# PRESENTATION TO UNICEF – Arsenic and Arsenicosis Mitigation Program in 2 Districts of Bihar NO COST EXTENSION – 02 June to 02 Oct 2020

## Introduction

The UNICEF supported project for the Arsenic and Arsenicosis awareness and mitigation project was a co funding component for the EU supported project, *'Civil society voices, vulnerable communities and localised platforms for water quality challenges'* through information collation, communication materials and modules, training across stakeholders, exploring mitigation options, etc.

Online Presentation and Discussion – 21-05-2020 @ 4 -5 pm

The project was initially for a period of 4.5 months from 19 Sept 2019 to 02 Feb 2020. The project was given an no cost extension from 02 Feb 2020 to 02 July 2020, as there were activities that were not completed. During this extension period, we had the issue of COVID 19, that brought the country to a lockdown situation from mid-March to May end, thus bringing a holt to many of the activities in this project.

This loss of 2.5 months out of the 5-month extension has not helped and the current COVID 19 induced situation has also altered the way we carry out some of the activities. We will also have to revisit the timeline of these activities.

While the fund utility has been low, we would like to submit a concrete plan on its utilization within the next proposed No Cost Extension period of 02 July to 02 Oct 2020.

## **Result/activity**

**1.1** Development of Capacity Building Modules in local language & printing - 1. Front Line Workers Training Module, 2. Training Module for Schools, 3. Audi-Visual Clips

#### **Output:**

1. Front Line Workers Training Module: Developing and designing training manual for capacity building in response to arsenic issue and on mitigation of issue: each session will be participatory, developed as a game or activity using Participatory Learning approach (PLA).

2. Training Module for Schools: Develop and design three sets of Flash cards kit. Concept, content, designing and illustrations to facilitate a participatory learning.

3. Audi-Visual Clips: The idea is to develop a concept, script, storyboard and production, with voice over in Hindi, on expert inputs on arsenic with respect to its presence in drinking water, health impacts, nutrition input, policy, advocacy & networking.

The developed materials will be printed in limited numbers, for field testing and feedback from the government departments.

**Current Status:** The Communication consultant to work on the 3 outputs has been identified and is ready to start work on the 3 outputs immediately. The matter and the formats for the products have been discussed with the consultant. The delay in getting this going has been the lack of quotes from the various vendors, time taken to formulate the products details. The draft of the work plan is being developed and will be shared within a week of signing the agreement.

**Proposed plan & timeline:** The proposed plan is to initiate the work immediately and have a draft for field testing by mid-July. Based on the field tests and the feedback from the officials, the final output will be printed by mid-August 2020. The content for each of the output will be ready within 15 days of starting work. Once the content is approved, the design and the formatting work will be undertaken and the draft should be ready in a month's time. This will further be field tested and final product printed in limited numbers for dissemination to the government departments for uptake at the state level.

#### Budget Use: Current usage - 0%

Under this activity, UNICEF contribution of INR 3,43,000 and the EC contribution of INR 55,000, is unutilized.

# 1.2 Capacity Building Training of Identified Stakeholders- Front Line Workers, PRIs, Natural leaders in the community and school-based awareness activities

Output: This component consists of the salary of the field coordinators @2 in each district.

**Current Status:** We have 3 staff who were recruited for the UNICEF project components. 2 staff joined from 18 Nov 2019 & one from 2 Dec 2019. They have not gone to the field during the lockdown period but have been in contact with the respective field project partners and also written notes on their activities.

Their salary for the months of April and May have to be cleared. We await a clearance from UNICEF on this matter.

**Proposed plan & timeline:** The activities that the teams are to carry out at the field level have come to a halt from mid-March and we are currently planning to restart the field activities with necessary precautions keeping in mind the COVID 19 pandemic situation.

Based on the activities to be completed in the field, we will need the teams to be present for a period of 3 months. While the activities of capacity building and the mitigation activities (well cleaning and RWH) will be completed in 2 months, building the water governance structure at the ward / panchayat level will need 3 more months' time. We will need to address this budget component – as to where we can adjust this.

**Budget Use:** Current usage - 70% (Till March end - 2020) Available balance is INR 81,972, of which (15000\*3\*2 = INR 90000 will be booked for the salary for the April & May 2020)

# 1.3 Capacity Building Training of Identified Stakeholders- Front Line Workers, PRIs, Natural leaders in the community, and school-based awareness activities

**Output:** Conduct a Two-day Training of Trainers (ToT) program - one each in Buxar & Bhagalpur districts to train about 50 people, at the district level to create awareness about Arsenic in drinking water, Arsenicosis symptoms and the various mitigation options available to select from for the community.

**Current Status:** One ToT was conducted in Bhagalpur during 19-20 September 2019, at the Bihar Agriculture University and with SCAN & EU co-funding. A total of 73 individuals participated in the training that covered 6 thematic topics and had a field visit to the solar treatment plant to study the O&M component. The report of this ToT has been submitted to UNICEF.

In Buxar, as a result of the ToT, Mr. Raghavendra Singh, DM Buxar became aware about a low-cost Arsenic filter, Arsiron Nilogon and passed an order to install one unit under the Poshan Abhiyan Program. The SaciWATER team was part of the team that created awareness about the filter at the various Anganwadi centres across the district.

**Proposed plan & timeline:** After the extension approved in February 2020, the plan was made to work for the ToT in both districts – as there was enough funds available under the activity. The plan was to work at organizing the District Platform Meet as well as the ToT jointly, as that would highlight the issues to the district platform members and the District Magistrate as well.

The teams were working on the list of participants, the venue and the resource persons to approach, but in March, the lock down affected this plan. With the continued restriction on crowd gathering at a single place, there are a few options that are being looked at.

a) Plan for a Virtual Meet in August – September at a bigger scale – as a Regional Meet (Co-Supported by the EU Project)
b) Plan for the event independently as planned earlier in a physical location – but to be held in Aug-Sept 2020.

Budget Use: Current usage - 11% Amount available (INR 1,49,197 + 1,30,000)

Based on the mode of conducting the ToT, we can plan on the budget usage, as the travel and venue costs will be saved. We could invite presentations from across the globe on water quality issues with a special section on Arsenic can be organized and we can Publish a Compendium as an output. The available amount can be well utilized to build information available on water quality with focus on Arsenic in the region from different global researchers.

#### Training of Trainers on Arsenic Mitigation: Training and Capacity building of stakeholders

Date	District	Location	Number of Participants		
			Male	Female	Total
19-20 September 2019	Bhagalpur	District level (Bihar Agriculture University, Sabour)	44	29	73

#### 1. Training Objectives:

- i) Understand arsenic as a pollutant of water and it's effect on human health.
- ii) Learn about individual and community level arsenic mitigation measures as well understand the various local level alternative water sources.
- iii) Understand the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders and institutions for the sustainable mitigation of arsenic.

#### 2. Training Materials:

IEC and audio-visual materials were published in local languages (Assamese & Hindi) and used during the training programmes. In the IEC material, it was very simply explained about the Arsenic, Arsenicosis and its mitigation measures.

#### 3. Techniques used during training programme: The following methods were used during the training programme:

- Classroom lecture cum interaction
- Group Discussion
- Exposure Visit
- Screening of Knowledge video
- Demonstration of Arsenic removal technology and practical exercise

Sl No.	Name of the Resource Person & Designation
1	Dr. Arun Kumar, Scientist-I, MCI&RC, Patna
2	Dr Anshuman Kholi, BAU, Bhagalpur
3	Dr. Jajati Mandal, BAU, Bhagalpur
4	Mr. Dharmendra Singh, Sehgal Foundation

#### 4. Thematic sessions:

- > <u>Thematic Session I</u>: Arsenic and it's exposure to the Health: District Situation & Approaches for the Mitigation
- > Thematic Session II: Arsenic Monitoring in Ground Water
- > <u>Thematic Session III</u>: Arsenic in food chain and nutritional interventions
- > <u>Thematic Session IV:</u> Arsenic Treatment Technology: Household and community level
- > <u>Thematic Session V:</u> Water Conservations and rainwater harvesting systems as a tool to address arsenic issues
- > <u>Thematic Session VI</u>: Operation & Maintenance (O&M) of Public Water Supply Schemes (PWSS) and community role for sustaining it:

Field Visit Location: Bhagalpur - Lok Swasthay Pramndal Bhagalpur West (Solar Water Plant, Haridaspur)

## 1.4 Training of FLW, community, PRIs, schoolteachers, NGOs - New Habitations

**Output:** 50 half-day training across the 2 districts. Initially the plan was to conduct a common training for all the above categories at a single venue. Field reality turned to be otherwise and organizing such training programs was turning out to be difficult. Instead we identified regular department/ organizational level training and tapped into their time to conduct training programs for the various target audience. Training of the PRI's has been less compared to the other categories.

**Current Status:** 30 of the planned 50 capacity building programs have been carried out across the various project blocks in the 2 districts. The FLW, Community and School teachers are being covered effectively, while the NGO sector through training of Jeevika field teams has been achieved to some extent. The PRI training is low compared to the rest.

**Proposed plan & timeline:** With the current situation of COVID 19 and the restrictions on large gatherings, the particular activity will have to be taken up with a bit of caution – in smaller groups – and maintaining the prescribed norms of social distancing, masks and hand wash.

The practice of fitting the Arsenic mitigation awareness with the government programs seems to be a good way to carry this further and complete the training activities.

**Budget Use:** Current usage – 12%. Available amount (INR 43951 + 50000) This amount available under this activity can be used to develop posters and charts for departments for awareness creation on Arsenic issue.

#### 1.5 School level awareness sessions in all schools in catchment.

Output: 50 half-day training across the 2 districts.

**Current Status:** 36 programs of the 50 have been completed till mid-March. The children in the age group of 10 to 17 age are the target audience. In addition to creating awareness about the issue of Arsenic and the resulting arsenicosis issues, the children are shown how the arsenic tests are conducted, and mainly on the mitigation options. A simple 3 pot filter technique is being shared with the school children. Discussion was on with the team to make a few water filters to be placed in the schools for use by the school children.

**Proposed plan & timeline:** In the current uncertainty about school reopening, we will have to plan the balance of the awareness programs in the schools after they are reopened. In addition, different HH water filters can be placed in some of the worse affected schools. This can be a way to get the students to practically see the role of the filters in providing them safe drinking water.

**Budget Use:** Current usage – 18% Available amount (INR 41020) This amount can be used to make poster sets for the schools and place arsenic filters in some of the Schools that have high Arsenic content in their drinking water source.

Details of the training programs conducted district wise for the period of Dec 2019 – Feb 2020

SI. No.	Name of School / Facility	Block	District	Participants Category	No. of Participants	Date
1	Jawahar Middle School	Buxar Sadar	Buxar	Students and Teachers	185	04.12.2019
2	Gaurishankar Middle School	Buxar Sadar	Buxar	Students and Teachers	108	05.12.2019
3	CDPO Office	Dumraon	Buxar	AWWs, CDPO and other Staff	85	06.12.2019
4	Middle School, Ahirauli	Buxar Sadar	Buxar	Students and Teachers	150	09.12.2019
5	Middle School, Dahiwar	Buxar Sadar	Buxar	Students and Teachers	115	10.12.2019
6	Chandrashekhar school of education	Simri	Buxar	PRI Members, Students and Villagers	152	12.12.2019
7	Girls Middle School, Nagpura	Simri	Buxar	Students and Teachers	125	13.12.2019
8	Middle School, Belaur	Buxar Sadar	Buxar	Students and Teachers	70	16.12.2019
9	Middle School, Arjunpur	Buxar Sadar	Buxar	Students and Teachers	61	17.12.2019
10	Middle School, Sonbarsa	Buxar Sadar	Buxar	Students and Teachers	154	18.12.2019
11	Girls Middle School, Niyazipur	Simri	Buxar	Students and Teachers	98	23.12.2019
12	Middle School, Dullahpur East	Simri	Buxar	Students and Teachers	95	24.12.2019
13	Middle School, Gangauli	Simri	Buxar	Students and Teachers	48	27.12.2019
14	PHC, Brahampur (Raghunathpur)	Brahampur	Buxar	ASHA Workers, Facilitator and BCM	48	09.01.2020
15	PHC,Simri	Simri	Buxar	ASHA Workers, Facilitator and BCM	110	14.01.2020
16	Middle School, Dubha	Simri	Buxar	Students and Teachers	52	17.01.2020
17	Middle School, Khandhara	Simri	Buxar	Students and Teachers	48	21.01.2020
18	Middle School, Manjhwari Gautam	Simri	Buxar	Students and Teachers	22	23.01.2020
19	PHC, Cakki	Chakki	Buxar	ASHA Workers, Facilitator and BCM	40	28.01.2020
20	PHC, Buxar Sadar	Buxar Sadar	Buxar	ASHA Workers, Facilitator and BCM	57	29.01.2020
21	BRC, Simri	Simri	Buxar	Teachers and BRP	145	06.02.2020
22	Middle School, Ramobariya	Buxar Sadar	Buxar	Students and Teachers	201	11.02.2020
23	BRC, Chakki	Chakki	Buxar	Teachers and BRP	72	12.02.2020
24	PHC, Simri	Simri	Buxar	ASHA Workers, Facilitator and BCM	60	13.02.2020
25	PHC, Simri	Simri	Buxar	Asha workers, Fasilitator, BCM and MOIC	59	17.02.2020
26	Chhotka Rajpur (Parsan pah)	Simri	Buxar	CC, CM and SHG group members	17	17.02.2020
27	Community Hall, Arak	Chakki	Buxar	CM, Book keeper and SHG group members	26	19.02.2020
28	Gangaram Primary com Middle Sanskrit School, Arak	Chakki	Buxar	Students and Teachers	148	25.02.2020

SL. No	Name of School/Facility	Block	District	Awareness Program for Participants	No. Of Participants	Date
1	MS ORIOUP	KAHALGAON	BHAGALPUR	Students & Teachers	89	09.12.2019
2	MS Antichak	KAHALGAON	BHAGALPUR	Students & Teachers	80	10.12.2019
3	MS Anthawn	KAHALGAON	BHAGALPUR	Students & Teachers	70	11.12.2020
4	Middle school Bhawanipur	KAHALGAON	BHAGALPUR	students & Teachers	46	12.12.2019
4	MS Birbanna	KAHALGAON	BHAGALPUR	Students & Teachers	70	13.12.2019
5	MS Badi Dilori	PIRPAINTI	BHAGALPUR	Students & Teachers	49	14.12.2019
6	CRCC KISHANDASPUR	KAHALGAON	BHAGALPUR	TEACHERS	17	16.12.2019
7	SADAR HOSPITAL KAHALGAON	KAHALGAON	BHAGALPUR	ASHA	81	17.12.2019
8	CRCC ANTICHACK	KAHALGAON	BHAGALPUR	TEACHERS	29	17.12.2019
9	SADAR HOSPITAL KAHALGAON	KAHALGAON	BHAGALPUR	ANM & ASHA	75	18.12.2019
10	MS Kamat	PIRPAINTI	BHAGALPUR	Students & Teachers	76	18.12.2019
11	Teachers Training Antichack	KAHALGAON	BHAGALPUR	TEACHERS	31	19.12.2019
12	MS Bhawanipur	KAHALGAON	BHAGALPUR	Student's & Teachers	42	20.12.2019
13	HSC Budhuchak	KAHALGAON	BHAGALPUR	ANM & VILLAGERS	27	21.12.2019
14	HSC BAROHIYA	KAHALGAON	BHAGALPUR	ANM &AWW & VILLAGERS	10	23.12.2019
15	Refral Hospital Nathnager	KAHALGAON	BHAGALPUR	ANM	31	24.12.2019
15	Refral hospital Pirpainti	PIRPAINTI	BHAGALPUR	ANM	75	24.12.2019
17	Refral Hospital Ishmailpur	Ishmilepur	BHAGALPUR	ANM	11	31.12.2019
18	HS Dayalpur	Kahalgaon	BHAGALPUR	Students & Teachers	45	06.01.2020
19	SADAR HOSPITAL KAHALGAON	KAHALGAON SADAR	BHAGALPUR	ASHA	77	07.01.2020
20	PHC SABOUR	SABOUR	BHAGALPUR	ANM	23	07.01.2020
21	HS Ekdara	KAHALGAON	BHAGALPUR	Students & Teachers	39	09.01.2020
22	HS BUDHUCHACK	KAHALGAON	BHAGALPUR	Students & Teachers	42	10.01.2020
23	Refral Hospital Nathnagar	NATHNAGAR	BHAGALPUR	ASHA	85	11.01.2020
24	PRI Kodwar	KAHALGAON	BHAGALPUR	HEAD MAN, WARD & VILLAGERS	18	12.01.2020
25	PHC SABOUR	SABOUR	BHAGALPUR	ASHA	118	16.01.2020
26	MS Khawaspur	PIRPAINTI	BHAGALPUR	Students & Teachers	64	04.02.2020
27	MS Kali Prasad	PIRPAINTI	BHAGALPUR	Students & Teachers	57	05.02.2020
28	MS Feku Tola	PIRPAINTI	BHAGALPUR	Students & Teachers	67	06.02.2020
29	HS Ramnagar	PIRPAINTI	BHAGALPUR	Students & Teachers	46	12.02.2020
30	PRI Badi Mohanpur	PIRPAINTI	BHAGALPUR	Head Man ,Ward & Villaers	20	18.02.2020

Total number of participants trained under the Activities 1.4 & 1.5.

Districts	School level awareness in catcl		Training of FLW, community, PRI's, schoolteachers, NGO's - New Habitations		
	No of activities	Participants	No of activities	Participants	
Bhagalpur	16	984	16	728	
Buxar	20	2297	14	900	

In addition, 73 participants were trained under Activity 1.3, the ToT Program, conducted in Bhagalpur

## 1.6 Organize People Centric District Platform Meet to share findings and raise issues on mitigation – DM to lead the meeting

**Output:** Conduct two People Centric District Platform meetings (DPM) - one in each district of Buxar and Bhagalpur. The plan was to conduct the DPM under the leadership of the District Magistrate (DM). While several meetings with the DM were positive, we have thus far been unsuccessful in converting the meeting into a signed order from the DM on organizing a DPM.

While in Buxar, the DM had discussed and event spoken about setting a date for the DPM, Buxar got a new DM and that again brought down the momentum.

**Current Status:** While the DM in both the districts are aware of SaciWATERs and the work on Arsenic, they don't seem to see this as a priority among the various other programs that are ongoing. We will need to rework on the strategy and

**Proposed plan & timeline:** We had planned for the DPM to be organized along with the ToT activity, in the month of March under the project, and invite the DM to be part of this. Now with that not going as planned due to the COVID 19, we propose the following:

a) Plan for a Virtual Meet in August – September at a bigger scale – as a Regional Meet (Co-Supported by the EU Project)
b) Plan for the event independently as planned earlier in a physical location – but to be held in Aug-Sept 2020.

UNICEF can help in connecting with the DMs in the 2 district – on this matter.

**Budget Use:** Current usage - 9% Available amount (INR 27,360). This amount will be used – based on the mode of organizing the DPM is discussed and agreed upon.

# 2 Strengthened Arsenic Network in Bihar with increased interaction & collaborations among CSO, practitioners, and academia

## 2.1 Support towards local research on Arsenicosis mitigation in Bihar

**Output:** Three research products for graduate/post graduate students. The Idea was to promote students from the Bihar Colleges & Universities to carry out field-based research on Arsenic related topics.

**Current Status:** While efforts have been made to get research students by interacting with the AN Collage, Mahavir Cancer Sansthan (MCS), Bihar Agriculture University (BAU), we were not able to get any during the initial period. In February, we had discussions with the MCS & BAU as well as with Mr Eklavya Prasad. There were some options that we were exploring, but this was again affected due to COVID 19 pandemic.

While specific topic and students/ researcher were not identified, there was a scope for exploring that still exists with these institutions.

**Proposed plan & timeline:** With the current COVID 19 issue, we are not sure of students undertaking field research and taking into account the project extension being proposed, we would like to propose the following options:

a) A 3 month desk based research by 3 research students to be offered, on 3 diverse topics -

- Water quality, access and pricing in the times of COVID 19. How has the drinking water scenario changed?
- What are the locally available nutritional food to be promoted as a mitigation option to eliminate arsenic from the system as well as build immunity to fight COVID 19?
- Return of migrants and impact on the water access and quality
- Identify current government programs across the various sectors that can be tapped to enhance the arsenic mitigation & water quality agenda.

b) There are students from JNU and the Water Technology Institute, Chennai, who are likely to take up the studies and we can use local research students or the SaciWATER staff to get field based information for the studies.

This will require minimal field intervention and will help obtain research outputs. We can explore other topics as well with the concerned institutions.

**Budget Use:** Current usage - 0% Available budget is 1,50000

A desk-based research for a period of 3 months = @ Rs. 25000/- will cost totally – INR 75000/-. The balance INR 75,000, we propose to be used for the Staff salary for the additional months.

## 2.2 Prepare a Situation Paper on Arsenic in drinking water – for the state of Bihar and sharing with forums such as BIWA

**Output:** Develop a situation paper. Getting a senior researcher or someone from the government who can write the Situation paper that will catch the attention of the Bihar Government was the initial Idea.

**Current Status:** We have Mr Ekalavya Prasad, (MPA) and Mr Manish (Ex- SaciWATER) who are interested to work on the Situation paper. We would like UNICEF to support us in identifying an appropriate person for this task. During my earlier discussion with Rajeev, had expressed this as well.

**Proposed plan & timeline:** Once we have the expert, the timeline can be agreed with the concerned persons input. We could use one of the research students to support the writing of the situation paper. We have also approached Dr Ashok Ghosh with regards to identifying a expert to write the paper.

Budget Use: Current usage - 0% (INR 40,000 + 40,000)

## 3 Development of community-based mitigation strategy through promotion of use of water from safe sources

#### 3.1 Set a Pilot model - well water and Rainwater Harvesting structures as mitigation options – (6 Well & 2 RWH)

Output: Rejuvenation of 6 open wells as well as 2 RWH structures across the 2 districts

**Current Status:** The wells for cleaning and making it an alternate safe source for drinking water has been identified and discussion with the concerned well owner and the household nearby on its use for drinking and cooking purpose has been carried out. Below are the details of the identified wells and the location for the RWH structure.

**Proposed plan & timeline:** The field teams are already discussion how they can implement the activities post the COVID 19 lockdown and as the community has already agreed to carry out the works, with a bit of their contribution in the form of Shramdhan, the activities can be completed within a months' time. Shramdhan in this state of COVID 19 may not be accepted as this could be a means to earn for the villagers. This will be taken into account on a case to case basis.

Budget Use: Current usage - 7% Available amount (INR 74,620 + 50,000)

Details of the Well revitalization and RWH in the 2 project districts

#### BHAGALPUR:

Selected School for Rainwater harvesting: Kamat Tola middle school, Kamat Tola, Buxar

At Kamat tola school, there is a dilapidated Rainwater harvesting structure, that will be renovated, and it will also be connected to existing tubewell by an electric motor pump. This will ensure year-long supply of clean and safe drinking water to the school students & the nearby households.

During the rainy season, the rainwater will be filtered and used and during other times, the tube well water will be pumped up and filtered so that all children can avail arsenic free water throughout the year. There are about 500 students from two village studying in this school. **Timeline:** - About 10 -15 days to complete the work.

Selected habitations for well cleaning:

- 1. Kamat Tola Near Anganwadi centre (WARD NO. 9 & 10)
- 2. Sonu Tola Kachaharia
- 3. Kamat Tola (Near shiv temple)

Kamat tola villagers shared that in both wards (9&10) total population is approx. 600 and almost all people use well water. The tubewells in this habitation are contaminated with arsenic and only one household has a tubewell where arsenic amount is within permissible levels. Sonu tola kachahria villagers are also ready for well cleaning as they are already using the well water for their regular use.

Timeline: - About 03 to 05 days' time to clean each well.

#### BUXAR

In Buxar, a survey of about 20 wells were undertaken in Kathar, Akauna, Rajpur Kalan and Gangauli Panchayats. Based on the interaction with the community, the following wells have been identified for rejuvenation.

Selected Wells:

One well in Kathar Pachayat One well in Akauna Panchayat (Dubauli) or Majhwari Gautam Panchayat

One well in Dubha village (Gangauli Panchayat)

Discussion with ward members and villagers carried out followed by a discussion with the concern Mukhiya of the Panchayat. Details of the users of the wells, the water levels of the wells, the maintenance and cleaning of the wells, etc., were discussed. Observation of the drainage system near the wells and the usage of the well water noted – (for drinking, household activities, cattle feeding and for irrigation etc.). While enquiring on the number of people dependent on the wells, other nearby sources of drinking water were also noted.

#### Rain Water harvesting (RWH):

A Govt primary school at Englishpur dera (Akauna Panchayat) has been identified as a potential for RWH structure. This school is situated where we found the Arsenic level in ground water higher than the permissible limit. The school children is not getting the safe drinking water till date.

Regarding Rain Water Harvesting the team met the concerned person at the Civil Department of Education Department Buxar and discussed about the RWH technique and structure. The department suggested us to recharge groundwater table through RWH under a low budget figure. This technique includes a filtration system also before recharging the water table in the concerned area.

#### 3.2 Set local governance structure to manage water supply - Scheme wise

Output: Local mobilization for O&M and use of water for drinking & cooking purpose from Wells & RWHs.

**Current Status:** With the government scheme of Har Ghar Nal ka Jal yojana in Bihar, we have been in discussion with a few wards where the scheme has been implemented and some where the work is in progress. The interest among the community for a O&M role of the community in the scheme is minimal as many have no idea about the scheme or its benefits. Discussion with the ward and panchayat members has also taken place.

**Proposed plan & timeline:** Post COVID 19, this activity can be pursued in habitations where in addition to the government scheme, we are rejuvenation the wells and putting in place the RWH structures.

Budget Use: Current usage - 0% Available amount (INR 24470 +25000)

#### 3.3 Travel & Stay for Lead, DCs and Pos

Budget Use: Current usage - 24% Available amount (INR 1,24,936)

Under this component we would like to propose the option to build in the salary of a State coordinator for Bihar, for the period of June – August 2020.

## 4 Effective and Efficient Programme Management

4.1 Programme Management and support supervision provided by Project Director/ Organization Secretary

Budget Use: Current usage - 75% Available amount (INR 10,000)

4.2 Cost for administration/ HR/ finance/ communication

Budget Use: Current usage - 100% Available amount (INR 0)

4.3 Travel, local conveyance, accommodation, food of Project Director/ Organization Secretary

Budget Use: Current usage - 28% Available amount (INR 25,751)

## Photos:

Buxar – Interaction with the School Management



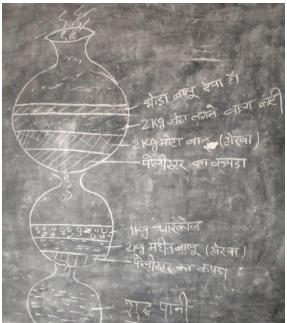
Buxar – Interaction with the Students on Arsenic & its mitigation





Bhagalpur – Awareness Program at the middle school - Arsenic test kit demo







Simple mitigation option shared with the students





Bhagalpur – Awareness Program for Teacher



Bhagalpur – ASHA, ANM and Anganwadi – FLW Awareness Program