

Gram Panchayat Level Documentation and Planning

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1 Background and Project Rationale

India, compared to other countries spends a larger proportion of GDP on rural development, about US\$7 billion by some accounts, but despite some progress, results are not commensurate with the magnitude of the expenditures. While there have been many developmental projects taken by the Government since independence; we have yet to reach the upper limits of achievements in rural development especially in terms of sustainability.

Millennium Development Goals targets have been incorporated into the national Tenth Five-Year Plan as the National Development Goals. Though there have been a lot of interventions from the government side, including the National Employment Guarantee Act, Sarva Siksha Abhiyan, Total Literacy Campaign of the National Literacy Mission, 73rd and 74th constitutional amendments providing reservation for women, commitment for women empowerment in the NCMP, National Health Mission, Total Sanitation Campaign and Bharat Nirman which will help in achieving the MDGs, India is way behind in achieving the MDGs.

It can be concluded that, both, sustainable development and sustainability of implemented projects can happen only when the overall management of resources is done in a way in which there is decentralised authority and includes participation and involvement of local people in decision making, provision of the infrastructure and capacity building support from the central authority, bringing the ‘sense of belonging’ and accountability through a monitoring mechanism.

The current national scenario in the sector of water resources and water supply and sanitation, shows different agencies instrumental in governing different aspects of water sector; many a times resulting in duplication of data, data collected by one agencies not adequate or useful to others, no exchange of data, no common data base, etc. Most frequently, the information or data about the status of water is not available to the local stakeholders involved for whom projects are being implemented. This often results in the local stakeholders unaware of the scenario and often with a feeling of destitution and helplessness.

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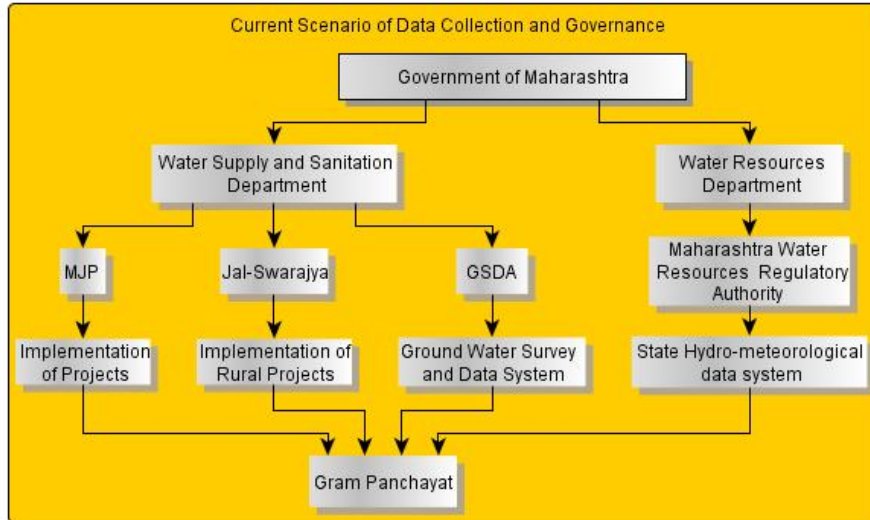


Figure 1: Current Scenario of Data Collection and Governance

The motivation of this project is derived from the following focal points:

1. Detailed Gram Panchayat level data for water resources status, (availability and development level), water supply scheme and its status in terms of operation and maintenance which will help in getting micro level data. At present it is not possible by governmental agencies to collect micro level data and many a times the data collected by monitoring programs is not representative of local conditions. The magnitude of the machinery for survey and data collection involved is too large for any governmental agency to have the coverage.
2. Effective decentralization by involving the Gram Panchayats to collect data and maintain their own resources database. This would result in capacity building of Gram Panchayats as well as empowering them in making the correct choices and also help in monitoring the projects.
3. Data at the Gram Panchayat Level, maintained by the Gram Panchayats can be easily transferred across various departments and different projects thereby bringing a uniformity and continuity of data.
4. Detailing of the Agro-geo-climatic-socio conditions possible at local level which could be linked to the overall planning of the Gram Panchayats as well as regional planning and policy making and the scaling-up of national programmes and sustainability.
5. Economic indicators have been used for many years at national, regional and international levels and the social indicators have been developed

over the past years and are widely used all over the world. Environmental indicators are being developed more recently and many a times the main hurdle for developing environmental indicators especially in the Indian context has been the insufficient or nonavailability of data. Thus the pressure-state-response framework, following the cause-effect-social response logic has not been articulated in the planning stages for most of the developmental projects in India till date.

The proposed project stems from the discussion held between GSDA, UNICEF, and IITBombay on real time data monitoring system and the GP Level Documentation prepared by PRIMove and can be divided into three broad focus areas, namely:

1. Review of Technical Requirements for water quantity and quality analysis
2. Review of Reporting and Legal Requirements across PRI institutions and GOM
3. Review of the GP Capacity for adapting changes in decision making, data collection and storage, estimation and trouble shooting

In this project, the aim is to develop a GP Planning Document which would while incorporating the above focus area have the following characteristics:

- Local in application and/but Global in approach
- Transparent and Participatory in nature
- Adaptive and Simple to use
- Interdisciplinary and Robust to capture all water issues
- Addresses all legal requirements
- Promotes decision making
- Provides checks for unwanted activities and practices
- Blends into the existing reporting mechanisms
- Provides impetus for good practices institutionalization
- Enhances accountability and sustainability

This project will be a collaboration between various stakeholders, starting with IIT-Bombay, UNICEF, GSDA, JalSwarajya, MJP with participation of Gram Panchayat members and people. Besides this, liaison with the related departments, local administration of study areas, other PRI institutions, active NGOs and field agencies will also be needed. The IIT-Bombay team will be led by the Center for Technology Alternatives for Rural Areas (CTARA), an academic and research body of IIT-Bombay, which specializes in the field of technology and development. CTARA has been active for 25 years now and has done several projects, extension activities, prototype generation, studies and so on.

2 Goals and Objectives

The goal of this project is to develop and demonstrate usability of a comprehensive GP level planning document which would include

- (a) technical requirements for water quality and quantity. This would include, how reliable measurements of the water status of the habitation. It may also include new methods for data measurements, prediction of water availability both long term and short term by the village, taluka and GSDA
- (b) reporting requirement for the PRIs and the other stakeholders. This would include use of formats by GPs for collection and collation of data, calculation of the water quality and quantity status, and reporting it to the TPs who would review and send it to ZPs
- (c) review of capacity building requirements in two Gram Panchayats for enabling the use of shared formats, response, governance and monitoring and official sanction.

The specific objectives of the project include:

- Analysis of the pilot study initiated by GSDA-UNICEF in various GPs
- Review the existing manuals including the GSDA, UNICEF, PRIMove document on water data collection, maintenance and analysis, the system for reporting, *etc.*
- Review the methodology of the tests conducted for estimation of water quality and quantity vis-a-vis its correctness, its relevance, and the capacity of the GPs to use the methodologies
- Review of the water sector from Gram Panchayats perspective and identification of roles and responsibility of various agencies in the water sector.
- Review of the policies, legislations on water in the state as well as national and other states for comparison
- Preparation of a Planning Document for GP and testing its application for 2 GPs

3 Project Location

The project will examine the planning documents as prepared by IIT-B, UNICEF-GSDA and any other parties. The project will also analyse the pilot study that GSDA-UNICEF has initiated in several GPs. The project location would be 2 Gram Panchayats jointly identified by GSDA, IIT Bombay and UNICEF

4 Approach and Methods

The overall methodology includes

1. Review of the tests used in field by various agencies and evaluate their ruggedness
2. Collection of secondary information for various legislation, policies and its analysis
3. Collection of various projects implementation and the documentation formats and data collection system followed in the projects
4. Review of cross linkages with other Line Departments/Projects
5. Review of indicators used in other projects nationally as well as internationally and its linkages to the MDG goals
6. Development of indicators for water availability, quality and health
7. Collection of information/data for the identified 2 GPs

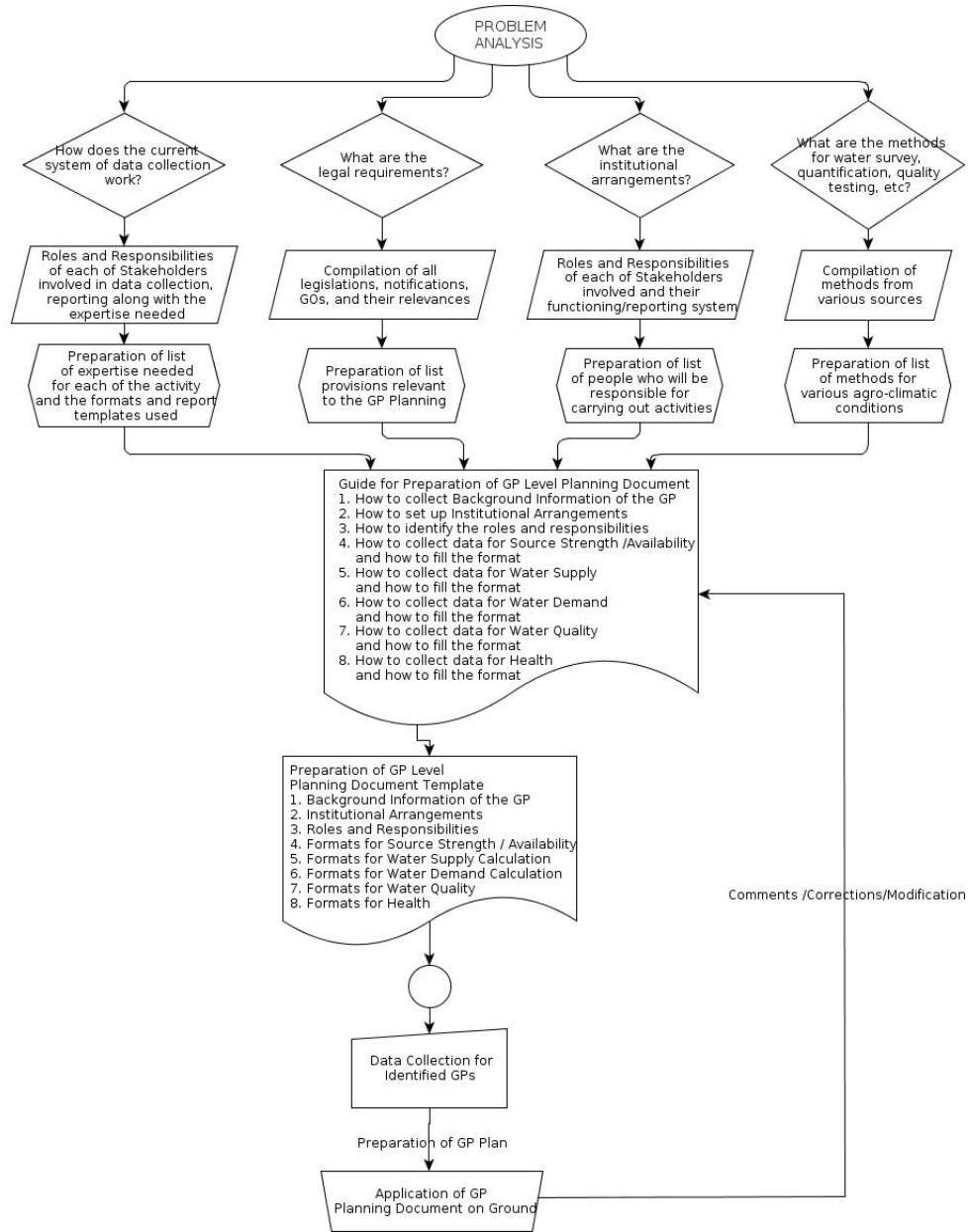


Figure 2: Methodology to be used in the Project

5 Key Project Components

The key project components include

- (i) Data/Information Collection and Collation
- (ii) Field Survey
- (iii) Analysis of secondary and primary information for development of planning document

6 Project Activity and Schedule

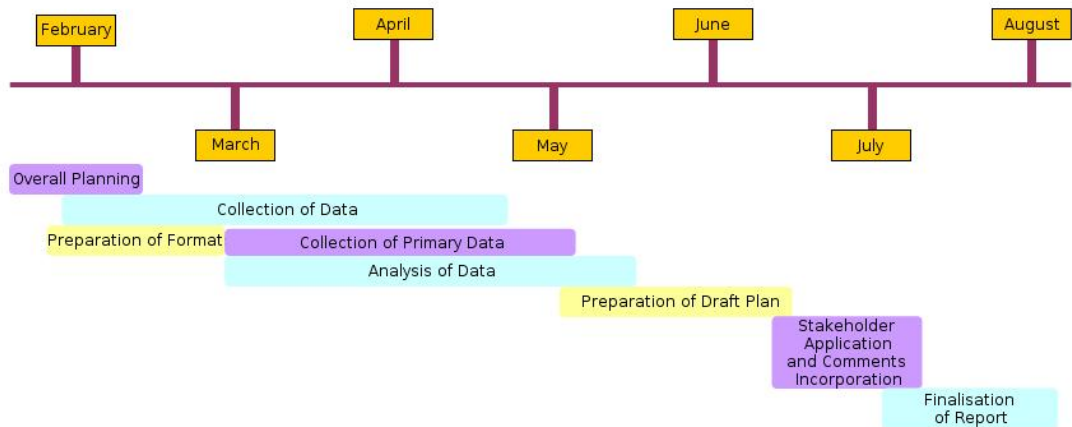


Figure 3: Planned Activity-wise Timelines

7 Project Team & Expected Contribution From Each Member

Name of LPR:	Prof. Bakul Rao
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PARTNERING PRINCIPAL RESEARCHERS (PRS)

Name, title and organization of each partnering PR	Address, phone and fax of each partnering PR	E-mail of each partnering PR
Mr. Dheeraj Kumar, Jal Swarajya		
Dr. Shashank Deshpande, GSDA		
Mr Yusuf Kabir, UNICEF		

S. No	Name of the Team Member	Key Contributions
1	Engineers	Survey, Data Collection, Data Analysis
2	Faculty	Analysis, Development and Finalization of Formats, Indicators, Reporting, <i>etc.</i>

8 Patners and Roles

Institution and Location	Roles
IIT Bombay	Developer of the Planning Document
GSDA	Project Implementer, Project Area Selector, Data Provisioner
UNICEF	Data Provisioner, Funding Agency

9 Key Deliverables, Outcomes and Impact

The key deliverables include:

1. A Gram Panchayat Technical Document on Planning for Water Sector
2. A Guide to preparation of Technical Document

The impact would be beyond the water sector. It would enable the GPs to audit their resources and plan for the future development and take timing steps to mitigate any eventuality

10 Budget

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BUDGET											
Programme Cooperation Agreement Title: GP Level Documentation and Planning											
Period: 6 months											
Programme Costs											
No.	Items	Unit	Quantity	Unit cost	Total budgeted	Partner's contribution	Total UNICEF Contribution	UNICEF Contribution			
								Feb-Mar11 1st tranche	Mar-May11 2nd tranche	Jun-July11 3rd tranche	July-Aug11 4th tranche
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Data Collection	Xeroxing			25000.00	0.00	25000.00	12500.00	12500.00	0.00	0.00
2	Survey Costs	Visits	10	10000	100000.00	0.00	100000.00	50000.00	25000.00	25000.00	0.00
SubTotal					125000.00	0.00	125000.00	62500.00	37500.00	25000.00	0.00
Direct Programme Support Costs											
No.	Items	Unit	Quantity	Unit cost	Total budgeted	Partner's contribution	Total UNICEF Contribution	UNICEF Contribution			
								Feb-Mar11 1st tranche	Mar-May11 2nd tranche	Jun-July11 3rd tranche	July-Aug11 4th tranche
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<i>Salaries</i>											
3	Engineers	6 months	2	30000	360000.00	0.00	360000.00	180000.00	90000.00	90000.00	0.00
<i>Office equipment</i>											
4	GPS		1	30000	30000.00	0.00	30000.00	30000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Laptop		1	50000	50000.00	0.00	50000.00	50000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Faculty Honorarium	12 days	2	25000	600000.00	0.00	600000.00	150000.00	150000.00	150000.00	150000.00
7	Expert Charges / Technical Assistance/Honorarium	Water Expert			50000.00	0.00	50000.00	25000.00	12500.00	12500.00	0.00
SubTotal					1090000.00	0.00	1090000.00	435000.00	252500.00	252500.00	150000.00
Budget Summary											
	Total budgeted	Partner's contribution	Total UNICEF Contribution	UNICEF Contribution							
				Feb-Mar11 1st tranche	Mar-May11 2nd tranche	Jun-July11 3rd tranche	July-Aug11 4th tranche				
Programme Costs	125000.00	0.00	125000.00	62500.00	37500.00	25000.00	0.00				
Direct Programme Support Costs	1090000.00	0.00	1090000.00	435000.00	252500.00	252500.00	150000.00				
SUB-TOTAL	1215000.00	0.00	1215000.00	497500.00	290000.00	277500.00	150000.00				
<i>Indirect Programme Costs (7% of the Cash Transfer component of the Sub-Total, added to Sub Total)</i>											
	85050.00	0.00	85050.00	21262.5	21262.5	21262.5	21262.5				
<i>Institute Overheads 20%</i>											
	260010.00		260010.00	260010.00	0.00	0.00	0.00				
TOTAL BUDGET					1560060.00	0.00	1560060.00	778772.50	311262.50	298762.50	171262.50

Figure 4: Budget