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Participatory technology development an approach in watershed development programme: A case study

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ABSTRACT

This paper attempts to set forth a model of ten-point strategy of Participatory Technology Development (PTD) by taking case of Antisar watershed in Kheda district of Gujarat State, India. PTD approach was adopted in development of Antisar watershed during 1997-2003 and various soil and water conservation (SWC) technologies were tested and validated in participatory mode in farmers' field. The major problems identified after analysis of micro farming situations were scarcity of water and soil degradation. The suitable technologies tested and developed through PTD strategy as described in the paper were check-dam, land levelling, and artificial well recharge filter to mitigate the scarcity of water and soil degradation problems in Antisar watershed. Check-dam and well-recharge filter technologies increased water availability in the wells for irrigation & drinking and resulted in increase of crop yield by 50%. The developed and tested technologies were also disseminated to farmers in neighbouring villages for benefit of farming community.