



SANKALPA

Rural Development Society

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020



SAVE WATER FOR A BETTER TOMORROW - RURAL, INDUSTRIAL AND URBAN INSTALLATIONS

© 2019 Sankalpa Rural Development Society (SRDS)
All reasonable precautions have been taken by SRDS to verify the information contained in this publication. However the published material is being distributed without warranty of any kind, either expressed or implied. The responsibility for the interpretation and use of the material within lies with the reader. In no event shall SRDS be liable for damages arising from its use.

Contents:

Contents:	3
Preface:	4
Message from the CEO	5
A Message from a Volunteer	6
From Chief Mentor's Desk	7
Saving Water for a Better Tomorrow	8
Program Highlights 2019-20	10
Program: Water Rural Agricultural Bore well recharge	10
Program: Water Rooftop Rainwater Harvest	11
Program: Self Help Groups (SHG's) and Micro-finance	14
Program: Other	15
Program: International	17
Media:	17
Success Stories:	19
Esteemed Donors	20
SRDS Team	21
Board of Directors	22
Get Connected	23
Financial Information and Transparency	24
Contact Us	25



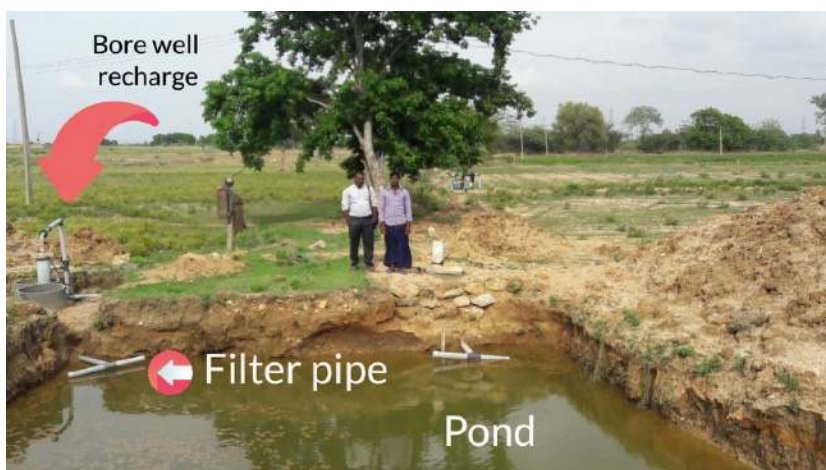
Preface:

Sankalpa Rural Development Society

Founded in January 2008 by Mr. Sikandarsab Meeranaik, an entrepreneur in the field of modern-day rainwater harvesting, dedicated to providing water for farmers affected by the falling water table and poor monsoon rains in rural India.

Sankalpa Rural Development Society is a platform from which Sikandar has refined and discovered better ways to bring water to the parched lands and the dried-up wells. He has assisted over 2000 farmers with a proven and economical solution to their water difficulties. SRDS at present is engaged working in 10 different states within India, and have successfully installed around 2000 + bore well recharge units.

Vision



“Enough water for all” SRDS dreams of a world where there is plenty of water for everyone.

Mission



To end water scarcity in India using an integrated rural development approach to create awareness of the imperative need for Rain Water Harvesting for farmers and for the communities.

We do this through area development, implementation of water harvesting solutions such as bore well recharge, rooftop water harvesting, farm ponds, as well as women’s empowerment through self-help groups (SHG), education on financial literacy and better living. These strategies allow for the conservation of water and energy, and decreases farmer’s cost.

Message from the CEO

Serving my Motherland, in terms of rejuvenating the groundwater by recharging the existing bore wells and helping thousands of farmers attain sustainability in their life makes me feel extremely contented, satisfied and proud.

Pursuing my dream of reducing the scarcity of water and empowering women to identify their strengths and improve their socio-economic conditions has been a wonderful journey and on this eleventh year, I wish to congratulate and express my heartfelt gratitude to all my fellows, donors, and all the staff members for supporting and encouraging me to deliver the required outcome.

For the upcoming years, I am positive to come up with more ideas and thoughts to help more and more people in a better way to improve their livelihood.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sikandarsab Meeranaik'.

Sikandarsab Meeranaik

A Message from a Volunteer



My work with SRDS continues to be the most rewarding occupation I have ever had in my life. Working with Sikandar and his team often brings long hours and many kilometers of travel - but it is all worth it to be able to make a contribution to this important work - saving the water of this planet!

This year I was able to visit Hubli 3 times - In June for a brief visit to attend the wedding of Umesh (our accounts manager) as well as catch up on the work being done prior to monsoon. It was a busy time with many bore well recharge systems being done in preparation for the coming rains.

In December - I was privileged to accompany Sikandar and his family to Sri Lanka where Sikandar's work was honoured by the International Water Association's Development Award for Practice.

The Area Development work and model which is being adopted by SRDS particularly in the area of Koppal and Gadag Districts is bringing the work of SRDS into maturity and creating focus areas where many benefits can be felt by the people.

I congratulate Sikandar and his team for their ongoing dedication and hard work and look forward to being able to return to work directly with them again when travel is again possible.



Shazar Robinson - Water Harvest Foundation Australia.

From Chief Mentor's Desk



Supporting SRDS and its team past 14 years have been a remarkable journey so far and I thoroughly relish all the moments spent with them. It may be either getting involved in educating the training groups or building the entrepreneurship skills amongst the people.

I have witnessed the leadership qualities in the SRDS team since many years and I feel honoured to be a part of this organisation.

I look forward for many more great achievements and great success for the team.

Naveen Jha
Chief Mentor

Saving Water for a Better Tomorrow

Over the last 3-4 decades, groundwater has emerged as the main source for all users including irrigation. According to the World Bank report, “Deep Wells and Prudence” - India is the largest groundwater user in the world. It is the backbone of India’s agriculture and drinking water reliability due to easy access. More than 60% of the water used for irrigation and 85% of drinking water supplies in India are dependent on groundwater. However due to long periods of drought and over extraction of water an ever increasing number of aquifers are reaching unsustainable levels of exploitation. Bore wells are drying up and ground water levels are receding rapidly to unprecedented depths.



To address these issues, Sikandar Meeranaik through his organisation Sankalpa Rural Development Society, devised an innovative way of restoring the ground water by recharging the bore wells instead of digging more bore wells



He began experimenting with trial and error methods in 2008 and over time has developed the very effective “Twin ring method“ of recharging the bore wells.

This method has been employed on over 2000 bore wells and provides relief to thousands of farmers who can now take a deep breath and rely on this sustainable technology.

The impacts (direct and indirect) are many such as increased source of ground water, better irrigation, increased cropping yields, higher income for the farmers, lower rate of migration, and long term sustainability. But there is much more to be done - time is precious, and we need to quickly act to “Save Water“ for our better future.



Program Highlights 2019-20

- Implemented 200 bore well recharges through rain water harvesting in 6 different states, thus bringing water for agriculture and drinking purposes for the community.
- ICICI bank supported women with micro-finance loans to more than 200 Self Help Groups (SHG's) in the Gadag and Dharwad district.
- Our Esteem Donor- Micrograam financed 20 Lakh Rupees loan to more than 200 women to set up a small entrepreneur business.
- Continued support from Save Indian Farmers allowed us to bring water to many farmers and their families.
- Team building trip to Goa in February 20
- SRDS was selected as a finalist in the prestigious Aarohan Social Innovation Awards in Bangalore
- International Rotarians honoured Sikandar for his work at the Hubballi chapter in 11th January
- 2nd December Sikandar awarded the International Water Award for Practice in Sri Lanka.
- February 2020 Commenced Gram Seva Project with support of SBI Foundation.

Program: Water Rural Agricultural Bore well recharge

The core of our work is with the farmers - first exposing them to the technology of recharging poorly producing or dried up bore wells by implementing rain water harvesting systems and then encouraging them to partner with us to recharge their bore wells.

During the period of 2019 to 2020, we have worked in 6 different states and we have successfully installed 200+ bore well recharge systems.

Farmers came forward to adopt our Twin Ring technology after visiting and witnessing the success of those farmers who have implemented the recharge systems. Many farmers understood the recharge method is much cheaper than digging new bore wells and for marginal farmers they can easily have the installation done for their farm with a contribution which is very reasonably costed. SRDS maintains a policy of farmer contribution as we have found that the success rate of the work is greatly enhanced in this way. The farmer feels ownership of the project when they have contributed to it rather than receiving a 'hand out'.

With the assistance of Save India Farmers 9 bore wells were recharged in the Hubli Sandbox area. In Telangana - Nizamabad through the Kakatiya Sandbox, 70 farmers stepped forward to implement the technology on their dried up or poorly producing bore wells.

Satya Sai Baba Trust supported the implementation of 10+ bore wells in Maharashtra and Karnataka.

Save Indian Farmers supported us to implement 11 bore wells in the Beed District, and 20 in Anantapur.



Muthusamy of Ponkalivalasu Village in Tamil Nadu had only 5 minutes water flow from his bore well .. and could barely water 5 coconut trees. Since recharge his bore well is flowing continuously.

Program: Water Rooftop Rainwater Harvest

Industry, Schools Urban Dwellings

Community and schools projects are carried out by SRDS. When requested to implement rain water harvesting for industrial and residential organisations, our commercial arm - Sankalpa Water Harvesting solutions is employed to carry out the work. During 2019-20 the following projects have been completed.



Total number of Rooftop Rainwater Harvesting in 2019-2020	11	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Saroj Symphony -Bangalore 2. CARCLO Technical Plastic Industry- Bangalore 3. SSVR Apartment -Bangalore 4. SELCO Foundation- Bangalore 5. Poorva Atriya Platin -Bangalore 6. Lybiana Infrastructure PVT LTD- Bangalore 7. Saroja Symphony Society Owners -Bangalore 8. HM Clause India Private LTD - Tamil Nadu and Bangalore 9. TIDE -Bangalore 10. Piramal Water Private LTD - Jaipur 11. Guala Closures India LTD -Dharwad
---	----	---

- With the support of our dedicated field supervisors successfully completed the work at Kern Leibers in Tumkur Industrial area near Bangalore.
- Work in Bangalore is completed at CARCLO Technical Plastics Industry. A tank of capacity 15000L was constructed to collect the surface runoff, similarly a tank of capacity of 25000L was constructed to collect the roof water and a tank of 2 Lakh litre capacity to hold all the water after the filtration. The excess water from this tank is used for bore well recharge.



- Successful Triple Ring Implementation in Piramal Water Private LTD, Jaipur.



- Implemented roof water harvesting in Hubballi New Railway By Pass Building.



- Completed the roof top harvesting in Saroj Symphony and Lybiana (AVILA) apartment in Bangalore.



Program: Self Help Groups (SHG's) and Micro-finance



ICICI Bank have been constantly supporting SRDS to develop and prompt the sustainability of Self-Help Groups (SHG's). They play a huge role of connecting needy women to meet their everyday requirements by providing microcredits to assist them to attain independence and learn financial skills through building micro entrepreneurial business at the village level..

From left-Mr. Suresh Babu- RHS, Mr. Sahil Taneja- Karnataka Zonal Head ICICI bank, Mr. Sikandar Meeranaik-CEO of SRDS, Mr. Anil Venkat-Hubballi Zonal head ICICI bank, Ms. Shazar Robinson-Advisor/Volunteer



District	SHG's (10-12 women in each group)	Sanctioned Amount	Micro-entrepreneurs
Dharwad and Gadag	183	Rs 4,90,15,448/-	Cycle repair center, tailor shop, groceries shop, cattle rearing, dairy shop and so on.



SRDS cluster head- Mr. Kwaja Hussain (left) and Mr. Manappa Badigar (right) educating and explaining the financial literacy and financial support to the SHG's group in Dharwad and Gadag district.

Program: Other

SRDS work is widely appreciated and been recognised by thousands of needy farmers. Our bore well recharge work has been published in the Prajavani Kannada newspaper.

Sikandar Meeranaik was interviewed in Telangana State, where he spoke with the EETV media publishers about the bore well recharge method and explaining the benefits of installing it. This gave very positive feedback from the farmers and they were keen to get the recharge done for their dried up bore wells. Sikandar's work was also published in one of the leading Telugu newspaper.



Mr. Meeranaik was invited to in Varanasi to talk to District Management Team, explaining the facts and implementation of bore well recharge. Following this he successfully implemented the technology on 2 bore wells in Sanabhadra District in UP.



Covid Pandemic Action:

In March 2020, the whole nation was hit by COVID and an extensive and unexpected lockdown was initiated leaving many people stranded away from their villages and homes. SRDS rallied to the need of the moment and assisted those stuck on the streets in Dharwad with food packages and support.

Our associated tailoring team began making thousands of masks which were distributed to the needy in the Dharwad and Gadag Districts. and to extend our help to the needy people, we distributed masks to Dharwad and Gadag district. We have successfully distributed around 10,000 masks in both districts.



Distributing masks to villagers



Food packs supported by Save Indian Farmers

Program: International

On 1st December 2019 Sikandar travelled to Colombo Sri Lanka with his wife - Raziya and son. They were met here by Shazar Robinson - and together they attended the 2019 IWA Water and Development Congress & Exhibition, in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Sikandar was the proud recipient of the 2019 IWA Development Award - Practice which was presented to him at the Opening Ceremony of the Congress.



Media:

ENERGY GLOBE WORLD AWARD FOR RAIN WATER HARVESTING THROUGH BOREWELL RECHARGE

Could this Indian rainwater harvesting approach for aquifer recharge be used in Australia and other developed countries?

Groundwater is the world's most extracted raw material with withdrawal rates currently in the estimated range of 882 cu km /year. About 70% of groundwater withdrawn worldwide is used for agriculture.

The depletion of groundwater spells potential disaster for the global agricultural system and is already of crisis proportions in many areas of the world. In India, groundwater extraction surpasses the combined usage of both China and the USA and the challenges to reverse this trend are immense.

'Groundwater in northern India is being depleted at a rate of 19.2 gigatons per year' said Matthew Rodell, chief of the Hydrological Sciences Laboratory at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center. He warned it is unsustainable because it is a loss of water each year equivalent to almost a third of the capacity of one of India's largest reservoirs, the Indira Nagar in Madhya Pradesh.

There are multiple reasons for this high rate of groundwater depletion. Overuse of water and indiscriminate boring of ever deeper wells has resulted in drying of the underground water resources held in aquifers.

This farmer - Mr Poshetti, lost 90% of his mango trees during drought and his bore well was totally dried up



After successful bore well recharge by SRDS, his orchard was regenerated
Rapid effects of Bore Well Recharge of Aquifers

A crisis situation has resulted from the combination of increased temperatures and erratic rainfall due to climate change, the widespread move to water hungry cash crops, such as sugar cane, cotton and rice; corporate greed and a lack of real action by the Government.

Prior to the introduction of borewell technology to India by UNICEF in the 1970's the agricultural land relied on open wells and rain-fed crops. Now, a recent report by the Indian Central Water Commission indicates groundwater irrigation accounts for over 80 percent of the area irrigated by upwards of 30 million groundwater extraction points in the form of borewells.

Green Revolution and Farmer Suicide

The Green Revolution, starting in the 1960s, funded first by Government interventions and second by corporate investment, encouraged farmers to change cropping patterns to monocrops, become reliant on fertilisers and pesticides, and for the farmers to commit to much higher levels of irrigation. The resulting overuse of borewells emptied the local aquifers leaving farmers and their families unable to grow food and, in many cases, unable to pay off the debts incurred while expecting substantial profits from the now failing green revolution.

Debt amongst farmers spiralled and ~15 million abandoned their land. Desperation led to farmer suicide, migration into poverty in the slums of cities, and predation of young girls. Many more problems will follow as temperatures rise and water shortages increase. Farmer suicide is a matter of national shame - 12,000

plus per year - many of these directly due to debt from lack of water for cultivating their crops.

Sankalpa Rural Development Society

Sankalpa Rural Development Society (SRDS) has taken up the challenge to change the above situation. An NGO working in Karnataka since 2008, SRDS focuses on water conservation via a multi-pronged approach with borewell recharge from land or rooftops. Their work aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal of clean accessible water for all.

As a young man, Sikandar Meeranai (now CEO of SRDS) saw the devastating effects of drought and the resultant lack of water in his own small village and his family farm. Sikandar vowed to find a solution. Combining the methods of others with his own approaches, he developed several innovative highly-effective low-cost strategies to significantly increase the rate of recharge to aquifers.

SRDS is Energy Globe World Award Winner 2019

This February, Sikandar and SRDS were awarded the prestigious Energy Globe World Award for Water. To date, this has been implemented on over 1500 bore wells with the potential of recharging 450 million litres of usable water into aquifers every year.



The IncehE Oceania Region was represented at the Energy Globe award ceremony in Iran by the News Bulletin Editor, Dr. Terence Love (centre rear above).

Why is Bore-Well Recharge so effective?

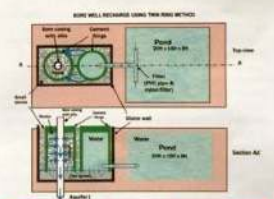
Key reasons for its success include:

- Immediate water for crops from flowing borewells following the main rain period
- Captures water locally that would otherwise runoff or evaporate

- Five times more effective than simple percolation from rain falling on the earth
- Aquifer water-level increases at about 3 times the loss of level caused by bore use
- Ground water pollutants are diluted by fresh rainwater
- Works on fully dried-up borewells
- In India it is cost-effective at only US\$450 per bore well (1/3 the cost of a new bore well)
- Keeps farmers on their land and their families healthy
- Removes the water shortage pressures that result in farmer suicide and other adverse social outcomes
- Enables farmers to operate relatively independently of rainfall timing
- Gives water and food security for future generations
- Nearby farmers receive the benefit from raised aquifer levels enabling them to irrigate also.

How does it work?

The most common approach SRDS uses is Sikandar's design for a twin-ring bore well recharge system. To date, this has been implemented on over 1500 bore wells with the potential of recharging 450 million litres of usable water into aquifers every year.



The twin-ring borewell system is shown above:

1. A small pond is dug nearby an existing bore well as a collection point for rainwater runoff to for recharging the bore well during the rainy season.
2. A rectangular pit is dug around the borewell. 8 feet deep and 8 feet long by 4 feet wide.
3. The lower part of this pit is filled with a selected sand and stone mix as a filter medium.
4. The borewell casing has slits cut into it to allow the filtered rain water to enter. An extra filtration mesh is wrapped around the bore casing.
5. Five cement rings are placed around the bore well.

SRDS Work published in the International Mechanical Engineers Bulletin May 2019

SAVE WATER FOR A BETTER TOMORROW - RURAL, INDUSTRIAL AND URBAN INSTALLATIONS

Success Stories:

My name is Natarajan and I live in Pamba Goundan Palayam village, Tamil Nadu. Last year my bore well was completely dry and had no water. This year I got the bore well recharge installed with the aid of Sankalpa Rural Development Society supported by Save Indian Farmers.

The water level was much higher comparatively. Due to heavy rainfall, I was unable to control the excess run-off water. Now because of this recharge system, I am able to store the water in the bore well.



The water gets filtered and goes inside the ground and when there is a scarcity, I use this stored water to irrigate the farm.



Before, due to shortage of water, I managed to irrigate only 2 acres of land, now after the recharge I am able to irrigate 4 acres of land.

I am happy with the end result which is helping me to make good profits and lead a sustainable life. This recharge has also benefited my villagers who come and collect water for drinking purpose.

The quality of the water is good and there is no dust or dirt.

My name is Kandasamy from Odakattu village. We are a family of 5 and we all are dependent on agriculture and we have no other means to support ourselves. During the lean times, we could only cultivate coconut trees, and our livelihood was dependent on that. Then, ELD parry workers told us about a group in Karnataka who can rejuvenate the dried bore-wells. They also talked about the bore-well recharge method.

When they began constructing the system, people from the surrounding village came and witness the recharge method. They were very impressed and requested to recharge their bore-wells too. All the villagers were quite happy with the end results and the water situation has improved relatively.





Earlier there used to only ½ inch of water flow but after the recharge the water flow has increased up to 1.5 inch to 2 inches. The best part is the quality of water is good to even use it for drinking purpose. I am very pleased that Sankalpa is working on rejuvenating ground water and helping thousands of farmers to lead a sustainable life.

Esteemed Donors

Thank you for your kind generosity and support

SRDS is grateful to all our donors for their tremendous support and the encouragement for the sustainability of the community. It is the result of your kind generosity, that we have been able to deliver the required projects across India thus contributing the society and for our Motherland.



SRDS Team



During 2019-2020, SRDS successfully managed a team of 25 members, who demonstrated a proven strategy for the betterment of the community.

They are the backbone of the organisation, and most of their work is done in the field assisting the farmers in the various projects: bore well recharge, micro-financing small loans to the SHG's women, or educating the farmers to get the best methods of irrigating the farm.

SRDS strongly believes in equality and provides equal opportunities and resources, thus maintaining the gender balance in the workplace and society.



“I am with SRDS for nearly 10 years and I feel privileged to be a part of this organization. I started my career as a junior accountant and thereafter, have constantly moved up to work in various sector within the accounts department”.
Mr. Umesh Mugali Senior Account Manager



“I feel blessed and proud to be a part of this organization who is working for the betterment of the people. Sikandar sir has always supported and encouraged me to learn new concepts and guided me to face any challenges falling in my path”.
Miss. Laxmi Inchal Assistant Accountant

Board of Directors



Sikandarsab
Meeranaik
President/CEO



Prakash S Ganiger
Board Member



Shekappa Bandi
Board Member



Girija Akki
Board Member
Vice President



Allasab Mulagunda
Board Member



Sharanappagouda A
Sanganagouda
Board Member -
Secretary

Moulasab Nadaf
Board Member

Get Connected

As a Citizen



Having the thought of being without water, will send a strong wave of distress for all. Imagine those farmers completely rely on the groundwater for their livelihood and main source of income. No water, no irrigation, no crops, deep debt, no food and as a result, many farmers choose to end up their precious lives. IS THIS SACRIFICE REALLY WORTH IT?

As a citizen of India, you can do a lot of things to ease their suffering. Most importantly, developing awareness amongst them and sharing the same with others. You can even connect the marginal or needy farmers with the NGO's and the GOVT-managed institutions who work for their welfare. If you wish to be a part of this noble endeavour, you can always do it by volunteering at SRDS.

As an NGO or Individual



Sankalpa Rural Development Society (SRDS) is open to collaborate with all people and organisations working for the benefit of marginal farmers/the upliftment of women and the empowerment of the community in any difficult circumstances. Please connect with us to discover how we may work together.

As a professional Social Worker



If you are looking to explore, progress and work closely with the farmers, SHG's teams, or for the development of the community, then SRDS is the place you can rely on.

Partner with Us



Sankalpa Rural Development Society has achieved tremendous experience working with various state, national and international donors. Throughout the year, it has developed and implemented several projects for the marginal and needy farmers, and for the upliftment and empowerment of rural women.

To find out more about on the nature of our work, please write to us at: info@srdsindia.org or visit [our website](#) or [YouTube channel](#).

Financial Information and Transparency

Detailed Accounts with schedules & Audit Report are available at the Office. Also available online at <https://srdsindia.org>. We hold the 80G and FCRA certificates.

Contact Us



SANKALPA RURAL DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY -SRDS

1st floor, Yoga Center,
Dr. Eshwar Menasinkai Building
Near Samudya Bhavan
52, Lingaraj Nagar North,
Hubballi, 580031.
Karnataka- India.

Cell: +919986840730

info@srdsindia.org

<https://srdsindia.org>

<https://linked.in/company/sankalpa-rural-development>

<https://www.youtube.com/c/Sankalparuraldevelopmentsociety>

<https://www.facebook.com/SankalpaRuralDevelopmentSociety/>