

The Water Lab Programme in Jaipur City

Background

Jaipur, like many rapidly growing urban centres in Rajasthan, faces increasing challenges related to drinking water quality, groundwater stress, and urban water governance. Ensuring safe and reliable water supply requires stronger monitoring systems, improved institutional coordination, and adoption of innovative technologies.

Under the WaterLab Programme, CUTS International in partnership with Villgro Foundation is implementing an initiative in Jaipur city to support improved urban water quality management through innovation, stakeholder engagement, and policy dialogue. The programme also involves collaboration with startup partner Cluix, which is providing technology-based solutions for water quality monitoring and treatment.

The initiative is being implemented in coordination with key government stakeholders including the Public Health Engineering Department (PHED), Government of Rajasthan and urban local institutions in Jaipur.

Project Goal

To strengthen urban water quality governance and promote safe drinking water management in Jaipur through technology-driven interventions, institutional collaboration, and community engagement.

Key Objectives

- Support deployment of innovative water quality monitoring and treatment solutions in selected areas of Jaipur.
- Facilitate coordination between government departments, urban local bodies, and technology partners.
- Strengthen awareness and dialogue on urban water quality challenges and solutions.
- Generate evidence and policy recommendations for scalable and sustainable urban water management practices.

Key Activities

1. Stakeholder Engagement and Institutional Coordination

CUTS facilitates dialogue and coordination among government departments, urban local bodies, technical institutions, and other stakeholders to support effective implementation of Water Lab interventions.

2. Technology Demonstration and Field Learning

The project supports deployment of innovative water quality testing and treatment technologies through collaboration with Cluix, generating field-level insights and data for improved decision-making.

3. Community Awareness and Outreach

Awareness activities are conducted in intervention areas to promote understanding of water quality issues, encourage citizen participation, and build local ownership of solutions.

4. Advocacy and Policy Dialogue

The project includes policy consultations and advocacy events to promote discussion on urban water quality governance, technology adoption, monitoring systems, and institutional convergence in Jaipur and Rajasthan.

Expected Outcomes

- Improved coordination between government agencies and innovation partners.
- Enhanced awareness on urban water quality and safe drinking water practices.
- Increased adoption and visibility of technology-enabled water quality solutions.
- Strengthened policy dialogue on sustainable urban water governance in Rajasthan.
- Development of a replicable model for urban water quality interventions in other cities.

Role of Partners

- CUTS International: Stakeholder engagement, government coordination, advocacy, community outreach, and policy facilitation.
- Villgro Foundation: Programme leadership, innovation ecosystem support, and partnership management.
- Cluix: Technology deployment, water quality testing, and technical implementation support.

Project Significance

The Water Lab Project represents a collaborative approach combining technology, governance, and community engagement to address urban water quality challenges in Jaipur. The initiative aims to create a scalable and policy-aligned model that contributes to safer urban water systems and sustainable city development in Rajasthan.