



DEVELOPING A WATER SECURITY PLAN FOR A TEXTILE MILL



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With water needed across all steps of its manufacturing process, the textile industry is one of the largest and most intensive users of water. The high demand for water, in concert with other factors like increased drought is driving water-related risks for businesses and communities. A key approach to mitigating these risks and their underlying stressors is the development of a catchment level water security plan.

A water security plan is a roadmap for addressing water risks, developed in collaboration with different stakeholders. These plans draw from careful analyses of the state of water resources based on the natural conditions (hydrology, geology, topography, land use and others), current water usage patterns, future demand, and the expectations of surrounding communities.

As part of the Women + Water Alliance (W+W Alliance), ISC is working with a textile mill and its surrounding communities in the state of Madhya Pradesh in India to develop its water security plan, with the goal of enhancing the long-term water security and sustainability in the region. In addition, ISC will engage with the mill and its surrounding community to apply the framework for Strengthening the Business Case for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH).¹

Through a participatory process, the water security plan will:

- Identify the water risks for the mill and community water users (with special focus on identifying the needs of the women and the current challenges being faced by them).
- Identify WASH needs, both within the mill as well as in the surrounding communities.
- Outline opportunities for the mill and community water users to mitigate these risks.
- Design and implement interventions to strengthen access and quality of water and address WASH needs.

AREAS OF IMPACT

- Promoting water stewardship
- Addressing water risks in a catchment
- Multi-stakeholder engagement

¹ The framework was developed by WaterAid and partners



ABOUT ISC

The Institute for Sustainable Communities' mission is to help communities around the world address environmental, economic and social challenges by deploying expert advice and encouraging local, multi-sectoral partnerships to build a better future shaped and shared by all. Since our founding in 1991 by former Vermont Governor Madeleine M. Kunin and George Hamilton, ISC has led transformative community-driven projects in 30 countries including the United States, China, India and Bangladesh.

www.sustain.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Romit Sen

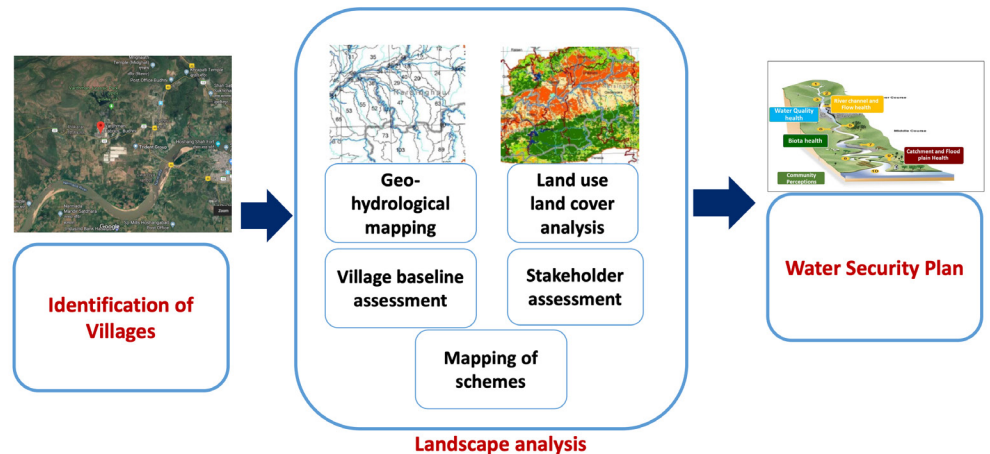
Program Manager, W+W Alliance
rsen@sustain.org

Brent Habig

Vice President,
International Programs
bhabig@sustain.org



STEPS IN DEVELOPING THE PLAN



The development of the plan will include mapping of villages around the textile mill followed by a series of studies and assessments through primary and secondary data collection, stakeholder consultations and data analysis that will gather information on socio-economic, environmental and ecological aspects. This will help in understanding the current scenario, prioritize actions and will serve as an input to developing a long term 'water security plan' for the region.

INTENDED BENEFITS

- Better understanding of the needs and aspirations of the communities.
- Robust assessment of the natural conditions relating to water, soil, land use, and topography.
- A framework for implementation to support interventions.
- Approach to engage with different stakeholders in the catchment.