

IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT ON CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
ACTIVITY CARRIED OUT BY
CITY UNION BANK LIMITED, KUMBAKONAM DURING THE PERIOD FY 2023

Impact Assessment By
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Executive Summary

On January 22, 2021, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs issued a notification requiring Companies with an average CSR obligation of Ten crore rupees or more over the past three financial years to conduct an Impact Assessment. This assessment is required to be conducted for CSR projects involving an outlay of One crore rupees or more by an Independent Agency. The assessment is required to be done after a period of one year from the completion of the project/ activity.

In compliance with this notification, an Impact Assessment was conducted on the project '**Restoration of Moovanallur Lake in Mannargudi Taluk, Thiruvarur District**', undertaken by the Bank during the year 2022-23. The assessment sets out the effectiveness and efficiency of such project as detailed below.

Project: Conservation and Restoration of Moovanallur Lake in Mannargudi Taluk, Thiruvarur District

Introduction

Adequate water availability is essential for human survival and quality of life. Many regions, including parts of India, are currently facing severe water crisis. India's lakes, reservoirs, and wetlands have historically met the population's water needs, sustained by community management systems.

Lakes are crucial to the ecosystem, providing drinking water, supporting household activities, aiding in agriculture, facilitating fishing, and serving religious and cultural purposes. They also recharge groundwater, manage water flow, and support diverse flora and fauna.

CUB has undertaken numerous projects in the districts of Thanjavur, Thiruvarur, and Nagapattinam in Tamil Nadu, focusing on conserving water resources and improving water management practices. This project aims to conserve water for drinking, farming, and other basic amenities, prevent water pollution, and protect the environment from drought, particularly in the delta region. The project focuses on recharging groundwater through lake desilting to enhance water collection and improve soil health and fertility.

The project was conducted with Tamilnadu Cauvery Vivasayigal Sangam on the request made to City Union Bank Limited by Moovanallur Panchayat President, and Moovanallur Grama Vivasayigal Sangam. The restoration of Moovanallur Lake in Mannargudi Taluk, Thiruvarur District, involved renovation, desiltation, removal of encroachments, and bush clearance. The objectives were to increase groundwater levels, prevent bore water from becoming salty, maximize storage and water carrying capacity, mitigate flooding, and restore soil quality.

Before the Project



After the Project



with Water



Key Observations

Based on discussions with stakeholders during the Impact Assessment, it was observed that:

- The lake's total area is 130 acres, but less than 50% had carrying capacity due to bushes and encroachments.
- Desiltation to a depth of two feet and removal of bushes and encroachments enhanced the lake's carrying capacity.
- Pathways were laid on all four sides of the lake.
- The entire 130 acres now have water storage capacity.
- 350 acres of surrounding agricultural land benefit from the project.
- Previously, bore water was the main water source for agriculture, but post-desiltation, two agricultural seasons became possible, with one season relying entirely on lake water.
- The invasion of seawater and groundwater salinity has been stopped.
- Agricultural yield increased by around 20% when using lake water compared to bore water.
- About 1,000 families in the village and nearby areas benefit from increased agricultural and allied activities due to the enhanced water availability.
- Lake water also serves the drinking water needs of locals, livestock, and communities.

Behavioural Changes

- Increased involvement in agriculture due to more available water and higher yields.
- Local areas have become cleaner and greener.

Recommendations

1. Request the Government and Local authorities to maintain and keep the water bodies pollution-free.
2. Create awareness among locals about water and water body conservation.
3. Ensure boundaries are clean and usable by local people.



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