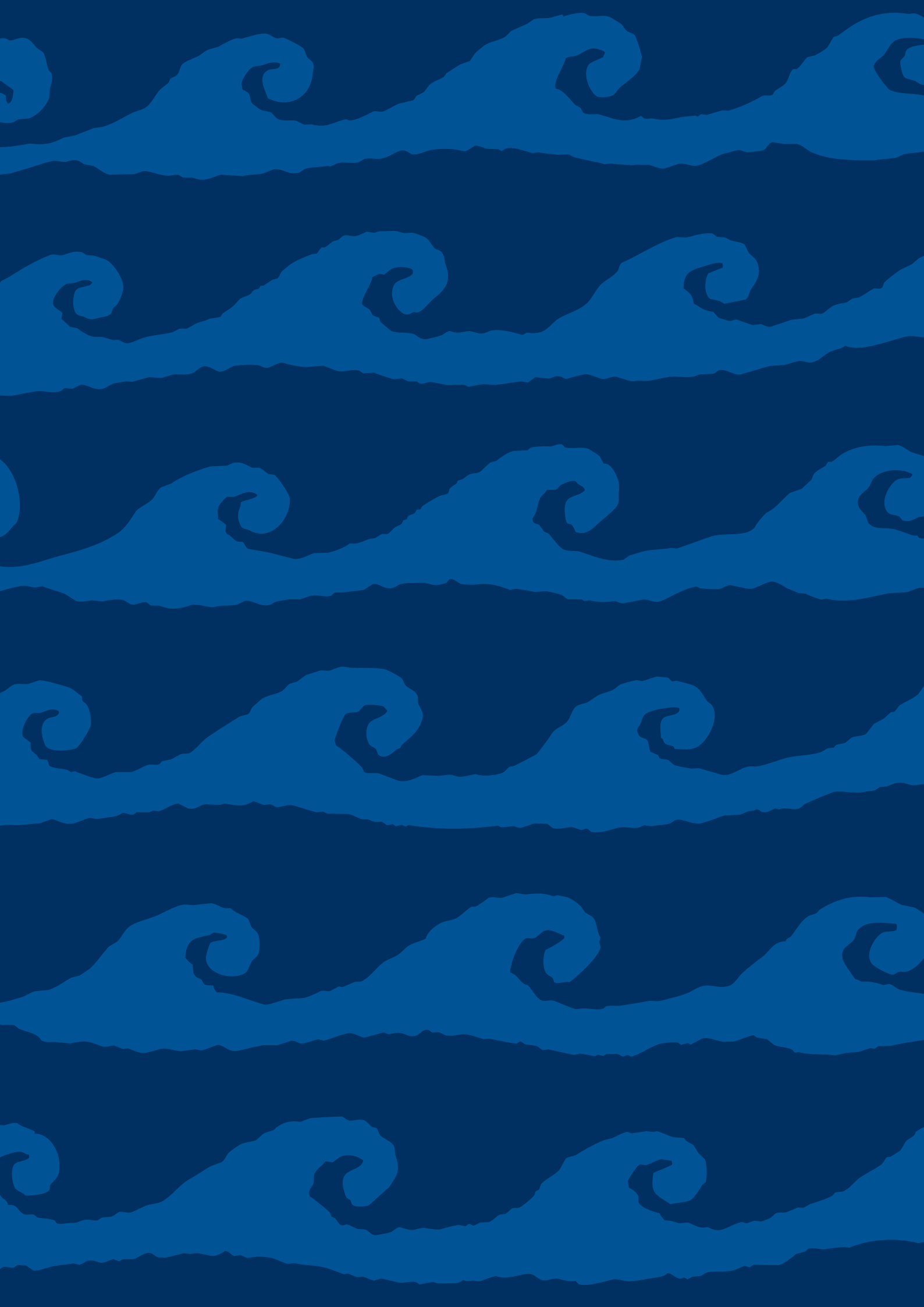














2012-13
annual report





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Acronyms

ACT	Arid Communities and Technologies	MGNREGA	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
ACWADAM	Advanced Centre for Water Resources Development and Management	NDSAP	National Data Sharing and Accessibility Policy
ASER	Annual Status of Education Report	NEERI	National Environmental Engineering Research Institute
BCC	Behaviour Change Communication	NIH	National Institute of Hydrology
BWSSB	Bengaluru Water Supply and Sewerage Board	NBA	Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan
CDL	Communication for Development and Learning	NGO	Non-Government Organisation
CSE	Centre for Science & Environment	NRTT	Navajbai Ratan Tata Trust
CLTS	Community Led Total Sanitation	PDS	Public Distribution System
DMA	Directorate of Municipal Administration	PGWM	Participatory Groundwater Management
DWSD	Drinking Water and Sanitation Department	PSI	People's Science Institute
GIS	Geographic Information System	SaciWATERS	South Asia Consortium for Interdisciplinary Water Resources Studies
GPOD	Gram Panchayat Organisation Development	SCOPE	Society for Community Participation and Empowerment
HSS	Himalaya Seva Sangh	SDMC	School Development and Monitoring Committee
HWP	Hindi Water Portal	SHG	Self-Help Group
HUDCO	Housing and Urban Development Corporation	SRTT	Sir Ratan Tata Trust
IDWM	Integrated Domestic Water Management	TMC	Town Municipal Council
INREM Foundation	India Natural Resource Economics and Management Foundation	UAS	University of Agricultural Sciences
IIHS	Indian Institute for Human Settlements	UIDAI	Unique Identification Authority of India
IIT	Indian Institute of Technology	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
ISP	India Sanitation Portal	UV	Ultraviolet
IUWM	Integrated Urban Water Management	WASSAN	Watershed Support Services and Activities Network
IWP	India Water Portal	WatSan	Water and Sanitation
IEC	Information, Education and Communication	WIN	Water Integrity Network
ISRO	Indian Space Research Organisation	WQM	Water Quality Management
MDWS	Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation	WRIS	Water Resource Information System
		WSSCC	Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council
		WSP	Water and Sanitation Programme



In this past year, Arghyam had its first CEO transition. We miss Sunita Nadhamuni, who helped build Arghyam and cemented its values, though she has very much been available to us for her thoughtful advice. Our new CEO, Mala Subramaniam, meanwhile, has done a remarkable job of quickly understanding a complex sector new to her, and guiding Arghyam into a challenging and exciting next phase.

Arghyam has moved into a programmatic mode, with a deeper focus on two areas we think are critical for water security - groundwater management and sanitation. With this approach, we will now try to leverage our own institutional knowledge and the enormous experience that rests with our partners to create networks of action. We will be engaging with a broad ecosystem, and hope to build some direct evidence for advocacy and scale.

chairperson's note

At the India Water Portal, which has been redesigned for a better user experience, this past year has been one of intense brainstorming on how to reach more citizens, and to continue to excel as the pre-eminent knowledge space for water in India. I hope in this coming year, the results will be there for all to see.

One interesting new development in the country is that a band of data volunteers is working to make government data more accessible, and to tell the stories behind the numbers. Arghyam's data team has been comparing water datasets, to get at the true picture. Eventually, working together with government, we hope water data will be collected and presented in much easier formats.

There are many changes coming into the policy framework, with dramatic implications for the sector. Draft bills on the Right to Water, and on river basin authorities have been presented. If passed into law, new institutional architecture will have to be put in place and it remains to be seen how soon various states will ramp up.

The need to accelerate better water governance has never been greater. A sharp reminder came from the massive tragedy in Uttarakhand. Too much water or too little water – we need to improve our capabilities to handle both extremes, using new technologies and approaches and old wisdom. Clearly, this calls for humility, not hubris, and for consensus building, not diktat.

At Arghyam, we have supported and showcased approaches that work, such as the water security plan implementation in Maharashtra, where participating villages rode out the drought that affected their neighbors. We hope to continue examining what works where and why. There is much to do.

As always, I thank all those who have been with us, on our eight-year journey, especially our Board and our many partner organisations. We hope for their continued support. And, as always, we recommit ourselves to the vision of safer and more sustainable water for all.

Rohini Nilekani



It is a difficult task to step into the shoes of someone who presents a perfect example of how extreme dedication and stellar commitment to the task at hand can help achieve incredible success. It has indeed been a challenging and humbling experience for me to have picked up the baton from Sunita Nadhamuni and taken on the role of CEO at Arghyam this last year. It is entirely owing to the space and unconditional support afforded by our Chair, Rohini Nilekani, our advisors Ravi Narayanan

and S Vishwanath and the very energetic team at Arghyam that I have managed to hold my own and develop an understanding of the landscape and the critical needs that will help Arghyam continue to meaningfully impact water and sanitation (WatSan) efforts in India.

As I tried to assimilate the footprint that Arghyam has established in 8 years of work, it was astounding to note that we had impacted nearly 3.5 lakh beneficiaries directly and another ten-fold indirectly. Travelling to our various project sites allowed me to place our very inspiring partners in the context of their work and I am overwhelmed at their ability to consistently and sustainably move the needle on improving WatSan security in the face of many externalities. I see the power of citizens when they get together and commit themselves to be a part of the solution and it is very elevating to see the difference that women leaders can and have made in WatSan, where they are an important, if not, the most important stakeholder. It has been extremely encouraging to note the difference that government bodies and individuals have been able to make wherever they have converged, to making improved WatSan a passion and a personal goal.

My conversations with various stakeholders have also led me to introspect on the fast shifting nature of the WatSan landscape. There are many winds of change that seem to be blowing simultaneously and very swiftly. Technology seems to be levelling the ground faster than we think with almost universal mobile access. This has helped in the democratisation of aspirations of people as well as

ceo's message

opened up the possibility of citizen participation in planning and evaluation at large scales. Urbanisation and conversion of villages into towns seems like a continuous, omnipresent process. This is making us re-imagine how a typical, emerging town should look at its WatSan infrastructure. Newer problems in water quality, especially geo-genic are emerging in the most unsuspecting of places. Lack of convergence in institutions and the need for capacity building across stakeholders are driving donor thinking to see these areas as valuable investment opportunities to get better WatSan outcomes.

These changes are shaping our thinking and Arghyam's new programmes with focus on Rural Groundwater, Rural Sanitation and Urban stand testimony to our response. In particular, we believe that the principles of Participatory Groundwater Management that we are testing across 5 typologies will influence how water security is planned for and sustained by communities in the years to come. The concept of initiating and fostering networks focussed on Arsenic and Fluoride is new and will hopefully open up the dialogue for more and more people to be engaged in exploring solutions to these problems. An innovative behaviour change experiment in sanitation, where we are looking to see how an application of cognitive neuroscience can enable 'behaviour nudges' towards changed toilet use is an exciting opportunity for new learning. Analysing and visualising government sanitation data to understand spends and enable more informed decisions that can direct future spend is also an area of keen interest for us.

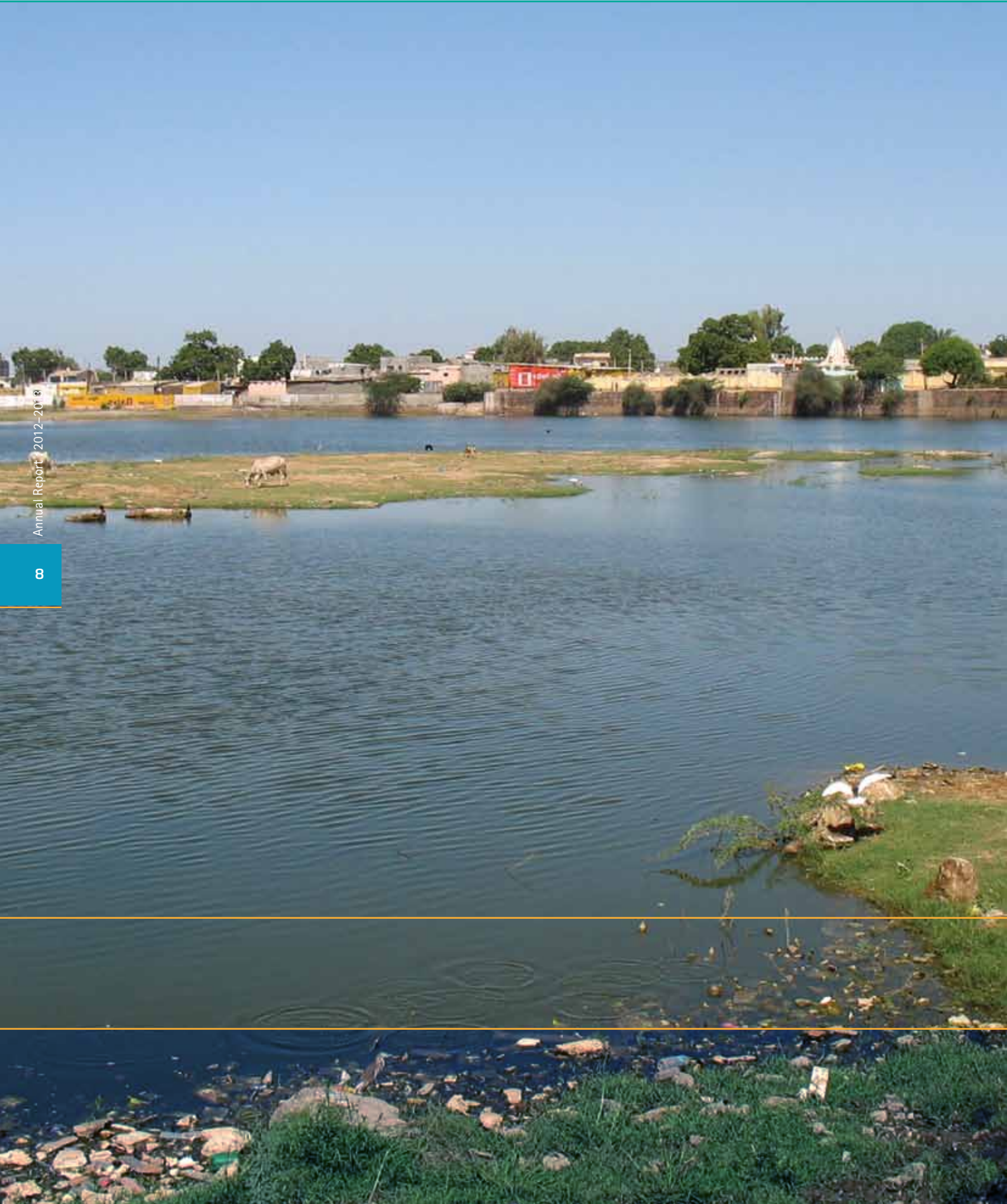
We are also looking at some opportunistic investments in the urban space. We are interested in proving the concept of decentralised sanitation solutions and closing the sanitation loop at household levels. Mainstreaming groundwater in the urban water planning process through research and action research is also an area being pursued.

While we have selected these core themes for deeper engagement, we will continue to support innovative, boutique efforts in WatSan outside of these areas. These will be decided based on the objectives of each project and their potential impact on the marginalised and most vulnerable sections of society.

As Arghyam, we will also continue to support the India Water Portal which is a digital commons initiative and has evolved to become an acknowledged one-stop shop for information on WatSan and the larger water sector in India.

Arghyam is a WatSan focussed Indian grant-making philanthropic organisation and we are a reflection of the work that our NGO partners, friends and supporters in the citizen space and governments are doing and will continue to do. We have no doubt that with your help we will be able to keep up the momentum in WatSan improvement and remain alive to the nuances of micro and macro level changes in our eco-system so that our efforts can match the expectations of our beneficiaries.

Jayamala V. Subramaniam



Vision

Arghyam is a public charitable foundation set up in 2001 with a personal endowment from Rohini Nilekani to realise a vision of safe, sustainable water for all.

Mission

Arghyam works in the domestic water and sanitation sector in partnership with individuals, organisations and governments to create, promote and sustain ideas and efforts towards achieving its vision.

Strategic shift

- ▶ Since 2012, Arghyam adopted a programmatic approach driven by strategic funding to synergise efforts and leverage on its knowledge and partnership networks under themes of **Groundwater** and **Sanitation**.
- ▶ In addition, Arghyam continues to support efforts of institutions, civil organisations and local governments to develop innovative approaches, capacities and models of good practice for management of WatSan services through non-programmatic grants.
- ▶ Working through partnerships, Arghyam functions as a flexible organisation, willing to innovate, absorb risks and learn from its experiences.

Goals

- ▶ Increase the number of people, especially in geographically and socio-economically backward areas, who have access to safe drinking water and sanitation.
- ▶ Develop sustainable water management practices, processes, models and tools.
- ▶ Use information and knowledge to impact policy and practice.

about
arghyam



Hitherto, Arghyam has primarily been engaged with poor, vulnerable communities across various regions of India through project grants driven by partner organisations.

This year, Arghyam undertook a radical shift in strategy to leverage on its efforts, networks and reach by adopting a programmatic approach

focussing on the themes of **Groundwater** and **Sanitation**. In line with its overall vision and mission, Arghyam aims to drive in-depth solutions within specific sub-themes of these programmes, to deepen engagement in the respective fields, provide meaningful and scalable knowledge products, build research and advocacy opportunities and consequently influence policy-making.

Key Programmatic areas and sub-themes under their focus are:

Groundwater (Rural and Urban)

Water Quality Networks
(Arsenic and Fluoride)

Participatory Groundwater
Management (PGWM)

Groundwater Data Repository

Urban Groundwater

Sanitation (Rural and Urban)

Behaviour Change
Communication

State of Sanitation

Urban Sanitation

the programme
approach

groundwater programme

Participatory Groundwater Management (PGWM)

The PGWM initiative has focussed on understanding groundwater as a 'common pool' resource, promoting groundwater hydrogeology and action research on water resources and aquifer typologies, training and enhancing knowledge and creating paraprofessionals in the sector.

Arghyam has been supporting 4 key partners under its PGWM programme, working across different regions of India. Key activities and initiatives achieved by these partners in the current year are highlighted below:

Arid Communities and Technologies (ACT), Kutch

ACT focussed on knowledge building by conducting 2 hydrogeology training sessions with 57 participants. 6 specialised workshops were held for different institutions and organisations working on water resources management. Further, under the Managed Aquifer Recharge Project (Rajasthan, Gujarat), ACT is supporting a training programme for 60 para-workers (*Bujal Jankars*). This year, ACT successfully generated a draft institutional structure for Kankavati (Shared) Aquifer Management and incorporated drinking water source protection in the Gram Sabhas agenda (Kamaghuna and Vatachhad villages).

People's Science Institute (PSI), Dehradun

During the year, PSI published a Groundwater Quality Manual and delivered 2 region-specific trainings on 'Basics of groundwater hydrogeology and springs/springsheds' with 45 participants across 9 States. In the area of action research, 5 villages of Thana Kasoga panchayat, Sirmour district in Himachal Pradesh were identified for pilots. Resource mapping of 60 natural springs and streams therein were completed.

A Situation Analysis Report on groundwater management in the Himalayan region was

completed which led to successful incorporation of springshed development as a permissible activity under the MGNREGA guidelines.

As a designated Support Voluntary Organisation for Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, PSI engaged with district officials to include a session on PGWM in its training curriculum.

Advanced Centre for Water Resources Development and Management (ACWADAM), Pune

Over the last year, ACWADAM conducted 3 intensive trainings (15 days each) on 'Basics of groundwater hydrogeology' for 90 participants across 36 organisations in India. Participants included NGOs and representatives from IIT Bombay, TISS-Mumbai, Universities of Delhi, Osmanabad and Pune. Muthalane and Randullabad villages were regions selected for action research pilots and implementation of the PGWM framework is underway.

ACWADAM engaged with over 80 participants in a national level advocacy workshop on PGWM which was conducted in Pune in January 2013.

Watershed Support Services and Activities Network (WASSAN), Hyderabad

Recognised as the 'Regional resource centre on groundwater' by the Joint Director of Agriculture, Government of Andhra Pradesh, WASSAN successfully integrated the hydrogeological dimension into 21 integrated watershed management plans of watershed projects across 2 districts. 7 pilots of groundwater pooling have been initiated in Anantapur and Mahbubnagar districts, supported by the Department of Agriculture in addition to development of a crop-water benefit analysis tool.

To advocate its efforts, WASSAN has prepared a draft report on groundwater situation and water regulations related experiences in Andhra Pradesh.



Water quality networks

13 million people across 8 states in India and 66 million people across 19 states are estimated to be affected by excessive arsenic and fluoride contamination in drinking water, respectively. To address the root-causes of the contamination issue, knowledge and action networks have been conceptualised coupled with action research projects for both arsenic and fluoride.

The networks are aimed at identifying and resolving research and implementation gaps in arsenic and fluoride through knowledge sharing, small-scale research and innovations at the field level. Broad frameworks will be constructed for mitigating arsenicosis, fluorosis and tested at the field level, supported by development of scalable models.

Current status

Arghyam has chosen to partner with South Asia Consortium for Interdisciplinary Water Resources Studies (SaciWATERs), Hyderabad as the Secretariat for its arsenic network and with India Natural Resource Economics and Management (INREM) Foundation, Anand (Gujarat) as the Secretariat for its fluoride network.

Groundwater data repository

Initiated in 2011-12, this project is aimed at:

- ▶ Addressing issues on availability of a platform to access good quality data on water and related development issues
- ▶ Understanding and enhancing impact on water sector indicators
- ▶ Engaging with relevant audiences

The project primarily engages with the audience of India Water Portal (IWP), including water experts and practitioners. Secondary audiences include the open data community of software developers, designers,

journalists, statisticians, researchers, transparency advocates, NGOs, government and engaged citizens.

Key highlights of 2012-13:

- ▶ **Data research and collation:** 300 data sets collated on WatSan and published on IWP; 50 data sets converted into analysable formats.
- ▶ **Data stories:** National Environment and Engineering Research Institute's (NEERI) water quality data analysed; 2 narrative data stories written about water quality in Chennai, Jaipur, Jodhpur and Karnataka.
- ▶ **Open Data Camp (March 2013):** A 2-day conference was organised to discuss public data, technologies and visualisation techniques related to big data, with participation from 165 people across varied backgrounds including Government of India (UIDAI and data.gov.in)

Applications:

Data Finder application (on IWP): A listing of all publicly available data sets to increase accessibility

Tools in the foray:

Water data: Creating access to publicly available data sets (Government and NGO) to aid visualisation

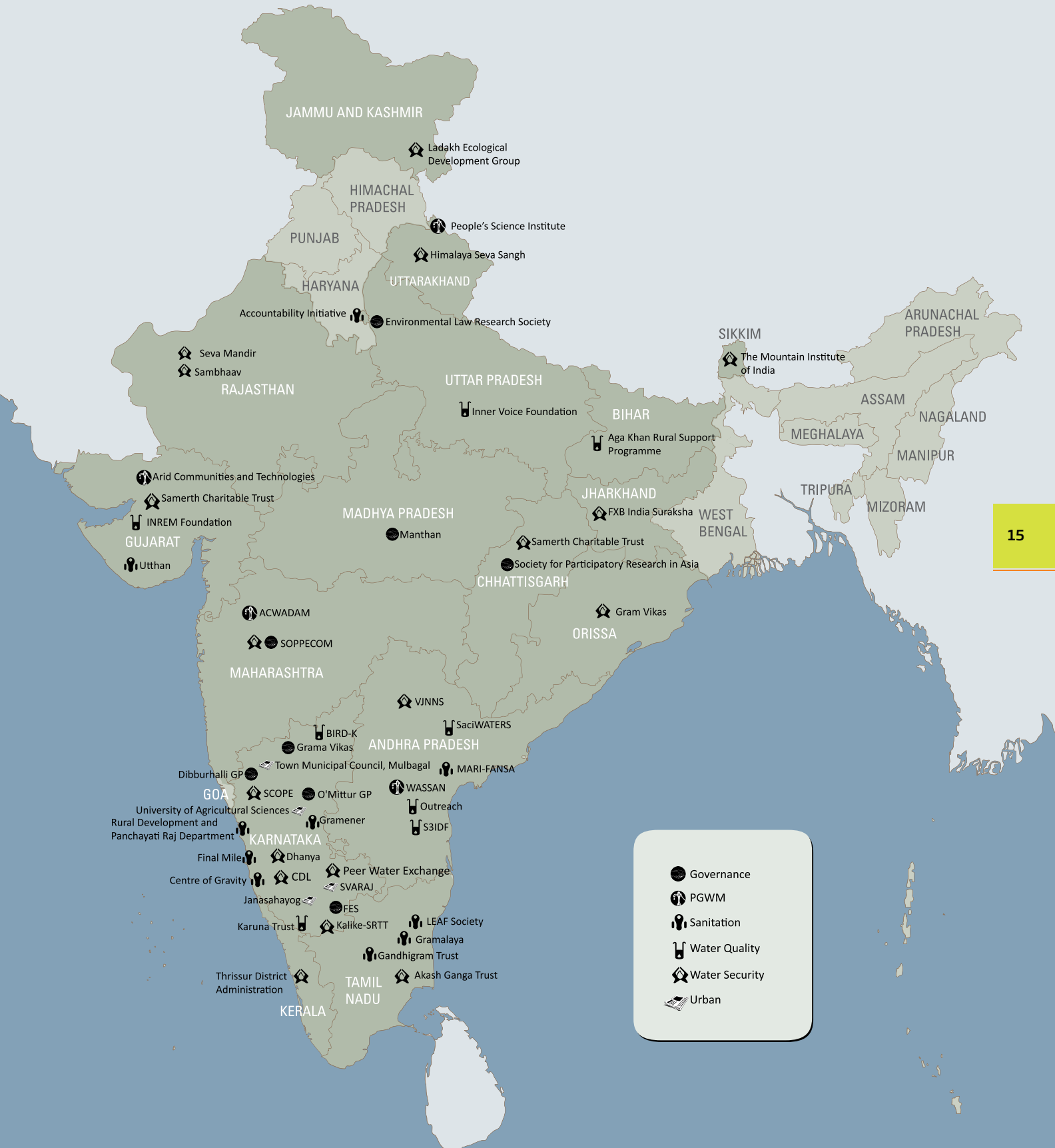
Groundwater data: Framework to enable standardisation in collection of groundwater data, effective analysis and visualisation

Reach through IWP platform:

Water data community: 50 members

Open data community: 400 members

Current Partners



- Governance
- PGWM
- Sanitation
- Water Quality
- Water Security
- Urban

sanitation programme

State of Sanitation: An assessment of the rural sanitation sector

Government of India has been implementing various schemes and programmes since 1986 to ensure total sanitation in rural India. Yet, open defecation has remained a problem that perplexes policy makers and civil society alike.

28,91,195 toilets were built in 2012-13 under NBA (Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan) for people below the poverty line. 16,31,559 toilets were constructed for people above the poverty line in the same year.¹ An investment of Rs. 1,481 crores made this possible (as on May 2013). Approximately Rs. 125 crores was spent on providing information, education and awareness to people on why safe sanitation and hygiene are important and to ensure adoption of these practices.² While the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (MDWS) aims to create a platform on decentralised data to enable effective, detailed assessment of the progress of rural sanitation in India (since 2001), concerns remain on data quality as demonstrated by Census 2011 data.

Arghyam has initiated a **State of Sanitation** project aimed at understanding and evaluating government spends on rural sanitation. Focal points of this project include:

- ▶ Analysing sanitation data, creating comparative analysis from other relevant sectors and providing monitoring tools for reporting the resulting information;
- ▶ Correlation of analytical findings with ground realities on usage, successes and continuing problems

This project is geared towards creating long term impact on relevant stakeholders, transparency, accountability and public participation in NBA.

In 2012-13, Arghyam has commenced initial data understanding, identification of monitoring tools and potential advocacy opportunities through the following:

- ▶ **Data mining and analysis:** Partnering with Gramener, a data analytics organisation, to demystify data from the MDWS and extract relevant insights for dissemination
- ▶ **Data quality:** Partnering with Accountability Initiative to identify gaps in toilet construction data between sanitation and census data banks.
- ▶ **Sector engagement:** Understanding various organisations and stakeholders in the rural sanitation space to enable meaningful alliances.

Behaviour Change Communication for Sanitation

Under the Government of India's NBA programme which offers subsidy to construct individual household toilets, 14.8% of the total budget is earmarked for Information, Education and Communication (IEC). However, with limited capacities and skills, few states have implemented sound communication strategies, and consequently only approximately 1/5th of IEC budgets have been utilised.³

Recognising this as a significant issue within NBA, Arghyam is partnering with the Government of Karnataka over the next 2 years (FY 2013-15). This project, **Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) for Sanitation** aims to provide the state government with a professional, relevant and contextual communication strategy and campaign that is scalable and which will effectively influence people to build and use toilets.

¹ As per data provided in the MDWS website - <http://tsc.gov.in/tsc/Report/Physical/RptYearWiseCountryLevelAch.spx?id=PHY>

² As per data provided in the MDWS website - http://tsc.gov.in/tsc/Report/Financial/RptQueryDistrictWiseFinancialExpenditure_net.aspx?id=FIN

³ Examining & Assessing Different Structures of Communication & Capacity Development Units (CCDUs) in the Rural Water Supply & Sanitation (RWSS) Sector; 2009, TARU.



Highlights of the project are:

- ▶ A communication campaign for sanitation to be piloted in Davangere district, Karnataka; to generate demand for toilets and convince people of the need to construct toilets within the NBA.
- ▶ 'Behavioural nudges' based on a combination of neuroscience and behavioural economics to address the problem of toilet usage.
- ▶ The Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) approach will also be considered for adoption, where communities are mobilised to completely eliminate open defecation.

As of this year, the BCC project is in its research phase, where communication agencies are assessing the existing sanitation situation in Davangere. It is imperative to understand cultural

complexities, behavioural peculiarities and specific hygiene practices in the pilot location, in order to create a campaign that is relevant and scalable.

Scaling and advocacy

Impact of interventions in Davangere pilot will present opportunities to advocate with the state government and district administrations in Karnataka to expand reach of the campaign to a wider audience. Further, Arghyam aims to provide a useful knowledge base to the sanitation sector on the effects, reach and impact of a strong communication campaign in encouraging adoption and use of toilets at scale in India.



urban programme

Over the last year, Arghyam has focused on developing a keen understanding of the Urban WatSan landscape in India through mapping of key organisations, donors, potential partner institutions, government initiatives and policies. Arghyam's initiatives in Integrated Urban Water Management (IUWM) have scaled up in regions of Doddaballapur (Karnataka) and Cuttack (Orissa) through projects undertaken by partner organisations – Svaraj and National Foundation of India, respectively. Alongside, Arghyam aims to connect with like-minded donors and build a coalition of partners working together in this space.

Integrated Urban Water Management Projects

Jal Jagruthi, Mulbagal town (Kolar district, Karnataka)

In 2008, Arghyam partnered with the state, district and local government experts and other NGOs to launch an IUWM project in Mulbagal town. This year, Arghyam transitioned from its role as an implementation partner to a key advisor to the Mulbagal Town Municipal Council. 6 different action research pilots have been conducted in Mulbagal. As a result of Arghyam's work in Mulbagal town, Government of Karnataka decided to scale up the Jal Jagruthi programme to other towns in Kolar district and has allocated budgets for rejuvenation of Kalyani (temple tanks).

Several engineering, scientific and social studies were also carried out in Mulbagal town to assess the water situation and sanitation facilities in households and disseminate learning to wider audiences.

IUWM in Doddaballapur, Karnataka

Interventions led by Arghyam's partner organisation - Svaraj began in Doddaballapur in 2008. 300

households have been supported with roof-top rainwater harvesting structures and sanitation facilities, leading to over 5000 indirect beneficiaries. An action research, evidence based advocacy approach was initiated to demonstrate a scalable 'Integrated WatSan' model anchored to stakeholder community participation. This sustained campaign led by Svaraj with support from community lobbyists, farmer groups, environmentalists and water experts has been instrumental in influencing the state government to survey the river in 2010-11 and initiate a rejuvenation process in 2012.

University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Bengaluru

This project is currently in its third phase and relates to research on 'Application of Urine and Closing the Nutrient Loop' by using humanure. The emphasis of the project will be on developing protocols on use of composted humanure to localise and contextualise handling, transportation, composting and application. Apart from supporting the project, Arghyam aims to create a space to enable knowledge sharing with partners and help in knowledge dissemination.

Advocacy

Arghyam has contributed to the 2013-14 pre-budget consultation of the Union Finance Minister with other social sector representatives. In its advisory capacity, Arghyam has recommended allocation of a dedicated budget by the central government to support research initiatives in the urban ground water sector.

During World Water Day (March 22, 2013), Arghyam initiated a campaign called 'Catch every drop' along with India Water Portal in partnership with 'The Alternative', Bengaluru. This 6-week online campaign culminated in a series of events in Bengaluru.

Tip #2: Let your washing machine take the load off you.

A front-loading washing machine uses 40% less water than a top loader, saving you almost 100 litres every wash.

Change that old inefficient top loader.

Water saving starts with YOU.

CATCH EVERY DROP For more, log on to www.thealternative.in/catcheverydrop

Tip #4: Two sinks save more than one

Do heavy washing in sink 1, rinsing in sink 2. Recycle water from sink 2 for your garden.

Water saving starts with YOU.

CATCH EVERY DROP For more, log on to www.thealternative.in/catcheverydrop

Tip #6: Mulch as much as you can

Spread a thin layer of mulch such as dry leaves or wood chips in your garden. It increases water retention, reduces evaporation and saves water.

Water saving starts with YOU.

CATCH EVERY DROP For more, log on to www.thealternative.in/catcheverydrop

Tip #7: Flush away your water woes

Use a dual flush system to save 67% water. Have a single flush? Place a brick or a filled water bottle inside the cistern.

Reduce the amount of water per flush.

Water saving starts with YOU.

CATCH EVERY DROP For more, log on to www.thealternative.in/catcheverydrop

Photo credit: The Alternative

The campaign focused on citizen contributions towards water conservation in kitchens, washrooms, gardens, residential layouts, apartment complexes, work campuses, and as part of communities seeking to preserve local lakes and tanks.

india water portal



India Water Portal (IWP) is a Digital Commons initiative of Arghyam, acknowledged as the most credible source of knowledge on water and related issues in India. This year, the portal was re-designed to improve user experiences through new features like forums, theme sections, organisation profiles and advanced search. The IWP team worked with groups like Solution Exchange, The Better India, Citizen Matters, and The Alternative to re-publish original articles and stories for its newsletters.

A special page on governance, transparency and corruption in the water sector was added on the portal in partnership with Water Integrity Network (WIN). A nation-wide team was built to connect locally and engage with journalists, experts and audiences, thereby covering 130 such community activities over the year.

The **Nirmal Bharat Yatra** (The Great Wash Yatra) was a large scale event in which IWP supported the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) through Media Fellowships. 4 IWP fellows participated in the Yatra, specifically to work on the Menstrual Hygiene Management Lab and interact with women to impart education on good menstrual hygiene.

Hindi Water Portal

Hindi Water Portal (HWP) is the only knowledge repository of its kind launched in 2008 in Hindi, reaching out to an audience of students, journalists, social workers and academicians from Hindi speaking regions of India. This year the portal featured 125 Hindi research papers of the National Institute of Hydrology (NIH) showcasing farmer-led construction of 8,000 ponds in Dewas district, Madhya Pradesh, and the community water work led by Sachchidanand Bharati in Uffrainkhal, Uttarakhand.

India Sanitation Portal (ISP)

ISP is a joint collaboration between Arghyam and Water Aid, along with a consortium of partners. This year, the portal specially featured results of Census 2011, Nirmal Bharat Yatra and issues and efforts relating to school sanitation. The portal is a knowledge repository on areas of manual scavenging, disaster and sanitation, the right to WatSan and rural and urban sanitation issues.

Reach through portals (2012-13):

IWP:

- Page views: 25,07,502
- Twitter followers: 6000+
- Facebook likes: 2313
- Facebook reach: 1,53,273
- Volunteer base: 40
- Media stories: 40+

Other portals:

- HWP page views: 8,10,279
- HWP's regular columnists: 8
- ISP page views: 2,35,280



Advocacy

India Water Portal is collaborating closely with Water Resource Information System (WRIS), a joint venture between Central Water Commission (under Ministry of Water Resources) and Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

IWP supports WRIS in solving GIS platform usability issues, conducting dissemination workshops across the country and publicising data.

The National Data Sharing and Accessibility Policy (NDSAP), developed by the Department of Science and Technology is the governing policy around data sharing in the country. IWP, as part of the Open Data Community is working closely with NDSAP to enable them to adopt more open data principles.

IWP will make water data available on data.gov.in, work towards building demand for datasets from the public and advocate greater transparency in its guidelines.

research and advocacy



Programmatic Research

Arghyam's re-orientation into the programmatic approach was a result of extensive research to identify relevant thematic areas. Key research activities undertaken were:

- ▶ Internal studies on trends in government policy and practice, directions in civil society and citizen participation in development
- ▶ Organising 2 consultations on groundwater and BCC for sanitation
- ▶ A study of different networks to understand the scope and potential of Arghyam's proposed water quality networks

Opportunistic Advocacy

Arghyam's recognised work in the WatSan domain presented opportunities to engage with larger audiences and government:

Water Quality Management (WQM) framework

Arghyam's publication was circulated to Principal Secretaries in charge of rural water and sanitation

in all the states. In response, Arghyam received a request from the Drinking Water and Sanitation Department; Government of Jharkhand (DWSD, GoJ) to support their initiatives in WQM in affected areas. In addition, a webinar was also conducted on the WQM framework for UNICEF India's staff.

Inputs to Water Safety Plan

Arghyam's research and advocacy teams reviewed the draft Water Safety Plan prepared by the MDWS and submitted detailed inputs for improvement of the same to the Ministry.

Inputs to pre-budget consultation

Arghyam Chairperson, Ms. Rohini Nilekani was invited to speak at a pre-budget NGO consultation organised by the Ministry of Finance. Along with presenting her views at the consultation, she also submitted notes making a case for additional investments in urban groundwater research and suggested PGWM for rural areas.

'Excreta Matters' report launch

Arghyam supported Centre for Science & Environment (CSE) to launch 'Excreta Matters' in Bengaluru. This two-volume report showcases the water and sewage situation in 71 Indian cities through impactful stories and statistics. The event was chaired by Shri Gaurav Gupta, Chairman, Bengaluru Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) and drew participation from over 150 people.



non-programmatic grants

Overview

Supporting a range of initiatives in improving access to safe water and sanitation for the deprived sections of society continues to be a strong focal point of Arghyam's activities. The interventions primarily aim to:

- ▶ Achieve awareness on critical issues surrounding water and sanitation
- ▶ Involve stakeholder communities in planning and implementation
- ▶ Leverage on existing schemes of the government
- ▶ Develop systems for continued use and maintenance of facilities

Reach (2012–13)

28 projects

1214 villages

14 States

7.45 lakh beneficiaries

Rs. 389.21 lakh grants disbursed

Key Project Snapshots

1

Mentoring young professionals to facilitate community-led actions for improved WatSan

Where – Dharwad and Gadag districts, North Karnataka

Partner - Society for Community Participation & Empowerment (SCOPE)

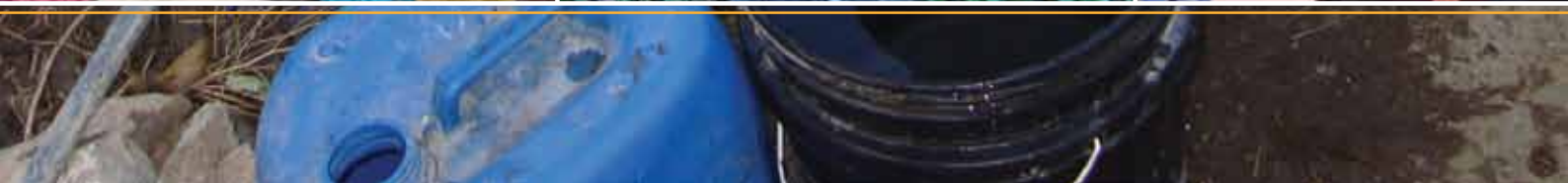
Impact - 8,000 households

Civil society organisations require skilled human resource with the right orientation to play an effective role in improving the WatSan situation. Arghyam has initiated a novel effort partnering with SCOPE to train and mentor youth on a variety of issues that require attention.

An induction programme was designed for selected candidates comprising of classroom and field training.

They were guided to formulate entry point activities and recognise dependencies, interrelated problems and the need to make interventions participatory. On-field and classroom sessions were conducted to orient trainees to participatory approaches and tools, organisational structures, project formulation, implementation and monitoring. Mentoring workshops on aspects of behaviour change communication and effective management techniques were also held. Special focus was given to sectoral studies across areas like groundwater





management, sanitation, local governance, water conservation, water quality, use of data and technology for decision making etc.

Arghyam plans to create a training module with SCOPE based on the experiences gained in this project that would be useful for other practitioners in the sector.

2

Action programme for improving WatSan situation

Where – 12 villages in Pauri and Tehri districts, Uttarakhand

Partner - Himalaya Seva Sangh (HSS)

Impact - 1,000 households

The hilly Himalayan region witnesses paucity of water during non-monsoon months together with high rates of surface runoff that cause heavy land degradation and erosion.

Arghyam has been supporting HSS to undertake suitable interventions for water conservation and rejuvenation of traditional water sources in Himalayan regions. Constructing and renovating

chaals, naulas, bio-sand filters and planting broad-leaved tree species for arresting soil erosion were some of the successful efforts taken up by HSS involving the community.

During this phase, HSS and Arghyam have decided to provide a structured approach to water and sanitation issues by focusing on a few villages involving Gram Sabhas and leveraging panchayat funds. The first 6 months of the project is devoted to developing a detailed action plan in consultation with the Gram Sabhas and understanding the resource base of panchayats.

3

Enabling school health, water and sanitation through an “Aarogya Chethana” initiative

Where – Yadgir district, Karnataka

Partner – Kalike, an NGO promoted by Sir Ratan Tata Trust, Navajbai Ratan Tata Trust (SRTT/NRTT)

Impact – 3062 children, 98 teachers in 20 schools

Availability of safe drinking water, sanitation and hand wash facilities are crucial in making schools a better learning place. However, these facilities are either lacking or inadequate in most schools.

Arghyam supported 20 government schools, in collaboration with SRTT/NRTT, to promote rainwater harvesting, hand washing platforms, improved urinals, toilets and school vegetable gardens with involvement from school development, management committees and children. UV drums were also installed in all these schools to ensure safe drinking water.





Various activities such as quiz competitions, essay writing and story-telling were conducted to promote awareness and motivation. An orientation on school health, hygiene and sanitation issues was also held.

The Education and Health departments of Yadgir district have appreciated these efforts and are now collaborating with Kalike to promote health and education in schools.

gram panchayat organisation development

Well-established Gram Panchayats (GPs) play a significant role in addressing last mile issues in delivery of rural development programmes and various services. With the conclusion of its planning phase and 8 months of plan implementation by the GPs (as of 31st March 2013), Arghyam's Gram Panchayat Organisation Development (GPOD) project is currently in its third year. Aimed at building strong GPs which are critical for good governance at the local level, Arghyam's key recommendations are as follows:

Strong GP Organisation

GPs are unable to leverage on investments made in them and perform effectively owing to the absence of strong procedures. The organisational development approach followed by Arghyam helps strengthen key components of system, process and structure.

Potential of Elected Representatives (ERs)

ERs add value to the context of GPs by understanding citizen needs and enabling effective

service delivery. In comparison to bureaucratic interventions, a local resident ER is better equipped to assume responsibilities. On a wider scale, catalysing ERs will help to tap the potential of approximately 2.8 million representatives across the country.

Supportive policy formulations to sustain GP organisation

A strong, enabling external environment is essential for GPs to function as effective organisations. Arghyam's recommendations include incentivising ERs to assume further responsibilities and formalising expectations between line departments and GP through service contracts. To address the need for funds, an 'agency fee' could be introduced to Panchayats, as a percentage of specific programme grants.

Over the course of the year, many initiatives were undertaken by functional heads and members, spanning across areas of water, school sanitation, agriculture and the Public Distribution System (PDS). For example, Ms. Bharathi, Social Justice Head,





Orkunte Mittur Panchayat, helped rekindle the functioning of School Development and Monitoring Committees (SDMCs) to improve the functioning of the mid-day meal scheme. Her enterprise and initiatives have gone a long way in clarifying SDMCs role, the responsibilities of its members, frequency of meetings to be held and financial grants to the body. Such interactions have helped motivate members of the SDMC in 5 villages to volunteer and undertake many initiatives. For example, a school toilet in Markalghatta village was renovated, and a new water supply connection was given to the toilet, with support of the GP.

Advocacy

Arghyam presented its work relating to GPOD at various forums and conferences, including the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussourie; Centre for Public Policy, Indian Institute for Management, Bengaluru; Women's Leadership Forum, Bengaluru, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai and PRADAN, New Delhi among others. Notably, Dr. Mihir Shah, Member, Planning Commission, chaired a consultation supported by Arghyam on capacity building efforts to revitalise GPs.

Looking forward

As the project enters its third phase, Arghyam's focus will be on strengthening the framework introduced within the panchayats, and on building mechanisms of accountability and responsibility. This will specifically include rekindling standing committees (by including GP members and citizens), strengthening the linkage between the GP Heads and their respective standing committees and in the formation of citizen forums across all wards in the GP.

Due to its potential as a broader rural governance initiative, it is felt that the GPOD project has applications outside the WatSan domain. Arghyam is in the process of creating a new administrative structure for the project that maximises its potential.

finance and administration

Independent Auditors Report

To,
The Members/Board of Trustees of Arghyam

1. Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Arghyam, which comprise the Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2013, the Income & Expenditure Account and the Receipts & Payments Account for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

2. Management Responsibility

Management is responsible for the preparation of these financial statements that give a true and fair view of the financial position and financial performance of Arghyam in accordance with the generally accepted accounting principles. This responsibility includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and presentation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view and are free from material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error.

3. Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in India. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatements. An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial

statements. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of the accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

4. Opinion

i. In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the financial statements give the information required by the Act in the manner so required and give true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India:

- a. In the case of Balance Sheet, of the state of affairs of Arghyam as at March 31, 2013;
- b. In the case of the Income and Expenditure Account, the excess of income over expenditure for the year ended March 31, 2013; and
- c. In the case of the Receipts and Payments account, of the receipts and payments for the year ended March 31, 2013.

for Singhvi, Dev & Unni
Chartered Accountants
Firm Reg. No. 003867S

S Ranganath
Partner
Membership No. 201191

Place: Bengaluru
Date: June 21, 2013

Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2013

Amount in Rupees

Particulars	Sch. No.	As at March 31, 2013	As at March 31, 2012
Sources of Funds			
1. Corpus Fund	1	1,593,604,059	1,558,998,771
2. Current Liabilities and Provisions			
a. Current Liabilities	2	3,774,230	4,536,823
b. Provisions	3	11,185	22,245
Total		1,597,389,474	1,563,557,839
Application of Funds			
1. Fixed Assets	4	1,682,305	1,546,799
2. Investments	5	398,589,900	498,589,900
3. Current assets, loans and advances			
a. Cash and bank balances	6	1,178,463,696	1,041,176,483
b. Other Current Assets	7	14,088,944	14,180,527
c. Loans and advances	8	4,564,629	8,064,130
Total		1,597,389,474	1,563,557,839
Significant Accounting Policies and Notes on Accounts	23		

The schedules referred to above form an integral part of Balance Sheet

As per our report of even date

for Singhvi, Dev & Unni Chartered Accountants
Firm Reg No: 0038675

for Arghyam

S Ranganath
Partner
Membership No.201191
Place: Bengaluru
Date: June 21, 2013

Rohini Nilekani
Trustee
Place: Bengaluru
Date: June 21, 2013

Narayan Ramachandran
Trustee

Janhavi Nilekani
Trustee

Income and Expenditure account for the year ended March 31, 2013

Amount in Rupees

Particulars	Sch. No.	Year ended March 31, 2013	Year ended March 31, 2012
Income			
Interest Earned	9	143,940,576	136,298,278
Other Income	10	1,285,260	1,944,234
Total (A)		145,225,836	138,242,512
Expenditure			
Administrative Expenses	11	4,099,592	3,740,615
Depreciation	4	533,957	588,232
Rural grants	12	59,734,737	77,887,623
India Water Portal	13	14,605,006	10,050,188
Communication and Advocacy	14	14,332,783	5,087,798
Urban Water Initiative	15	3,723,888	8,995,007
GP Organisational Development	16	5,669,598	4,987,191
Institutional Initiatives	17	-	23,749,792
Research and Development	18	7,920,988	1,111,392
TOTAL (B)		110,620,549	136,197,839
SURPLUS (A-B)		34,605,287	2,044,673
Significant Accounting Policies and Notes on Accounts	23		

The schedules referred to above form an integral part of the Income and Expenditure account

As per our report of even date

for Singhvi, Dev & Unni Chartered Accountants
Firm Reg No: 0038675

for Arghyam

S Ranganath
Partner
Membership No.201191
Place: Bengaluru
Date: June 21, 2013

Rohini Nilekani
Trustee
Place: Bengaluru
Date: June 21, 2013

Narayan Ramachandran
Trustee

Janhavi Nilekani
Trustee

Receipts and Payments account for the year ended March 31, 2013

Receipts	Sch No.
Balance brought forward	
Cash & Bank Balances	
Cash on Hand	
Citibank -5913535806 (Savings A/c)	
Citibank -0877466809(Current A/c)	
ICICI -004701046493 (Savings A/c)	
Kotak Mahindra -04222040000503 (Savings A/c)	
State Bank of Mysore- 64064306314 (Savings A/c)	
YES Bank Ltd - Arghyam - 002290300000087 (SB)	
Deposit with Banks	
Interest Earned	20
Other Income	21
Maturity of Bonds	
TOTAL (A)	
Payments	
Rural Grants	12
India Water Portal	13
Communication and Advocacy	14
Urban Water Initiative	15
GP Organisational Development	16
Institutional Initiatives	17
Administrative Expenses	22
Research and Development	18
Fixed assets	4
Balance carried forward	
Cash on Hand	
Citibank -5913535806 (Savings A/c)	
Citibank -0877466809(Current A/c)	
ICICI -004701046493 (Savings A/c)	
Kotak Mahindra -04222040000503 (Savings A/c)	
State Bank of Mysore- 64064306314 (Savings A/c)	
YES Bank Ltd - Arghyam - 002290300000087 (SB)	
Deposit with Banks	
TOTAL (B)	
Significant Accounting Policies and Notes on Accounts	23

The schedules referred to above form an integral part of the Receipts & Payments account

As per our report of even date

for Singhvi, Dev & Unni Chartered Accountants

for Arghyam

Firm Reg No: 0038675

S Ranganath

Partner

Membership No.201191

Place: Bengaluru

Date: June 21, 2013

Rohini Nilekani

Trustee

Place: Bengaluru

Date: June 21, 2013

Narayan Ramachandran

Trustee

Janhavi Nilekani

Trustee

Year ended March 31, 2013 Amount (Rs.)

Year ended March 31, 2012 Amount (Rs.)

734	2,165
1,905,080	(993,858)
1,334,532	(100,202)
3,414,863	1,846,228
800	58,177
42,204	67,558
203,349	-
1,034,274,922	430,991,257
144,483,551	141,867,852
785,260	1,444,234
100,000,000	600,000,000
1,286,445,295	1,175,183,411

Year ended March 31, 2013 Amount (Rs.)

Year ended March 31, 2012 Amount (Rs.)

59,734,737	77,887,623
14,605,006	10,050,188
14,332,783	5,087,798
3,723,888	8,995,007
5,669,598	4,987,191
-	23,749,792
1,205,910	1,604,243
7,920,988	1,111,392
788,688	533,692
5,367	734
40,357	1,905,080
3,137	1,334,532
6,341,292	3,414,863
13,948	800
530,581	42,204
12,290,154	203,349
1,159,238,861	1,034,274,922
1,286,445,295	1,175,183,411

Arghyam Team



Chairperson: Rohini Nilekani

CEO: Jayamala V. Subramaniam

Trustees: Narayan Ramachandran, Sriram Raghavan, Janhavi Nilekani, Sonalde Desai

Advisors: Ravi Narayanan, S. Vishwanath, T.R. Raghunandan

In the photo:

Second Row (standing left to right):

Deepak Menon, Naveen BT, Habeeb Noor, Manohar Rao, Srikanta Prasanna,
Ayan Biswas, Vijay Krishna

First Row (standing left to right):

Karthick R, Dhanush S, Harshvardhan Dhawan, Suresh Ponnappa, Kavita Kannan,
Nirmala Janardhan, Rohini Nilekani, Nivedita Mani, Priya Desai, Amrtha Kasturi Rangan,
Nisha Thompson, Jayamala V. Subramaniam, Madhavi Purohit, Manjunatha Prasad

Sitting (left to right):

Rahul Bakare, Rakhi Mathai, Namrata Nandakumar, Minu Kulkarni, Ragini Kathail

Not in photo:

Sonali Srivastava, Atul Kulkarni, Pavan Srinath, Reena Pinto, Nelson K Royal,
Sunita Nadhamuni, Surashree Shome, Gopala Rao BS



www.arghyam.org



599, 12th Main
HAL 2nd Stage, Indiranagar
Bengaluru 560008, India.

Tel: +91 80 41698942
Fax: +91 80 41698943
Email: info@arghyam.org