

Practitioner Input Form

Submitted: 15/02/2005

Input Record Number	023
Name	Dorothy Fernandez
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Organisation(s) Involved	International Presentation Association Nadi Vapassi Andolan JKGVS
Geographic Area	North Bihar, India, bordering Nepal (affecting India, Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh).
Dates	Ongoing
Communities Involved	Effected communities by flood – Dalit, Mushars
Duties and Responsibilities/ Purpose of Project	Social activists intervening in people's struggles.
Context of Intervention	Rural/Irrigation/Water/International IWRM

## Practitioner Reflective Case Study

Input Record Number	023 RCS Dorothy Fernandez
<p>What I write is from having experienced floods for two consecutive years here in North Bihar. North Bihar lies on the border of Bihar in the Himalayan range, hence the overflow of rivers in Nepal means floods in North Bihar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Negotiations are taking place to see how it can be possible through dialogue to bring about a change in this practice.</li><li>• Since 2003 people concerned about 'Linking India Rivers' a mega project, which would cost a rough and tentative estimate of Rs. 5,60,000 crores.</li><li>• Such a project affects other neighbouring countries like Bhutan, Nepal and Bangladesh, and dialogue and consultation is important.</li><li>• What we really need to pay heed to is extensive and large-scale water harvesting all over the country.</li><li>• The revival of traditional irrigation systems of pynes and ahars. In this context, two young social activists Sarita and Mahesh who had worked tirelessly with people's support and co-operation in the way of labour, managed to dig and revive this traditional system, which was forty-five kms. long and was able to reach out to forty neighbouring villages. Unfortunately the duo was done to death on 24<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2004 in Shabdo village of Gaya district in the State of Bihar, India.</li></ul> <p><b>Drinking Water</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clean drinking water is a luxury in rural/urban Bihar. The scarcity of drinking water adds all kinds of water-borne diseases, where the marginalized communities easily become victims.</li><li>• During the floods in July 2004 in North Bihar, working in three districts of Darbhanga, East Champaran and Samastipur, we realized that though the floods were violent, people were saved from Hzo-borne diseases. On deeper inspection and analysis we realized that the hand-pumps, which were dug to a depth of two-hundred and fifty feet were saved. As a result in collaboration with UNICEF an inter-agency campaign has been successful with providing hand-pumps that go deep down.</li><li>• The struggle to make pure drinking water available to the urban/rural poor still has a long way to go. Efforts are on, but it will take quite some time for this to happen.</li></ul>	

Practitioner Input – Part II

Input Record Number	023II Dorothy Fernandez
9)	No response.
10)	No response:
11)	No response.
12)	No response.
13)	No response.