



Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation for Water Security: Case Studies from India

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M&E of resilience infrastructure has unique challenges: Resilience is typically tested in long-term and builds over time

Participatory M&E: possibility to share learnings across stakeholders, build consensus, and engender empowerment (Stringer et al 2006)

How can drought infrastructure be evaluated against predetermined objectives?

- Does the process of M&E capture demand for resilient infrastructure by stakeholders



Two models for drought resilience:

1. NREGA Social Audits
2. Seva Mandir Gram Vikas Committee model



- How do these models operate in the context of building water infrastructure for drought resilience?
- How can participatory M&E processes of the Government and Civil Society (CSO) complement each other to build successful MSPs for water security?
- What are the avenues, through the lens of M&E, to engender adaptive learnings outside the silos of independent functioning of Government and CSOs?



- Process net-mapping of two mature community-led M&E models and at various levels of governance in each model, in the semi-arid state of Rajasthan between May 2021-April 2022
- Stakeholder interviews were conducted to understand perceptions, efficacy and experience of existing methods



Methodology

- Comparative institutional analysis through the methodology of systematic literature review, process net-mapping of two mature community-led M&E models and stakeholder interviews at various levels of governance in each model, in the semi-arid state of Rajasthan between May 2021-April 2022
- Over 40 interviews and 4 village meetings We interviewed identified stakeholders in open-ended interviews, documented their responses for a thematic analysis
- Stakeholder interviews were conducted to understand perceptions, efficacy and experience of existing methods





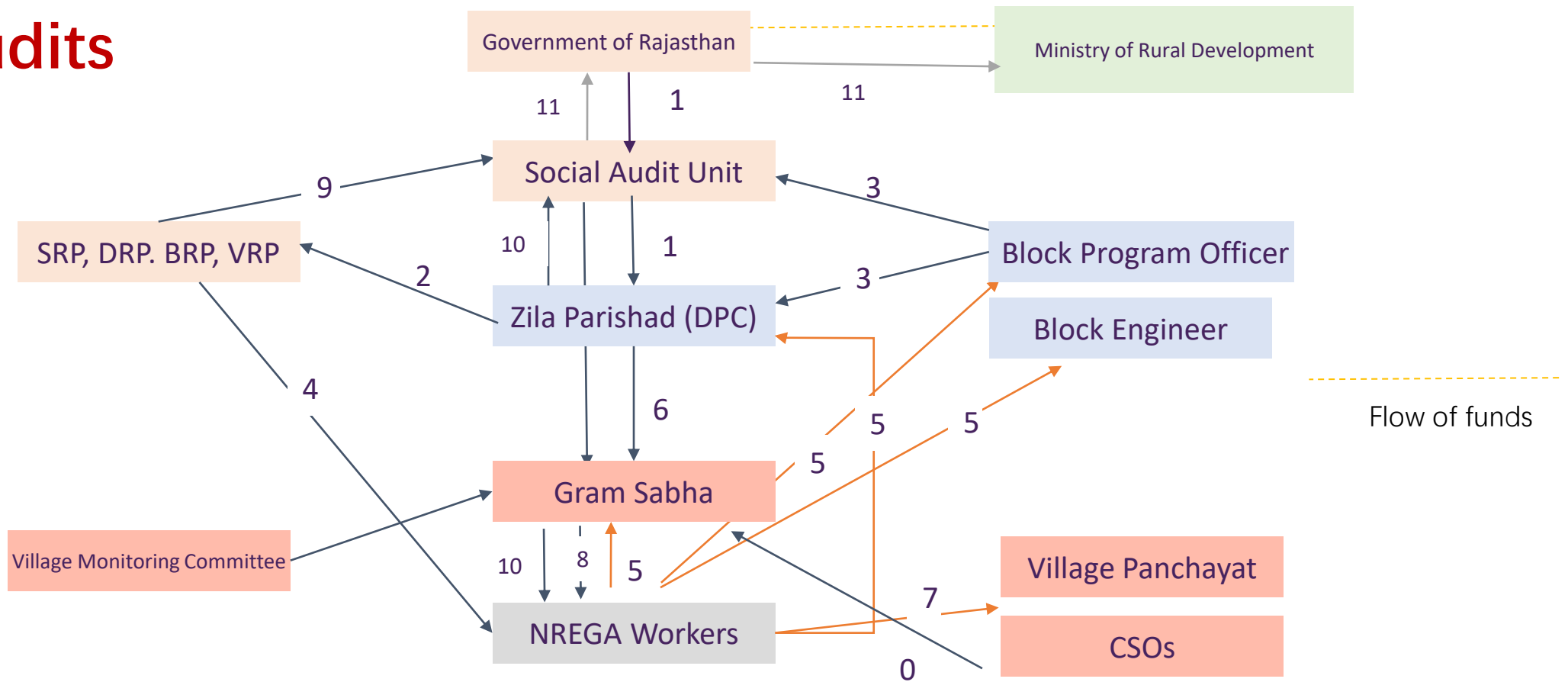
Image: Check dam and reservoir constructed under NREGA

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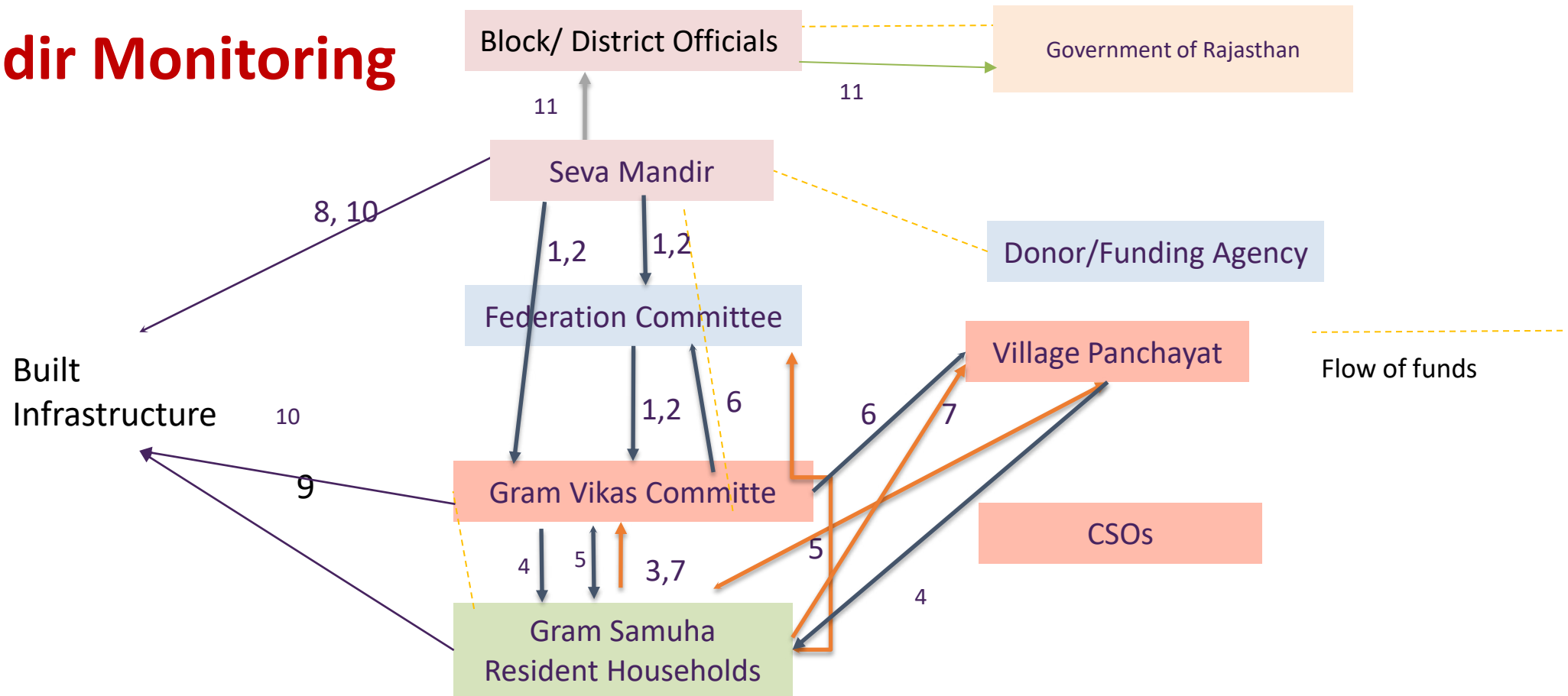


Social Audits



1 Frame Annual calendar and send to ZP	7 Question Elected Panchayat members present for queries at GS
2 Send SA Calendar to Resource Persons	8 GS to provide avenue to villagers to seek information, provide details about previous complaints
3 Send information regarding implementation of works 15 days before meeting	9 Preparation of Social audit report
4 Contact workers to verify muster rolls, physical assets, invoices etc	10 Action taken report on issues raised
5 Question officials present for queries and questioning at Gram Sabha	11 Uploading reports on website
6 DPC supervises Gram Sabha	0 Capacity building of Resource persons, facilitation of process

Seva Mandir Monitoring Model



1 Facilitate election of GVC and ensure norms being followed	7 Question Elected members present for queries
2 Training and Capacity Building of Resource persons, facilitation of process	8 Provision of materials
3 Election of members	9 Provision of labor (depending on type of work, land and funding source)
4 Mobilisation: Organise meetings to aggregate demands for works and to provide avenue to villagers to seek information, provide details about previous complaints	10 Supervision and Monitoring of work
5 Demand Aggregation: Demands of infrastructure works presented by by households and deliberated upon	11 Obtaining necessary permits and clearances
6 Forward demand for works to appropriate authority and negotiation	12 Action taken on issues raised



	Social Audit under NREGA	Seva Mandir Model
Flexibility for MEL	MEL of multiple outcomes and process; Provision of concurrent social audit	Community-led MEL; flexibility in targets and processes
Local Contextualisation using a participatory approach	Provision of publicly-demanded resilience infrastructure	Provision of publicly-demanded resilience infrastructure; institutional innovation
Leverage existing systems	Leverages NREGA MIS and auditors for monitoring, gram sabha for participatory evaluation	Complementarity of Social Audits and GVC-led gram samuh meetings for evaluation
Feedback loop across scales and dimensions	MEL at community and agency levels; social learning in public hearing; accountability	MEL at community, project site, and agency levels; social learning in public hearing
Regular and pre-planned evaluation	Social audit calendar by state unit every six months (regular) or monthly (concurrent)	GVC-led fortnightly meetings
Capacity Building	Capacity building of community in accountability and participatory methods	Capacity building of community in institutional innovation and participatory methods