

Ralegan Siddhi — Community Watershed Development and Grazing/Felling Bans Reviving a Drought-Prone Village (Maharashtra, India)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · India

Quality score: 33/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

From the mid-1970s Anna Hazare led a village watershed programme with check dams, tree planting and bans on grazing and felling; reported water table rise from ~20 m to ~6.5 m and an eightfold irrigated-area increase. Evidence is case-study based, not a controlled evaluation.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	0/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	1/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	2/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-10-16

Ralegan Siddhi Gram Sabha / Anna Hazare (Ahmednagar, Maharashtra) — accessed 2026-10-16

FAO — Participatory watershed management at Ralegan Siddhi — accessed 2026-10-16

Kapur, Mehta & Satpathy — Escaping Poverty: The Ralegan Siddhi Case — accessed 2026-10-16

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