SAWA Fellows Training Workshops on Participatory Research (PR) Methodologies

Through its flagship project "Crossing Boundaries" (CB), SaciWATERs aims to strengthen integrated and gender-sensitive water resources management policy and practice in South Asia through a regional, collaborative, partnership-based capacity building programme for active water professionals through higher education, innovation-focussed research or 'research with an impact', knowledge based development, outreach and advocacy.

Annual SAWA Fellows’ Training Workshop on PR Methodologies is designed specifically for South Asian Water (SAWA) Fellows who are pursuing their post graduation programme in Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), initiated as part of the (CB) Project in the four South Asian partner institutes viz. Institute of Water and Flood Management (IWFM) – Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), Dhaka; Centre for Water Resources (CWR)- Anna University, Chennai, India; Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture (PGIA) – University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Kandy, Sri Lanka and Nepal Engineering College (NEC), Kathmandu, Nepal.

A total of five SAWA Fellows training workshops have been conducted as part of the CB Project:

1. SAWA Fellow Training Programme of Crossing Boundaries Project, SaciWATERs
Organisers: Co-organised by Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) Mumbai, India; Society for Promoting Participative Ecosystem Management (SOPPECOM), Pune, India; and SaciWATERs, Hyderabad, India.
Date(s) and Location: 1-13 September 2007 at Mumbai, Pune and Ranje village, India

2. South Asian Water Fellows Training
Organisers: Co-organised by SAGUN, Kathmandu, Nepal; Nepal Engineering College, Kathmandu and SaciWATERs, Hyderabad, India.
Date(s) and Location: 2-13 September 2008 at Kathmandu, Dhusikhel and Kavre, Nepal

3. Crossing Boundaries Regional Capacity Building on IWRM and Gender & Water in South Asia:
Organisers: co-organised by Post Graduate Institute of Agriculture (PGIA), University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka and SaciWATERs, Hyderabad, India.
Date(s) and Location: 2-13 September 2009 at Peradeniya and Galnewa Block, Sri Lanka

4. Regional Training of SAWA Fellows on Interdisciplinary Research in Water Resources Management
Organisers: Co-organised Institute of Water and Flood Management (IWFM) Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) Dhaka, Bangladesh and SaciWATERs, Hyderabad, India.
Date(s) and Location: 24 August – 4 September 2010 at Dhaka and Khulna, Bangladesh

5. SAWA Training Programme on Interdisciplinary Field Research Methodologies in Integrated Water Resources Management
Organisers: Hosted by Post Graduate Institute of Agriculture (PGIA), University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.
Date(s) and Location: 25 May – 04 June 2011 at Peradeniya and Girandurukotte, Sri Lanka

The broad objectives of the two week long training workshops are:

- Enhance participants' understanding of concepts and principles of PR.
- Enable participants to understand and apply PR methods and tools in their research and work.
- Provide them with opportunities to practice methods with community members.
- Assist participants to analyse data generated through participatory processes.
- Develop appreciation on ethical issues in developing and conducting field research.
- Learning the importance of attitudinal aspect of researchers for effectiveness of participatory field research.
- Understanding social structure, social relations and placing issues of water and equity in these.
- Help SAWA Fellows in their research design and use of PR methods.
The training methodology is based on experiential adult learning principles and is also participatory in its approach. Sessions are facilitated in a way that enables experience and work context of the participants to be taken into consideration during the research process. The training follows a flexible approach to incorporate evolving needs of the participants as the process progresses.

A substantial part of the training is devoted to practice of tools and methods with the community members in real life situations. Field experience is the major component of the training workshop, both to practice skills acquired in the classroom as well as to get a first hand exposure on rural livelihoods. Field practice is followed by intensive reflections to draw on the learnings.

The training workshop was divided into three components: (i) Classroom lectures and exercises; (ii) Field practicum; (iii) Classroom sessions on analysis and research

Course Outline

Part I: Participation and Water Resource Management
Part II: Social Structure, Gender Relation and Power
Part III: Participatory Research
1. People's Knowledge and Origin of Participatory Research
2. Concepts and Principles of Participatory Research
3. Comparison between Conventional and Participatory Research
4. Ethics of Participatory Research

Part VII: Participatory (PRA/PLA) Methods and Tools
• Transect Walk and Social/Resource Mapping, Mobility Map
• Timeline, Time Trend, Seasonal Calendar, Time Allocation,
• Matrix Ranking, Preference Ranking
• Institutional Diagram, Cause and Effect Diagram
• Semi-Structured Interview, Focus Group Discussion, Triangulation

Part VIII: Field Exercise

Part IX: Analysis of Qualitative and Quantitative Information

Part X: PRA/PLA in Water Issues in University Context.

List of Resource Persons
1. Dr. Chanda Gurung Goodrich, SaciWATERs, Hyderabad, India.
2. Dr. Anjal Prakash, SaciWATERs, Hyderabad, India.
3. Dr. Jahir Uddin Chowdhury, Professor, IWFM, BUET.
4. Dr. Masfiqus Salehin, IWFM- BUET, Bangladesh.
5. Dr. Rezaur Rahman, IWFM- BUET, Bangladesh.
6. Prof. Shah Alam Khan, IWFM- BUET, Bangladesh.
7. Dr. Shahjahan Mondol, IWFM- BUET, Bangladesh.
8. Dr. Sujit Kumar Bala, Institute of Water and Flood Management (IWFM) Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) Dhaka, Bangladesh.
9. Dr. Prakash Nillayat, Centre for Water Resources (CWR) Anna University, India.
10. Dr. Surya Vennila, Centre for Water Resources (CWR) Anna University, India.
11. Mr. Ashutosh Sukla, Nepal Engineering College (NEC), Kathmandu, Nepal.
14. Mr. Sarbajit Lama, Nepal Engineering College (NEC), Kathmandu, Nepal.
15. Mr. Sarbin Sayami, Nepal Engineering College (NEC), Kathmandu, Nepal.
17. Prof. C. Sivayoganathan, PGIA, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.
18. Prof. C. M. Madduma Bandara, Professor Emeritus, Department of Geography, Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Kandy, Sri Lanka.
19. Dr. H.B. Nayakekoral, PGIA, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Kandy, Sri Lanka.
20. Prof. K. Samarasinghe, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Kandy, Peradeniya.
22. Dr. L.W. Galagedera, Post Graduate Institute of Agriculture (PGIA), University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Kandy, Sri Lanka.
23. Dr. N.D. K. Dayawansa, PGIA, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Kandy, Sri Lanka.
24. Prof. Nimal Gunawardena, Department of Agricultural Engineering, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Kandy, Sri Lanka.
25. Dr. S. Pathmarajah, PGIA, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Kandy, Sri Lanka.
27. Dr. WADP Wanigasundara, Department of Agricultural Extension, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Kandy, Sri Lanka.
28. Mr. Kamal Phuyal, SAGUN, Kathmandu, Nepal.
29. Dr. Mukta S. Lama, SAGUN, Kathmandu, Nepal.
30. Mr. Suresh Dhakal, SAGUN, Kathmandu, Nepal.
31. Mr. Uddav Rai, SAGUN, Kathmandu, Nepal.
32. Mr. K.J. Joy, SOPPECOM, Pune, India.
33. Ms. Seema Kulkarni, Society for Promoting Participative Ecosystem Management (SOPPECOM), Pune, India.
34. Mr. Suhas Paranjape, SOPPECOM, Pune, India.
35. Dr. Abdul Shaban, TISS, Mumbai, India.
36. Prof. Chhaya Datar, Retired Professor, TISS, Mumbai, India.
37. Dr. Lakshmi Lingam, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai, India.
38. Ms Pallavi Hebbbar, TISS, Mumbai, India.
39. Prof. S. Parasuraman, TISS, Mumbai, India.
40. Dr. Hamidul Huq, ASA University, Bangladesh.
41. Mr. H.S. Mozaddad Faruque, Consultant, Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS), Dhaka, Bangladesh.
42. Md. Waji Ullah, Deputy Executive Director, CEGIS, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
43. Prof. Amin Nishat, BRAC University, Bangladesh.
44. Dr. NC Narayanan, Centre for Technology Alternatives for Rural Areas, IIT-Bombay, Mumbai, India.
45. Dr. Priya Sangameshwaran, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences (CSSS), Kolkata, India.
46. Dr. Ajit Menon, Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai, India.
47. Ms. Madhuri Bhaduri, Ex IFS, Maharashtra, India.
50. Mr. Mahanta Maharjan, Kathmandu, Nepal.
51. Dr. Vijaya Shrestha, Jalshrot Vikas Sanstha, Nepal.
52. Ms. Anjali Kulkarni, AFARM, Pune, India.
53. Mr. Jitendra Naik, AFARM, Pune, India.
54. Mr. Rajesh Khade, AFARM, Pune, India.
55. Mr. Sanjay Pirangute, AFARM, Pune, India.
56. Ms Nagmani Rao, Karve Institute of Social Service, Pune, India.
59. Mr. Edward De Mel, Deputy Resident Project Manager, Agriculture, Sri Lanka.