Module 9: Water Rights and Laws

Aim: Expose the participants to different water laws and rights so that they can use them in successful implementation of IWRM.

ILOs: Upon attending this module, the participants will be able to:

- explain the rights, principles and laws related to water
- explain the extent of internalization of social equity and environmental sustainability in the allocation and decision making in water sector
- evaluate management of water resources in accordance with the existing provincial, national and international water rights and laws
- analyze the implications of water development interventions and the scope for harmonization among national and international water laws and legal perspectives

Contents:

Water and rights

- Basic concept of rights
- Right of water and right to water
- Rights, State and laws (sovereignty, eminent domain, public trust)
- Types of rights (user, easement, riparian, etc.)

Principles of water law and governance

- General water related principles
- Specific water related principles
- Dublin principles and water rights

Water laws

- Constitutional provisions regarding water
- State's obligation and private entitlements
- Policy and law
- National laws relevant to water supply and management

International legal provisions

• International legal development (Helsinki rules, Helsinki convention, UN convention, etc.)

Case study

• Major water conflicts and their legal interpretations