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Ripples *of* Change

Empowering Communities with Sustainable Water Solutions

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CONTENT

Message from the Chairperson

Dear Readers,

As I reflect on our journey of over 28 years at the Adani Foundation, I am witnessing transformations that move me profoundly – farmers tending to lush fields in once-parched lands in Kutch (Gujarat), while women entrepreneurs run thriving businesses nearby. This living tapestry of prosperity, woven through our sustainable water initiatives, captures the transformative power we envision for rural India's water-secure future.

In Jaisalmer's dry heartland, our integrated watershed programs have awakened sleeping traditions while fostering climate resilience. Ancient water bodies now pulse with renewed life, while community elders share their water wisdom with eager young minds. In Maharashtra, our climate-adaptive solutions have turned water-stressed landscapes into green havens, embodying our commitment to sustainable development and environmental stewardship.

What touches me most is seeing our work align seamlessly with global sustainability goals – clean water and sanitation (SDG 6), climate action (SDG 13), zero hunger (SDG 2), and gender equality (SDG 5). Mothers, who once walked miles for water, now lead farmer collectives, children attend school regularly, and communities demonstrate remarkable resilience to climate challenges.

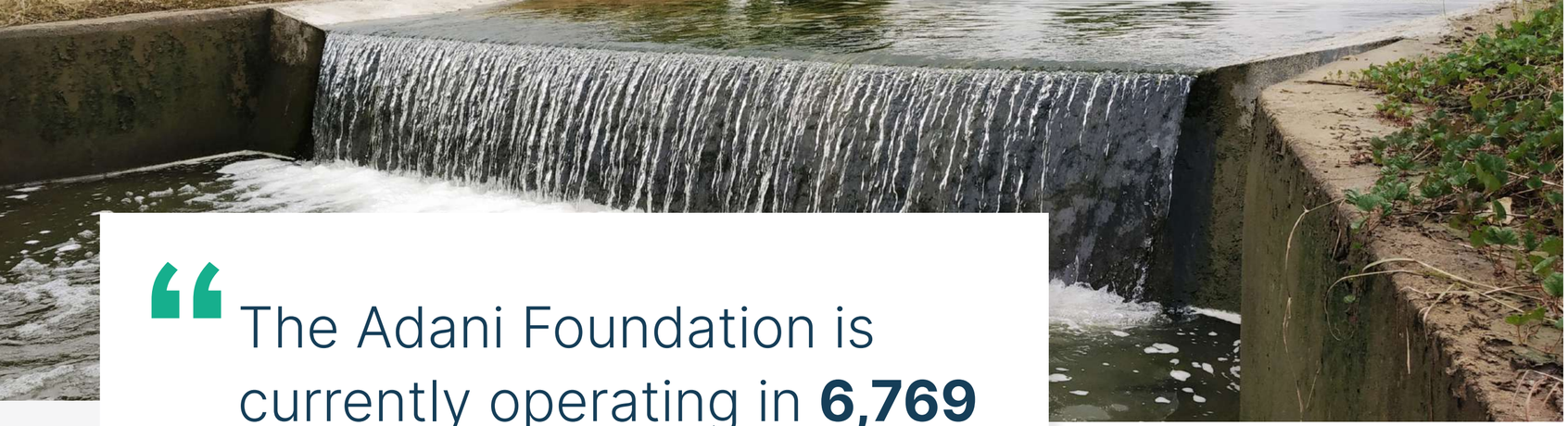
Looking ahead, our journey embraces both tradition and innovation. We are empowering men and women as water leaders and entrepreneurs, nurturing climate-smart farming, and building resilient communities. Our advanced water management systems have enabled multiple crop cycles for farmers, freed women from the burden of water collection, and fueled new economic opportunities, including thriving dairy businesses.

The stories I come across – a grandmother teaching water conservation to her grandchild, a young farmer pioneering drought-resistant techniques, students of our Adani Schools gaining knowledge to lead by example towards a water-secure future – fuel our commitment and assures me of a sustainable and prosperous tomorrow. This vision is further strengthened by our collaborative efforts with our stakeholders, visionary leaders, and, most importantly, local communities.

By addressing water security, we are not just transforming landscapes but also unlocking economic potential and empowering communities to build a future of abundance and resilience. Together, we are nurturing dreams, preserving heritage, and crafting lasting pathways to prosperity for generations to come.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Dr. Priti G. Adani
Chairperson, Adani Foundation



> The Adani Foundation is currently operating in **6,769 villages** across 19 states, positively **impacting 9.1 million lives**.

About
Adani Foundation

Since 1996, the Adani Foundation, the social welfare and development arm of the Adani Group, has remained agile and deeply committed to making strategic social investments for sustainable outcomes across India. It is empowering and enriching the lives of children, women, youth, and marginalised communities in the core areas of education, health and nutrition, sustainable livelihoods, climate action, and community development. The strategies of the Foundation are integrated in national priorities and global Sustainable Development Goals. The Adani Foundation is currently operating in 6,769 villages across 19 states, positively impacting 9.1 million lives.

Vision

"To accomplish a passionate commitment to social obligations towards communities, fostering sustainable and integrated development, thus improving quality of life"

Mission

To play the role of a facilitator for the benefit of the people without distinction of caste or community, sector, religion, class or creed, in the fields of education, community health, and promotion of social and economic welfare and upliftment of the people in general.

Foreword

Water security stands at the heart of India's sustainable development challenge, and the Adani Foundation has positioned itself at the forefront of addressing this crucial issue. This compendium presents our comprehensive approach to water resource management and the transformative impact it has had on communities across India.

The Foundation's water security initiatives reflect our deep understanding that water is not just a resource – it is the lifeline of rural India. Our interventions span diverse geographical regions, from the arid landscapes of Gujarat to the drought-prone areas of Maharashtra, each requiring unique solutions tailored to local conditions and community needs.

Our Integrated Approach Encompasses

1. Infrastructure Development

- Water conservation structures
- Groundwater recharge mechanisms

2. Community Engagement

- Formation and strengthening of water user groups
- Training in water conservation techniques
- Promotion of sustainable agricultural practices

3. Technology Integration

- Water quality monitoring mechanisms
- Digital mapping of water resources

The Impact of Initiatives

The impact of these initiatives has been profound and far-reaching. We've witnessed agricultural transformation, with farmers moving from single to multiple crop cycles. Women, freed from the daily burden of water collection, are pursuing education and entrepreneurial activities. Communities are becoming more resilient to climate change impacts, and local ecosystems are showing signs of revival.

Our success stories include

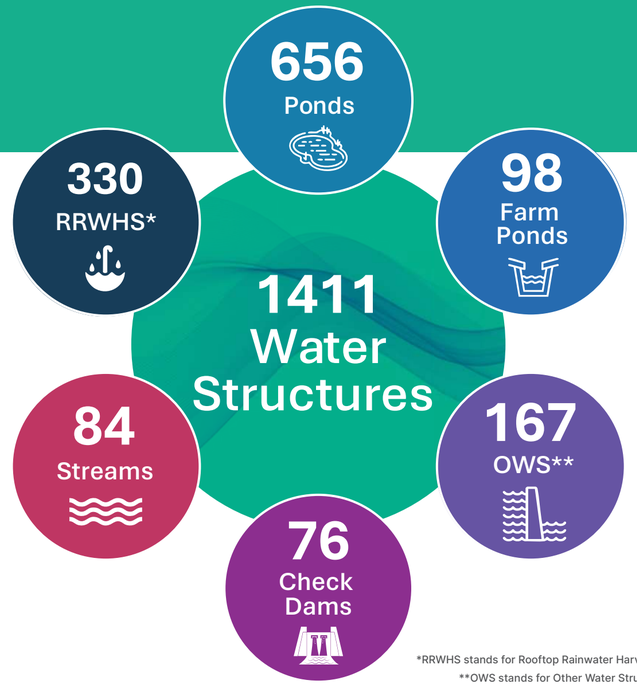
- Revival of traditional water bodies benefiting **1,91,000+** local residents
- Implementation of innovative rainwater harvesting systems in households and schools, creating water-secure environments
- Enhancing groundwater levels locally
- Establishment of community-led water governance systems, ensuring equitable distribution and sustainable usage

Looking ahead, we recognize that the challenge of water security will only grow more complex with climate change and increasing population pressures. However, our experience has shown that with community participation, technological innovation, and sustained commitment, we can create sustainable solutions that stand the test of time.

This compendium is not just a documentation of our achievements; it is a testament to the power of collaborative action and the potential for positive change when communities are empowered to manage their water resources. As we continue this journey, we remain committed to our vision of creating water-secure communities and enabling inclusive, sustainable, and transformative development across India.

Executive Summary

Water transforms lives - this fundamental belief drives the Adani Foundation's comprehensive water security initiatives across India. Our mission to ensure sustainable access to clean water has catalyzed remarkable changes in rural communities, touching millions of lives through innovative solutions and community-driven approaches. Through strategic interventions and collaborative efforts, we've created a sustainable model for water conservation that combines traditional wisdom with cutting-edge technology.



*RRWHS stands for Rooftop Rainwater Harvesting
**OWS stands for Other Water Structures

Community Impact

Impact	Details
Beneficiaries	**1,91,163** population
Water Storage	**15 million+** CUM water capacity
Land Covered	**28000+** acres

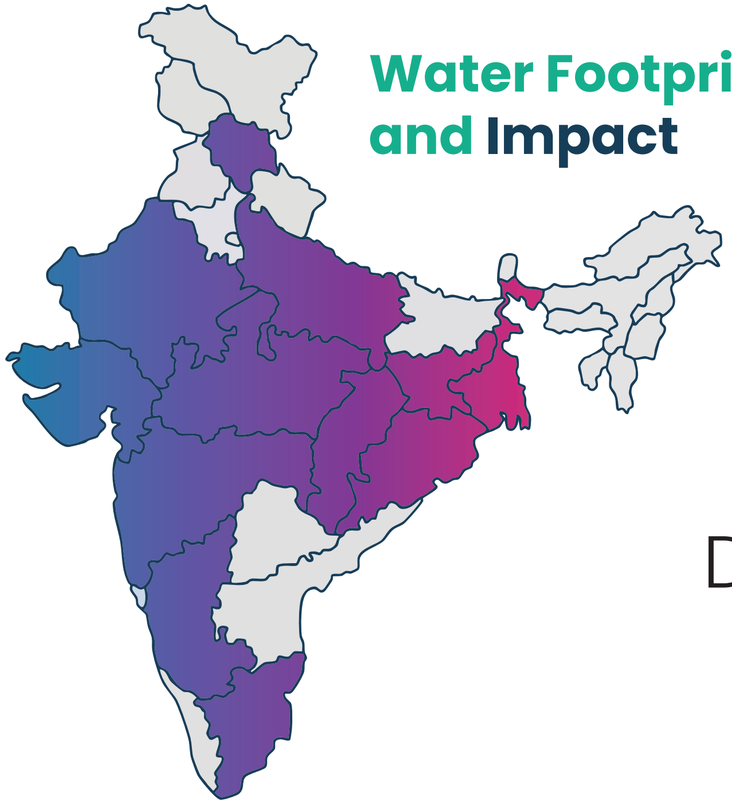
Our integrated approach ensures sustainable water management through

- Water conservation infrastructure
- Community ownership
- Sustainable agricultural practices
- Technology integration

The transformation is visible: barren lands have become fertile fields, water-stressed villages have achieved water security, and communities have developed resilience against climate uncertainties. Our initiatives have enabled farmers to transition from single to multiple crop cycles, empowered women through reduced water collection burdens, and improved community health through access to clean drinking water.

Construction of **15+ types** of water conservation structures, creating **15+million cubic meters** of water storage capacity.

Water Footprint and Impact

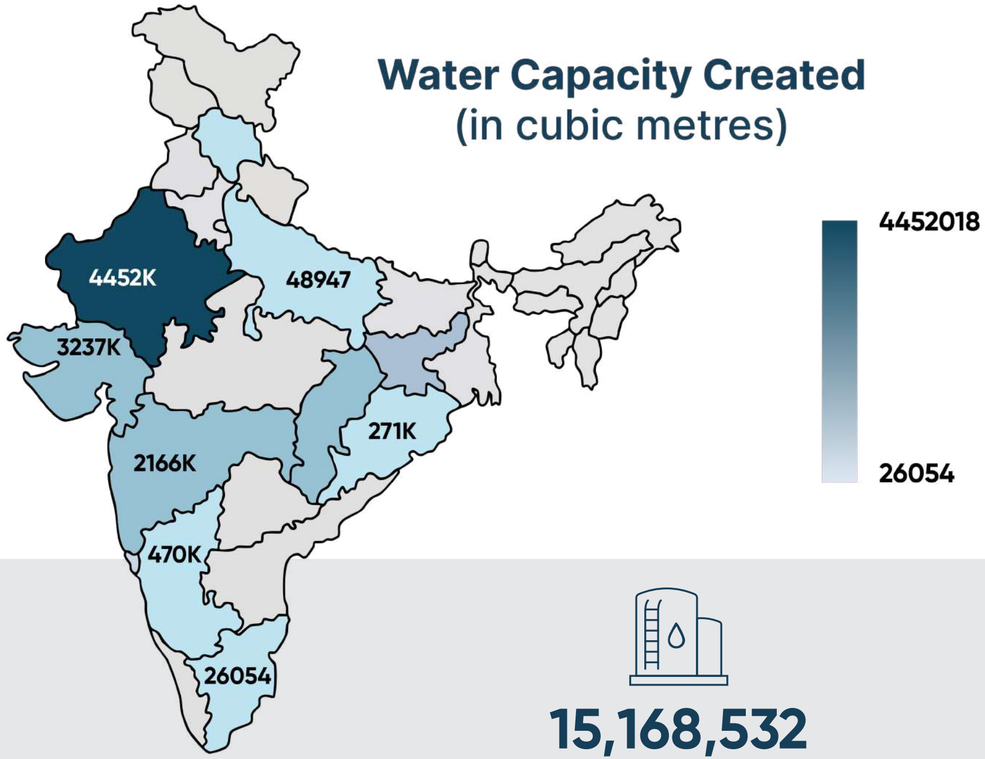


12
States

28
Districts

32
Sites

Water Capacity Created (in cubic metres)

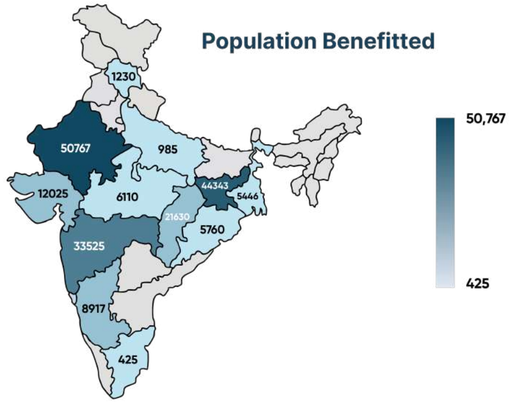


Note: In the map above, 'K' denotes thousand

15,168,532

Capacity Created (CUM)

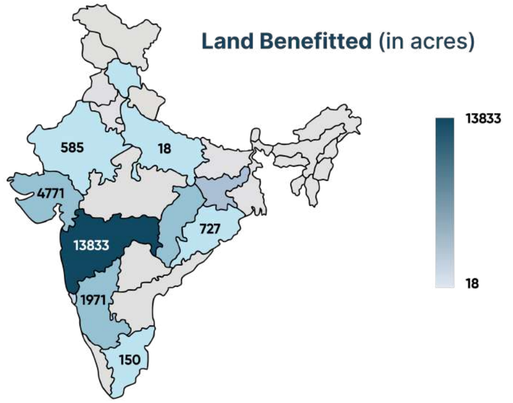
Population Benefitted



1,91,163

Population Benefitted

Land Benefitted (in acres)



28,698

Land Benefitted in Acres

Historical and Current Perspectives

Water Sustainability: Addressing Challenges Through Innovation

India is a land of remarkable diversity encompassing a rich tapestry of cultures, traditions, cuisines, people, religions, and languages. From the majestic peaks of the Himalayas to tranquil coasts, dusty plateaus to serene plains, and harsh deserts to gentle islands, India's exceptional geographical diversity has shaped its water and drainage systems presenting a unique set of challenges regarding water management.

Over the years, population growth and increased agricultural demands have driven the country's water demand. However, droughts, erratic rainfall, and climate change have further exacerbated water scarcity, particularly in vulnerable regions of **Vidarbha, Western Rajasthan, Kutch and the plateaus of Madhya Pradesh.**

In **Vidarbha,** soil erosion caused by water runoff has presented severe challenges for farmers, while limited rainfall has led to significant losses in agricultural income. In **Jaisalmer,** the harsh, arid climate threatens not only agriculture but also the livelihoods of local populations, forcing communities to seek water from increasingly distant sources. **Kutch** faces increasing salinity in groundwater, further straining water availability and affecting livelihoods. Villages located in the plateau region of **Madhya Pradesh** face increased siltation in ponds, further reducing groundwater percolation.

At the Adani Foundation, we're tackling India's critical water challenges head-on. Our **community-focused** projects across the nation blend traditional wisdom–drawing inspiration from farm bunds, tanks, and community rainwater harvesting systems–with **modern technology.** Reviving these age-old methods alongside innovative technologies symbolises a holistic approach to water management that builds **community resilience and promotes sustainable development.**

Our focus is not just on providing immediate water access; it is on building sustainable solutions that enhance agricultural resilience, improve health and uplift livelihoods. By **empowering local communities** to manage their water resources, we're ensuring a future where every individual has access to **clean and sufficient water,** fostering stronger, healthier communities that thrive for generations to come.

The guiding motto behind these initiatives is to create water sustainability of the community, by the community, for the community which aligns us with the **UN Sustainable Development Goal 6 of achieving universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all by 2030.**

How Climate Change Aggravated the Water Crisis

Climate change poses a significant threat to India's already precarious water situation, particularly in the context of the Indian monsoon. Historically, the monsoon season has been a lifeline for India's agriculture and freshwater supply, contributing approximately 75-90% of the country's annual rainfall. However, shifting climatic patterns are leading to increasingly erratic rainfall, exacerbating water scarcity and threatening food security, diminishing soil's capacity to retain moisture and leading to a greater runoff rather than replenishing groundwater..

The Indian Meteorological Department has already reported an increase in the frequency of extreme weather events, including heavier rainfall and prolonged droughts.

Moreover, climate change is likely to intensify evaporation rates due to higher temperatures, further diminishing water availability. As rivers and lakes dry up, dependence on groundwater becomes more pronounced. However, the over-extraction of groundwater, fueled by inadequate rainfall and increased agricultural demand, leads to a catastrophic depletion of this crucial resource.

The consequences for agriculture are severe; crops are failing, livelihoods are threatened, and communities face rising conflicts over water scarcity. If current trends continue, the situation may worsen, with predictions of frequent irregularities in climatic patterns.

> **255** districts and **1,597** blocks across the country have been identified as 'water-stressed'

Source - Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt of India

> **In conclusion, climate change is not just an environmental challenge for India; it poses a severe threat to the country's vital water security, requiring urgent and comprehensive interventions to adapt and mitigate its impacts. The urgent need for adaptive water management strategies, conservation efforts, and sustainable agricultural practices has never been clearer.**

Approach to Water Conservation

Adani Foundation's approach to water conservation embodies a forward-looking strategy that addresses immediate needs while building resilience for future generations. The Foundation's initiatives are not just technical interventions but powerful agents of social transformation. Through a deep understanding of regional challenges, combined with baseline assessments the Foundation tailors its water projects to the unique environmental and social contexts of each community. This data-driven approach ensures the effectiveness of every intervention, maximizing impact and fostering long-term water security.

Central to the Foundation's strategy is the belief that sustainable water management requires both modern infrastructure and traditional knowledge. This integrated approach is evident in the Foundation's initiative, which combines innovative water harvesting techniques with community-driven maintenance and stewardship. By empowering local communities to take ownership of their water resources, the Adani Foundation nurtures a culture of conservation that transforms water scarcity into water sufficiency, self-reliance and progress.

01 Focus on Water-Stressed Regions

Tailored Solutions for Water Security

Adani Foundation prioritizes areas like Vidarbha, Jaisalmer, and Kutch, where water scarcity is most acute. Using insights from the baseline assessments and triangulated data, the Foundation designs region-specific interventions such as check dams, percolation wells, and rainwater harvesting systems. For example, in Kutch, groundwater recharge structures combat rapid runoff, enhancing water availability for agriculture-dependent communities. Each project is designed to meet local needs, providing stable water access and fostering resilience in water-stressed areas.

02 Integrated Water Management

Solutions for Community Resilience

The Foundation's integrated water management approach combines modern techniques, like drip irrigation and water storage tanks, with traditional water conservation practices. These projects not only improve water retention and reduce wastage but also bolster ecological and economic resilience. Initiatives like pond desilting and rooftop rainwater harvesting, as seen in Kymore and Amehta, enable communities to manage resources sustainably, adapting to both current and future challenges.

03 Community-Centered Solutions

Participation in Planning, Execution, and Maintenance

At the heart of the Foundation's approach is community empowerment. By involving local stakeholders in each project phase, from planning to execution, Adani Foundation ensures that communities are active participants in their own water security. Training in maintenance and the formation of water committees equip community members to sustain these resources, transforming them from beneficiaries to custodians of local water infrastructure. This model fosters a sense of ownership, enhancing both the longevity and impact of the Foundation's interventions.

04 Success Stories

Community-Driven Conservation Efforts in Action

In Kutch, Gujarat, the Adani Foundation's projects have brought tangible changes, illustrating how water conservation initiatives can uplift communities. In Kuran village of Kutch, percolation wells have addressed water shortages, reducing the time women spend on water collection and enabling them to focus on family and livelihood activities. In Modhva village, rooftop rainwater harvesting has improved daily access to clean water, transforming scarcity into abundance.

Kutch
Gujarat

Kutch is the largest district of Gujarat having a semi-arid climate with a low annual rainfall between 60 and 100 cm. High runoff, minimal percolation, and extreme temperature variations are other factors that compound the water crisis.

Water conservation initiatives undertaken in the Kutch district of Gujarat have made imprints in the Mundra, Mandvi, Lakhpat, Abdasa, Bhuj and Rapar tehsils of the district.

Designing Hope

Empowering Kuran Through Water and Community Resilience

Kuran, Bhuj

Issue

Kuran, a village with over 1800 residents in the Bhuj Taluka of Kutch district, Gujarat faced severe water scarcity due to its arid climate. The lack of water availability threatened the livelihoods and survival of the community and its livestock. For years, women trekked miles under the scorching sun to fetch what little water they could find—until a community-led transformation began.

Intervention

In 2023, Kuran's village leaders approached the Adani Foundation for help. The Foundation as a response renovated a pond and constructed a well which helped recharge the groundwater. However, a year later it was realised that the work undertaken was insufficient to solve the issue completely. A thorough assessment led to the digging up of a percolation well at a spot where water naturally gathered. At a depth of 50 feet clean drinking water was found.

Impact

The initiative empowered the women and inspired the youth

Women: The initiative relieved women of the burden of carrying water, contributing to their overall well-being and productivity.

Youth: The initiative to construct ponds and wells inspired them to build a cattle trough (Avada) to provide fresh water for their livestock. They invited the Adani Foundation team to witness their efforts firsthand.

> **The story of Kuran symbolises a unique public-private partnership marked by cooperation, innovation and lasting collaboration. The Foundation intervened not once but twice to solve the issue which shows its commitment to sustainability.**

Transforming Zarpara
A Community's Journey to Water Sustainability

Zarpara, Mundra

Issue

Zarpara, a village in Kutch district's Mundra Taluka, faces a severe water crisis. Insufficient rainfall and rising consumption have rendered the Nagmati River, its primary freshwater source, increasingly saline. This has resulted in the desertification of fertile lands and widespread health problems among the community, including stomach, dental, and skin ailments caused by consuming brackish water.

The Adani Foundation made two distinct interventions to tackle the crisis.

Intervention-1

Through the Participatory Groundwater Management Program (PGWM), borewells were converted into artificial recharge borewells.

Six farmers were selected for this project. Each farmer's land had two borewells: one out of use and one actively used for irrigation.

A catchment area of over 2000 acres was used to accumulate rainwater and divert it through an underground pipeline to the out of use borewell to replenish the aquifer and raise the water table. Before the intervention, the depth of borewells ranged from 380 to 450 feet while the water table stood at 280 feet.

Impact

The groundwater table significantly increased from **280 ft to 125-145ft** below ground level which led to:

- Enhanced crop production
- Reduced water salinity
- Improved water quality
- Increase in water storage, and
- Rural economic sustainability

Elated by the success of the project, farmer Muljibhai says:

"This is a direct benefit to farmers with low expenditure. I am sure that each farmer will adopt this technology with your (Adani Foundation) guidance and support."

Intervention-2

A second intervention in the Zarpara village involved the installation of rainwater harvesting structures. Such structures usually include the prepping of a catchment area (the rooftops), installation of conveyance systems and construction of storage tanks. This intervention was carried out in collaboration with the community members who contributed financially.

Impact

Kamshriben Karshanbhai Galsava and her family were one of the beneficiaries of the intervention which profoundly transformed their life. She no longer has to fetch water from afar saving her over 1500 rupees a month.

She says: “In this village when it rains, it’s like sweet nectar flowing from the skies! Our once-dry pots are now filled with water. It’s truly a blessing! When Adani Foundation installed rainwater harvesting tanks, our courtyards started filling with rainwater during the monsoon.”

“The conversion of out of use borewells into artificial recharge wells and installation of rooftop rainwater harvesting structures in the Zarpara village exemplifies comprehension of local situation, community involvement and use of innovation.

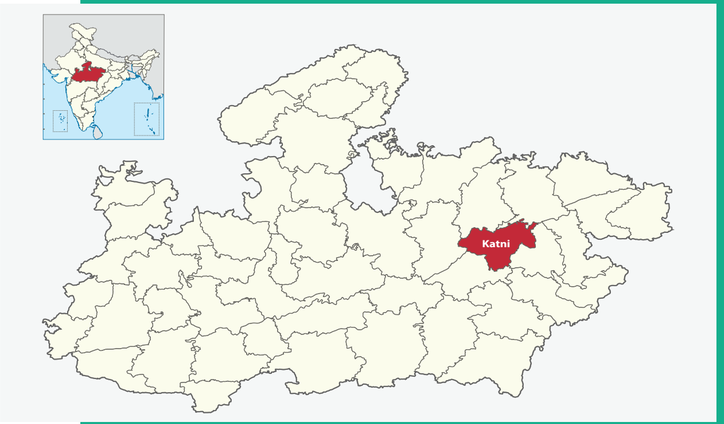
“

For years, the Adani Foundation has stood shoulder to shoulder with local farmers, offering not just support, but a lifeline to agricultural sustainability. Initiatives such as Groundwater Recharge Wells, Rooftop Rainwater Harvesting Structures, Drip Irrigation facilities, and Home Biogas systems have been instrumental in transforming the agricultural landscape.

In its ongoing water conservation projects, the Foundation has equipped over **330 farmers’** homes with Rooftop Rainwater Harvesting Structures, alleviating water shortages both in the fields and in households. However, its impact doesn’t end there. With **209 Groundwater Recharge Wells** strategically positioned across the landscape, the Foundation has not just halted the wasteful runoff of rainwater, but has nurtured the very earth beneath, transforming once barren land into fertile, flourishing fields.

Katni
Madhya Pradesh

Adani Foundation undertook large-scale water conservation in the district of Katni in Madhya Pradesh in the form of various initiatives including deepening of ponds, construction of check dams and other relevant structures.



Revitalizing Salaiya Kohari
A Success Story in Sustainable Water Management

Salaiya Kohari, Vijayraghavgarh (Kymore)

Issue

The Salaiya Kohari village pond was a vital water resource for the community, yet its limited storage capacity hindered its ability to support agricultural and domestic needs during dry periods. Poor water quality also posed challenges for both human and livestock populations.

Intervention

To address these issues, de-siltation of a pond and construction of a permanent check dam was initiated with the following objectives: to increase the water harvesting structure's storage capacity to 25,341 cubic meters, improve water quality by removing silt and organic matter, enhance recharge of nearby water sources, and provide a reliable water source for livestock.

Pre-intervention surveys assessed current conditions, followed by excavation work using manual labour and machinery to minimize disruption to the ecosystem. Post-intervention monitoring included water quality tests and capacity assessments.

Impact

The de-siltation significantly increased the pond's capacity, allowing for greater water storage, especially during dry seasons. Overall, this led to better access to water for domestic use, agriculture, and livestock care, enhancing agricultural productivity and quality of life. The cleaner pond environment also supported local biodiversity.

> **The de-siltation of the Salaiya Kohari village pond has produced substantial benefits, showcasing the effectiveness of sustainable water management practices in rural areas. Future efforts should prioritize regular maintenance and community engagement to ensure the pond remains a vital resource for the community.**

Reviving Badari
A Community Triumph in Water Conservation and Sustainability

Badari, Vijayraghavgarh (Kymore)

Issue

Badari village in Kymore faced a severe water crisis, with significant scarcity during dry months, affecting 600 families who relied on seasonal rainfall for agriculture, livestock, and domestic needs. The community urgently required a reliable and sustainable water source to address these challenges.

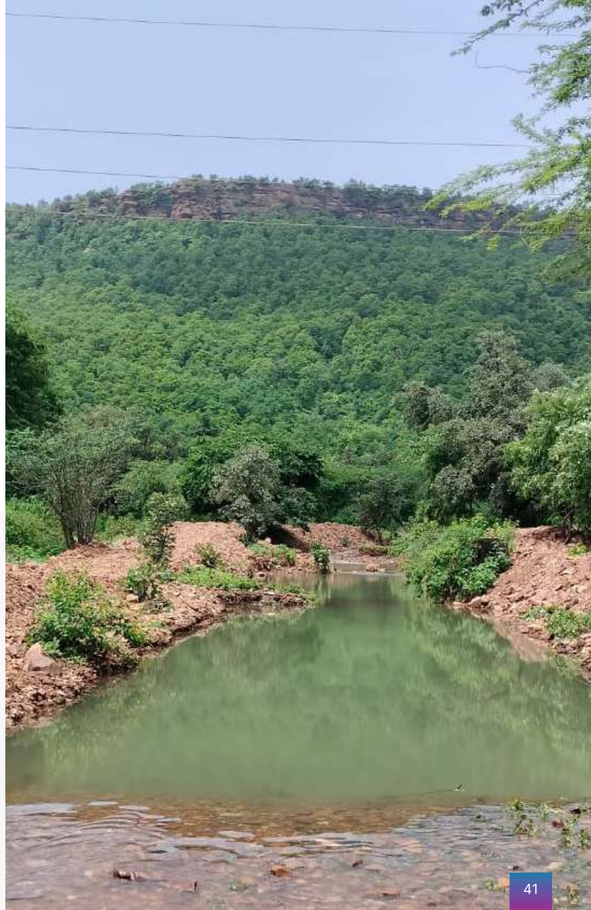
Intervention

In response, the Adani Foundation, launched a water conservation project focusing on desilting two key ponds to enhance the village's rainwater harvesting capacity.

Impact

The combined storage capacity of the ponds increased from 20,063 cubic meters to 34,759.6 cubic meters. The initiative transformed water access for Badari village, providing a reliable, sustainable water source for approximately 1,800 residents. The borewell now draws entirely from the harvested rainwater, supplying 1.5 lakh litres daily. This project has ensured year-round water availability, supported groundwater recharge, and empowered the community toward sustainable water management, serving as a model for effective rural water conservation.

> **The success of this project highlights the impact of community-focused rainwater harvesting on rural water security and serves as a replicable model for similar water-scarce areas.**



Building Resilience in Kalhara

Community-Driven Solutions to Address Water Scarcity and Agricultural Challenges

Kalhara, Vijayraghavgarh (Kymore)

Issue

Kalhara Village, adjacent to the Bamangawan mines of Kymore Cement Works, has long faced severe water scarcity, hindering agricultural productivity and leading to low crop yields. Irregular rainfall and the absence of effective irrigation contributed to critical groundwater depletion, forcing villagers to migrate for work. The hilly terrain exacerbated the situation, causing rapid rainwater runoff and soil erosion.

Intervention

In 2023, the Adani Foundation initiated a project to construct a permanent check dam in Kalhara. The site was strategically chosen to maximize water capture with minimal environmental impact. The dam, made of concrete and stones, has a capacity of 1,764 cubic meters.

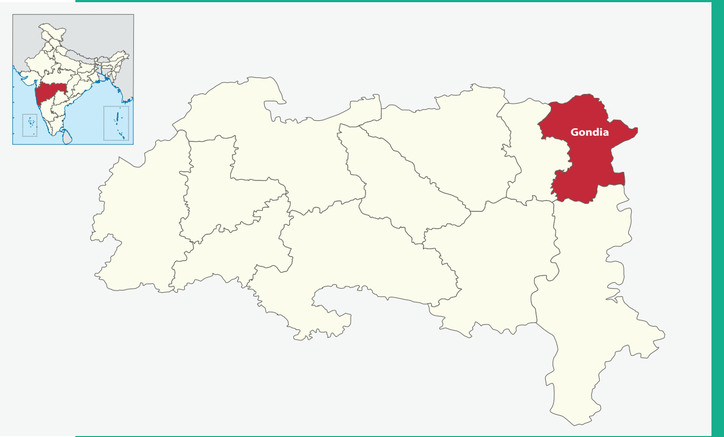
Impact

The check dam significantly increased water availability, thereby raising the water table and expanding area under irrigation by 16%. Farmers reported up to 20% higher crop yields and diversified their crops, leading to improved household incomes. Migration for work decreased, and the community strengthened its social cohesion through collective management of water resources. Environmental benefits included reduced soil erosion and enhanced biodiversity.

> **The Kalhara check dam project exemplifies how strategic water management, along with community involvement and engagement, can revitalize agriculture, improve livelihoods, and foster resilience against water scarcity in rural areas.**

Gondiya
Maharashtra

Water conservation initiatives were undertaken in the Gondiya district involving the construction of cement nala bund (CNB) and other structures. The district falls in the Vidarbha region of the state, which is the leeward side of the Western Ghats lying in the eastern part of Maharashtra facing acute water shortage.



Flowing Futures
Farmer-Centric Water Conservation in Ekodi

Ekodi, Tiroda

Issue

Gondiya is considered the Rice City of India because of its numerous rice mills. In Ekodi village of Gondiya farmers faced severe water scarcity after the monsoon season. With their only pond drying up within months, they struggled to maintain their paddy cultivation, which is a water-intensive crop, jeopardizing both their livelihoods and access to drinking water.

Intervention

In response, the Adani Foundation initiated a water conservation project in 2021, focusing on deepening the village pond and enhancing the connected channels. This effort aimed to increase the pond's capacity and restore the vital water resource that sustained both the farmers and the local ecosystem.

Impact

The results were transformative. Over 300 farmers were benefited from improved irrigation access, enabling them to cultivate two crops a year, rice and vegetables. Beyond agricultural gains, the initiative revitalized the pond and supported alternative income sources, such as fishing and lotus farming.

Bridging Agriculture and Nature

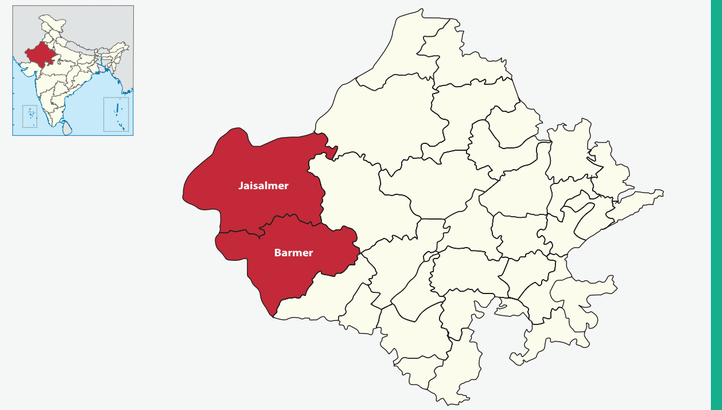
The Impact on Nawegaon Nagzira Tiger Reserve

Ghoti, Tiroda

The Ghoti village in the Tiroda block of the Gondiya district is a tribal village located near the Nawegaon-Nagzira Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra. The deepening of the pond in Ghoti village significantly boosted water storage, allowing local farmers to cultivate two crops annually. This intervention not only enhanced agricultural productivity but also ensured a reliable water source for the adjacent Tiger Reserve. The improved water availability supports the biodiversity of wildlife, flora and fauna promoting ecological sustainability and fostering harmony between agriculture and nature.

Jaisalmer
Rajasthan

Adani Foundation undertook water conservation initiatives in the districts of Jaisalmer and Barmer inter alia which lie in the Thar desert in western Rajasthan. In the district of Jaisalmer, conservation works were undertaken in Fatehgarh and Pokhran Tehsils.



Wellspring of Change
Empowering Lives Through Sustainable Water Solutions

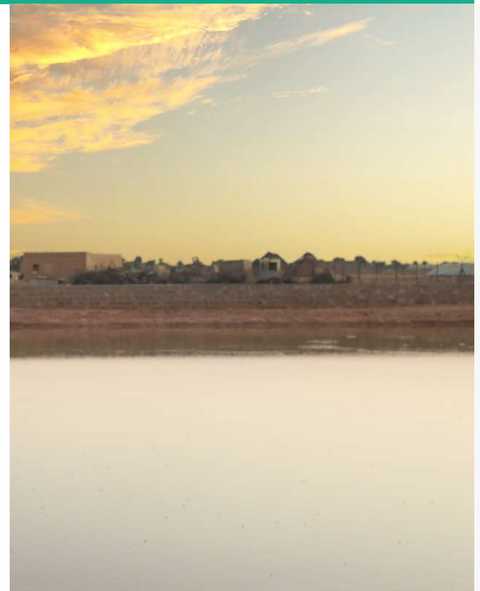
Devikot, Fatehgarh

Issue

Alikhan ki Dhani, a small settlement of six families within Devikot village, Fatehgarh Tehsil, faced multiple challenges due to its remote location, particularly in accessing water for both domestic and livestock needs. Local residents relied on livestock rearing for their livelihood. During dry months, water sources dried up, forcing them to travel 5-6 kilometers to address the water needs of their animals. The alternative was purchasing water by the tanker, costing around Rs. 1,000 per 5,000 liters. With a daily need of 1,000 liters for the animals of the dhani, they often had to spend up to Rs. 6,000 monthly on water.

Intervention

The Adani Foundation initiated the excavation of a pond near Alikhan ki Dhani, creating a water capacity of 3,060 cubic meters. By the end of the monsoon, the pond had filled and even overflowed. Unlike other ponds in the area, which typically dry up by October, water in this pond remains available throughout the dry months.



Impact

The newly excavated pond has not only provided locals with a reliable water source but has also resulted in significant savings. Sadam, a 22-year-old local resident, noted that he saved around Rs. 6,000 this year (cumulatively the dhani saved Rs. 36000/- per year), as he no longer needs to purchase water or travel daily with his livestock to distant water sources. The availability of water until March or April has also allowed these families to better manage their time and resources, providing a sustainable solution for the years ahead.

> **The excavation of the pond has made a lasting impact in the lives of locals, enhancing water availability and supporting sustainable livestock management. This intervention serves as a model for rural water security solutions, helping communities become self-sufficient while reducing costs and effort.**

From Scarcity to Abundance

A Community's Journey to Sustainable Water Solution

Rawri Chak, Fatehgarh

Issue

In the village of Rawri Chak, located within Mandai Gram Panchayat, Fatehgarh Tehsil, water scarcity is a critical issue for around 50 households. The village's reliance on small, quickly drying ponds, like the Araniyali Pond, left residents in need of alternative water sources for livestock and domestic use during the dry months. Due to saline groundwater, families were forced to purchase tanker water at a cost of approximately ₹1,000 each. During the peak dry season, costs could increase up to ₹1,500 per tanker, adding a financial burden for the community.

Intervention

The Adani Foundation undertook the deepening of the Araniyali Pond, increasing its capacity by 3,200 cubic meters. As a result, the pond's water availability doubled, extending from two to four months, allowing the community to access fresh, untreated pond water for an extended period.

Impact

The additional two months of water supply brought significant savings to Girdhari Ram's family and other households. Each family, including Girdhari's, now saves approximately ₹4,000 annually on tanker water, benefiting not only their livestock but also providing fresh drinking water for household use. The pond's retention capacity improvement also offers hope for future groundwater quality enhancement, possibly reducing salinity and enabling sustainable water access through tube wells in the future.

Girdhari says, I have personally saved around ₹4,000 this year and so have the other 50 families in the village. This is a recurring benefit that we will enjoy every year. I am truly grateful to the Adani Foundation for deepening this pond and helping our community in such a meaningful way."

The pond deepening at Rawri Chak underscores the impact of sustainable water management on improving rural livelihoods and reducing costs for underserved communities.

Conserving Sacred Groves
Enhancing Water Security in the Degrai Oran of Rajasthan

Degrai Oran, Fatehgarh

Issue

The Orans of Rajasthan are traditional sacred groves that are protected and managed by rural communities. The Degrai Oran is one such expansive community forest in the Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan, that is an essential grazing area for thousands of livestock including camels, cows, and goats, besides supporting the livelihood of people in nearby villages of Rasala, Sanwata, Achala, Naya Rasala, and Naya Achala. However, the limited water storage capacity in its seasonal ponds made survival difficult during the dry months, especially for the herders which forced them to travel long distances to find water.

Intervention

To improve water security, the Adani Foundation undertook efforts to increase the capacity of key ponds in collaboration with the Degrai Oran Vikas Sansthan. Degrai Pond's storage was increased by 30,000 cubic meters, allowing it to serve nearby villages and livestock throughout the year. Achala Pond was deepened, expanding its storage to 13,000 cubic meters, which extended its availability from 3-4 months to 6-7 months. A newly constructed Sabdasar Pond added over 17,000 cubic meters of water storage, ensuring reliable access even in the driest period of April to June.

Impact

The enhanced ponds have significantly benefited local communities, livestock, and wildlife, providing a stable water source year-round. A water storage capacity of more than 60,000 cubic meters was created, which ensured water security throughout the year. This availability supports vegetation, sustains biodiversity, and attracts migratory birds, contributing to the regeneration of the local ecosystem. Community leaders have expressed gratitude, noting that the ponds have become lifelines, supporting both the environment and rural livelihoods in the Thar desert.

Girdhar Singh, head of the Degrai Oran Vikas Sansthan, expressed his gratitude for the Adani Foundation's efforts: "The work they (Adani Foundation) are doing is truly helping a large number of cattle and communities. Deepening ponds in almost every nearby village is a blessing for us."

> **The water conservation initiatives in Jaisalmer showcase the transformative impact of strategic environmental interventions and stands as a valuable model for sustainable water management in arid landscapes. Increased storage capacity of key water sources has ensured water security, sustainable agriculture, and strengthened regional biodiversity.**

Building a Legacy of Water Security

Ripples of Change is a humble effort to create sustainable water solutions. Every drop saved brings us closer to a future where water security is a reality for all. This journey goes beyond mere outputs; it's a story of resilience, adaptation, and true partnership with communities while overcoming immense challenges and bringing about profound transformations that underscore the power of community-led solutions.

The path ahead is complex. Climate variability, shifting resource needs, and the ongoing evolution of community engagement challenge us constantly to innovate and learn.

The commitment extends beyond immediate outcomes; it is a promise to journey alongside the communities, co-creating solutions and helping them evolve as long-term stewards. Derived from our vision, our theory of change is clear: meaningful, lasting impact requires sustained relationships, adaptable strategies, and a deep respect for local voices and needs.

Guided by this approach, we aim to deepen our impact, scale responsibly, and build resilience that endures across generations. Together with determined communities and steadfast partners, we are committed to building a legacy where every drop counts — a future of water security, resilience, and hope for all.

Education | Health & Nutrition | Sustainable Livelihoods | Climate Action | Community Development

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ADANI FOUNDATION

7th Floor, Aravalli Building, Near Adani Corporate House, Shantigram
SG Highway, Ahmedabad – 382421, Gujarat, India
Email: adaniact@adanifoundation.com