

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS PREPARED BY INDIANPIM (from National Convention, Nov. 2014)

1. Capacity building of Water User Associations (WUAs) and improving women's participation

- a) There is need for better communication between the WUA and the line agencies for capacity building of WUAs. The irrigation / agriculture and other department officials should attend general body and other meetings of WUAs and should visit the WUAs office and interact with WUA members / office bearers during their field visits to get acquainted with their problems and facilitate their work.
(Action : State Governments)
- b) State WALMIs should be strengthened for training, piloting; action research and process documentation of PIM related activities in their States.
(Action: Central/State Governments)
- c) As PIM has strong potential to achieve sustainable enhancement in water use efficiency and contribute in bridging the gap between irrigation potential creation and utilization a PIM Directorate should be established in the MoWR to promote PIM in the Country. IndiaNPIM should be strengthened to act as a secretariat to the proposed PIM Directorate.
(Action : Central / State Governments)
- d) A network of State WALMIs, IndiaNPIM, NGOs working in water sector, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) and agriculture universities be established and the trainers and resources may be pooled for customized training of WUAs and government functionaries. This network should be coordinated by IndiaNPIM / NWA.
(Action : Central /State Governments)
- e) Water Resources Departments should have PIM Cells in each division to facilitate the functioning of WUAs.
(Action : State Governments)
- f) The state PIM Acts / rules should enable specific funding for awareness, training and capacity building in PIM.
(Action : Central /State Governments)
- g) Training modules should be prepared based on the training needs of the managing committee members, progressive farmers and the women. The contents of the modules should relate to the functions to be executed by the WUA. Adequate care should be taken to include the topics related to women.
(Action : State Governments)
- h) The training should be imparted preferably in the village. Date, time and venue should be finalized in consultation with WUA. Services of the print as well as electronic media and communication may also be arranged to update the farmer's community about the latest technology and developments in the field of water management and agricultural extension. Advanced teaching aids and audio/ video should be used by the training agency to the extent possible. The exposure trips to successful WUAs/ PIM Pilot projects should also form part of training.
(Action : Central /State Governments)
- i) There should be a provision in the act about the reservation of women in the managing committee in case it does not exist. It would inspire women participation if a fully women operated WUA is promoted in each Division/ District.
(Action : Central /State Governments)
- j) The central government should circulate a model PIM act among the states for their guidance to make suitable amends in the light of experiences so far in implementing PIM and state wide consultations.
(Action : Central Government)

2. Equity issues, protecting interest of weak and marginal farmers and water use efficiency improvement through WUAs

- a) The managing committee of WUA should have reservation for weak and marginal farmers.
(Action : Central /State Governments)
- b) Subsidized inputs like seed and fertilizers should be provided to the small and marginal farmers.
(Action : Central /State Governments)
- c) Equitable distribution of water to all the farmers including tail-enders should be ensured through effective implementation of warabandi.
(Action : State Governments)
- d) Crop Insurance should be made applicable to all the farmers of the command area.
(Action : Central /State Governments)
- e) It should be ensured that field demonstration and adaptive trials on variety of seeds, appropriate dose of fertilizer and the pesticides should be conducted in rotation in all the crop seasons regularly.
(Action : Central /State Governments)
- f) All the water related activities of the Government in the operational area should be executed by WUAs.
(Action : Central /State Governments)
- g) Unauthorized irrigation, theft of water and over irrigation should be controlled. Water losses particularly in field application should be minimized.
(Action : State Governments)
- h) Field channels should be lined to an economical length considering the type of soil.
(Action : Central /State Governments)

3. Convergence of farmer friendly government scheme at WUA level and scope of private sector participation

- a) There should be recognition of WUA at District Administration and Panchayat Level and WUAs should be invited to represent in their progress monitoring meetings.
(Action : Central /State Governments)
- b) Micro irrigation, marketing, cold storage facilities and food processing should be made with Public and Private Partnership.
(Action :Central /State Governments)
- c) MOU made between WUAs or by an Individual with private partner should made properly so that the exploitation of farmers in the hand of Private Partners could be checked. MOU should be registered with the appropriate authority.
(Action : Central /State Governments)

4. Incentive structure for WUA and line agency officials

- a) A minimum WUA handholding of five years by NGO/WALMI/ Line agency may be made compulsory under relevant acts/ rules.
(Action : State Governments)
- b) Best performing WUAs at divisional / district / state and country level should be awarded each year. In addition, the line agency officials responsible for assisting the best performing WUAs should also be awarded.
(Action: Central/State Governments)
- a) The management subsidy given by state government/ CADWM (central government) is currently available to WUAs covered under CADWM Program only. It should be extended to all WUAs without categorization in to CADWM/ non-CADWM area WUAs.
(Action : Central /State Governments)
- c) A system of third party independent performance evaluation system for WUAs needs to be developed. Initially, it can be started by a consortium of WALMIs/ IndiaNPIM and NWA and funded by central /respective state governments.
(Action: Central /State Governments)
- d) As soon as the act is enacted and is published in the government gazette, the copy of the act should be sent to the district authorities, local government / local police and panchayats for information and wide circulation.
(Action : State Governments)
- e) The Identity card should be issued to all elected/nominated members, President and Secretary of the managing committee of WUAs.
(Action : State Governments)
- f) All the civil works in the operational area below the minor head should be awarded to the WUA.
(Action : Central /State Governments)
- g) The interest should be paid to WUAs if any delay in transfer of collected revenue share of WUA is made by the government/ department.
(Action : Central /State Governments)
- h) Officers should regularly interact with the WUAs who are not doing good work to encourage and guide them.
(Action : Central /State Governments)
- i) A regular and systematic training on soft skills mainly attitudinal and behavioral changes for irrigation / agriculture and other agency officials should be implemented in each state to improve the communication and trust between the government and the farmers (WUAs).
(Action : Central /State Governments)

5. Financial sustainability and scope of conjunctive use implementation

- a) The power for distribution of water as well as the collection of the revenue should be vested with the WUAs.
(Action : Central /State Governments)
 - b) A system where the farmer can get reasonable price of his produce without being getting exploited by the middle men need to be developed with improvement in storage, processing , transportation infrastructure and cold chain facilities.
(Action: Central /State Governments)
 - c) The capacity building of WUAs/ line agencies for implementation of conjunctive use needs to be taken up in all earnest.
(Action : State Governments)
 - d) For value addition of their produce, WUA should tie-up with cooperative societies.
(Action: State Governments)
 - e) The WUAs can take advantage of Producer Company Act. Some WUAs have earned good profits and income to their members and it needs to be replicated widely.
(Action: Central/ State Governments)
 - f) Suitable water conservation structures should be constructed to arrest the rain water to improve the ground water level.
(Action : Central /State Governments)
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