



ACWADAM's Training 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 bi-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

Two modules:

- **Science of Groundwater and its importance in Groundwater Management**
- **Groundwater Management and Governance**

Two modules are offered and participants can either enroll for one module or the entire course (two modules). The modules consist of classroom sessions involving participatory pedagogy, practical and field work. Each module will be run for a 5-week period. The course details are as follows:

Duration: 10 weeks starting 16 July 2017
(Four Days a week, Monday to Thursday, Evening 6 to 8 PM)

Course Schedule:

Module 1: SCIENCE OF GROUNDWATER			
Date	Week		Duration (in hours)
16-07-2018	WEEK 1	Introduction to Groundwater (Also an pre-course assessment)	2
17-07-2018		Template of Groundwater issues- contexts	2
18-07-2018		Earth Sciences in understanding Groundwater	2
19-07-2018		Vadose Water	2
23-07-2018	WEEK 2	Groundwater Accumulation and Movement	2
24-07-2018		Aquifers	2
25-07-2018		Wells and Aquifers	2
26-07-2018		Springs and Aquifers	2
30-07-2018	WEEK 3	Groundwater and Ecosystems	2
31-07-2018		Mapping- Field Hydrogeology	2
01-08-2018		Measurement and Monitoring- Water levels	2
02-08-2018		Measurement and Monitoring- Groundwater Quality and Weather	2
06-08-2018	WEEK 4	Aquifer properties	2
07-08-2018		Groundwater Balance	2
08-08-2018		Groundwater Recharge- Augmenting through programmes	2
09-08-2018		Groundwater Demand Management- ensuring water security	2
13-08-2018	WEEK 5	Aquifers and Water Security	2
14-08-2018		Case Studies- Experimental Station and Springs (1 hour each)	2
16-08-2018		Case Studies- Alluvial Systems and Volcanic Systems (1 hour each)	2
17-08-2018		Tests/Presentations	2
04-08-2018		Field work	
		Total (Classroom Hours)	40

Module 2: GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE			
20-08-2018	WEEK 6	Need for Groundwater Management and Governance (and pre course assessment)	2
21-08-2018		Existing Efforts for Groundwater Management	2
22-08-2018		Groundwater as a common pool resource	2
23-08-2018		Need for Participatory Frameworks for management	2
27-08-2018	WEEK 7	Global experiences of Groundwater Governance	2
28-08-2018		Groundwater and Rainfed Agriculture (and case studies)	2
29-08-2018		Participation decision and Action- protocols and processes	2
30-08-2018		Understanding aquifers through communities- case studies	2
03-09-2018	WEEK 8	Case Studies- PGWM- Urban and Rural (1 hour each)	2
04-09-2018		Water Conflicts	2
05-09-2018		Groundwater Competition and Conflicts	2
06-09-2018		Groundwater and Energy	2
17-09-2018	WEEK 9	Gender and Water	2
18-09-2018		Gender and Groundwater	2
19-09-2018		Conceptual Contours of Groundwater Governance	2
20-09-2018		Institutional Architecture for GW Governance (National & State)	2
24-09-2018	WEEK 10	Groundwater Legislation	2
25-09-2018		GW Legislation Case Studies- Experiences of Select States	2
26-09-2018		Towards a GW Governance Framework for India	2
27-09-2018		Tests/Presentations	2
08-Sep		Field work	
		Total Hours	40

Venue: Will be confirmed soon.

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 1000/- will be borne by the participants as a contribution towards ACWADAM's work on aquifers, watersheds and environmental co-management (Fee for a single module is Rupees 500/-). 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 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