

Small innovations, big impact

Making drinking Water available to parched villages Presented at: IDCA Fifth International Conference January 12, 2009, New Delhi Lalit Mohan



"SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT by its nature is a work in progress..."

Suri Sehgal

Institute Of Rural Research & Development



Mewat: Ground conditions

- Ground water dependent
- Poor ground water recharging
- Encroachment of saline groundwater
- Lacking conservation conscious

Saline

Saline Groundwater

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Sweet Ground Water



Karhera, the saline village

District Mewat:

Out of 503 only 63 villages have fresh ground water

•Ground water: The only source of water

Village: Karhera

•Highly Saline Ground Water (TDS - 30,000) at 7' depth

•Dependent on unreliable Public Water Supply from Ghagas

Village: Ghagas

Supplying water to other 8 villages

Ground water depleting fast

Community resisting water sharing



Need To create Potable Water Locally in each village

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Technology selection

OPTIONS

Saline Ground Water

Harvested Rain Water

Technology

RO

System

Solar

Desalination

Storage

Recharging

Limitations

- •High TDS
- Energy
- Cost
- Low Recovery
- •Waste Disposal

- Low Productivity
- Sun dependent
- Inconsistent
- Need Space

- High cost
- Need Space
- Contamination

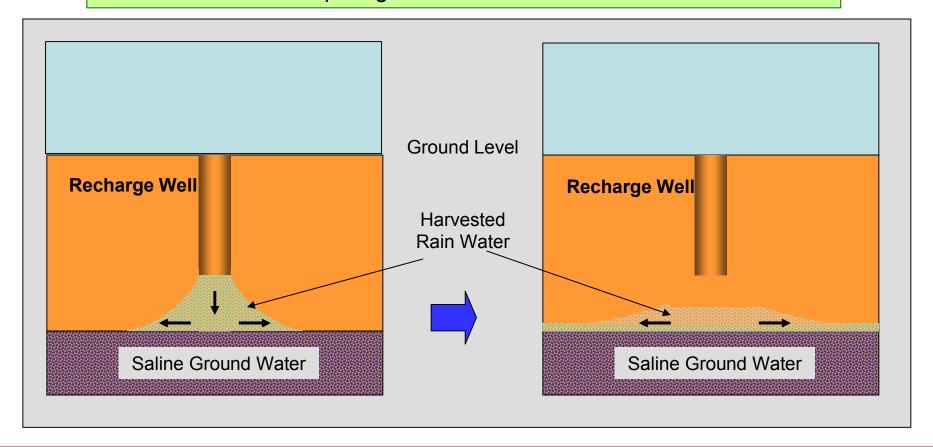
High Salinity

Going ahead



Rain Water Spreading over Saline Water

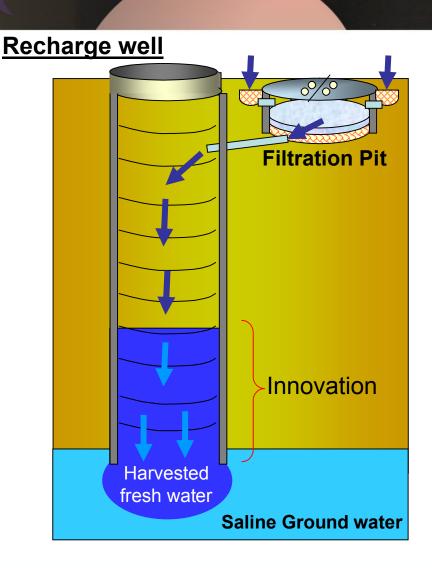
Fresh Water does not remain consolidated but spreads out requiring an innovative solution.



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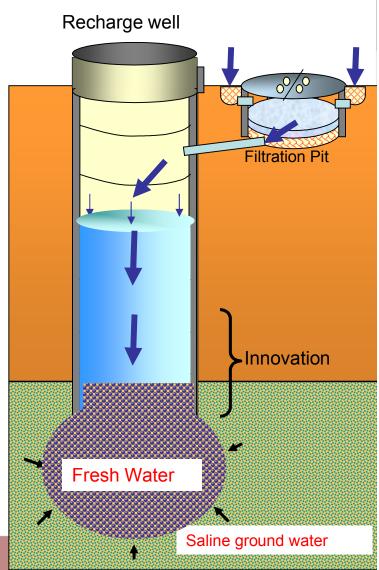


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How the innovation works?

- Density of harvested rain water is lower than the saline ground water.
- Overburden pressure pushes the saline water down.
- Flow under the ground through soil voids is a streamline flow.
- First rush of water into the void spaces flushes the Voids.
- Buoyant force from surrounding saline ground water keeps pocket intact.
- Limited Brownian motion within void spaces avoids further mixing.
- Cut off from light and air prevents growth of pathogens.



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Karheda School had no water since 20 years!

Water requirement : 1lac liter / yr

• Drinking water : 200 liter / day

• Mid day Meals : 120 liter / day

Sanitation & Others: 180 liter / day

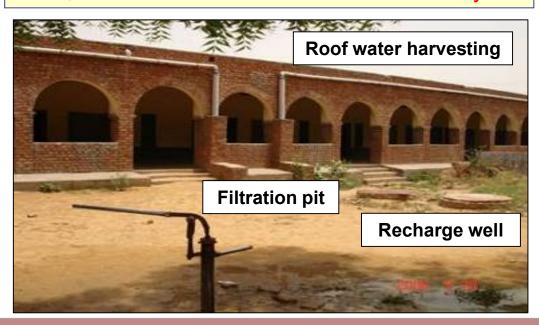
Roof water harvesting

Roof Area : 300 Sq m

Annual rainfall : 500 mm

Estimated Harvest: 1,27,500 liters / yr

Now, Karheda school has water round the year



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Water analysis at Karheda School

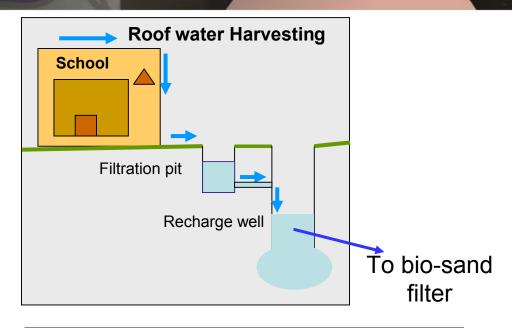
S. N	Characteristics	Unit	Desirable Limits	Saline Ground Water	Public Supply Water	Recharge well Water
1	pH value		6.5 to 8.5	7.4	8	7.0
2	Total Hardness	mg/l	300	7702	400	95
3	Iron	mg/l	0.3	0.6	1	0.02
4	Chlorides	mg/l	250	9792	269	39
5	Fluoride	mg/l	1.0	2.5	1.5	0.3
6	Dissolved Solids	mg/l	500	30230	710	201
7	Magnesium	mg/l	30	1273	29	6
8	Calcium	mg/l	75	958	111	28
9	Sulphate	mg/l	200	6972	61	51
10	Nitrate	mg/l	45	1626	135	4
11	Cadmium	mg/l	0.01	0.07	<0.01	<0.01
12	Lead	mg/l	0.05	0.4	<0.01	<0.01
13	Alkalinity	mg/l	200	353	190	51
14	MPN Coliform	/100 ml	10	7	278	900

Recharge well water is free from chemical contaminants but has pathogens

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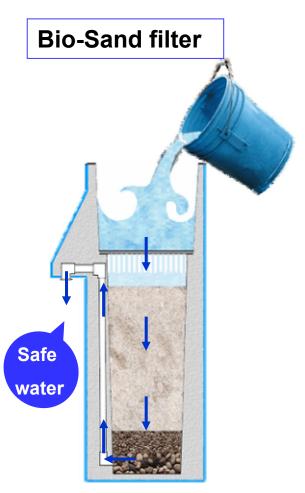


Safe Drinking Water was not a norm for villagers



Bio-Sand filter

- Adapted from CWAST Canada
- •Removes:
 - •90% of fecal coliform
 - •100% of protozoa and helminths
 - suspended sediments
- Low cost





Having technology is not enough!



"Jal Chetna Yatra" (Water Literacy Campaign)



Water Literacy through street plays



Demonstrating technologies



Community discussing water project blueprint

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Small innovations, big impact

The story of bringing water to Karheda school may sound like a small case study, but it is replicable, and has been replicated in 20 villages of Mewat.

70% of the poor live in villages, so scale up of rural development is the crux. We appeal to you and your organization to "adopt a village", a program or a part of a program in rural development, in which Sehgal Foundation would be glad to assist you.

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