

A Workshop on

The Role of Differential Subsidy Policy in the Adoption of Micro-Irrigation Systems (MIS) in Gujarat

Gujarat Institute of Development Research, Ahmedabad

The positive externalities of adopting Micro Irrigation systems (MIS) have been appreciated in India since the early 1980s when the GoI started promoting MIS under a subsidy scheme, wherein, both the Central and State governments have equally supported the farmers (75% to marginal and small farmers and 25% to the rest of farmers) to adopt the scheme. Nevertheless, the rate of adoption continued to be abysmally low until early 2000s across states. Based on the recommendation of the task force on micro-irrigation set up in 2004, the GoI had launched another centrally sponsored scheme on MI in 2006, and this was further revised in 2010 with the announcement of the ‘national mission on micro-irrigation (NMMI)’. The task force recommended subsidizing farmers’ capital cost and also suggested to provide greater flexibility to states in terms of designing subsidy policies and institutional arrangements for promotion and scaling up of MI systems.

In Gujarat, the state adopted a differential subsidy policy along with regulations in agricultural power connections insisting on a mandatory shift towards adoption of MIS especially in the dark zone (with state of groundwater development being over exploited and/ or critical levels) talukas. The state government had set up a special purpose vehicle (SPV), called the Gujarat Green Revolution Company limited (GGRC) in 2004-05, which has been acting as a nodal agency for promoting adoption of MI across the state. Under its differential financial subsidy scheme operationalised under different institutional arrangements, the state government has made significant achievements in enhancing the area expansion under MIS especially amongst small and marginal farmers belonging to different social groups (SC/ST) across geographical locations, agro-ecological and water stressed regions.

In this backdrop, Gujarat Institute of Development Research (GIDR) has undertaken a research study on “*Will Climate Change Adaptation Enhance Farm Productivity? A Study of Micro-Irrigation Systems (MIS) in Gujarat, India*”, supported by the South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE), Kathmandu, Nepal. The proposed Workshop aims at presenting some of the important findings as emerge from the study and to discuss about some potential challenges and possible pathways of research on MIS within the broader national context taking cues from the present study and other recent studies undertaken by scholars.

The Workshop is envisaged to offer a platform to share the findings from the GIDR study and also interact with experts, policy makers, civil society members, etc.

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Date: 25 October 2016

Time: 2.00 PM – 6.00 PM

Venue: Lakdawala Hall, GIDR

	Programme	
2.00 PM – 2.10 PM	Introduction	Prof. R. Parthasarathy
Chair:	Prof. Tushaar Shah, Principal Scientist, IWMI, Anand	
2.10 PM – 2.40 PM	Adoption of Micro-Irrigation Systems in India: An assessment with special reference to Gujarat	Dr. P. K. Viswanathan
2.40 PM – 3.20 PM	Incentives, Diffusion of Micro-Irrigation Technologies and Resource Utilization: Evidence from Water Scarce Regions of Gujarat, India	Dr. Chandra Sekhar Bahinipati
3.20 PM – 4.00 PM	Discussions	
4.00 PM – 4.15 PM	High Tea and Photo Session	
4.15 PM-5.45 PM	Panel Discussion: “The Long-term Effect of Policy on Micro-irrigation Technologies on Sustainable Water Conservation: Perspectives and way forward”	Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prof. Tushaar Shah (IWMI, Anand) - Mr. Dhimant Vyas (GWRDC, Government of Gujarat, Gandhinagar) - Mr. Mohan Sharma (DSC, Ahmedabad) - Prof. S. S. Kalamkar (Director, AERC, Anand) Moderator: Prof. R Parthasarathy
5.45 PM-6.00 PM	Concluding Remarks and Vote of Thanks	Dr. P.K. Viswanathan