

KNOW HOW

What is Watershed?

Watershed may be defined as a natural unit of land which collects water and drains through a common point called an outlet by a system of drains.

What is Watershed Management?

Watershed management is the process of guiding and organizing use of land and other resources in the watershed to provide desired goods and services without adversely affecting soil, water and other natural resources.

Objectives of the Integrated Watershed Management Programme:

- Enhancing land productivity.
- To combat massive soil degradation, erosion.
- Substantial creation of various water bodies, ground water recharging structure for increasing irrigation potential.
- Rural employment generation.

Salient features of the Programme:

- Delegating powers to the States for sanctioning and implementation of projects.
- Dedicated institutions of multi-disciplinary professionals at National, State and District level.
- Project duration has been made flexible into 3 distinct phases to expand the scope.
- Clustering of small watersheds in the range of 1000-5000 ha areas to optimize transaction cost.
- Scientific planning and capacity building for innovative new paradigms.
- Multitier Ridge to valley implementation with inter departmental coordination and networking emphasized. In many cases Forest Department has to play major role.

Strategies/ method of implementation:

- Implementation of project activities by watershed committees (WC), there by empowering common people.
- Projects are monitored by Dedicated institutions at State Level(SLNA), District level (Project Manager, Watershed Cell Cum Data Centre) and Block level(Project Implementing Agency(Spudt. Of Agriculture/ DFO/KVK/ICAR).
- Application of GIS and GPS tools for impact analysis of the projects.
- All the beneficiaries in the watershed area will be grouped as Self Help Group (SHG), User Group (UG), Community Interested Group. and some entrepreneurs are to be encouraged under the programme for implementation of livelihood and microenterprises activities .
- Judicious blending of low cost and high cost treatment measures.
- Vocational development of asset less / marginal farmers for their self sufficiency.
- Following Perspective Plan for treating remaining area of state as per physiographic features.