Impact Evaluation of watershed

NABARD has conducted impact & mid-term evaluation studies in completed watershed projects through different agencies. Major findings of such studies are as under:

a. Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute (CSWCRTA), Dehradun (Study Area – Maharashtra)

- Increase in area under cultivation up to 35%.
- Increase in the productivity of various crops (29% - 153%)
- Significant increase in ground water recharge in watershed areas
- Increase in the net sown area (26% to 35%) and irrigated area (up to 29%) in the watersheds.
- Increase in cropping intensity ((114% to 133%)
- Reduction in migration due to creation of employment opportunities in the watershed project areas (villages).

b. Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), Hyderabad (Study Area- Andhra Pradesh)

- The average irrigated area per farmer registered 133% increase
- Improvement in groundwater table registered in Gangapur watershed to the extent of 40 and 25 per cent in case of open wells and bore wells, respectively.
- The increase in productivity of crops observed in the year over baseline in the kharif season was found to be higher in black gram (90%), followed by red gram (73%), maize (55%), cotton (51%), jowar (47%) and vegetables (33%).
- The loan outstanding from non-institutional sources (moneylenders) decreased in the three watersheds.

c. Indian Institute of Soil and Water Conservation Research Centre, Bellary, Karnataka (Study Area – Karnataka)

- There was a marginal increase in crop production (2-6.8%) with increase in cropping intensity.
- Impact on crop diversification (cultivation of vegetables – cabbage, tomato, chilli, capsicum and cauliflower- under protective irrigation).
- Increase in the availability of ground water all through the year which was also manifested by increase in area under irrigation.
- In general, there was reduction in soil loss, ranging from 20-35%, in black soils, which are highly dispersible.

d. Indian Institute of Rural Management Anand (Study Area- Maharashtra)

- 89% farmers reported increased farming activities
- 92% farmers reported decrease in soil erosion.

- 87% respondents reported increase in soil moisture and 93%reported increase in water table.
- Decrease in seasonal migration from 74.6% to 68.4%.
- The quality of life has improved with better availability of drinking water.
- Improvement in ground water recharge
- Increase in cropping intensity.