

**An Introductory Document To**

**Mazhapolima**

**Participatory Well Recharge**

**Programme,**

**Thrissur District**

**Kerala**

**Supported by**

**Government of Kerala**

**&**

**Arghyam Trust Bangalore**

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## Abbreviations

BP	Block Panchayath
BPL	Below Poverty Line
CBO	Community Based Organisation
CCDU	Communication and Capacity Development Unit
CDS	Community Development Society
DC	District Collector
DIET	District Institute of Education and Training
DP	District Panchayath
DPC	District Planning Committee
DPMU	District Project Management Unit
DPO	District Planning Officer
ESAF	Evangelical Social Action Forum
GoI	Government of India
GoK	Government of Kerala
GP	Grama Panchayath
IEC	Information – Education - Communication
KFRI	Kerala Forest Research Institute
KIDS	Kottapuram Integrated Development Society
LPCD	Litres Per Capita Per Day
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MLA	Member of the Legislative Assembly
MP	Member of Parliament
NGO	Non Governmental Organisation
NREGP	National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
PRI	Panchayathi Raj Institution
SC	Scheduled Caste
SEUF	Socio-Economic Unit Foundation
SHG	Self Help Group
ST	Scheduled Tribe
TSC	Total Sanitation Campaign
VEO	Village Extension Officer

# **Mazhapolima Participatory Well Recharge Programme**

Set in the context of well centric culture of Kerala households to draw their domestic water requirement, Mazhapolima is an ambitious programme for community based well recharge. Designed by the district administration in collaboration with the Panchayathi Raj Institutions (PRIs), Mazhapolima has stakeholder participation and networking as fundamental to the programme. Diversity in approaches and implementation arrangements according to local specifications are built into it. The project adopts a carpet recharging strategy covering all the 4.5 lakh open wells in Thrissur district of central Kerala.

The focus is on sustainable outcomes and improved service levels. Intention is to make it a 'Good Practices Model' in well-centric approach for drinking water sustainability with a universal appeal.

## **1. The Project Context**

Kerala is famous for its water resources. It is endowed with two rainy seasons – the south west and north east monsoons, and an over all rainy season of close to four months. It gets an average annual rainfall of 3000 mm. However, the state's peculiar topography, characterised by the narrow stretch of undulating terrain that extends from the Western Ghats to the Arabian sea, the high run off leads to most of the water flowing to the sea at a high pace. Therefore, the actual water available for consumption is extremely low compared to the rainfall that it gets. This coupled with high density of population and an urban-rural continuum that almost stretches through the entire state makes Kerala a water-deficit state.

Widespread presence of open wells and the dependence of the people on wells as the main source of drinking water are peculiar to Kerala. According to a study carried out by the Centre for Water Resource Development and Management (CWRDM), there were nearly 70 lakh wells in Kerala in 2008, their number growing at 3.31% annually. The state has an average 298 wells per square kilometre. This is as high as 1000 in urban areas and 500 in coastal areas. While the midland is close to the state average with 277 wells per square kilometre, highland areas have fewer wells – 117 per square kilometre.

In spite of the extensive coverage by piped water supply systems, the dependence on well water is overwhelming. According to Census 2001, of the 65 lakh households in Kerala, a massive 72% amounting to 47 lakh households depend on wells for drinking water.

Thrissur district has 6.25 lakh households and 4.4 lakh wells. Even though the district gets an annual rainfall of 3130 mm, which is a notch above the state average, as many as 70% of these wells dry up during summer. Acute and widespread water shortage in large areas of the district has become an annual phenomenon. Worse, there has been a multi-fold increase in the number of water scarce local bodies during summer between 2004 and 2006. The extent and gravity of water scarcity during summer have assumed alarming levels already.

While water scarcity in summer over large areas lead to serious distress on families with women and children mostly bearing the brunt, it is an administrative and logistic nightmare for the PRIs. Financial implications are also serious as these areas are serviced by water tankers during summer. Thrissur district spends more than Rs.1 crore for supplying water to the water scarce areas every year. It also affects the quality of life and financial stability of the affected families.

With reduced summer flow, the four important rivers that pass through the district are facing sustainability issues. Extensive depletion of aquifer has been reported across the district. Kodungallor has been declared over exploited in terms of ground water while Methala, Nattika, Mala, and Ollookkara are in semi critical state.

The overall depletion of ground water resources has resulted in salinity intrusion even up to mid land water bodies. Source sustainability has become a major concern for many water systems run by the Kerala Water Authority (KWA) and 50 % of the water supply systems are not in a position to provide the designated service level.

An added advantage of Mazhapolima is that it will augment the summer river flows and will arrest salinity intrusion.

## 2. Goal

The goal of Mazhapolima programme is to contribute towards enhanced health and welfare of the community through improved access to drinking water.

It is common knowledge that access to safe drinking water is the key towards better health and welfare of communities. Mazhapolima strives to ensure access to safe drinking water to the families of Thrissur district as its goal.

### 2.1 Objectives

1. To recharge ground water by feeding rainwater into open wells, ponds and bore wells and to evolve multiple models and technologies in ground water recharge and sanitisation of water and water sources through participatory action research programme
2. To improve drinking water availability and service level across the year through a total approach to water security addressing quantity and quality issues. (Focus on sanitised water and water sources after creating a water resource base)
3. To evolve an alternative sanitation model for the coastal and other densely populated areas of the district through participatory action research programme
4. To significantly reduce the impact of drought and consequent public spending on supply of drinking water in tankers to the water stressed regions in the district.
5. To strengthen decentralization programme and to strengthen PRIs in discharging their basic mandate in water sector through community efforts that are cost effective and sustainable.
6. To develop a knowledge base about local water resources or to develop the science of local water resources among households, user communities, intermediary level stakeholders such as Grama Panchayaths, other government departments and agencies through a participatory action research programme in selected communities
7. To create a data base regarding local water resource base and user behaviours as well as make efforts to standardise the data base for wider application and research.
8. To market / share models and knowledge on the action research with the larger audience across the country.
9. To influence policies and policy-making in favour of decentralised service delivery and management mechanisms in the water sector.

The objectives of the Mazhapolima project address the most critical issues in the water sector in Kerala. No project so far has addressed at such significant scale the issue of recharging wells by devising techniques to prevent heavy runoff characteristic of Kerala's landscape. The objectives recognise the critical role that PRIs have to play; inclusion has been conceived as an important parameter of the over all strategy.

### **3. Target Area and Stakeholders**

The project covers all the wells and ponds in 92 Grama Panchayaths and seven urban local bodies in the district. Initially the programme would focus on well recharge, the least cost option to utilize and leverage investments already made with the slogan 'Fill Your Wells' with lead role for PRI institutions.

In addition to PRIs the major stakeholder groups are kudumbasree, Jalamithrams, Non Government Organisations (NGOs), Community Based Organisations (CBOs), local skilled persons, media, task forces, District Planning Committee (DPC), other institutions, and individuals.

### **4. Project Rationale**

Mazhapolima project has its roots in an effort by the district administration of Thrissur to find a lasting solution to the recurring acute water scarcity in the district during summer. A meeting was organised in May 2008 which discussed the problems and appreciated the need for developing sustainable long term solutions. Given the well density in the district and the potential revive them through rain water harvesting, the meeting proposed a community driven participatory well recharge programme for the district.

As stated elsewhere, open well recharge is one of the main components of the programme. Economic and practical wisdom suggests immediate utilisation of the existing capacity created be given immediate priority. The district has about 4.5 lakh open wells, equalling investments to the range of Rs. 1800 crores, at a modest rate of Rs. 40,000 per well. As the wells are widely dispersed, carpet area approach is feasible in water recharge.

Added attraction for the State is the favourable spread of rainfall having intermittent showers tucked between two monsoons. The critical advantage in terms of quantity and quality is from the rain catch during lean periods. Moreover with a 1000 square feet area will provide 3.00 lakh litre per year which will provide a per capita availability of 136 litre per day per person, well above the national standards of 70 lpcd.

As part of the project, the funds typically spent on supplying water to water scarce areas during summer is being utilised for the Mazhapolima project in an effort to evolve a sustainable solution.

### **5. Approach and Strategy**

The project adopts an action research methodology with two approaches in water recharge and sanitation:

- System boundary approach
- Watershed approach

A system boundary is an identifiable or distinguishable spatial area that has characteristics of a natural eco-system inhabited by human settlement. Here, the eco-system entities around a selected system boundary influence it from the periphery to the core.

In coastal system boundary, water moves, flows or draws into the system from the surroundings. This open system interacts continuously with its environment. Any human interaction in most cases has a negative influence on the coastal system. The resilience of the system would withstand and adjust the human modifications until it possesses the mass in critical quantities and qualities.

Restorative actions are envisaged in the project if a system is essentially needed to be treated for restoration.

The project is a demand driven participatory approach which is PRI-centric and process oriented. It would be implemented on a campaign mode in a cost effective manner, facilitated by the Government of Kerala.

The programme is tailored to trigger the community strengths, social capital, traditional wisdom and focus on “Investing in Common Future”, and therefore, is *community driven*. As water is everybody’s business, the programme envisages partnership, collaboration and synergy of all stakeholders, private, public and NGOs.

Therefore it has a *participatory approach*. The programme is bottom up and *demand driven*. There exists tremendous pent up demand in service level (quantity), quality and such demand is converted into willingness to make cost effective and minor investments to reap rich dividends.

Water is a mandate of the PRIs. The programme supports them to effectively discharge their mandate by harnessing community initiatives and leveraging investments at their own disposal for common benefit. Ground water is our common pool resource and investments made are undoubtedly for public welfare. This also entails vital responsibility on the PRIs, in participatory planning /management and effective regulation of ground water usage. Thus the method is *PRI centric*.

The programme encourages innovation and diversity. Grama Panchayats will have the freedom to follow their own implementation arrangements. Critical to the programme is the thrust on the menu of technical choices open to the households and regions according to their capacity and need. Informed choice of the household is facilitated by trained technical task teams/ resource teams at GP level. Therefore the strategy is *process oriented*.

Considering the overall impact on quantity of water harvested in volume, these would be the most *cost effective* way, possible by employing local material and labour available.

In very Grama Panchayat there are about 4500 open wells and about 6000 households on an average. Recharging wells would be one of the most effective ways to reach out to the people which will have sustainable welfare impact.

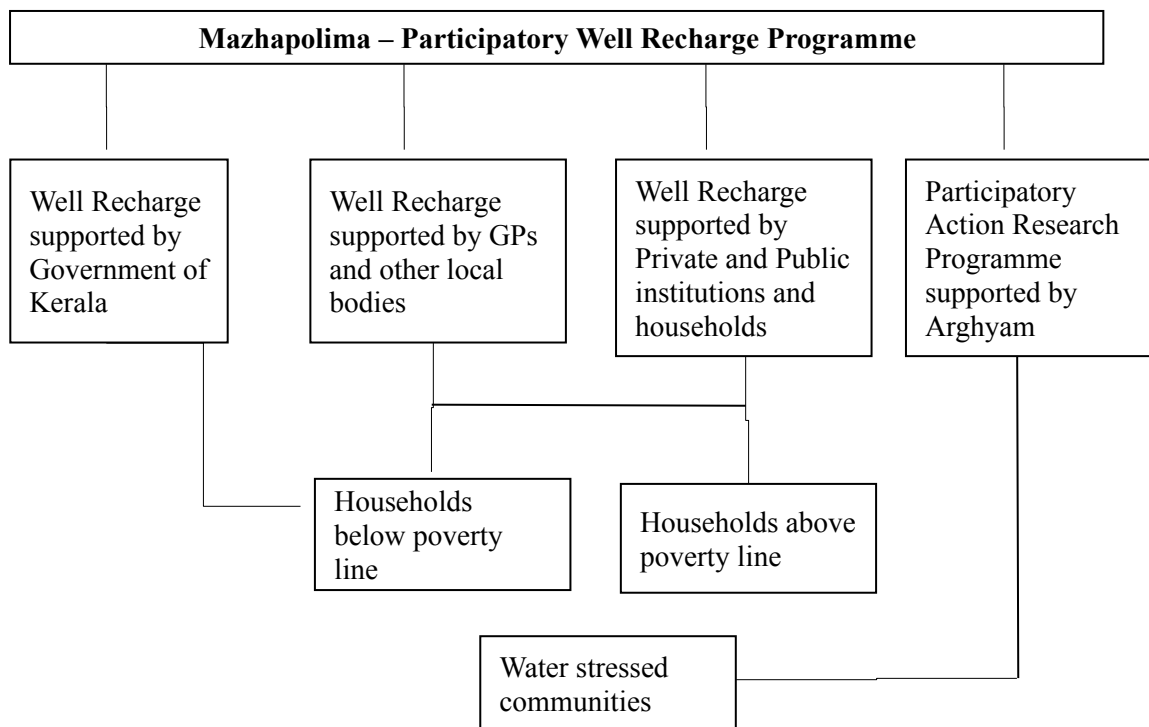
The Government of Kerala would play a facilitating role supporting the PRIs with various

departments providing technical support and guidance in planning, implementation, and monitoring. As the basic approach is participatory and demand driven, the success of the programme is possible only through the *campaign mode* in generating awareness, demand and sustained enthusiasm. This is expected through a district level campaign comprising direct contact programme and media.

The district has got vibrant and active PRIs, functionally effective and networked SHGs/ Kudumbasree, very active NGO/CBO base and a supportive political leadership. The district being one of the major project area of Jalanidhi, could harness the experience to a great extent. We also have rich traditional wisdom, accumulated knowledge base and proven experience in rain water harvesting with many best practices. The programme envisages networking all these and facilitating a wider canvass for collective efforts. The programme is outcome oriented that facilitate diverse processes suitable to local conditions. At the end of the day the target and outcomes are to be achieved and we will be having many and varied replicable approaches in achieving the common goal.

Harvesting Roof water and its diversion to open dug well is the key tool in the programme. It is envisaged as a collective and collaborative programme of the Panchayati Raj Institutions, NGOs, Development Activists, Scientists, Rural Libraries and Recreation clubs, Jalamitrams and Kudumbasree among the social capital of the District.

The Mazhapolima actions are conceived in the diagram below.



## 6. Technology Options



The programme offers an array of cost effective choices for the community, mainly based on traditional methods and proven choices. Back washing is the technique recommended for the project.

### Technology Options Matrix

Technology choice	Specification	Indicative Cost-Range in Rs
<b>Open well (Drinking)</b>		
Roof top harvest with Sand filter*	PVC Gutters are fixed to collect water from roof and water is diverted to the filter using a PVC pipe. The filter consists of sand, metal and charcoal	2500-3750
Roof top harvest with ordinary Nylon filter	Water is harvested from the roof and is diverted to the well through a Nylon or cloth filter using a PVC pipe.	1250-2500
<b>Open wells/Ponds (Non drinking)</b>		
Rooftop harvesting with out filter	Water harvested from the roof top is directly fed into the well	500-1000
Surface run off catch	Using a bund, trench or pit	500-1000
Rain pits	Open pit dug with a specification of 0.75 m x 0.75m x 0.75m	250-500
Backwash with Phyto-remediation	Usually meant for ponds in the lowlands, where a variety of plants and shrubs and trees are planted around the pond to purify water, appropriating the purification properties of plants and trees	2000-4000
(*) Additional Rs. 500 may have to be added for polyethylene sheets for thatched roofs		

Backwashing is quite a simple process, with collection of rain water from rooftops using gutter or other suitable receptacle that feeds directly into open wells located within the home premises. A filtering device at the end of the pipe or gutter system catches the debris before it enters the well. Backwashing does not involve any additional storage structures. The cost of this infrastructure is much on the lower side when compared to other water security arrangements.

## 7. Budget and Financing

Based on the modest estimate of having 4.5 lakh wells in the district, the total cost of the programme and the financing options are estimated as below.

<b>Rs. crores</b>			
<b>Category</b>	<b>Labour Cost</b>	<b>Material Cost</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
Better off Households (70%)	12.6	50.4	63
Worse off Households (30%)	5.4	21.6	27
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>90</b>
Awareness & IEC/M&E			1
Training / Capacity Building & community Strengthening			1
<b>Grand Total (Rs crores)</b>			<b>92</b>

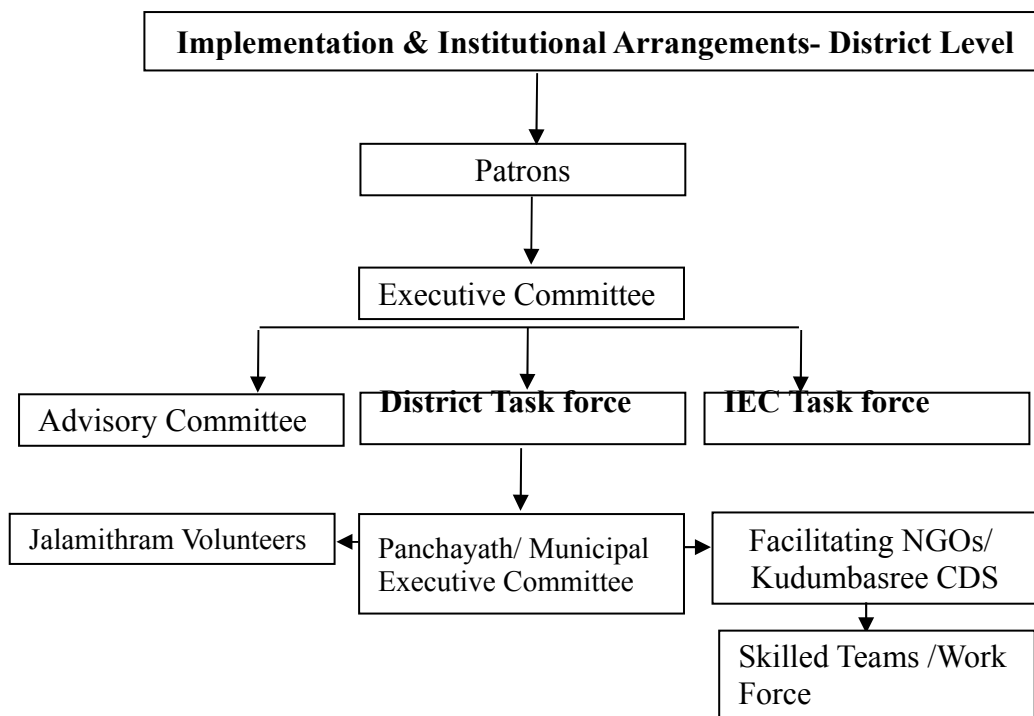
### 7.1 Cost Sharing and Means of Financing

<b>Sector/ Programme</b>	<b>Financing Description</b>	<b>Cost Sharing (%)</b>	<b>Amount- Rs Crores</b>
NREGS	Labour cost mainly for BPL/SC/ST	15	13.8
SC/ST Funds (PRI)	SC/ST household	5	4.6
Development Plans (PRI)		25	23
Households	Material /labour unit cost	30	27.6
Private Sector/NGOs/ Sponsorship	Programme support and IEC/media campaign	15	13.8
GoK/CCDU/ Jananidhi/ GoI Donors	IEC & Awareness campaign, Training and capacity building and programme support	10	9.2
<b>Total</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>92</b>

There are 99 local bodies (PRIs) in the district making it 99 Geographical Units. Average cost per local body is assumed at an average of ninety lakh rupees. The programme will also leverage resources from watershed and soil conservation programmes, irrigation including minor irrigation, agriculture, etc.

## 8. Implementation

The programme is to be implemented through collective action, networking key stakeholders, including NGO/CBOs, private sector, clubs and associations and other agencies, centred around the Grama Panchayat. GP is the nodal implementing agency in partnership with the community with the facilitating support of the Government and departments. This is a bottom up process.



All elected representatives of State Legislative Assembly, Parliament, Municipal Councils and the worshipful Mayor of the Thrissur Municipal Corporation are patrons of Mazhapolima Movement. The campaign has an Advisory Council consisting of eminent scientists and experts in the field. The Implementation arrangements are overseen by an Executive Committee under the Chairmanship of the District Collector. Day to day activities are looked after by a Task force, which is again headed by the District Collector. NGOs and other activists support the implementation arrangements at the local levels.

Implementation of the scheme at the Grama Panchayat/ Municipality level is facilitated by a local level Executive Committee, which is presided over by the Chairperson/ President of the local body. NGOs and Jalamitrams extend facilitation support to implement the programme. Where the services of NGO are not needed / available, the Community Development Society under the Kudumbasree could facilitate the implementation arrangements.

### 8.1 IEC and Awareness

As recharge in one land holding may not have one to one correspondence in benefit, for sustainable outcome watershed approach /river basin approach is required. For this massive campaigns and IEC initiatives are required. Kerala has excellent examples of success in programmes like the total literacy and polio eradication which were implemented on a campaign mode. Mazhapolima would follow such best practices.

**Direct Contact Programme:** As the message shall have to be reached and owned by every household, one of the key pillars of the strategy would be direct contact programme having the following elements:

- Adoption of the programme by the District Planning Committee (DPC) and appeal to the Presidents of all Grama Panchayats (GPs) and Block Panchayats (Bps)

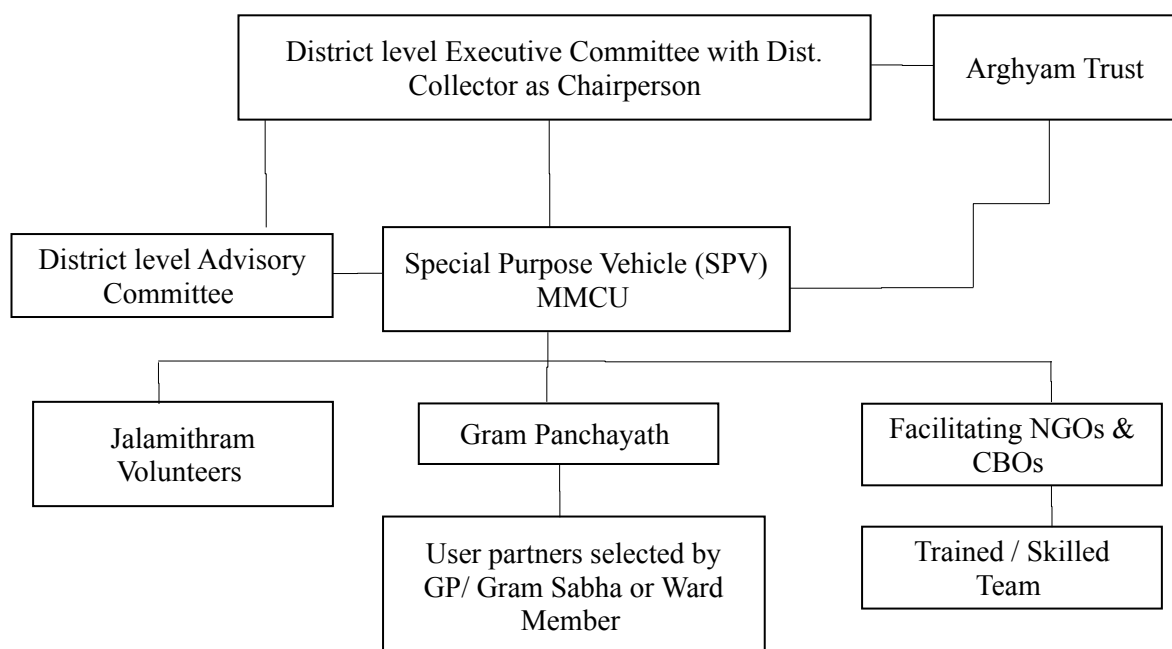
- Special Grama sabha /ward sabha chaired by the GP President/ Standing Committee Chairperson
- Networked participation of all GP level stakeholders (inclusion is the theme and not exclusion) Departments/agencies, anganwadis, ASHA, VEOs, NGOs, CBOs, religious and charitable agencies, clubs, schools, Kudumbasree, local resource team etc.
- The Grama sabha will constitute a resource team not exceeding 12 experts and key professionals and update and prepare the water atlas/ resource map indicating open wells. The team will prepare action plan for recharge using the common guidelines.
- The Grama sabha will also select a campaign committee and will address the children and schools/clubs and NGOs as a focal change agent in carrying the message. The cost of the campaign could be met through local sponsorship and also using the funds available inter alia for IEC in TSC and health sectors.

**Media Campaign:** Considering the overall effectiveness in rolling out the campaign, this would be done at the district/block level through the press and other media (TV/Radio etc.). A team of development journalists would be taken to best practice sites and the cost of the campaign would be met through sponsorship and leveraging funding under appropriate programmes.

Documentation and Process Audit would also be done as part of the campaign.

## 8.2 Monitoring and Coordination

The Thrissur District administration has set up a Coordination and Monitoring Unit called MMCU- Mazhapolima Monitoring and Coordination Unit to support the implementation of the programme. This unit is under the office of the Thrissur District Administration. It is the responsibility of the MMCU to coordinate various activities of the programme, conduct progress and process reviews and ensure quality implementation.

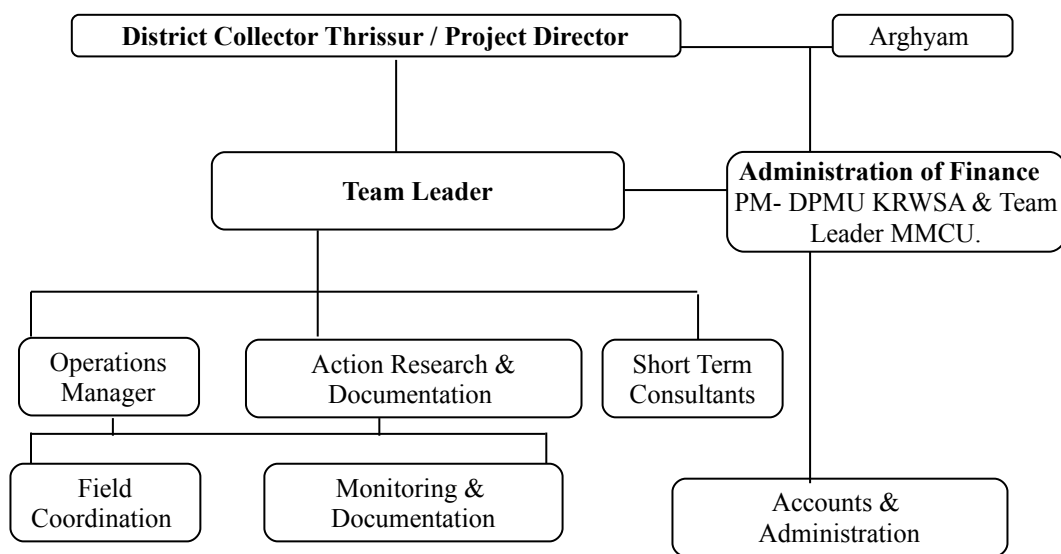


The MMCU functions at a separate office adjacent to the District Project Management Unit (DPMU) of the Jalanidhi Project of the Government of Kerala. MMCU makes necessary arrangements for progress and process documentation of the programme.

Thrissur District Administration has positioned qualified professionals with experience in participatory rain water harvesting (RWH) and action research programme for MMCU. The administrative as well as action research components of Mazhapolima are funded by Arghyam, a Bangalore based NGO of repute. The total support committed by Arghyam is Rs 58 lakhs.

A Special Purpose Vehicle for Mazhapolima has been set up with experienced professional. The team works under the leadership of the District Collector.

The institutional arrangements in the Special Purpose Vehicle is provided below.



Suitable base line data has been gathered before implementing the programme. Among other things, a water budgeting and hydro-geological study of the coastal villages where Mazhapolima programme is implemented is being conducted to firm up the base line data and compare the same subsequently after implementation to assess impact of the programme. Water samples shall be tested and quality-based data established.

‘Mazhapolima’ is implemented ensuring support and participation of trained and skilled workers, NGOs, PRIs and other stakeholders.

A Separate bank account has been opened and operated to manage funds and financial resources of the Mazhapolima programme. The first instalment of funds provided by Arghyam has been deposited in an exclusive project account which is jointly operated by the Team Leader - MMCU and Project Manager – DPMU, KRWSA. Funds from other sources whatsoever will not be deposited into this account. Funds from PRIs directly go to the beneficiary households or other entities that execute the work.

## 9. Activity Plan

Activity	Description	Key responsibility/ Composition
Special Gramasabha/ Ward sabha	Starts with special grama/ward sabha announcing the message” Our water our future” and ‘wells for welfare’. The Ward/sabha with the resource team to conduct the reconnaissance survey/PRA and prepare a water resource atlas /scarcity Map with the inventory of open wells and ponds and prepare the resource map	GP/Standing Committee/ward member/NGO/CBO/ Schools/private sector/clubs/Kudumbasree /Departments (Education/health/anganwadi/ Kudumbashree etc.
Preparation of Action Plan and Approval Ward/GP level	The ward sabha to approve the Action plan comprising the following components: (i) IEC and Awareness campaign: (ii) Training and Capacity Building Plan; (iii) implementation plan: (iv) financing plan and (v) monitoring and documentation plan	GP resource Team/Nodal NGO consolidated and approved by GP through a resolution
Implementation Task Force or Jalasuraksha Samithies	A task Force supported by the resource team to be constituted from among the key stakeholders at the GP level with the mandate of programme implementation.	Chaired by the GP president, Standing Committee chairman as Vice Chairman and GP Secretary as convener. The team will be inclusive both not more than having 13 members
Block Jalasuraksha Samithies	Block level Committee to consolidate the block level plan, oversee implementation, coordinate and direct action, poling and leveraging resources and infuse innovative resource mobilisation ad integration of ongoing programmes	Block Panchayat President as Chairman and BDO as Convener
District Jalasuraksha Samithies	District Advisory Committee to be chaired by the DP President and DC Vice Chairman with Block presidents and Presidents of the GP Association and selected experts as members and DPO as convener. The Executive Committee to be Chaired by the DC and selected experts, NGOs and key departments as members	

## 10. Progress So Far

The project took an year's time to reach the implementation stage from its initiation on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2008 in a meeting called by the District Collector, Thrissur. There has been a conscious effort to facilitate the PRIs to assume the lead role in the project. Meetings of PRI representatives were held immediately after the concept was announced, as early as in June 2008. The District Planning Committee (DPC) accorded formal sanction to the project on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2008. The project was inaugurated on 4<sup>th</sup> July in Thiruvilwamala Grama Panchayat. The first publication, that of 10,000 handbooks on Mazhapolima took place in early August. State Bank of Travancore, Canara Bank, and Shobha Developers came forward with support and financial assistance to the project in August.

The concept was communicated to Arghyam Trust in early September and support sought. The Government of Kerala formally recognised the project and sanctioned Rs two crore and released one crore on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2008. Early December saw a significant advancement in the awareness campaign as part of the project when school children took 'water conservation oath in schools on 4<sup>th</sup> December.

Core staff members could join only by February 2009 due to various reasons. In the same month, Jalanidhi project of the Government of Kerala declared technical support to the project. The Chief Electoral Officer of Kerala allowed the activities of the project to continue even when the Code of Conduct for the Parliament Elections has been in place in the state.

A total of 1218 units of well recharges have been completed till date under the Mazhapolima programme.

<b>Grama Panchayat</b>	<b>Units Completed</b>
Adat	309
Panancherry	120
Thiruvilwamala	63
Nadathara	98
Varavoor	628
<b>Total</b>	<b>1218</b>

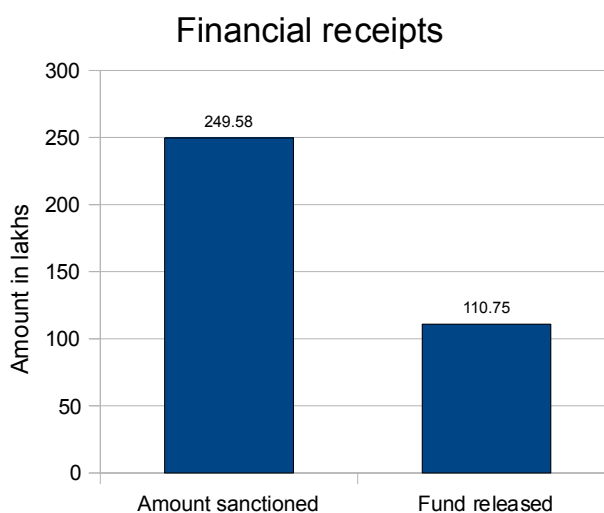
Thrissur District Administration has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Kottappuram Integrated Development Society and three selected Gram Panchayats - Methala, Eriyad and Edavilangu in Kodungalloor development block. MMCU has facilitated the commencement of the work, supporting KIDS and the selected GPs to complete the recharging of wells during the current monsoon season itself.

Seamless participation of the related departments and projects of the Government of Kerala is an outstanding aspect of the project. While Kerala Water Authority (KWA), the water service provider of the Government of Kerala has agreed to utilise funds available under the IEC/HRD/Technical support of KWA for the implementation of Mazhapolima programme. Jalanidhi project has accorded sanction to the Project Manager, KRWSA DPMU to coordinate Mazhapolima in Thrissur district.

### **10.1 Financial Receipts**

	<b>Rs lakhs</b>	
<b>Source</b>	<b>Amount sanctioned</b>	<b>Fund released</b>
Government of Kerala	200	100
NABARD	8	-
Kerala Water Authority	3	3
State Bank of Travancore	0.2	0.2
Canara Bank	0.25	0.25
Panjal GP	8	
Vallathol Nagar GP	5	
Chelakkara GP	3.43	
Thiruvilwamala GP	2.1	2.1

Panacherry GP	4	4
Adat GP	9	0.6
Varavoor GP	6	
Other agencies	0.6	0.6
Total	249.58	110.75



## 10.2 Outcomes So Far

- Official inauguration of the programme by the Kerala State Minister of Revenue on 4th July 2008, in a meeting presided over by the State Assembly Speaker.
- District Planning Committee (DPC) approved the programme to be included under the decentralized planning process.
- Training for overseers of gram panchayats in the Kerala GPs in KILA.
- Publishing technical manual indicating cost and technical guidelines.
- Identification of 14 nodal NGOs for different regions in the District.
- Commercial banks have come forward in supporting the programme under their Corporate Social responsibility mandate, with a special focus on vulnerable population and institutions. Private companies have started implementation in partnership with NGOs and PRIs along with merchants and chambers of commerce.
- The Government of Kerala has announced Rs. 200 lakhs for the programme and released Rs. 100 lakhs as the first tranche, which will be focused on critical blocks and GPs having acute water stress.
- NABARD has agreed to support one coastal block for Quantity and Quality improvement under the RIF.
- Rs 4-8 lakhs has been earmarked for each of 60 GPs (out of 92) under the programme under the annual plans, as approved.
- GPs like Adat have already started the programme for recharging 100% open wells under its Jalasuraksha.
- Volunteers and retired senior officials and have started working with Panchayats in generating demands which are getting crystallized.



- Three blocks under the national watershed programme has adopted open well recharge as a key component.
- Leveraging resources of ongoing programmes, mainly National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme, Watershed programmes, Special Component Plans for SC/ST communities