



## Annual Report 2017



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*

**Table of Content**

<b>Sr. No</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Page</b>
1.	About SCaN	3
2.	Summary of 2017 Activities	7
3.	Capacity Building Activities	8
i.	Brahmaputra River Symposium 2017: Knowledge Beyond Boundaries	8
4.	Networking and Knowledge Development	10
i.	SCaN Board	10
ii.	SCaN Membership	11
iii.	Website	11
iv.	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (MELP)	11
v.	Other activities	12
5.	2018 Annual Plan	13
6.	SCaN Network Budget	14

## 1. About SCaN

SCaN comprises of autonomous regional and national institutions and individuals committed to building capacity of water professionals across South Asia. Established in 2009, SCaN has successfully initiated activities in collaboration with various national, regional and international organizations. Through its capacity building activities it has been able to reach a diverse group of stakeholders such as academics, researchers, policymakers, donors and implementers. Realizing the enormous demand for capacity building in the water sector across the region, SCaN plans to expand its activities manifold to further reach many more institutions and individuals.

Over the years SCaN network has built strong network with the country level partners across South Asia. These partners further have their individual network partners who work very closely with the local communities. These network partners include stakeholders such as local governments, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, think tanks, and community based organizations. These stakeholders consult and discuss issues with each other at different levels at various forums including SCaN. These forums bring back local specific issues to the regional SCaN network – facilitating SCaN to develop appropriate strategies that could direct a positive change for the communities.

The SCaN aims to provide platform to academics, researchers, and professionals from government, non-government, public and private for working in together towards strengthening the human and institutional capacity in IWRM in South Asia. SaciWATERs hosts the network and acts as its legal, administrative and financial umbrella. SaciWATERs facilitates these programs by providing financial as well as human resources to conduct capacity building/training programmes.

### Vision

To strengthen the human and institutional capacity by adopting an integrated approach within water sector in South Asia region through education & training; research; knowledge development; advocacy; and networking.

### Objectives

Facilitate network members to conduct capacity building programs in IWRM through partnerships;  
 Provide network members a platform for sharing skills, expertise and resources to strengthen and enhance their efforts and impacts in IWRM;  
 Expand multidisciplinary knowledge base in IWRM and its reach in the water sector.

## SCaN activities

SCaN has involved through:

- Capacity building of professionals, community members, government officials, representatives of decentralized institutions on issues of gender, governance, sustainable water resource management, and climate change in the framework of IWRM,
- Development of training modules/manuals for education and capacity building on IWRM,
- Support educational training programs and fellowships for young professionals to promote interdisciplinary approach on water discourses,
- Promotion of networks and institutional strengthening through engagement of private and public sectors in South Asia.

## SCaN Future Plan

SCaN plans to establish a board with representatives from South Asia.

- SCaN to evolve as a strong network for capacity building, education, research, advocacy and knowledge mobilization center in South Asia that focuses on water sector.
- SCaN functions as an independent body within SaciWATERs and over the years plans to attain financial sustainability.
- Promote greater participation of network members in planning SCaN activities.
- Develop strong partnerships with South Asian Government Institutions for capacity building, knowledge sharing on issues of gender, governance, agriculture, transboundary water management, and climate change in the framework of IWRM.
- Create platforms of researchers and practitioners for knowledge mobilization more at South Asia level.

## Strategy

Cap-Net in 2013 aligned its vision and mission with the UNDP strategic Plan (2013-2018) that emphasizes support to capacity building which will lead to enhancing national and local capacities for human development. The strategy for 2013-2018 is further aligned to the overarching strategy of the UNDP's Water and Ocean Governance Programme (WOGP) that envisages a world in which management, development and use of water and ocean resources is sustained and where there is accelerated effort to universal access to safe household water supply and improved sanitation. The UNDP WOGP programmes are addressed by Cap-Net, with limited focus on ocean resources but looking at coastal zone management as a new thematic area.

In line with Cap-Net's strategic plan, SCaN in South Asia is faced with different challenges in water resource management across the diverse geographical regions from the Alpine climate in the mountains, vast Gangetic plains to the Deltas, semi-arid and the coastal zones. SCaN with its vision to strengthen human and institutional capacity in IWRM across South Asia has identified the broad key focus areas applicable in these diverse geographical regions:

- Groundwater management
- Transboundary river management
- Safe Drinking Water
- Sustainable sanitation, health and water management
- Agriculture
- Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Building
- Gender
- Coastal Management
- Himalayan Water Management

To address the focus areas, SCaN with its vision has identified three goals that align with Cap-Net until 2018:

**Capacity building:** To develop capacity of institutions and individuals to manage, and use water, and to adapt to the increasing climate variability within a context that addresses, human rights, gender equity, and sustainable livelihoods

**Strengthening partnerships:** To improve water management practices by:

- Using effective networks of capacity developers to impact on the ground, and
- Developing partnerships with international agencies to improve their outreach and collaboration on capacity development.
- Knowledge management: To develop and implement knowledge management systems in response (innovative capacity development), that ensure access to the best of international and local knowledge for all, measure the effectiveness of capacity development services, and review indicators and monitoring systems.



Until 2018 SCaN intends to engage with private and public sector organizations through:

Private and public sectors as receipt as both sectors are major, if not a major user, consumer and polluter. Therefore, private and public sector is a main target group to develop capacity within to achieve sustainable water management/development.

Private and public sector as a donor: The private sector can not only engage through their corporate social responsibility budgets but could also become partners or sponsors of Cap-Net UNDP/SCaN efforts.

Private sector as a partner in capacity development in sustainable water management: The private sector plays an important role as commercial providers of capacity development in the water sector. IT private entities for example have developed many systems and databases which can be used by Cap-Net UNDP/SCaN in furthering efforts in innovative capacity development (e-learning and other platforms). Some tools for implementation (e.g. models, serious games, role plays and computational knowledge engines) are developed and owned by private sector organizations and

these can be used in partnership with Cap-Net UNDP/SCaN, for e.g. in providing practical tools for water management at a catchment or river basin area.

Public sector as a partner in capacity building in sustainable water management: The public sector as institutions has an important role in national program design and planning. Partnering to capacitate institutions with evolving nuances on sustainable water management will support, assist researchers and practitioners for knowledge mobilization and address the emerging challenges with drivers of change in the water sector.

Private sector as a driver of demand for capacity development products: The private sector is acknowledged as the driver for demand of specific capacity development products. It is the expectation for Cap-Net to be able to respond to such demands and be able to fulfil the knowledge and expertise gap expressed by private sector organizations.

## 2. Summary of the 2017 Activities

Topic	Date & Place	Organizer	Partner/ co-organizer	Participants			Month planned for outcome monitoring	Leverage Effect of financial contribution			List the Cap-Net training materials OR network's training materials used in the activity
				Male	Female	Total		Cap-Net financial contribution	Partners financial contribution	In-kind partner contribution	
<b>Capacity development trainings</b>											
Brahmaputra River Symposium 2017: Knowledge Beyond Boundaries	25 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup> September 2017, New Delhi, India	SaciWATERS, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati, The Energy and Resource Institute (TERI)	The World Bank, The Asia Foundation	73	30	103	September 2018	USD 4,500	USD 18,250 (to SaciWATERS)		
<b>Networking</b>											
Networking UNDP Nepal (Mr. Vijaya Singh)	December 2017	SCaN/Cap-Net	UNDP								



### 3. Capacity Building Activities

#### i. Brahmaputra River Symposium 2017: Knowledge Beyond Boundaries

Convening experts across different sectors, from the basin (Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, and India) as well as international river basins (Mekong, Murray-Darling, Nile, Rhine, and Yangtze), New Delhi hosted the Brahmaputra River Symposium 2017 on 25th and 26th October. Structured around the theme Knowledge Beyond Boundaries, the symposium stressed on knowledge sharing, collective efforts to identify knowledge gaps and ways to strengthen the science-policy interface.



The Commissioner of Brahmaputra Barak, MoWR India was present at the symposium. In the opening remarks, Gautam Biswas, Director, IIT Guwahati said, 'We are struggling with sustainable management of the river. Such platforms like Brahmaputra River Symposium will lead to an exchange of experiences, addressing the knowledge gaps and development challenges in the basin'

In his special remarks, Shyam Saran, Foreign Secretary to the Government of India said, 'A river cannot be divided, cut and quartered, it is an integrated ecosystem. If each country tries to maximize its own benefits from the river, in the end all will lose'. Addressing the participants, Anamika Barua from IIT Guwahati said building trust is important across sectors, within countries and across'. Barua also highlighted on the key challenges in the basin-Information, Investment, and Institution.

Perspectives from riparian were shared. National Environment Commission from Bhutan stressed that water availability is high but accessibility is low in the country. Ainun Nishat from Bangladesh said, 'Common basin management for common rivers between Bangladesh and India, and strengthening institutions like Joint River Commission is crucial'. China has emphasised on in-depth studies assessing flood and drought and identifying the vulnerabilities, trends and mechanisms over the years noted by Daming He from Yunnan University. A.K. Mitra former Secretary of Water Resources, Government of Assam said, 'Brahmaputra is a complex river and flood/flash floods and erosion is a major challenge for Assam. It is important to understand the river morphology and implement an integrated water management approach'.





Best practices from the Mekong, Murray-darling, Rhine, Yangtze Basins were presented by experts from these regions. In Mekong, data collection and scientific knowledge building has been most successful of bridging cooperation among the basin countries. Civil Society Organisations played a crucial role in improved management of Rhine River. Other international experts on Transboundary Rivers provided valuable inputs. Margreet Zwarteveen from IHE-Delft said, 'It is crucial to address justice and injustice in transboundary water governance and not just about men & women'. 'The spiritual needs of the people and its water resources need to be include in transboundary dialogues', said Aaron Wolf from Oregon University, USA.

Over two days, symposium participants mapped the knowledge landscape by identifying the current challenges and opportunities across the Brahmaputra basin on impacts of floods, erosion, wetlands, gender and social inequity in access to resources, vulnerabilities associated with migration in emergence and re-emergences of riverine islands called chars. Issues of social equity and gender in water management and governance were discussed.



The symposium concluded with emphasis on the development of a cooperation mechanism that could be adopted at various levels through which people and institutions can be brought together. There should not be any disconnect between policy making bodies, stakeholder groups and the way they communicate with each other. A common platform to bring all the political masters together needs to be established for sustainable management of the basin. The meeting is an important step towards improving multi-sector and multi-disciplinary dialogues, strengthening institutions and knowledge sharing on Brahmaputra basin.

Key action points identified were consolidating knowledge base, multi-stakeholder involvement with emphasis on engaging media, CSOs and communities, flood early warning systems, open access community database, joint research studies, gender mainstreaming, among others. It was emphasised in the concluding remarks to reach a common ground on an agreed agenda among the stakeholders through a science-policy interface and dialogues at regular interval.

The key recommendations from the symposium were:

- Center of Excellence: Proposed to develop a strong knowledge base for the Brahmaputra Basin, including generating new knowledge and consolidating existing knowledge and data to aid decision making on water related investments in the region (within the country as well as across the Basin).
- Brahmaputra Data Portal: Develop an interactive online information portal which would give decision-makers and the wider public access to information on the Basin (like the Indus data portal). Information could be in the form of hydrological data, academic or non-academic writings, media reporting, stories or even narratives.

- Need for basin wide modeling platform: Integrated hydro-economic models for Brahmaputra Basin would help to examine opportunities and trade-offs associated with various development ‘futures’, including hydropower development and trade, inland water transport, flood mitigation, erosion management, irrigation development, fisheries, water quality, social and environmental impacts of development, and external drivers, such as climate change. Lessons to learn from Mekong River Commission and other complex river systems for the Brahmaputra Basin.
- Opportunities for Cross Learning: Establishing opportunities for cross-learning from other basins confronting similar challenges (floods, erosion, sedimentation) that should be seized through knowledge exchange, international study tours, twinning arrangements, etc.
- Institutional Reform: Structural reforms of institutions related to water resources management (e.g., to improve inter-agency coordination, etc.) are needed for integrated planning and management of the Brahmaputra Basin. Establish a nodal institution that brings various stakeholders together to develop joint strategies to manage the basin. While such institutions already exist (e.g. Brahmaputra Board), they have their weaknesses, including poor coordination with the States sharing the Brahmaputra Basin. A critical review of the institutional framework is needed – at both Central and State levels – in order to identify needed reforms.



## 4. Networking and Knowledge Development

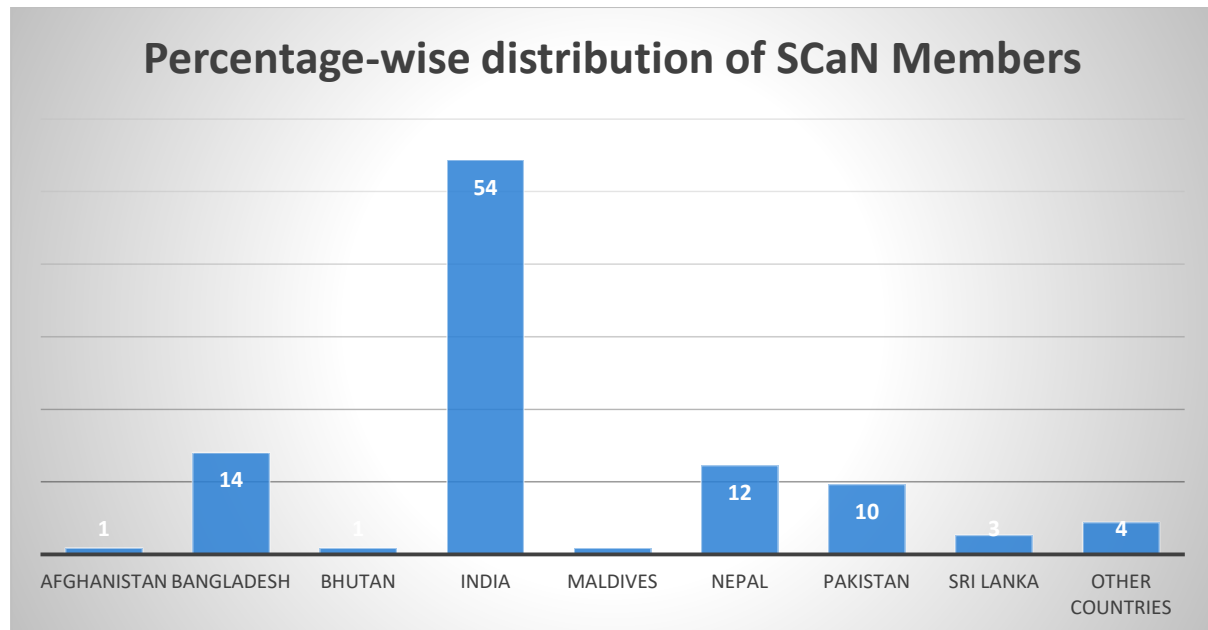
### i. SCaN Board

Although SCaN in 2015 established the first formal governance structure, unfortunately, due to lack of funding possibilities, the network has not been able to organise the Board meeting.

In 2018, the Network propose to include a separate budget head and allocate an amount of USD 3,000 for the network core support. The Network will raise funds from other sources, so that venue and the food expenses for the board meeting are part of the partner’s contribution to the network.

## ii. SCaN Membership

In 2017, an addition of 8 members from South Asia joined the SCaN Network. The total SCaN membership with details in 2017 reached to 114 members.



The SCaN network members chart reveals a majority of the members belong to India (54 percent), followed by Bangladesh (14 percent) and Nepal 12 percent. There is an increasing proportion of memberships from outside the region such as Australia, Iran, The Netherlands, and Switzerland.

## iii. Website

SCaN webpage is hosted at SaciWATERs website and regularly updated providing details of the members and the resources. The website contains additional resources from Cap-Net and CAWST. The link to the webpage is [www.saciwaters.org/scan](http://www.saciwaters.org/scan)

## iv. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (MELP)

This year two capacity building training programs from 2015 were evaluated:

- a) Periurban Water Conflicts: Perspectives & Issue of Water Justice in South Asia, organised on 24-25 May 2016 in Hyderabad in partnership with SaciWATERs, International WãTERs, and IDRC
- b) Sustainable Management of the Brahmaputra River System, India in a changing climate for water security and disaster resilience, organised on 15-18 November 2016 in Guwahati in partnership with Aaranyak

Date of Training	Place of Training	Partner Organisation	Name of Training	Total Participant	Participants Communicated for Evaluation (Email)	Reminder	Participant responded
24-25 May 2016	Hyderabad, India	SaciWATERs, International WATERs, and IDRC	Periurban Water Conflicts: Perspectives & Issue of Water Justice in South Asia	54	46	Yes	3
15-18 November 2016	Guwahati, India	Aaranyak	Sustainable Management of the Brahmaputra River System, India in a changing climate for water security and disaster resilience	45	27	Yes	7

Each program evaluation, questions were modified considering the purpose and objectives of the training. The organising partners were consulted prior modification.

The feedback from the evaluation highlight a majority of the participants have utilised the knowledge from the workshop to improve their work performance and have spread the gained knowledge within and beyond their organisations. But a majority of them have not yet identified any specific actions or positive changes in water resource management that were contributed by the knowledge gained and shared from the workshop.

The data concludes that any Capacity Development Activities should be capable of identifying and selecting participants that maximise training benefits. This can be done through identifying the right participant, the relevance of their current engagement, and leadership qualities. By doing so, it will help the organizers and donor agencies to continue involvement with the participants and maximise impacts of training programs. Networks should recognize such issues before implementation of training programs.

#### v. Other activities

- SCaN Coordinator had a meeting with Mr. Vijaya Singh, Assistant Country Director, Energy, Environment, Climate & Disaster Risk Management Unit, UNDP Nepal in December 2016. The idea was to promote SCaN activities in Nepal and seek collaboration in implementing the capacity building training programs. Discussion suggested joint proposal development.
- SCaN Coordinator Dr. Aditya Bastola established network linkages with Bhutan Water Partnership. This has helped both the Networks to collaborate in future activities in Bhutan. Through this meeting, SCaN has extended its network in other parts of the South Asia.
- SCaN has taken an active role in identifying National IWRM focal points for SDG 6.5.1 for Nepal and also supported the secretariat to identify Chinese expert to conduct online webinar.

## 5. 2018 Annual Plan

In 2017 SCaN could not implement all activities listed in the work plan due to lack of funding opportunities and delayed project implementation. Some of them are proposed again in 2018.

Cap-Net budget summary for all the proposed activities					
Sr. No	Activities	Month	Collaborators	Estimated Budget (USD)	Support from Cap-Net (USD)
South Asia Activities					
1	Training on Leadership and Research methods for interdisciplinary water research	Sep-18	SaciWATERS, IDRC	50,000.00	10,000.00
2	Capacity Building on Climate Change and Water Resource Management for Forest Professionals in South Asia	June-18	New Brunswick Climate Change Research Collaborative, Association of Registered Professional Foresters, University of Toronto, Université du Québec à Montréal and SaciWATERS	25,000	5,000
3	Internship program for Women Engineers in South Asia	Dec-18	SaciWATERS, IDRC	8,500	4,000
India Level Activities					
1	Capacity Building of Ward Members on Water and Sanitation in Kendrapara district, Odisha, India	Feb - March 2018	IRDP	7,845.00	3,920.00
2	Capacity Building Training on IWRM Education and Sensitization, Bhutan	Year round	Bhutan Water Partnership	6,000	2,000
Total				97,345	24,920

## 6. SCaN Network Budget

**Estimated Budget for SCaN Network Support 2018**

Sl.No.	Budget Item	Proposed Budget		Requesting for Cap-Net contribution	SaciWATERS Kind contribution
		INR	(US\$) @ INR 65		
1	Network coordination and administration (Network Manager and ED/ RA time)	7,20,000	11,076.92	7,384.62	3,692
2	Communication & promotional material	40,000	615.38	615.38	
3	Office space	84,000	1,292.31	1,292.31	
4	Travel	50,000	769.23	769.23	
5	Website maintenance & database management	80,000	1,230.77	1,230.77	
6	Monitoring and Evaluation	63,000	969.23	969.23	
7	SCaN Board Meeting (Travel)	2,00,000	3,076.92	3,076.92	
8	Promotional activities and network strengthening	3,00,000	4,615.38	0	4,615.38
9	Administrative support	3,00,000	4,615.38		4,615.38
<b>Total</b>		<b>18,37,000</b>	<b>28,262</b>	<b>15,338</b>	<b>12,923</b>