

**Call for Papers for National Workshop on
Impacts of Watershed on Poverty Alleviation
(During January 21-22, 2011)**

The Centre for Water and Land Resources is organizing a 'Two Days' National Workshop on "Impacts of Watershed on Poverty Alleviation" during January 20-21, 2011 at National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad 500030.

Background:

In India, more than 60 percent area falls under arid and semi-arid zone where watershed intervention taken as a panacea. Given the socioeconomic context of the areas, the key program beneficiaries are the landed gentry, small and marginal farmers. The land less and other section of the poor are having fewer stakes in the watershed area. How to magnify the sustained gainful benefits in equitable manner to them is posing great challenge. Government of India has launched various programmes for livelihood generation and poverty alleviation through wage employment. Simultaneously, the conversion of wasteland and degraded land into arable land under the watershed programme is also going on, which brought about some visible changes. But, the effectiveness of these programmes on the poor is still a big challenge to drastically reduce the poverty in rural segments. Convergence is one of the approaches which GOI is effectively trying to bring in various programmes. The workshop envisaged to bring some tangible outcome for further intervention.

Issues: The following are the some of the issues identified where focus will be made to discuss further.

- Effective linkages between watershed development and rural livelihoods, Livelihood and impact on poverty.
- Type and nature of benefits flow accruing to various sections of the community
- Challenges in making the watershed program pro-poor and sustaining it in the long run
- Post project management and its impacts on poor
- Convergence of MNREGA and other programmes
- Public-private partnership (PPP) in watershed implementation for poverty alleviation.

Programme Objectives:

- To know the effectiveness of watershed on poverty alleviation.
- To examine the role of institutions in watershed management for poverty alleviation
- To explore policy options for sustainability of watershed projects and their positive impacts

Programme Contents:

- Watershed and the poor,
- SCs and STs involvement in watershed
- Watershed and Women,
- Equity in Watershed
- PRI in watershed
- MNREGA and watershed
- Wage components in watershed
- Sustainability of watershed projects
- Livelihood and its gainfulness in watershed
- Capacity building and its impact on beneficiary
- Participatory technology intervention in watershed
- Production systems and micro enterprises.

Papers are invited from potential authors, academicians, subject experts and the policy practitioners from the line department and the civil society organizations latest by 24th December 2010. You can send your papers to Dr S S P Sharma, ssp_sharma@yahoo.com or to Dr. U Hemantha Kumar, hemanthakumar20102@gmail.com Co-ordinator of the workshop. The authors of the selected paper would be invited for presentation. The institute will reimburse the 2nd AC railway return fare to one author only. For details see NIRD website: www.nird.org.in

S S P Sharma
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