



Facilitating effective participation: For Institutions and Communities

Cases of Neswad and Avanya: Two scenarios

Presented By:

Kaushik Rawal

Uthan

CE-WLP Member,

Focus area 3: Models for convergence, linkages and collaborations
among institutions (for sustainability and upscaling)

Backdrop

- Severe drinking water scarcity
- Saline and high fluoride water
- Drudgery and health related problems to women



Village characteristics

	Neswad	Avaniya
Village area	278.94 hectares	3317 hectares
Distance from sea coast	12 km	3-4 km
Total population	1443	3285
Total households	202	482
Major community in the village	Koli, 192 households	Darbar (207) Koli, (174)

Interventions

- Community managed Gogha Regional Water Supply and Sanitation Project
- Institutions involved in implementation:
 - Community level organization-Pani samithi
 - NGO-Uthan
 - Government of Gujarat

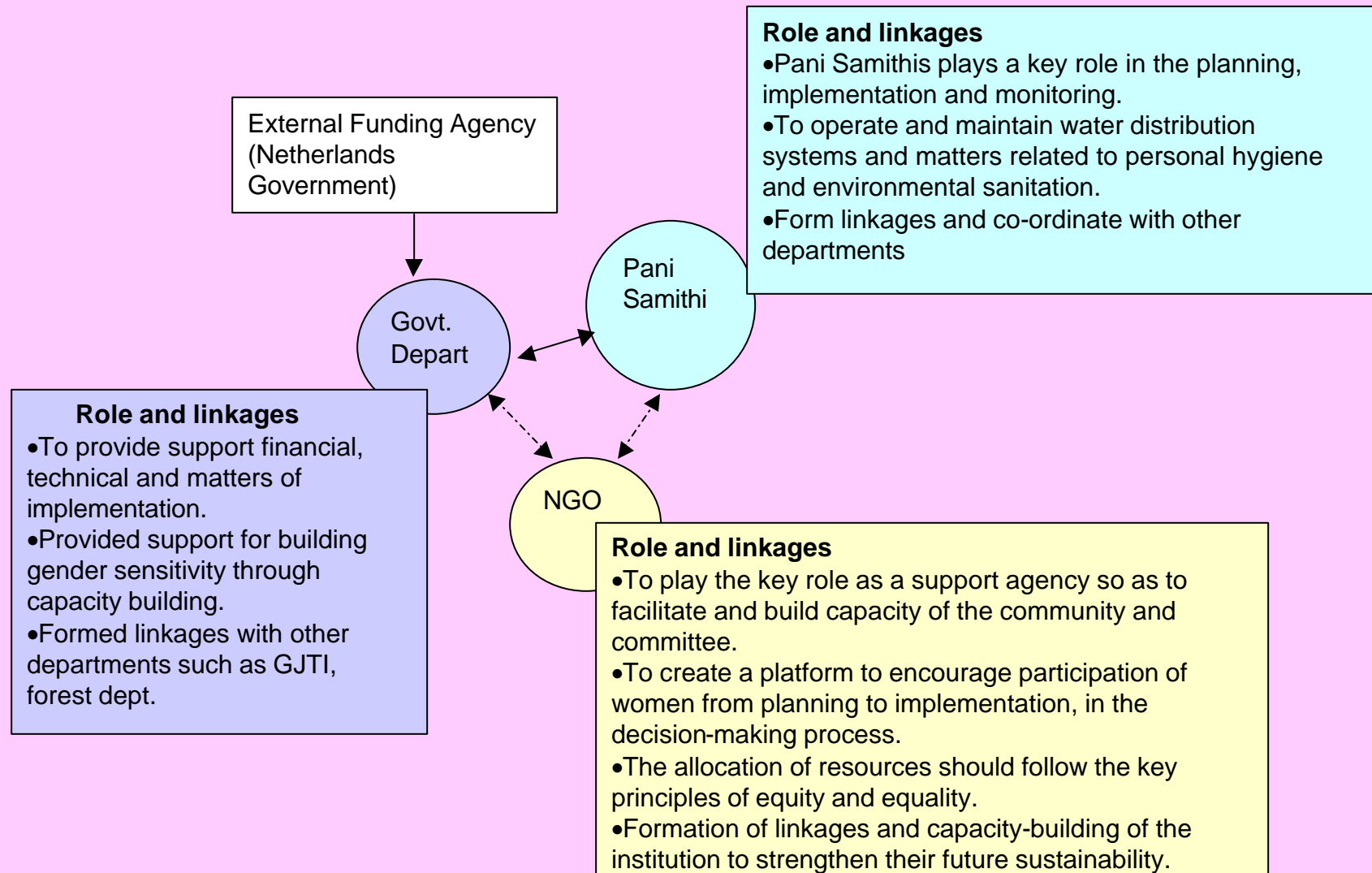


Objectives

Creating genuine people's participation in the larger context of gender and empowerment using a sustainable, decentralized and community-based approach in the rural drinking water supply and sanitation sector

Providing drinking water security and sanitation to the villages

Institutional framework for project Implementation



Key elements for collaborations: GO-NGO

- Trust
- Agreements that are respected
- Sharing of information
- Clarity on roles and responsibilities
- Flexibility shown by the institutions to accommodate
- Ownership over processes and gender empowerment

Community participation in Pani Samithis



- Neswad:
 - Active participation of women in decision making
- Avania:
 - Most of the decisions and conflict resolutions happen in the gram sabhas
 - Local youth were closely involved in the processes
 - Due to cultural constraints, participation of women even to a small extent is seen as a significant progress

Change



Impact

- Quality and sufficient quantity of water made available, increasing reliability.
- Reduced time and drudgery for women and children
- Increased potential for women in engaging in socially and economically productive activities.
- Unhampered education to girl child.
- Improvement in the health of women as they don't have to walk long distance

Learning

- Despite cultural limitations, women can participate and exert their choices through various means (husbands, sons) and collective efforts.
- Type or extent of participation of women may differ but as long as transparency and accountability are maintained in the decision-making processes through gram sabhas and other community /public forum, it is possible to achieve positive results.

Thank You



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