen evidence-based interventions.

In Maharashtra, WFPIT targeted water management and security in the Amravati District through the promotion of rainwater harvesting and conservation techniques. The approach centered on deep community engagement and awareness-building, integrated with Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) activities and Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) strategies. This not only encouraged sustainable water practices but also laid the groundwork for long-term environmental resilience in the region.

In West Bengal, Water For People India further extended its technical support by entering into a strategic partnership with the West Bengal State Rural Livelihoods Mission (WBSRLM) and the Panchayat and Rural Development Department (P&RD). Through a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), WFP initiated capacity building and monitoring activities in four

districts—Birbhum, South 24 Parganas, Jhargram and Howrah. This partnership led to co-designed interventions that focused on service delivery improvement, evidence generation, and comprehensive assessments of existing water service levels. Thus, laying the foundation for strengthening local institutions and improving the reliability and equity of water supply systems.

In Assam, Water For People has MoU with Mission Director, JJM for providing technical support in strengthening Water User Committees and cluster level foundation and harnessing the expertise of Water Collectives.



# **Key Focus and Engagement Areas**

#### **SAFE WATER**

- Improving and expanding access to safe drinking water in households
- Water Resource Management
- Community engagement and empowerment for effective water management
- Grey Water Management for advancing Swacch Bharat Mission-Gramin
- Water Quality

#### **HYGIENE AND SANITATION**

- Safe and functional sanitation facilities for families in intervention communities
- Empowering families to adopt good hygiene practices through social and behaviour change
- Improved access to WASH and promote good hygiene practices in schools and health
- clinics through collaboration
- Ensuring sustainable and innovative sanitation solutions, and fecal sludge treatment
- Promoting enterprise, entrepreneurship and market-led WASH approach
- Research and Innovations

#### **STRENGTHENING**

- Building capacities of community institutions (VWSCs, SHGs, GPs) for WASH governance
- Strengthening local government systems for planning, implementation, and sustainability of WASH services
- Enhancing inter-departmental convergence for integrated WASH programming
- Strengthening supply chain systems for availability of WASH-related products and services
- Facilitating institutional partnerships and stakeholder collaboration
- Empowering frontline workers and volunteers through structured training and support
- Embedding WASH priorities in district and state-level planning processes

#### **MONITORING**

- Establishing community-based monitoring systems for WASH service delivery
- Regular tracking of key WASH indicators at household and institutional levels
- Implementing digital tools and dashboards for real-time data collection and visualization
- Using evidence and data insights to inform program design, mid-course corrections, and scale-up strategies
- Strengthening reporting mechanisms at local and state levels



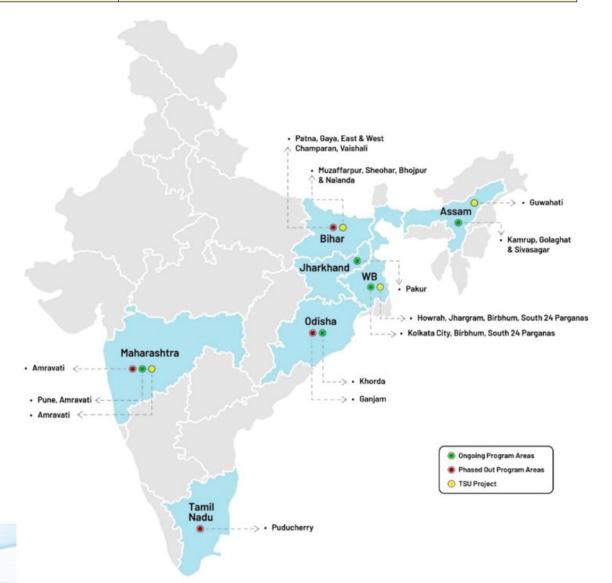






# **Project Geography**

State	Districts and Blocks
Assam	Kamrup
Bihar	Sheohar Nalanda Muzaffarpur Bhojpur
West Bengal	24 South Paraganas Birbhum Howrah Jhargram
Maharashtra	Amravati Dharashiv Pune





## **Drawing Pathways and Advancing Wash Through Action**

#### **ASSAM**

During the period from July to September 2024 in Assam, Water For People India placed a strong spotlight on strengthening governance to improve the water delivery system and ensure every household had access to safe and adequate drinking water. The initiative sparked a clear need of empowering the people behind the piped water supply. This meant engaging and building the capacity of the dedicated human workforce managing the state's water supply— transforming them into champions of equitable water access and sustainable implementation.

#### Forging partnerships to strengthen water system

Water For People India signed agreements with key players, which involved Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) under Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) and the University of Chicago Trusts providing support to Water Collective, a civil society group known for innovations in water security. JJM was keen to adopt and scale up learning from these innovations apart from impactful water security initiatives and pilots from other states. The organization worked in cohesion with Water Collective to amplify the impact through collaborative efforts, which included technical support, capacity building, and improved water accessibility. While Water For People India's role was to facilitate the process and sustainability of water initiatives the ownership remained with JJM Assam. WFPIT's partnerships were also instrumental in scaling its impact. Key sectoral collaborators, including UNICEF, Aga Khan Rural Support Program (India), Arghyam, and the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore, brought technical expertise and research support to strengthen evidence-based interventions.

#### Enhancing management skills for improved governance

People overseeing water schemes were trained on WFPI's mWater tool to carry out inspection of JJM schemes, operation and maintenance (O&M) and monitoring the 5-Star rating of water user committees (WUCs). This allowed the newly appointed junior engineers, assistant engineers, executive engineers and sub divisional officers (SDOs) in administering the mWater tool, improving O&M, and reporting the data findings to the Additional Chief Engineer. In Boko Development Block, sustained monitoring ensured WUC compliance with 5-Star standards, with emphasis on scheme management, grievance handling, and community engagement. Additionally, young professionals (YPs) were trained on the WUC 5-Star assessment and the mWater application to ensure effective implementation of the initiative.

#### Technical and monitoring support for effective governance

Water For People India monitored and facilitated the entire program through its mWater application. It contributed in developing content to guide cluster level federations (CLFs) for implementing the 5-Star rating system along with a detailed roadmap, outlining capacity- building measures and assessments led by implementation support agencies (ISAs) in the State. Additionally, it drafted a digital WUC monitoring system to track key activities, fund flows, and maintenance of infrastructure.



#### **BIHAR**

Water For People India's Technical Support Unit (TSU) continued its support (initiated in Bihar in 2022) with renewed force towards safe, reliable and quality water supply with a focus on universal access. Together with PHED, and Panchayati Raj Department (PRD), consultations and training activities were held for the PHED staff (engineers), gram pradhans, pump operators, Ward Implementation and Management Committee (WIMC), and community members on infrastructural O&M, installation of a metering system and maintenance of use- based fair pricing. Other sectoral partners included Unicef, Aga Khan Foundation, Aga Khan Rural Support Program (India), Arghyam, and Indian Institute of Management Bangalore.

#### Mid-level staff training on Har Ghar Nal Ka Jal in Sheohar

All technical assistants, panchayat secretaries and accountant-cum-IT assistants (PRD), junior engineers, agency pump operators (PHED) learned about activities like managing O&M of piped water, organizing jal chaupals successfully, maintaining WIMC level nine books of record, water quality testing and water conservation in their respective panchayats and blocks during a training held in Sheohar. It used participant digital attestation (PDA) where nine best learners were awarded a token prize of appreciation as motivation.



#### Multi-level training conducted in Sheohar

District-level training workshop on development plans - GP-level PRI members, block officers, district and block-level line departments from all five blocks of Sheohar District were imparted skills for preparation and institutionalization of gram panchayat development plan (GPDP) and block panchayat development plan (BPDP) for utilizing current opportunities within Panchayat and Rural Development Ministries. The training was completed in four

Block-wise training on water sampling and O&M - A one-day block-wise training held in Purnahiya, Piprahi, Sheohar, Tariyani and Dumari Katsari aimed to train anurakashaks/ pump operators from all five Blocks of Sheohar District on collecting water samples, water quality testing, O&M of piped water supply scheme (PWSS), facilitating jal chaupals, maintaining WIMC level nine books of record, and water conservation.



Levels of Service (LoS) training for enumerators and supervisors - All enumerators and supervisors engaged in Water For People India's annual monitoring survey underwent LoS training at Sheohar focusing on mWater app installation, administration of household, health centre and school survey tools, sampling, field demo, and troubleshooting to confidently measure LoS progress and sustainability of WASH services (against MEL framework). The survey findings of 3,005 sample households, PWSS, water points, public institutions and service providers of five blocks of Sheohar, aimed to help in strengthening the programme implementation, improving infrastructure, O&M costing, identification of issues related to access, quantity, quality, inclusiveness, and equity.







Levels of Service (LoS) training for enumerators and supervisors

#### Training resource persons for 20 blocks of Nalanda

To foster clean and safe drinking water supply in Nalanda, pump operators and junior engineers were trained to serve as master trainers for 20 blocks on O&M of PWSS and water quality testing. The training was executed in two batches held in Bihar Sharif Block and Block Campus, Hilsa. A one-day refresher training was organized in Nalanda, for pump operators and junior engineers on O&M of PWSS and water quality testing.





Stakeholders showed active participation during the master trainers' program

Pump operators and anurakshaks from all eight blocks in Muzaffarpur Division participated in the Master Trainers event on key aspects of maintaining water quality standards like adopting robust monitoring and testing protocols while assessing existing facilities and structures, water sample collection, results interpretation and reporting, and fostering community engagement in PWSS management. The overarching goal aimed to build their skills in effective management of PWSS. A similar one-day Master Trainers training program on O&M and water sample collection protocol was conducted for pump operators and anurakshaks from all eight blocks of Motipur Division of Muzaffarpur.





Pump operators and anurakshaks engaged during the capacity building event organized in Conference Hall, Bochaha Block Campus, Muzaffarpur

#### Initiation of faecal sludge treatment plant in Muzaffarpur

The Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant (FSTP) was initiated in Muzaffarpur with the support from Sara Siva Samiti Sansthan (4S), equipped with a capacity to produce 2.5 tons of vermicompost per 65-day cycle and 1,000 litres of vermi-wash weekly.



After a temporary halt due to worm mortality, efforts are on to resume operations with improved preservation structures, product development, packaging and marketing. Plans are underway to engage additional farmer producer organizations (FPOs) to expand distribution and ensure high-quality, sustainable outputs—marking a key milestone in strengthening WASH services in Muzaffarpur.



#### **MAHARASHTRA**

Rainwater conservation and harvesting constituted a key focus for water management and security in Maharashtra's Amravati District. This initiative was powered by strong community Pump operators and anurakshaks engaged during the capacity building event organized in Conference Hall, Bochaha Block Campus, Muzaffarpur Vermicompost Set-up in Muzaffarpur engagement and enhanced awareness, alongside the promotion of WASH through a comprehensive approach that included Information, Education and Communication (IEC), targeted training, and Social Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) strategies.

#### Community engagement for successful management of water project

Water for People India Trust (WFPIT) made community inroads through meetings with senior Panchayat and community members of Bhosursthal village to introduce WFPIT (Technical Support Agency), 3M Ltd (funding partner), water management and watershed development project including its social and technical initiatives. Thus, reinforcing its commitment to community development and fostering community cooperation and collective support, particularly among women, for the project's success.



A total of 67 participants (42 male and 25 female) took part in the program introduction meeting in the Bhosursthal village of Amrawati District.

WFPIT successfully engaged 2,360 community members (1,260 men and 1,160 women) over the period of 2023-24 in the preparation, validation, and dissemination of village-level water safety and security plans, which helped in raising project awareness and identifying key challenges in facilitating yearlong safe and adequate water supply, development of water budgets and strategies to address operational issues, and bridging the gap between water demand and supply.



#### Involving IEC for wider awareness on sustainable water solutions

WFPIT used multiple IECs for community sensitisation on sustainable water practices, and WASH such as street theatres for creatively engaging 6,119 people across 28 villages over the year of 2023-24; video screening on water management and conservation practices that reached 140 people. Cleanliness drive in collaboration with social groups were utilised to address behavioural issues related to personal hygiene and maintenance of a clean environment.

#### Promoting water conservation through community engagement

Significant changes were brought in people's attitude and behaviour towards water management through training activities. The key training-of-trainers events included a block- level orientation workshop for sensitizing 27 PRI members. A Training of Trainers (ToT) on SBCC with Zila Parishad members and Swacch Bharat Mission (SBM) Block Resource Coordinators was conducted to create WASH-sensitive villages by further training Panchayat members, village water and sanitation committee (VWSC), local leaders, youth, and women under the UMED program. Another training for WUC across five villages (182 men, 157 women) was done to facilitate project ownership, awareness on water resource management, convergence for project sustainability; and strengthening good governance practices related to WRM. VWSC and GP orientation on water conservation was carried out in two villages (with 43 participants) which resulted in the inclusion of Village Water Safety and Security Plan (VWSSP) action points in GPDP for further execution. An exposure visit was organized for 38 people (23 male and 15 female) to observe and seek inspiration on water conservation from successful practices in Darewadi, Kumbharwadi, and Mashwandi.





Water resource management - Water quality testing was undertaken thrice a year across 30 villages of Amravati, along with record keeping, quality inspection, maintenance of well inventory and data collection to assess fluctuation of water level..

Involving people in water conservation activities - A total of 12,906 people from 2,561 households across 16 villages participated in the water conservation activities such as work of repair, restoration/ desilting of water bodies, recharge of shaft and excavated 72,000 cubic metre soil and build 11 recharge shafts. This resulted in increased ground potential for rainwater percolation, recharging the second aquifer, and increasing the soil moisture and ground water levels.



Watershed treatment - The project team mobilized 230 people from 46 households (120 male and 110 female) and trained them on Deep Continuous Contour Trench (CCT) helping in the completion of watershed treatment on approximately 267.2 hector land with the support of Kendur village in Shirur Block of Pune District for enabling its irrigation. The initiative yielded multiple benefits like increase in water capacity, potential of ground percolation of rainwater, availability of water in dry seasons, recharging the first aquifer and increasing ground water level.



Emphasising the need for women participation in leadership role, 92 women were trained to lead water safety and security programme and strengthening good governance in the community and PRIs with particular focus on convergence and addressing issues.

### **ODISHA**

#### WASH facilities renovated in Khordha District of Odisha

In Odisha, WFPIT renovated 2 school toilet blocks in Jatni, Khordha District. Throughrenovated 2 WASH facilities, total 58 boys & District in Jatni, Khordha District. Throughrenovated 2 WASH facilities, total 58 boys & District in Jatni, Khordha District. Throughrenovated 2 WASH facilities, total 58 boys & District in Jatni, Khordha District. Throughrenovated 2 WASH facilities, total 58 boys & District in Jatni, Khordha District. Throughrenovated 2 WASH facilities, total 58 boys & District in Jatni, Khordha District. Throughrenovated 2 WASH facilities, total 58 boys & District in Jatni, Khordha District in J





#### Wall painting and puppet show facilitate awareness on WASH

Wall paintings have been done in 2 schools regarding role & Description of Child Cabinet towards School WASH. Puppet Show was facilitated on School WASH Program and Child-Friendly School in both the schools Bhatakhuri and Gramadiha. The audience were 104 students and 4 teachers observed the puppet show. The main objective of the puppet showis to promote awareness of the importance of WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) practices and a child-friendly school environment through an engaging puppet show.



#### **WEST BENGAL**

Water For People India, West Bengal State Rural Livelihoods Mission (WBSRLM), and Panchayat and Rural Development Department (P&RD) signed a MoU for technical support in improving water services across six districts - Birbhum, North 24 Pargana, South 24 Pargana, Nadia, Uttar Dinajpur, and Paschim Bardhaman. They co-created and initiated capacity building and monitoring activities in several other districts. Additionally, Water For People India supported activities for generating evidence-based learnings; and conducted studies to understand the current service levels.

#### Cascade training on WASH, SBM-G and IEC for triggering behaviour change

Water For People India's cascade training strategy to train stakeholders on sustainable WASH practices, involved multiple district-level trainers (DLTs), block-level trainers (BLTs) and capacity building of community resource persons (CRPs), women development officers (WDOs) and self-help groups (SHGs).

Water For People India's cascade training strategy to train stakeholders on sustainable WASH practices, involved multiple district-level trainers (DLTs), block-level trainers (BLTs) and capacity building of community resource persons (CRPs), women development officers (WDOs) and self-help groups (SHGs).

The key events included two regional-level training for 70 DLTs, CRPs, and WDOs from nine districts to incorporate WASH and IEC/BCC into their regular Food, Nutrition, Health and WASH (FNHW) training. Further, 248 district-level master trainers were trained on IEC/BCC in seven districts to promote sustainability of Swachh Bharat Mission – Gramin (SBM-G) assets; 28 DLTs were trained on WASH and IEC



from four districts-South 24 Parganas, Howrah, Birbhum and North 24 Parganas, to further train BLTs and CRPs and equip them to effectively spread messages for driving behaviour change among households. BLTs were conducted for developing skills of Sangha and Uma Sangha in South 24 Parganas, Howrah, and North 24 Parganas.

A state-level-workshop conducted in Kolkata aimed to empowering SHGs on WASH and promoting activities aligned with Local Sustainable Goals and flagship programs. A seven-day DLT (SHG) training, was conducted for 256 participants on WASH behaviour/practices.

#### Facilitating improved grey water management

A state-level orientation was conducted at Biswa Bangla Mela Prangan, Kolkata to train 185 engineers under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and Institutional Strengthening of Gram Panchayats (ISGP) from all 23 districts to provide insights into effective Grey Water Management (GWM) solutions and their integration into ongoing MGNREGA and ISGP initiatives. Water For People India-TSU and P&RD together imparted training for building holistic understanding on GWM techniques, site selection, preparation of detailed project report (DPR) and improving problem-solving ability of Block and GP-level engineers, Nirman Sahayaks, Junior Engineers, and district technical personnel across Nadia, Uttar Dinajpur, North 24 Parganas, South 24 Parganas, Paschim Bardhaman. In Nadia, 42 DPRs were prepared successfully setting a foundation for sustainable GWM practices.

Block and GP-level engineers were provided hands-on GWM orientation through field visits, to understand challenges like high groundwater table and clayey, impermeable soil in traditional GWM systems – soakpits and leachpits and enable them to explore and adopt alternative and effective GWM solutions suited to district \$\#39\$; specific conditions.

Based on multiple block visits in Paschim Bardhaman, Pandaveswar, Raniganj, Andal, Jamuria, and Barabani, 17 potential locations were identified for constructing GWM structures, wetlands and integrated settlers with Anaerobic Baffled Reactor (ABR). The GWM structures will benefit over 4,000 households in the selected villages, significantly improving the management of grey and black water, thus enhancing sanitation and environmental sustainability.

Revenue-based business for community latrine and FSTP in Kolkata As part of an action research a revolving fund-based Business Model Community Latrine was launched in collaboration with Sarva Seva Samiti Sansthan (4S) India to address sanitation issues in Duttabad urban slum communities of Salt Lake, Kolkata. It has separate sections for males and females and for sustainable operation, a monthly household fee of ₹80, is charged supplemented by subsidized cleaning services arranged by the local councillor.

To ensure effective O&M, the Nabarun Sangha WATSAN Committee, comprising 80 community households, has been established, to oversee governance and fund repayment. This initiative addresses immediate sanitation needs and focuses on long-term sustainability and scalability, with a business model to enhance public health outcomes and community well-being.







#### **TSU** supported activities in Birbhum

#### Capacity building and community engagement for sustainable WASH

For strengthening WASH services, engineers and lab technicians were orientated on prevalence of fluoride contamination and testing its levels including its health impacts, which led to the construction of 18 fluoride filtration units for safe water services. Key events included a one-day training on post-open defecation free (ODF+) plans in Khoyrasol, Birbhum, with PRD, targeting district-level sanitation management officials, including ADM (Additional District Magistrate), DNO (district nodal officers), block development officers (BDOs), engineers, and other local leaders to equip them with skills in solid and liquid waste management and sustainable sanitation initiatives with community engagement.

#### Enumerators' training for LoS survey facilitated by DLTs

A pool of 42 DLTs was created to train service providers like VWSCs/ Village Health Sanitation Nutrition Committee (VHSNC)/SHGs to monitor WASH infrastructure and promote water conservation methods, while 48 BLTs received hands-on training on WASH and mWater data collection app to assess WASH practices by communities and SHG members. A district-level- reflection workshop enabled officials to analyze LoS data, identify service gaps, and initiate

improvements, such as new sanitation facilities at public institutions. Additionally, WFP supported behavior change initiatives through IEC development, stakeholder training, and baseline surveys to drive informed decision-making and sustainable WASH practices at the community level.

#### IEC to promote community adoption of sustainable wash practices

Water For People India facilitated the development and translation of IEC materials for field use, which encouraged District Government to allocate Rs 30,000 per block in 19 blocks of Birbhum District for its adoption and scale up. Additionally, 375 stakeholders from various departments were trained on SBC, resulting in coordinated IEC implementation, while a baseline survey of 1,083 SHG households provided valuable data for district and state-level

planning to address WASH gaps.



For strengthening wash and community engagement for sustainable water management WFPI actively participated in District Water and Sanitation Mission (DWSM) meetings, and provided inputs on GWM, source sustainability, and IEC rollout to accelerate JJM and SBM 2.0 in 19 blocks. It supported state and district sanitation cells in identifying implementation gaps, planning SBM 2.0 activities, and successfully upgrading 1,999 villages to ODF+ status in Birbhum. Community mobilization efforts included awareness campaigns on groundwater scarcity, village action plan (VAP) development in 20 villages, and SHG training on well monitoring and project components. Additionally, Water For People India facilitated case study and report publications on nature-based solutions, the Gobardhan initiative, and digital capacity-building platforms, infrastructure improvements like installing fluoride mitigation filters in Kendragaria High School to improve water safety.

#### Infrastructure development, awareness and monitoring

Ten Hapas, two community farm ponds and six rooftop rainwater harvesting units were created during this period with WFPI support, which is benefiting over 2,000 individuals through improved access to water for agriculture and domestic use. In addition, increased community awareness and behavioral changes regarding water usage, capacity building of local stakeholders for groundwater monitoring and resource management were undertaken.

Other key activities involved compilation of well monitoring data from 20 wells in 20 villages, planning for VAP integration into GPDP for scalability and sustainability and initiation of dissemination of water conservation learnings and advocacy efforts for multilateral funding and project convergence.

This outreach led to significant engagement across communities, with noticeable female participation in activities like resource mapping and rooftop rainwater harvesting. It also reflects inclusive practices, ensuring both genders benefit from development interventions.

#### Developing a sustainable and efficient market for WASH services

To strengthen and expand the local sanitation systems in Birbhum, strategic partnership was built with Tomorrow's Foundation. A total of 18 Points of Purchase (PoPs) and two service providers were identified in Rajnagar and Khoirasol Blocks to support this initiative by empowering stakeholders with essential hygiene practices, fostering sustainable public health improvements, and ensuring lasting community well-being.

Identified entrepreneurs, PoP owners, and service providers, were oriented leading to increased awareness among hardware shop owners about the range and benefits of sanitation products. Masons improved their construction practices, enhancing the quality and durability of sanitation infrastructure. Strengthening connections between the community, hardware suppliers, sanitation workers, and masons, facilitating better access to sanitation products and services was also emphasized. Promoting "WASH Service Aggregator" in Howrah and South 24 Parganas In the second phase, WASH entrepreneurship through "WASH Service Aggregator" model, enabled identification of 97 Points of Purchase (PoPs) across three blocks in South 24 Parganas and six blocks in Howrah, along with 117 service providers across both districts.

They were trained on sustainable business practices Including two female entrepreneurs and two female service providers. For enhanced visibility, Water For People India distributed promotional hoardings to 60 entrepreneurs in Namkhana, Pathar Pratima, and Sagar Blocks of South 24 Parganas, and to 10 entrepreneurs in Howrah. Additionally, an orientation held in the second quarter engaged 49



entrepreneurs, 77 service providers, and 16 SHG members, providing them with a comprehensive understanding of the project's objectives.

#### Swachh Company Mobile bring improvement in sanitation services

Water For People India funded Swachh Company Mobile Application, equipped with user-friendly features (such as user registration, real-time and offline booking, and service cost management, pricing adjustment is an innovative platform designed to connect sanitation service providers with rural households and communities where sanitation infrastructure is often underdeveloped. Water For People India onboarded and trained 97 entrepreneurs: 17 in Howrah and 80 across Namkhana, Patharpratima, and Sagar Blocks of South 24 Parganas to effectively use the application.

This app is helping in bridging the gap between service providers and users, by ensuring easy access to essential sanitation services, eliminating the need for extensive travel or complex arrangements, thereby improving the quality of life for rural residents. These activities have laid a strong foundation for scalable, community-driven WASH services, furthering WFP's commitment to empowerment of local entrepreneurs.





#### **Addressing water and sanitation issues in South 24 Parganas**

Development of Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant (FSTP) pave the way to urban sanitation solution Significant advancements were achieved in Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant (FSTP) with support of Baikunthapur Tarun Sangha (BTS) in South 24 Parganas. Water For People India developed cesspool assembly became functional for effective conveyance and successfulsludge collection from 30-32 household septic tanks underscoring readiness of the system. WFP also designed and provided a low-cost pit emptying to the plan



#### **Extensive training and awareness**

Water For People India undertook wide-ranging training activities in the District, which involved district-level training on Water Quality on National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) requirements for 51 chemists/analysts, bacteriologists, laboratory assistants, laboratory attendants and sampling assistants) from 17 labs involved in monitoring water supply and groundwater spot sources. Additionally, 80 people were trained on VWSC role and responsibilities on O&M of JJM assets under Swajal Gram /Har Ghar Jal scheme by respective gram pradhans at Ghoramara and Sagar BDO office, and enumerators (180) of eight blocks were trained on monitoring tools and mWater Application for data



collection support have been extended in monitoring LoS in these eight blocks. 50 ISA members from 11 blocks were trained in ToT mode to train GP and VWSC members for smooth operations of JJM activities. During baseline survey conducted at Sagar, Namkhana and Kakdwip Block, 60 BLTs were trained on WASH and mWater application for data collection to assess the current status of WASH practices by the SHG members

Two members from each Solid Waste Management (SWM) unit and Patharpratima GP, Digambarpur GP, Namkhana Nirmal Uddan, Pratapadityanagar Echo Park, and 15 members from the Sashyoshyamola Agri FPCL participated in the orientation on compost selling organized at Sashyoshyamola Agri FPCL in Sagar Block.

A sanitation campaign on IEC and BCC was undertaken across the villages of 24 South Parganas in September 2024 spreading messages on ODF sustainability and continued toilet usage in 637 villages; biodegradable waste management through use of compost in 368 Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant set-up; Demonstration of sludge collection; Assembled Cesspool villages; handwashing with soap in 334 villages; plastic waste management in 226 villages; and displaying liquid waste management through soak pits in 276 villages.

Audio visual on SWM and five IEC materials were modified and implemented through convergence.

#### Glimpses of project outreach and engagement:

Existing PoPs in South 24 Parganas









Interaction with the SHG Clusters at Biki Hakola and Deulpur GP of Panchla Block, Howrah





Capacity Building of Entrepreneurs and Service Providers in Howrah and South 24 Parganas





Training of Entrepreneurs and Service Providers in Pathar Pratima, South 24 Parganas







Training of Entrepreneurs and Service Providers in Namkhana, South 24 Parganas





Entrepreneurs and Service Providers Training in Sagar, South 24 Parganas and on-boarding them on the Swachh Company Application









Distribution of hoardings to Entrepreneurs in South 24 Parganas and Howrah



## **Number of People Reached**

Three states, three districts and eleven blocks - Maharashtra (Amravati) - Chikaldhara; West Bengal - (Birbhum) - Khoyrasol, Rajnagar (South 24 Pargana) - Namkhana, Patharpratima, Sagar; Bihar (Sheohar) - Dumari Katsari, Piprahi, Sheohar, Purnahia, Tariyan

#### **ACCESS TO SAFE WATER**



- 2,153 water points providing drinking water of adequate quality
- 1,085 public institutions have access to functional handwashing facilities with water
- 86% households in WFP's project districts have access to safe and reliable drinking water services

#### **IMPROVED WASH AND HYGIENE**



- 535 schools have access to improved WASH
- 53 health clinics have access to improved WASH
- 317 Anganwadis have access to improved WASH
- 15% public institutions in Everyone Forever blocks that have basic facility on premises for disposal of menstrual waste
- 51% public institutions in these regions have access to sanitation facilities and improved drinking water source on premises



# **Impact Stories and Testimonials**

#### **WASH entrepreneurship foster innovation in sanitation**

WFP's WASH Entrepreneur Development Programme aims to engage and train motivated people, keen to drive change in sanitation sector. The "WASH Service Aggregator" model has successfully trained a significant number of local WASH entrepreneurs in West Bengal, who are using this knowledge to create innovative methods and expanding the market for quality sanitation services. The Aggregator model has successfully demonstrated its effectiveness by mobilizing first time entrepreneurs and driving marked improvement in sanitation facilities in the region.

#### Integrating new strategies to support business development

Entrepreneurs in South 24 Parganas have adopted innovative product display practices, which is helping in increased customer engagement and sales. This shift, inspired by project training, is reflected in a growing business acumen among local entrepreneurs.



# Women entrepreneurs participate in the delivery of sanitation services

A group of trained women entrepreneurs are effectively providing high-quality WASH services, demonstrating the programme's success in engaging motivated women in the sanitation sector.

These women are overcoming social barriers and gradually advancing their businesses by strengthening their management and communication skills.







Innovations that are enabling construction of cost-effective toilets Mangaldeep Roy, a sanitation entrepreneur from Panchla block in Howrah, developed a promising toilet construction method that reduces costs by up to 25%. This has helped in making sanitation more accessible for low-income households and enabling improvement in community health.



# Sustainable Water Solutions Promote Farming In Patharpratima

In Patharpratima, South 24 Parganas, West Bengal, shortage of water was a persisting challenge. This was adversely impacting farming and livelihood opportunities in the area. Cultivating only one crop per year became the norm for villagers. To address this challenge, the village self-help groups (SHGs) developed a Village Action Plan (VAP) with a provision to set up a ridge-and-furrow system, an effective method in harvesting and storing the rainwater and using it for agricultural purposes.

A suitable site was selected, and a ridge-and-furrow model was developed. This water system helped in significantly improved the water situation, as it was now available for use in agriculture throughout the year. The ridge and furrow system enabled year-round cultivation and even allowed villagers to take up fishery activities, which boosted household incomes and food security.

The initiative provided a sustainable solution, which reduced the impact of water scarcity in the area.

It promoted use of rainwater and empowered the community to adopt resource-efficient practices. It also showcased the significant role SHGs can play in driving local development and resilience.



#### Gobardhan initiative: A purposeful use of bio-waste

The GOBAR-Dhan scheme under the Jal Shakti Ministry was implemented in Birchandrapur Village of Dabuk Gram Panchayat of Birbhum District as part of Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) aimed to promote clean villages by creating open defecation-free (ODF) villages and solid and liquid waste management (SLWM).

The local government surveyed the community and identified the Panchpandava Mandir of Birchandrapur village (which has some 15 cows and space) to implement the scheme through Naopara Mahila Kalyan Samiti.

The Mandir committee is safely managing the livestock waste, agricultural waste and ultimately all organic waste. It greatly benefited the local community. It is saving the fuel consumption cost as now biogas is used for Prasad cooking and it is helping serve approximately 60 to 80 people every day.



# Strengthening technical knowledge and collaboration for improving sanitation

The project has led to increased awareness of toilet construction and waste management among entrepreneurs and service providers in South 24 Parganas. Sustainable connections between entrepreneurs and service providers have also been established, which is promoting collaboration and shared growth within the community.

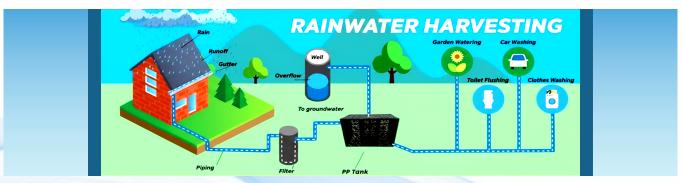
# Rainwater harvesting for improving WASH in school

When a study conducted as part of the Village Action Plan (VAP) revealed poor availability of water in Kishorinagar Free Primary School, the self-help groups (SHGs), the Gram Panchayat, and school teachers, worked together to install a rooftop rainwater harvesting system. The system effectively utilized the school's 1,600 square foot rooftop and created a reliable water source, which improved the hygiene and sanitation practices in students.

Water supply in schools and households in Kishorinagar, Patharpratima, South 24 Parganas is a serious challenge. This initiative ensured availability of a sustainable water supply for essential activities such as handwashing and toilet use and reduced the school's dependency on groundwater.

In the last two years the school utilized 65,000 liters of rainwater as per school records, showing that the system is functioning effectively. Additionally, it raised awareness about the importance of rainwater harvesting and water conservation among students and the broader community. The project also strengthened community participation, showcasing the positive impact of joint efforts.





# Visibility in Media

# पंप ऑपरेटर का प्रखंड स्तरीय प्रशिक्षण

अक्षर मिथिला, शिवहर

शिवहर प्रखंड परिसर में गुरुवार को पुरनहिया प्रखंड का वाटर फॉर पीपल के तकनीकी सहयोग एवं पीएचईडी के तहत एक दिवसीय प्रशिक्षण का आयोजन किया गया। जल नमूना तैयार करने ,जल आपूर्ति योजना के रखरखाव एवं संचालन ,जल चौपाल आयोजित करने हेत् अनुरक्षको पंप ऑपरेटर का प्रखंड स्तरीय प्रशिक्षण किया गया है जिसमें तकनीकी सहयोग वॉटर फॉर पीपल पंचायती राज वर्ष का तथा आयोजन लोक स्वास्थ्य अभियंत्रण प्रमंडल शिवहर के तत्वाधान में किया गया है। जिसमें पीएचईडी विभाग के कनीय अभियंता, वरीय रसानज्ञय पंप अप्रेटर तथा अनुरक्षक, जल जांच हेतु नम्ना संग्रह, पेयजल आपूर्ति रख रखाव, जल चौपाल, विषयों पर



प्रशिक्षण दिया गया. मौके पर वाटर फॉर पिपुल के राज्य परामर्शी राजीव राणा, जिला सहयोग विशेषज्ञ आशीष

कुमार, अमित कुमार समेत पीएचईडी के कनीय अभियंता विपिन कुमार, निखिल मिश्रा आदि कई मौजूद रहे!



सीतामढ़ी 23-01-2024

#### पानी को बचाने के लिए उसके संरक्षण पर जोर

भास्कर न्यूज डुमरी कटसरी

जिला पंचायत संसाधन केंद्र में सोमवार को शिवहर प्रखंड के नल जल के अनरक्षक व पंप ऑपरेटर का वाटर फॉर पीपुल के तकनीकी सहयोग एवं पीएचईडी की ओर से दिवसीय प्रशिक्षण आयोजन किया गया। जिसमें विभाग के पीएचईडी कनीय अभियंता, वरीय रसायनज्ञ, ऑपरेटर तथा अनुरक्षकों ने भगम लिया। इस दौरान जल जांच को नमुना संग्रह के साथ ही पेयजल आपूर्ति, रख रखाव, जल चौपाल विषयों पर प्रशिक्षण दिया वताया गया कि धरती पर पीने योग्य पानी कम होता जा रहा है। पानी को बचाना है तो इसका संरक्षण करना होगा। मौके पर वाटर फॉर पिपुल के जिला सहयोग विशेषज्ञ आशीष कुमार अमित स्प्रमेत पीएचईडी के कनीय अभियंता विपिन कुमार, धनंजय कुमार निखिल मिश्रा, सलोना कुमार आदि मौजूद थे।





# **Harvest water** while it rains

# Data Drought Can Waste Water





# **Financials-Funding Source, Expense Allocation**

Effective financial management is essential for any organization to successfully achieve its mission and objectives. It instils the necessary confidence among various stakeholders and members, facilitating the mobilization of financial resources. This confidence is particularly vital in today's challenging environment.

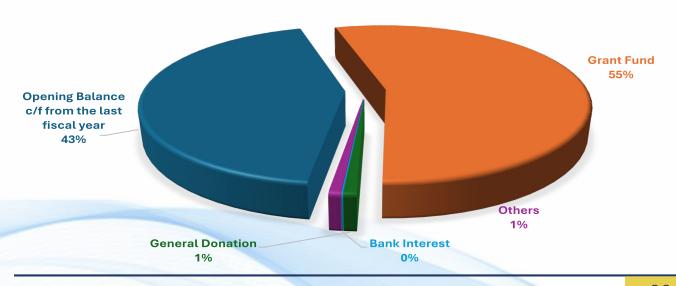
To address this need, Water for People India Trust has implemented a transparent financial system that incorporates robust checks and balances. We understand that clarity and accountability in financial matters are paramount for our patrons and supporters.

In the following section, you will find a visual representation of our financial statement for the fiscal year running from April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024. This presentation includes a breakdown of fund sources, the allocation of expenses, the balance brough forward (b/f) fund from the previous year and carry forward (c/f) in the next fiscal year and as below:

#### **Funding Source**

SOURCE FUND IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2023-2024				
Particulars	Amount (INR)	% of the total		
Opening Balance c/f from the last fiscal year	₹ 3,85,84,086	43.34%		
Grant Fund	₹ 4,88,94,690	54.92%		
General Donation	₹ 7,70,278	0.87%		
Bank Interest	₹ 71,041	0.08%		
Others	₹ 7,09,655	0.80%		
Total	₹ 8,90,29,750	100%		

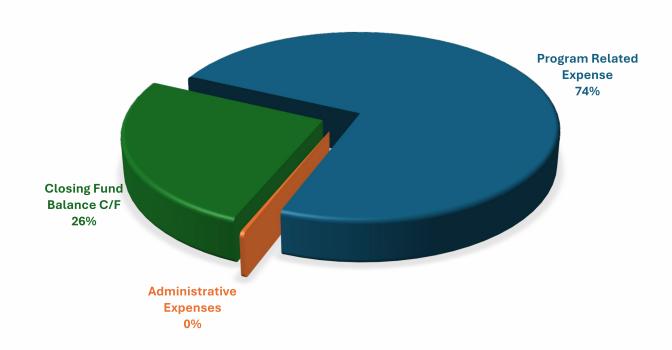
#### **SOURCE FUND IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2023-2024**





SOURCE FUND IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2023-2024				
Particulars	Amount (INR)	% of the total		
Program Related Expense	6,58,92,602	74%		
Administrative Expenses	2,86,269	0.32%		
Closing Fund Balance C/F	2,28,50,879	26%		
Total	8,90,29,750	100%		

## **EXPENSE ALLOCATION**





# **Support Partners**

S No	Name of India Partner	Place/ Area of Project/ Work
1	Sara Seva Samity Sanstha (SSSS)	Working at Peri Urban Kolkata and Muzaffarpur
2	India Grameen Services (IGS)	Working at Pakur Sadar and Maheshpur Blocks of Pakur District of Jharkhand
3	Rajarhat Prasari	Patharpratima and Gosaba in Sundarban Delta regions under South 24 Parganas District and two blocks in Birbhum District
4	AKVO	Patharpratima and Gosaba in Sundarban Delta regions under South 24 Parganas District and two blocks in Birbhum District
5	Baikunthpur Taun Sangh (BTS)	FSTP in South 24 Parganas District A
6	Agha Khan Rural Support Program	India (AKRSP) Sakra, Muraul and Bandara of Muzaffarpur District Sakra, Muraul and Bandara of Muzaffarpur District

#### **CORPORATE PARTNERS**

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS











NATIONAL PARTNERS





















KNOWLEDGE PARTNERS









GOVERNMENT PARTNERS















# **Acronyms**

ABR Anaerobic Baffled Reactor

ADM Additional District Magistrate

BDO Block Development Officer

BLT Block-Level Trainers

BPDP Block Panchayat Development Plan

BTS Baikunthapur Tarun Sangha
CCT Continuous Contour Trench

CLF Cluster Level Federations

CRP Community Resource Persons

DLT District-Level Trainers
DNO District Nodal Officers
DPR Detailed Project Report

DWSM District Water and Sanitation Mission

FNHW Food, Nutrition, Health and WASH

FPO Farmer Producer Organization
FSTP Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant

GP Gram Panchayat

GPDP Gram Panchayat Development Plan

GWM Grey Water Management

IEC Information Education Communication

ISA Implementation Support Agency

ISGP Institutional Strengthening of Gram Panchayats

JJM Jal Jeevan Mission
LoS Levels of service

MGNREGA Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act

O&M Operation and Maintenance

ODF Open Defecation Free

P&RD Panchayat and Rural Development

PDA Participant Digital Attestation

PHED Public Health Engineering Department

POP Point of Purchase



PRD Panchayati Raj Department
PWSS Piped Water Supply Scheme

SBCC Social Behaviour Change

Communication

SBM Swacch Bharat Mission

SHG Self-Help Group

SWM Solid Waste Management

ToT Training of Trainers

TSU Technical Support Unit

VAP Village Action Plan

VHSNC Village Health Sanitation Nutrition

Committee

VPRP Village Poverty Reduction Plans

VWSC Village Water and Sanitation

Committee

VWSSP Village Water Safety and Security

Plan

WDO Women Development Officers

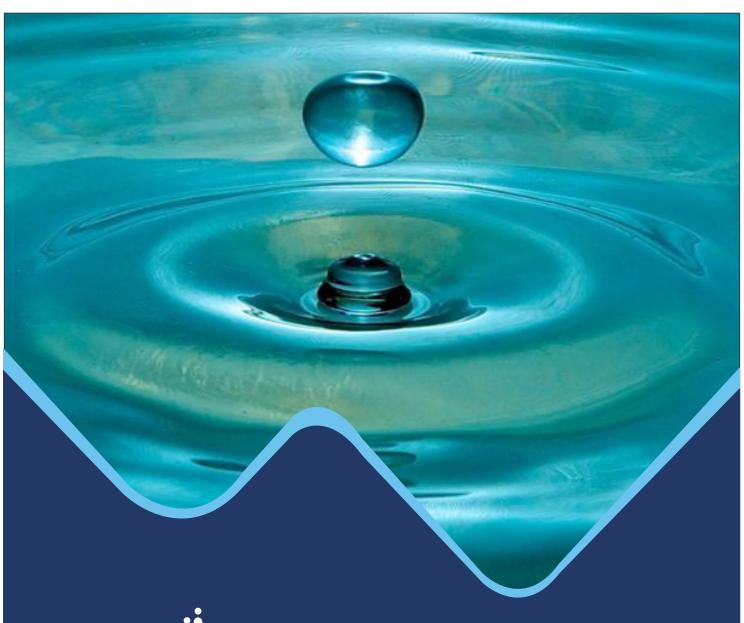
WFPIT Water for People India Trust
WIMC Ward Implementation and

Management

Committee

WUC Water User Committees

YP Young Professionals





## **Reach Us**

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