



FXB

international

Association François-Xavier Bagnoud



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FXB India Suraksha empowers community to monitor water quality with smartphone technology

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FXB recognized the critical importance of access to clean water and sanitation for a family's health and potential to thrive. Whether for drinking, cooking, or hygiene, clean water and sanitation play vital roles in keeping communities healthy.



The Challenge

According to the World Health Organization and UNICEF, 750 million people lack access to safe water; approximately one in nine people around the world. In the same study, data from across 45 developing countries shows that women and children bear the primary responsibility for water collection; globally accounting for 140 million hours spent each day in the pursuit of water.

FXB recognizes that this is valuable time not spent earning an income, attending school, or caring for family members. Furthermore, frequently water is collected from polluted sources, which can lead to serious health problems.

So what can be done?

In March 2015, FXB India Suraksha (FXBIS) initiated a three-year intensive, integrated Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) program in 34 villages in Jharkhand, a state in eastern India. This initiative reaches more than 32,000 people from over 6,000 households.

Through a partnership with the Akvo FLOW Foundation, FXBIS is empowering local communities to monitor the quality of nearby water through smartphone technology. Akvo FLOW is a mobile application and web-based tool designed for data collection, both in the field and through surveys. It

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allows users to collect data on accessible and safe water points.

FXB India Suraksha has trained local community members to use the Akvo FLOW mobile technology to map and test water points throughout their villages. The map, which is updated in real time, can then be used to understand the current status of water, including physical location, quality and quantity, as well as proximity to open defecation sites.

FXBIS has introduced this program as a pilot for implementation at a larger scale. The next step for community members is to present the collected data to key government and national stakeholders, bridging the distance between community participation and policymaking.

Thanks to the support of the Fondation Arghyam, FXB India Suraksha launched this initiative in early 2015 for a period of 3 years.

FXB International (FXB) is a non-governmental organization with a 26-year history of breaking the cycle of poverty. Present in 14 countries with a staff of 450 collaborators, **its mission is to provide the poorest of the poor families with the tools and support they need to become self-sufficient, able to raise their children in safe environment and give them a future.**

In the last 26 years, FXB International has already developed 162 [FXBVillage](#) programs across eight countries - Burundi, China, Colombia, DRC, India, Rwanda, Thailand and Uganda - helping more than **81'000 people out of extreme poverty**. In addition to the *FXBVillage* programs, 17 million adults and children across [20 countries](#) have benefited from the presence of FXB in their communities through sustainable community development, infrastructure rehabilitation, education, HIV/AIDS and other diseases prevention, awareness and access to water and sanitation programs.

FXB pursues a global approach to vulnerability reduction in several precarious regions of the world. We concentrate on the most forgotten communities, the truly unheard. FXB strongly believes that improving human and social development levels is inextricably linked with the access to all basic human, child and health rights.

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