

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2011-2012



# Acronyms

ACT	Arid Communities and Technologies	SBT	Soil Biotechnology
ACWADAM	Advanced Centre for Water Resources Development and Management	SCOPE	Society for Community Participation and Empowerment
ASER	Annual Status of Education Report	SHG	Self-Help Group
BIRD-K	BAIF Institute for Rural Development-Karnataka	SOPPECOM	Society for Promoting Participative Ecosystem Management
CDL	Communication for Development and Learning	SWM	Solid Waste Management
DMA	Directorate of Municipal Administration	TMC	Town Municipal Council
Ecosan	Ecological sanitation	UAS	University of Agricultural Sciences
FES	Foundation for Ecological Security	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
HUDCO	Housing and Urban Development Corporation	VJNNS	Visakha Jilla Nava Nirmana Samithi
IDWM	Integrated Domestic Water Management	WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
IHS	Indian Institute for Human Settlements	WatSan	Water and Sanitation
IISc	Indian Institute of Science	WASSAN	Watershed Support Services and Activities Network
ILCS	Integrated Low Cost Sanitation	WQM	Water Quality Management
IUWM	Integrated Urban Water Management	WSP	Water and Sanitation Programme
IWP	India Water Portal	WSSCC	Water Supply & Sanitation Collaborative Council
MDWS	Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation		
MGNREGA	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act		
MoEF	Ministry of Environment and Forests		
NEERI	National Environmental Engineering Research Institute		
NGO	Non-Government Organisation		
NITK	National Institute of Technology Karnataka		
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal		
PAHELI	People's Audit of Health, Education and Livelihoods		

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### Useful Links

<http://www.arghyam.org>  
<http://www.indiawaterportal.org/>  
<http://www.rhok.org/event/waterhackathon-bangalore>  
<http://www.schools.indiawaterportal.org>  
<http://www.oraclefoundation.org/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/343173525711240/>  
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# Chairperson's Note



In the past year, Arghyam witnessed a flurry of activity both inside and outside. There is a lot of churn going on in the water sector, with new policy responses at both the centre and the state level. We were honoured to be invited to many of the deliberations and we were very proud that many of our partners were core members of several committees set up by the government, and by the Planning Commission in particular, to take a fresh look at how the nation's water resources can be managed more holistically, with an eye to the future.

Inside Arghyam, we felt it was time to consolidate the lessons of our last six years and perhaps focus more strongly on a few areas. To that end, the senior leadership at Arghyam did some deep dive research to understand how best we could serve the sector more. Vijay Krishna looked at what was happening in the government in terms of policy and implementation and in what way Arghyam could add value to state initiatives. Rahul Bakare went around exploring the tremendous shifts occurring in the non-profit sector to see how Arghyam's approach to NGO partnerships needed to keep pace with the change. Deepak Menon brainstormed with techies and new media enthusiasts to understand how a young, and linked up generation was looking to solve social problems and what Arghyam could do to support them.

It was a fascinating exercise that led us to see that there was tremendous potential for us to support result-oriented interaction between government, non-profit organisations and new media/new technology groups. We decided to try this in one or two thematic areas, such as ground water, and sustainable sanitation.

Over the coming months, our strategy will roll out and I hope we will see enthusiastic support from all those who have worked closely with us and guided us over the years.

The new approach will also be led by a new chief executive.

Sunita Nadhamuni, our CEO since 2005, when she co-created Arghyam's water sector agenda along with me, is leaving us to pursue other passions. She has been a tremendous leader, and has guided and upheld Arghyam's values, integrity and reputation over the years. All of us will miss her and thank her deeply for her many contributions to Arghyam's work.

From June 1, 2012, Jayamala Subramaniam will take over as CEO. Jayamala, or Mala, as she likes to be called, has tremendous experience in the corporate, especially financial sector. She has worked for the non-profit sector some years ago and had a desire to return to its fold. She is also an experienced coach and trainer, and we are sure that all her skills and experience will help her take Arghyam to the next level.

As always, we take this opportunity to thank all those who have been with us on our seven-year journey and to recommit ourselves to the mission of safe, sustainable water.

**Rohini Nilekani**

# CEO's Message



**A**fter seven and a half years at Arghyam, I have decided to step down from my role as CEO. I plan to use the opportunity to reflect on the changing landscape around us and to explore new ways to bring about the social change to which we are all committed.

It has been an honour and a privilege to serve as Arghyam's CEO and I am grateful to Rohini Nilekani for her trust and friendship. Together with our advisors Ravi Narayanan, S Vishwanath and a close-knit team, we have had a remarkable journey as Arghyam grew from its first rainwater harvesting project in Bagalkot to 90 projects in 19 states today. The India Water Portal that we started in 2005 with encouragement from the National Knowledge Commission is now flourishing with a diverse team of young content-writers from around the country, and active participation from the water sector, both nationally and internationally. We have been able to do some justice to our ambition of serving as a platform for differing voices by supporting several national forums. We have learnt tremendously from a variety of bold experiments in urban water governance, participatory citizen surveys, open data frameworks, waste reuse protocols and WatSan process templates.

It has been extremely inspiring to see a few of our partners grow and consolidate their work, and play a significant role in shaping state and national level policies. It is also humbling to see the courage and determination of many anonymous individuals and small organisations, committed to local transformative work. In both cases, we are glad to have played a small role and been a part of that journey with them. Internally too, I am proud to see the strong leadership that has emerged within Arghyam to take forward our diverse programmes. But most of all, I am thankful for the friendship with so many of you that has educated and sustained me through these years.

In the last seven years, there have been some significant changes in the water sector. There have been increased budgetary allocations, a separate Ministry for Water and Sanitation with deeply committed officials at the very highest levels and a heightened awareness on the criticality of water issues. Civil society has been called upon to play a key role, and share the responsibility of being a part of the solution, working alongside government. These have come along with increasing conflicts between all combinations of stakeholders, aggravated water quality issues, a continuing inclination towards quick-fix, infrastructure solutions, and slip-backs on the ground. In this context, the challenge before Arghyam is to broaden the dialogue to involve all stakeholders and respond to the emerging opportunities.

Jayamala Subramaniam, the new CEO, has the experience, interest and commitment to take Arghyam forward. She has had a stellar career in the corporate sector, and a strong engagement with the development sector too.

I believe that Arghyam's best years are ahead of it, and I speak for the Chair, the new CEO and the team when I say that we count on your support and partnership in the journey ahead.

**Sunita Nadhamuni**

# About Arghyam

Arghyam is a public charitable foundation set up in 2001 with a personal endowment from Rohini Nilekani to realise a vision of *safe, sustainable water for all*.

## Mission

Arghyam works in the domestic water and sanitation sector in partnership with individuals, organisations and governments to create, promote and sustain ideas and efforts towards achieving its vision.

## Strategy

- ▶ Arghyam supports the efforts of institutions, civil organisations and local governments to develop innovative approaches, capacities and models of good practice in the management of water and sanitation services.
- ▶ These initiatives seek to promote social, institutional, technical, environmental and financial sustainability ensuring equity and inclusion.
- ▶ Working through partnerships, Arghyam functions as a flexible organisation, willing to innovate, absorb risks and learn from its experiences.

## Goals

- ▶ Increase the number of people, especially the poor and vulnerable who have access to safe drinking water and sanitation.
- ▶ Develop sustainable water management practices, models, tools, and processes.
- ▶ Use information and knowledge to impact policy and practice.



## Highlights of 2011-2012 and Moving Ahead

Of the many initiatives that Arghyam has taken up in 2011-2012, four are likely to be of increasing significance in the years ahead.

The **first** is Arghyam's deeper engagement in urban work, through documentation of its work in the Mulbagal project, and its active participation in and management of an international conference on urban design. Both these are stepping stones that can lead to a greater commitment in the urban sector.

The **second** is the widening of Arghyam's reach through engagement with participants, audiences and communities of interest which were not part of the traditional fraternity of water stakeholders, in which the India Water Portal and its associated events, such as the *Schools Water Testing Initiative* or the *Water Hackathon*, had an important role to play.

The **third** is the start of the data project, which will contribute to information collation, analysis and usage in the water sector, so vital in planning and assessment, but fragmented and inaccessible at present.

The **fourth** is the Gram Panchayat Organisational Development project, a combined research and capacity building initiative that addresses current gaps and weaknesses at the grassroots of local self-government.

The most radical departure from the past and one which holds enormous promise for the future is the decision to identify specific themes among the emerging issues of water and sanitation where Arghyam could add value through an integration of its work in policy research, grant making, advocacy and communication. This, known as the programmatic approach will initially focus on two areas: the first is groundwater management, in relation to its impact on water security; the second is sanitation. Others will follow once these programmes establish themselves.

The challenge will be Arghyam's capacity to deepen its engagement in the programme areas, while aligning its efforts and strategy with those of government and sectoral players.



# Current Partners



**Legend**

- Integrated Domestic Water Management
- Water Quality
- Advocacy
- Groundwater Management
- Education, Outreach and Capacity Building
- Water Security
- Sanitation
- Communication and Advocacy
- Urban Initiatives Programme
- Gram Panchayat Organisational Development
- Research
- Decentralised Grants
- Events

Not to scale



# Grants

## Overview

Arghyam supports strategic efforts that provide access to water and sanitation for marginalised populations. The projects seek to ensure people's participation, capacity building, awareness and education with a potential for scale in all the efforts.

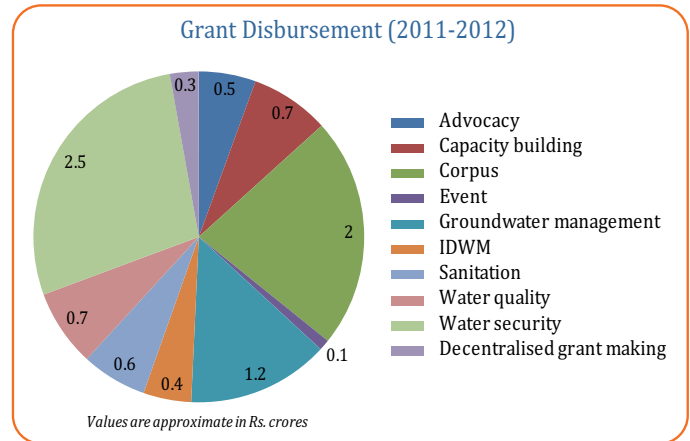
Arghyam continued to support grants in the areas of water security, Integrated Domestic Water Management (IDWM), groundwater management, sanitation, water quality, advocacy and capacity building. During the year, Arghyam initiated 18 new projects and continued 35 projects from the previous years.

### Reach through Grants (2011-2012)

- ▶ 53 projects
- ▶ 944 villages
- ▶ 19 states
- ▶ 5 lakh direct beneficiaries\*
- ▶ 6.7 lakh indirect beneficiaries\*\*

\* No. of people who have directly benefitted through our project interventions

\*\* No. of people who have benefitted through outreach activities such as capacity building, workshops, etc.



An overview of the value of the grants Arghyam has disbursed across various themes during the year.





## Project snapshots

### Community-based integrated water and sanitation programme in rural Rajasthan

Seva Mandir's work is centred on efforts that bring together diverse communities through an integrated multi-sectoral approach. The focus is on addressing people's immediate development needs and simultaneously empowering them. Arghyam has partnered with Seva Mandir from 2009 in order to facilitate a community-based integrated water and sanitation programme in 12 villages of Udaipur and Rajsamand districts in Rajasthan. The project's goal is to enhance availability of clean drinking water to communities by renovating existing systems and constructing new decentralised systems, promoting biosand filters for ensuring water quality, creating access to sanitation by promoting construction of household toilets, developing local technical skill to manage water supply and sanitation, and conducting hydrogeological studies for understanding groundwater issues. Seva Mandir has also trained a cadre of 20 young men and women from the community as barefoot

hydrogeologists through rigorous classroom and field training by Arid Communities and Technologies (ACT), another partner of Arghyam that is based in Bhuj. The trained youth have prepared land use and surface geology maps of 12 villages which will help in planning water use and management. This effort will benefit 6,000 people in 12 villages.





### Meeting the drinking water needs of the marginalised in Kachchh district, Gujarat

Samerth Charitable Trust has been working in Gujarat for over two decades in multiple sectors, mainly health, education, child rights, livelihoods promotion, domestic water and sanitation, etc. Their approach combines creation of a conducive environment through capacity building activities, provision of technical solutions and creation of infrastructure.

Arghyam has partnered with Samerth for about five years over a two-phased project. The first phase of the project (2007-2009) was implemented in 16 villages in Rapar block, Kachchh district. The focus was on reviving the traditional water structures as well as creating new infrastructure for water through the construction of earthen check dams and dug wells, and reducing salinity of the soil through plantation. There was a simultaneous effort to build the capacities of locally elected representatives and people to participate in water governance and ensure that the resources of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) are leveraged for the work. At the end of the first phase, they had constructed 17 dug wells and 19 earthen check dams benefitting 3,134 people, as well as livestock. They had facilitated the formation of 19 village water committees with 37 women representatives and established linkages with several organisations, individuals and networks.

In the current phase of the project (2009-2012), the work has been scaled up to nine Gram Panchayats with 20 hamlets. The highlight of the project is the manner in which MGNREGA funds have been successfully leveraged for carrying out physical activities. At the end of this phase, it is expected that around 6,000 people will have access to drinking water.



## New ways of working

### Joint design of partnerships

Departing from the traditional method of grant-making, this year, Arghyam engaged with prospective partners to jointly design initiatives. Arghyam rolled out many interesting initiatives in partnership, such as, Karuna Trust in Karnataka, which focuses on the integration of health and water quality through capacity building of the line departments of government and increasing integration among them; Society for Community Participation and Empowerment (SCOPE) to develop more leaders in the WatSan sector; Gramalaya in Tamil Nadu to create a credit-linked model for sanitation implementation.

### Decentralised grant-making

Arghyam has initiated a decentralised grants programme through which it will identify partner organisations that share its vision and priorities and delegate grant-making to them. This is an effort to reach out to small and committed groups working on water and sanitation issues. This year, such a partnership has been initiated with Peer Water Exchange, Bangalore.

### Exploring new geographies

Keeping in line with its mission of working in areas with the greatest challenges in access to domestic water and sanitation, Arghyam has begun working with partners in the states of Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh. Arghyam is partnering with organisations to implement innovative projects that will improve the WatSan situation in these areas.

### Facilitating experience sharing

While Arghyam spent its first few years learning from the diverse experiences of its partners on the ground, it also began to see opportunities to connect partners with varied experiences in similar situations so as to facilitate cross learning.

Arghyam's partners, ACT and ACWADAM, who specialise in hydrogeology, have worked with several other partners across the country to improve their efforts at watershed development and recharge of groundwater. Many of these partners have since incorporated hydrogeology training for their own staff and achieved good results in their implementation.

Arghyam strongly believes that the government at all levels is a key player in the WatSan sector and tries to forge partnerships, either directly or through its partners, to share lessons and contribute to policy design.

### Arghyam's Challenge Grant

Arghyam's Challenge Grant was intended to encourage its employees by providing support for implementation of their innovative ideas. Under the Challenge Grant project, Nivedita Mani organised an art exhibition titled *Water – The Thread of Life*, which showcased the works of seven contemporary artists from South India. The exhibition focused on drawing public attention to the importance of safe water, and generated widespread interest and awareness.

Painting: S Jayaraj



## Gram Panchayat Organisational Development Project

Currently, capacity building efforts across the country tend to treat the Gram Panchayat as an extended service delivery arm of the government, and focus on building programme delivery skills. The Gram Panchayat Organisational Development project at Arghyam, which started in January 2011, positions the Gram Panchayat as an institution, which can deliver the triple mandate of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment – enhance citizen participation, improve delivery of rural development programmes, and act as a unit of local self-governance.

The first phase of the project from January 2011 to March 2012 resulted in specific recommendations for building a stronger Gram Panchayat institution. These are being implemented in the second phase of the project that started in January 2012 and are as follows:

- **Vision and mission:** The Gram Panchayat's vision and mission should be all encompassing, not merely a sum of government programmes and schemes.
- **Assigning administrative responsibility to elected members:** The legal framework defines responsibilities of the Gram Panchayat as a body. However, what is not defined is the internal organisation structure and positions within the Gram Panchayat which can deliver the mandate assigned to them. Faced with challenges of recruiting and retaining external personnel in the Gram Panchayats, portfolios could be assigned to select Gram Panchayat members, who will be accountable for assigned functions.
- **Service Memorandum of Understanding (MoU):** The Gram Panchayats should sign service MoUs with various government departments for delivering agency functions in which mutual expectations are clearly spelt out.
- **Service fee:** Given the inherent constraints related to the income base of rural citizens and their capacity to pay for services, one of the key sources for raising Gram Panchayat revenue could be a service fee that the Panchayat levies on the government departments for service delivery of agency functions.
- **Remuneration of members:** Rather than paying a salary, which leads to a culture of entitlement, the Gram Panchayat should be empowered to draw money from its revenue to pay its members for their efforts.
- **Raise local capacity:** A human resource development role/function in the Gram Panchayat organisational structure could identify the capacity building needs of members and leverage different training institutes to address these needs.

### Reach through Gram Panchayat Organisational Development project (2011-2012)

- ▶ 2 Gram Panchayats
- ▶ 30 Gram Panchayat members
- ▶ 32 villages
- ▶ 2000 indirect beneficiaries\*

\* No. of people who participated in Participatory Rural Appraisals (PRAs), vision building exercises and focused group discussions during the course of the project



# Integrated Urban Water Management

In 2008, in partnership with the state, district and local government experts and NGOs, Arghyam initiated an Integrated Urban Water Management (IUWM) project in Mulbagal, a small town in Kolar district, Karnataka.

IUWM is the efficient management of local water resources and systems, while ensuring sustainability through institutional capacity building, good governance and community participation. Initially, partnerships were developed with the Town Municipal Council (TMC), community and domain experts followed by scientific studies to understand the water and sanitation situation in the town.

As a clear picture of the WatSan situation of the town emerged, it became evident that the complex concept of IUWM needed to be translated into practicable activities that would incrementally

lead to the larger IUWM goal. In partnership with the TMC, Arghyam initiated six focused pilot activities in the town with approval and funding from the Directorate of Municipal Administration (DMA).



## Pilot activities in Mulbagal

### Revival of community managed toilets

Although there were about 10 community toilets constructed in the town a decade ago, they were lying in disuse due to various reasons and about 1,300 households had to resort to open defecation. As a pilot activity, the Slum Board repaired the toilets and the TMC restored water and power supply to the toilets. With the help of the TMC, Arghyam and an *Anganwadi* teacher, the beneficiaries developed a management mechanism for one of the community toilets. A local resident has been appointed as the caretaker, who resides on site and is paid Rs. 50 per month by each of the 35 families. After the restoration of the first toilet, three more have been repaired and are now in use.

### Harvesting rainwater in schools

In order to meet the non-potable water requirements and reserve the treated municipal water for higher priority uses, the IUWM project took up a pilot effort to harvest rainwater in two schools. Rainwater harvesting structures were setup in collaboration with the school administration. Subsequent to the pilot, the DMA approved rainwater harvesting structures in more schools. Detailed plans have been drawn up for seven educational institutions and the TMC is in the process of inviting tenders for this work.

### Energy efficiency improvements in pumping station

The IUWM project piloted energy efficiency improvements at one of the pumping stations in Mulbagal during the early stages of the project. Based on the success of the pilot, the DMA has sanctioned and released the funds for improvements in two more pumping stations. The TMC is in the process of inviting tenders for this work.

### Solid Waste Management (SWM)

The IUWM project has developed a model for SWM in three wards of the town, which involves:

- Door-to-door collection of garbage with auto-tippers; segregation at source
- Creation of a special group (*Nirmala Balaga*) for collection of garbage, and approval of the tariff and the bye-laws.

The outcomes of this initiative are that the three wards are visibly cleaner, mosquitoes and stray dogs have reduced, seven people have received employment, and an involved TMC has allocated Rs. 30 lakhs from their budget for this programme.





### Revival of an ancient tank

With the active participation of the community, the TMC, district authorities and elected representatives, an ancient temple tank (*kalyani*) has been revitalised. For almost 40 years, this tank was in a state of neglect and disuse; it had become a site for dumping solid waste and sewage. After its revival, the tank has generated awe and pride amongst the citizens and drawn interest from outside the town as well.

### Integrated Low Cost Sanitation (ILCS)

The TMC has filed applications of 240 households for individual toilets under the ILCS along with the required documentation. Following various stages of approval by different levels of government, the proposal now lies with the Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited (HUDCO) office in New Delhi.

In March 2012, Arghyam has handed over the reins of the IUWM project to the TMC and stepped back from active management of the project. Currently, Arghyam's focus is on analysing and documenting the lessons on various aspects of the IUWM project. Arghyam will continue to provide advisory services to Mulbagal and other interested towns in Karnataka.



### Reach through Integrated Urban Water Management project (2011-2012)

- ▶ 1 *kalyani* restored
- ▶ 5,000 people in 3 wards covered under the solid waste management programme
- ▶ 1,000 people served by 4 community managed toilets
- ▶ 2 schools with 480 students benefitted from 2 rainwater harvesting systems
- ▶ Energy efficiency improved in 1 pumping station



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# India Water Portal



Photo: Meera Sanikar

India Water Portal (IWP) is a Digital Commons initiative of Arghyam. It is often acknowledged as the most credible source of knowledge on water and related issues in India. Between April 1, 2011 and March 31, 2012, IWP received approximately 1.2 million page views.

The focus of IWP has shifted in the course of the year 2011-2012, from being just an aggregator and disseminator of useful knowledge to also becoming a community-driven website that reflects the actions, work and opinions of people and communities working on water-related issues. This is being achieved through a multi-skilled team spread all over India to manage the Portal.

IWP has become a preferred media partner for events in the water sector, providing coverage for conferences and workshops and live tweeting and blogging from events too. A few noteworthy events covered were the Water Supply & Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) *Global Forum on Sanitation and Hygiene* in Mumbai in October 2011, and the *Living Rivers, Dying Rivers* lecture series at India International Centre,

New Delhi. IWP has also established institutional partnerships with several UN Solution Exchange Communities, and actively uses social media to reach out to audiences. IWP's Twitter following is over 3,400 followers today and *Ask the Experts*, a question and answer (Q&A) service receives about 100-150 queries a month.

In line with the new thinking of evolving into a community website, IWP is being completely redesigned. It is also piloting a volunteer programme and actively meeting and working with local people and organisations across India.

## Reach through India Water Portal (2011-2012)

- ▶ 1.2 million page views
- ▶ 3,400 followers on Twitter
- ▶ 20,000 students in 750 schools across India participated in the *Water Testing Programme*
- ▶ 100 software developers participated in the *Water Hackathon*
- ▶ 200 participants at the *Open Data Camp*



### The Data Project

The Data Project was initiated in the year 2011-2012, to understand the landscape of water data in India. The Data Project collated 200 data sets on water, sanitation, health and other development indicators. It also aims to create a vibrant community that can use this data for advocacy and informed decision making. This community was convened at a few events. In March 2012, IWP co-sponsored India's first Open Data Camp at Google's office in Bangalore. The Data Project also held a Water Data Consultation in March 2012 to discuss the Working Group Report on Water Database Development and Management for the 12th Five Year Plan.

In October 2011, IWP co-hosted the *Water Hackathon* in Bangalore along with the World Bank, Water and Sanitation Programme (WSP) and Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS). Total 16 teams of software technologists created mobile phone applications to tackle water issues.

### Schools Water Portal

Schools Water Portal conducted a nationwide Fluoride Testing Programme in partnership with Oracle Education Foundation with schools across India. Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan and Delhi Public School both participated, totalling approximately 1,500 schools. The programme

aimed to spread awareness on water quality issues in India among school children through fluoride testing and the results were mapped online. A Facebook Group created for the teachers and students became a buzzing online space for them to interact, share pictures, videos and learning experiences.

### Hindi Water Portal

The Hindi Water Portal is the only knowledge website on water in Hindi. Launched in November 2008, it fills the knowledge gaps and breaks the online language barrier. The Hindi Water Portal has approximately 35,000 films, presentations, research papers, case studies, book reviews and news.

### India Sanitation Portal

India Sanitation Portal is a joint collaboration between Water Aid and Arghyam, along with a consortium of partners. India Sanitation Portal has knowledge resources on topics like manual scavenging, disaster and sanitation, the right to water and sanitation and rural and urban sanitation.

# Research and Advocacy

The Research and Advocacy (R&A) initiatives in Arghyam began in 2009. While the research has focussed on the use of human urine in agriculture, and soil biotechnology, advocacy has been concerned with rural drinking water quality management, conferences and People's Audit of Health, Education and Livelihoods (PAHELI), during the year.

## Research

### Use of Human Urine in Agriculture

*Utilisation of anthropogenic wastes for agricultural purposes*, a 3-year research project (2009-2012) with the University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Bangalore ended in this financial year 2011-2012. The project was successful in refining the characterisation of human urine with respect to nutrients needed in agriculture, studying the productivity of several crops and soil properties with the use of human urine as fertiliser.

Besides, a research paper was published in a national journal – *Bioresearch Bulletin* (March-April 2011, Vol 2, Issue 15), with several more in the pipeline. At the *National Krishi Mela* organised by the UAS in November 2011, more than 20,000 farmers visited the demonstration field and around 1 lakh people visited the project stall. Arghyam had also organised

workshops in Kolar and HD Kote districts of Karnataka, where the university team had shared their findings with farmers' groups using ecological sanitation (Ecosan) toilets.

### Soil biotechnology

In the year 2010-11, Arghyam had supported the installation of a Soil Biotechnology (SBT) wastewater treatment plant, at a hospice in Bangalore. The SBT is an innovative technology that needs minimal power, cost and skilled manpower for maintenance. During this year, the performance of the plant was continuously monitored.

#### Reach through Research projects (2011-2012)

- ▶ 1 research paper on Ecosan published in national journal
- ▶ 2 workshops conducted for farmers and SHG groups on reuse of human waste
- ▶ Around 20,000 farmers visited the Ecosan demonstration plot at *Krishi Mela*, UAS, Bangalore
- ▶ Demonstration of 1 wastewater treatment plant based on Soil Biotechnology method

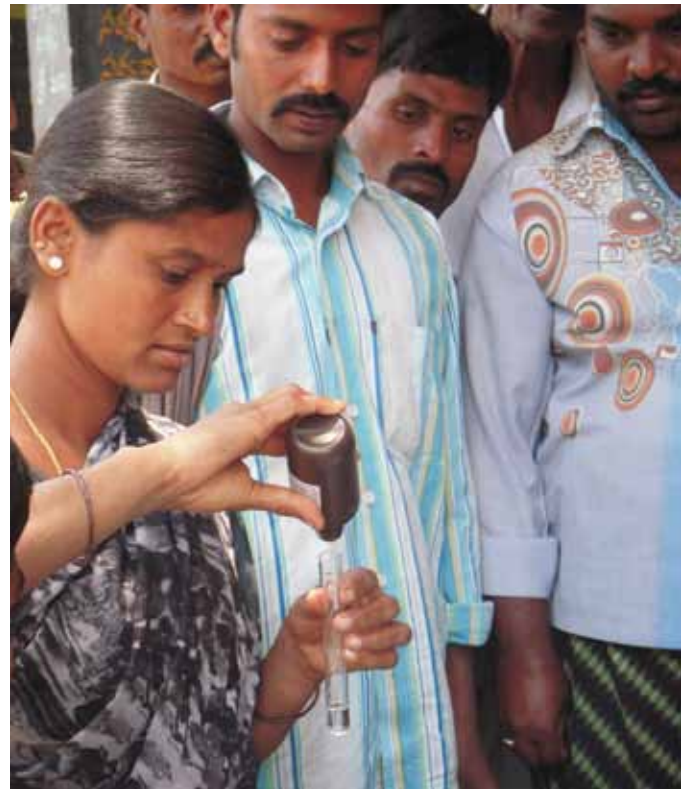


## Advocacy

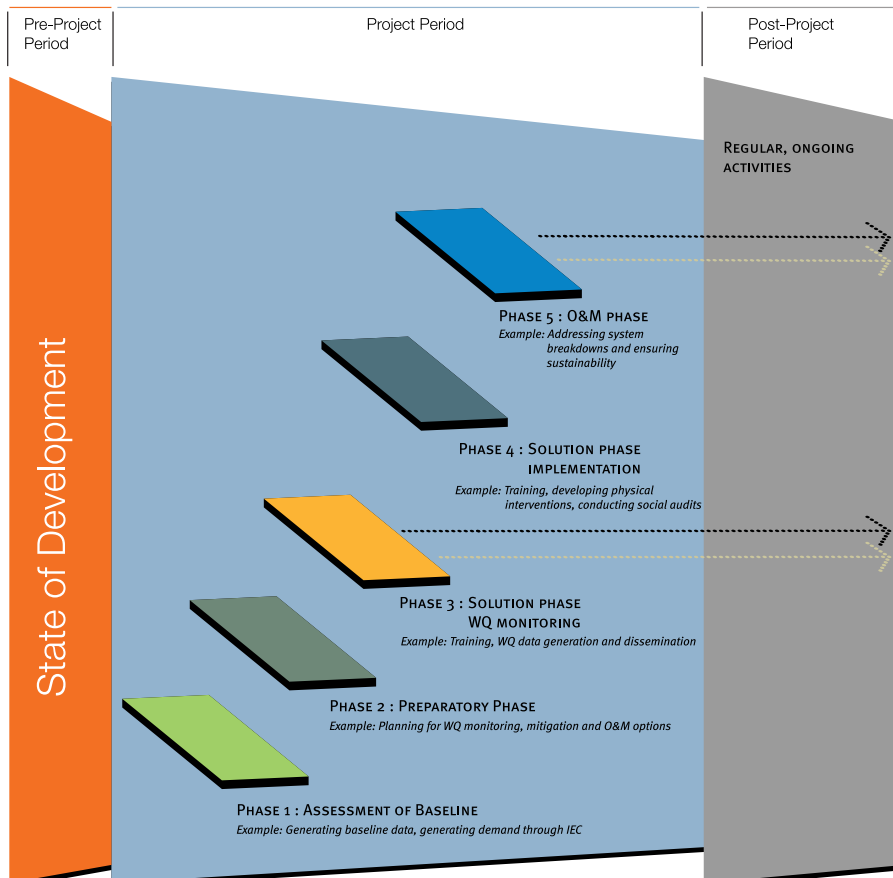
### Rural Drinking Water Quality Management Framework

The R&A team brought out a document titled *A Framework for Rural Drinking Water Quality Management: Collating Experiences from the Voluntary Sector*. The document lays out a phased and process-driven approach to water quality management (WQM) in rural areas synthesising the experiences of 12 prominent non-government organisations (NGOs) across the country working on rural water quality management. The figure below shows the elements of the basic WQM framework.

This document will be of use to sector players to understand the different phases of a WQM project and to get a broad, directional sense of the time, human and financial resources required within each phase.



#### Applying framework approach to WQM - phase-wise illustration of WQM in rural India



## India Urban Conference

The India Urban Conference 2011 was a major multi-sectoral conference at Mysore held between November 17-20, 2011 that brought together state and local policy makers, policy implementers, academics, students, civil society and industry stakeholders to identify challenges and chart strategies for India's urban development. Arghyam anchored and sponsored the *Water* theme with 80 practitioners debating on issues of water resource sustainability, governance, and issues of the poor.

## PAHELI

Arghyam supported the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) Centre, New Delhi to conduct PAHELI (People's Audit of Health, Education and Livelihoods) which is a pictorial toolkit based survey that is easy to understand and implement. The survey focussed on eight districts, spread across seven states. Arghyam played a knowledge advisory role in developing the water and sanitation segment of the PAHELI questionnaire. Other support activities included developing a monitoring protocol for ensuring quality in the survey administration, analysing and interpreting the results and providing feedback on the PAHELI report. Arghyam also helped train the surveyors for disseminating PAHELI results in the surveyed districts. In addition, Arghyam funded and supported field level testing of water quality during the survey.

## Contributions to policy forums and presentations

Arghyam has been constantly contributing to various government and policy fora which have increased its visibility and engagement in the sector. Some of the important contributions made during the year were:

- Provided inputs to the National Advisory Council on the draft Bill for Eliminating Manual Scavenging (May 2011). The bill was introduced in Parliament in April 2012.
- Provided inputs to the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) on Climate Change and Water Security (June 2011).
- Provided inputs to the Planning Commission Working Group on the model Groundwater Bill (July 2011).
- Contributed to the Planning Commission Working Group on Rural Domestic Water and Sanitation (July 2011).
- Contributed to the Planning Commission consultation on the National Water Framework Act (September 2011).
- Presented the WQM framework above, at the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (MDWS) workshop on water quality (November 2011).
- Anchored the Water session at the Indian Science Congress, Bhubaneshwar (January 2012).
- Participated in the National Consultation on Scaling up Rural Sanitation (February 2012).
- Presented the WQM framework at a workshop on Groundwater Quality organised by the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) (February 2012).
- Provided inputs to the MDWS on the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) communication strategy prepared for them by United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) (February 2012).

In line with the organisational transition, Arghyam plans to take up systematic policy research initiatives by engaging with government through the programmatic approach.

### Reach through Advocacy initiatives (2011-2012)

- ▶ Water quality framework developed in collaboration with 12 national partners
- ▶ Anchored water theme at the IUC attended by 80 practitioners
- ▶ PAHELI survey: Covered 9,600 households in 7 states using the WatSan questionnaire designed by Arghyam; around 30-35 ASER master trainers trained.

# Finance and Administration

## Auditors' Report

To the trustees of Arghyam, Bangalore,

1. We have examined the Balance Sheet of Arghyam, 599, 12th Main Road, HAL II Stage, Indiranagar, Bangalore – 560008 having Permanent Account Number AABTA0028M as at March 31, 2012 and the Income and Expenditure account for the year ended on that date, which are in agreement with the books of account maintained by the said trust.
2. We report the following observations and comments:
  - i. These financial statements are the responsibility of the assessee. We express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.
  - ii. We have conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in India. These standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statements presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.
  - iii. We have obtained all the information and explanations, which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of the audit.
  - iv. In our opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the said Trust, and proper returns adequate for the purposes of audit have been received so far as it appears from our examination of those books, subject to the comments given below:

The Trust follows the accrual system of accounting. This disclosure is made in conformity with the requirements of the Accounting Standards issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India in disclosure of Accounting Policy (AS 1) and Revenue Recognition (AS 9).
  - v. In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the said account gives a true and fair view: -
    - a. In the case of Balance Sheet, of the state of affairs of the above mentioned trust as at March 31, 2012 and
    - b. In the case of the Income and Expenditure Account, the excess of income over expenditure for the year ended March 31, 2012.
3. The prescribed particulars are annexed hereto.

for Singhvi, Dev & Unni  
Chartered Accountants  
Firm Reg. No. 003867S  
S Ranganath  
Partner  
M No.201191

Place: Bangalore  
Date: 08-05-2012

## Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2012

Particulars	Sch No.	As at March 31, 2012 Amount (Rs.)	As at March 31, 2011 Amount (Rs.)
<b>I. Sources of Funds</b>			
1. Corpus Fund	1	1,55,89,98,771	1,55,69,54,098
2. Current Liabilities and Provisions			
a. Current Liabilities	2	45,36,823	32,81,120
b. Provisions	3	22,245	12,904
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,56,35,57,839</b>	<b>1,56,02,48,122</b>
<b>II. Application of Funds</b>			
1. Fixed Assets	4	15,46,799	18,77,187
2. Investments	5	49,85,89,900	1,09,85,89,900
3. Current assets, loans and advances			
a. Cash and bank balances	6	1,04,11,76,483	43,18,71,325
b. Other Current Assets	7	1,41,80,527	1,96,90,682
c. Loans and advances	8	80,64,130	82,19,028
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,56,35,57,839</b>	<b>1,56,02,48,122</b>
Significant Accounting Policies and Notes on Accounts	23		

The schedules referred to above form an integral part of the Balance Sheet

As per our report of even date  
for Singhvi, Dev & Unni  
Chartered Accountants  
Firm Reg No: 003867S

**S Ranganath**  
Partner  
Membership No.201191

Place: Bangalore  
Date: May 8, 2012

for Arghyam  
**Rohini Nilekani**  
Trustee

Place: Bangalore  
Date: May 8, 2012

**Anuradha Hegde**  
Trustee

**Narayan Ramachandran**  
Trustee



## Income and Expenditure account for the year ended March 31, 2012

Particulars	Sch No.	Year ended March 31, 2012 Amount (Rs.)	Year ended March 31, 2011 Amount (Rs.)
<b>Income</b>			
Interest Earned	9	13,62,98,278	11,59,36,405
Other Income	10	19,44,234	7,73,042
<b>Total (A)</b>		<b>13,82,42,512</b>	<b>11,67,09,447</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Administrative Expenses	11	37,40,615	34,74,832
Depreciation	4	5,88,232	8,68,530
Rural grants	12	7,78,87,623	7,09,42,539
India Water Portal	13	1,00,50,188	88,28,709
Communication and Advocacy	14	50,87,798	49,04,038
Urban Water Initiative	15	89,95,007	1,29,54,742
GP Organisational Development	16	49,87,191	21,46,923
Institutional Initiatives	17	2,37,49,792	1,03,71,188
Research and Development	18	11,11,392	49,48,834
<b>Total(B)</b>		<b>13,61,97,839</b>	<b>11,94,40,335</b>
<b>Surplus (A-B)</b>		<b>20,44,673</b>	<b>(27,30,888)</b>

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes on Accounts 23

The schedules referred to above form an integral part of the Income and Expenditure account

As per our report of even date  
for Singhvi, Dev & Unni  
Chartered Accountants  
Firm Reg No: 003867S

**S Ranganath**  
Partner  
Membership No.201191

Place: Bangalore  
Date: May 8, 2012

for Arghyam  
**Rohini Nilekani**  
Trustee

Place: Bangalore  
Date: May 8, 2012

**Anuradha Hegde**  
Trustee

**Narayan Ramachandran**  
Trustee

## Receipts and Payments account for the year ended March 31, 2012

Receipts	Sch No.	Year Ended March 31, 2012 Amount (Rs.)	Year Ended March 31, 2011 Amount (Rs.)
<b>Balance brought forward:</b>			
<b>Cash &amp; Bank Balances</b>			
Cash on Hand		2,165	2,056
Citibank - 5913535806 (Savings A\c)		(9,93,858)	42,479
Citibank - 0877466809(Current A\c)		(1,00,202)	3,55,323
ICICI - 004701046493 (Savings A\c)		18,46,228	34,50,569
Kotak Mahindra - 04222040000503 (Savings A\c)		58,177	2,87,405
State Bank of Mysore - 64064306314 (Savings A\c)		67,558	-
YES Bank Ltd - Arghyam - 002290300000087 (SB)		-	-
Deposit with Banks		43,09,91,257	42,85,00,244
Interest Earned	20	14,18,67,852	11,65,91,315
Other Income	21	14,44,234	2,73,042
Maturity of Bonds		60,00,00,000	-
<b>Total (A)</b>		<b>1,17,51,83,411</b>	<b>54,95,02,433</b>

Payments	Sch No.	Year Ended March 31, 2012 Amount (Rs.)	Year Ended March 31, 2011 Amount (Rs.)
Rural Grants	12	7,78,87,623	7,09,42,539
India Water Portal	13	1,00,50,188	88,28,709
Communication and Advocacy	14	50,87,798	49,04,038
Urban Water Initiative	15	89,95,007	1,29,54,742
GP Organisational Development	16	49,87,191	21,46,923
Institutional Initiatives	17	2,37,49,792	1,03,71,188
Administrative Expenses	22	16,04,243	18,90,188
Research and Development	18	11,11,392	49,48,834
Fixed assets	4	5,33,692	6,43,946
<b>Balance carried forward:</b>			
Cash on Hand		734	2,165
Citibank -5913535806 (Savings A\c)		19,05,080	(9,93,858)
Citibank -0877466809(Current A\c)		13,34,532	(1,00,202)
ICICI -004701046493 (Savings A\c)		34,14,863	18,46,228
Kotak Mahindra -04222040000503 (Savings A\c)		800	58,177
State Bank of Mysore- 64064306314 (Savings A\c)		42,204	67,558
YES Bank Ltd - Arghyam - 002290300000087 (SB)		2,03,349	-
Deposit with Banks		1,03,42,74,922	43,09,91,257
<b>Total (B)</b>		<b>1,17,51,83,411</b>	<b>54,95,02,433</b>

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes on Accounts 23

The schedules referred to above form an integral part of the Receipts & Payments account

As per our report of even date  
for Singhvi, Dev & Unni  
Chartered Accountants  
Firm Reg No: 003867S

**S Ranganath**  
Partner  
Membership No.201191

Place: Bangalore  
Date: May 8, 2012

for Arghyam  
**Rohini Nilekani**  
Trustee

Place: Bangalore  
Date: May 8, 2012

**Anuradha Hegde**  
Trustee

**Narayan Ramachandran**  
Trustee

# Arghyam Team

**Chairperson:** Rohini Nilekani

**CEO:** Sunita Nadhamuni

**Trustees:** Anuradha Hegde, Janhavi Nilekani, Sriram Raghavan, Narayan Ramachandran

**Advisors:** Ravi Narayanan, T R Raghunandan, Vishwanath S

**Staff:**

Amrtha Kasturi Rangan

Ayan Biswas

B S Gopala Rao

Boppaiah M M\*

Deepak Menon

Geetha Rajagopal\*

Habeeb Noor

K Nelson Royal

Karthick R

Lingaraju G\*

Madhavi Purohit

Manjunatha Prasad

Minu Kulkarni

Mrinalini Goswami\*

Nagasreenivas K\*

Naveen B T

Nirmala Janardhan

Nisha S. Thompson

Nivedita Mani

Niteen Shastri\*

Priya Desai

Rahul Bakare

Rajendra Prasad\*

Rakhi Mathai

Reena Pinto

S Manohar Rao

Shwetha Sridharan\*

Somaiah K P\*

Sonali Srivastava

Srikanta Prasanna

Sunita Nadhamuni

Surashree Shome

Suresh Babu\*

Suresh L Ponnappa

Vijay Krishna G

*\* Have since left Arghyam and their contribution is acknowledged.*





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