IDMP MARKETPLACE · 14 OCTOBER 2026

Community-led drought resilience in rural India

Watershed Organisation Trust · WOTR Centre for Resilience Studies · **India**

WOTR: On a mission to build resilient rural communities that enjoy a fulfilling quality of life within vibrant and sustainable ecosystems!

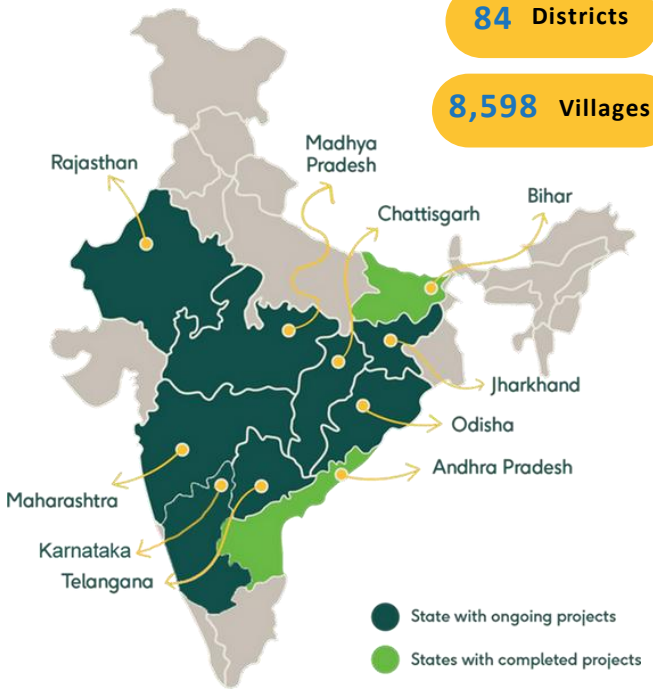
Established in 1993, an internationally recognized non-profit organization and think tank working at the intersection of practice, knowledge, and policy.

Presence

10 States

84 Districts

8,598 Villages



Areas of Intervention

Scale and Ouputs

9.77 M Lives Touched

2.34 M ha Land Treated

Supported 22K SHGs, empowering 258K Women

1 M people trained

Established 72 FPOs

Research Outputs

- 280 Research Publications & books
- 1200 additional publications
- 510 videos and audio visuals

An Ecosystem-Centric, Holistic Approach to rural development- Sectors of Engagement

Women Empowerment

- SHG Formation
- Capacity Building
- Drudgery Reduction
- Women's Enterprise Development
- Women in decision making

Land and Water Management

- Integrated Watershed Development
- Water Stewardship
- Water Governance
- Ecosystems and Biodiversity Conservation

Climate Resilient Agriculture

- Agriculture Productivity
- Soil Health Management
- Water Efficient Agriculture
- Agro-metereology
- Farmer Training
- Market Linkages: FPOs

Health, Sanitation and Nutrition

- Nutrition/ Malnutrition
- Child Growth Monitoring
- Drinking Water
- Sanitation
- Health Awareness
- Screening Camps

Livelihoods

Micro Enterprise

- Agro-based Enterprises
- Non-farm Enterprises

Skilling for livelihoods/employment

WOTR
Rejuvenating Communities & Ecosystems

W-CReS
Building Resilient Futures

2026: A super El Niño hits India's drylands

Drinking water scarcity

Rabi crop failure & fodder shortage

Distress migration & & livestock sales

Extreme heat stress

70% of India is rainfed drylands, home to most of most of its poor

Impacts expected until monsoon 2027. Waiting Waiting is not an option.

From reactive relief to proactive risk management

01 · MONITORING & EARLY WARNING

Forecast2Field

Fortnightly weather-informed agro-advisories on WhatsApp, across all WOTR states

02 · VULNERABILITY & IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Village water budgets

Water budgeting and El Niño risk assessment with Gram Panchayats

03 · PREPAREDNESS & MITIGATION

El Niño Preparedness Programme

Drinking Water Security Plans · GP resolutions reserving sources for drinking · drought-tolerant crops · fodder banks

MH · KA · MP · RJ · OD

Technical agency to NDMA for drought mitigation plans (Maharashtra & MP)

Prevention pays and lasts

2.28–3.76
Benefit-cost ratio
IRR **22%**

2–4×
Higher farm incomes than control villages

₹117,791
Cost of inaction: income lost per household

15+ yrs
Benefits persist after project closure

450 mm rainfall. Same village. 24 years.

3.83M ha treated · Featured in UNCCD *World Drought Atlas* & *Economics of Drought* report (COP16)

Let's bring the ground to the negotiating table

1

Use our village-level evidence on the **cost of inaction** toward COP18

2

Partner on scaling **community drought preparedness plans**

3

Join our **El Niño learning webinars** and the upcoming flagship report

> *"Where water runs, we make it walk. Where it walks, we make it stop. Where it stops, we put it underground."*

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