



Photo Credit: Jan Dirk



Sustainable Solutions for Water Scarcity

The scarcity of water is one of the biggest challenges facing rural India. Together with village communities, the Sehgal Foundation team works in water-scarce regions to secure and sustain local water supplies, help villagers improve sanitation, and manage wastewater in schools, homes, and elsewhere within the community. Without potable water in schools, it's not possible to cook the government-provided midday meals, and many children leave school early in the day to go home to drink water. Most do not return for the rest of the day. Girls miss school altogether because they have to spend hours each day fetching water for their families.



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ENSURING SAFE WATER IN SCHOOLS

In schools that previously had no source of water, pressurized recharge wells, extending above and below the groundwater table, create fresh water pockets in saline water zones and make it possible for children to have clean water for drinking and sanitation purposes. Rainwater harvested from the school rooftops creates hydrostatic pressure and slowly pushes aside any existing saline groundwater. This fresh water is extracted from underground with a hand pump, and a bio-sand filter removes the biological contaminants, making the water fit for drinking.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Serving about 500 children in one school, this technology ensures local water supplies for drinking, sanitation, and cooking of the midday meal. This has resulted in increased enrollment and retention of students, especially girls, in seven schools in Mewat district, Haryana. Many other schools in saline water areas can benefit from such pressurized recharge wells. In addition for use in schools, this technology can be replicated at the household and community levels and across semi-arid regions with inland salinity.

OUR PARTNERS ENSURE VALUE

Sehgal Foundation has partnered with Department of Science and Technology, Government of India; and Department of Education, Haryana. National and international organizations, companies, and individuals help us to sustain initiatives in Haryana and Rajasthan. Partnerships such as these make a difference in increasing our reach and strengthening our impact.

For further information, please email partnerships@smsfoundation.org
Join the team. www.smsfoundation.org

S M Sehgal Foundation (Sehgal Foundation) is a public, charitable trust registered in India since 1999, based in Gurgaon, Haryana.

STUDENTS SPEAK

“Earlier we were dependent on irregular and unclean tanker supply for drinking water. We used to go back home to drink water and not come back.”

~Mohammad Musaraf,
Untka school, Mewat

“We learned about a new scientific concept and water conservation model that works on our school premises.”

~Vajika Nazia, Malab school,
Mewat

TOGETHER
WE EMPOWER
RURAL INDIA