



जलवैभव प्रकल्प

**Social Impact Assessment (SIA) of Jal Vaibhav
implemented by L&TFS
Project Year: FY 2021-22**

**Submitted by: CRISIL Limited
December 2022**

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About Agriculture

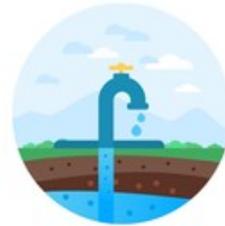
- Agriculture is an important sector of the economy, accounting for 14% of the nation's GDP and over 60% of the country's population, comprising of several million small farming households, who depend on agriculture as a principal source of income.
- Indian agriculture has experienced significant progress in terms of higher crop yield, improved food quality and increased agricultural revenue over the years.
- Introduction of new technologies, mechanization, specialization and government policies have been favorable for maximizing production at lower cost.
- Although rapid progress has been made in the field of agriculture, such progress also came with adverse effect such as increased water stress especially in the case of rainfed areas, excessive use of groundwater resources, land degradation and soil erosion, high climate variability where rainfall distribution is extremely uneven spatially.



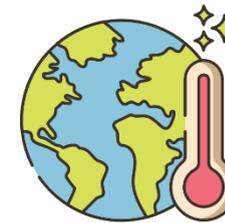
About Ground Water Resources

- Groundwater is a critical resource and is key for agriculture, industry, domestic and natural ecosystems. India is the largest user of ground water, accounting for a quarter of the global total, according to the World Bank.
- Over the last three decades, there has been expansion in irrigated regions, accounting for more than 60% of the country's irrigated area. This expansion of irrigation with groundwater has led to the use of groundwater beyond natural recharge in many regions.
- 5 states that used groundwater irrigation draft out of the annual groundwater draft are Uttar Pradesh (16.86%), Punjab (13.39%), Madhya Pradesh (7.08%), Maharashtra (6.24%) and Rajasthan (5.87%). These 5 states accounted for ~49% of the overall extraction of groundwater in the entire country.

Key Challenges in case of Groundwater Resources



Overexploitation of groundwater



Impact of climate change on groundwater resources

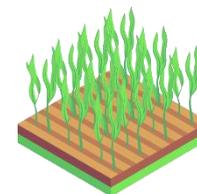


Decreasing quality of groundwater resources

Future of Groundwater Resources in India



Integrated water management



Focus on climate- resilient agricultural practices



Water harvesting and groundwater artificial recharge



Strengthening ground water law

About Jal Vaibhav

Jal Vaibhav is the flagship Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) project of L&T Financial Services.

It supports marginalized farmers in drought prone areas by creating opportunities to regenerate the degrading watershed structures and adopting climate resilient cropping practices in their region.

Primary Objectives



Increase water availability for productive purpose



Create awareness about modern agricultural techniques



Increase knowledge on climate resilient agriculture



Sensitize farmers on soil health & provide facility for soil testing



Provide information on sources of finance for purchasing equipment

Outcomes



Increase in area of production

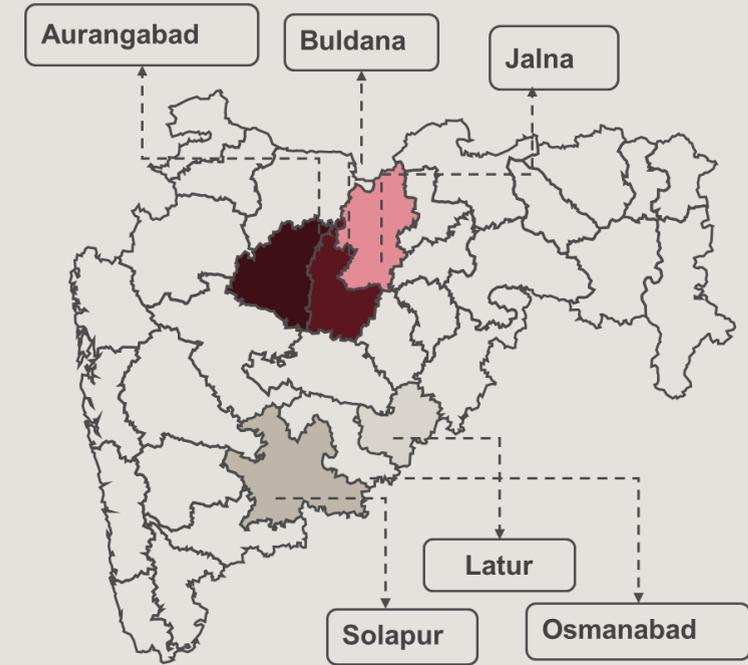


Increase in availability of water



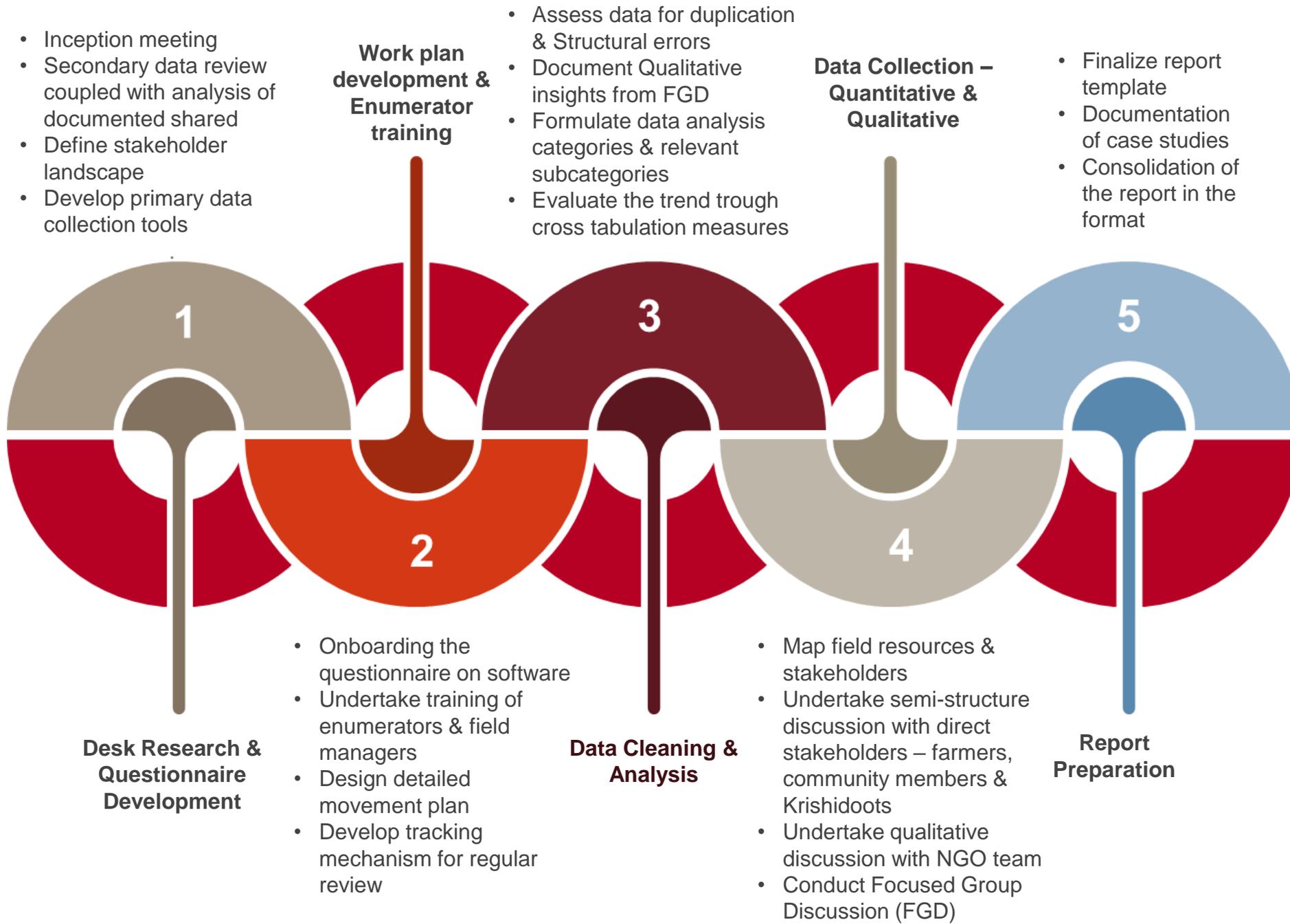
Increase in household annual income

Market Intelligence & Analytics



- ❖ The intervention was undertaken with the support of Action for Agricultural Renewal in Maharashtra (AFARM) and Dilasa Janvikas Pratishtan.
- ❖ The primary aim under the project was to create awareness about modern agricultural practices, increase knowledge about climate resilient agriculture and sensitizing farmers about soil health & provide facility of soil testing.
- ❖ This initiative is aligned with outcomes of increase in crop production, water availability and annual household income.
- ❖ The project was started in October 2018 catering to 90 villages in Marathwada & 30 villages Vidarbha regions.
- ❖ Major thematic intervention areas include:
 - ❑ Creation of water structures
 - ❑ Capacity building of farmers on climate resilient practices
 - ❑ Demonstration activity for enhancing crop yield
- ❖ The L&T Financial services CSR team implemented the project through their CSR approach of 3S's i.e., Social impact, Scale & Sustainability

Approach & Methodology



Market Intelligence & Analytics

- L&T Financial Services engaged CRISIL Limited to undertake social impact assessment study for the Jal Vaibhav Project in Latur, Osmanabad, Solapur, Aurangabad, Buldana & Jalna.
- The main aim of this engagement was to understand the impact created by the intervention in the lives of farmers through capacity building assistance, strengthening water resources and establishment of demonstrations on sustainable agriculture practices.
- We have used both qualitative and quantitative learning outcomes to understand and assess the impact created in the lives of the farmers with the use of a multi-dimensional approach.
- It involved assessment of direct programmatic interventions, evaluating the processes undertaken at each junction of implementation as well as the tangible and intangible impact of the intervention on the stakeholders.

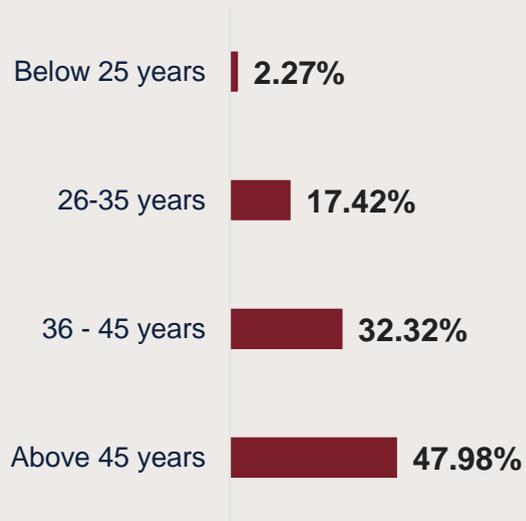
Key Stakeholders (Across Latur, Osmanabad, Solapur, Aurangabad, Buldana & Jalna)



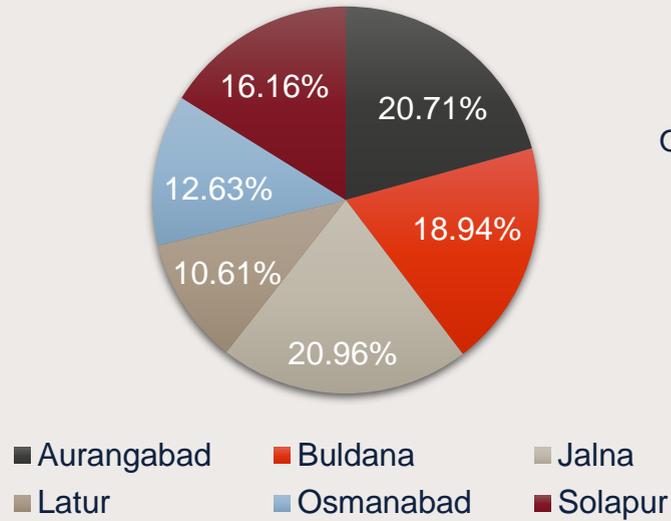
Stakeholders	Sample size	Data Collection Tool
Farmers	396	Surveys
Krishidoots	15	In-depth interviews
Community members	12	Focused Group Discussions
Trainers	2	In-depth interviews
AFARM officials	2	In-depth interviews
Dilasa Janvikas Pratishtan officials	2	In-depth interviews
L&T Financial Services Team	1	In-depth interviews

Demographic Profile

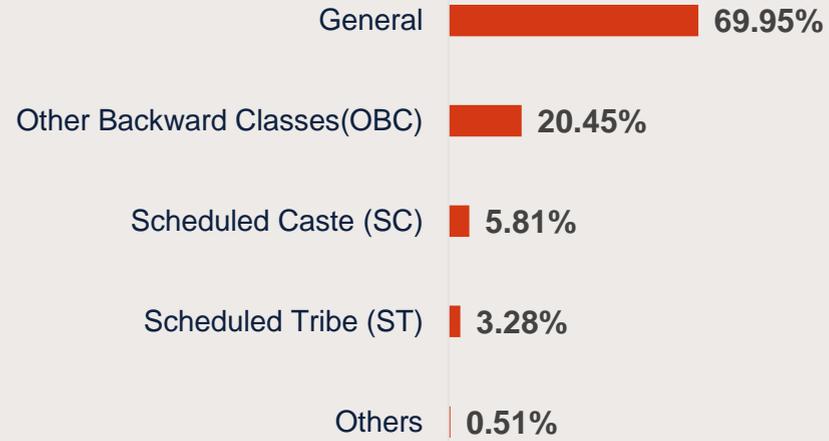
Respondent Age group



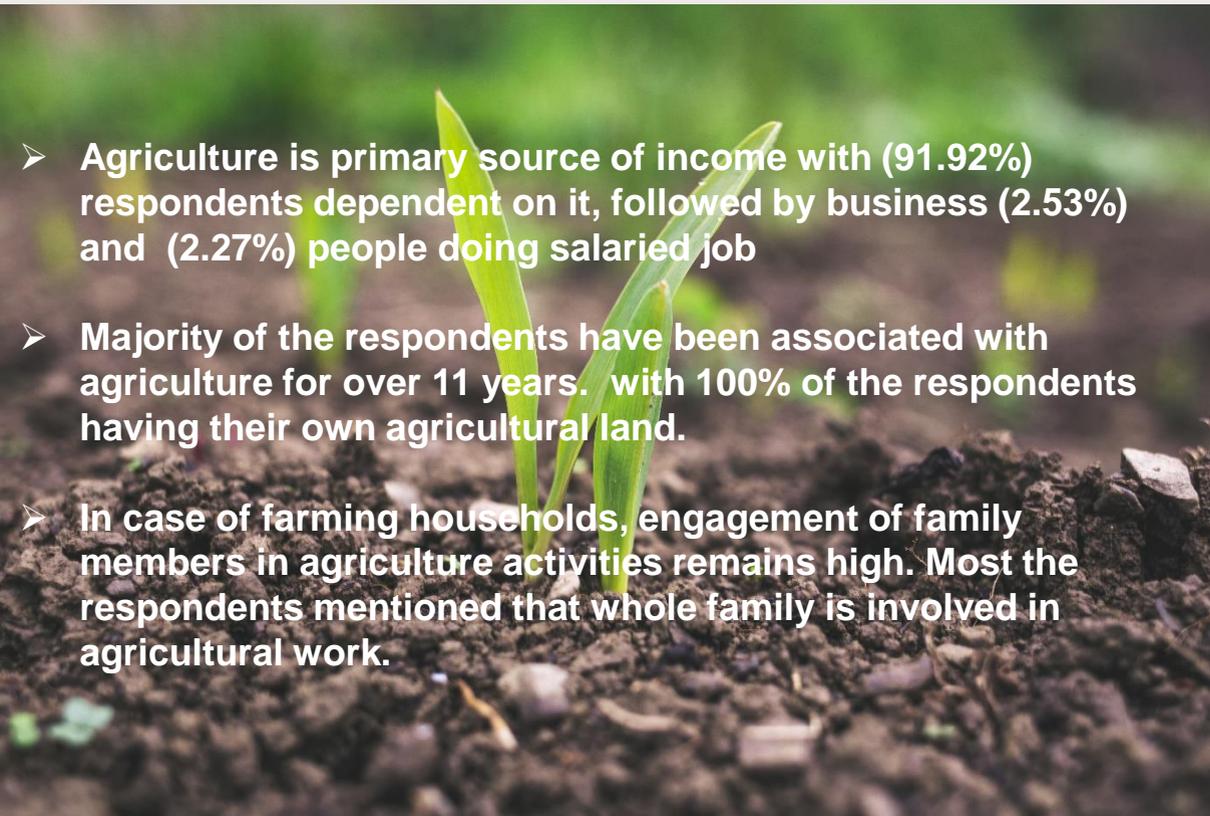
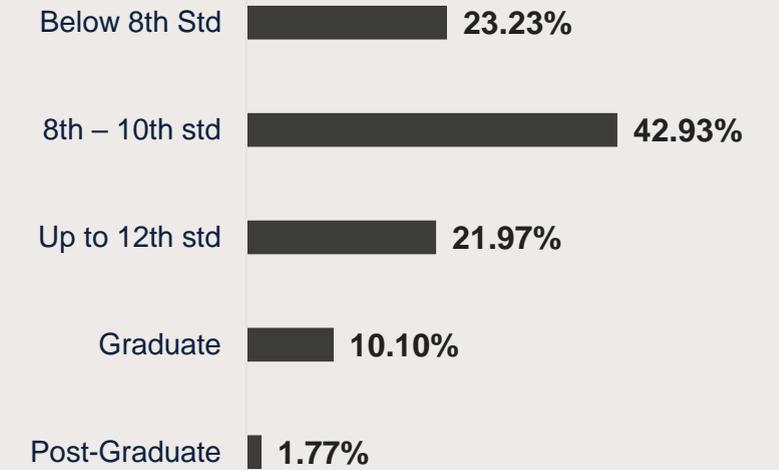
Respondent Distribution



Respondent Social Category

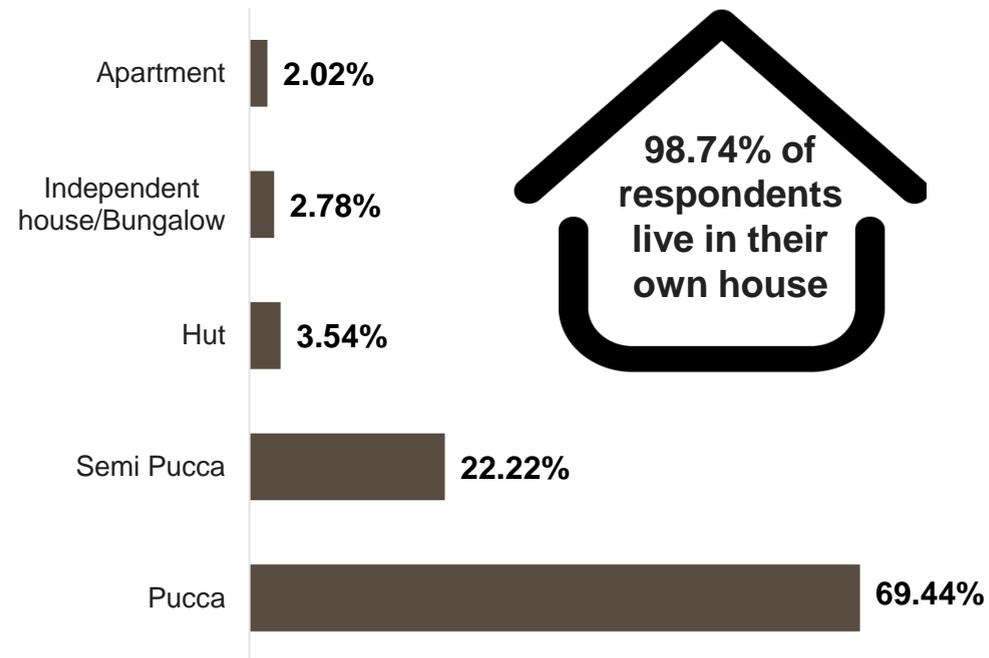


Education Levels

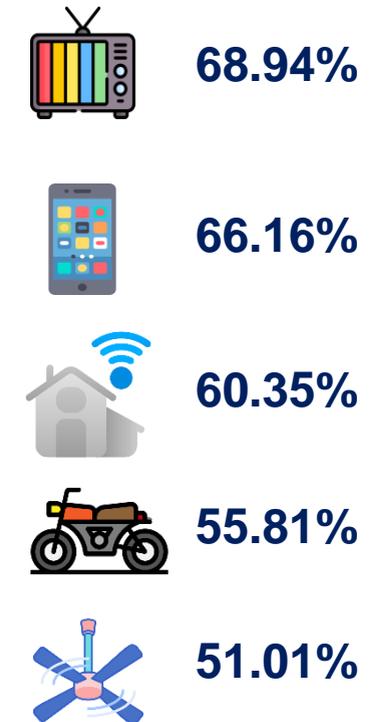


- Agriculture is primary source of income with (91.92%) respondents dependent on it, followed by business (2.53%) and (2.27%) people doing salaried job
- Majority of the respondents have been associated with agriculture for over 11 years. with 100% of the respondents having their own agricultural land.
- In case of farming households, engagement of family members in agriculture activities remains high. Most the respondents mentioned that whole family is involved in agricultural work.

Respondent Social Category

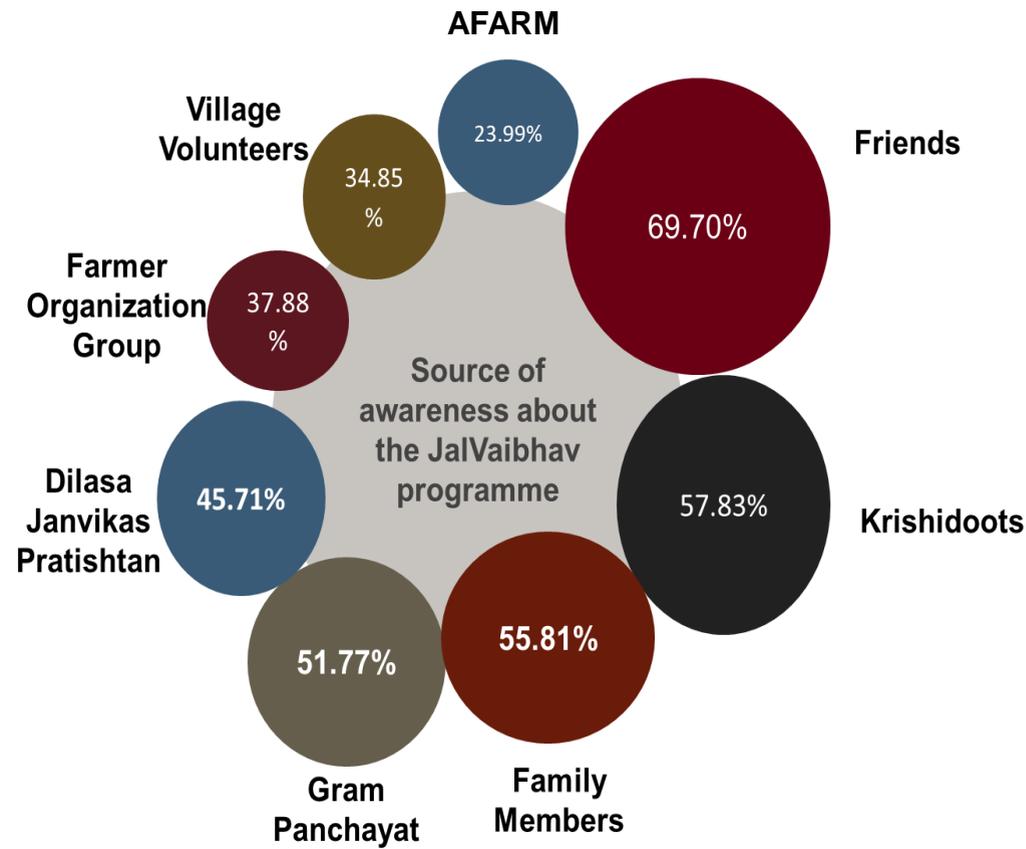


Asset Ownership- Top 5 Assets Owned



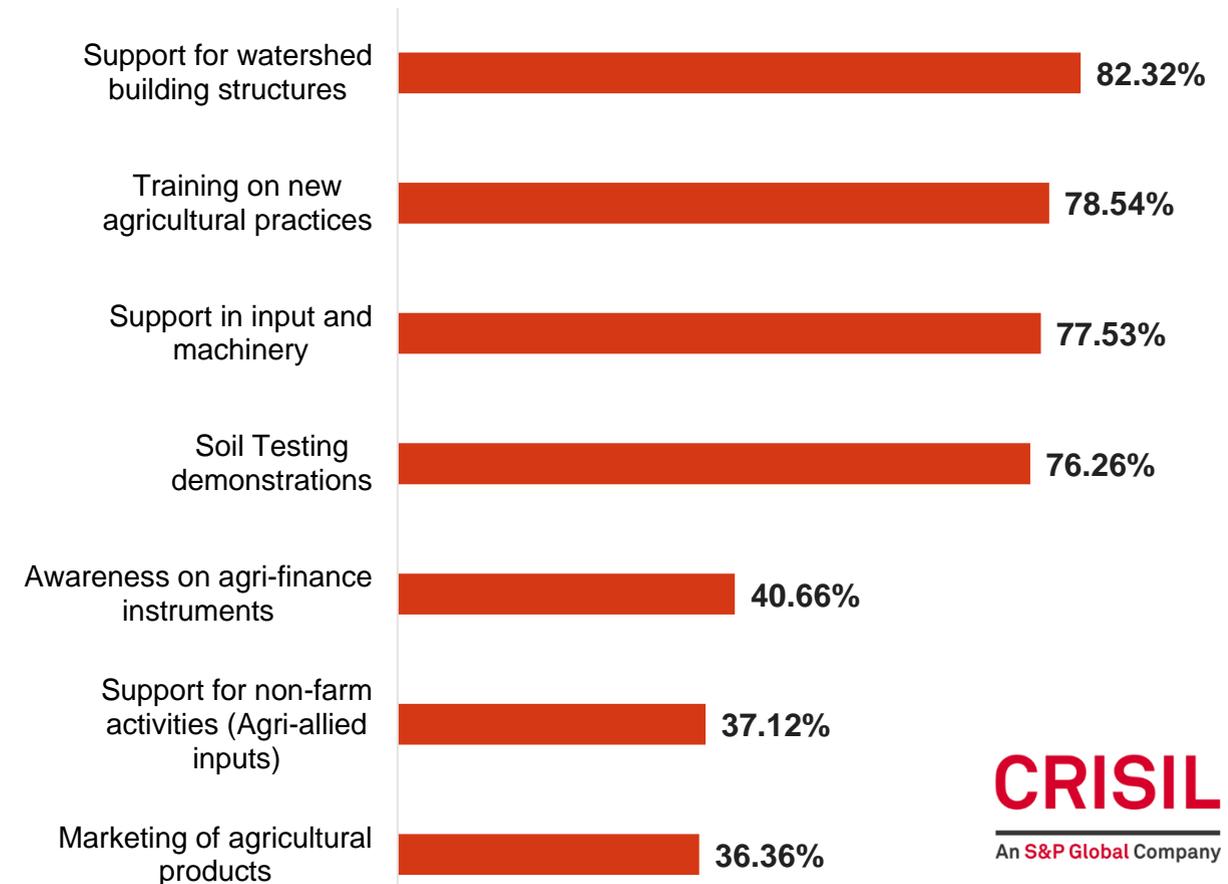
Jal Vaibhav and Training Sessions

- 97.98% of the respondents have joined the project between 2018 to 2019.
- Although there were numerous sources from which respondents got to know about the project, majority of them mentioned that they got detailed information about the project from the cluster managers and Krishidoots.
- While having a conversation with them, the respondents clearly mentioned that soil testing demonstration & water harvesting structures helped them increase crop production which was low before the intervention.
- Other information that the respondents found useful were support in input & machinery and training on new agricultural practices.
- Further, information about new agricultural practices and agri-finance supported the farmers in understanding new agricultural practices and access to finance.

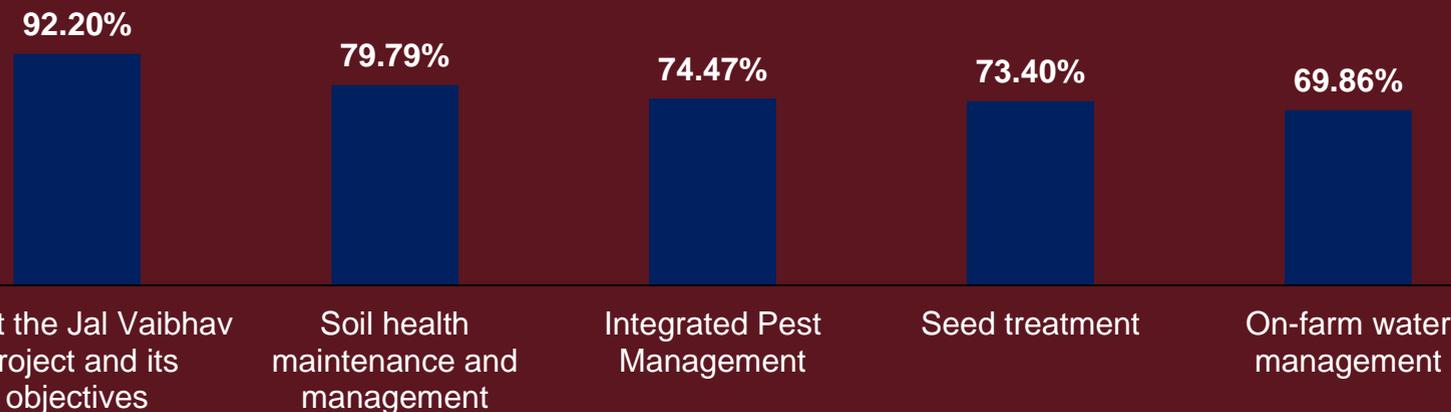


- During the study we found that many farmers have not attended any kind of agriculture awareness before the Jal Vaibhav project. This intervention was a welcome step for the farmers to understand about numerous new topics such as farmer field schools, water harvesting structures, integrated pest management etc.
- Majority respondents had attended the physical training sessions. Under physical training session, the most preferred was group discussion followed by Information, Education & Communication (IEC) materials & farmer field school.
- Some of the awareness sessions were also conducted using the tools such as power point presentations & videos for better visualization & representations.

Topics of utmost importance to the respondents



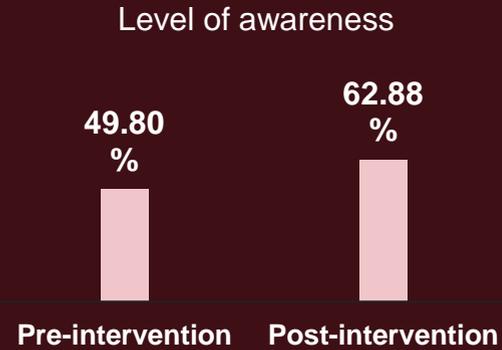
Aspects covered during awareness session



Impact of Training and Awareness Sessions

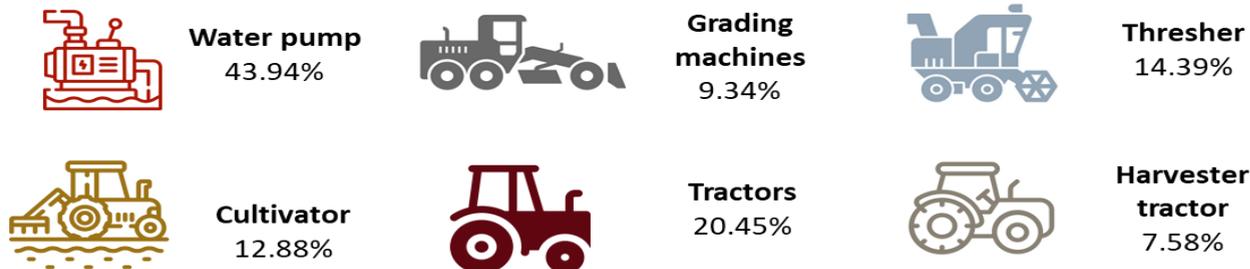
Irrigation Systems:

- The respondents came to know about different irrigation practices from Krishidoots (38.55%), agriculture extension officer (36.14%), and NGO trainers(14.06%).
- 57.59% of respondents accepted that water management is necessary for agriculture post intervention.
- Amongst the types of irrigation practices, farmers preferred sprinkler irrigation (83.53%) & drip irrigation (80.32%).
- 79.82% of the respondents have started following micro-irrigation methods in their farms post training
- Utilizing sprinkler irrigation helps to effectively cover greater farm fields and minimizes water loss.
- Drip irrigation systems can also be effective in areas where other irrigation methods are ineffective due to high levels of infiltration, water ponding, or runoff in certain areas of the field.



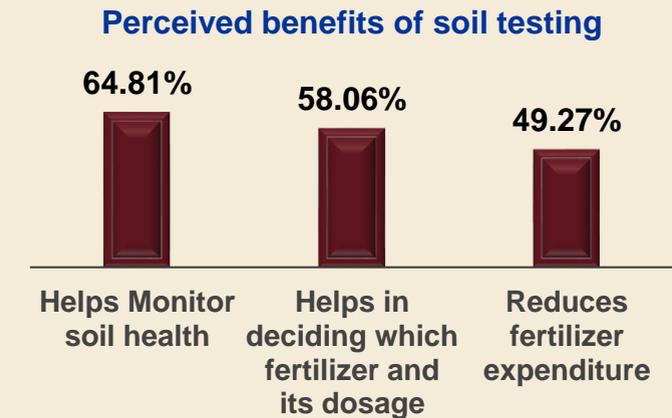
Farm Assets:

- Modern agricultural equipments improves efficiency in farming practices. A significant change has been observed amongst farmers post project where they have given preference to modern agricultural equipments.
- Many of the respondents even mentioned that modern equipments helps in reducing the dependency on the labour and saves time.
- Another set of farmers explained that due to increase in their revenue many of them preferred investing in equipments looking at the changing nature of agriculture.



Soil Erosion and Soil Testing:

- 53.03% faced issues related to soil erosion that led to challenges such as decreased soil fertility, which can negatively affect crop yield.
- But post training more than 55% of the respondents are now aware about soil erosion and have adopted techniques of farm bunding (60%) and border plantation (40%)
- 86.11% now are aware about importance of soil testing. Prior to training, only 59.60% were aware about soil testing.
- 73.02% of respondents have now conducted soil testing in their field through the support of trainers from NGO & Krishidoots.
- From the respondents who conducted soil testing, 52% conducted 2-3 times while 46.75% conducted only once.



Seed Treatment:

- Seed treatments are critical tools that help to reduce early season risks. Seed treatments are tailored for a specific seed type, and in some cases, tailored for a specific genetic makeup.
- 97.47% of the respondents are now well aware of seed treatments, of which 61.66% had little to no awareness prior to the intervention. 96.11% of the respondents with awareness on seed treatment have been able to take up such practices on ground which has resulted in improved productivity and quality of crops.

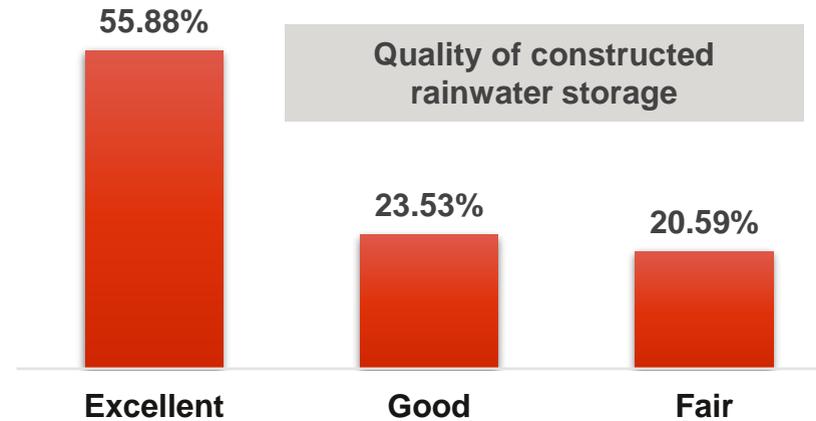
Pest Management:

- Appropriate use of Integrated pest management helps in reducing the economic loss that the farmers may incur. Of the respondents who said they were aware of pest management now, 69.23% mentioned that initially there were not aware about harmful effects of using pesticides and what quantity of pesticides should be used for crops.
- However, pest management has not only helped in increasing the crop productivity but also helped in reducing the input cost through appropriate planning.

Water Harvesting Structures (WHS)

- Developing a watershed structure follows a bottom-up approach where people's participation plays a key role as they are the end users.
- Badnapur, Chiklhi, Gangapur, & Karmala are the districts where most of the WHS work has been undertaken.
- The Jal Vaibhav team focused not only on the construction of the structures but also helped farmers understand the importance of these structures for agriculture and overall productivity.
- The team also ensured that the farmers and communities came together and participated in the planning, initiation, and execution of location-specific watershed development activities.
- During the discussion meeting with the farmers, the team first inquired about the farmers' needs and requirements, as well as how it will assist them in improving the groundwater level near their fields.
- Though many of the respondents were aware about the water harvesting structures and never understood the importance & benefits of it.
- Following this conversation, the villagers also came forward and assisted the team with support of labour (84.69%) & construction materials.
- As the construction went for longer months, the implementing team regularly monitored the site location and ensured that there were no challenges at grassroot level.

72.55% of respondents found water harvesting structures impactful in increasing the groundwater level.

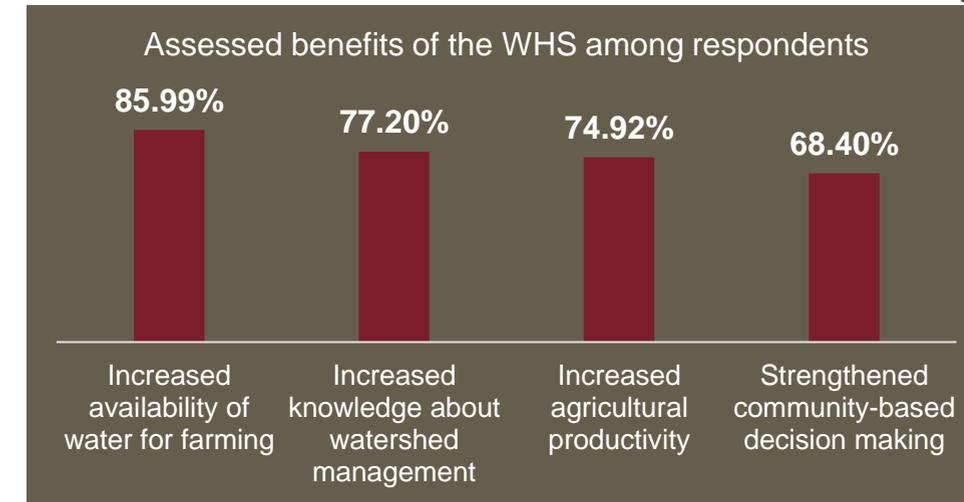


“Many water structures were constructed in the past, but no one told us how to maintain the structures. The JalVaibhav program involved us in the process and showed us how to maintain the structures” -

- Annasaheb Vishnu Hugle, Karmala, Solapur

71.24% of farmers strongly emphasized on maintaining the water harvesting structures in their village for a long-lasting impact on agriculture. There remains strong accountability among the farmers to maintain the structures for the larger benefits of the community.

- The increase in the groundwater level has helped the farmers not only grow kharif crops but also undertake double cropping. The indirect impact has been lesser migration during non-rainfall days as compared to earlier times, as farmers have begun to use crop rotation due to the availability of water.
- The increase in the groundwater level has direct impact on the increase in production of crops & revenue of the farmers.
- Further, the farmers were also positive about the efficient use of the water stored through the constructed structures.



“The construction has now helped to shift towards double cropping. Earlier I used to only take kharif crop but now I have started taking rabi crop due to good availability of water” - Dushant Bhanudas Ugile, Nilanga, Latur



Institutional strengthening of the village ecosystem

Krishidoots

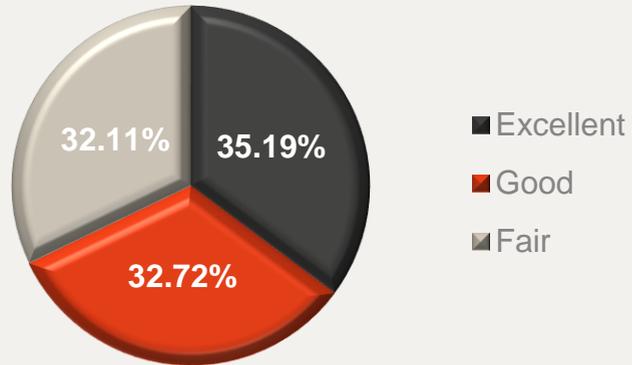
➤ Krishidoots have been one of the most important components for successful implementation of the project. They acted as intermediaries between the implementation team & farmers. Krishidoots provided information about new agricultural practices, seed treatment, soil management & water management.

81.82% of respondents are aware about Krishidoots in the village

94.75% of respondents said Krishidoots visited the farmers house and conducted awareness sessions.

94.14% of mentioned that Krishidoots were available whenever they needed their support during agriculture.

- The Krishidoots disseminated agricultural information by gathering farmers and organizing FFS & awareness sessions, resolving issues, and teaching new farming techniques.
- Krishidoots mentioned that farmers showed active participation in learning new techniques. Krishidoots further said that many of the farmers have adopted new techniques that have helped them increase their income.
- Krishidoots informed us that farmers provided full support during the construction of the watershed, resulting in adequate availability of water for farming.
- Following the Jal Vaibhav project, the majority of Krishidoots are engaged in agriculture and rely on it as their primary source of income.
- Important information that farmers found useful include organic farming, efficient use of water and soil testing that has helped them increase yield.
- Farmers mentioned field schools to be the most effective methods of disseminating agricultural information during the demonstration sessions.
- The only suggestion received from Krishidoots was that the project should run for at least 5 years for long-lasting impact.



Agricultural Development Committees

68.52% are aware about Agricultural Development Committees

67.22% respondents want the committees to be continued in the villages

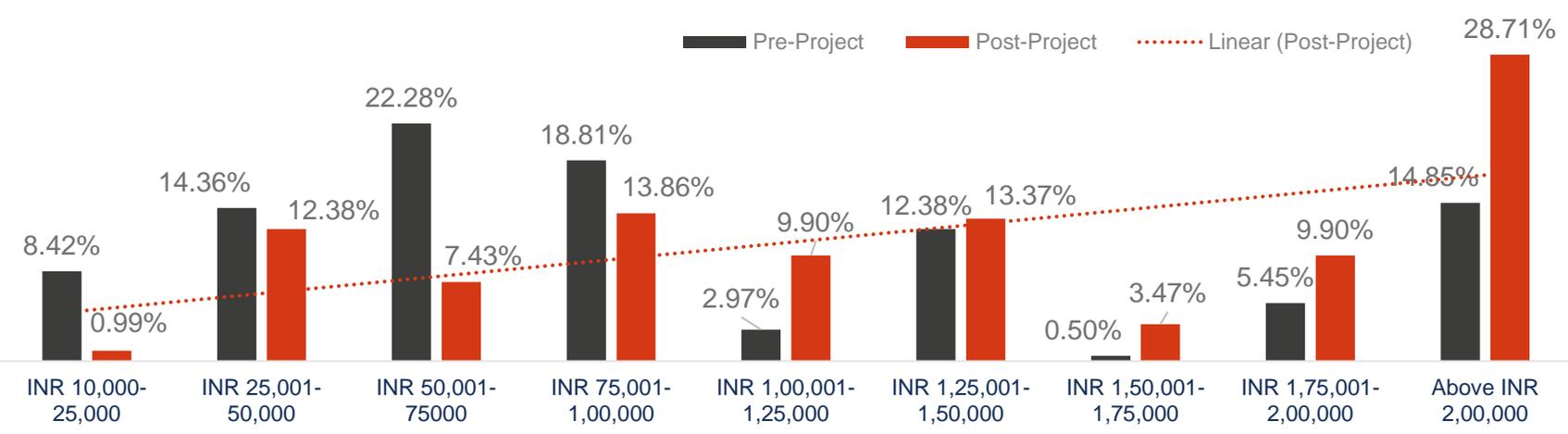
Water User Groups

72.11% are aware about Water User Groups

68% respondents want the committees to be continued in the villages

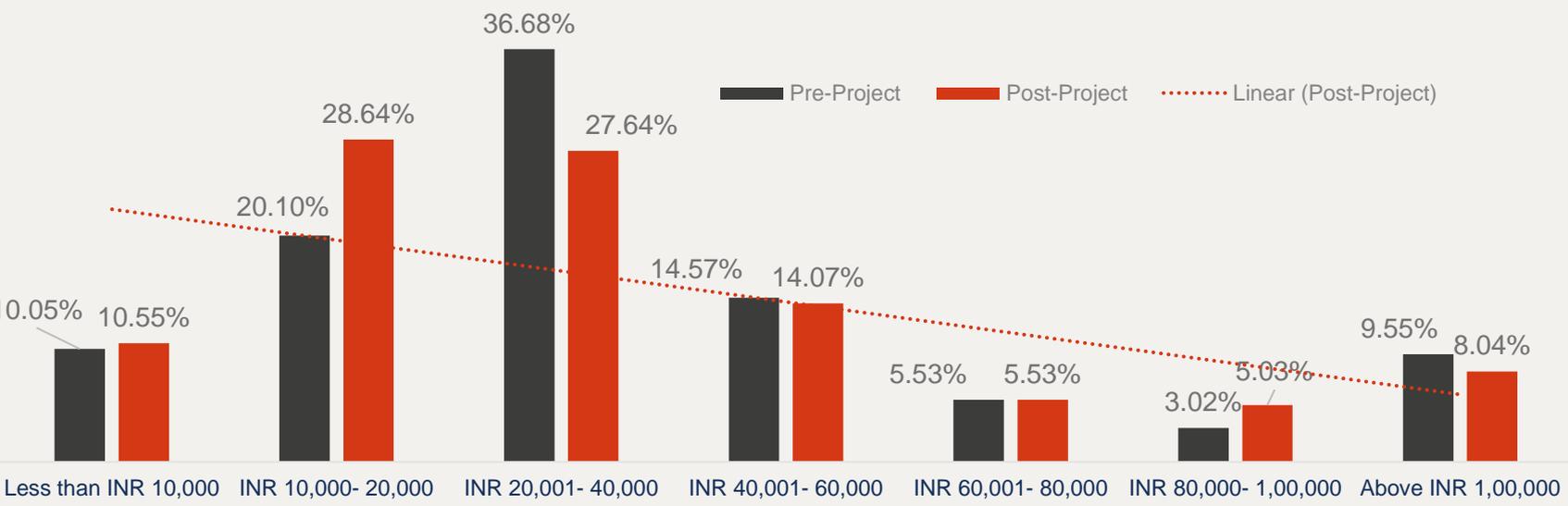
- The agricultural committees & water user groups have been catalyst in bringing the farmer communities together.
- The major objective of these committees was to resolve challenges, issues faced by farmers and facilitate the construction of water harvesting structures in the villages.
- Farmers were the apex of these committees, and they were given the responsibility of leading & managing the committees.
- Such committees built in a sense of responsibility and accountability among the farmers regarding maintenance of these structures and also support other farmers by disseminating necessary knowledge.
- Most of respondents have positively responded on continuing the committees in the villages as they feel that **MANY MINDS = BETTER IDEAS.**

PUBLIC Assessment of Farm Income: Pre & Post Project



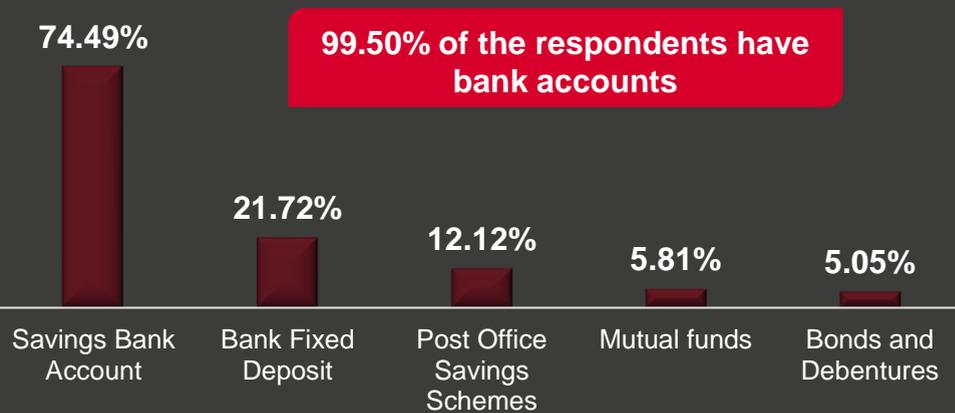
- Jal Vaibhav project's prime objective was to increase the farm income of the beneficiaries by teaching them various modern climate resilient farming techniques such as seed treatment, soil testing pest management, water management etc.
- There has been a significant increase (100%) in the category of farmers having annual income of more than INR 2,00,000. This also signifies that farmers from all the below ranges have moved towards the higher range of five figure income.
- An essential increase in income for farmers in the income brackets of INR 1,50,000-1,75,000 and INR 1,75,000-2,00,000 was also witnessed who were unable to reap benefits earlier owing to low level of agricultural knowledge
- Highest shift is witnessed in income group of INR 10,000-25,000 (7.43%). This shows that low-income groups have witnessed rightward shift to better income levels.

Assessment of Cost of Inputs: Pre & Post Project



- The cost of inputs proved to be an 'indifferent variable', displaying both inverse and positive relationship with income. The objective of project included element of reducing cost to create inverse relationship with income i.e, reduction in input and rise in income.
- Under some cost brackets, it has either been equal or have risen from pre-project to post-project period.
- Highest decline was witnessed in bracket of INR 20,000-40,000 (9%). A shift from high cost is witnessed to lower costs on the other hand slight increase (2%) in INR 80,000-1,00,000.
- There were several external factors that influenced the input cost of agriculture Following are the reasons:
 - ❑ Due to strict lockdown, the COVID-19 epidemic directly disrupted the whole supply chain for agricultural inputs
 - ❑ Inflation was another factor that had a direct impact on farmers, as it increased the cost of inputs such as fertilizer, seeds, and pesticides.
 - ❑ Farmers were also affected by bad weather, where in some areas there was excessive rainfall and in other areas there was less rainfall, leading to crop failure.
 - ❑ Following the COVID-19 pandemic, the cost of labour and rented machinery increased by 50%, affecting farmers' agricultural income.

Jan Dhan Yojana & other government schemes



Bank ownership and Jan Dhan Accounts

- A larger section of the respondents opened their accounts in 2017 and 2018, especially during the initial days of the intervention.
- 70% of the respondents had their bank accounts linked to the Jan Dan Yojana scheme.
- 90.41% of the information about banks and financial services was provided jointly by the NGO, and Krishidoots that played a vital role in improving the financial knowledge of farmers.

Government schemes and corresponding level of awareness:

- The majority of respondents (65.15%) are aware of government schemes, and majority of them were informed about the schemes by Krishidoots (49.22%). Farmers have enrolled themselves in e Fasal Bima Yojana and drip irrigation subsidies.
- Krishidoots (49.22%), agriculture extension agents(43.41%), fellow farmers (30.62%) and NGO trainers(36.82%) were major sources of information for the farmers about various government schemes.
- The programme has been a catalyst in facilitating the farmers' access to the government's schemes.

Agri-finance Instruments: Loans

Farmers had good awareness when it come to loans. Amongst the farmers who opted for loans, majority of them had taken loans prior to the training. Post training, only few farmers have opted for loans (26%), owing to difficult situation and uncertainty during the pandemic.



The respondents who have taken loan, have given highest preference to the formal source of credit (90%) such as commercial bank, NBFC (Non-Banking Financial Company) RRB (Regional Rural Bank) and Co-operative banks.



Few respondents who opted for credit from money lenders and family members mentioned that they urgently required for some personal emergency because of which they opted for this source

Further discussion with the farmers also gave us insights that those who took loan from informal sector felt the pinch of high interest rate. But with the information that received from the NGO & Krishidoots they will now confidently take loan from the formal sector.



Among the respondents, who opted for loans, 80% of the farmers have taken it for agricultural purpose such as purchase of land, input, equipments, animal husbandry etc.



Only 20% of the respondents took the loan for personal use such medical expense, marriage & ceremonial expense.

Agri-finance Instruments: Insurance

- Risks are a structural part of every business. However, farming is inherently riskier because of poor irrigation coverage, lack of awareness among farmers etc. Sole dependence on rainfall makes the entire farming extremely susceptible to changes in the weather, particularly in areas which are susceptible to extreme droughts or floods.
- Insurance is regarded as an important element in the crop cycle to secure the farmers from unavoidable circumstances and crop loss.
- The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana was developed by the government in response to this demanding situation. It intends to offer complete crop failure insurance coverage, thereby supporting in stabilizing farmers' income.
- In our discussions, we found that the farmers were positive about insuring their crops. They were thankful to Krishidoots for spreading awareness and helping them opt for insurance.



- 37.37% of respondents have taken crop insurance, of which the majority have insured soyabeans, wheat, and cotton.

- However, it as been overserved that the adoption of scheme among respondent farmers is low because of lack of in-depth awareness on schemes, clauses and challenges in settling the claims.
- The majority of farmers who have not opted for any insurance yet lacked complete clarity on the insurance product and process involved for applying for the insurance. However, they were positive about doing so in the near future. Few farmers also felt that they don't require crop insurance due to smaller land size.

Analysis of the intervention



Relevance:

- The intervention's relevance could be traced through the focus on right set of beneficiaries and the right locations where the intervention took place. The project impacted beneficiaries (farmers) and the community at large by facilitating water harvesting structures in the water stressed regions of Maharashtra and extending awareness on climate resilient agriculture practices, importance of water management, as well as financial instruments, majorly in the agricultural space.
- The intervention covered farmers from different age groups and practicing different types of cropping which allowed farmers to discuss about their practices in agriculture. Targeting both sections of the population shows us that while the younger population is already set to adopt newer techniques, the older population is still adjusting to modern agriculture practices. Hence, bringing them together will result in both the groups supporting each other through the journey.

Coherence:

The evaluation finds coherence in the intervention with international frameworks such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as well as the government's strategy around integrated water resource management and agriculture development.

The project is rightly linked with the central government's initiative "Atal Bhujal Yojana", that aims to facilitate sustainable ground water management. For long-term water management, it has prioritized strengthening the institutional framework for participatory groundwater management and bringing about behavioural changes at the community level for sustainable groundwater resource management.



Efficiency:

- AFARM ensured that the farmers were effectively reached out with the support of local NGO partners who understood demography and geographic terrain as well as understood the farmer requirements. This helped in efficiently mobilizing and selecting the participants for this intervention.
- Here, the capacity of Krishidoots were also developed which proved to be crucial in disseminating knowledge on farming practice, understanding of water harvesting structures and information on agri-financial instruments. The Krishidoots are basically from within the community which ensures that the intervention built the capacity of the local resources to reach out to the larger population and the Krishidoots will also be able to persistently create awareness in the community.
- The formation of water user groups & agricultural development committees proved crucial to be one point solution for aggregation of farmers & ensured higher accountability from the farmers in terms of both financial contribution as well as sweat equity. All these factors contributed to enhanced efficiency of the intervention.

Effectiveness and Impact:

- The impact created in the lives of the beneficiaries can be understood by the positive uptake of the learnings and the resulting change in behavior. The immediate outcomes could be seen through the intensive use of agricultural techniques such as seed treatment, soil testing, pest management, etc. that helped the farmers improve the yield and quality of crops and increase production.
- The intermediate outcome can be seen through the behavioral change in case of investments made in modern farming assets such as a tractor, water pump, cultivator, etc. This shift not only saved time but also reduced the input cost of labour.
- The ultimate outcome could be seen where the farmers have been adaptive enough to shift from old traditional farming techniques to new modern farming techniques. Learning and knowledge sessions regarding seed treatment, soil testing, pest management, etc. further helped the farmers improve the yield and quality of the crops.

Sustainability:

- The sustainability of an intervention of this sort depends on the snowballing impact created as a result of the adoption of practices in agriculture. Since the Krishidoots are a part of the community, they would be able to monitor the uptake of practices by farmers and extend support as required.
- Further, the formation of committees with the objective of resolving farmer issues has played a critical role in ensuring that farmer communities stay united and share knowledge with each other.

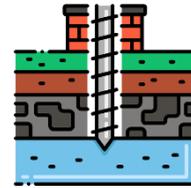


Recommendations



Continuation of practices & techniques

It is necessary for farmers to put the learnings to use on a regular basis. Ensuring accountability of agriculture committees through gram panchayats is crucial here to ensure that farmers are in touch with the learnings and are practicing the same on ground and are extended the required support when in need.



Trickle down effect to improve accessibility of water

The need for water harvesting structures was realized during discussions in the nearby villages as well which faced similar issues. To resolve such needs on an immediate basis, these reservoirs' water may be connected to an underground pipeline system that may transport water to distant farms and neighboring settlements.



Focus on creating awareness on state-specific agricultural schemes

During focused group discussions, many of the farmers suggested requiring further information about state-specific agricultural schemes and the process of application. Hence, it is crucial to further create awareness among the farmers about these schemes.



“Centralized Mandi” to improve access to markets

Farmers continue to struggle with bringing their products to market as well as finding or negotiating a fair minimum support price (MSP) for their products. It is recommended that the project incorporates the concept of "Centralized Mandi" to extend protection to farmers against such operational and market risks.



Learning module about emerging technology and advances in agriculture

Along with modern agriculture techniques, it is very important that farmers are aware about changing technology in field of farming. An additional module about this will help farmers understand use of technology in the field and thereby take better farming decisions.



Creating awareness about Soil Health Card

Through discussions it was observed that while many farmers were aware of soil testing methods, numerous respondents were unaware of the Soil Health Card. Since, farmers lacked clarity on the usage of these cards, it is important to extend dedicated training sessions on SHC, its use and result interpretation.



Project Continuity

To ensure better impact, it is recommended to continue the project by setting up frequent awareness camps on quarterly basis at the block level which can help facilitate farmer requirements till the time they become self reliant. On the other hand, training for capacity building of local experts who can guide them about new agricultural developments and techniques in future is also critical.



Resilience

To further strengthen the sustainability and ownership aspects, a community watershed fund could be considered. In this fund equal share will be donated by all the farmers under the vigilance of gram panchayats and this fund will be primarily used towards operation and maintenance of the water reservoirs and for the installation of new technologies for better facilitation of water requirements.

Bhaskar Bhanudas Chand, Mandva, Jalna



Bhaskar Bhanudas Chand aged 48, is a native resident of Mandwa Village in Jalna district. He and his family are involved in farming since ages.

According to Bhaskar, before the intervention by LTFS and Dilasa Foundation, they used to sow only one crop a year, either in Kharif or Rabi season and that too at a considerably lower magnitude. Post intervention, due to construction of Cement Nala Bund (CNB) in their village, there was improved availability of water which was a larger concern for many farmers like Bhaskar. Because of this, he was able to sow both Kharif and Rabi crops.

Moreover, with the knowledge and awareness obtained through trainings and other awareness generation activities under Jal Vaibhav program, he has now started the cultivation of custard apple through which his earnings have also seen a boost (from 1.25 lacs to 4 lacs per annum).

Ramesh Sudhakar Joshi, Rala Jalna



Ramesh S. Joshi is a 45-year-old farmer from Rala Village in Jalna district. Agriculture, as an income generation activity, has been primarily followed by Ramesh's family since many generations.

During the interactions with the trainers of the Jal Vaibhav project, Ramesh got to know about modern agricultural methods including awareness on correct selection of seeds for sowing, appropriate treatment methods, making effective manure and soil testing which eventually fetched better results. Post desilting and advice from agricultural experts he has now started intercropping around the main crop of cotton. He implemented his learnings from Farmer Field Schools and tried sowing fruits and other complementary crops to support his household.

Ramesh says, "Learning has no age limit, it is all about the will of a person, to adapt to change for better and sustainable future"

Swapan Padarinath Jadhav, Mehbubkheda, Aurangabad



Swapan Jadhav, aged 62 years is one of the proactive elders of the Mehbubkheda village in Aurangabad district who believes in the power of welcoming change and adopting as the situation evolves.

Swapan has been a huge supporter of the Jal Vaibhav project. Swapan mentioned that there were times when he faced 100% loss owing to either excessive rainfall or sometimes, very low rainfall. However, post intervention, he made a temporary water outflow corridor to save his farms. Apart from this, he is aware of use of seeds and informed us that with such practices he has been able to increase his revenue by 140% and prevented pest attacks as well.

"You may want to leave all wealth for your next generation but what remains of utmost value is nature. I want my coming generations to enjoy the nature that I and my forefathers enjoyed, relished

Bhagwan Sukose, Arni Jalna



Bhagwan Sakose, aged 41 years is a resident of Arni (Rala) village in the Jalna district. He is one of the primary beneficiaries of the water harvesting structure intervention component since the newly installed CNB is next to his farm.

"Here, we have learnt to value every single drop of water" says Bhagwan. Under the Jal Vaibhav intervention water reservoirs were desilted along with a revamped CNB. This resulted in increasing the water level through which 15 direct farms were benefitted through underground pipelines.

Bhagwan started practicing inter cropping and crop rotation. Earlier he produced cotton (prime crop of the region), but now due to excessive water supply he has cultivated sweet lemon (mausambi) fruit. His income went up from INR 50,000 to INR 1,25,000 per annum.

PUBLIC *The earth, the air, the land, and the water are not an inheritance from our forefathers but on loan from our children. So, we have to hand it over to them at least as it was handed over to us.” – Mahatma Gandhi*

“When the well’s dry, we know the worth of water.” – Benjamin Franklin

