

Scoping study to assess constraints and opportunities for sustaining the tank irrigation ecosystems and smallholder livelihoods in East India and Nepal



Key details

Location

India, Nepal

Duration

Start May 2012

End Feb 2013

Budget

AUD 149,998

Commissioned organisation

International Water Management Institute

Partners

Indian Council of Agricultural Research; International Water Management Institute; Tamil Nadu Agricultural University; Vidyasagar University

Project Leader

K Palanisami - International Water Management Institute

Program

Water

Project code

LWR/2011/074

The primary objective of this 10-month scoping study was to investigate the characteristics of tanks and tank irrigation in East Indian states (West Bengal, Bihar and Orissa) and the terai (plains) of Nepal. The constraints identified and opportunities envisaged assisted in the development of a 3-year ACIAR research proposal.

Outcomes

This scoping study resulted in the larger project "[Improving dry season agriculture for marginal and tenant farmers in the Eastern Gangetic Plains through conjunctive use of pond and groundwater resources](#)".

No final report has been published.



ACIAR

Australian
Aid 

Overview

In eastern India and Nepal tanks (small reservoirs) are still used for irrigation, livestock and domestic purposes, but fisheries are emerging as their primary usage. Competition between irrigation and fisheries often creates a rift within communities, resulting in management issues that directly contribute to poor tank maintenance.