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2014-15



INDIA WATER FOUNDATION

Foreword

The Activities Carried Out By India Water Foundation (IWF) During 2014-2015 were partially influenced by international developments in water and environment sectors and partially by domestic developments in the wake of new initiatives launched by the NDA government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The international developments, *inter alia*, included World Water Day 2014 along with its theme on Water-Energy Nexus and the theme of World Water Day 2015 on Water and Sustainable Development. Interestingly, we at IWF have already been emphasizing on these themes for more than past couple of years and even then we continue to accord priority to these themes.



Other two notable international developments having relevance for the IWF were the release of two theme papers; one by the Beyond2015, an international civil society campaign, in March 2013 and the other by UN-Water in January 2014, and the convening of COP 20 at Lima (Peru) in early December 2014. The subject matter of both theme papers dealt with global role of water in the post-2015 development agenda. The emphasis on management of water resources and reuse of wastewater, as pioneered by these two theme papers is already being practiced by the IWF; nevertheless, we are determine to ensure compliance of these and other related suggestions in water sector. The deliberations at the COP 20 were more procedural in nature and no discussion on water took place. However, we are waiting for the outcome of the COP 21 scheduled to be held at Paris in December this year.

Of the various new missions launched by the NDA Government under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2014, three missions viz., Clean India Mission, Clean Ganga Mission and Smart Cities Mission had direct relevance for us and we have been evincing keen interest in playing important role in these missions. Water and sanitation are significant factors in maintain cleanliness. We at IWF have been emphasizing on the theme; “Water is life and sanitation is life-style.” We have consistently opposed the prevalent practice of open defecation in India and emphasized on building toilets as well as building capacity of the people, especially in the rural areas to make aware of the ill-effects of open defecation. We have offered cooperation and services to the government in making this mission of Clean India a success.

We have welcomed the revival of Clean Ganga Mission by the government. Simultaneously, the IWF has been in communication with the authorities looking after this mission with a view to cooperate with them in effective implementation of this mission, especially by building the capacities of the people and making them aware of the urgency of keeping Ganga River free from pollution and help restore its pristine glory. It is noteworthy that the IWF is already associated with clean Ganga Mission as a Civil Society Organization (CSO) to provide its services to carry out social development and Public Awareness and Public Participation (PAPP)

activities under the JICA- assisted Ganga Action Plan project for the past couple of years in Varanasi.

While welcoming the government's initiative on building 100 Smart Cities in India, the IWF has cautioned the concerned authorities that foreign models of smart cities can neither be imported nor transplanted and these have to be indigenously developed. While articulating its expression of interest to cooperate with the Ministry of Urban Development in Smart Cities Mission, the IWF in its communication has identified the areas where it can cooperate effectively, especially in water sector and capacity building. The other activities carried out by IWF have been enumerated in this report.

We feel immense pleasure in presenting this annual report to our patrons, well-wishers, colleagues and the general public. We wish to convey our gratitude to all those who stood with us in accomplishing our tasks despite all odds.



(Dr Arvind Kumar)
President, India water Foundation



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Overview

Civil society has widely come to be construed as sphere of morality, as constitutive element of the public sphere, and as basis for the civic community, which emphasizes on the socio-political role of civil associations that neither belongs to the state's sphere nor the market's one. It rather serves as a link between the government and the public by assimilating policies and programmes of the government in a democratic polity and disseminating the assimilated knowledge in the public at the grassroots level. The civil society also serves as the medium of conveying public feedback on official policies and programmes along with remedial suggestions.

India Water Foundation (IWF), a non-profit civil society organization, has been engaged in assimilation and dissemination of traditional wisdom, best practices and knowledge along with innovative techniques in water and environment sectors since its establishment in 2008. Like in the past, the activities of the IWF in 2014-2015 were greatly influenced by international as well as national developments in water and environment sectors to which it responded accordingly within meager resources at its disposal, as described below.



International Developments

International developments like themes of World Water Day, COP-20 held at Lima (Peru), theme paper released by Beyond2015 on “Water in the Post-2015 Development Agenda: A Post-2015 Global Goal for Water”, released in March 2013 and the theme paper released by UN Water in January 2014 on “A Post-2015 Global Goal for Water”, greatly influenced the thought and action of the India Water Foundation during 2014-2015.

World Water Day Themes

The theme of the **World Water Day 2014** was on **water-energy nexus**, which while emphasizing on the close inter-linkages and interdependence between water and energy, also reaffirmed the determination of the UN System and its Member States working collectively to focus attention on the water-energy nexus, particularly addressing inequities, especially for the 'bottom billion' who live in slums and impoverished rural areas and survive without access to safe drinking water, adequate sanitation, sufficient food and energy services. It also aimed at facilitating the development of policies and crosscutting frameworks that bridge ministries and sectors, leading the way to energy security and sustainable water use in a green economy, with specific emphasis on identifying best practices that can make a water- and energy-efficient 'Green Industry' a reality.

Interestingly, the India Water Foundation has been emphasizing on water-energy nexus through its presentations since 2011 and the World Water Day 2014 further reinforced its conviction in the utility of water-energy nexus and widening of scope of its universal acceptance.

Water and Sustainable Development has been selected as the main theme of World Water Day 2015 by the UN Water. This is deemed as a significant opportunity to consolidate and build upon the previous World Water Days to highlight water's role in the sustainable development agenda.

Significantly, India Water Foundation has been emphasizing on the important role of water in sustainable development for the past four years through its presentations and papers published from time to time. Nevertheless, adoption of water as the key factor in sustainable development has further reinforced the initiatives and campaigns being launched by the IWF in water sector.

Water in the Post-2015 Development Agenda

Global concerns about the role of water in Post-2015 Development Agenda have been aptly articulated in the document on “**Water in the Post-2015 Development Agenda**”, released by Beyond2015 in March 2013 and another document released by UN Water in January 2014 on “**A Post-2015 Global Goal for Water**”.

The **Beyond 2015**, an international civil society campaign pushing for a strong and legitimate successor framework to the Millennium Development Goals, in its document on “Water in the Post-2015 Development Agenda”, addresses the three dimensions of the UN thematic consultation on water, viz., **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Water Resources Management** and **Wastewater and Water Quality**.

The document emphasizes on universal access to **safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)**, which is crucial for the elimination of poverty and underpins all other aspects of social, economic and sustainable development.

Emphasis on **Water resources management** as a crucial factor in sustainable development, as envisaged in the document, *inter alia*, includes: managing water in an environmentally sustainable manner, protecting the ecosystems that store, deliver and clean freshwater for

multiple uses, and harnessing water resources as an input to small and large scale productive activities. Besides, it also stresses on balancing the different uses of water, including for agriculture, industry and energy production, and human domestic use as an essential measure for addressing poverty reduction and ensuring water security in the long-term.

Wastewater Management, as referred to in the document, is regarded as crucial to ensure the quality of water, both for human consumption and ecosystems. With proper management of wastewater treatment, its reuse in agriculture can provide benefits to farmers in conserving fresh water, improving soil integrity, preventing water pollution, and improving economic efficiency. It further emphasizes that WASH and environmental sustainability are mutually reinforcing.

The **UN-Water** and its partners had come together to develop suggestions for a dedicated global goal of ‘securing sustainable water for all’, the framework for which is envisaged in the document, “**A Post-2015 Global Goal for Water: Synthesis of key findings and recommendations from UN-Water**”.

The framework, encompassing all three dimensions of sustainable development - social, economic and environmental – aims to support the protection of water resources from over exploitation and pollution while meeting drinking water and sanitation needs, energy, agriculture and other uses; protecting communities from water-related disasters, the realization of the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation as well as other rights including those to life, of the child, of an adequate standard of living, and health. It is projected as a key building block for sustainable development, underpinning all other efforts to eradicate extreme poverty by 2030. The suggested goal and the key interlinked targets are shown in the diagram below.



Source: UN Water, 27 January 2014,

The global goal for water is supported by a coherent, cohesive and mutually reinforcing set of targets, which briefly are as follow:

- Achieve universal access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene;
- Improve the sustainable use and development of water resources;
- Strengthen equitable, participatory and accountable water governance;
- Treat wastewater and increase wastewater reuse; and
- Reducing mortality and economic loss from natural and human-induced water-related disasters.

Broadly speaking, the recommendations and goals envisaged in the theme papers of the Beyond2015 and UN-Water were apparently those with which India Water Foundation has already been dealing with. Nevertheless, keeping in view the significance of global water goal in the post-2015 development agenda, the suggestions and recommendations envisaged in these documents assumed added significance; hence, the IWF has also accorded priority to these in its water-related activities.

The U.N. Climate Change Conference (COP-20)

The 20th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 20) was held at Lima (Peru) on 1-12 December 2014. The COP-20 worked to hammer out a modest set of procedural steps, and made no real progress on the larger issues looming as they work toward a new global climate agreement at COP-21 scheduled to be held in December 2015 at Paris.

The COP 20 meeting at Lima began with a sense of momentum wherein the participating member countries agreed on loose arrangements for bringing forward their “intended nationally determined contributions” (INDCs) to the Paris agreement, followed by nearly \$10 billion in pledges to the new Green Climate Fund and the joint announcement by the United States and China of their post-2020 emission targets. They also forwarded the “elements for a draft negotiating text” that was to be produced by May 2015. But the “elements” paper – a compendium of all the issues and options put forward by parties – explicitly disclaimed any “convergence” and left the door open to further proposals in 2015.

In other areas, parties conducted a “multilateral assessment” of emission-cutting efforts by developed countries; debated how to continue scaling up finance to developing countries; failed again to make progress on new market-based approaches; and continued to struggle over aid to developing countries for “loss and damage” resulting from climate change. COP 21 will be held from November 30 to December 11, 2015, in Paris.

Undoubtedly, the issue of water did not form the part of agenda of deliberations held at COP 20; nevertheless, keeping in view the fact of water being a prime factor of climate change, the India Water Foundation always keeps a close watch on the proceedings of each COP to assimilate new ideas offered at this forum for harnessing new ideas into action. The IWF will be keeping a close watch on the forthcoming COP-21 at Paris.

National Developments

National or domestic developments in the form of policies and programmes of the government wield tremendous impact on the activities of the civil society, especially in water and environment sectors. The installation of BJP-led NDA government with Narendra Modi as Prime Minister in May 2014, new initiatives and programmes were unveiled. Amongst the new initiatives and programmes launched by Modi government, the initiatives on Clean India Mission, Clean Ganga Mission and Smart Cities' Mission have been of great significance for the India Water Foundation and it has frequently expressed its willingness to cooperate with the concerned ministries/departments of the Government of India as Development Partner in implementing these initiatives.

Clean India Mission

Clean India Mission (Swachh Bharat Abhiyan) was officially launched on 2 October 2014 at Rajghat, New Delhi, by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Touted as India's biggest ever cleanliness drive, about 3 million government employees and school and college students of India participated in this event on the launching day. It is a national campaign of the Government of India, covering 4041 statutory towns, to clean the streets, roads and infrastructure of the country.

This campaign, which is expected to cost over Rs. 62,000 crore, aims at accomplishing the vision of a 'Clean India' by 2 October 2019, the 150th birthday of Mahatma Gandhi. The specific objectives of this campaign, *inter alia*, include: Elimination of open defecation, Conversion of unsanitary toilets to pour flush toilets, Eradication of manual scavenging, 100% collection and processing/disposal/reuse/recycling of municipal solid waste, a behavioural change in people regarding healthy sanitation practices, Generation of awareness among citizens about sanitation and its linkages with public health, Supporting urban local bodies in designing, executing and operating waste disposal systems, Facilitating private-sector participation in capital expenditure and operation and maintenance costs for sanitary facilities.

Even prior to the launch of Clean India Mission, the IWF has been emphasizing on sanitation along with water with its stress on **“Water is Life and Sanitation is Life-style.”** It is expected to play important role in realizing the objectives of this mission in coming months.



Clean Ganga Mission

The BJP, which had included rejuvenation of river Ganga in its poll manifesto, launched a plethora of activities to cleanse the polluted River Ganga after coming to power at the Centre. A group comprising secretaries drawn from various ministries was constituted for preparing a roadmap on cleaning the river, while the water resources ministry engaged with industries spread across the banks of Ganga for solutions to stop effluents and untreated water directly reaching the river.



The Union Ministry of Water Resources was rechristened by adding Ganga Rejuvenation to it. Apart from earmarking an allocation of Rs. 2,037 crore for an integrated programme 'Namami Ganga' to conserve the river, the government is expected to undertake a slew of measures and plans to rein in polluting industries through **"tamper-free"** monitoring.

It is worth mentioning here that the IWF has already been associated with clean Ganga Mission as a Civil Society Organization (CSO) to provide its services to carry out social development and Public Awareness and Public Participation (PAPP) activities under the JICA- assisted Ganga Action Plan project for the past couple of years in Varanasi.

Smart Cities Mission

The NDA government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has unveiled an ambitious urban agenda of building 100 smart cities in order to make cities “symbols of efficiency, speed and scale.” To achieve this, the government plans to prioritize housing and public transport, build 100 new cities, use technology to improve urban services, and make development sustainable. The new urban development agenda emphasizes on policies meant to make cities slum-free and infuse investment in infrastructure. The concept of smart cities focuses on building new cities either as a satellite city or a twin city near existing metros in order to ease urban pressure, instead of building new cities in distant places around a single industrial activity.

The Smart Cities Mission witnessed its formal launching on 25 June 2015 by the Prime Minister in New Delhi along with other two missions – the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) and Housing for All (Urban). According to the newly unveiled plans, while 500 cities will be developed under AMRUT scheme, there would be 100 Smart Cities over five years. Smart City will be selected through a competition among cities while 500 cities are being identified under AMRUT. Those cities which were able to competitively meet the required parameters would be developed as smart cities.

India Water Foundation has evinced keen interest in the Smart Cities Mission and has approached the Union Urban Ministry to be associated with this mission as a development partner in this regard as mentioned in details in the activities of the IWF below.

Major Activities

Major activities undertaken by India Water Foundation during 2014-2015 aimed at improving water situation in the National Capital Region (NCR) of Delhi with the active participation of IWF, proposing IWF involvement in Smart Cities Mission, willingness for participation in Clean Ganga Mission, Emphasis on Health-Plus Approach to Water and Sanitation, participation in and cooperation with international agencies and miscellaneous activities.

Improving Water Situation in the National Capital Region (NCR) of Delhi

In its commitment to help improve water situation in the National Capital Region (NCR) of Delhi, India Water Foundation has since its inception been approaching the Government of Delhi with the offer of its services to help improve water-related problems of the people of Delhi. There had been some positive developments in the past, which, however, could not proceed further.

Nevertheless, the IWF did not slacken its endeavours in this regard and accordingly on 21 November 2014, it addressed a communication to the Lt. Governor of Delhi stressing upon the urgency for formulating Water Policy for the NCR Region of Delhi. Keeness of the India Water Foundation to cooperate with Government of Delhi was also conveyed in this communication in the formulation and implementation of the proposed water policy as a catalyst for finding sustainable solutions to water and environment related problems. It was also emphasized that such a move could prove instrumental in speeding up Delhi's onward march to emerge as Model Global Smart City.

With the onset of 2015, political developments took dramatic turn in Delhi and Aam Adami Party (AAP) was voted to power in the aftermath of state Assembly elections. Accordingly, the IWF, while reaffirming its commitment play its role in tackling water-related problems of Delhi, it addressed a communication to Manish Sisodia, Deputy CM & Chairman-Delhi Jal Board, on 21 February 2015 Government of Delhi, asserting that Delhi being already beset with vast array of problems in water sector, especially in terms of pollution of water resources, depletion of ground water resources, lack of governance in water sector etc., required a holistic approach to water-related issues & challenges facing Delhi.

The IWF in its communication offered to assist Delhi Jal Board (DJB) in the monitoring and evaluation of DJB-funded Rain Water Harvesting (RWH) and ground water recharging schemes, in the identification and development of new ground water sources in Flood-plain-aquifer systems of Yamuna, Hindon and Ganga rivers to help augment the existing water supplies as well as also help in water quality monitoring and assessment work in NCT Delhi in water quality problem areas.

Negotiations with the Government of Delhi are in progress in this regard.

Expression of Interest in Smart Cities Mission

In the wake of the launch of the Smart Cities Mission by the Government in India soon after coming to power in 2014, especially developing 100 smart cities and to begin with the city of Varanasi having been selected for development of a smart city with the help from Kyoto of Japan, India Water Foundation in a communication addressed to the Union Ministry of Urban Development on 30 October 2014, welcomed the scheme of developing '100 smart cities' as a massive green-field project that could change the Indian landscape.

While referring to 'Smart Cities' abroad, the IWF communication cautioned that foreign model of smart cities could neither be imported nor transplanted, it had to be emulated by adapting it to the local context and this may pose several ideological, technical, societal, financial and governance related challenges, especially in view of the fact that a sizeable segment of the urban population in India is still faced with problems like poverty, homelessness, resource scarcity and a lack of adequate sanitation facilities.

Reiterating its willingness to cooperate with the Ministry of Urban Development in developing Smart Cities, the IWF offered its help in water sector, especially in making urban population aware about the worth of safe drinking water and keeping water resources free from pollution and ensure judicious use of water.

In another communication addressed to the Union Ministry of Urban Development on 13 November 2014, the IWF requested for the Empanelment of India Water Foundation as National Resources Centre and to become Partner in Progress of Ministry to impart water and sanitation literacy, building capacity to enhance livelihood options and capacity building to the people. The key areas in which the IWF could help the Ministry, *inter alia*, included: Water, Sanitation, Training and Capacity building, Skill development / Vocational Training, Development of Convergence and Linkages with various stakeholders and agencies, Conducting Surveys and Research, Propagation and Knowledge sharing/dissemination through Exhibitions, Conferences, Workshops, Multi-media, etc.; and Coordination with International agencies

The request for empanelment of India Water Foundation as **Centres of Excellence** and to become **Partner in Progress** of Ministry of Urban Development in Water Sector, Especially Drinking Water, in Urban Areas, in capacity building of the people in smart city especially drinking water and sanitation sectors was reiterated again by the IWF in its communication addressed to the Union Ministry of Urban Development in a communication on 21 May 2015.

The matter is under consideration and negotiations in this regard are in progress.

Clean Ganga Mission

India Water Foundation has been vigorously espousing the cause of making River Ganga free from pollution for more than five years. With the adoption of the Namamai Gange programme by the Modi government and allocation of special fund in the Union Budget prompted the IWF to address a communication to the Union Minister of Road, Transport, Highways and Shipping on 25 June 2014 containing the request of the IWF to be associated with any mission/project of the Clean Ganga Mission in whatever capacity it could be deemed appropriate to help the government realize objectives of that mission in a sustainable manner in the larger national interest.

Further negotiations in this regard are in progress.

Plea for Health-Plus Approach

Keeping in view the fact that bulk of the diseases are water-borne, the IWF addressed a communication to Union Health Ministry on 13 November 2014, pleading for adoption of Health-Plus approach by aptly managing water and sanitation sectors. A Concept Note detailing the Health-Plus approach was sent to the Ministry along with the communication. It was further stated that government's promise of **"Swachh Bharat Mission"** by ensuring hygiene, waste management and sanitation across the nation as well as the promise of ensuring Water Security in the country could better be realized and fulfilled in a time framework by adopting Health-plus approach.

It was further suggested in the communication that since Health sector and Drinking Water and Sanitation were being looked after by two different ministries; it would be worthwhile to form a Committee on Health, Drinking Water and Sanitation to suggest health related policy measures from Drinking Water and Sanitation perspectives. The members of this committee could be drawn from Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation and some representatives from Civil Society.

India Water Foundation expressed its willingness to cooperate with the Union Health Ministry in this regard. It also offered its cooperation to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in organizing an International Conference on Health, Water and Sanitation in New Delhi. These suggestions of the IWF are reportedly under consideration of the Ministry and further developments are awaited.

IWF as National Key Resource Centre

India Water Foundation has been empanelled as National Key Resource Centre of the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Government of India, (vide reference No. E-File WQ-11012/5/2015-Water-1, dated 12 March 2015), for upgrading knowledge, skills and attitudes of the PHED Engineers, PRI representatives, master trainers and other stakeholders; equipping the trainees intellectually and professionally, and motivating them to attain professional excellence.

International Cooperation

Efforts of India Water Foundation to forge close cooperation with international agencies and academic institutions in water, energy and environment sectors continued during the period under review. Participation of the IWF in a conference on water and energy in the past in the University of Colombo in Sri Lanka had evoked keen interest in the academics of the Department of Geography of the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka and according a request reached IWF regarding cooperation between India Water Foundation (IWF) and Department of Geography, University of Colombo Sri Lanka in sustainable ecosystem management.

In its reply communication dated 9 April 2014, the IWF suggested for the constitution of a Joint Committee of Experts from the IWF and Colombo University to undertake joint studies in water, energy, food and environment sectors in both countries as well as in third country/countries. Besides, an exchange programme of experts and students in water, energy and environment sectors can be facilitated by both sides to promote better understanding and sharing of knowledge and expertise and to visit various successful model of complete water security, especially community initiative. Further negotiations in this regard are in progress

Seventh meeting of the Task Force on Water and Climate and the fifth workshop on water and adaptation to climate change in trans-boundary basins, organized on 13-15 October 2014 in Geneva by the UNECE Water Convention and several partner organizations in trans-boundary basins, focused on developing and implementing climate change adaptation strategies and measures, taking into account specific outcomes at the trans-boundary level. The workshop brought together experts working on adaptation to climate variability and change, with a focus on trans-boundary basins; it was convened under the leadership of the Governments of the Netherlands and Switzerland, with support from the Secretariat of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).



Dr. Arvind Kumar presenting his paper at "Seventh meeting of the Task Force on water and Climate and Fifth Workshop on Adaptation to Climate Change in Trans-boundary Basins, 13-15 October 2014, Geneva, Switzerland organized by UNECE Water Convention, AGWA, WMO, the INBO, GIZ, GEF iw: learn and IUCN under the leadership of the govt. of The Netherlands and Switzerland

Dr Arvind Kumar, President, India Water Foundation, highlighted the role of civil society in facilitating inter and intra-governmental convergence in water, energy, climate-mitigation-adaptation sectors in Meghalaya (India) with emphasis on this region's potential in synergizing trans-boundary basin management cooperation in the Himalayan region of South Asia. The presentation of the IWF was appreciated by many participants and some of them evinced interest in discerning more details, which were subsequently made available to them.



Miscellaneous Activities

- India Water Foundation (IWF) organized the Water Conclave at Shillong on 22 March 2014 (UN Water Day) with the support of the Government of Meghalaya, Meghalaya Water Foundation, ICIMOD Nepal & GIZ Climate Change Adaptation for North East region. Dr. Arvind Kumar, IWF President, in his presentation, highlighted key water-related issues facing the region and to the water policy-its ownership, development, governance and implementation in the North Eastern Region.
- National Conference on Water and its Sustainability in Mining and other Environment: Vision 2050 (WSME 2014) was organized by Department of Civil Engineering of the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad in association with Ministry of Earth Sciences, GOI and India Water Foundation, at New Delhi on March 28-29, 2014
- President of IWF participated as panelist in the round table on “Sustainable Growth of Delhi 2030 and vision 2050” organized by South Asia Forum for Energy Efficiency (SAFE) on World Environment Day, 5th June 2014, at NDMC Convention Centre, Sansad Marg, New Delhi
- President of IWF participated as Keynote Speaker in the meeting in Dubai on **“Strengthening regional co-operation among Afghanistan, India & Pakistan on Climate Change Resilience”** at Avari Hotel, Dubai, UAE – June 18, 2014 organized by Global Water Partnership and Pakistan Water Partnership.
- President of India water Foundation, Dr Arvind Kumar contributed a research paper on “Rural female entrepreneurship in the Eastern Himalayan region of South Asia”, which was published in *Tech Monitor*, October- December 2014 issue, published by ESCAP-SWA, New Delhi. While focusing on the theoretical paradigms of rural female entrepreneurship, the article briefly deals with female entrepreneurship policies, institutional mechanisms, and obstacles confronting female entrepreneurs in the countries of Himalayan part of South Asia.

About India Water Foundation

India Water Foundation (IWF), a non-profit civil society and think tank, is engaged in enhancing public awareness on water and related environment issues in Asia-Pacific region in general and India in particular, regarding the vital role water and environment play in human lives, their impact on health, economic growth, livelihoods of the people and calamities that wreak havoc due to non-judicious harnessing of these natural resources. Generation of this awareness is facilitated through seminars, conferences, symposia, outreach and personal contact programs etc. As water is an essential component of power generation and food production, therefore, IWF is also engaged in ensuring environmental security, water security, energy security and food security which are essential for sustainable development.

Vision

India Water Foundation (IWF) nurtures its Vision to visualize Asia-Pacific region as a water-surplus region sans environmental hazards by 2050 by integrating approaches as key components of sustainable development into national policy at local, provincial, national and regional levels by harnessing water-energy-climate-food nexus approach, assimilation and dissemination of wit and wisdom from local to global level and *vice versa*, promotion of inter-sectoral convergence in water and environment sectors, capacity-building of all stakeholders in water and environment sectors, equal emphasis on Soft and Hard Solutions to water and environment related problems and to change the mind-set of the stakeholders to perceive water as Environment Plus for sustainable development goal .

Mission

The IWF works amongst the people at the grassroots level, especially amongst the marginalized and weaker sections, women, tribal's and the poorest communities in India and the Asia-Pacific region, in cooperation with local, state and national governments, and with other like-minded civil society organizations (CSOs), to help them develop water, sanitation, hygiene and climate change adaptation services that are not temporary, but lasting forever. The IWF identifies the roadblocks to sustainable development and helps overcome them. It helps the people to make the change from short-term gains to long-lasting services that could transform their lives and their futures.

Partnership, Accreditation and Rapport of IWF

India Water Foundation has been empanelled as Key Resource Centre (KRC) under Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation GOI, and has Direct Membership with ICID, New Delhi. It has partnership, rapport and accreditation with many national and internationally reputed organisations, NGOs and CSOs etc., especially rapport with UNEP, UN-ESCAP and other UN/International Organisations. It is also a knowledge partner of Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA) Government of Meghalaya, and Meghalaya Water Foundation and President of the IWF has been appointed as member of Meghalaya State Water Resources Council.

The IWF has also been working as a Civil Society Organization (CSO) to provide its services to carry out social development and Public Awareness and Public Participation (PAPP) activities under the JICA- assisted Ganga Action Plan project for a period of three years in Varanasi.

IWF's Thought Leadership

India Water Foundation has amassed a plethora of knowledge wealth through its exposure and participation in leading national and international deliberations in water, energy and environment sectors and on the basis of this accumulated knowledge it has pioneered non-engineering and non-technical solutions which are of equal significance in tackling water and environment related problems by encompassing PPT (People – Process – Technology). This gives the IWF advantage of thought leadership in many areas like policy formulation, facilitating conferences, seminars, symposia, workshops etc., capacity-building and sustenance, eco-sustainability, facilitating technology intervention, nexus approach, assimilation & dissemination of Water, Environment and Sanitation related knowledge, Inter-Sectoral Convergence, emphasis on Soft Approach, collective approach on Water and other related sectors etc. These are briefly described below:--

Catalyst for Policy Formulation

India Water Foundation has highly qualified, experienced and dedicated experts in the field of water management and governance, climate change mitigation and adaptation. These experts have immense exposure to national and international leading practices and innovative techniques and as such their expertise can be utilized in the formulation of critical policies. This expertise can be extremely effective in policies creation that will support inter-sectoral 3Cs – Cooperation, Coordination & Convergence - enabling effective impact as a result of optimized implementation of the policies. The IWF is capable of contributing to a great extent in designing, planning and monitoring of highly specialized programmes which can be helpful in improving the water management system in a sustainable manner, especially at the grassroots level.

Facilitating Conference/Workshop/Seminars

Prolonged vast exposure to national and international conferences, seminars, symposia, workshops and round-tables has enabled India Water Foundation to amass a very rich experience in organizing conferences/seminars/workshops etc at regional, national and international levels. Owing to its close partnership and rapport with various leading national and international organizations /agencies/institutes, the IWF can elicit the cooperation and participation of technical experts. The IWF is equally well placed to interact with private sector companies engaged in water, energy and environment sectors. Thus, the IWF is privileged to extend wide variety of facilities which are essential for making conferences/seminars/symposia a gala success.

Key speakers constitute the spine of the conference/seminar/workshop and their pronouncements cast a wide-ranging impact on the audience and provide news material for the media. Owing to its good relations with the leading national and international agencies, the IWF can facilitate the availability of senior advisors/experts for the designated conference/seminar. Besides, it can also

elicit the cooperation of experts from leading academic and technological institutions for the same purpose.

Concomitantly, the IWF maintains very cordial relationship with media, both print as well as electronic. Media wields tremendous impact on global politics and society owing to its vast reach. Media coverage provides opportunity to disseminate the message and helps in boosting the image. The IWF can facilitate interaction with print and electronic media.

The IWF can be instrumental in providing a platform for the regional and international stakeholders to encourage greater coordination and collaboration among policy makers, authorities, professionals, researchers, civil society representatives, private sector as well as operators of water, energy and environmental facilities. It can be helpful in bringing together the public and private sector players, and central and local authorities, thus offering most up-to-date solutions.

Capacity Building and Sustenance

Capacity building enables the stakeholders to efficiently deploy their resources for the sustainable development of natural resources, especially water and energy. Capacity building programs for resources at ground level and especially Engineers and Hydrogeologists of all the water-user state agencies as well as for ULBs and community are essential for the better management of water resources.

In Capacity building exercises, India Water Foundation involves all stakeholders and includes local traditional knowledge and wisdom to ensure better adaptability and acceptance. The Capacity Building programs organized by IWF in water sector generally include areas like Groundwater and Hydro-geology, Water Harvesting including Urban Storm Water harvesting, Drinking Water Quality Monitoring and surveillance including establishing Brackish Ground Water (BGW) Desalination plants to reducing pressure on fresh water resources, sustainability activities - Designing and implementation, improving community participation involvement in management of Urban Drinking Water, supply schemes - establishing water project groups made up of community leaders who are trained by experts on how to monitor, maintain and repair water systems and training of trainers for District and Subdivision level trainers for the states on technical capacity building of the community etc.

Nexus Approach

India Water Foundation envisions integrating sustainable development into national policy at national, regional and global level. Sustainable development is a new paradigm for economic growth, social equality and environmental sustainability. Water is a key component of sustainable development and all ecosystems are inextricably linked with water. Keeping in view the close nexus between water, environment, energy and food, solution to water related problems can better be facilitated through this '**nexus approach**', which seeks to find solutions based on convergence between various sectors or disciplines and is being widely regarded along with resilience to attain sustainable development. The nexus approach can serve as a bridge that could engulf the gap between the social, economic and environmental pillars of sustainable

development. In pursuance of this ‘nexus approach’, the IWF focuses on Environmental Security, Water Security, Energy Security and Food Security.

Assimilation and Dissemination of Water Knowledge

India Water Foundation is engaged in assimilation and dissemination of plethora of wit and wisdom generated locally, regionally and globally in water sector and making it accessible to all stakeholders in water sector in their vernacular language so that the concerned stakeholders are benefited by it. Water related knowledge is generated through innovation experimentation and techniques, seminars, conferences and workshops etc. However, the knowledge thus generated remains confined to printed reports in different languages that adorn the shelves of the archives and it seldom reaches the masses which are main stakeholders of water sector. The IWF plans to make efforts in this regard to assimilate such knowledge and get it translated into local languages for further dissemination amongst the people. However, it is gigantic task requiring collective support of national, regional and international agencies.

Inter-Sectoral Convergence

There are about eleven ministries of the Government of India which deal with water related issues in one way or the other. These ministries inter alia include Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Urban Development, Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Ministry of Agriculture etc. Besides, water being a state subject is being looked after by each state according to its requirements. Thus, there exists a sectoral approach to water related issues and there is lack of coordination, cooperation and convergence in water sector between and amongst various Central ministries on the one hand and between the Central Government and states on the other. This results in duplication of work and extra expenditure without achieving tangible outcome of significance.

It is in this backdrop that the IWF has been making efforts to promote inter-sectoral and intergovernmental convergence in water sector and it has succeeded to some extent as well. India Water Foundation has been espousing the case for establishing **India Water Hub** as an apex body where all stakeholders in water sector share their knowledge and get their water-related grievances redressed at national and local levels.



Emphasis on Soft Approach

India Water Foundation has taken up the initiative of laying equal emphasis on ‘Soft Approach’ along with ‘Hard Approach’ to tackle water related problems. Thus far the major emphasis has been on finding engineering and technological solutions to water related issues and policy making, its implementation and feedback process from the stakeholders has generally not received due emphasis which it deserves. The Soft Approach entails capacity building of the people and as such India Water Foundation is affirmative about the need for capacity-building of the people and institutions in water sector. This task of **capacity-building** of the people can be accomplished by sensitizing, incentivizing and galvanizing the people about water-related issues.

Sectoral to Collective Approach

Adverse impact of the ongoing process of climate change, fast depletion of global surface and ground water resources and rapid melting of glaciers coupled with mounting problem of pollution of water resources cumulatively add to the already grim problem of acute shortage of drinking water in almost all parts of the globe. Various UN agencies like UNEP, UN Habitat, UN ESCAP, UNESCO, WHO, FAO, UNICEF etc and international water organizations look upon water from their regional or problem-centric perspective. Nevertheless, water governance is a global issue that calls for collective approach and not sectoral approach. India Water Foundation lays emphasis on international and inter and intra-organizational synergy in water sector to tackle the problems pertaining to water and thereby ensuring sustainable supply of safe drinking water globally.



Organizational Chart

Governing Council of the India Water Foundation

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Honorary Patron and Chairman of the Respective Committees

Smt. Stuti Kacker, IAS (Retd):

Honorary Patron and Chairman of the Committee on Water and Human Development Hon'ble Former Secretary, Department of Disability Affairs, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India

Dr. Ajit Tyagi:

Honorary Patron and Chairman of the Committee on Climate Change Hon'ble "Koteswaram Professor" at Ministry of Earth Sciences GOI, and Former Director General (DG) of the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

Shri Prakash Singh:

Honorary Patron and Chairman of the Committee on Water Security Hon'ble "Former DGP Assam and Former DG BSF"

Dr. V.K. Garg:

Honorary Patron and Chairman of the Committee on Energy Hon'ble "Chairperson, Joint Electricity regularity Commission (For the State of Goa and union territories)"

Er. Avinash C. Tyagi:

Honorary Patron and Chairman of the Committee on Water and Sustainable Development Secretary General International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID)"

| Honorary Advisor and Member Advisory Committee of IWF | |
|---|---|
| Dr Subhash Chand Dhiman Chief Advisor (Ex Chairman Central Ground Water Board) | Dr. R K Prasad Principal Chief Advisor (Former Director (IREDA) & Ex Chairman Central Ground Water Board Ministry of Water Resources GOI) |
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| Shri S.K. Chaturvedi Senior Advisor (Former Pro-Vice Chancellor Chaudhary Charan Singh University) | Mr. Vinay Kumar Tewari Principle Advisor (Presently Prof. with IIT Roorkee & Formerly V.C. Uttarakhand Technical University) |
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