



World Water Day (WWD) 2026

KATARDHUA POND, SAMBALPUR, ODISHA

Summary Report



Project Pond Rejuvenation (Katardhua) at Sambalpur, Odisha, India

A joint venture of VSSUT, Burla and Rivers of World (ROW), USA



Katardhua Pond, situated in the heart of **Sambalpur** district in **Odisha**, is an important water body both historically and environmentally. The pond is not just a source of water for drinking and irrigation, but also plays an essential role in the region's ecosystem by supporting local flora and fauna. The pond also holds cultural significance, especially during various local festivals and rituals, where it was used for religious ceremonies and community gatherings, strengthening its place in the social fabric of the region.

Katardhua Pond faces severe pollution from agricultural runoff, untreated sewage, plastic waste, and excessive aquatic weed growth, turning the once-important waterbody into a dumping ground and threatening its ecological health, biodiversity, and surrounding communities. Recognizing this urgent need, **Rivers of the World** selected the pond for rejuvenation and restoration.



Katardhua pond, Sambalpur , Odisha



The transformation of a Pond with polluted water into a clean, safe, potable, and habitable water body by this effort, marks a significant milestone in addressing water scarcity and contamination issues in rural and peri-urban areas. By using an approach that combines solar-powered technology, ecological restoration, and community involvement, our project has created a sustainable and self-reliant water treatment system, which has not only improved water quality but also enhanced the overall ecosystem and public health.

PARAMETER	Method Used	EQUIPMENT/ CHEMICAL	RESULT (BEFORE PURIFICATION))	RESULT (AFTER PURIFICATION)	Safe Range
TEMPERATURE	Thermometric	Thermometer	29°C	30°C	25°C-32°C
COLOUR	Visual comparison	Nessler Tubes / Spectrophotometer	40 Units	20 Units	<=10 Units
ODOUR	Sensory analysis	Human Sensory (Nasal perception)	Algae, Earthy	Slight earthy	
TURBIDITY	Nephelometric Method	Nephelometer / Turbidity Meter	10.2 NTU	8.5 NTU	<=10 NTU
TOTAL SOLIDS	Gravimetric Method	Evaporating Dish, Oven (103–105°C), Balance	372	320	<=1000mg/l

Key Outcomes of the Transformation:

1. Improved Water Quality.
2. Reduction in Waterborne Diseases.
3. Ecological Restoration and Biodiversity Enhancement.
4. Sustainability and Self-Reliance.
5. Community Empowerment and Ownership.



Workshop on waterbody rejuvenation at VSSUT, Burla



Field campaign for social awareness for pond rejuvenation at Katardhua, Sambalpur



Field campaign for social awareness for pond rejuvenation at Katardhua, Sambalpur



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*THANK YOU FOR VIEWING THE WWD-2026 REPORT
ON KATARDHUA POND SAMBALPUR, ODISHA.
YOUR COMMENTS WILL BE VALUABLE.*

*For more information, please visit the **ROW** Foundation website at <https://rowfoundation.org>.
If you have any questions or comments, you can reach out to the **local coordinator** at sucharit2011@gmail.com or contact **ROW** Foundation at rowfoundation@gmail.com.*

