



## ACWADAM's Course on Groundwater Governance

### About the Course

Scripted in its agricultural hinterland, the development of India's groundwater resources is a story about how groundwater has enabled millions of farmers to improve agricultural production over reasonably short periods of time. At the same time, it has also ensured access to safe drinking water and has proven to be a buffer for poor rainfall years, including complexities of drought and floods. This has, however, given rise to serious issues around socio-ecological sustainability of the resource itself which manifests in the form of depleting water tables including problems linked to public health, environment and increased levels of vulnerability to resource abuse and contamination. Groundwater competition is playing out in myriad ways, before flash points of conflicts become obvious.

The rationale behind the need to develop mechanisms of groundwater governance includes participatory forms of groundwater management. Aquifer-based approaches inclusive of combination of groundwater management and governance have begun to find their way into the practices and policies dealing with groundwater in India. While discussions on various approaches to groundwater management have gained momentum the question of 'complementary' groundwater governance remains largely unresolved. In this light, a significant diversion from a business-as-usual approach to groundwater resource management in India could be to move away from 'infrastructure' based, 'supply-side' solutions, to more comprehensive solutions that integrate hydrogeology and engineering with sociology and economics in developing a groundwater governance framework.

This course will attempt to take up these various linkages of issues, solutions, experiences and challenges to address the questions pertaining to groundwater governance in India. The course is designed in a modular fashion to cater to the needs and gaps in groundwater understanding and to comprehensively introduce a package of science, participation and regulation, all of which form the backbone of the groundwater governance framework.

### Who can enroll?

Practitioners, civil society organisations, government officials, students, researchers and activists can enroll for the course. Although there is no stipulated minimum background qualification for eligibility, participants should have understanding of English, Marathi or Hindi language. Experience of working in the water sector or associated with various developments in the sector would be an added benefit.

### Course design

The course details are as follows:

**Duration:** 4 weeks starting 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2017 till 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018 (Evening 6 PM to 8 PM)

### Venue: Indian Institute of Education (IIE)

128/2, Shreeniketan Society, Lane No 3, Behind Jog School, JP Naik Rd, Mayur Colony, Kothrud, Pune, Maharashtra 411038

<b>GROUNDWATER GOVERNANCE</b>			
Week 1	Groundwater Governance-Context	· Dichotomy of Challenges: From GW Management to Governance	22-Jan-18
		· Global Experiences of GW Governance -1	23-Jan-18
		· Global Experiences of GW Governance -2	24-Jan-18
		· Conceptual Contours of Groundwater Governance	25-Jan-18
		· Instruments of Groundwater Governance	29-Jan-18
Week 2	Institutions and Policy	· Institutional Architecture for GW Governance (National & State)	30-Jan-18
		· Policies and Groundwater in India	31-Jan-18
		· Decentralised GW Governance- Role of Local Governance Institutions	1-Feb-18
Week 3	Regulation	· Blind Spot: GW in Water Regulatory Institutions	5-Feb-18
		· Legislating Groundwater	6-Feb-18
		· GW Legislation Case Studies- Experiences of Select States	7-Feb-18
		· Indirect Regulation- Case of electricity control (Jyotigram Yojana et al)	8-Feb-18
Week 4	Groundwater Governance Framework	· Case Studies	12-Feb-18
		· Science in GW Governance	13-Feb-18
		· Participation in GW Governance	14-Feb-18
		· Regulation in GW Governance	15-Feb-18
	Total hours	32 Hours + 1 Field Work Day (Institutionalising GW Governance)	

**Selection and Fees:** ACWADAM will exercise a selection of participants, depending upon enrolment and the limit to the number of seats. The course costs are subsidized through a support from Ford Foundation. A nominal fee of Rupees 400/- will be borne by the participants as a contribution towards ACWADAM's work on aquifers, watersheds and environmental co-management Fees can be remitted through cheque drawn in favour of ACWADAM, Pune at the time of the registration session.

**Interested individuals/organisations can contact: [acwadam@vsnl.net](mailto:acwadam@vsnl.net) for enrollment details or queries, if any.**

#### ACWADAM

Suvidya, Plot no 27, Lane no 3, Kshipra Society, Karvenagar, Pune 411 052

Telephone: 9172246959 Website: [www.acwadam.org](http://www.acwadam.org)