

Resume of Dr. Megha Phansalkar:

Urban and Regional Planner with specialization in the sector like livelihood , natural resource management , Water, Sanitation, Rural development and Urban Planning. In the sectors the areas of expertise are:

- Knowledge Management and Management Information System
- Monitoring and Learning
- Information and Communication Technology (ICT)
- Governance and Accountability
- Climate Change
- Geographical Information System (GIS)
- Participatory approaches in community driven projects
- Institutional and Policy support.
- Capacity Building and Training



Experience of 18 years as Consultant with the development sector with World Bank, FAO, WSP, KPMG and Government in multiple assignments. Worked as Knowledge Management Specialist with the Water Supply and Sanitation Department, Government of Maharashtra, India. Past experience is of working as development professional on multidisciplinary assignments since the year 1999.

The educational qualification includes **Master in Business Administration (Finance)** from Symbiosis Centre for Distance Learning (2013) ; **Doctorate** in System Design for Resource Planning and Management with National UGC fellowship (1997) **Masters in Planning** (Urban /Regional Planning) (1992) from Center for Environmental Planning and Technology (CEPT), Ahmedabad and **Master in Geography** from DAVV, Indore.

Existing Assignments :

1. Governance and Accountability Specialist for National Livelihood Project , World Bank; FAO , New Delhi – (February 2011 onwards Fixed Mandays)
2. Director, Micro Cloud Computing, Mumbai, India - ongoing. It focuses on Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and ICT tools for innovative products and portals to be used in the development sector (Jan 2008 onwards).
3. Urban Planner / Advisor for four City Sanitation Plan in Maharashtra for CEPT Ahmedabad – (April 2012 onwards Fixed man days)

WORK EXPERIENCE :

Existing in Detail :

4. Governance and Accountability Specialist for World Bank, New Delhi

- a. **Agency :** World Bank ; FAO
- b. **Project :** National Rural Livelihood Project
- c. **Duration :** February 2011 onwards (Fixed Mandays)
- d. **Key role in the Project: Governance and Accountability specialist, World Bank, New Delhi**
 - i. **National Rural Livelihoods Project (NRLP):** The task includes :Support mainstreaming GAC activities and its monitoring ; Development of a course curriculum, materials, etc. on GAC activities ; Field visits for documentation of practices in GAC and supporting the development of GAC training modules.
 - ii. **Bihar Livelihoods Project:** Support piloting community monitoring and feedback tools in the Jeevika project in Bihar. This includes development of training material for the paraprofessionals for undertaking the training for Community monitoring systems ; Field visits to Jeevika, Bihar to provide training to the identified paraprofessionals,
 - iii. **Orissa Rural Livelihoods Project:** Support community feedback mechanism in TRIPTI project in Orissa: This includes Understanding and analyzing the community data - not only through SHG but through other innovative means; Empowering community institution to take on the developmental responsibilities and the process of community monitoring.

5. Urban Planner / Advisor for four City Sanitation Plan in Maharashtra for CEPT Ahemdabad

- a. **Agency :** CEPT (Centre for Environment Planning and Technology)
- b. **Project:** Urban City Sanitation Planning.
- c. **Duration :** April 2012 - continue Fixed man days
- d. **Key role:** Advise and guide the CSP team for four cities of Maharashtra. The tasks included detailed surveys in the cities for water and sanitation, GIS Mapping and Technical analysis for the sanitation sector and waste management options along with institutional and financial analysis. The task includes developing ICT tools for sanitation management and planning.

6. Director, Micro Technologies; Micro Cloud Computing www.mcc.net ; www.microtechnologies.net

- a. **Agency :** Micro Cloud Computing
- b. **Project :** Multiple – Urban, Rural, ICT, GIS based projects
- c. **Duration :** January 2008 - onwards
- d. **Client :** Multiple Agencies , Gov and Private , National and International
- e. **Key role in the Project:** Director and Advisory Capacity providing guidance to GIS and ICT based projects used in development sector. Works on water and energy audits, promotes GIS & ICT in rural development and urban planning specially for slum sanitation. Has developed self learning

ICT for rural youth in rural areas for employment generation and skill development through CSCs and short course for GIS and Development

Completed:

7. Urban Planner / Consultant for CEPT Ahmedabad

- a. **Agency :** CEPT (Centre for Environment Planning and Technology)
- b. **Project:** Urban Sanitation.
- c. **Duration :** April 2012 - June 2012 Fixed man days
- d. **Key role :** To assess current policy framework and existing programmes and approaches to support funding of ODF cities by GOI, GOM, MMRDA, and selected municipal corporations and municipalities. This study will be used to identify major directions that need to be taken for an ODF strategy in the state

8. Consultant for Rural Sanitation Sector Study in Maharashtra – World Bank.

- a. **Agency :** World bank
- b. **Project :** Sanitation
- c. **Duration :** February 2012 - September 2012 fixed man days
- d. **Key role in the Project:** Preparing the Sanitation sector and overall sector status report. The task include putting together (collect, compile, analyze and present the findings in a succinct manner) a comprehensive report on the current situation of the Rural Sanitation (RS) sector in the state; collating the sub-sector analysis from other studies (rural water sector review, environmental review, institutional reviews) and putting together a comprehensive sector status report.

9. Regional Planning Expert for Rural Growth Centre's in Maharashtra

- a. **Agency :** Primove
- b. **Project :** Eco Village
- c. **Duration :** July 2011 – April 2012, Fixed Mandays
- d. **Client :** Rural Development Department , GoM
- e. **Key role in the Project:** Eco Village program of RDD, Government of Maharashtra from 2011 deals with environment issues related to water, sanitation, deforestation and economic growth. A study of these growth centers will be carried out to understand future needs and to evolve a method for preparation of environmental action plan and plan for Open Defecation Free Growth Centre's. The role as lead expert will call for following activities:
 - i. Map the villages to assess geographical locations and factors related to environment degradation and the economic growth of these centers.
 - ii. The understanding of economic growth factors will help understand the environmental impact and need of the growth centers. A method for evolving environmental action plan will be suggested as a part of this exercise.

- iii. Understand the planning processes and the frameworks for the same and suggest appropriate processes and frameworks for development planning for key basic services like water, sanitation, health, employment etc.
- iv. Develop action points for making big villages ODF.

10. Institutional Specialist for World Bank

- a. **Agency :** World Bank
- b. **Project :** Rural development
- c. **Duration :** December 2009 – December 2010, Fixed Mandays
- d. **Client :** Rural Development Department
- e. **Key role in the Project: Institutional Specialist, Bihar:** The Social protection project, Bihar dealt with institutionalizing reforms in the rural development sector. The task involved: supporting the RDD department for NREGA and society formation, monitoring the agencies in studying the Institutional and HR related aspect for piloting in Bihar ; developing shelf of work for North Bihar Flood affected areas and supporting the piloting of AIM (Alternate Implementation Model model) in Bihar.

11. Institutional specialist and Lead consultant for mainstreaming Social accountability in Second Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project (RWSSP-II), Nepal

- a. **Agency :** FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization , Rome / World Bank)
- b. **Project :** Second Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project (RWSSP-II), Nepal
- c. **Duration :** May 2008 – December 2010 , Fixed Mandays
- d. **Client :** Rural water Supply and Sanitation Fund Board, Nepal
- e. **Key role in the Project:** The Nepal Second Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project (RWSSP-II) was initiated in the year 2004. The target was to cover 1355 schemes, across eight batches in 75 districts spread across five regions by the year 2009. Social accountability was being mainstreamed in through Jagran Karyakram.

The objectives of the assignment were to improve sector institutional performance and mainstream “the social accountability” approach in the project. The focus of the project was to empower in an all inclusive manner, rural communities by using a demand driven approach to service delivery and a participatory process in decision making to implement their water supply and sanitation schemes with the assistance of support organizations (NGOs, CBOs, private firms etc. recruited by the Board.

The processes in Jagran Karyakram included setting up the phasing plan, institutional arrangement, designing and implementing the guidelines and procedures, planning and implementing capacity building programmes, developing and implementing transparency and accountability tools and promoting participatory community monitoring.

The key task involved empowering 50 Para professionals, who had taken up activities in 100 villages, on social accountability through capacity building. The other activities included: Preparation of resource and IEC material for social accountability which included Jagran implementation plan, Jagran manual, Jagran posters, Jagran activity board, Community score cards, Community manual, Process audit booklet, Jagran cycle, Jagran leaflet, Jagran booklet etc.

12. Associated Member and Head India Liaison Office for Multiple Projects

- a. **Agency:** CEMDS, Vienna (Centre for environmental Support and Decision Making.)
 - b. **Project :** Multiple – Rural Water supply and sanitation / City sanitation planning
 - c. **Duration :** November 2007 – July 2012, Fixed Mandays
 - d. **Client :** Multiple - European Commission, Water Aid, Un Habitat, Urban local bodies
 - a. **Key role in the Project :**
 - i. **Senior Advisor and coordinator:** Prepared City Sanitation plan for small towns in Madhya Pradesh namely Ashta, Raisen, Gwalior and Khajurao funded by Water Aid from 2009 – 2011. The tasks included detailed surveys in the cities for water and sanitation, GIS Mapping and Technical analysis for the sanitation sector and waste management options along with institutional and financial analysis. The task include developing ICT tools for sanitation management and planning
 - ii. **Joint coordinator for ANTINOMOS project: November 2007 – December 2010** FP6 Project - Knowledge network for solving drinking water problem in Developing countries: bridging contrasts of European commission focusing on water and sanitation technologies in India. Represented 3 members JSB (Joint Scientific Board) to steer the project which has been funded by European Commission across 13 countries globally. Project coordinator for Maharashtra case studies which involved documentation of innovative rural technologies; socio economic survey in rural areas and environmental risk/ impact assessment in WATSAN. .
- Attended international workshop and meetings at Bari (Italy) and Presented paper regarding Innovative Membrane based technology for Drinking Water at Bangkok (Thailand).**
- iii. **Project coordinator on the EC FP6 Project Mai-tai - April 2009 – continued :** “Managing water scarcity: intelligent tools and cooperative strategies in Pali river basin of Rajasthan for domestic, industry and agriculture sectors - funded by European Commission.

The methodologies used were assessment and evaluation on performance indicators, policy modelling, scenario analysis, etc. through household based interviews, focus group discussions, questionnaires, comparative studies (between China and India), best practice analysis, etc. including qualitative and quantitative (statistical) analysis, fuzzy based analysis,

modelling and simulation techniques for data analysis. **Attended international workshop and meetings at Beijing (China).**

- iv. **Research associate for project Dimsum funded by European Commission November 2007 – April 2008:** Innovative decision making for a sustainable management of water in developing countries. The task included piloting ICT tool in two villages of Ratnagiri District: Kalbadevi and Chervali which were under the community driven water supply and sanitation project Jalswarajaya.

The main aim of the project was development of recommendations for sustainable decision making processes, encompassing various methodological options, guidelines for their application and policy recommendations, as a means to contribute to a more sustainable management of water. The objective was to examine pre and post picture of the community / village where an ICT tool was used in the drinking water sector.

The ICT based tools were implemented with the support of the village Gram Panchayat, local youth and school students who were being trained to collect data on drinking water and its mapping.

13. Task Team leader/ Advisor for KPMG projects

- a. **Agency :** KPMG
- b. **Project :** RDD Evaluation project, E-PRI project
- c. **Duration :** July 2009 – April 2011, Fixed Mandays
- d. **Client :** Rural Development Department, Panchayati Raj Department
- e. **Key role in the Project:**
 - i. **Task Team leader/ Advisor:** The Ministry for Panchayati Raj had initiated an evaluation exercise of key RDD projects in eight states. The objective was to assess the impact of the said projects and based on that make necessary policy level changes. Advisory services and support staff was provided.
 - ii. **Task Team leader/ Advisor:** E-PRI project was initiated by Panchayati Raj Department supported in nine districts. Advisory services and support staff was provided in assessing the IT requirement for making the Panchayats IT friendly.

14. WSP (South Asia) World Bank - Short term Consultant (Dec 2010) for Documentation of Best Practice Rural Sanitation for Jalna district under in the Total Sanitation Campaign. The task included visit to the district for stakeholder discussion, visit to villages for documentation and focus group discussion and report writing.

15. Knowledge Management Specialist in advisory capacity

- a. **Agency :** Water supply and sanitation department, Government of Maharashtra

- b. **Project:** Sector Projects Jalswarajya, Sant Gadge Baba, Total Sanitation Program, Aple Pani, Swajaldhara etc.
- c. **Duration :** June 2003 – October 2007 , Full Time
- d. **Key role in the Project:** Being a Knowledge Management Specialist, the role was to provide policy support to the unit in implementing the community driven projects under reforms approach and mainstream knowledge management across the rural drinking water supply and sanitation sector. She developed sector website and MIS, promoted community based knowledge management, developed knowledge management strategy and contributed in other sector reforms policies. The key areas of working as Knowledge Management advisor were:
 - i. **Information Communication Technology:** Developed an information and knowledge management strategy, framework and streamlined its implementation for the Water and sanitation sector. Coordinated development of monitoring and evaluation systems for the projects under implementation. Developed and managed the sector web portal to ensure that all stakeholders get relevant information. Integrated spatial data base through GIS applications.
 - ii. **Knowledge Management:** Ensured that knowledge generated in the Sector was acquired, processed, packaged and disseminated in appropriate range of media. Coordinated with relevant regional, international centers and development agencies to generate information on specific RWSS Sector related Issues including best practices and lessons learned elsewhere. Mainstreamed simple tools for knowledge management across varied projects and stakeholders.
 - iii. **Social Accountability:** Initiated social accountability tools in the Jalswarajya project. Conducted the social accountability ToT Workshop for capacity building of the project staff. Conducted pilots for introducing community score card in a few villages, developed manual in local language. Overlooked the process of conducting citizen report card in the sub component of ZP/GP incentive fund. Propagated participatory tools for community monitoring, capturing community perceptions and process monitoring.
 - iv. **Documentation:** Coordinated preparation of audio-visual material and other interactive tools for informed decision making at the community level. Overseen publishing and ensured varied documents, films, visual reports generated in the sector from all sources through superior quality medium in terms of language and layout and reflected the needs of the stakeholders.
 - v. **Capacity Building:** Ensured that the capacity of community level institutions and stakeholders in adopting and applying integrated information and knowledge management systems was built for information and communication technologies. Made initiatives to ensure transparency, accountability and cross learning amongst stakeholders.
 - vi. **Policy support and Coordination:** Knowledge management involved cross cutting initiatives across various components and projects. Hence worked in projects related to water quality and provided policy support to different projects implemented by the Department.

16. Consultant, for Network for Preventive Environmental Management (NetPEM) Public Trust

- a. **Agency :** NetPEM (Network for Preventive Environmental Management)
- b. **Project :** Multiple projects
- c. **Duration :** February 2001 – May 2002
- d. **Key role in the Project:** Coordinated with the course coordinators, mentors and students of the distance environmental education programme for course delivery and developing web based tools. The tasks included supervising national and international development projects related to preventive environmental management. Conducted the international course and environment Impact assessments

17. Consultant, for YUVA

- a. **Agency :** YUVA
- b. **Project :** Multiple projects related to Women empowerment/ Natural Resource Management, Sustainable development /Watershed management/ Rural Development
- c. **Duration :** May 2000 - April 2001
- d. **Key role in the Project:** Assignment included Preparation of Project Proposals to be submitted to international donors for projects related to Women empowerment / Natural Resource Management, Sustainable development / Watershed management / Rural Development. Various projects undertaken during research assignments included:
 - Study of Health Conditions in the slums of Nagpur City
 - Evaluation of Poverty Alleviation Scheme
 - Municipal Budget Analysis of Nagpur Budget and designing a MIS formats for municipality.

18. Consultant for Softdeal Computers

- a. **Agency :** Soft Deal Computers
- b. **Duration :** May 1999 – April 2000
- c. **Client :** Soft deal Computers
- d. **Key role in the Project:** The edutainment CD aimed to target children between the age of 3 –7 years. The graphical tools were used which are easy to understand and on help with talking tutors.

Educational qualification:

- **Master in Business Management with specialization in Finance** from Symbiosis International Distance Learning, Pune (2013)
- **Post graduate course in Participatory Rehabilitation and Resettlement** (IGNOU with World Bank) (2006).
- **Doctorate** in System Design for Resource Planning and Management with National UGC fellowship (1997).
- **Masters in Planning** (Urban /Regional Planning) (1992) from Center from Environmental Planning and Technology (CEPT), Ahmedabad.
- **Masters in Geography**, Devi Ahilaya Vishwavidhayala, Indore (1990).

Doctoral Work: The PhD was done after qualifying in the National Entrance Test (NET) of UGC (University Grants Commission) for fellowship and lectureship. The topic was System Design for Resource Planning and Management. The study aimed to design a computer application for resource analysis and management taking case study of a district. It is a GIS (Geographical Information System) based application using primary, secondary and spatial data.

International Experiences:

- Consultant to World Bank on Nepal Rural Water supply and Sanitation Project in Social accountability since May 2008 – June 2010 fixed mandays .
- Participating in an international project “A knowledge network for solving drinking water problem in developing countries”. Representing 3 members JSB (Joint Scientific Board) to steer the project (2007 – 09) the project has been funded by European Commission. Visited Bari, Beijing for project meetings
- Participated in paper presentation titled “Membrane based Solar Water Purifier for providing Safe Drinking Water” in Bangkok, Thailand on November 8-9, 2010.
- Experience of working and preparing projects for EU commission, World Bank, USAID during various assignments. Volunteered for developing an online system with GIS interface for Ashoka for helping them to search the data base of Ashoka Fellows.
- Participated in the Group Study Exchange Professional programme of Rotary international to USA (Michigan and Wisconsin) for 6 weeks (May 2001). The sponsored GSE for Non–Rotarians aimed at professional and cultural exchange of young talented professional between two countries.

Computer Skills:

- Programming skills in VB 6.0, Front Page Express.
- Developing MIS and M&E systems.
- Geographical Information System. (GIS)
- Web portal designing and developing e-learning modules.
- Excellence in handling Graphic-designing packages.

Publications:

Book : Change to Change ; Published by Power Publishers , Kolkata (2012)

Papers etc.

- Poster on Innovative ICT Tools for Decision Making & Sustainable Development, June 2012, UCAR, Boulder USA
- Innovative Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in City Sanitation Planning – February 2012, New Delhi.
- Membrane based Solar Water Purifier for providing Safe Drinking Water – November 2010, Bangkok, Thailand.

- Comparison of sanitation and wastewater treatment technologies: case studies from India – National Sanitation Conference – June 2010, New Delhi.
- Taking GIS from Classes to Masses – National Geospatial Conference, Sangamner (2008).
- From Cleanliness to Prosperity – Case Study of Mahalunge Village (Sanitation conference, 2007).
- Promoting community based institutions in drinking water sector (conference on coastal areas, 2007)
- Mainstreaming Knowledge Management in community driven projects. (online Paper, 2006)
- Information System for Resource planning and management. (Map India Conference, 2002)
- Growth centers and Sector development - A comparative analysis. (Study of Akola district, 1995)
- Agro based Industry – An option for rural areas (with extensive field based data from Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh, 1995)
- An Approach for resource planning (study of Jhabua District, 1994).

Scholar Ships:

- National Scholarship for Doctorate (1992-1997) Cleared National Entrance Test (NET) of UGC for Scholarship/Lectureship (1992)
- Best Girl Horse Rider Cup and Gold Medals two years at national level (1988-90).
- Attended the NCC National Republic day camp twice (1988 – 90)
- Four Gold and one silver medal at university in graduation for securing highest marks in various subject (1985-88)
- NCC annual scholarship for best in academics at graduation and post graduation level with three university gold medals and four silver medals for scoring highest in various subjects. (1986 to 1990).

Personal Information:

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