

## IWMI signs Agreement with Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Limited (GUVNL)

IWMI signed an agreement with Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Limited as part of its SDC-SoLAR project. This agreement shall be in place for three years that commence in November 2021.

Under this agreement, GUVNL will agree to do the following:

- Extend cooperation to IWMI and GERMI (Gujarat Energy Research and Management Institute) for the implementation of farmers training in selected feeders
- Sharing the required data for systematic impact evaluation of the SKY programme as per data requirements
- Providing access to GUVNL's research products (such as databases and maps) and training resource materials
- Facilitating links between IWMI and relevant stakeholders in the Government of Gujarat undertaking similar functions and facilitating study tours and field visits of professionals from other parts of India/South Asia

Under the same agreement, IWMI will contribute to supporting GUVNL implemented SKY and PM-KUSUM scheme in the following manner:

- To train all farmers in 48 pre-identified SKY feeders in a face-to-face mode in 2022. This will be done through identifying and co-developing training and capacity-building modules, conducting training of SKY farmers and facilitating knowledge exchange among farmers around solar irrigation technologies and practices
- To enter into a separate contract with GERMI for field implementation of training modules
- To carry out a rigorous impact evaluation of the SKY program in collaboration with GUVNL
- To organise workshops, scientific conferences, forums and seminars and disseminate findings from training and research collaborations
- To publish and disseminate research results jointly with GUVNL
- To facilitate links between GUVNL and other organisations in South Asia that are implementing similar solar irrigation programmes and facilitate regional cross-learning.

More information about GUVNL can be found [here](#).

IWMI's India Country Representative, Dr Alok Sikka and Chief Engineer (Tech) PM Patel of GUVNL signed the agreement in November 2021.

***In pictures:***



*Rajendra Vala, SE, GUVNL and Dr Aditi Mukherji, Principal Researcher, IWMI, holding signed copies of the agreement  
Photo: Zeba Ahsan/IWMI*