This reader is meant to provide an overview of relevant gender, equity and water questions and issues in South Asia in addition to providing a more general and theoretical background of the linkages between gender and intersectionality analysis and questions of water governance, including IWRM, decentralization and the right to water. The reader will build on both global literature and that which is specific to the South Asian context, drawing on a variety of published resources, books, articles, report and ‘grey’ literature (unpublished NGO material, student papers, consultancy reports, internet knowledge management exchanges, etc.).

The reader will be primarily used for teaching MSc level students as well as for perspective building workshops with development professionals and practitioners in South Asia, many of whom will probably not have much background in social sciences or in gender analysis – although they would have some prior knowledge of (and experience with) water questions.

The workshop on Gender and Water was held from 9-14th in Hyderabad, India. A total of 26 including 10 authors attended the workshop. All the papers including those from absentee authors were discussed. During the concluding session, it was agreed to arrange the chapters of the Gender and Water reader as follows;

**Section 1: Understanding gender and water linkages in IWRM**
- Introduction
- Rethinking agency in collective action
- Feminist ecologies of water: A conceptual overview

**Section 2: Gender and water policies: key concerns**
- Decentralisation and sector reforms
- Privatization and water pricing
- The right to water – water as a human right in India
- Gender and the right to water in Sri Lanka

**Section 3: Gender, water and livelihoods**
- Improved sanitation
- Wanted! Running water and working latrines: insights from Maharashtra water supply projects
- Menstrual hygiene and waste management

**Section 4: Gender, water and agrarian/agricultural change**
- Gender, water scarcity and agrarian change in Gujarat
- Gender, caste and class in wastewater use in Hyderabad
- Gender and livelihoods in fragile coastal areas

**Section 5: Gender and water technologies**
- Gender and Treadle Pumps in Nepal
- Water harvesting and gender concerns
- Gender and technology for water quality management
- The meaning of floods for women and men: Gendered livelihoods and coping mechanisms

**Section 6: Strategies to address gendered water concerns**
- Gender and participatory planning for water management
• SEWA’s water campaign
• Gender and water conflict negotiation: building dialogues
• Gender, culture and identity in water institutions in Nepal
• Building gender responsive water user associations

Three editors of the Gender and Water Reader, Drs Magreet Zwartveen, Sara Ahmed and Suman Gautam conducted the workshop.