

Integrated Watershed Development Program (IWDP - Haryali)

The scheme was launched on 27th January 2003

Objectives:-

- Ø Harvesting every drop of rainwater for purposes of irrigation, plantations including horticulture and floriculture, pasture development, fisheries etc. to create sustainable sources of income for the village community as well as for drinking water supplies.
- Ø Ensuring overall development of rural areas through the Gram Panchayats and creating regular sources of income for the Panchayats from rainwater harvesting and management.
- Ø Employment generation, poverty alleviation, community empowerment and development of human and other economic resources of the rural areas.
- Ø Mitigating the adverse effects of extreme climatic conditions such as drought and desertification on crops, human and livestock population for the overall improvement of rural areas.
- Ø Restoring ecological balance by harnessing, conserving and developing natural resources i.e. land, water, vegetative cover especially plantations.
- Ø Encouraging village community towards sustained community action for the operation and maintenance of assets created and further development of the potential of the natural resources in the watershed.
- Ø Promoting use of simple, easy and affordable technological solutions and institutional arrangements that make use of, and build upon, local technical knowledge and available materials.

Criteria for Selection of Watersheds

- Ø Watersheds where People's participation is assured through contribution of labour, cash, material etc. for its development as well as for the operation and maintenance of the assets created.
- Ø Watershed areas having acute shortage of drinking water.
- Ø Watersheds having large population of scheduled castes/scheduled tribes dependent on it.
- Ø Watershed having a preponderance of non-forest wastelands/degraded lands.

- Ø Watersheds having preponderance of common lands.
- Ø Watersheds where actual wages are significantly lower than the minimum wages.
- Ø Watershed which is contiguous to another watershed that has already been developed/ treated.
- Ø Watershed area may be of an average size of 500 hectares, preferably covering an entire village. However, if on actual survey, a watershed is found to have less or more area, the total area may be taken up for development as a project.

In case a watershed covers two or more villages, it should be divided into village-wise sub-watersheds confined to the designated villages. Care should be taken to treat all the sub-watersheds simultaneously.

Activities for Watershed Development

- Ø Development of small water harvesting structures such as low-cost farm ponds, nalla bunds, check-dams, percolation tanks and other ground water recharge measures.
- Ø Renovation and augmentation of water sources, desiltation of village tanks for drinking water/irrigation/fisheries development.
- Ø Fisheries development in village ponds/tanks, farm ponds etc.
- Ø Afforestation including block plantations, agro-forestry and horticultural development, shelterbelt plantations, sand dune stabilization, etc.
- Ø Pasture development either by itself or in conjunction with plantations.
- Ø Land Development including in-situ soil and moisture conservation measures like contour and graded bunds fortified by plantation, bench terracing in hilly terrain, nursery raising for fodder, timber, fuel wood, horticulture and non-timber forest product species.
- Ø Drainage line treatment with a combination of vegetative and engineering structures.
- Ø Repair, restoration and up-gradation of existing common property assets and structures in the watershed to obtain optimum & sustained benefits from previous public investments.
- Ø Crop demonstrations for popularizing new crops/varieties or innovative management practices.
- Ø Promotion and propagation of non-conventional energy saving devices, energy conservation measures, bio fuel plantations etc.

Transparency

- Ø Preparation of the Action Plan for the watershed by the Gram Panchayat in consultation with Self-Help Groups/User Groups with the assistance of WDT members.
- Ø Approval of the Action Plan at the open meetings of the Gram Sabha.
- Ø Display of approved Action Plan on a Notice Board at the Gram Panchayat Office, Village Community Hall and such other community buildings.
- Ø Review of physical and financial progress of work during implementation phase through periodical meetings of the Gram Sabha.

Payment to labourers directly and through cheques wherever possible.

Funding Pattern

The present cost norm is Rs 6000 per hectare. This amount shall be divided amongst the following project components subject to the percentage ceiling mentioned against each: -

- (i)
Watershed Treatment/ Development Works/ Activities
85%
 - (ii)
Community Mobilization and Training
5%
 - (iii)
Administrative Overheads
10%
- TOTAL
100%

Savings, if any, in the administrative costs can be utilized for undertaking activities under the other two heads viz. training and watershed works, but not vice-versa. Purchase of vehicles, office equipment, furniture etc., construction of buildings, and payment of salaries of government staff will not be permissible.