

PARTICIPATORY IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT PROJECTS AND BEST PRACTICES: EXPERIENCES FROM ORISSA, INDIA

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ABSTRACT

Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM) formed the key approach for management of irrigation systems in India. This approach has been instrumental in enhancing farmers' participation in irrigation management. The thrust to PIM in Orissa, a state of India dates back to early 1990s. Since then, the state has experimented different projects which has amounted to rich and diverse experiences in water management for irrigation. These ground experiences has led to promotion of innovations and best practices in institutional arrangement, management and financial system, integration of equity, gender concerns and institutional and financial sustainability. In the light of changing climates and the need to strengthen PIM for sustainable resource governance, there is a great relevance and scope of scaling up the innovations and best practices. The paper tries to capture the innovations and best practices promoted under different kind of PIM projects for knowledge generation and policy-practice changes.

PALAVRA-CHAVE: Participatory Irrigation Management, Best practices, Innovations, Approach