

Tapping and diverting natural hill streams and springs for providing irrigation through 'Gravity Irrigation Networks (GINs)' has gained popularity not only in India, but also in neighbouring countries such as Bhutan, Nepal etc. In these systems, spring water is tapped by constructing a low-height barrier and carried for longer distances, often for 1-2 km, using PVC and HDPE pipes under pressure. Sometimes they are blended with open channel flow for expansive area coverage.

If these GINs are appropriately designed, they could effectively meet the irrigation as well as drinking water needs of the local communities. Since water flows by gravity, there is absolutely no need for external pumping or energy for operating these systems. However, such pipe networks, if arbitrarily sized, results in undue capital costs; operational difficulties to communities and huge maintenance costs during later years.

This capacity building event not only provides opportunity to learn from experts, about technical, social and economic aspects of these GINs, exchange experiences, as well as visit and see diverse types of GIN systems, both under-construction and functional ones in Araku Valley, India.

Register and Express Your Interest to –

♣ Participate

(or)

♣ Participate and Share Your GIN experience

Mail any query related to this event to
araku.gin@gmail.com (or) call Ramamohan-
+919440194866

Details of the Event

Location

**Araku Valley, ASR District,
Andhra Pradesh, India
(18.3246, 82.8796)**

Mode

Physical

Duration and Date(s)

08-10 Jan 2024 (3 days)

Medium: English

Link for Eol:

<https://forms.gle/7e5ez7sswUA7Hi4v7>

Last date for registration:

10 Dec 2023

**Confirmation of participation is done
on first come basis. Invitations are
issued as soon as possible for
participants from other countries.**

First Circular inviting Eol

Capacity Building on Gravity Irrigation Networks (GINs) in Hilly Areas

**For Non-Govt. and Govt. Development
Agencies in South Asia**



Organized by



**Watershed Support Services and Activities
Network (WASSAN), India**

In partnership with



Water and Livelihoods Foundation (WLF), India

About WASSAN

Watershed Support Services and Activities Network (WASSAN) is a development organization in India that strengthens grass-roots efforts and policy measures in sustainable use of natural resources. Prosperity of rainfed and small-holder farming is at the center of its work. More details of WASSAN are available at: www.wassan.org.

About WLF

Water and Livelihoods Foundation (WLF) is a development organization in India. WLF strives towards achieving water security and livelihoods enhancement of poor through grass-roots initiatives; technological innovations; and capacity building. WLF has acquired diverse experiences on GINs through its interventions in India and Bhutan in recent years. More details of WLF are available at: www.wlffoundation.in.

About ARAKU VALLEY

Araku is a serene hill country (~1300 m above msl) and popular tourist destination, located in the northern part of Andhra Pradesh, India. Nearest Railway Station and Airport are in Visakhapatnam (~110 km). Araku ('Arakku ARK' on www.irctc.co.in) is connected by road and a tourist train from Visakhapatnam. Araku coffee, grown by small farmers, is known for unique aroma and taste. See more details at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Araku_Valley.

The organizers will identify an official travel agent for participants to avail hassle-free pick-up and drop from/to Railway station (or) Airport in Visakhapatnam to the venue in Araku Valley on individual payment basis.

OBJECTIVES OF THE EVENT

- 1) To facilitate exchange of knowledge and experience of GIN (both technical and non-technical)
- 2) To learn from the field experiences in Araku Valley, both on-going and functional GINs
- 3) To motivate participants to integrate GINs in their on-going projects in their work areas
- 4) To trigger a policy shift in favour of GINs, which is a green and nature-based solution

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

The training content day-to-day is broadly indicated below:

1. Day 0 (07 Jan 24)

Arrival of participants (after 11 am) and free time for site seeing

2. Day 1 (08 Jan 24)

*Forenoon – Training sessions on GINs
Afternoon – Experience sharing on GINs*

3. Day 2 (09 Jan 24)

Visit to GINs in two villages

4. Day 3 (10 Jan 24)

*Forenoon – Consolidation of field observations, learning the design of GINs & future thinking
Afternoon – Free time for site seeing*

5. Day 4 (11 Jan 24)

Departure of participants (before 10 am)

COSTS OF THE EVENT

The organizers of the event will cover the costs of accommodation, food, field trips, and meeting facilities. The participants are expected to meet their travel expenditure to and from their place to Araku. Partial financial support for travel is provided to deserving applicants depending on the availability of funds on a case-by-case basis.

METHODOLOGY

The capacity building event will have a blend of exchange of experiences through PPTs and group discussions as well as visits to few villages in a radius of 50 km from Araku, where GINs are being executed / already functional.

TARGET PARTICIPANTS

Development agencies, such as, NGO staff, ITDAs, CSR agencies, donor organizations, especially working in hilly tribal areas. Research scholars, students and development professionals interested in this may also participate.

PROCESS OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EoI)

EoI to participate in the event may be indicated by filling in the following Google Form before 15 Dec 2023:

<https://forms.gle/7e5ez7sswUA7Hi4v7>

Last date: 10 Dec 2023

The exact details of venue and accommodation in Araku will be finalized soon after this deadline and intimated to all the participants.

Detailed guidelines for the participants will be shared with the confirmed participants covering all the details of various logistics and day-to-day sessions including the field visit locations etc. The format for presentation of experiences will also be shared in the guidelines.

We are looking for donors, co-financing organizations and sponsors for this event. The partial financial support to deserving participants is subject to the availability of funds.

Mail any query related to this event to araku.gin@gmail.com

Donors interested to co-fund are requested to contact: [Ramamohan-+919440194866](tel:+919440194866).