



POLICY & PRACTICE BRIEF

Ensuring Safe Drinking Water in Rural Villages

PURE WATER... VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

Experience the transformative power of clean water. Discover how we're partnering with rural villages to improve water quality, health, and well-being.

Access to safe and clean drinking water is a fundamental human right, yet millions of people in rural villages around the world still lack this basic necessity. The Giyani Local Scale Climate Resilience Programme's (GLSCR) commitment to water quality management in rural communities goes beyond ensuring a reliable supply of water. It's about empowering villages to play a role in ensuring water quality standards, promoting public health, and encouraging sustainable development.

We start by identifying and safeguarding clean water sources. Regular water testing helps us track and maintain water quality, ensuring it meets the highest standards. But this is not just a project activity; it's a partnership with the community. We engage and educate, creating awareness about the importance of clean water and good hygiene practices.

Our holistic approach extends to infrastructure upgrades, water treatment, sanitation, and waste management. We build and maintain safe sanitation facilities, promote clean storage and proper waste disposal, and train locals to manage their water systems.

But that's not all. We're here to assist in developing emergency response plans if there is a water quality crisis (such as water contamination and cholera), supporting government efforts, and monitoring progress to adapt to evolving challenges.

Together, we're building self-reliant communities with access to clean water and a brighter future.

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The Giyani Local Scale Climate Resilience Programme (GLSCR) is an innovative initiative aimed at enhancing water utilization, building community resilience, and promoting sustainable economic growth in the Giyani region. Through collaborative partnerships, innovative solutions, community engagement, and rigorous monitoring, the program strives to address the challenges posed by climate change and ensure a more resilient and prosperous future for local communities.

By adopting a holistic and inclusive approach, the GLSCR serves as a model for other regions grappling with climate-related water challenges, contributing to broader global efforts toward a sustainable and climate-resilient future.

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RECOMMENDATIONS

Community Involvement

Encourage active participation and ownership of water quality initiatives within the community. Establish water committees to oversee projects. Monitor village water quality and raise awareness among villagers.

Regular Testing

Implement routine water quality testing to monitor contamination levels. Ensure that testing includes assessments for common contaminants such as bacteria, heavy metals, and nitrates.

Infrastructure Investment

Prioritise upgrading and maintaining water quality management infrastructure, including pumps, reverse osmosis and distribution systems, to prevent contamination and ensure consistent access to clean water.

Comprehensive Treatment

Adopt appropriate water treatment methods based on the specific contaminants present in the water source. Options may include chlorination, filtration, reverse osmosis and UV disinfection.

Sanitation and Hygiene

Promote proper sanitation facilities and hygiene practices within the community. Develop safe and accessible latrines, educate villagers on handwashing, and encourage safe food handling.

Waste Management

Implement waste management systems to prevent pollution of water sources. Ensure proper disposal of solid waste and treat wastewater before release into the environment.

Capacity Building

Provide training and capacity-building opportunities for local technicians and community members to enable them to manage and maintain water quality effectively.

Government Collaboration

Collaborate with government agencies responsible for water quality regulation and support their efforts in rural areas. Ensure compliance with national water quality standards and regulations.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Continuously assess the effectiveness of water quality management efforts through monitoring and evaluation. Adjust strategies as needed to address emerging challenges.

Sustainability Planning

Plan for the long-term sustainability of water quality management initiatives, considering factors like climate change, population growth, and evolving water quality challenges.



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