

2nd Online Impact Workshop cum Master Class on Capacity building initiative for Citywide Water and Sanitation Management Theme - Sustainable Water Management

Webinar Proceedings: 11th August, 2021

School of Water and Waste (SWW), CSE, organised a two-day Impact Workshop-cum-Master Class, where our alumni from all trainings, programme and institutional partners were invited to share their impactful stories and described their journey as how the capacity building initiatives (inclusive of all residential/ online trainings, workshops etc) have contributed to their work. Theme for Day 1 was 'Sustainable Water Management' which had stories across the globe on sub-themes like Water Sensitive Urban Design and Planning (WSUDP), Urban Rainwater Harvesting (URWH), Green Infrastructure and Nature Based Solutions, Urban Waterbodies Management, Water and Communication, Tools and Approaches for Citywide Water Management, Mainstreaming Water-Energy Nexus etc.

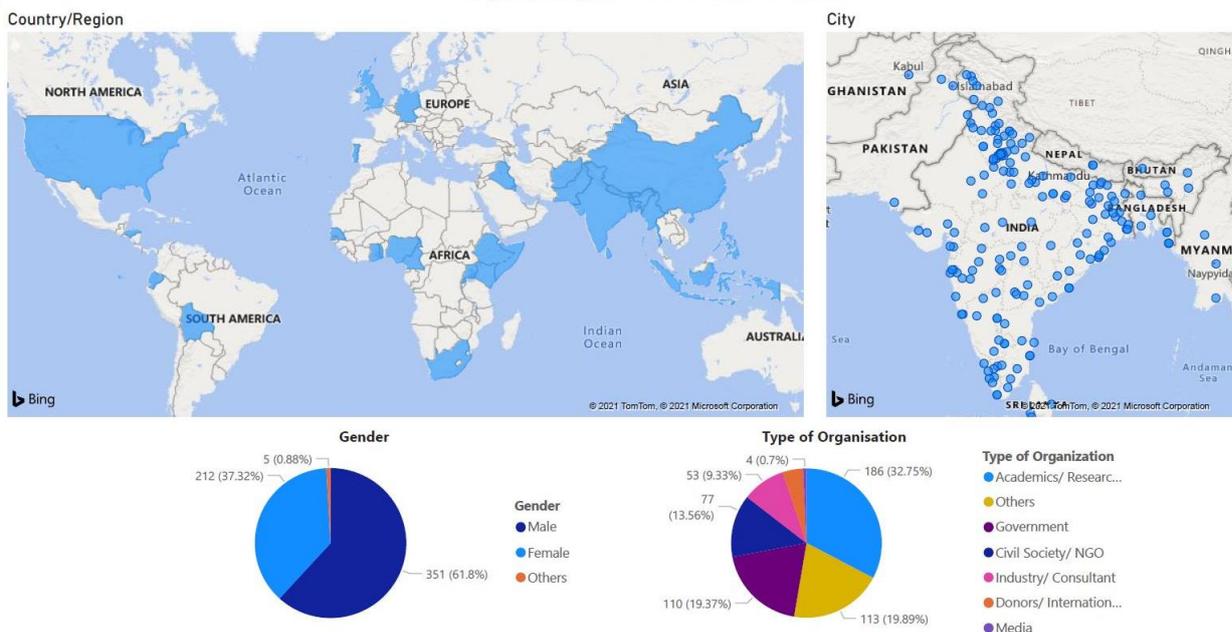
We also had Mr Aditya Batra (Senior Director Board & Funding), Mr Souparno Banerjee (Senior Director, Media Resource Centre), Mr Rajneesh Sareen (Director, Sustainable Buildings Programme), Mr Nivit Kumar Yadav (Director, Industrial Pollution Unit) and Mr Atin Biswas (Director, Solid Waste Management) from CSE, as jury member to adjudge the best five alumni stories.

Day 1 of the impact workshop was organized on 11th August, 2021 aimed at identifying knowledge and skill gaps in the area of city-wide water management, knowledge exchange on best experience and learnings to bridge in the capacity building of individuals and institutions. The workshop looked forward to foster collaboration to strengthen research, advocacy and capacity building aimed at creating 'change agents' – water manager and leaders. The event received an overwhelming response with 274+ alumni attending the workshop. The attendees belonged to diverse fields, including engineers, architects, planners, social scientists, etc. They represented private consultancies, govt. departments, academic institutions, NGOs, etc.

Summary of Registrations

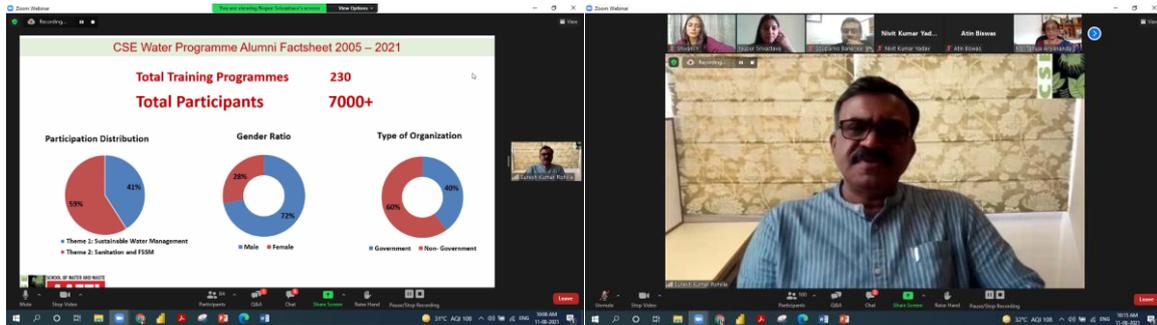
CSE - SWW IMPACT WORKSHOP - 2021

567 Registrations from 251 cities across 31 countries



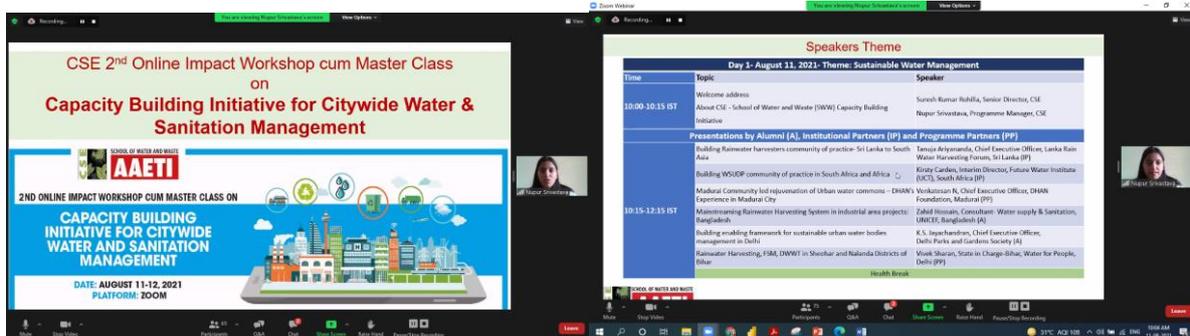
The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. Suresh Kumar Rohilla, Academic Director of SWW and Senior Director at CSE by sharing the journey of SWW from its inception, and its role as an active advocacy and capacity building initiative at CSE. He stressed upon ground-breaking statistics of training 7000+ professionals (41% on Sustainable water management) over the last two decades through 230+ trainings on the Water & Sanitation/ FSSM themes, out of which 40% participants were nominated government officials. The alumni at SWW covers over 900+ cities across 57 countries and 700+ cities in India.

Snapshots from Presentation by Dr Suresh Kumar Rohilla, CSE



Following the brief overview, Ms Nupur Srivastava, Programme Manager, CSE kick-started the sessions on alumni stories and experience sharing. As many as 11 individual alumni, programme partners, institutional partners showcased their journey of overcoming challenges, how they have been using the knowledge from our training programmes and implementing their action plans and setting up pioneering projects. The speakers ranged from diverse backgrounds with consultants, academicians, activists, NGO's and government officials. All the presentations were followed by interesting Q & A session by the jury members and other alumni attendees.

Snapshots from Presentation by Ms Nupur Srivastava, CSE



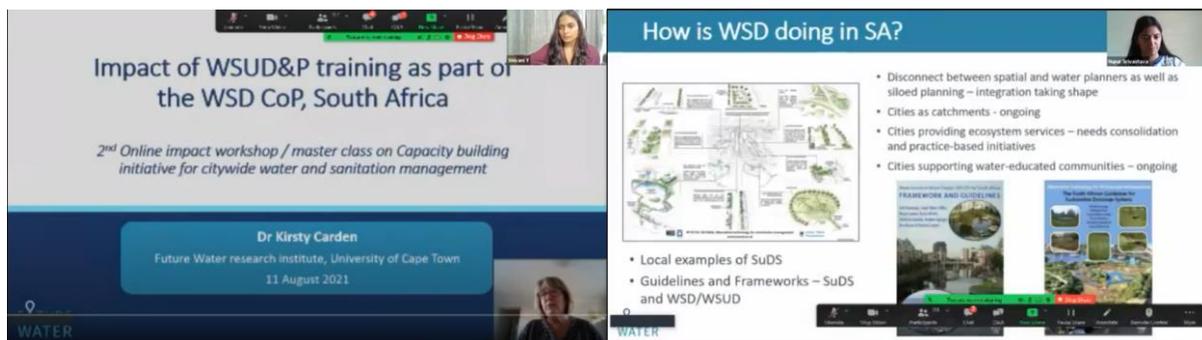
The first speaker of the workshop was CSE's Institutional partner, Ms Tanuja Ariyananda, Chief Executive Officer, representing Lanka Rain Water Harvesting Forum (LRWHF), Sri Lanka. She shared the journey of building Rainwater harvesters' community of practice with over 46000+ RWH systems in Sri Lanka and also over South Asia. Ms Ariyananda highlighted the 10+ years of partnership and CSE training contribution in knowledge building and skill development around establishment of Rain Centers, training of 260+ professionals, govt. officials on RWH and GWR, creating awareness regarding RWH and its role in developing a water prudent society.

Snapshots from Presentation by Ms Tanuja Ariyananda, LRWHF, Sri Lanka



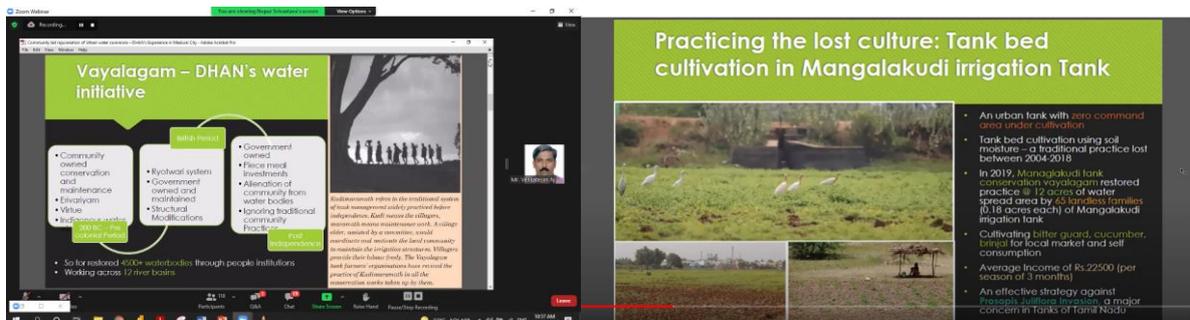
The following session was a recorded presentation, by CSE's eminent Programme partner, Ms Kirsty Carden, Interim Director, Future Water Institute, South Africa, sharing her experiences of building WSUDP community of practice in South Africa and Africa. She deliberated on the active partnership for the past 5+ years, water sensitive strategy, framework and guidelines, phased trainings and their impacts and ongoing initiatives in various cities in South Africa.

Snapshots from Presentation by Ms Kirsty Carden, Future Water Institute, South Africa



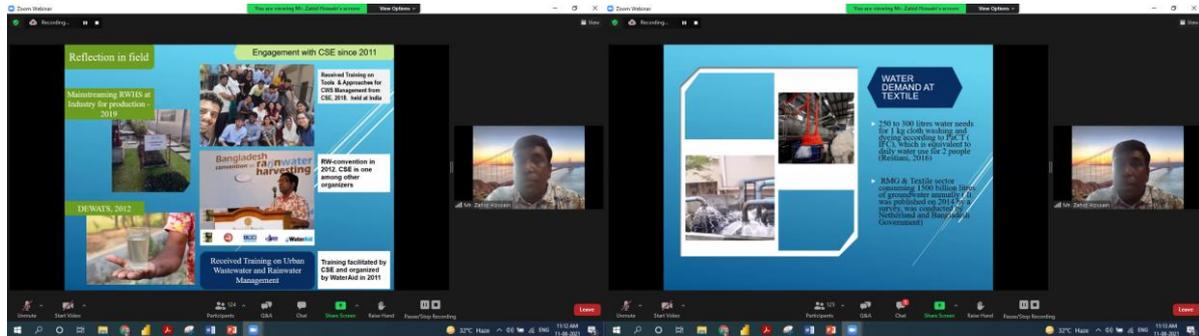
Taking the session forward, CSE's Programme partner, Mr Venkatesan N, Chief Executive Officer, Dhan Foundation, Madurai, shared how CSE's workshop on state of waterbodies and lakes in southern India (held at Pondicherry on 29 Feb, 2016) helped him in understanding various waterbodies models in urban context and motivated him to take communities to visit those models to gain confidence and develop their own designs. Mr Venkatesan discussed about the 'Vayalagam', a Dhan's water initiative which has been successful in restoring 4500+ waterbodies through people institutions working across 12 river basins and a detailed case of Madurai city in south India.

Snapshots from Presentation by Mr Venkatesan N, Dhan Foundation, Madurai



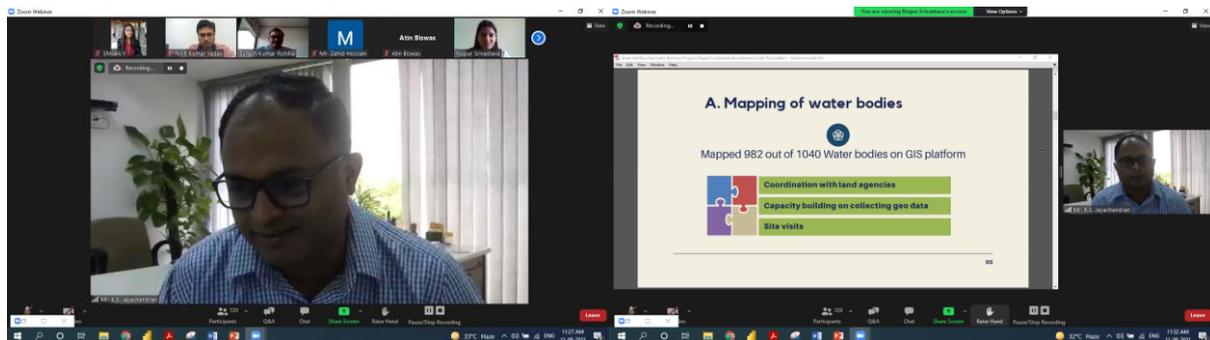
Mr Zahid Hossain- CSE's Alumni, working as a Consultant, UNICEF, Bangladesh, shared his experience of mainstreaming Rainwater Harvesting systems in the industrial sector after getting motivated by CSE trainings. Mr Hossain reflected on his lessons learned from three RMG-textile based factories in Bangladesh with good examples to promoting RWHS in the industries for ensuring water security. He concluded his presentation by stating that the return on investment for RWHS is high and these systems helped in reducing groundwater dependency and controlling water logging in the factories due to heavy rainfall.

Snapshots from Presentation by Mr Zahid Hossain, UNICEF, Bangladesh



Mr K.S. Jayachandran- CSE's Alumni, currently working as the Chief Executive Officer, Delhi Parks and Gardens Society, New Delhi brought out an interesting case of building and enabling framework for sustainable urban water bodies management in Delhi along with Wetland Authority for Delhi. Mr Jayachandran discussed his experience of substantial progress made in this regard through listing, mapping, preparation of action plans and brief documents of water bodies in Delhi. He highlighted that CSE's training helped him with a holistic understanding and acknowledgement of a wetland system which became an important part of draft wetland management plans focusing on water quality and quantity.

Snapshots from Presentation by Mr K.S. Jayachandran, Delhi Parks and Gardens Society



Mr Ashwani Luthra, Professor, GNDU, Amritsar, highlighted upon the 4+ years long academia partnership between CSE-GNDU and discussed around pedagogy, action research and model projects for building sustainable habitat at institutional level. He shared the journey of the GNDU campus from grey to green to becoming the second most cleanest Government University of India. He presented several on ground projects within the campus for example, augmentation of STP, creation of wetland, RWH and recharge systems, water collection pond, DWWTS systems and water sensitive toilets and urinals.

Snapshots from Presentation by Mr Ashwani Luthra, GNDU, Amritsar



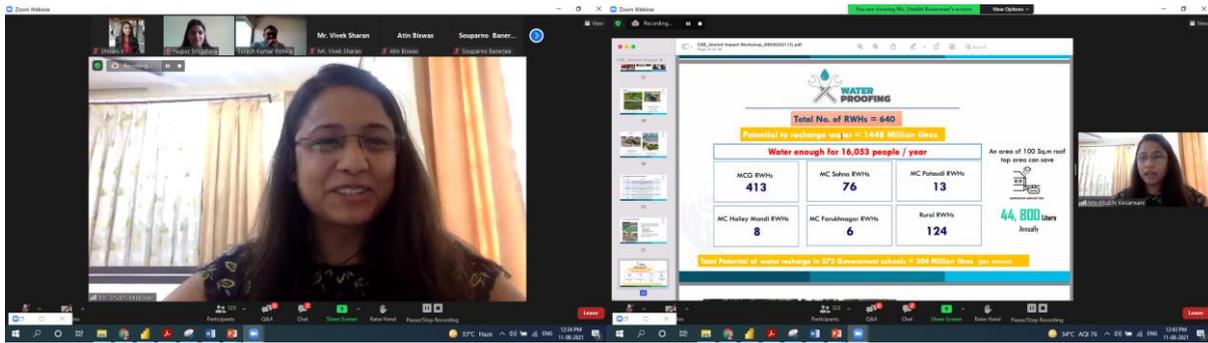
Moving ahead, our Programme partner and Alumni, Mr Vivek Sharan, State in Charge – Bihar, Water For People, New Delhi, shared his experiences of implementing Rainwater Harvesting systems, DWWTs and working for FSM in Sheohar and Nalanda Districts of Bihar. Mr Sharan deliberated on the “Everyone Forever” and “Mission Paani” approaches by Water For People aimed at improving the quality of life for the people in the district through access to safe and reliable drinking water and sanitation. The initiative with its proposed interventions, awareness and capacity building, behavioural change programs etc. reaches out to around 1.5 million people and provide safe and locally sustained drinking water services to around 14 million people.

Snapshots from Presentation by Mr Vivek Sharan, Water For People



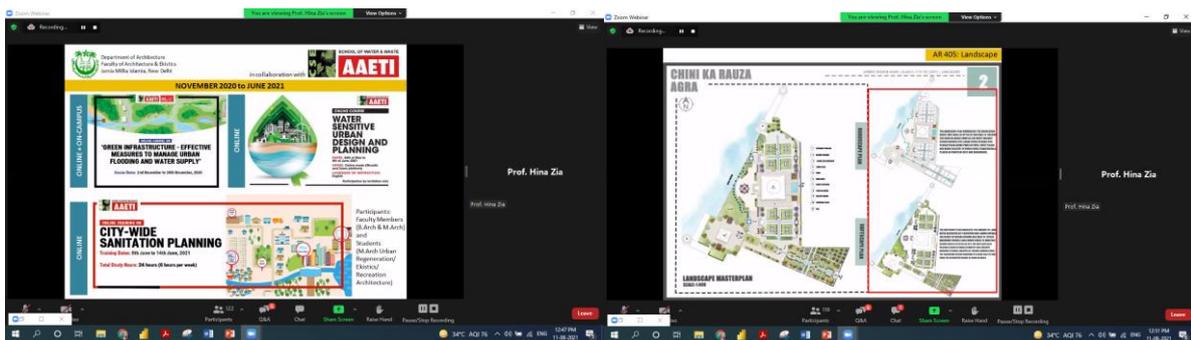
Ms Shubhi Kesarwani, Programme Manager, GuruJal, Gurugram, CSE's Programme partner, discussed about several challenges both in terms of engineering and governance that comes along working with almost 24+ government departments for water conservation programs. Ms Kesarwani shared GuruJal's learnings from CSE's trainings and how they have turned their learnings into implementation to protect, conserve and revive waterbodies of Gurugram. She highlighted that the continuous capacity building programs at CSE has helped their members in informing to work on nature based sustainable solutions and motivated them to create the largest impact on ground.

Snapshots from Presentation by Ms Shubhi Kesarwani, GuruJal, Gurugram



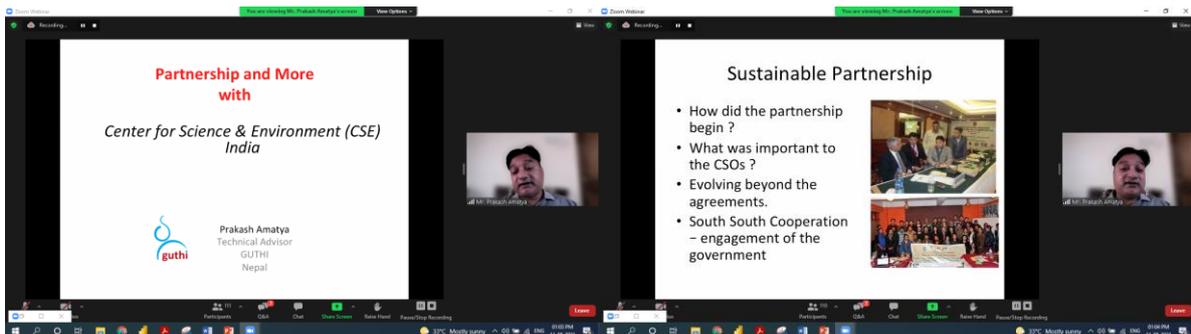
Prof. Hina Zia, Head of Department, FAE, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, and CSE's Institutional partner, shared the impact of the knowledge partnership with CSE to strengthen capacities in developing Water Sensitive Cities. Ms Zia discussed on how the online and residential trainings have helped the faculty members of the institution in curriculum development, as well as the students in research, studio exercises and thesis. She presented various theses and studio works of the students, incorporating concepts of Green Infrastructure, WSUDP approaches and citywide sanitation plans from the learnings gained through several trainings. She also stressed upon the importance of building linkages with academic institutions and industry to help reduce the knowledge and experience gap in students, and jointly conduct research for better outreach.

Snapshots from Presentation by Prof. Hina Zia, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi



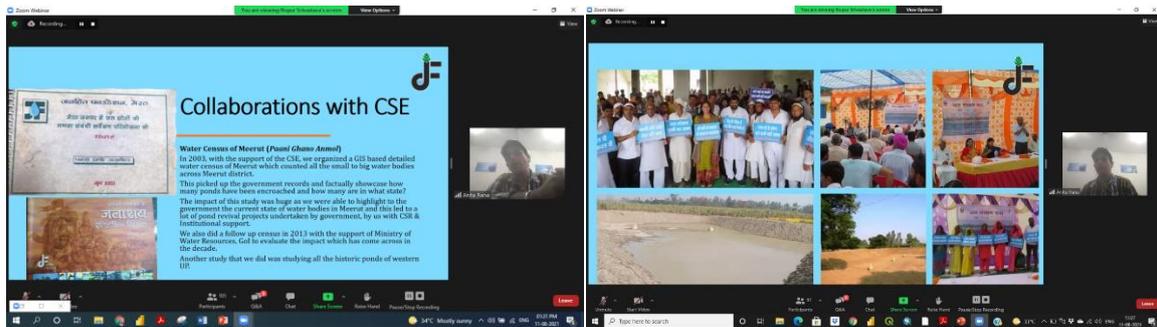
Mr Prakash Amatya, currently working as Technical Advisor, GUTHI, Nepal, shared his experience of 15+ years of collaboration with CSE that has resulted in high level commitment towards giving urgent attention to urban water and waste issues through several Rainwater Harvesting, sanitation interventions and training centres in Nepal. Mr Amatya highlighted the capacity building, technical and knowledge support provided by CSE which has led to impact on policies and plans for Rainwater Harvesting and a take-off point for embarking towards local WaSH planning in Nepal.

Snapshots from Presentation by Mr Prakash Amatya, Technical Advisor, GUTHI, Nepal



The 20+ years of Institutional and Programme partnership between CSE and Janhit Foundation for setting up techniques of traditional and modern Rainwater Harvesting Systems was deliberated by Ms Anita Rana, Janhit Foundation, Meerut. Ms Rana highlighted the collaboration with CSE not only in terms with the funding but also the technical support provided for setting up a Rain Centre in Meerut, which was the 2nd of its kind in India in 2004. She also deliberated on other cases in Meerut like Rainwater Harvesting Structure in Mahila Police Station, Meerut, Water Census of Meerut (Paani Ghano Anmol), other Rainwater Harvesting structures in multiple government and private buildings and revival of water bodies in the region.

Snapshots from Presentation by Ms Anita Rana, Janhit Foundation, Meerut



The workshop was concluded with a short Q&A session and a vote of thanks by Dr Suresh Rohilla. Q&A sessions transformed the presentations to a real and fruitful learning experience.

