

Screening of COCO model Film in MP

screening of a short film on Community owned community Operated (COCO) drinking water model was organised in Ahirwar Basti, Mador Village in Madhya Pradesh on 22nd June, 2019.

The COCO model is based on the principles of initiating community-led action. It creates a sense of community ownership and accountability of services and thus makes it a sustainable model ensuring equitable distribution of basic services. In this, drinking water is drawn from a ground water source by a solar-powered motor, which is carried by a pipeline to a water tank in the village. A pipeline is installed and community stand-post taps are connected for the use by three households per stand-post.

Earlier, people in Ahirwar Basti were dependent on well for their water related household work. The community had to travel long distance to fetch water and come back. Development Alternatives in association with la caixa W4P supported in setting up COCO drinking water Model, which now provides water to 48 household in the basti. The screening of the film was organised to enhance social and economic development of the Bundelkhand region, and to make people understand the significance of community led initiative and encourage then to take ownership of their work. The screening saw huge participation from the community. Because of COCO model, lives of people here have changed drastically and they do not have to travel long distance to bring water. After the screening, the team also interacted with the community and their queries were addressed. The community also pointed out other social barriers like caste, infrastructure in schools, and distance of schools from the village etc, which are primarily the reasons for high drop outs. They urged DA to look to work on solutions for those as well with the participation of the community.

