

South Asia

COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OF RIVER BASINS

Mashi River Basin Parliament RAJASTHAN

Multi-stakeholder Partnerships in Action



THEMES: CLIMATE RESILIENCE, IWRM

Time: 2015-18 (Four-year project)

Expected outcome: Water and food security enhanced among the climate change affected communities in Mashi Sub Basin of Rajasthan, India.

Mashi River Basin is a part of larger basin called Banas River Basin which is located in the middle of Rajasthan, India. In order to address the arising issues in the basin ecosystem, GWP India in collaboration with CEDSJ launched a project for setting up the Mashi River Basin Parliament as a new model of water governance with community and local government participation. Objectives of the project were to evolve a participatory river basin approach for water resources development and management in Mashi Basin and to develop resilience to climate change.

Added value of multi-stakeholder partnerships

- Capacity building trainings/stakeholder consultations facilitated knowledge exchange between Experts and Communities.
- Development of communities of practice.
- Involvement of a diversified group (sectors, capacities and public) having different competencies –provided a more holistic approach for better water governance.
- Enhanced the ownership and sustainability of the project.

Results/impact

- Constitution of Mashi River Basin Parliament was approved by the members.
- People started taking initiatives to address their water issues through participatory approach by meeting regularly.
- Smaller groups gathered and formed committees at watershed level to strengthen the functioning of river basin parliament.
- Increased awareness on resources and issues pertaining to the basin.
- Community generated agreements and made changes to traditional agricultural practices directed to achieving sustainability.

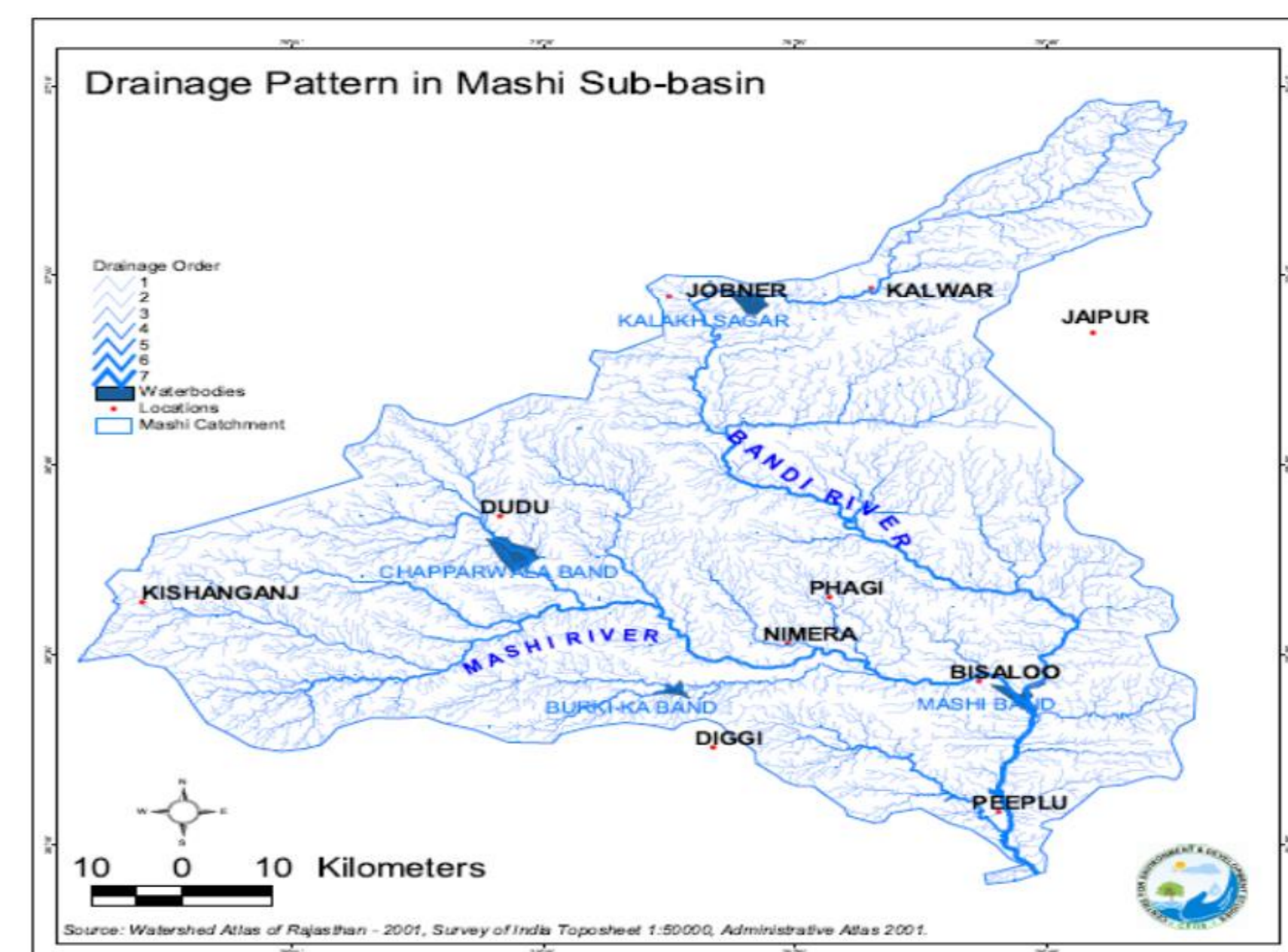
Lessons Learnt

- Capacity building is vital for successful implementation of watershed development programmes.
- Community management of village resources is more relevant with the declining harmony among different class caste in the society in this competitive environment.
- It is extremely difficult for individuals or small groups to protect the larger interest of the society and to track the environmental degradation of a basin. Therefore, community management of natural resources is of great importance.

Sustainable Development Goals



Location



Partners

- Center for Environment and Development Studies, Jaipur (CEDSJ)
- Local NGOs

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