

Management of tanks –A constraint analysis

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ABSTRACT : Community based tank management (CBTM) reforms are implemented in India to facilitate farmers' participation in tank management, through tank user groups. Although thousands of user groups have been formed, a closer examination reveals two decades of efforts only concentrated on efficient water use, irrigation water management rather than involvement of all the stakeholders related to tank *i.e.* farmers, government, groundwater users, officials, toddy keepers, washer men and farm women, goat rearers, duck rearers and brick makers. Ex-post facto research design was adopted. The state of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, three districts (Mahaboobnagar from Telangana; Vizianagaram from Coastal Andhra, Chittoor from Rayalaseema) were selected purposively. From each district four tanks (two from project and two from non-project area) were selected randomly. A total of 240 (120 under project area and 120 under non-project area) tank users selected from 12 tanks were considered as sample for the study. The constraints elicited by the project and non-project tank users in tank management and these constraints were grouped under five categories namely tank related, psychological, situational, technical and socio-economic constraints. The constraints under each category were ranked based on frequency and percentage in case of both project and non-project tank users. Major constraints elicited by the tank users in tank management are lack of linking mechanism among the tanks (project) and lack of public private partnership (non-project).

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