## Appropriation of Water

Exploring the Impacts of Global Supply Chain of Cotton Virtual Water in Central India (Marathwada)

> Malavika Gopalakrishnan P5 Presentation

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### Access to clean affordable water

The right to 'clean water and sanitation' is a basic human right (United Nations sustainable developmental goals)



"An estimate of 5 out of 8 people will be living in conditions of water stress or scarcity by 2025"

Legend - Baseline Water stress

Medium high Low Medium

### "Almost 70% of the available fresh water is currently used for agricultural purposes"

(Darrel Jenerette & Larsen, 2006)



Region of Marathwada Image Source: by author

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"The water footprint is a measure of humanity's appropriation of fresh water in volumes of water consumed and/or polluted".

(water footprint network)

"India exports **95.4 billion** cubic metres a year of virtual water through the production of goods"

(Water footprint network)

### Politics & Policy How India's Water Ends Up Everywhere But India

The country is the world's biggest exporter through its crops, shortages in urban areas.

By <u>David Fickling</u> July 6, 2019, 2:00 AM GMT+2



The last drop. Photographer: ARUN SANKAR/AFP

"The trade of scarce water through water intensive products lead to water stress in exporting regions"

(Lenzen et al., 2013)



Indian farmers during a protest in Mumbai in March. Thousands of them walked more than 100 miles to protest the country's agrarian crisis. (Image: Getty Images)



"Almost 84% of the water footprint of the EU25 region related to cotton consumption is located outside of Europe, with major impacts particularly in India and Uzbekistan"

(Chapagain et, al. 2006).



Source : Feng et.al, 2015, Lenzen et.al, 2013, Dolgonova et.al, 2019, https://economictimes.indiatimes.com

### Cotton is a "thirsty" crop!



Cotton produced in India (2017-18) was 6.25 billion kg equivalent to 62500 billion Liters of Water!! "The current EU price for a cotton T- shirt does not include the social and environmental costs, of which 70% is related to water costs!"

<u>Source: https://trueprice.org/the-true-price-of-cotton-</u> <u>from-india/</u>





# *"We don't pay for it!!!"*



"The story of water is global, but the impact of too little (or too much) water is intimately local." (NY Times)



"The concept of water footprint is rooted in the recognition that human impacts on freshwater systems can be linked to human consumption, and can be understood by considering production and supply chains as a whole"

(A.Y Hoekstra, 2013)



### Problem Statement & Research Aim

- **Problem Focus:** The globalisation of water and virtual water trade within and outside India as a contributor to water stress and scarcity in the region of Marathwada.
- **Problem Statement:** The socio-economic, spatial, environmental **impacts of virtual water trade** related to the supply chain of products such as Cotton.
- **Research aim:** Possible solutions to reorganise the current system by providing pathways to achieve a more **sustainable water footprint** for cotton production in India.



### Research Question

To what extent can the **impacts of 'globalisation** of water' **be minimized** in order to achieve a more **just and sustainable** water footprint in **cotton supply chains**?





Marathwada region coincides with the <u>Aurangabad</u> <u>Division</u> of Maharashtra.

**7 h 21 min** (367,0 km) via road from **Mumbai** 

Total area is 64590 sq km of and has a population of **18 million people** 

(2011 census of India)





### Producing landscapes Peri urban and rural areas (Image : www.gettyimages.com)









**Fieldwork : January – February 2020** Observations and interviews from the field Partially funded by EFL Stichting and TU Delft Global Initiatives



Large Irrigation Infrastructure Jayakwadi Dam- One of the largest dams in Maharahstra (Image : www.flickr.com)



Who is it benefitting? Water being pumped into tankers to take to industries (Image: gettyimages.com)



The logistics of scarcity Water being brought in trains from 300km away (Image : www.gettyimages.com)



"There is not enough water to drink. Once in 4 days, a government tanker gives us 200 L for the whole family. If needed more, we need to buy from private tankers".

*"I am unable to invest in farm ponds or drip irrigation, as I do anot have money to raise the initial investment. There is no water from the top or from the ground".* 

*"I have two bore wells in my land but both gives no water. 30 years ago there was a lot of water in the land, the land used to hold water."* 







Scarcity Mentality! Women waiting for hours a day to get drinking water (Image : www.gettyimages.com)



Social costs and livelihoods based on cotton production A mother working with her children in a cotton mill (Image by author)





### Region of Marathwada Image Source: by author

## VISION & STRATEGIES



### Towards vision: Principles for integrated water resource management

- Essential tools to achieve
  Decentralisation in the water resource management.
- Power to the local community to carry out implementation and monitoring.
- Social resilience and empowerment
- Increasing water efficiency of agricultural practices



Community participation and integration



Local autonomy and

decentralisation



Circularity





Water Robustness



Cultural Distinctiveness









Organic Spontaneity and collaboration Social resilience and Empowerment

### Strategic actions for *local adaptation*





9

Horticulture units for indigenous seeds

8



11 Enhancing ecological systems and promoting Agro tourism



Zero Budget Natural

Farming (ZBNF)

### Vision 2050: 'Joint Action for Local Water Rich Initiatives – JALWaRI'



### **Research by design**

### Test Case 02

### Shendra Kamnagar

An upcoming industrial area part of The Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor in the outskirts(peri-urban) areas of the city of Aurangabad

### Test Case 01

### Sarangpur Village

A cotton village with a very low socio-economic development and acute water scarcity with mostly marginal and smallholder farmers



### **Site conditions**



### Poor living conditions



Absence of social infrastructure



Unsustainable cotton production

### Design phasing of evolutionary strategies for change

Time frame

Energise Short term actions (+5 years)



- Awareness and Capacity building

Operational goals

- Creating community participation and self organisation through self help groups
- Micro credit systems

- Leveraging existing institutional structure and cultural links

Enhance Medium term actions (+10 years)



- Sustainable irrigation and farming practices through decentralised water resource management

- Circularity in water cycles and recycling of water for irrigation through synergy between user groups

- Generating additional income through empowering women and vulnerable communities Empower Long term actions (+15 years)



- Ecological restoration and landscape integration

- Social infrastructure development and community empowerment

- Integrated water resource management towards evolutionary resilience

#### Energise Short term goals and actions

- Awareness and Capacity building
- Creating community participation and self organisation
- Leveraging existing institutional structure and cultural links







- Initiate village JALWoRU unit. Integrated with the formalised local self governance system at the village level or Village panelsayat
- Training and Vocational centres for capacity building and entrepreneurship programmes for women

Micro credit systems through JALWARI unit



### Phase I

#### Enhance Medium term goals and actions

- Sustainable irrigation and farming practices through decentralised water resource management
- Circularity in water cycles and recycling of water for irrigation through synergy between user groups
- Generating additional income through empowering women and vulnerable communities





### Phase II





### **Systemic section: Flows**



#### Empower Long term goals and actions

- Ecological restoration and landscape integration
- Social infrastructure development and community empowerment
- Integrated water resource management towards evolutionary resilience



### Phase III





### **Policy Implementation Framework**



### A new model: 'Participatory Water Governance'







Landscape integration and agro-tourism

Social infrastructure development

Sustainable agricultural practises

Circular water cycles

Community participation and decentralisation



### Regional Strategies

### A roadmap towards achieving an integrated local adaptation to global mitigation



### **Global Traceability** Framework



Water pricing and taxing

Water scarcity rent

Maximum allowable water footprint

Global water use efficiency

Water labelling of water intensive products

#### Legend



Source : Eurodat 2007, https://www.statista.com, Ministry of Textiles, Gost of India.



Region of Marathwada Image Source: by author

## FUTURE SCENARIOS & PATHWAYS













#### Legend

#### O Transfer station to a new policy action

- Adaptation tipping point
- Policy action effective
- ▲ Decision mode

### Externalities (steady/rapid)

Climate change Production and consumption Economic growth Technological advancements

		Costs	Water Conservation	Nature & Ecology	Society
1	0	Low	+++	+++	+++
2	0	Moderate	+++	+++	+++
3	00	Moderate	++	++	+
4	00	Moderately high	++	++	+
5	00	Moderately high	0		-
s:	00	Very high	+		-
7	00	Moderately high	+	+	
8	00	Moderate	++	+	+
ĸ	00	Moderately high	++	+	+
0	00	Very high	+		0
11	00	Very high	++	+	+
12	00	Moderately high	+	+	+
13	00	High	++	+	+
14	00	High	++	+	+
15	00	Very high	++	+	+
16	00	Moderate	++	+	++
17	00	Moderately high	+	+	++
18	00	High	++	+	+
19	00	Moderately high	+	0	0
20	0	High	+++	+++	+++
21	00	Moderately high	++	++	++
22	00	Moderate	++	+	+
23	00	Moderate	++	+	+

0	No impact	+/-	Positive or Negative impacts
+ ++++	Minor Positive impact Moderate Positive impact Large Positive impact		Minor Negative impact Moderate Negative impact Large Negative impact

"It is often thought that water problems are to be solved locally where they occur. However, generally, local water depletion and pollution are closely tied to the structure of the national or even global economy"

(A.Y Hoekstra, 2013)





. "Towards a new epistemology of the urban" Brenner and Schmid (2015) (Image : https://www.gsd.harvard.edu/project/urban-theory-lab/)



