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Enhancing Transboundary cooperation for addressing the Urban-Rural Water Security related concerns in Nagpur, India

[Abstract]

In the backdrop of rapid urbanization trends and changing climate, water security has become a serious challenge for sustainable urban development. The growing freshwater demands in fast-growing urban areas and the corresponding increase in wastewater discharge are also leading to a range of upstream-downstream concerns at regional level, such as water shortages and water quality degradation. By discussing a specific case of Nagpur in central India, this study underlines the need for an integrated approach to urban water security, with due consideration to its implications on surrounding rural areas. To investigate the water security related trends in wider metropolitan area, focused group discussions were conducted in identified rural clusters of Nagpur. Based on preliminary findings through a contextualized water security assessment framework, it has been found that considerable improvements have been made in rural areas for water accessibility components. However, at the same time, there have been negative implications in terms of availability, quality and water-related risks at various spatial levels. By substantiating the study results with secondary data, this research highlights the key



areas of policy interventions and emphasizes on the need for transboundary cooperation to enhance urban-rural water security within the Nagpur metropolitan area.

[Keywords]

water security, urban-rural, upstream-downstream, transboundary cooperation