

INTEGRATED RURAL URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT FOR CLIMATE BASED ADAPTATIONS IN INDIAN CITIES (IAdapt)

Report on Focus Group Discussion

11 February 2019, Solapur

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Report on Focus Group Discussion

ICLEI – South Asia organized a focus group discussion (FGD) on 11th February 2019 at the office of Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Zilla Parishad, Solapur under the project IAdapt. The objective of the FGD was to involve District Water and Sanitation Mission (DWSM) officials in the IAdapt initiatives and understand their village and block level activities.

The discussion began with the brief introduction about IAdapt project, its objectives and various activities undertaken by the project team. Dr. Rajendra Bharud, CEO of Zilla Parishad, Solapur introduced ICLEI, South Asia to his team and highlighted the need of catchment conservation, low cost decentralized wastewater treatment facilities especially sock pits. He also explained his mission on mosquito free villages by executing sock pits to treat gray water from houses and using the same for ground water recharge.

The further discussions were centered on the activities undertaken to implement IAdapt tools, the updates on programmes that were being implemented in various villages and proposed at the district level. Mr. Vijay Londhe, Deputy CEO, Zilla Parishad, Solapur, presided over the meeting, which was attended by officials and 11 officials from the District Water and Sanitation Mission Cell. During the discussion updates were shared by ICLEI SA and the engineers on current participatory initiatives for water conservation.

Mr. Mujawar from DWSM explained the pilot scale reports prepared for the villages on 'Water Safety and Security Plan'. The reports include documentation of ground water level, water resources, water supply and sewage schemes etc with people participation. DWSM cell is looking for the more villages to be part of this report and has proposed state level agency Water and Sanitation Support Organization (WSSO) for financial support. ICLEI – South Asia requested DWSM officials to prepare such reports for 3 of the project villages which involve participation by various departments of government. ICLEI – South Asia also proposed to include integration and climate change aspects in the same report and get inputs from the IAdapt project.

The Deputy CEO appreciated efforts undertaken by the project team on water resource management and promised to support the same. He also showed interest to join hands with urban authorities for participatory integrated water management.

