

WATER HARVESTING

Solutions for Rural India - Maharashtra Farms and Villages

The Problem

Farmer suicide, uncertain rains, crop failure, escalating debt in the villages, the long walk for water, the increase of water borne disease, cattle in poor condition, alcoholism, stress, breakup of families, violence and the move to the cities in search of work.

Underlying Causes

A basic need is missing in many villages - that of the abundance of water year round. When this is changed - the whole face of the village and farming community becomes prosperous and healthy.

Proven Solutions

Water harvesting methods to increase the recharge of the underground aquifers is successfully being carried out and documented in many rural areas of Maharashtra and other significantly water depleted lands of India.

Check dams built with the collaboration of the village community together with education and the involvement and ownership of the structures are proven to make this change.

Income significantly grows and the communities prosper.



Check Dams for Water

In the Wardha / Vidarbha area there is a severe water crisis. We have researched and identified 15 needy villages throughout Maharashtra. Tirzada (one of our selected villages) has experienced 35 farmer suicides in the past 5 years - a significant number in a small village of only 317 households with farmer debt high in almost every family.

Corporate Assistance Required.

We have chosen as our first and most urgent projects -the construction of two check dams in Tirzada and a large village well in Palasgaon. Meetings have been held with the farmers and villagers together with the members of the Panchayat and all are agreed to collaborate on the construction and maintenance of these worthy projects.





What is needed:

A total estimate of 66 lakhs is required to construct 14 check dams, one large village well and clean and protect the lake at Devle.

Each dam is estimated at approx 3 lacs (except for a large dam at Nara Village - 10 lacs) and the village well at 8 lacs. Our aim is to complete as many structures as possible prior to the onset of the next rainy season as the situation in many villages is extremely urgent. These funds will also assist with continued research into future check dam projects for the following season.

Your valued assistance to our work will greatly benefit the people in these areas and as the work of water harvesting spreads, India as a whole will be strengthened.

A commemorative plaque will be placed at each fully funded check dam, recognising your organisations' contribution. Our 80G certification means your contribution is tax deductible.

Please call us on 9011281715 or 7745 847070.

With the assistance of your Company completion is planned for these 3 initial structures prior to the next rainy season. It is expected that the outcome will benefit over 38 farmers with 150 acres of land and the provision of year round water for 25 wells.

In Palasgaon their dry season water shortage causes great stress in the village and a new well close at hand will provide a water supply to maintain their households, gardens and stock.

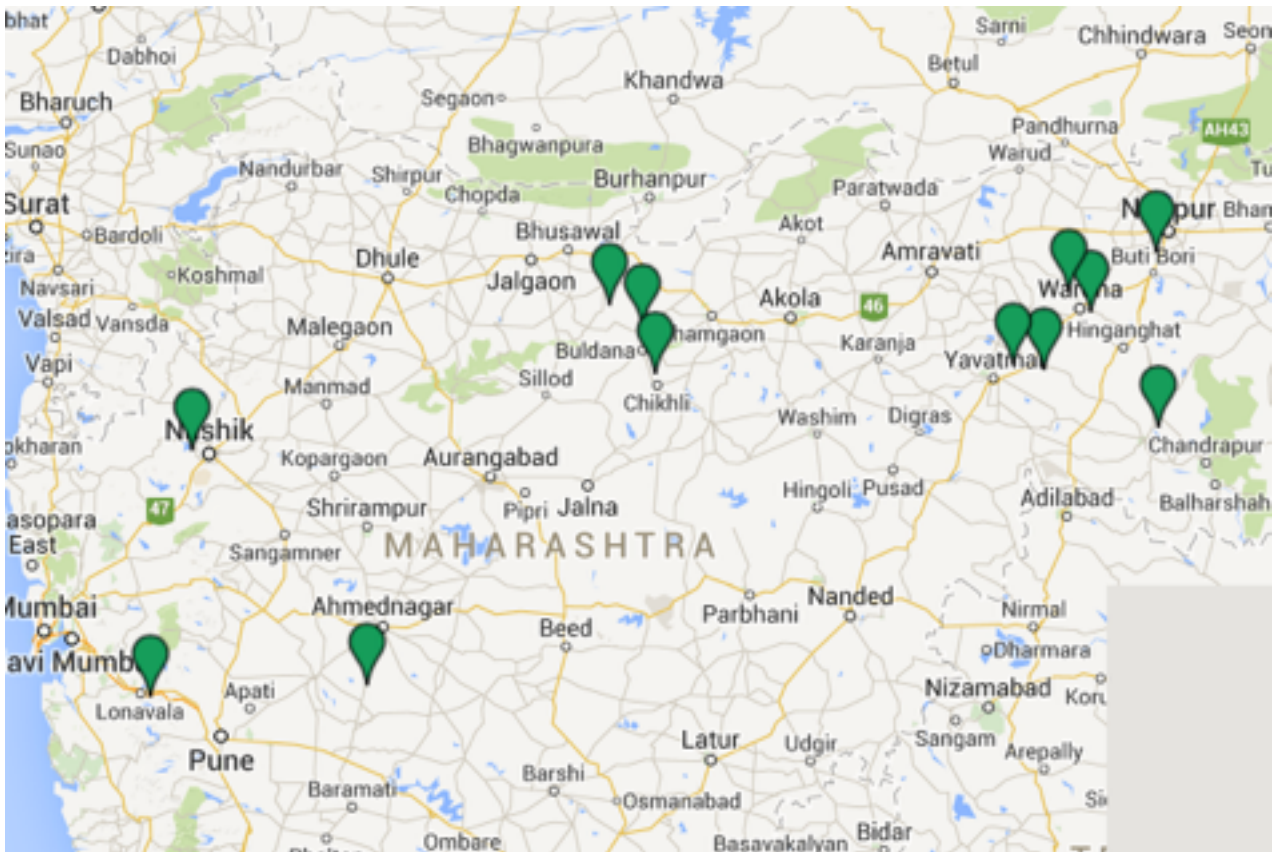
The villagers have agreed to bear 25% of the cost - in the form of materials such as stone, gravel and labour. In this way they will gain a sense of ownership of the structure and they have also made an agreement to levy a small annual fee for the maintenance of the dams and well.



During construction of the water harvesting structures farmer education meetings and villager meetings will be held to increase awareness of further methods of sustainability and access to technologies such as drip irrigation systems, and biogas units.

Our organisation is allied with the Dilasa Foundation in the Vidarbha area who have constructed over 600 water harvesting structures in the past 20 years and have agreed to help us in any technical aspects that may be required.

We sincerely request your collaboration with us in these projects . Below is a full list of villages identified for assistance - and as funds are raised, we intend to work with as many as possible prior to the next rainy season.



Village Name	Village Name
Tirzade - 2 check dams	Palasgaon - large village well
Mendla - check dam by school	Kurdha - check dam
Anji - check dam	Antri and Giroli -Buldhana, 2 check dams
Nara - large check dam	Dahegaon - check dam
Kolgaon - check dam	Sawargaon - check dam
Bhambad - check dam	Devle - protection of lake and water
Devle - Ashram road - check dam	Pimpri nr Wardha - check dam

Naisargik Shikshan Sanshodhan Va Prashikshan Sanstha has both FCRA and 80G Certification and has been in operation since 2008.