

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2021-2022



## From the President's Desk

The past year has been a period of extraordinary circumstances wherein we have been combating recurring global pandemic that have impacted individuals as well as the economy's well-being. As 2021 draws to a close, I cannot help but acknowledge the work our organisation has put in safe drinking water and sanitation space. From our team leaders, community and operation professionals, community field team to local leaders, EHS is fortunate to have dedicated team working towards the mission of the organisation, expanding the safe drinking water footprint to 43 villages in Northern and Central India.



Community centricity being the focus and very much aligned with Jal Jeevan Mission, our endeavour is to empower local communities to manage the safe drinking water units. One of our key activities is to form and strengthen Village Water Committees as they play an important role in the sustainability and maintenance of the water sources and help contribute to SDG 6. Training sessions for Village Water Committees were conducted during the year on improving their level of awareness, building their knowledge on financial and technical aspects pertaining to operation and maintenance of the safe drinking water units.

Women in rural communities play an integral role in water supply, often connected to traditional roles of water collection, cooking, cleaning, and child-care. Global evidence indicates that women's participation in Water Management has been limited; yet their involvement in management has been correlated with more effective water systems. Leveraging ASHAs and Self Help Group network and other women groups, we have been able to increase female membership in Village Water Committees. 220 female village water committee members are now part of our water journey.

COVID-19 has highlighted the inter-linkages between health and hygiene and the vulnerability of the poor and the marginalized. As a technical partner, Enable Health Society implemented WASH awareness interventions in the slum pockets of Haryana, aiming to increase knowledge and skill for wise use of water resources, importance of safe drinking water and water borne diseases, along with hygiene and sanitation practices. Participatory methodologies and awareness materials on WASH were developed to maximise the community outreach. Within a short span of 4 months, our team along with trained community volunteers conducted awareness sessions with 932 community members.

I take this opportunity to thank teams at EHS who have shown confidence through their sustained contribution to the organisation. Big gratitude to all our implementing partners and supporters for their goodwill, trust and collaboration.

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## 1. About Enable Health Society

Enable Health Society has been present for over more than 15 years impacting health behaviours of our communities. Registered in 2004, as a Non-Profit Organization we aim to improve the health and wellbeing of individuals and communities with an emphasis on disease prevention, care and management. EHS has been building the individual, community and institutional capacity working in area of health and safe drinking water practices with different stakeholders including government and non-government organizations, institution and communities, thus ensuring long lasting and sustainable efforts to enable better quality healthy lives.

EHS offers skills and expertise on various thematic areas around Health – chronic conditions such as Diabetes, Hepatitis and HIV; special issues such as Tuberculosis, Sexual and Reproductive Health, Malnutrition and Adolescent Health. Our array of services include: Need Assessment, Capacity building, Development and Design of Training Curricula, Tools and Reporting & Documentation.

EHS also works to raise awareness on safe drinking water practices in the rural communities leveraging on behaviour change. We believe in community-based partnership approach sharing in the decision-making and ownership of the safe water facilities.





## Our Mission

- Promote innovative, locally adaptive capacity building approaches enabling communities to lead better, quality and healthier lives.



## Our Vision

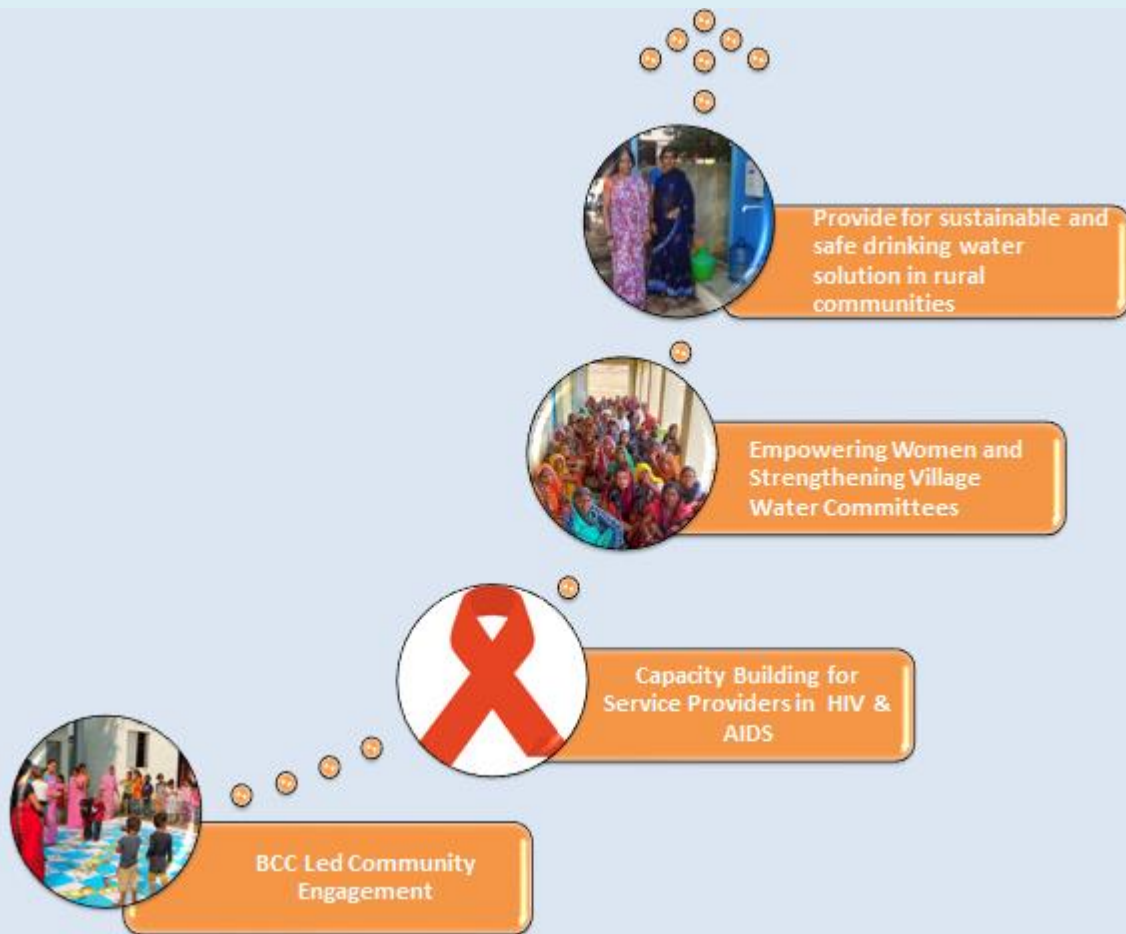
- Enable Health Society seeks to improve the health and well-being of people by building capacity of communities, promoting healthy practices, upholding gender equity, supporting locally adaptable technology, advocating for sound practices and policies, and inspiring people to assert their rights to better, healthier lives.



## Our Core Values

- Quality
- Service
- Integrity
- Human Rights and Justice
- Respect
- Communication
- Compassion

## Our Programmes



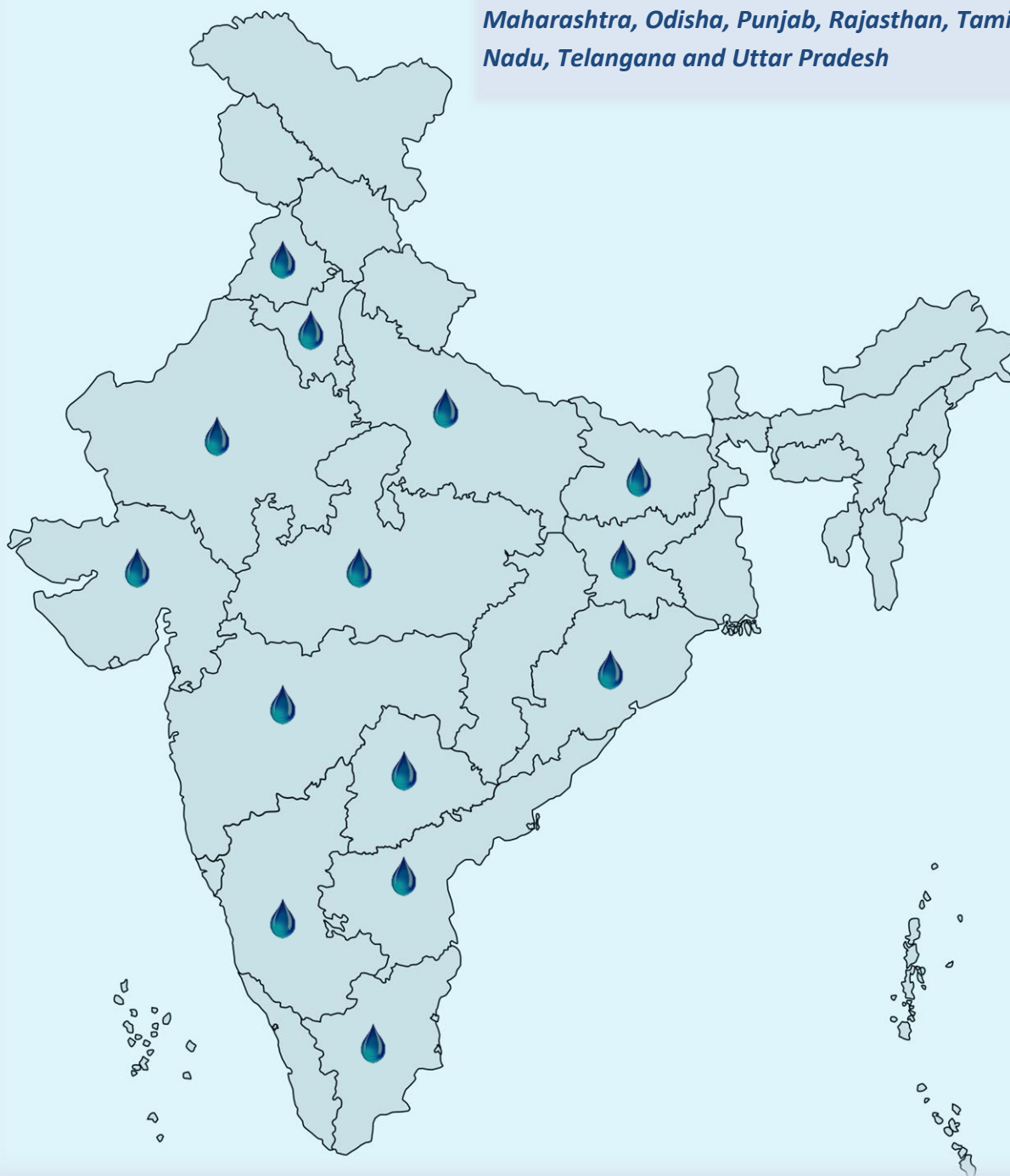
## 2. Background

In collaboration with technical partner **Piramal Sarvajal** (Piramal Water Private Limited), EHS has initiated safe drinking water projects for communities in different schools, villages and health facilities in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh. Community-level decentralized drinking water models, comprising of localized water purification and distribution through installation of water purification plants, have evolved as a low cost alternative to create affordable provision to safe drinking water within the community. Through this innovative model, EHS generates local employment opportunities by employing people from the communities as machine operators, contributing to the economic development.

EHS strongly emphasizes on bringing together the rural community, including the panchayats. From the planning stage, panchayat members are actively involved to inculcate a sense of active community ownership. Community is also at the forefront during the awareness and launch events, being local experts to spread the messages on importance of safe drinking water.

### 3. Our Geographical Coverage

*Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh*



- ✓ *Our presence is in 14 States*
- ✓ *Presently working with 16 clients & serving 68299 people daily across India*

## 4. Our Journey 2021-2022

### I. Safe Drinking Water

**Forming and Strengthening of Village Water Committee:** Enable Health Society's community centric approach includes constitution and operationalization of Village Water Committee (VWCs). Provided technical and financial support, VWCs are formed at every village where safe drinking water facility is installed. As the Village Water Committees are expected to manage the operation and maintenance beyond the life of the project, EHS team starts providing training and facilitation to the members after the project launch. Training programmes are held on managing governance of VWCs, conducting meetings, book-keeping, record maintenance, technical and quality issues. The VWCs members are briefed on their roles and responsibilities to help them manage the functioning. This year VWCs were formed and trained in 40 villages of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra.

**Empowering Women:** Although women were and are still today the primary provider of water resources in households around the world, they are rarely involved in making decisions about the management of these water resources. In addition to offering practical changes in health, education, wellbeing, and time-savings for women and girls, improvements in water quality and supply need to also provide opportunities for women's engagement and empowerment. Our current model of VWCs strives for inclusion and participation of women in the committees. Various socio-cultural factors in our project villages often limit women participation as a member of VWCs. Our field team through support from ASHA workers, SHGs, Teachers, encourages community women to be part of VWCs. Till date we have 220 female members in Village Water Committee and 25 women as water facility operators under the programme partnering Standard Chartered Bank.





## II. Community Awareness

EHS strongly emphasizes on bringing together the rural community, including the panchayats, in setting up the water purification unit and ensure availability and 24 x 7 access to safe drinking water. As sustainable change can only occur through an ongoing awareness building on safe water, health and hygiene, community engagement activities are conducted at locations where safe drinking water facility is housed. EHS has a community awareness field team of 11 members. This year our team reached out to 86,135 people to generate and raise awareness on water-health risk association explaining the health hazards associated with drinking contaminated water in the community. The team connected with the community through door to door visits, engaging the people with the help of participatory activities like game of snakes and ladders, group discussions, village mapping and profiling.



### III. Enhancing Drinking Water Security & Targeted Community WASH

To address water scarcity in Wazirabad village in the state of Haryana, Piramal Swasthya with support of Piramal Sarvajal implemented a solution which comprised of building water conservation system and conducting awareness campaigns on water conservation. Enable Health Society initiated WASH awareness interventions in the slum pockets of Wazirabad Village. Before implementing the interventions, situational analysis was done to help the team understand the demographics, with status of drinking water and sanitation facilities, practices followed at the community level. Interventions were carried out in following phases

#### Pre-activity Phase

**A. WASH Awareness group:** Selected Community members as WASH awareness team were oriented on conducting the sessions on the pre decided WASH themes. Practice sessions were held where they were backstopped by the field team during the conduct of sessions ensuring the smooth delivery of messages.

**B. Community WASH Awareness Material:** To facilitate community engagement, flipcharts and games were designed and prepared carrying messages and simple illustrations on importance of water, handwashing, water conservation and toilet hygiene practices, considering the varied literacy levels of the target audiences within the community. The team decided to have reusable canvas bags with save water information printed on it to deter people from using the use and throw plastic. Along with the bags, calendar with messages were also developed, carrying messages on need to save water.

**C. Scripting for Street Theatre:** In consultation with identified street theatre group Phalak, the team developed script and messages aligning with the water and sanitation issues at the location.

#### Activity Phase

**D. Community Awareness Sessions:** Team conducted sessions based on themes of water and sanitation focused on making the community aware about water contamination, water borne diseases, safe water handling and storage, water purification, sanitation, water budgeting and ways to save water. A total of 17 sessions on WASH and water conservation were done reaching 932 community members.

Street plays were performed at different locations of Wazirabad, in the beginning of the project with a focus on importance of water and provide information about the project and later to communicate messages on sanitation, hygiene and saving water. The play attracted large crowds and they included humorous interactions, songs, dance to sustain their interest of the audiences.

## A lesson on humility by the special needs children at Wazirabad slum



The team encouraged five children with special needs to participate in the sanitation session conducted at one of the slums in Wazirabad. A girl helped the team in gathering the community members together for the session and then waited patiently for her turn to be involved in the activity. When they became the participants, these children persisted even when people's ridicule angered them. The facilitators created the space for those children to participate, inclusiveness was felt with the community when the children in the crowd shouted out, "Sweetie won the event", and their initial indifference was making way for respect.

**Street Play (Nukkad Natak):** The EHS team identified a theatre group- *Phalak* performed and with them prepared the street play specifically scripted in the local dialect focusing on importance of water and provides information about the project and later to communicate messages on sanitation, hygiene and saving water. The theater played in several locations in Wazirabad including the slums. The play attracted large crowds and they included humorous interactions to sustain their interest of the audiences.

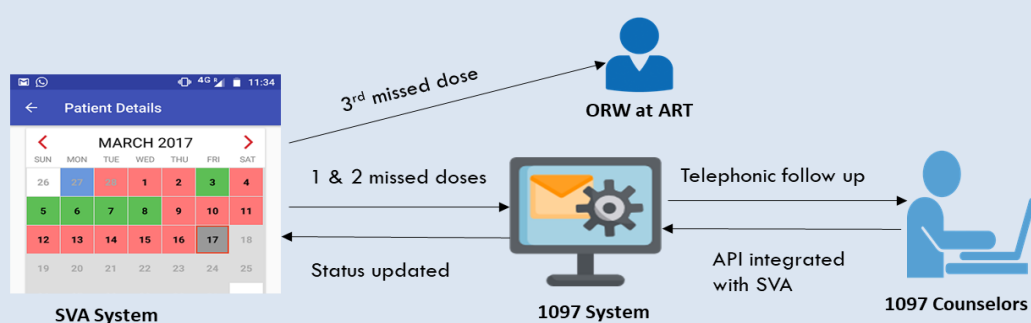


*Raising awareness through community participation*

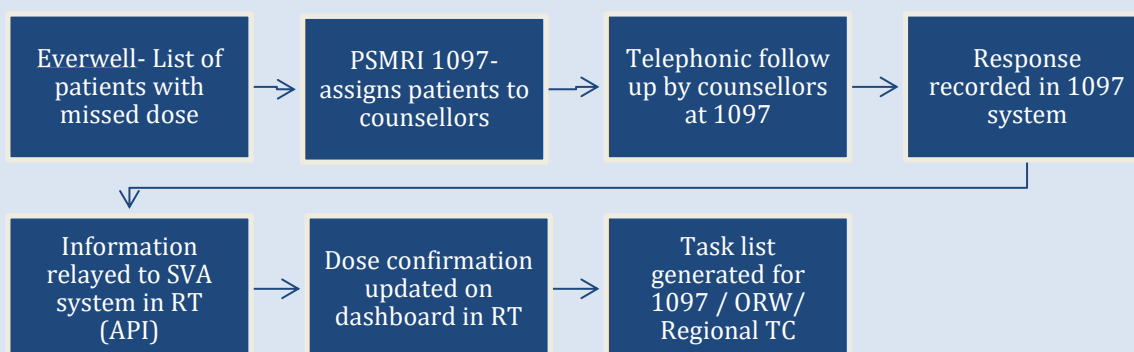


## IV. HIV/AIDS



Self-Verified Adherence developed by Everwell is a low-cost ICT based intervention that supports newly enrolled ART (Antiretroviral Therapy) HIV positive patients self-verify their adherence and enables staff to virtually support them. A mechanism that enables patients to communicate the consumption of their daily doses, and consequently allows staff to prioritize, intervene and counsel patients as needed. Results from pilot of Phase I done by Everwell Technologies with support and guidance from NACO and John Hopkins University reported that intervention influences patient's behaviour, positively affecting their immediate and long-term health.



As part of the Phase-2, integration of this Self Verified Adherence application is being done with NACO's helpline (1097) which is supported by under Piramal Swasthya. The integration with a revised workflow is aimed to optimize the alert-response mechanism, leverage the existing call center services under NACO to reduce the burden on ART centres, and to improve standardization of counselling and follow up by initiating a sustainable integrated approach for digital adherence. Enable Health Society provided technical assistance in designing the training program on integration of SVA in 1097, equipping the counsellors on HIV, treatment adherence and basics of counselling. Enable Health Society team has a continuing association with Piramal Swasthya, building capacity of 1097 helpline counsellors of four centres located in Hyderabad, Jaipur, Shimla and Guwahati to support them provide information on HIV/AIDS effectively to helpline callers across the country on HIV.



## 5. Our Achievement in 2021-2022

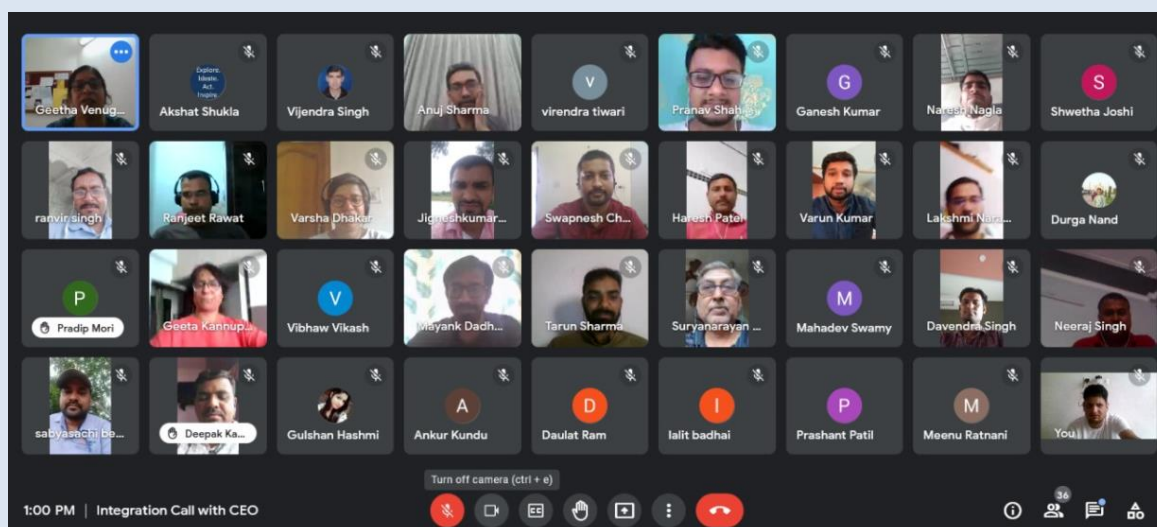
 **213 locations**  
 **68299 people served everyday**



**New Locations added in 2021-2022**

**43 Adopt A Village**  
**4678 people served daily in our New Locations**

## 6. Our People- Our Strength



As an organization we intend to achieve our goal by constantly engaging our people and aligning their efforts in serving the communities. This year community awareness and operations teams were integrated to ensure greater effectiveness within safe drinking water projects enabling resource utilization and ownership within a team. As an initial step, deliberations were held between team leads and advisors wherein all the concerns and points of disagreements were discussed and contemplated and finally team was tasked to take this strategic decision.

A five-day virtual training programme with an objective to foster understanding, better communication and build greater trust between the different field teams was undertaken. It comprised of participatory sessions on integration menu and activities, demonstration of different tools, the processes, roles and responsibilities of various cadres. This training was conducted jointly by community awareness field team and manager.



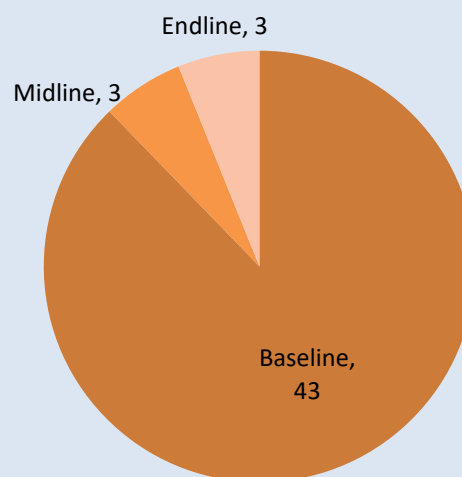
The training was followed by on-field training in different geographies, handholding support to team on calendar planning and preparing, monitoring and follows up.



## 7. Measuring Impact

Impact assessments help in understanding the intervention in social, economic and environmental factors which the intervention is designed to affect. We conduct impact assessments in three steps. a) Baseline assessment, b) Midline assessment and c) Endline assessment. These identify the corrective measures to be designed for future interventions and also help us to share our findings with our external and internal stakeholders.

This financial year 2021-2022, with more number of units in progress for installation the field team out of the total 49 surveys conducted 43 were baselines for 'Adopt A Village' (AAV) model in the villages of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Haryana. The assessments were done to understand the demographic characters, education and literacy, household income, health status and water and sanitation needs in the community



As a part of WASH project, household survey and focus group discussions were undertaken to understand community's perception on water and water conservation in the slum of Haryana. The endline surveys helped assess the change made in improving the awareness of the targeted community on WASH, water conservation and menstrual hygiene.



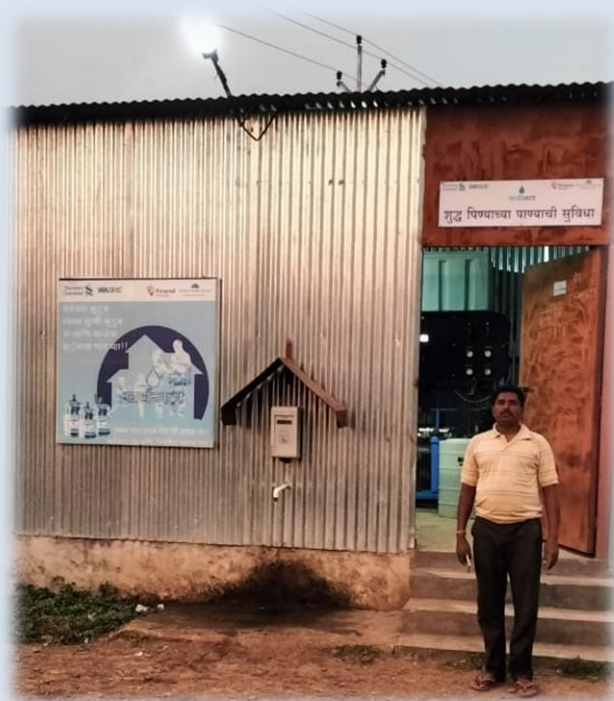
*Team conducting the focused group discussion (FGD) with a group of working women and housewives on WASH, Menstrual Hygiene and Water Conservation.*

## 8. Our Ground Stories

### Commitment to serve the community round the clock

Mahankal Wadgaon, a small village located near the banks of river Godavari in Ahmednagar district of Maharashtra, has a population of 3500 people. Safe drinking water and power supply being the main concerns of the village with some of the villagers travelling on bikes as far as 6 kms to get filtered water and majority of the community is drinking Godavari river water. Diarrhoea and stomach infections are common

At the time of village scoping and site preparation. Harish Chandra Pawar became a great support for the team identifying the site, connecting with community locals, coordinating with the team. He was appointed as an operator. 36 year old, Harish with his father and wife resides in the village. Cotton is cultivated in large quantities in the village which requires large supply of water leading to voltage fluctuations and erratic electric supply. To



ensure that there is regular supply of water during the day, Harish is there at the plant from midnight to 3 am in the morning and whenever the power is available, he refills the water ATM for continuous supply of safe drinking water for the community. He says, *“Power to atta jatte rahega, iski wajah se main logo ko pani pilane jaisa punya ke kaam nahi rukne dunga.”* (Electricity will keep fluctuating; I don’t want my people to return without water for this). Being a plant operator, he acts as a user interface and is very active.

Kiran Sorewal, a regular water user who takes around 10 liters of water every day, praises him *“Yeh bahut mehnati insaan hai. Kabhi bhi kuch bhi batao do minute mein kar deta hai.”* (Our operator is hard working and he is always ready to work at all times). Kiran further adds that even at odd hours if we ask Harish to recharge our cards or to refill the water ATM, he does the work with a smile on his face.

## Investing in Women Empowerment

An operator's job has always been a male stronghold. As an impetus to create equal opportunities EHS has strived to employ women as operators of our purification units. The aim is to empower communities through creation of appropriate institutional mechanisms.

Employing female operators will not only help in improving their quality of life and the economic wellbeing but will also bind us to the community and help us build trust and overcome local challenge. Operators and Jal Samiti members are closest to the community in which we serve safe drinking water.

### Kiran Devi Rajput, Fatehpur, Rajasthan

Fatehpur in Rajasthan is one of the villages where EHS has set up safe drinking water unit in partnership with Sarvajal and Standard Chartered Bank. Fatehpur, located in the Sikar district, has a total of 580 households and lacks even the basic amenities. Kiran Devi, who comes from a conservative family, was appointed as the operator to fulfill the vision of empowering women through this program.

Even though Kiran belongs to an economically weak family, she is not allowed to go out and work. Ever since her husband lost his job she has been doing odd tailoring job to support her five-member family. She could hardly earn 1000 to 1200 rupees a month from home. With this menial income she was not able to take care of her family.

After the Sarvajal unit was inaugurated on February 17, 2022 in Fatehpur, the team was looking for a woman operator. Her name was suggested by the women members of the village water committee. As Rajput community doesn't allow their women to work, it was a challenge for the team to find a woman who can perform the role of an operator.

The members of the committee were sure that Kiran would be able to do the job given her dedication and her family need. Kiran was happy at the same time she was hesitant to join instantly, as she is a Rajput. Due to strict community norms she has never worked outside even in difficult times. Her confidence also seemed low. But being an optimist she felt that she can give a try even though she did not know many people in the village. Her willingness and strong spirit made her break the shackles of old society norms. This helped



her become independent and support her children and family. Now she manages the unit, confidently speaks to men in the village and is performing her role with utmost dignity. Kiran is thankful for life changing opportunity.

### **Manisha Sudhakar Jagtap, Gorewadi, Maharashtra**

Gorewadi is one of the villages identified for the safe drinking water programme in Solapur district of Maharashtra with 250 households. The water is bitter in taste with a high range of total dissolved solids.

Manisha a mother of two daughters with higher secondary education works as a plant operator. At the time of selection, when asked why she would opt for the role of the operator Manisha replied “This job will give me an opportunity to serve the community and also give me extra income for my girls.” Manisha understands the challenges and difficulties of being a woman. Not many women in her village are allowed to go out and work. Women from financially weaker houses work as farm labourers to support their family. Manisha wants her daughters to be educated and take up a profession.

Manisha is a quick learner and a multi tasker. Along with operating and maintaining the unit she keeps the records of Jal Samiti records, sends the invites and attends all the Samiti meetings. Manisha is aware of the problems that people are facing with regards to safe drinking water and the need for the facility. She supports team in conducting awareness activities.



## WORLD WATER DAY

World Water Day is an international observance day with an aim to inspire people around the world to learn more about water-related issues and take action to make a difference and advocate for the sustainable management of water resources

This year the theme was – **Groundwater-Making the Invisible-Visible urging the world to take more care about** groundwater and think more about the wise use of water, especially groundwater. EHS celebrated world water day to create awareness among the various stakeholders on the value of water and the importance of groundwater and protecting the major water resources at different project locations reaching more than 9000 people through different activities.

A. Mere Goan Ki Kahani’, ‘Dadi/Nani Ki Kahani’ emphasised on **importance of Water Conservation and Rainwater Harvesting Structures through story telling**:- The elders/older generation from the village were invited to speak about water management during their times and importance of constructing conservation structures. The story narration reflected on the situation then and now and the need to save and conserve water.

B. **Group discussions** in the community about the available water resources, need for water conservation structures and its maintenance and improving water source were carried out.

C. **Every action counts: Saving water at household level** Women were engaged in discussions in slums and villages on looming ground water crisis and how they are and can be a contributor to combat the crisis.

D. Engaging Community through Game: With the help of the **game of snakes and ladders**, community was engaged and made aware on simple ways to save and conserve water.



- E. **Water Walk: Jal Jatras** were undertaken by students and teachers through their village, walking with the banners and posters communicating “save water” messages.
- F. **Communicate with Art: Painting and Rangoli** competitions were organised where children and women adorned their canvas and open areas with beautiful & powerful messages for the 2022 World Water Day theme



This World Water Day, drinking water facility located in Narela slums was transformed as an activity hub through wall painting and street play. The facility on the corner of road became a centre of attraction for commuters and people coming to take water - lively and happening place. It had messages, vibrant pictures conveying messages on saving water, safe drinking water, significance of water in our lives - message that would meet the eyes of the audience coming to take water - conservation, safety etc are highlighted as individual responsibility , resonating with year's theme "**Making the invisible visible**".

