

**“WATER, OUR COMMON GOOD” PARTNERSHIPS**  
**WATER MESSENGER PROJECT**  
**FINAL NARRATIVE AND FINANCIAL REPORT FORMAT**

Partnership Agreement number:		Period of validity of Partnership agreement:18+3
Project start date: Oct. 2010	Country: India	Project duration: 18 (months)
Project title: Harvesting Rain to Mitigate Droughts (HRMD)		
Project implementer : Gramin Vikas Vigyan Samiti (GRAVIS), Jodhpur		
Legal representative and his position within the organisation: Ms. Shashi Tyagi (Secretary)		
Period covered by the report	From: 01/10/2010 To: 31/03/2012	
Date you sent your report	05/06/2012	

**DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY**

I, the undersigned, hereby declare that the attached information is accurate and in accordance with the facts. In particular the financial data provided in this report corresponds to the expenditure actually incurred by the project partners for carrying out project activities. This information has been approved by my organisation.

Ms. Shashi Tyagi

*(Original signature of the person legally authorised to act on  
 Behalf of the Partner organisation and who signed the Agreement)*

Place: Jodhpur, Rajasthan

Dated: 5<sup>th</sup> June 2012

*Report to be returned to:*

*(Name of person in charge of monitoring at the Foundation): Praveen Kumar Bera  
 (Her/his e-mail address): praveen@gravis.org.in  
 France Libertés – Danielle Mitterrand Foundation*

## **General notes:**

Project Title: Harvesting Rain to Mitigate Drought (HRMD)  
Reporting Period: October 2010 – March 2012  
Implementing Agency: Gramin Vikas Vigyan Samiti (GRAVIS)  
Supported By: France Libertes

### **1. OVERVIEW OF PROJECT PROGRESS**

The project started in the month of October 2010. The initial processes were slightly delayed because of an extended monsoon spell in the Thar Desert. However, after the initial delays, the project progress was brought back to track by Project team.

The project was implemented in 10 villages of two remote blocks of the Thar Desert, namely Baap block in Jodhpur District and Diyatra block in Bikaner District. Both of the blocks are severely drought impacted and communities live with extreme poverty and great hardship. Villages of Baap block includes Likhmasar, Ramjanpura, Kesharpura, Samrathal, Bajrangnagar and villages of Diyatra block includes Golari, Rekhranasar, Karanpura, Motawata, Madhogarh.

In the beginning a Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) of the project villages was done by the team in collaboration with the local community. The PRA reports of all the villages were compiled to get an overall picture of the project villages. The PRA reports were shared with the villagers so that they can understand their village problems well and provide support to carry the project successfully.

Further, Self Help Groups (SHGs) and Water User Groups (WUGs) were formed in the villages. The idea of forming these groups was that they will play an important role in the project and will advocate for water security. Since the groups are formed from the representatives of community so they acts as a bridge between Organization and Community to pass the water message. 10 demonstration Taankas were constructed to promote rain water harvesting technique and has benefitted 54 families. Desilting of Naadi (village pond) has benefitted in bringing water security to 1850 people and around 400 livestock.

SHG Trainings and WUG trainings organized in project villages have resulted in improving the awareness level of the community. Women participation in such trainings has helped villagers in understanding their roles and support in social & economic life. School trainings have been an additional input in spreading the water message through children and village level trainings has resulted in increasing awareness of the community about health, education, water conservation, etc.

Due to the formation of advocacy networks at local, national and international levels for spreading of water message there has been increase in cooperation and collaboration between people, government and various NGOs working in the region. The research study conducted will be helpful in understanding the importance of water harvesting in Thar and constructing a technically sound Naadi. Thus, the project has been able to enhance water security – with impacts on droughts and climate change.

## 2. ACTIVITIES / WORK:

### 2.1 During the project period the following targeted activities were undertaken

S.No.	Name of the Activity	Target	Outreach	Remarks
1	Formation of Project team	-	-	Done
2	Baseline Survey of the Community	-	-	Done
3	Formation of Water User Groups	10	10	10 WUGs in 10 villages
4	Formation of Self Help Groups	10	10	10 SHGs in 10 villages
5	Meetings of Water User Groups	10	10	Done
6	Trainings of Water User Groups	05	07	Few extra trainings were done village wise on the same unit cost
7	Meetings of Self Help Groups	10	10	Done
8	Training of Self Help Groups	05	12	The extra trainings were done on the same unit cost village wise due to need of trainings
9	Village Level Training	10	10	Done
10	Trainings in School	04	07	Few extra trainings were done village wise on the same unit cost
11	Advocacy workshop at district level	01	01	Done
12	Network meeting with Government Departments	01	01	Done
13	Capacity Building trainings for grassroots NGOs	01	01	Done
14	Construction of drinking water storage tanks as demonstration units.	10	10	Done
15	Construction of community pond as demonstration units.	01	01	Done
16	A research study on rainwater harvesting.	-	-	Done
17	Evaluation	-	-	Done

## **2.2 Any Change in the activity. Any relevant additional activities**

No such activities had to be changed and all the activities planned in the project were completed at village level within the time frame. Instead more number of SHG trainings, WUG trainings and School Trainings were organized than the target undertaken. The extra trainings were organized within the same Budget Unit Cost. As initially planned in the project that a common training would be conducted focussing 2-3 villages per training but since few of the villages were far enough to conduct training at a common place so for those villages extra trainings were organized. Especially it was difficult for women and children to come at a common place outside their village for training.

In order to increase water security and spread the message of water harvesting an additional relevant activity of Roof Top Water Harvesting (RTWH) was also promoted during meetings and trainings.

## **2.3 Project Implementation Schedule and Brief Description of activities undertaken**

The Project Implementation Schedule is attached in Annexes below.

Brief description of the activities done is as follows:

- Formation of Water User Groups (WUGs)

The formation of WUGs was one of the very first interventions after doing PRA of community. The idea behind forming these groups was to provide the leadership to the community in project implementation, as well on advocacy for water security. A total of 10 WUGs have been formed in 10 villages of the project area.

To form the groups, village meetings were organized in all the project villages where the most suitable representatives were chosen by the community to be a part of the groups. Each group comprised of 10 to 12 members. About one third members in these groups are from lowest caste groups including Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST). Nearly 40% of the members in the WUGs are women and about 25 % of the women represent themselves in leadership.

During the project period the groups have worked actively within the project area and have organized regular meetings to discuss the progress & result of the project and to plan new initiatives to be taken regarding water security for coming years.

- Meetings of Water User Groups (WUGs)

This reporting period regular meeting of Water User groups were organized in 10 villages of Baap & Diyatra Block of Jodhpur and Bikaner districts. 10 meetings were organized in villages of both areas. A total of 260 people from community including WUG members participated in the meetings. 203 people participated from villages of Diyatra block of Jodhpur and 57 people participated from villages of Baap block of Bikaner district.

The meetings were organized regularly on the date finalised by the WUG members. The meetings were organized to discuss various developmental issues of the village. After such meetings the members have started coordinating with government department for construction of Taanka and desilting of Naadi in the village. They have approached local government agencies such as Public Health and Engineering Department (PHED), Department of Health,

Ground Water Board, Education Department, Panchayati Raj Institutions etc. to discuss about water, education and health provisions.

- Trainings of Water User Groups (WUGs)

The trainings of WUGs have been organised at village level in 10 villages of project area. During this reporting period total 7 Trainings of WUGs have been organized out of which 5 trainings have been organized in Baap Block of Jodhpur District and rest 2 trainings have been organized Diyatra block of Bikaner District. Instead of organizing combined training of 2-3 villages, trainings were organized in each village in Baap block with the same unit cost. A total of 312 people participated in the training out of which 80 people participated from villages of Diyatra block and 232 people participated from villages of Baap block.

During these trainings efforts were made to cover various aspects of rural development. Information was disseminated to the members on various government programmes focusing on water and sanitation and on environmental aspects. Some important topics of the discussions were as follows:

- How to maintain a good leadership quality in Water User Group
- Selection criteria of the beneficiary for the demonstration of Taanka construction
- Technical knowledge about the site selection for constructive activities
- Health issues related to water
- Importance of tree plantation in the context of water conservation
- Connecting Taankas with Roof Top to harvest rain easily
- Maintenance of Catchment area of Taanka
- Purification of Taanka water

- Formation of Self Help Groups (SHGs)

Self Help Groups are Community Based Organization formed to empower women through small savings and awareness generation. The project's main aim is to generate awareness on water and to lead the campaign on water advocacy at grass root level. To do so, women has played an important role in disseminating the water message as they are the most affected stakeholder due to water scarcity in Thar.

Therefore, 10 Self Help Groups have been formed in project villages of both blocks. Each SHG comprised 10-15 women members who come from different caste groups. During the last 18 months the SHGs have been meeting on monthly basis and have done small savings.

- Meeting of Self Help Groups (SHGs)

The meeting of the SHGs members have been organized in all the 10 villages of project area. A total of 253 people participated in the meetings where 125 people participated from villages of Diyatra block and 128 people participated from villages of Baap block.

The SHG groups have opened their bank account in the Village Gramin Bank. The members of the SHGs have organised monthly meeting at a particular date finalised by them. They have done monthly saving and discussed about the social issues in the village. The SHG women feels empowered as now they go to the bank to deposit their savings and they are less dependent on others. Even they have encouraged other women to form new SHGs in their own hamlets and have increased membership in the existing SHGs.

Further the SHGs have been motivated to take income generating ventures within their own communities. Few of the SHG women have taken small loans from the group at minimum interest rate to start small business activities like buying of sewing machine to weave cloths, starting a small stationary shop etc.

- Trainings of Self Help Groups (SHGs)

During this reporting period total 12 Trainings of SHGs have been organized out of which 9 trainings have been organized in Baap Block of Jodhpur District and rest 3 trainings have been organized Diyatra block of Bikaner District. Instead of organizing combined training of 2-3 villages, trainings were organized in each village in Baap block with the same unit cost. A total of 434 people participated in the training out of which 139 people participated from villages of Diyatra block and 295 people participated from villages of Baap block.

The training was focussed on record keeping, importance of saving and encouraging women to take loans for small business work. The main coverage was of increasing bank linkages with community. During the training the members were also given knowledge on the importance of water harvesting techniques like connecting the roof top with the Taanka to collect rain water and disease spread due to contaminated water.

Due to the training the members have come to know about the importance of safe drinking water and harvesting clean water. During the training the members have enhanced knowledge on following topics:

- Role of Leaders in SHGs.
- Role of members in SHGs.
- Role of internal lending in the group.
- Awareness generation on women health.
- Awareness generation on child education.
- Awareness generation on contaminated water disease.
- Purification of Taanka water

- Village Level Meetings

During the project period 10 village level meetings were organized in villages of Baap and Diyatra block. 5 meetings were organized in each block. A total of 355 people participated in the training out of which 233 people participated from villages of Diyatra block and 122 people participated from villages of Baap block. During the village training the major issue of focus was health, water, education and the environment. The training was organized to ensure water security and primary education at village level.

The local Panchayat members, community and the WUGs members of that village participated in the training. Our Local NGO Partner Khetriya Gramothan Samiti (KGS) in coordination with GRAVIS has implemented the training for generating awareness on water security, education and health. The villagers have made rules and regulations about the water use from the water bodies such as Taanka and Naadi in the village. After the training villagers have come to know about the importance of water and water bodies existing in their village. They have even started monitoring of primary schools at village so as to ensure that teachers can be present everyday in school and quality education can be imparted to children. Villagers were also informed about lack of iron deficiency disease existing among the villagers especially women. They were advised to take iron rich foods available at village level.

- School Trainings

During this project reporting period 7 school trainings have been completed in villages of Baap and Diyatra block. 5 trainings were done in Baap block and 2 trainings were done in Diyatra block. The focus of the training was to increase awareness on importance of education, health, usage of water and conservation of water among children and parents. A total of 344 people including students, teachers and parents participated in the training out of which 101 people participated from villages of Diyatra block of Bikaner District and 243 people participated from villages of Baap block of Jodhpur District.

The children are considered the best messenger for the village and their own family too. The children easily disseminate the message of water security to their own families. During the training children were told about the importance of saving water, importance of education, role of an educated person in society and suggested to attend school regularly. The training was given to the school children through essay writings, storytelling, games and paintings. Children were also motivated by giving awards for writing best essay and best painting by the local Panchayat members. This has helped in boosting the self esteem of the children and flourishing well in academics.

- Construction of Demonstration Unit-Taanka

Taanka is underground water storage and harvesting structure which is developed for providing the drinking water to a poor family or a small group of families. It is a system where rainwater is harvested through artificially prepared catchment which is directed to an underground tank. The rain water harvested through Taanka lasts upto 3-5 months depending upon the usage.

10 Taankas construction have been done as demonstration unit in the project villages of Diyatra and Baap block. 5 Taanka constructions have been done in Baap and 5 in Diyatra block. Each Taanka constructed is made with the name of female person of the family written on Taanka so that women can be given importance, recognized and gain respect. It also makes the women proud and the Taanka is maintained in proper way. From one Taanka 3-5 families can be benefitted covering 15-20 individuals. Therefore, through this project 54 family members have been benefitted through drinking water security affecting 216 individuals.

The selection criteria for beneficiaries were decided by the Water User Groups (WUGs), as most beneficiaries would otherwise find the structural construction economically unviable. The poorest of the poor was chosen as beneficiary and they contributed in working as a labour in digging pit and constructing Taanka. The impact of Taanka, however, is immediate and direct. Family saves time & energy and engage in supplementary income generating activities.

- De silting of Drinking Water Pond-Naadi

Naadi is a village pond and the most important structure that serves the drinking water needs of the human beings and the livestock. A Naadi comprises of large sized catchment, the down slope of which is excavated a big pit to store the runoff. The stored water from the rainfall of an average year lasts for 6 to 9 months. Because siltation is a severe problem, desilting of the Naadi is a regular practice that has to be performed every 3-4 years.

In this reporting period the desiltation of 1 Naadi (Village Pond) has been done in the village name Kesherpura of Baap block of Bikaner District. The Naadi has provided the villagers security of water for more than 5 months in the year and has benefitted 1850 villagers and their

livestock. The Naadi will provide the villagers huge security of water during the drought season in coming years.

Before the desiltation of Naadi a meeting at the village level was organized. The selection of Naadi was done by the WUG members with the help of villagers. After that the field supervisor shared the budget and community contribution with the villagers and they got ready for the contribution in terms of labour work. The desilting was completed in one month. During the desilting process regular monitoring was done by the field supervisor to ensure quality of the work in terms of technical factors. Thus, the Naadi has played and will play an important role in bringing water security in context of drinking water for the villagers as well as for the livestock.

- Network Meeting with Government Departments

During this project period a one day coordination network meeting has been organised in Kolayat block of Diyatra in Bikaner. The meeting was attended by KGS team members, GRAVIS team members and Government Officials. The coordination meeting has provided better linkages to all programmes running in the villages.

Mrs. Begi Sukhani secretary of Khetriya Gramothan Samiti (KGS), Diyatra coordinated the meeting with a brief introduction of KGS, GRAVIS and France Libertes. She introduced the Government department personnel and gave a brief note on the activities running under the HRMD project. Mr. Ruparam, Field Supervisor from KGS, Diyatra gave detailed information about the objectives of project, activities done village wise and further plans of the project. During the meeting he also told about the education status of the children of Diyatra and health status of the mine workers working in stone mines. The Government Health Department and Education Department noted the points and assured that some concrete action would be taken to improve the status. The Block Education Extension Officer (BEEO) advised to organise such meetings at village level so that he would be able to tell about the importance of education and request the villagers to send their children to school. The Government departments were also requested to build Taanka and Naadi in the villages through Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) so that availability of water can be fulfilled in the villages.

After the meeting the attitude of the government departments has been changed and they are responding to the villagers who are going to meet with the government personnel. The villagers have started accessing different schemes through Government Departments.

- Capacity Building Training of NGOs

Two days residential training was organized for capacity building of NGOs. The topic selected was Training on Water Management. During this training resource persons from HEDCON, Jaipur imparted knowledge about the importance of the water harvesting technologies adopted from the past years. Representatives from 5 NGOs and GRAVIS staffs participated in the training. The older person of the village community wants to promote the existing structures because the structures are harvesting more water than the man made new structure such as Taanka.

After deciding the topic of training invitation letter to the local NGOs was send by GRAVIS to attend the two days residential training at Kalron centre. The training started with the introduction of the participants, objective of the training and objective of calling the secretary of the organisation. The training provided the knowledge on types of structures existing in their local villages used as water harvesting method. Some technical knowledge about construction



of Taanka, desilting of Naadi, measurement of water level, voucher preparation, report writing, etc was also provided.

At the time of the completion of the training the NGOs personnel took the oath to disseminate the water message to the local community for which the organisation is working. This will provide the sustainability to the local water harvesting structure in near future.

- Advocacy Workshop at District Level

During this reporting period an advocacy workshop was organized at Jodhpur. The Title of the workshop was 'Saving Water for Our Common Future'. Total 53 participants attended the workshop including guest speakers and representatives from Health department, Water department, Research Institutions, GRAVIS's NGO partners, Community leaders, WUG members, SHG members and GRAVIS Project Team.

The workshop was focussed on creating awareness on saving water for our future. Different speakers gave their view on different issues like rainwater harvesting and dry land farming, importance of saving water in Rajasthan. Dr. J.P. Gupta retired scientist from Central Arid Zone Research Institute, (CAZRI) gave valuable information on rainwater harvesting techniques. Dr. Tara Laxman Gehlot, Social Activist and Retired Professor gave valuable information on importance of saving water and present condition of water reservoirs in Rajasthan. Ms. Nioma Sadler, Chief Functionary of Tradional Medicinals, and founder of Women Serve, USA gave her views on Women Serve philosophy on water and women. Smt. Shashi Tyagi, Secretary of GRAVIS gave information on GRAVIS's approach on water and communities. Representatives of different NGOs also gave their views on rainwater harvesting techniques implied by them in their fields in Rajasthan and other state. Members of Water User Groups (WUGs), Village Development Committees (VDCs) and Self Help Groups (SHGs) from different areas gave their views on how they are saving water in their village and how they can contribute in spreading the water message in different areas.

- Research Study on Water Harvesting

A research study has been conducted by HEDCON on Rain Water Harvesting in the Thar focussing on Naadi (Village Pond). The study provides detailed information about relevance of water structure in Thar, functioning of Naadi and its importance, problems & solutions for siltation, pollution, seepage, evaporation etc.

The study also focuses on how new naadis should be constructed depending on location and usage. The research study is expected to help in sound Naadi construction and management of community water. Circulation of copies of the research study will spread the message of importance of water saving and water harvesting especially in such dry arid areas.

### **3. RESULTS**

#### **3.1 The results of activities/ work are as follows:**

- Water Security

Due to construction of demonstration Taanka and disiltation of Naadi (village pond) water security for villagers has been enhanced to some extent. Desilting of Naadi has provided water security for the villagers for 4-5 months due to collection of water during monsoon season. The

villagers have been able to store water at their home for household purpose and to provide water to their livestock. The water of Naadi has been used for various household activities like cleaning of clothes, utensils, bathing and even for drinking purpose. Naadi has turned to be a boon for the villagers. Through the Naadi more than 4000 livestock and 1850 population residing in the village has been benefitted and for coming year the benefits will reach to more population.

The ten demonstration Taankas which are constructed within the project area has brought greater water security for 10 households and 54 families has been benefitted with the intervention enhancing water security for 216 individuals. Earlier women and children used to toil hard to fetch water from long distance but now the Taanka has helped in saving time and energy of the family. Now the saved time is utilized in household work. Even the health status of the families has improved due to reduction in drudgery and now safe drinking water is available at their door steps. Many of the households in the same villages have adopted this method of rain water harvesting. As the time progresses further, more families will adopt this technology.

- Awareness on Water Message in Project Area

The awareness level of community on water conservation has increased due to their keen interest and participation in trainings, village level meetings. Contribution in water related physical activities have reflected their responsibility, zeal of learning and bringing ownership of the physical assets constructed. Discussion on education, sanitation, ground water levels, health issues, climate change and changing environment has resulted in increasing awareness on various subjects. Both men and women seem to be equally interested to play their roles and spread the message of importance of saving water. Through village level meetings and trainings the message of water saving and water harvesting has reached to 927 villagers.

- Improvement in Coordination

The coordination meetings with grassroots NGOs, health department, education department and water department has helped to develop the programme component in a new direction. The local government has helped the organisation to implement the programme successfully at village level. It is expected that time to time government will help and support the community through their resources in accessing the needs. The community has been benefitted after getting access to government program and schemes and in future more benefits will be accessed by the villagers.

- Improvement in Linkages

Local linkages of Panchayati Raj Institutions with the community has improved and resulted in improving employment level of the community and accessing government facilities like NREGA, IAY, Old age Pension scheme etc. Many proposals have been sent to the Water department in coordination with Local Panchayats to access Community Taanka and Community Ground Water Reservoirs.

The opening of bank account of different SHGs has provided and will be providing better linkages with banking institutions. Now the SHG members have started small business units with the small loans taken from group. Later the members will be getting loans from the banks for extending their small business. Before sanctioning of loans grading of SHGs will be done by the banks to verify proper functioning of the groups.

- Women Empowerment through Trainings

The various trainings organized in the project have improved the knowledge level and understanding of water harvesting among women in dry areas. As women have been affected more because of fetching water from long distance of 5-8 kilometres and doing household work they are more interested and receptive on understanding the technique of water harvesting. Now women & girl children are willing to come in front, to speak, to share and to be an active part in village development process. After the training the women have started discussing primarily water issue and health issue related to development of their family and they have started stepping outside their home to raise water, education and health issues along with men.

In future it is expected that they will be able to change their family economic condition by being more empowered. 687 women and girls participated in meetings and trainings which is a great sign of women involvement. Their attendance in meetings and trainings was very encouraging. Water advocacy will never go further without women playing an active role.

- Dissemination of Message at Local, National and International level

The water message has been disseminated by the NGOs participated in the training. The personals participated in the training has and will be disseminating the message to the villagers for water security. They have acted as a messenger on water in their own region. This will be able to enhance knowledge to the villagers in different areas of same region. The district level workshop has helped in raising the issue and influencing people of different work areas and government departments.

The publication and circulation of the 500 copies of research study on water harvesting has helped in spreading the message at national and international level and influencing people of different regions.

## **4. INVOLVEMENT OF PARTNERS AND THE COMMUNITY**

### **4.1 The target groups and communities**

The project since its beginning has been more focussed on those communities who don't know about the water security. During the project implementation and monitoring the organisation has involved the local communities which will sustain the project.

The Water User Groups (WUGs) and Self Help Groups (SHGs) has been the major component of the project by which the organisation can involve the local community. Other than local community the grassroots NGOs and Government Departments has also played their role in disseminating the message of the project

10 WUGs, 10 SHGs and 10 Grassroots NGOs have been involved in the project. Other than this involvement of community includes 54 families of Taanka Beneficiaries, 1850 Naaadi benefitted families and 1705 people through trainings.

### **4.2 The description of involvement of Target Groups/end users**

The target groups have been involved in the following ways:

- Implementing and Monitoring of activity at village level by WUGs
- Beneficiary selection and site selection by WUGs and community
- Data collection for better reporting during PRA by WUGs and community
- Labour contribution in Taanka and Naadi desilting by beneficiaries and community

- Coordination with the government officials.
- Participating in the trainings organised by the NGOs.
- Spreading of Water message by NGOs in different areas.
- Support and coordination by government officials in accessing different schemes

## **5. COMMUNICATION AND EXPLOITATION OF RESULTS**

### **5.1 Describe clearly and briefly the results of dissemination activities and exploitation of these results**

Due to the various trainings organized at village level of WUGs, SHGs, School and community the message of saving water and harvesting rain has been disseminated among the community. The water message has also been disseminated by the representatives of NGOs and Government Departments participating in the training. The personals participated in the training has and will be disseminating the message to the people for water security. They have also acted as a messenger on water in the region apart from project area. Partner NGOs will be able to enhance knowledge of the villagers in different work areas of same region. The Network meeting and district level workshop has been an effective activity in raising the water issue and influencing people of different work areas and government departments. The publication and circulation of research study on water harvesting has helped in spreading the message at national and international level and influencing people of different regions.

The rain water demonstration Unit-Taanka has saved hours of the family and that time is now utilized in household work. The physical stress of the women has decreased and now they feel healthier and less exhausted. Women's owning taanka of their name written on it makes them feel proud and gives them a respectful place in the male dominated community.

### **5.2 Describe results of communication and any feedback received from stake holders**

The means of communication with the target groups was through meetings, trainings, workshops and demonstration in this project. There has been improvement in the awareness levels and knowledge base among the community (esp. women & children) on harvesting the rain, saving water and water use. As a result community demand for Rain Water Harvesting Structure-Taanka and Roof Top Water Harvesting has increased and rainwater conservation has becomes popular choice leading to reduction in exploitation of ground water.

Due to the formation of advocacy networks at local, national and international levels for spreading of water message there has been increase in cooperation and collaboration between people and the government and various NGOs working in the region. The project has been able to enhance water security – with impacts on droughts and climate change.

As far as communication materials is concerned, pre developed communication materials like booklets, pamphlets related to water harvesting, guidelines of SHG & WUG has been used in the trainings and meetings to spread the message more effectively.

## **6. FINAL EVALUATION(s) OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS**

### **6.1 Type of Evaluation, methodology, findings, conclusions and lessons learnt**

The type of Evaluation was Impact Evaluation. The methodology used for evaluation was interviews, Focussed Group Discussion (FGD), Meetings, Observation and Document Review.

Findings of Evaluation are as follows:

- Ten Water User Groups formed in the target villages and these groups have linkages with Panchayati Raj Institutions (Local Government).
- Model water harvesting structures called Taankas provide basis for technically sound construction for target villagers
- Community water structure called Naadi (village pond) is helping the nearby villagers in securing water better
- Comprehensive research on Naadi is conducted which is expected to help in sound Naadi construction and management of community water
- Water harvesting and management is better in target villages and provides good example of community management
- Women participation helped villagers in understanding and respecting their roles and support in social and economic life
- SHGs were formed and women are organized. Their regular meetings are helping them in raising their common concerns and resolving them at community level.

Lessons Learnt of the project is as follows:

- Formation of Community Based Organizations (CBOs) is very essential for implementing any activity in a village
- Community support and cooperation is very necessary in gaining success
- Contribution of community in the form of cash or kind is an important aspect for sustainability and proper maintenance of any physical activity
- Roof Top Water Harvesting Technique can also be an easy, cheap and important way of harvesting water with semi-pucca house holding people
- Interexchange visit and Exposure visit can also be an important way to educate the community

## **6.2 Difficulties, constraints, issues and challenges encountered**

The challenges encountered in undertaking the project was in forming the Water User Group and Self Help Groups but due to regular interaction with the community these groups were formed. Since the prerequisite of construction of Taanka in the project was limited and demand of Taanka at village level was more. So it was difficult to select the most needed beneficiary for Taanka Demonstration. But with the coordination of members of WUG the most needed beneficiary was selected.

Bringing women out of their doorsteps and making them sit on one carpet was also very challenging task in this project. Initially during the meetings and trainings these women hesitated to communicate and share their views but due to regular visit in the villages and organizing regular meetings & trainings made this challenging task easy to some extent. But still this journey of effort to bring women in forefront needs to be continued.

## **6.3 Durability of results and necessary conditions for their durability in undertaking the project**

The meetings and trainings organized at village level have created great impact on the understanding of villagers and have brought behavioural change among the family members of SHG women. It is expected that this behavioural change will lead to greater acceptance of

bringing women in forefront and uplifting them. Even the knowledge level of water saving and rain water harvesting has increased among the villagers and it can be assured that they will spread the water message among the community and even adopt the technique of water harvesting. The demand of more rain water harvesting taanka reflects the durability of the activity. The structures developed in the villagers will exist and bring benefits to the community provided regular maintenance of the structures is done. Proper cleaning and repairing of catchment area of both Taanka and Naadi will increase its durability and will bring future benefits to the community.

The coordination of villagers with Government departments will continue provided they regularly organize monthly meetings of WUGs and SHGs at village level and they make continuous efforts for the development of the village.

#### **6.4 Next steps leading on from this project**

Next steps leading on from this project is that the findings of evaluation of the project will be shared with the stakeholders so that impact of the project can be known to them. Even copies of Research Study publication will be circulated to have better understanding of importance of rain water harvesting. The learning of this project will also be replicated in other projects in similar areas of the region.

GRAVIS would also like to continue the partnership with France Libertes in working as a water messenger. Similar water harvesting techniques will be promoted but in addition to that more and more linkages with the government would be done to access government constructed water structures in the villages to ensure water security.

#### **6.5 Project's contribution to the international water messenger movement and elements of project can be considered best practices**

With the sharing of Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) reports, Research study report on water harvesting, Progress reports and Annual Reports of the project we as a water messenger can contribute in spreading the message of water saving and reflecting the existing water conditions of water scarcity villages in the arid zone of Thar Desert at international level. This project has contributed in spreading the water message and increasing awareness level of people on water conservation.

The elements of project that can be considered best practice is formation of Community Based Organization i.e. WUGs and SHGs because they represent every pockets of the community and decision of implementing any activity can be made in coordination with them. The construction of Rain water harvesting structure with the technique of making silt catcher and artificial catchment area can also be considered as one of the best practice in the project.

### **7. GENERAL COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS**

#### **7.1 Any information or analysis you deem useful concerning the project and any orientations not yet mentioned**

During the implementation of the project it was observed that there are few people in the community having semi-pucca house with small land holdings. Although they have their own taanka constructed at their doorsteps but no means of rainwater harvesting technology (catchment area) has been adopted by them. For making catchment area it requires 50-70 feet land surrounding the Taanka and such people cannot afford to make the catchment area due to small land holdings. So, for such beneficiaries few demonstrations of Roof Top Water

Harvesting Technique can be promoted to save rain water. Roof Top Water harvesting Technique is a simple method of connecting the roof top of house with the inlet of Taanka through a 10-15 feet plastic pipe.

## **7.2 Next steps of your partnership with France Libertes**

During the implementation of the project in dry arid villages of Rajasthan, the demonstration of Rain Water Harvesting Structure-Taanka has been proved to be a very successful intervention. Community has accepted the technique of rain water harvesting and they are keen to adopt this method more and more in their villages. But there are many poor, needy and marginalised families in the village of project area who cannot afford to build a Taanka or even contribute in building it. So, it is required to promote more number of Taanka constructions in the villages with the marginalized groups so that at least few of the families can be directly benefitted. So it is expected from France Libertes to extend the partnership in coming future.

## **7.3 Suggestions for any future calls for proposals for water messenger movement**

GRAVIS would like to continue to be a part of water messenger movement and contribute in spreading water message at local, national and international level. We would like to continue and strengthen the advocacy of water security in dry areas of Thar Desert and replicate the learning in other similar areas also. With an opportunity given to enhance our outreach, scope and water harvesting work it would be very enthusiastic and appreciative to be a part of water messenger movement. This will also provide an opportunity for us to increase connectivity with the water messenger team and spread the water message together.

## 9. ANNEXES

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**  
**NGOs Staff Training on Water Management**  
**Venue: GRAVIS Sub Centre, Kalron (Baap, Jodhpur).**  
**Date : 28<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2011.**

S. No.	Name of Participants	Designation	Name of Organisation/Place
1	Mr. Ram Iqbal Singh	Centre in Charge	GRAVIS, Sub Centre, Kalraan
2	Mr. Roopa Ram	Cluster Supervisor	Kshetriya Gramotthan Samiti, Diyatra, Bikaner
3	Mr. Dungar Singh	Field Supervisor	DHARA Sansthan, Bikaner
4	Mr. Devi Prashad	Civil Engineer	GRAVIS, Sub Centre, Kalraan
5	Mr. Rawal Ram	Field Supervisor	Jan Kalyan Gram Vikas Sansthan, Lawan, Jaisalmer
6	Mr. Chhagan Lal	Field Supervisor	Vasundhara Seva Samiti, Kalyanpur, Bikaner
7	Mr. Asha Ram	Field Supervisor	GRAVIS, Baap centre.
8	Mr. Dinesh Kumar	Field Supervisor	Sandesh Sansthan, Baap
9	Mr. Sona Ram	Field Supervisor	DHARA Sansthan, Bikaner
10	Mr. Shyam Singh	Cluster Supervisor	Jan Kalyan Ewam Gram Vikas Sansthan, Lawan, Jaisalmer
11	Mr. Shri Kant	Centre in Charge	GRAVIS, Sub Centre, Baap
12	Mr. Panna Ram	Area Coordinator	GRAVIS, Jaisalmer
13	Mr. Iliyas Khan	VDC Member	Village Kalron
14	Mr. Jagpal Singh	Field Supervisor	Sandesh Sansthan, Jodhpur
15	Mr. Rahul Kumar	Field Supervisor	GRAVIS, Pabupura.
16	Mr. Vimlesh Kumar	Program Coordinator	GRAVIS, Jodhpur
17	Mr. Mahitosh Bagoria	Resource Person	HEDCON, Jaipur
18	Mr. Mahfooz Khan	Resource Person	HEDCON, Jaipur



## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

### District Level Workshop on 'Saving Water for Our Common Future'

Venue: Jodhpur

Date : 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2012.

S. No.	Name of Participants	Designation	Organization/Place
1	Mr. Pawan Bhargav	Project Coordinator	Gramin Swadesh, Parbatsar
2	Mr. Sona Ram Choudhary	Project Coordinator	Dhara Sansthan, Bikaner
3	Ms. Prachi Jain	Office Coordinator	GRAVIS, Jodhpur
4	Ms. Varsha Kothari	Programme Coordinator	GRAVIS, Jodhpur
5	Mr. Girija Shankar Giri	Project Coordinator	GRAVIS, Lanwa
6	Mr. Shailendra Kumar	Office Coordinator	GRAVIS, Jodhpur
7	Mr. Praveen Kumar	Programme Coordinator	GRAVIS, Jodhpur
8	Mr. Pempa Ram Barupal	CEO	Vashundhara Sewa Samiti, Bikaner
9	Ms. Begi Sukhani	Secretary	Khetriya Gramothan Samiti, Bikaner
10	Mr. Dhuraram Prajapat	Vice President	Khetriya Gramothan Samiti, Bikaner
11	Mr. Ruparam	Field Supervisor	Khetriya Gramothan Samiti, Bikaner
12	Mr. Ishwar lal	Secretary, WUG	Rekhranasar village, Diyatra, Bikaner
13	Mr. Omaram	Secretary, WUG	Motawata village, Diyatra, Bikaner
14	Ms. Kaushliya Devi	Secretary, SHG	Golari village, Diyatra, Bikaner
15	Ms. Sone Devi	Secretary, WUG	Golari village, Diyatra, Bikaner
16	Mr. Roshan Lal Kukreti	Secretary	Sandesh Sansthan, Jodhpur
17	Mr. Rajendra Kumar	Programme Coordinator	GRAVIS, Jodhpur
18	Mr. Ramesh Chandra	Area Coordinator	GRAVIS, Lakhan
19	Ms. Nioma Sadler	Founder	Women Serve, USA
20	Ms. Paige Mitchum	Team member	Women Serve, USA
21	Dr. J.P. Gupta	Retd. Scientist	Jodhpur
22	Dr. S.L. Dhabal	Senior Engineer	Central Ground Water Board, Jodhpur
23	Ms. Sushma Lashkari	Programme Coordinator	GRAVIS, Jodhpur
24	Dr. Tara Laxman Gehlot	Professor & Socai Worker	Jodhpur
25	Smt. Shashi Tyagi	Secretary	GRAVIS, Jodhpur

26	Mr. Somaram	Field Supervisor	GRAVIS, Soorsagar
27	Mr. Kailash Pandey	Adiministrator	Khetriya Samagra Lok Vikas Sangh, Bikaner
28	Dr. G.M. Singhvi	Retd. Judge, Social Activist, and member of GRAVIS Governing Board	Jodhpur
29	Dr. Haridayal	Subject Matter Specialist	KVK, CAZRI, Jodhpur
30	Dr. Antaryami Singh	Senior Engineer	Defence Laboratory, Jodhpur
31	Mr. Surendra Singh	Secretary	Marudhar Vikas Mandal, Jodhpur
32	Mr. Tejkaran Ratnoo	Education Coordinator	GRAVIS, Gagadi
33	Mr. Kisna ram	Member of Panchayati Raj Institution (PRI)	Osian, Jodhpur
34	Ms. Kitab Choudhary	Senior Program Officer	Suzlon Foundation, Jodhpur
35	Mr. Jetharam	Field Worker	GRAVIS, Gagadi
36	Mr. Anil Garg	Senior Engineer	Ground Water Department, Jodhpur
37	Mr. Anoparam	Field Worker	Deria village, Shergarh
38	Mr. Bhikharam	Field Supervisor	GRAVIS, Baap
39	Mr. Durga Jaypal	Field Supervisor	GRAVIS, Baap
40	Mr. Hinglajdan	President, VDC	Basni Danwra village, Osian, Jodhpur
41	Mr. Aman Singh Bhati	Area Coordinator	GRAVIS, Osian
42	Ms. Geeta Choudhary	Field Supervisor	GRAVIS, Osian
43	Ms. Sarifa Khan	WUG member	Ramjanpura village, Baap
44	Mr. Chunaram	WUG member	Likhmasar village, Baap
45	Ms. Shanti Devi	SHG member	Likhmasar village, Baap
46	Ms. Bhinni Devi	SHG member	Likhmasar village, Baap
47	Dr. Pawan	Medical Officer	Paota District Hospital, Jodhpur
48	Mr. Deshraj Maurya	District Development Manager	NABARD Bank, Jodhpur
49	Mr. Babulal lakhani	Asst. Accountant	GRAVIS, Jodhpur
50	Dr. Nidhi	Medical Officer	Paota District Hospital, Jodhpur
51	Mr. Arvind Agarwal	Regional Coordinator	UNNATI, Jodhpur
52	Dr. Meena Shiva	Doctor	Voluntary Health Association of India,

			New Delhi
53	Ms. Veena Mathur	Asst. Programme Coordinator	GRAVIS, Jodhpur

### Project Implementation Schedule

S.No	Activities	HY1						HY2						HY3							
		Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
1	Project Team Formation	■	■																		
2	PRA of Community		■	■	■																
3	Formation of WUGs				■	■															
4	Formation of SHGs				■	■	■	■													
5	Meetings of WUGs				■			■			■			■			■	■			
6	Trainings of WUGs				■	■					■	■					■	■			
7	Meeting of SHGs				■	■		■		■		■		■		■		■			
8	Trainings of SHGs				■	■			■		■				■			■			
9	School Trainings							■	■								■	■			
10	Village Level Trainings						■			■	■					■	■				
11	Demonstration of Taanka						■	■	■				■	■	■						
12	Naaadi Desilting							■	■												
13	Network Meeting														■						
14	Capacity building of NGO												■								
15	Advocacy Workshop																				■
16	Research Study																	■	■	■	■
17	Evaluation																		■	■	■

## Photos Detail



**PRA Exercise at Likmasar village, Baap**



**Desilting Work in Progress in Kesarpura Naadi (village pond)**



**Kesarpura Naadi filled with Rain Water**



**SHG Meeting at Ramjanpura village, Baap**



**Meeting of Water User Group at Golari village, Diyatra**



**Ongoing Village Level Training at Motawata village, Diyatra**



**Group Exercise during NGO Training**



**Participant from Dhara Sansthan doing presentation during NGO Training**



**Group Photograph of participants of NGO training**



**Taanka constructed with rainwater harvesting technique**



**Ongoing construction of Taanka at Madhogarh village, Diyatra**



**Women fetching water from Taanka at Madogarh village, Diyatra**



**Women Participating in SHG Training at Samrathal village, Baap**



**School Trainig Likmasar village, Baap**



**Data collection for Research Study**



**Network Meeting with Government Departments**



**Guest Speaker addressing the audience during District Level workshop**



**Presentation of HRMD project during workshop**

## Acknowledgement of Approval Interim Report

**This page will be returned to you when your Interim Report has been approved by the foundation.**

**Note:** the Foundation might ask you for further information on project progress and the financial statement.

Name of partner organisation	
Name of legal representative	
Project Title	
Date you sent your report	..... / ..... / .....

**Reserved for Foundation use:**

Documents received:		
	√	Date:
Narrative Report.		
Financial Report.		
Annexes.		
Observations:		

France Libertés – Danielle Mitterrand Foundation acknowledges receipt and acceptance of your Interim Report:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_