

## **Potential and Future Scope of AWMs (Agriculture Water Management Solutions) in Madhya Pradesh: An Environmental Scan of Madhya Pradesh with a focus on Agro-climatic regions**

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) sponsored project to help design agricultural water management strategies for smallholder farmers in sub-Saharan Africa and in India is managed by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) and jointly operated by IWMI, FAO, IFPRI, the Swedish Environment Institute (SEI) and IDE. The project started in February 2009 and will run for three years, working specifically in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Zambia and India (Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal). The project aims to unlock the potential of small-scale agriculture to reduce poverty and hunger by assessing the feasibility and potential impacts of smallholder agricultural water management (AWM) interventions in sub-Saharan Africa and South-Asia and thereby identify and promote promising investments in agricultural water management.

The Agriculture Water Management Solutions in Madhya Pradesh: An Environment Scan is a primary level study intended to scan AWMs in the State against a backdrop of state policies and programmes, institutions and instruments formed for piggybacking the development, contemporary critical issues vis-à-vis irrigation and agriculture productivity, and responses to the emerging situation by various stakeholders involved in the system that is as a whole. The AWM solutions study has highlighted some important issues related to irrigation and agriculture productivity. It also has features that tell about the community responses in critical situations. As a part of this scan three studies are undergoing simultaneously in MP:

FAO study encompasses; i) Preparing a participatory map of Madhya Pradesh locating main livelihood zones with legend and criteria; ii) identify the main criteria to define the potential of AWM interventions to contribute to poverty reduction and iii) assess the relevance of the most promising AWM solutions in the different livelihood zones.

The IWMI studies are; i) Assessment of NREGA Activities for Improving Agriculture Water Management Scenario in MP and ii) An Assessment of Decentralized Rain Water Harvesting (Rewa Sagar/Khet Talab) Model for Agricultural Water Management in Madhya Pradesh.