

Water Security Planning: Pilot in Nakhatrana Block, Gujarat

OBJECTIVE: Digitally reimagine the way this program can be implemented, with speed, at scale and ensure that community led planning efforts result in clear and usable water security plans that contain digitally verifiable data

ACCOMPLISHMENT: ACT led technical and implementation efforts supported by Socion in an advisory capacity to develop a detailed approach to empower CRPs across villages in the block, enable them to use the Participatory Digital Attestation Platform get the job done and work with local stakeholders to perform activities, monitor actions taken, ensure process adherence, measure and collect supply side and demand side data, and generate a digitalized water security plan for all villages in the block in a consistent manner.

OUTCOMES:

- Planning efforts across the block completed in 4 months, led by Community Resource Persons and real-time data-driven-governance by DIP staff
- Digitalized 'Water Security plans' created for each village in scope with the ability to verify and mine the data for further action.
- This model has since been leveraged by ACT in other projects in Gujarat
- Non-personal data generated from the project is available for open use www.widget.socion.io



We have worked for many years on the basis that preparing water security plans is resource intensive, takes six months or more to complete in each community, requires external experts to visit and work in the community, and we faced many challenges to fully empower and transfer such expertise to members of the community. However, our work in partnership with Socion to reimagine and enable community-led (digital) water security plans with the active participation and leadership of resource persons sourced from the community has demonstrated that it is not only possible, but is much more efficient, results in better quality plans and trusted and verifiable data, and can help us complete such planning with speed, at scale! Feedback from community resource persons is also very positive and they are actively advocating to use this approach across programs in our state.

(Mr. Yogesh Jadeja, Director – ACT)