

PATHWAYS FOR ARSENIC MITIGATION

Addressing Arsenic through Network Approach (2014-2017)

More Information – www.arsenicnetwork.in

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Arsenic 
Knowledge and Action Network

SaciWATERS

SOUTH ASIA CONSORTIUM FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY
WATER RESOURCES STUDIES

Nature of the issue



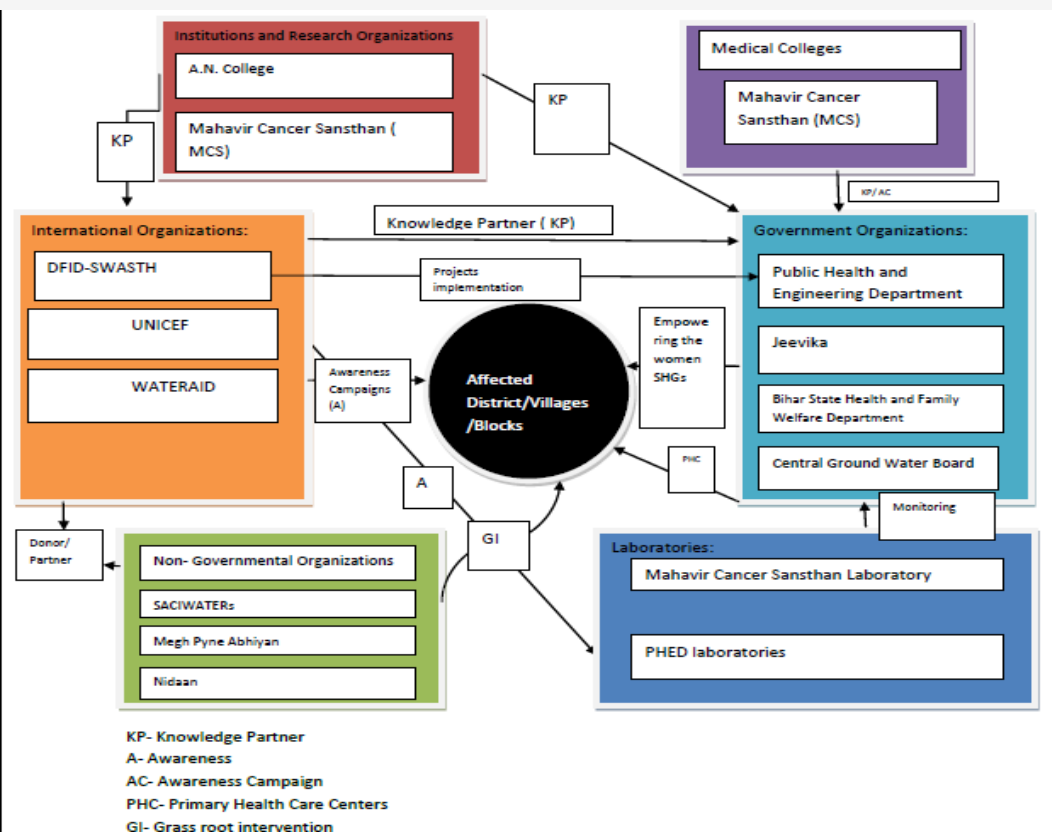
- The invisible nature of arsenic in water (safe water) was perceived as 'communication problem' for arsenic affected region.
- Delayed attention vis-a-vis lack of public awareness
- It is more than water problem includes health, nutrition, education, technology (local & external)
- Present in minute quantities.
- Circular nature of the 'wicked' problem of arsenic
- Communication gap between problem solvers (state, NGOs, local agencies) and problem bearers (affected community) about the issue of arsenic in drinking water- what is it, how to solve,





Efforts till date include

- Marking the contaminated drinking water sources
- Providing alternate supply
- Civil society organizations efforts include awareness, technological intervention enabling traditional water sources, rights based approach
- Petitions to tribunal for access to safe water.
- Drive to install filtration technologies.
- Academic research include water testing methodologies, filtration technologies, health burden, health impacts, agriculture impacts



Existing Limitations



- Sectoral conceptualization and bilateral execution of efforts.
- Operation and maintenance issues of technologies not adequately addressed
- High knowledge requirement understand and implement mitigation
- Program of short, medium and long term approach causes repetition of investment
- Structural limitations for implementation
- Suspicion between institutions & fear of panic
- Connection are missing
- Lack of spaces to integrate efforts

Assam



Conceptualizing problem & solutions at institutional & CSO level



Conceptualizing the problem solution at community



Bridging gap & building capacities



SWaCHA Centre



Leveraging local capacity & opportunities for convergence with programs, institutions & service delivery organizations



West Bengal



Conceptualizing problem at institutional, CSO and community level already exists!

Discussion with partners and communities for collaborative effort. Seek to embed framework with projects



Initialization of framework through network mode approach within South 24 Paraganas, Malda, North 24 Paragnas



Building collaboration within local NGOs, PHED, SWET team, Health, UNICEF, Panchayath, District Magistrate



Bihar

Conceptualizing problem and solutions at institutional & CSO level



Mapping opportunities for convergence, institutions & service delivery organizations



Conceptualizing the problem & solutions at community

Buxar,
Khagharya,
Pashim
Champan

PHED, WaterAid,
UNICEF, AN College,
MPA, Samata, Water
Action, Mahavir
Cancer hospital

Training for doctors,
Engineers.
Empowerment of
communities,
building
collaboration

Enabling Jal Choupal
locally, Regional
steering teams

Propagating
enduring solutions
such as dug wells,
bio-sand filters,
effective testing

Identifying
regions & specific
needs

Cross assistance &
collaboration
between sectors

Bridging capacities
enhancing need
based awareness
Integrating health

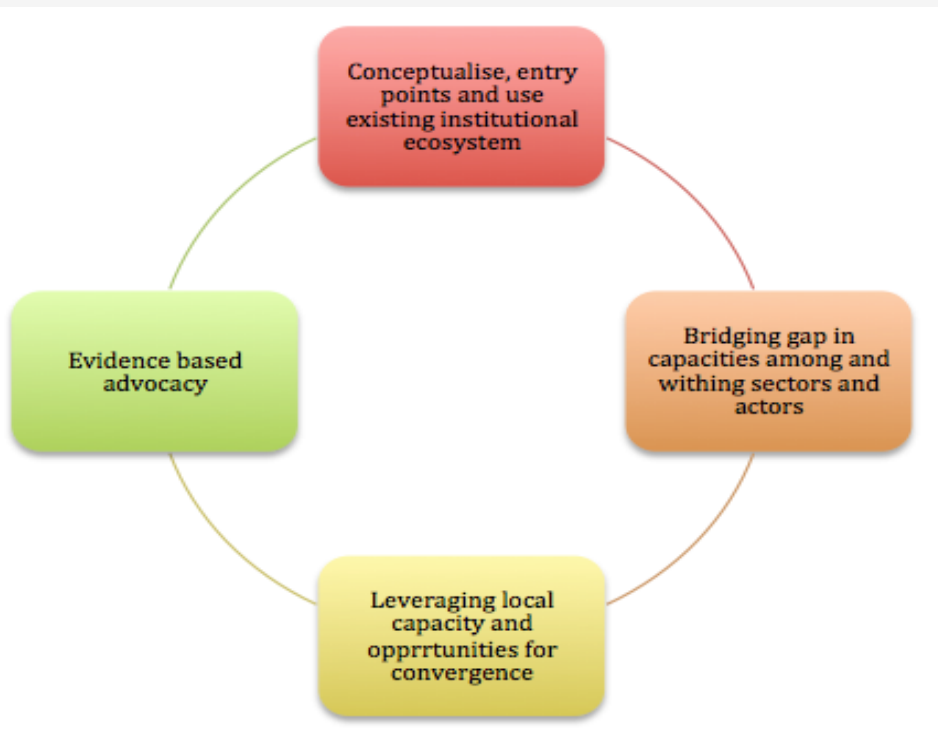
Enabling regions
specific
stakeholder
platforms

Evidence based
Advocacy & policy
contribution

Integrated pathway- AKAN



- Beyond sectors- needs collaborators
 - Conceptualizing the problem and solutions, finding entry points for intervention and using existing institutional ecosystem
 - Bridging gap in capacities among and within sectors and actors
 - Leveraging local capacity and opportunities for convergence with programs, institutions and service delivery organizations
 - Evidence based advocacy



Goal: *Enduring solutions for sustainable access to safe drinking water & health*

Network Partners

