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Reviving Ancient Stepwells to Address Water Security

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Steps to Hope

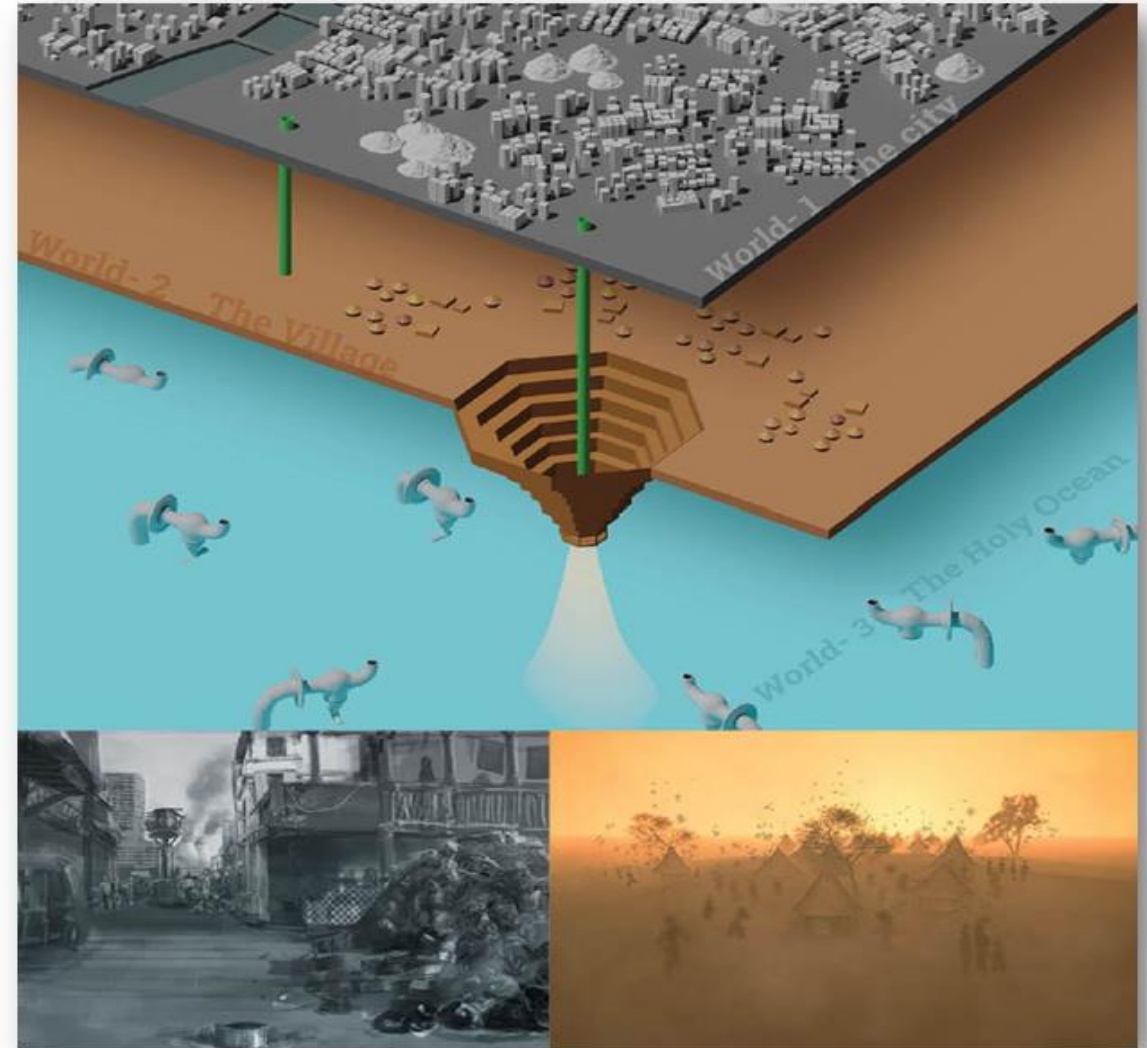
- Built between the 7-19th centuries
- 60-80 feet deep, rainwater seepage
- Water for communities, travelers
- Meritorious act by wealthy patrons
- Decline with advent of piped water
- Used as community halls



Whither Water?

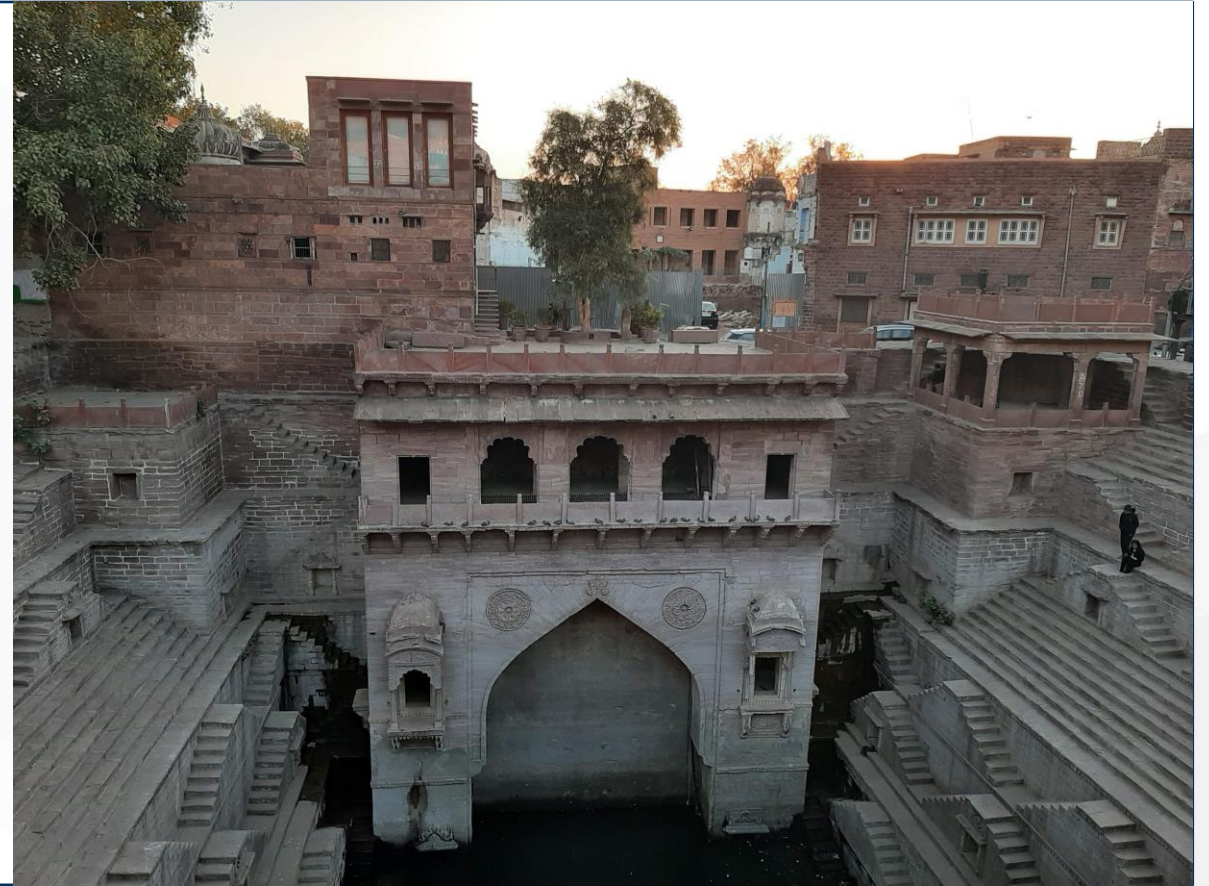
- Urbanization and equity
- Rural-urban water conflicts
- Gender and work
- Water values

Credit: Paul Britto, NID 2020



Reviving Stepwells: Sustainable Partnerships

- - 2019: Jal Jeevan Mission launched by the Ministry of Water Resources, India to provide water security
 - Reviving 'secondary' water sources
 - Partnerships: public-private
 - Multi-stakeholder approach involving conservation architects, hydrologists, donors, volunteers, youth groups....
 - Toorji ka Jhalra – Jodhpur, Stepwell Café



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Thank you