CSR Impact Assessment

FY 2023-24

Green Guardian – Water Management Project (WDF)

Supported by :

Mahindra Rise

Implemented by :

BAIF बाइफ

Impact Assessment Conducted in FY 2025-26 by :

BlueSky SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

www.blueskycsr.com

Green Guardian – Water Management Project (WDF)

Project Goal

The programme aims to strengthen water resource management

- **Improve groundwater recharge** and water availability
- **Strengthen irrigation** access and efficiency
- **Enhance agricultural productivity**
- **Promote climate-resilient farming practices**
- **Improve livelihood stability for rural farmers**

Project Relevance

- India has 24.24 lakh water bodies, of which 3.95 lakh (16.3%) are not in use due to siltation, drying, encroachment, and structural damage - ***(Ministry of Jal Shakti, First Census of Water Bodies, 2023)***
- About 85% of rural drinking water supply depends on groundwater – ***Ministry of Jal Shakti, 2022***
- 52% of India's net sown area is rainfed, making farmers highly vulnerable to rainfall variability –***Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, 2021–22***
- Declining functionality of traditional irrigation tanks due to siltation and structural deterioration
- Reduced water storage capacity affecting irrigation reliability
- Limited agricultural productivity and income instability among farmers
- Degradation of groundwater levels and ecological systems

Green Guardian – Water Management Project (WDF)

Activities

Geo-Hydrological Survey:

- Conducted to assess water resources, soil conditions, and groundwater potential.
- Helped in identifying suitable sites for interventions and planning watershed activities.

Recharge Shaft Construction:

- Structures built to directly recharge groundwater by channelizing rainwater into aquifers.
- Improves groundwater levels and supports long-term water availability for irrigation and drinking.

Line Farm Ponds

- Water harvesting structures that store rainwater (approx. 14 lakh liters per pond).
- Enables farmers to undertake second cropping, vegetable cultivation, and horticulture during dry spells.

Group Well Repair:

- Restoration of incomplete or non-functional wells to make them usable.
- Enhances water access for irrigation and drinking, benefiting multiple farmers.

Gabion Structures:

- Stone-based check structures installed in drainage lines.
- Reduce water flow velocity, prevent soil erosion, and improve water retention in the landscape.

Drip Irrigation Support:

- Provision of drip irrigation systems to farmers.
- Promotes efficient water use and supports cultivation of vegetables and horticulture crops.

Desiltation of Water Harvesting Structures

- Removal of silt from existing water bodies and channels.
- Enhances storage capacity and improves groundwater recharge.

Soil & Water Conservation Activities

- Includes farm bunding, contour trenching, water absorption trenches, and gully plugging.
- Aimed at reducing soil erosion, conserving moisture, and improving land productivity.
- Promotion of water-efficient farming practices aligned with climate variability.

Green Guardian – Water Management Project (WDF)

Project Reach

Geographical Coverage

- Implemented in **Igatpuri Taluka, Nashik District (Maharashtra)**
- Covered across **13 villages in 6 watershed regions**: Adharwad, Khed, Indore, Wasali, Taked, and Adsare

Population & Household Coverage

- Total population covered: **21,730 individuals**
- Total households: **3,930 families**
- Direct Beneficiary Reach (FY 2023–24) - **187 beneficiaries** impacted through key interventions

Area Coverage

- Watershed area spanning multiple villages with significant focus on **soil and water conservation**
- **412 hectares treated** under conservation activities (cumulative)

Green Guardian – Water Management Project (WDF)

Logic Model

To strengthen water resource management and climate-resilient agriculture in watershed-dependent rural communities, enabling improved water availability, agricultural productivity, and livelihood stability.

Objective

- Improve groundwater recharge and water availability
- Enable irrigation access and efficiency across villages
- Enhance agricultural productivity and crop diversification
- Promote climate-resilient farming practices
- Improve livelihood stability and reduce migration
- Strengthen community participation in water governance

Inputs

- Technical support from BISLD and geo-hydrological assessments
- Community participation and local knowledge
- Water conservation structures
- Irrigation and soil conservation infrastructure

Activities

- Geo-Hydrological Survey
- Recharge Shaft Construction
- Line Farm Ponds
- Group Well Repair
- Gabion Structures
- Drip Irrigation Support
- Desiltation of Water Harvesting Structures
- Soil & Water Conservation Activities

Outputs

- 187 beneficiaries covered
- 12 Recharge shafts constructed
- 13 Line Farm ponds developed
- 7 Group wells repaired
- 39 Gabion structures installed
- 10,800 cu.m. desiltation completed to increase water storage capacity
- 21 farmers supported with drip irrigation systems
- Geo-hydrological surveys conducted for scientific planning
- 412 hectares treated under soil and water conservation measures

Outcomes

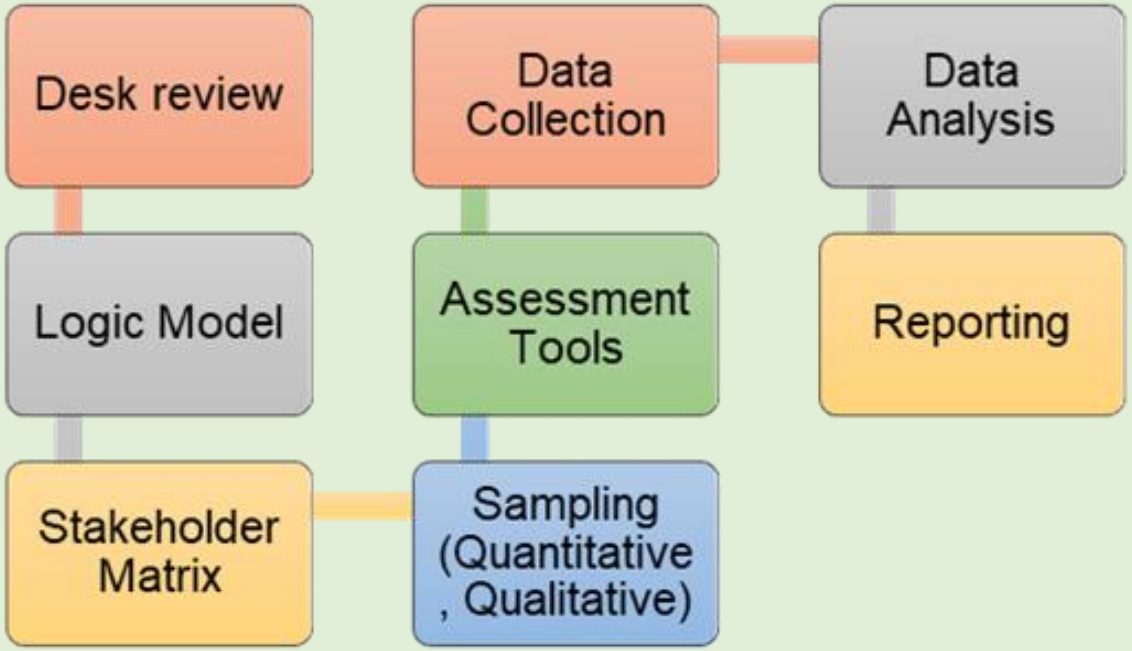
- Improved surface and groundwater availability
- Expansion of irrigated agricultural land
- Crop diversification towards high-value crops
- Reduced water scarcity duration
- Reduced household water burden

Impact

- Strengthened agricultural resilience
- Improved livelihoods and reduced migration
- Enhanced long-term water security for communities

Green Guardian – Water Management Project (WDF)

Assessment Methodology



Alignment with Social Standards

The impact assessment methodology assesses the project on BlueSky's **Process Maturity & Goals Achievement Framework (PMGA),** built on the guidance available to the following standards:

1. **Social Auditing Standards (SAS), regulated by the ISAI under SEBI**
2. **ISO IS 26000:2018 – Guidance on Social Responsibility**
3. **The Companies Act 2013 Schd VII Sec 135**
4. **UN Sustainable Development Goals**

Green Guardian – Water Management Project (WDF)

Key Findings

Improved Surface Water Availability

- **85%** of respondents reported **improved surface water availability**, with water structures retaining water longer into the dry seasons.
- Reduced dependence on tanker water and external sources for drinking purposes.
- **Improved water retention** has strengthened both agricultural and household water access across beneficiary villages.

Improved Groundwater Availability

- **75% of farmers** reported improved well functionality and groundwater recharge.
- Field observations indicate **fewer wells running dry during summer months**, reflecting improved recharge.
- Farmers experienced **greater reliability of irrigation sources across cropping cycles**.

Reduced Water Shortage Period

- **85%** of respondents reported water availability for irrigation increased, reducing water stress and improving water availability across most of the agricultural cycle.
- Majority of women reported **reduced time and effort in water collection**, indicating improved household access.
- Significant improvement in seasonal water security benefiting **187 beneficiaries** in the project area.
- Recharge shafts and farm ponds have extended water availability well into the dry season, significantly reducing water stress.

Green Guardian – Water Management Project (WDF)

Key Findings

Expansion of Irrigated Area

- **75% of respondents** observed an increase in irrigated land at the farm level.
- Approximately **2,000 hectares shifted from rainfed to assured irrigation** post-intervention.
- Improved irrigation access has **benefited small and marginal farmers**, enhancing equity.

Crop Diversification

- **65% of farmers** reported diversification into higher-value crops post-intervention.
- Shift observed from traditional crops to **vegetables and market-linked crops** such as onion, potato, chilli, tomato, and cauliflower.
- Improved water availability has **enabled transition towards more profitable and resilient farming systems**.

Green Guardian – Water Management Project (WDF)

PMGA Framework

Green Guardian – Water Management Project (WDF) has been rated as an Exemplary Project.

Exemplary Projects have high process maturity and are successfully reaching their program goals.

These projects represent best practices in implementation and impact, demonstrating an exemplary model for other projects to follow.

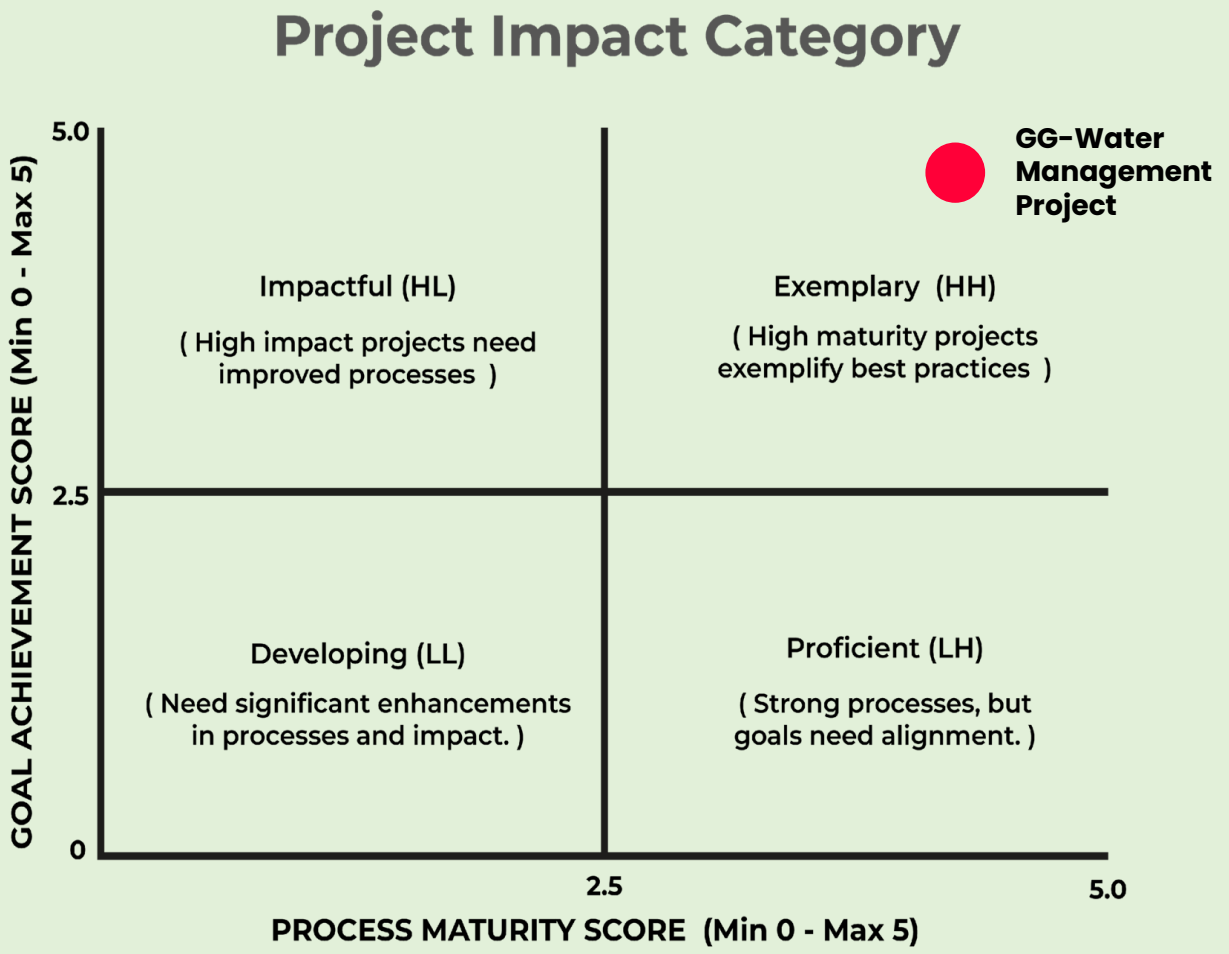
Process Maturity Score (X-Axis)
Scored on: Standard Criteria
Frameworks Referenced: ISO 26000 & Social Audit Standards (SEBI/ISAI)

📌 Indicates strong alignment with standardized best practices across projects

Program Goal Achievement Score (Y-Axis)
Scored on: **Project-specific Criteria**
Framework: **Program Logic Model**

📌 Reflects high achievement against intended project outcomes

Process Maturity: **4.5 / 5** (Leading)
Goals Achievement**: 4.5 / 5** (Leading)
Overall Performance: **Exemplary**



Green Guardian – Water Management Project (WDF)

Farmers Testimonials

On Water Availability & Income improvement

> *"Before the farm pond was built, we had no water after February. Now we harvest two crops in a year. Our income has doubled and I no longer think of going to the city for work."* – **Devendra, Farmer, Igatpuri**

On Drip Irrigation and Income Stability

> *"I used to migrate to Pune every summer for work. After the drip irrigation was installed, I started growing tomatoes and now earn a stable income throughout the year."* – **Navnath, Farmer, Igatpuri**

Green Guardian – Water Management Project (WDF)

Farmers Testimonials

On Water Availability & Farming stability

> *“The recharge shaft near our field has completely changed how long water stays in our well. Even in May, we have water now. We planted strawberries for the first time this year.”*
> **– Dhyaneshwar, Farmer, Igatpuri**

On Livelihood Improvement & Farming Stability

> *“The gabion structures have stopped soil from washing away. Our land holds moisture now. I shifted to growing onions and chillies and made more profit than ever before.”*
> **– Tukaram, Farmer, Igatpuri**

Green Guardian – Water Management Project (WDF)

Farmers Testimonials

On Water Availability & Farming stability

> *“We used to wait for the tanker every summer. Now our community well has water even in the summer seasons. The women in our village no longer walk 3 km for water.”*
> **– Sunita, woman beneficiary, Igatpuri**

On Livelihood Improvement & Farming Stability

> *“My son used to migrate to Mumbai every year. After the drip irrigation and farm pond, he stayed back and now farms full-time. He earns more than he did as a labourer.”*
> **– Suman, women beneficiary, Igatpuri**

Green Guardian – Water Management Project (WDF)

CASE STUDY 1

Devendra Muthe, Igatpuri, Nashik

Meet Devendra Muthe
A farmer from Igatpuri Taluka, Nashik District. Devendra previously relied entirely on rainfed farming and faced income instability due to seasonal water scarcity.

Turning Point:
With the drip irrigation support, Devendra shifted to irrigated farming and adopted high-value crops including strawberry and cactus, reducing migration and becoming a full-time farmer.

Agricultural Transformation:
Through drip irrigation and farm pond support, Devendra diversified into high-value crops and now earns a stable income year-round.

Income & Livelihood Stability:
Reduced seasonal migration and became a progressive farmer with expanded landholding under cultivation.

Crop Diversification:
Adopted strawberry and cactus cultivation, resulting in an **estimated 2x increase in per-acre income**, driven by transition from rainfed crops to high-value horticulture supported by assured irrigation.

Community Impact:
Devendra's success inspired neighbouring farmers to adopt improved irrigation practices and crop diversification.

Devendra's Message-

"Water changed everything for me. I planted strawberries for the first time and earned more in one season than I did in two years before."

Green Guardian – Water Management Project (WDF)

CASE STUDY 2

Navnath Mondhe, Igatpuri, Nashik

Meet Navnath Mondhe

A farmer from Igatpuri Taluka who had been migrating to cities for seasonal labour work due to lack of irrigation and crop failure in dry seasons.

Turning Point:
Access to a farm pond and training in modern farming techniques helped Navnath return from migration and adopt tomato cultivation for a stable year-round income.

Agricultural Growth:
Adopted tomato cultivation with drip irrigation, resulting in an **estimated 3x increase in per-acre income**, enabling stable year-round earnings and eliminating the need for seasonal migration.

Skills & Knowledge:
Learned modern farming practices including drip irrigation management, crop scheduling, and market-oriented cultivation.

Community Role
Navnath's success has made him a role model in his village, encouraging others to adopt improved irrigation and farming techniques.

Navnath's Message-

"I never thought farming could give me a steady income. Now I don't need to leave my village for work."

Green Guardian – Water Management Project (WDF) – awarded an “Exemplary Rating”

CSR INSPECTION CERTIFICATE

EXEMPLARY

Bluesky Sustainable Business LLP

AWARDS AN

Exemplary Rating

Exemplary Projects have high process maturity and are successfully reaching their program goals. These projects represent best practices in implementation and impact, demonstrating an exemplary model for other projects to follow..

FOR CSR PROJECT

Green Guardian – Water Management Project (WDF)

Green Guardian – Water Management Project (WDF) supports sustainable rural livelihoods by delivering integrated watershed development and natural resource management interventions, strengthening water availability and soil conservation through community-based planning and infrastructure development, enabling improved agricultural productivity and resilience through better groundwater recharge and land treatment practices, and promoting climate resilience among farming households in watershed-dependent villages through participatory implementation and capacity building initiatives.

SUPPORTED BY

Mahindra and Mahindra Ltd.

4th Floor, Mahindra Towers, Dr. G.M. Bhosale Marg, P.K. Kurne Chowk, Worli, Mumbai - 400018

CSR CATEGORY:

(i) Eradicating hunger, poverty and malnutrition (iv) Ensuring environmental sustainability and ecological balance (x) Rural development projects.

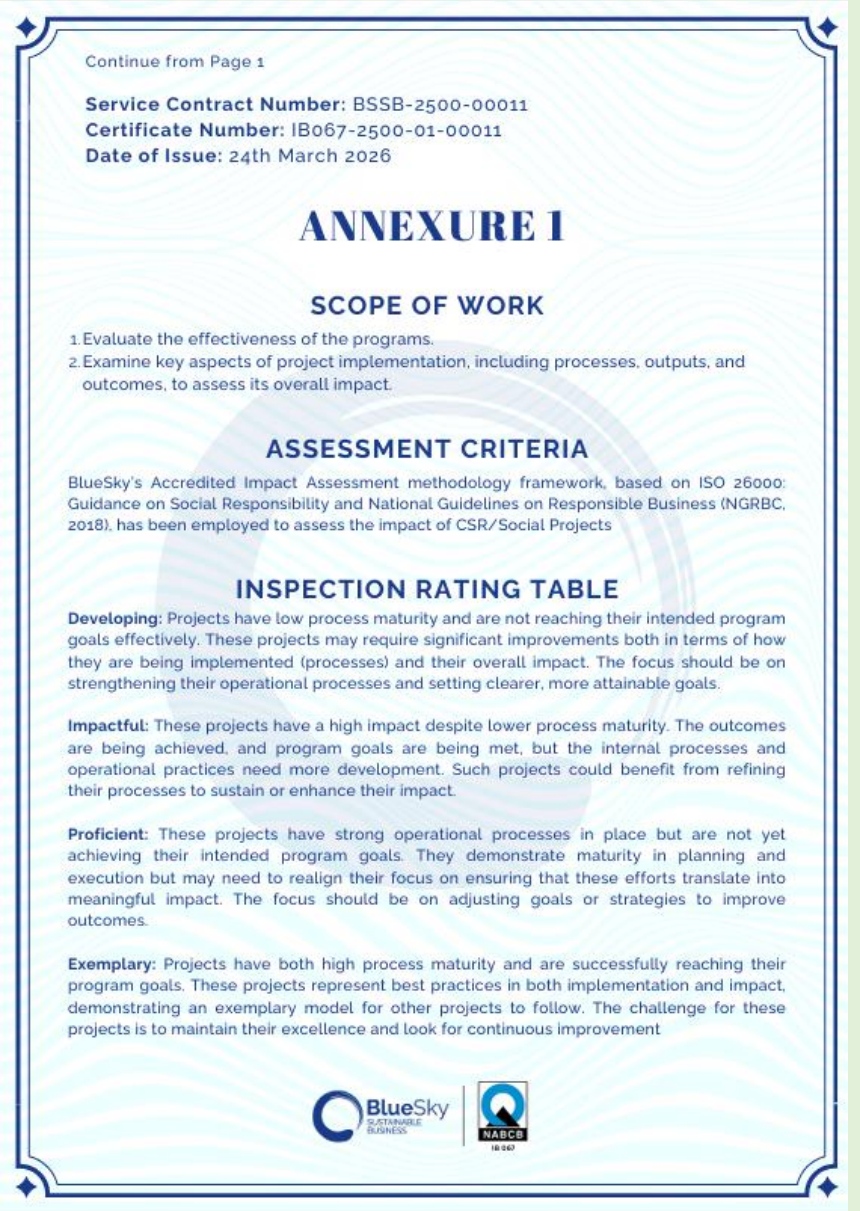
Service Contract Number: BSSB-2500-00011
Certificate Number: IB067-2500-01-00011
Date of Issue: 24th March 2026

JYOTSNA BELLIAPPA
Head- CSR Inspections

BlueSky SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS | NABCB IB 067

RAJAT GARG
Chief Executive Officer

- Bluesky Sustainable Business LLP complies with NABCB accreditation criterion of “Type A” Inspection Body.
- To be read in connection with Annexure 1



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ANNEXURE 1

SCOPE OF WORK

1. Evaluate the effectiveness of the programs.
2. Examine key aspects of project implementation, including processes, outputs, and outcomes, to assess its overall impact.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

BlueSky’s Accredited Impact Assessment methodology framework, based on ISO 26000: Guidance on Social Responsibility and National Guidelines on Responsible Business (NGRBC, 2018), has been employed to assess the impact of CSR/Social Projects

INSPECTION RATING TABLE

Developing: Projects have low process maturity and are not reaching their intended program goals effectively. These projects may require significant improvements both in terms of how they are being implemented (processes) and their overall impact. The focus should be on strengthening their operational processes and setting clearer, more attainable goals.

Impactful: These projects have a high impact despite lower process maturity. The outcomes are being achieved, and program goals are being met, but the internal processes and operational practices need more development. Such projects could benefit from refining their processes to sustain or enhance their impact.

Proficient: These projects have strong operational processes in place but are not yet achieving their intended program goals. They demonstrate maturity in planning and execution but may need to realign their focus on ensuring that these efforts translate into meaningful impact. The focus should be on adjusting goals or strategies to improve outcomes.

Exemplary: Projects have both high process maturity and are successfully reaching their program goals. These projects represent best practices in both implementation and impact, demonstrating an exemplary model for other projects to follow. The challenge for these projects is to maintain their excellence and look for continuous improvement

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