

Launching of 'Enhancing Water Resource Management through Piloting Micro-irrigation System (MIS) based Lift Irrigation Project' in KOTDI Cluster of Rajula Block of Amreli District of Gujarat

The project funded by the Tata Trusts aims to improve socio-economic conditions of the farmers through various interventions under agriculture and natural resource management(NRM) in the salinity affected 32 villages of Rajula block of Amreli district of Gujarat and to build a community based institutions for long term sustainability of the interventions.



The launch event was organized on 19 February 2016 at Rajula, Amreli, in the presence of the Chief Guest Mr. Apoorva Oza - Chairma, CSPC; Mr. Divyang Waghela- Chief General Manager, CSPC, Mr. J. S. Gosaliya - Trustee, VRTI, Dr. V. P. Rajkumar - Head HR, APM Terminal, Mr. Vadher, Director, District Rural Development Agency, Amreli, Mr.Manubhai - President, Lift Irrigation Cooperative of Dhatarvadi-II Dam.

Around 500 farmers from project villages of Rajula block were present on this occasion. Different companies participated in the launching ceremony and had put up their stalls for the visitors.



Mr. Apoorva Oza - Chairma, CSPC addressing the masses on the occasion



Mr. Divyang Waghela, Chief General Manager, CSPC speaking on the occasion



Felicitation of Mr. Apoorva Oza, Chairman, CSPC in the launching function



About the Project

The project aims at scaling up of the interventions in 32 salinity affected villages of Rajula block of Amreli district of Gujarat. It aims to improve socio-economic conditions of the farmers through various interventions under agriculture and natural resource management (NRM) in salinity affected villages and to build a community based institutions for long term sustainability of the interventions.

The project is designed to operationalize Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM) through enhancing Water Resource Management with the adoption of Micro-irrigation System (MIS) as a Lift Irrigation Scheme. The project will be a pilot project for Kotdi Cluster of Rajula block of Amreli district of Gujarat. The village has 4,000 hectares of land, out of which 1,500 hectares has irrigation facility, 1,500 is non-irrigated land and 1,000 hectares is fallow land under *Gauchar*. Kotdi village lies on the banks of Dhatarvadi River. The river has one check dam at upstream near Dhareshwar named as Dhatarvadi – 1 for irrigation and drinking water needs of surrounding area. The river has second check dam at downstream near village Khakbai named as Dhatarvadi – 2 for irrigation. The village Kotdi and two other villages Japondar and Mandardi are in command area of Dhatarvadi – 2. Irrigation dam Dhatarvadi – 2 has water holding capacity of 10.19 Mm³, which is sufficient for about 2,700 hectares of land. At present only 50 farmers are using this facility for about 70 hectares. One of the key objectives of the project is to cover as many farmers as possible to cover under irrigation by forming a cooperative irrigation society. This proposed project will also broadly cover following objectives, and all other related issues of soil and water related salinity management techniques.

The overall goal of the proposed interventions is to improve socio-economic conditions of the farmers through various interventions under agriculture and natural resource management (NRM) in the salinity affected villages and to build a community based institutions for long term sustainability of the interventions.

Key objectives of the project

- Promotion of Natural Resource Management based interventions for salinity mitigation and water source augmentation.
- Promotion of sustainable agriculture practices through adoption of improved package of practices (PoP), technological interventions and crop diversification
- Promote alternative livelihood options for landless population and support non-farm livelihoods.
- Create and promote long term sustainable community institutions for self reliance
- Establish linkages with stakeholders for scaling up of interventions.

Key activities of the project

The project activities will focus on implementation and operationalization of lift irrigation scheme in Kotdi and adjacent village benefitting more than 111 farmers with irrigation facility in 205 ha of land. Apart from this, it would revolve around construction, and enhancement of the capacities of water harvesting structures, promotion of efficient irrigation techniques –drip and sprinklers - for judicious use of the water, promotion of improved agricultural practices through crop diversification, land reclamation, improving the farming practices, vegetable cultivation through improved practices like net houses, trellis etc., horticulture promotion, promotion of alternate non-farm livelihood opportunities such as animal husbandry and also enhancing the market linkages through development of farmer producer company.

Coverage

It aims to reach to 3,200 households of 32 villages of Rajula block through NRM and agriculture based interventions along with benefitting 5,000 households with drinking water and sanitation facility in the same block of Amreli district under the drinking water and sanitation project.