



Contour V ditch in Larki

## Contour "V" Ditch (India)

Samapatana V nala

### DESCRIPTION

V-shaped structure on contour line in order to check sheet/reel erosion and for moisture retention.

V-shaped structures on contour line. The size of the V ditch varies according to slope, depth of soil and soil texture. The V-ditch can be laid either in staggered or continuous. Purpose- 1. To control sheet and reel erosion 2. Retention of in situ soil moisture 3. To increase vegetative cover. Establishment/maintenance – 1. Bunding, 2. Terracing, 3. Turfing, 4. Provision of outlets in contour lines. Environment:- Bio-Physical-1-Cropland-Annual 2. Grazing land-Extensive, 3. Forest, Socio-Economic- 1. land ownership-User Group (32 Members) 2. Land use rights-Usufructuary Rights.

### LOCATION



**Location:** Orissa/Nuapada, Orissa, India

**No. of Technology sites analysed:**

**Geo-reference of selected sites**

- 82.7953, 20.168

**Spread of the Technology:**

**Date of implementation:** less than 10 years ago (recently)

**Type of introduction**

- ☐ through land users' innovation
- ☐ as part of a traditional system (> 50 years)
- ☐ during experiments/ research
- ☒ through projects/ external interventions



Down Stream Effect due to Technology

## CLASSIFICATION OF THE TECHNOLOGY

### Main purpose

- ☐ improve production
- ☒ **reduce, prevent, restore land degradation**
- ☐ conserve ecosystem
- ☐ protect a watershed/ downstream areas – in combination with other Technologies
- ☐ preserve/ improve biodiversity
- ☐ reduce risk of disasters
- ☐ adapt to climate change/ extremes and its impacts
- ☐ mitigate climate change and its impacts
- ☐ create beneficial economic impact
- ☐ create beneficial social impact

### Land use



**Cropland** - Annual cropping, Perennial (non-woody) cropping, Tree and shrub cropping  
Main crops (cash and food crops): Major food crop perennial cropping: Arhar Major cash crop tree and shrub cropping: Cashew nut

### Water supply

- ☒ **rainfed**
- ☐ mixed rainfed-irrigated
- ☐ full irrigation

**Number of growing seasons per year:** 2

**Land use before implementation of the Technology:** n.a.

**Livestock density:** n.a.

### Purpose related to land degradation

- ☐ prevent land degradation
- ☒ **reduce land degradation**
- ☐ restore/ rehabilitate severely degraded land
- ☐ adapt to land degradation
- ☐ not applicable

### Degradation addressed



**soil erosion by water** - Wt: loss of topsoil/ surface erosion, Wo: offsite degradation effects

### SLM group

- cross-slope measure
- water harvesting

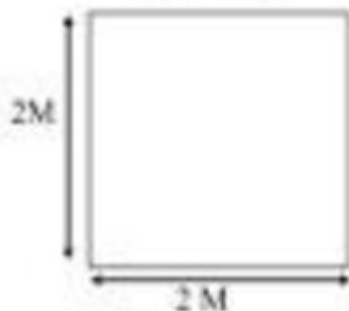
### SLM measures

## TECHNICAL DRAWING

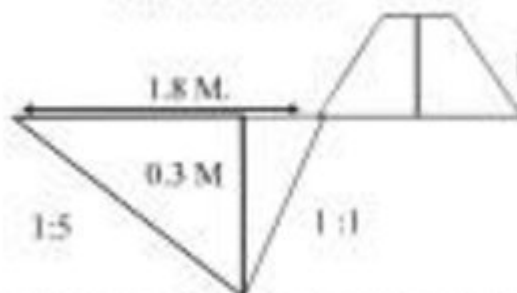
### Technical specifications

## V - DITCH AT LARKI

TOP VIEW

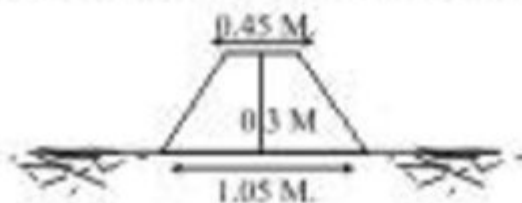


CUT SECTION



BUND SECTION

$(\frac{1}{2} \times 1.5 \times 0.3) \times 2M = 0.45 \text{ cum.}$   
 BUND SECTION AT D.S. OF VDICH 2 M. LONG



$$\frac{(0.45 + 1.05)}{2} \times 0.3 \times 2M.$$

$$= \frac{1.5}{2} \times 0.3 \times 2.00 = 0.45 \text{ cum.}$$

V-Ditch technical drawing

Location: QTInd16TechDraw.jpg

Technical knowledge required for field staff / advisors: moderate

Technical knowledge required for land users: low

Main technical functions: control of dispersed runoff: retain / trap

Secondary technical functions: control of dispersed runoff: impede / retard, increase of infiltration, increase / maintain water stored in soil, increase in soil fertility

Vegetative measure: Turfing of bund

Vegetative material: G : grass

Vertical interval between rows / strips / blocks (m): 2

Spacing between rows / strips / blocks (m): 1

Vertical interval within rows / strips / blocks (m): 2

Width within rows / strips / blocks (m): 1.5

Vegetative measure: Vegetative material: G : grass

Vegetative measure: Vegetative material: G : grass

Vegetative measure: Vegetative material: G : grass

Grass species: Vetiver/Berunbuta

Slope (which determines the spacing indicated above): 8.00%

If the original slope has changed as a result of the Technology, the slope today is (see figure below): 6.00%

Gradient along the rows / strips: 0.00%

Structural measure: Contour V ditch

Vertical interval between structures (m): 2

Spacing between structures (m): 1

Depth of ditches/pits/dams (m): average

Width of ditches/pits/dams (m): 2

Length of ditches/pits/dams (m): 1.5

Height of bunds/banks/others (m): 0.3

Width of bunds/banks/others (m): Bottom=0.8 Top=0.2

Length of bunds/banks/others (m): 1.5

Construction material (earth): Soil excavated from the ditches are used to construct banks/bunds

Slope (which determines the spacing indicated above): 8%

If the original slope has changed as a result of the Technology, the slope today is: 6%

Lateral gradient along the structure: 0%

Vegetation is used for stabilisation of structures.

## ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE: ACTIVITIES, INPUTS AND COSTS

### Calculation of inputs and costs

- Costs are calculated:
- Currency used for cost calculation: **Rupee**
- Exchange rate (to USD): 1 USD = 50.0 Rupee
- Average wage cost of hired labour per day: 1.00

### Most important factors affecting the costs

Labour availability, Availability of grass/stone , Transportation facility.

### Establishment activities

- Local grass barrier (Timing/ frequency: On the onset of monsoon)
- Cashew plantation (Timing/ frequency: During rainy season)
- Survey & layout (Timing/ frequency: Before onset of monsoon.)
- Digging of pit & construction of earthen bund (Timing/ frequency: Premonsoon.)
- Stone pitching on upstream slope of pit (Timing/ frequency: Premonsoon.)
- grass turffing (Timing/ frequency: monsoon)

### Establishment inputs and costs

Specify input	Unit	Quantity	Costs per Unit (Rupee)	Total costs per input (Rupee)	% of costs borne by land users
<b>Labour</b>					
Labour	ha	1.0	35.0	35.0	
<b>Construction material</b>					
Stone	ha	1.0	5.0	5.0	
<b>Total costs for establishment of the Technology</b>				<b>40.0</b>	

### Maintenance activities


- Mini tillage (Timing/ frequency: khariff / annual)
- Cover cropping (Timing/ frequency: khariff / annual)
- Weeding (Timing/ frequency: After rooting /Six months)
- Soil work (Timing/ frequency: After rooting /Six months)
- Manuring (Timing/ frequency: During rainy season /Twice in a year.)
- Fire Control measures (Timing/ frequency: During winter season /annual)
- Turfing of bund with grass (Timing/ frequency: during rain/annual)
- De-silting of pits (Timing/ frequency: before onset of monsoon/annual)
- Maintaining upstream & down stream arrangement (Timing/ frequency: before onset of monsoon/annual)
- Re-arrangement of displaced stone (Timing/ frequency: before onset of monsoon/annual)

## NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

### Average annual rainfall

 < 250 mm

### Agro-climatic zone

 humid

### Specifications on climate

- ☐ 251-500 mm
- ☐ 501-750 mm
- ☐ 751-1,000 mm
- ☒ 1,001-1,500 mm
- ☐ 1,501-2,000 mm
- ☐ 2,001-3,000 mm
- ☐ 3,001-4,000 mm
- ☐ > 4,000 mm

- ☐ sub-humid
- ☒ semi-arid
- ☐ arid

Average annual rainfall in mm: 1250.0

#### Slope

- ☐ flat (0-2%)
- ☒ gentle (3-5%)
- ☒ moderate (6-10%)
- ☐ rolling (11-15%)
- ☐ hilly (16-30%)
- ☐ steep (31-60%)
- ☐ very steep (>60%)

#### Landforms

- ☒ plateau/plains
- ☐ ridges
- ☐ mountain slopes
- ☐ hill slopes
- ☐ footslopes
- ☐ valley floors

#### Altitude

- ☐ 0-100 m a.s.l.
- ☐ 101-500 m a.s.l.
- ☒ 501-1,000 m a.s.l.
- ☐ 1,001-1,500 m a.s.l.
- ☐ 1,501-2,000 m a.s.l.
- ☐ 2,001-2,500 m a.s.l.
- ☐ 2,501-3,000 m a.s.l.
- ☐ 3,001-4,000 m a.s.l.
- ☐ > 4,000 m a.s.l.

#### Technology is applied in

- ☐ convex situations
- ☐ concave situations
- ☐ not relevant

#### Soil depth

- ☐ very shallow (0-20 cm)
- ☐ shallow (21-50 cm)
- ☒ moderately deep (51-80 cm)
- ☐ deep (81-120 cm)
- ☐ very deep (> 120 cm)

#### Soil texture (topsoil)

- ☒ coarse/ light (sandy)
- ☒ medium (loamy, silty)
- ☐ fine/ heavy (clay)

#### Soil texture (> 20 cm below surface)

- ☐ coarse/ light (sandy)
- ☐ medium (loamy, silty)
- ☐ fine/ heavy (clay)

#### Topsoil organic matter content

- ☐ high (>3%)
- ☒ medium (1-3%)
- ☐ low (<1%)

#### Groundwater table

- ☐ on surface
- ☐ < 5 m
- ☐ 5-50 m
- ☐ > 50 m

#### Availability of surface water

- ☐ excess
- ☐ good
- ☐ medium
- ☐ poor/ none

#### Water quality (untreated)

- ☐ good drinking water
- ☐ poor drinking water (treatment required)
- ☐ for agricultural use only (irrigation)
- ☐ unusable

#### Is salinity a problem?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

#### Occurrence of flooding

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

#### Species diversity

- ☐ high
- ☐ medium
- ☐ low

#### Habitat diversity

- ☐ high
- ☐ medium
- ☐ low

## CHARACTERISTICS OF LAND USERS APPLYING THE TECHNOLOGY

#### Market orientation

- ☒ subsistence (self-supply)
- ☐ mixed (subsistence/ commercial)
- ☐ commercial/ market

#### Off-farm income

- ☐ less than 10% of all income
- ☐ 10-50% of all income
- ☒ > 50% of all income

#### Relative level of wealth

- ☒ very poor
- ☒ poor
- ☐ average
- ☐ rich
- ☐ very rich

#### Level of mechanization

- ☒ manual work
- ☐ animal traction
- ☐ mechanized/ motorized

#### Sedentary or nomadic

- ☐ Sedentary
- ☐ Semi-nomadic
- ☐ Nomadic

#### Individuals or groups

- ☐ individual/ household
- ☐ groups/ community
- ☐ cooperative
- ☐ employee (company, government)

#### Gender

- ☐ women
- ☐ men

#### Age

- ☐ children
- ☐ youth
- ☐ middle-aged
- ☐ elderly

#### Area used per household

- ☐ < 0.5 ha
- ☒ 0.5-1 ha
- ☐ 1-2 ha
- ☐ 2-5 ha
- ☐ 5-15 ha
- ☐ 15-50 ha
- ☐ 50-100 ha
- ☐ 100-500 ha
- ☐ 500-1,000 ha
- ☐ 1,000-10,000 ha
- ☐ > 10,000 ha

#### Scale

- ☐ small-scale
- ☐ medium-scale
- ☐ large-scale

#### Land ownership

- ☒ state
- ☐ company
- ☐ communal/ village
- ☐ group
- ☐ individual, not titled
- ☒ individual, titled

#### Land use rights

- ☐ open access (unorganized)
- ☐ communal (organized)
- ☒ leased
- ☒ individual

#### Water use rights

- ☐ open access (unorganized)
- ☐ communal (organized)
- ☐ leased
- ☐ individual

#### Access to services and infrastructure

## IMPACTS

#### Socio-economic impacts

Crop production





decreased ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐ increased

fodder production




decreased ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐ increased

Nil








fodder quality	decreased  increased	Nil
product diversity	decreased  increased	Cover crop, Agro forestry, Fruit crops and Tuber crops taken up
farm income	decreased  increased	Rs. 500/- per Ha. Rs. 10/- per day
workload	increased  decreased	Needs maintenance timely.

## Socio-cultural impacts

community institutions	weakened  strengthened	Users groups formed and functioning.
SLM/ land degradation knowledge	reduced  improved	By the users
conflict mitigation	worsened  improved	Community mobilisation is requirede to solve conflicts.

## Ecological impacts



surface runoff	increased  decreased	Quantity before SLM: 65 Quantity after SLM: 40
excess water drainage	reduced  improved	Crops grown and supplemental irrigation
soil moisture	decreased  increased	Waste weir disposal
soil loss	increased  decreased	Vegetation established
plant diversity	decreased  increased	Due to fertility

## Off-site impacts



downstream flooding (undesired)	increased  reduced
downstream siltation	increased  decreased
groundwater/ river pollution	increased  reduced
wind transported sediments	increased  reduced

## COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS

### Benefits compared with establishment costs

Short-term returns	very negative  very positive
Long-term returns	very negative  very positive

### Benefits compared with maintenance costs





Short-term returns	very negative  very positive
Long-term returns	very negative  very positive

## CLIMATE CHANGE

-





## ADOPTION AND ADAPTATION

### Percentage of land users in the area who have adopted the Technology

-  single cases/ experimental
-  1-10%
-  10-50%
-  more than 50%

Number of households and/ or area covered  
34

### Of all those who have adopted the Technology, how many have done so without receiving material incentives?

-  0-10%
-  10-50%
-  50-90%
-  90-100%

### Has the Technology been modified recently to adapt to changing conditions?

-  Yes
-  No

### To which changing conditions?

-  climatic change/ extremes

## CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS LEARNT

### Strengths: land user's view

- Low cost
- Simple technology
- User friendly
- Affordable

How can they be sustained / enhanced? Guidance on cropping practices

### Strengths: compiler's or other key resource person's view

- Based on traditional practices
- Low Cost
- Farmers can maintain
- Conserve insitu soil moisture
- Conserve the most vluable top soil

How can they be sustained / enhanced? Involve people in planning  
 Involve farmers while executing  
 Place suitable disposal system in right places  
 Regular maintenance  
 Establishment of vegetative measures  
 Adoption of proper cropping practices by the farmers

### Weaknesses/ disadvantages/ risks: land user's viewhow to overcome

- Apprehend getting benefits which will suffice their livelihoods Off farm activities to make them financially sound.

### Weaknesses/ disadvantages/ risks: compiler's or other key resource person's viewhow to overcome

- Conflicts in future among farmers Exposure on group dynamics and management of common property
- Mobilisation of DWF and developemnt of corpus fund Community organisation to generate corpus fund

## REFERENCES

### Compiler

Biranchi Mohapatra

### Editors

### Reviewer

Fabian Ottiger

**Date of documentation:** June 3, 2011

**Last update:** April 20, 2017

### Resource persons

Biranchi Mohapatra (bulu\_cpsw@rediffmail.com) - SLM specialist  
 Narendra Kumar Panigrahi (narendra@worlp.com) - SLM specialist

### Full description in the WOCAT database

[https://qcat.wocat.net/en/wocat/technologies/view/technologies\\_1478/](https://qcat.wocat.net/en/wocat/technologies/view/technologies_1478/)

### Linked SLM data

n.a.

### Documentation was facilitated by

Institution

- n.a.

Project

- n.a.

This work is licensed under [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/)

