

AWH annual Rept Apr 2007 to Mar 2008:

AWH is working with several European NGO as well the City of Hilden, Germany to carry out our salt water intrusion mitigation work and associated work to protect the aquifers of the bio-region.

“Sanjeevi Nagar Filter Drinking Water Project”

The Project:

- identified the responsible women of the village who were the shakers and movers of the village to oversee the Sanjeevi Nagar Filter Drinking Water Project
- AWH field staff worked with the women on a wide number of social mobilisation issues e.g. awareness raising about the links between water and disease, the importance of clean water for health and prosperity, the need for the project to be self sustaining
- AquaDyn ran workshop on the Operation and Maintenance of the Filter System with the women’s group
- the women’s group discussed all the issues and came up with a sustainable water delivery plan and identified the women who would run the rotating program
- the women discussed the monetary needs to make the project sustainable and collect money on a weekly/monthly basis from the residence and bank the money in their Women SHG bank account

Ensemble (France)

The: **“SALINITY MODERATING AND PROOFING OF COASTAL AQUIFERS : INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT WITH A PARTICIPATORY APPROACH”**

The project is using an integrated water management to:

- increase rainwater harvesting capacities and improve groundwater recharge by rehabilitating the traditional tanks and ponds
- to rehabilitate and extend the interconnected channel system of the area to 11200 meters
- to create village level local institutions (Water Users Associations) and framework to manage and maintain the existing tanks and ponds in the village.
- to create awareness among the various users groups about the impact they have on the water table
- to create a Hydro meteorological data collection framework through weather stations and to train the people in assessing the water balance of their own area
- to establish integrated organic farming demonstration plots in order to increase the overall income of the farmers, to reduce water consumption and improve the environment
- to conduct trials on building sanitation facilities in the villages in order to reduce water borne diseases

- to conduct research on the impact of rehabilitated traditional tanks (on groundwater recharge), the impact on organic/sustainable agricultural practices and improve the surface water quality and soil fertility.

Ensemble (France)
“Dryland farming Project”

The project seeks to combat *saltwater intrusion* by working with user groups to change their agricultural irrigation methodologies to become more sustainable via *Integrated Water Development Plan* (IWDP) coupled with organic agricultural. Both these models try to conserve resources and try and produce many resource on farm which leads to more self sufficiency. We will accomplish this by:

- increase rainwater harvesting capacities and improve groundwater recharge by rehabilitating the traditional tanks and ponds
- to rehabilitate and extend the interconnected channel system of the area
- to create village level local institutions (Water Users Associations) and framework to manage and maintain the existing tanks and ponds in the village.
- to create awareness among the various users groups about the impact they have on the water table
- to create awareness among the landless farmer groups to farm in more ecological and resource conservation ways while keeping yields high.
- to identify and introduce Government schemes to our farmer groups so that may benefit from (our field staff would also help the farmers to apply for the programs)
- to establish integrated organic farming demonstration plots in order to increase the overall income of the farmers, to reduce water consumption and improve the environment
- to conduct research on the impact of rehabilitated traditional tanks (on groundwater recharge), the impact on organic/sustainable agricultural practices and improve the surface water quality and soil fertility.

A4A (Aqua for All - Netherlands)/Vietens
“A pilot project for sustainable and durable development through integrated water resources development”

This project may look like a technological transfer project eg, the supply of water infrastructure for the village of Kottakorai, however it was really a Social Mobilisation project. We carried out the following:

- Met with all stakeholders in the village and colony (dalit-untouchables) to explain the aims and objectives of the project (to design a new water delivery system to all the people of the village)
- Carried out household survey to determine demographics, level of knowledge about water borne diseases (very little)
- Carried out many Social Mobilisation programs via movies, street theater, discussions with stakeholders, PRA (Participatory Rural Assessment)
- Discussed many issues related to disease and fecal matter
- Discussed EcoSan toilets and their ability to reduce disease, to provide an agricultural product
- Discussed solid waste and the different problems associated with SW
- Discussed importance of clean drinking water to improve their health and livelihood
- Discussed all the above and ways to combat the above problems
- Carried out social/ecological programs like: Solid Waste Management, EcoSan toilets, water purification, rainwater harvesting, gray water for vegetable gardens,
- The program also designed and built the first ever (in India) rural water delivery to most of the homes in the village and colony

The City of Hilden (Germany): “Restoration of Traditional Rainwater Harvesting Tank and the Recharge”

The project seeks to:

- To promote the way their ancestors used water sustainability.
- To improve groundwater recharge via rehabilitation of 1 rainwater harvesting tanks
- To use innovative design (tanks) and technologies (recharge wells) to recharge the aquifer.
- Build 2 recharge wells
- To capture more rainwater runoff
- To identify where to locate the 3 new checkdams
- Design and build innovative new checkdams
- To drill some recharge and observations wells so that we can monitor how successful (or not) the project is.
- To try and protect the coastal area from salt water intrusion of our aquifer by increasing the storage area of tanks and channel systems
- Build a new irrigation channel (1500 meters long) so that a new area for planting can be available for farmers
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??? Pondicherry Dept of Public Works:

“Tank Rehabilitation Project Pondicherry”

The project seeks to:

- To promote the way the farmers ancestors used water sustainability.
- To improve groundwater recharge via rehabilitation of 1 rainwater harvesting tanks
- To capture more rainwater runoff
- To try and protect the coastal area from salt water intrusion of our aquifer by increasing the storage area of tanks and channel systems
- Build renovate and build new channels that will feed other tanks in the catchment area
- Improvement of traditional infrastructure setup
- Erosion control
- Rainwater harvesting will assist in creating a more sustainable water system
- Local farmers will be able to irrigate using surface water and reducing their need of water from the aquifer