



ACCELERATED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR EMERGING WATER LEADERS

Organized by **WRI India**

Program Summary

Bengaluru

13-15 July, 2022

Intent of the Program

ACCELERATED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR EMERGING WATER LEADERS

India has embarked on an ambitious journey to improve cities which will be home to more than 60% of the nation's population by 2050. A plethora of initiatives under pioneering programs such as AMRUT 2.0 and Swacch Bharat Mission are driving innovation in the urban water sector.

While new and innovative solutions, policies and technologies are constantly being tested at various locations for better water management, there are barriers to replicate and scale up, due to lack of skill and awareness across various city-regions of India.

Call for Water Leaders

To meet the UN Sustainable Development Goals and build urban water resilience, there is an urgent need to develop training and upskilling workshops for water sector professionals (both government and private sector).

WRI India aims to fill this gap by creating a specially curated Accelerated Development Program (ADP) offered to emerging water leaders. The first edition of this training program was hosted in the Bengaluru office of WRI India.

Pedagogy

The training program is designed to provide a hybrid experience for participants. The sessions include in-class presentations and interactive discussions and role-play and design exercises. Extensive site visits and engagement with government and community stakeholders offers participants a direct view of the challenges and decision making processes of these innovative solutions.

Following the training program the workshop cohort will also be inducted into an alumni group to enable continued interaction, peer-learning and collaboration. We look towards this group of emerging water leaders to bring innovative water solutions and integrated water planning approaches to their practice.

Special thanks to government officials and partners:

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB); Minor Irrigation Department, Government of Karnataka; Devanahalli Town Municipal Council; Mr. Rajguru – JN Project; Dr. Annapurna S. Kamath – Jalaposhan Trust; Mr. Anantha Moorthy, Ms. Girija – CDD India, Mr. Vishwanath S – Biome Environmental Trust

Day 1

Pictionary ice-breaker to bring together the diverse group of participants



Context setting presentation by WRI India team providing an overview of the study city, followed by an interactive session with participants



At Citizens Waterway, a drainfront rejuvenation project in Bengaluru. This project is re-imagining the city's relationship with its historic stormwater drain network, called rajakaluves. These revived stormwater drains will become public spaces for citizens to reconnect with the clean flowing waters in these channels.

Bengaluru's Rainwater Harvesting Theme Park, opened in 2011, is a pioneering effort to build awareness around rainwater harvesting (RWH) in the city. It is the hub for technical training and certification for plumbers in the city. It is also a demonstration site for innovative new solutions allowing entrepreneurs an opportunity to showcase their RWH products.



Day 2

Role play exercise – an innovative engagement tool for participants to understand challenges faced by various user groups.



Devanahalli, a small municipality outside Bengaluru has successfully set up a faecal sludge treatment plant (FSTP) to provide end-to-end solutions for faecal sludge management (FSM). The participants had a guided visit to the FSTP facilitated by CDD India and had an opportunity to interact with the Environment Officer at Devanahalli TMC.



At Jakkur Lake with Ms. Annapurna S. Kamath of Jalaposhan Trust, explaining the evolution of this former agricultural tank to an iconic urban public blue-green space. Traditional livelihoods and activities such as fishing and grass cutting continue to be nurtured as this lake.



Day 3

The use of treated wastewater from Bengaluru for tank rejuvenation in the Kolar region in Karnataka is one of the largest such projects globally (second only to Mexico City's wastewater reclamation project). This project is a collaboration between Minor Irrigation Department and Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB). BWSSB, as per its mandate treats wastewater of Bengaluru city in the sewage treatment plants under its authority; the treated wastewater is transferred through infrastructure built and maintained by Minor Irrigation Dept. to the rural district of Kolar to fill in the lake network in these regions. These filled lakes are leading to an increase in groundwater levels, which are tapped for agriculture practices.



Each participant sharing their thoughts on the "Reflection board" after site visits



The program wrapped up by interacting with Mr. Vishwanath from Biome, who shared his insights on all the projects visited during the program. It was followed by questions from the participants.





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The experience and passion of the participants and the site visits to several innovative water projects in and around Bangalore not only increased my knowledge about water projects but also made me positive about water management in Indian cities.

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- Arun Krishnan

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The WRI ADP was indeed an engaging one. It brought participants with different backgrounds and experiences to one table. Such ADPs will promote holistic thinking among emerging water leaders and ensure sustainable solutions are adopted for improving urban water resilience.

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- Tejas Deshmukh



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The Accelerated Development Program for Emerging Water Leaders helped me see these projects from multiple perspectives. The diversity of the group allowed for us to each bring our own experience and queries to each site which enriched each experience.

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- Amanda Gann

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In a short duration, the ADP provided exposure to all the various dimensions of urban water management and water security with a very high component of practical exposure and experiential learning

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- Manjunath Lakshmikanthan



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I had the opportunity of learning how various domains within the water sector works are implemented; their pros and cons. It is quite useful as I had field visits more.

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- Malligai M K





NEXT EDITION

in

DELHI

STAY TUNED

<https://wri-india.org/events/accelerated-development-program-emerging-water-leaders-learning-bengaluru>

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