

## Activity Report 2018-19



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## 1. About WLF

**Water and Livelihoods Foundation (WLF)** is a non-profit public Trust, without affiliation to any political party and is secular in character. The Trust emerged in the context growing water scarcity in India and has the vision of striving towards a water-secured society. WLF promotes water resources conservation and management addressed towards betterment of livelihoods of poor and needy in rural and urban areas.

Towards achieving its vision, WLF focusses on development and field testing of innovative technologies for the benefit of farmers; action studies on topics of importance to rural livelihoods and skill building for development professionals. WLF also started contributing to the water conservation and efficient use in Urban as well as Industrial sectors in India. Particularly, enhancing community participation in augmenting ground water and reducing wastage of drinking water are major areas of work in Urban areas.

### 1.1. Vision of WLF

Vision of the organization is 'Realizing a water-secure society by facilitating interdisciplinary convergence of hydrological and social sciences'. WLF strives to achieve its vision through its activities and programs.

### 1.2. Objectives of WLF

Following are the three specific objectives of WLF:

- Achieving water security and livelihoods enhancement of poor through community development initiatives, action studies and innovating better water, sanitation, irrigation and agricultural technologies and processes that helps in better water harvesting, recharge, efficient use of resources, reducing environmental pollution, improves farm productivity and ultimately enhances incomes to farmers and people in general.
- Education, skill development, dissemination and capacity building activities for human resources in CBOs, grass-roots NGOs, their networks, Government staff, local bodies, children and youth for improving knowledge, behavioral change, better productivity in their work, skill enhancement, livelihoods and career development
- Collaborate with other civil society organizations, farmers associations, mutually-aided cooperative societies and cooperative societies; strengthen their capacities in water management and sustainable livelihoods and facilitate network programs on issues and themes around water management and livelihoods

## 2. Governance and Financial Management

The apex governance structure in the organization is the Board of Trustees (BoT). The key functionaries of the organization include three Trustees (including the Chairperson) and one Chief Functionary, who is also the ex-officio member of the Board. The BoT meets at least once a year and discusses on various policy matters and program priorities of the organization. Following are the details of the three Trustees and Chief Functionary of Water and Livelihoods Foundation:

1.	Udayashankar Chaturvedula	Chairperson	Development worker
2.	Sreekumar Nhalur	Trustee	Social Work
3.	Someshwer Rao Vanaparathi	Trustee	Finance sector expert
4.	Venkata Ramamohan Ramachandrula	Chief Functionary	Social Work (Employee of WLF)

### 2.1. Policies and guidelines

WLF has developed and adopted a bouquet of operational policies such as Gender policy, Conflict of Interest Policy, Finance Manual, Program guidelines and HRDM manual. All these policies and guidelines together form the “Team Manual” of WLF and guide all its operations.

#### Core values of the Organization:

The organization has few Core values which it would not compromise on:

- Non-discrimination
- Gender Equity
- Inclusive approach
- Eco-friendly approaches
- Transparency

Each of these values is elaborated in the Program Guidelines, which is also available on the organizational website (<https://www.wlffoundation.net/governance.html>).

### 2.2. BOT meetings and major policy outcomes

WLF conducted one BoT meeting during the reporting year (April 2018 to March 2019) on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2018 and discussed various actions to be done by the Trust during the year. Following are the major areas of BoT discussions and decisions:

- a) Discussed and approved various financial reports and activity reports of previous year (2017-18)
- b) Focusing on capacity building, grass-roots actions and collaborations with like-minded organizations
- c) Pursuing the FC prior permission application pending with FCRA division of Ministry of Home Affairs GoI
- d) Collaborations with SACH (New Delhi), Wassan (Hyderabad) and ICLEI (New Delhi) for various water supply, conservation and urban flood mitigation initiatives

### 2.3. Financial systems and sources of funds

A well-laid out finance manual and rules are in place in the organization. Accounts are maintained on fund-based accounting practice with cash-based expenditure booking system. All the accounts are maintained in the Tally ERP 9 software and all the required physical records of income and expenditure are maintained and updated periodically.

Both the local and designated FC bank accounts are with the Bank of Baroda, Tarnaka Branch, Secunderabad, India. WLF obtained 12A registration certificate from Income Tax Dept. under the URN: AAATW4026G/07/16-17/T-1399 with effect from 16<sup>th</sup> June 2016. WLF has got PAN: AAATW4026G and TAN: HYDW01203G.

#### Funding sources during 2017-18:

WLF mobilized financial resources for its charitable activities through grants, donations and small technical support services during 2018-19. Funds mobilized were spent primarily on the activities that contribute to achieving its major objectives, viz., water security, capacity building and livelihoods improvement of poor and small, marginal farmers in its operational areas. Details of income-expenditure and balance sheet of the organization are presented separately in the annual audited financial statements.

### **3. Projects and Activities**

To realize its vision and objectives, the organization undertakes various programs, activities and projects which fall under three broad categories:

- Sustainable water management and livelihoods
- Capacity building and collaborations with other organizations
- Documentation and publications on learnings of the organization

Various initiatives and projects undertaken so far under the above sections are mentioned below, a description of which is given in the following sections of this report:

- 3.1. Design of rural water supply systems in Jharsuguda, Odisha
- 3.2. Baseline data system for Wassan, Hyderabad
- 3.3. OIO meetings for Water Collectives project
- 3.4. Integrated urban water management in Rajkot city
- 3.5. Skill development courses by WLF
- 3.6. Guidance on rainwater harvesting and recharge
- 3.7. Visibility actions and publications by WLF
- 3.8. Participation in workshop / conferences

#### **3.1. Design of rural water supply systems in Jharsuguda, Odisha**

WLF received grant support from SACH, New Delhi for providing technical support in design of safe water supply systems in tribal areas in Lakhanpur block, Jharsuguda dt., Odisha. SACH was assigned the task of providing water supply and individual sanitary latrines to 22 habitations (around 1800 families) in two GPs (Tilia and Kumarbandha) by Ib Thermal Power Station (ITPS), owned by Orissa Power Generation Corporation (OPGC), Govt. of Odisha.

During previous year, WLF, in collaboration with AFPRO, carried out geophysical investigations at 14 locations in the 22 habitations to identify potential ground water sources for water supply schemes. 09 out of the 14 yielded ground water after drilling.

During 2018-19, WLF team visited the area and carried out topographical surveys; pumping tests on the source bore wells; and collected data for design of water supply schemes. The topographical surveys were necessary for locating the over-

head storage tank and laying of water distribution pipes in the villages. Elevation of different nodes in the network was required for analysis of pressure head and accordingly elevate the storage tank to required elevation.

A constant-discharge pumping test done on nine bore well revealed that only two have the potential to use for community water supply schemes, and the rest are suitable for fitting hand-pumps for drawing water. In addition to the new bore wells, two more existing bore wells in the villages were identified for utilizing as water supply sources. After carrying out pumping tests on these four wells, four water supply schemes were designed by clustering villages based on the population and distance from the nearby source. A detailed report for each of the scheme was submitted to SACH, New Delhi by the end of March 2019.



### 3.2. Baseline data system for Wassan, Hyderabad

Wassan received a grant from BfdW, Germany for implementation of water conservation, efficient use and ground water management activities during 2018-19. WLF was associated with Wassan in design of a baseline data collection and management system for the project.

The project defined an objective and three indicators that define the progress of achieving the stated objective. WLF organized meetings with the Wassan staff, their local partners and developed data collection as well as compilation system in Ms-Excel software. 10 field staff of local partners in Visakhapatnam and Bhongir districts were trained on these formats and method of data collection.

### 3.3. OIO meeting on MIS system for the project implemented by Wassan

Outcome Impact Orientation (OIO) is an initiative of BfdW to orient their local partners with knowledge and skills related to building MIS for development projects supported by BfdW and to effectively and objectively capture Outcomes and Impacts from the grass-roots work done. Dr. Anke Shuermann, a resource person appointed by BfdW, visited WLF and discussed about developing the MIS system for Water

Collectives Project. Since the project is about to be launched from 01<sup>st</sup> April 2019, these inputs help to build an effective baseline and monitoring system for the project.

### 3.4. Integrated urban water management in Rajkot city, Gujarat

Mr. Ramamohan, Executive Director, WLF, with support from few external technical experts, provided services to International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), New Delhi on studying various aspects of water management in Rajkot city, Gujarat, India. The project was initiated during 2017, but continued during 2018-19.

The study explored various aspects of water in Rajkot in a holistic manner. Following are the key aspects of the study:

1. Quality assessment of ground water
2. Ground water availability and scope for rain water harvesting
3. Suggest possible options for reuse of treated wastewater from existing Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)
4. Design of pilot projects for rain water recharge and mitigation of surface flooding

	
<p>Flooding in Rajkot city (during July 2017 rains)</p>	<p>ASP based Sewage Treatment Plant at Raiya, Rajkot city</p>
	
<p>Proposed recharge system at Gandhi Museum, Rajkot</p>	<p>Flood mitigation structure at Race Course (opp. to Bal Bhavan) in Rajkot</p>

Since flooding due to rains is a major problem in the city, efforts were made to develop tailor-made solutions for addressing the problem. Ground water recharge systems were planned at five locations integrating with the existing storm water systems at those locations. This project was completed by end of March 2019.

### 3.5. Skill development courses by WLF

During the current year, WLF team took steps to launch skill development programs for development sector professionals. Two events were organized during the year, whose details are given below in the Table:

Sl.	Title of the Training Course	Dates	Total Participants
1	GIS and Mapping – Basic Skills Course using QGIS	17-18 Aug 2018	25 (21 men & 4 women)
2	Data Analysis, Visualization and Interpretation	18-20 Feb 2019	23 (13 women & 10 men)



Training on GIS and Mapping



Data Analysis and Visualization course

Participants from different NGOs, Govt. departments, Research agencies (like NIRD) and students participated in these training courses. Based on the encouragement from these events, WLF will continue to offer more skill development courses in future.

### **3.6. Guidance on rainwater harvesting and recharge**

WLF has been constantly and consistently striving to promote rain water harvesting and ground water recharge practices in both rural and urban areas for last few years. Bore well recharge method is an effective method for recharging large quantities of rain water into aquifers in a short span of time.

Based on the success of this method in different geological settings, many farmers in India (mainly from different parts of Telangna & Andhra Pradesh, but also many from other states in India) approached for guidance to replicate the technology in their own farm lands. Many households, gated communities and apartments requested technical advice from R.V.Ramamohan who is having long experience in rain water harvesting techniques.

Thus, WLF provided the advisory services and guidance to 85 such farmers during the year, without charging any cost to them. Further, two urban communities (Jala Vayu Vihar, Kukatpally and Subishi Waterford, Mokila) and 32 individual households and apartments got advice from WLF on implementing rain water harvesting and recharge systems in their premises.

### **3.7. Visibility actions and publications by WLF**

During the year 2018-19, following publications were made by Mr. Ramamohan, ED of WLF, which are based on the works done by the organization:

- Converting Dried up bore wells as recharge wells (Current Science, July 2018)
- An Integrated and GIS based approach to storm water management in Rajkot city, India (presented in the JNTUH-ICHWAM 2019 conference during 12-15 Feb 2019)

In addition, Rajya Sabha TV covered the activities of ground water recharge done by WLF as a part of its weekly Science Monitor program. The program was telecasted on 22.09.2018. The YouTube link to this program is:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7vfOSJfrpOc&t=1433s>.

### **3.8. Participation in workshop / conferences**

On behalf of WLF, Mr. Ramamohan participated in the following workshops / conferences during the year and presented different case studies & best practices from the development works carried out by the organization:

- Parameters influencing chemical clogging of drip emitters: An exploratory field study. (9th Intl Micro Irrigation Conference, Aurangabad by ICID & CWC, 16-18 Jan 2019)
- Integrated Approach to urban water management in Rajkot. (Stakeholders workshop – Rajkot city level, organized by ICLEI, New Delhi, June, 2018)

- Pilot flood mitigation and ground water recharge systems in Rajkot. (Best practices workshop on urban sustainability organized by ICLEI, Delhi, Dec 2018)

#### **4. Priorities for the year 2018-19**

During 2018-19, WLF made efforts to not only carryout development activities in rural areas, but also initiated actions in urban water management. WLF started skill development courses and realized that there is immense need for upgrading the skills of NGO staff so as to improve their impacts on target communities. A new program (Water Collectives Project) with support from BfdW was planned for launch from April 2019.

During 2019-20, WLF would like to expand the Water Collectives to a total of three districts in Andhra Pradesh and Telangna States. Further, WLF will be expanding its staff capacity to meet the growing requirement of technical services from WLF in the area of water management.

In line with its stated objectives and core activities defined by its Trust Deed, WLF will continue to pursue action studies and publications during the year from the experiences it gains from the grass-roots. Further, efforts will be made to relate with Government Departments and CSR agencies to leverage co-finance for the Water Collectives projects. This will help to magnify the project scope and impacts.

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