

Inter-disciplinary Field Research Methodology and Gender & Water

SUPPORTERS



Canada



ORGANIZER



PARTNERS



AIM

The SAWA leadership program aims to increase the number of women occupying leadership roles in the water sector and also aims to foster an interdisciplinary approach linking climate change and water insecurity by awarding fellowships to 36 women enrolled in master's-level Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) programs in Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka.



OVERVIEW

The South Asian Water (SAWA) Leadership Programme on Climate Change is a fellowship program that awards fellowship to women enrolled in master's level Interdisciplinary Water Resources Management (IWRM) program across four universities in South Asia. The SAWA programme was started in 2017 and is funded by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC, <https://www.idrc.ca/en>) vide grant no 108441-001. The programme has evolved as a continuation to the Crossing Boundaries (2005-2012) and SAWA Fellowship (2012-2016). The current fellowship program aims at facilitating the creation of a group of interdisciplinary women leaders in south Asia, having a common understanding of the crosscutting scientific and societal issues of water resource management. Since this programme lays emphasis on leadership and intensive trainings, the number of awards is less in comparison to the earlier phase. More info on the project can be found at <http://www.saciwaters.org/sawaleadershipprogram/>.

VISION

The project envisions creating a research network across four South Asian countries by supporting research on water and climate change. It focuses on Capacity Building of women scholars who would be potential water leaders in future. The fellowship is awarded to students that come from a technical background and the vision is to train them about societal complexities with specific focus on gender. The long-term vision of the project is to have a common understanding about the way South Asian water challenges can be dealt with while paying adequate attention to the regional nuances.



TRAINING OF TRAINERS



Dr. Vishal Narain is Professor, Public Policy and Governance at MDI, Management Development Institute, Gurgaon. He holds a PhD from Wageningen University, the Netherlands. His teaching and research interests are in the inter-disciplinary analyses of public policy processes and institutions, water governance, vulnerability and adaptation to environmental change and periurban issues. His research has been published in several international peer-reviewed journals like Water Policy, Water International, Environment and Urbanization, Local Environment: the International Journal of Justice and Sustainability and Mountain Research and Development. He is the author of Public Policy, A view from the South (Cambridge University Press, 2018). He was lead author for a chapter on human vulnerability to environmental change for GEO- (Global Environment outlook)- 4, the flagship publication of UNEP, the United Nations Environment Programme. He received the SR Sen Prize for the Best Book on Agricultural Economics and Rural Development conferred by the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics (2002-03) for his book 'Institutions, technology and water control: water users' associations and irrigation management reform in two large-scale systems in India (Orient ongman, 2003)'. He has been a consultant to several organizations such as IWMI, International Water Management Institute, Colombo; STEPS Center, University of Suusex, U.K; FAO, Bangkok and the Asia Foundation, New Delhi.

E-mail id: vishalnarain@mdi.ac.in

Inter-disciplinary Field Research Methodology

Qualitative Research: Ethnography, semi-structured interviews, key informant meetings and Focus Group Discussions

In this session, we explore some basics of qualitative research. We become familiar with some qualitative research methods. We also explore how they are different from each other and when they can be used. We look at some applications in inter-disciplinary water resources research.

Thinking about water in an inter-disciplinary way: some approaches and frameworks

This session will provide participants an exposure to frameworks that link the social and natural sciences. Inter-disciplinary needs to go beyond the cliché of seeing water in a "holistic" way. This requires getting out of our disciplinary comfort zones. A move to inter-disciplinary needs to be reflected in the nature of research and enquiry surrounding water.

Paradigms in social science research

How we see what constitutes reality has a fundamental influence on the nature of enquiry and research design. Our paradigmatic orientation is fundamental to how we approach research. However, it is seldom made explicit. We explore positivism and interpretivism as alternative ways of developing research designs.



Collecting and analysing qualitative data: case study and grounded theory

Field research often entails a prolonged immersion into a research setting. In this session we will learn how to draw generalizations from a specific research setting and how to theorise based on the research findings. We learn practical tips to record our field notes and make memos; we learn how to develop codes and concepts and write analytic memos to analyse qualitative data.

Appreciative inquiry and Participatory Rural Appraisal

Appreciative inquiry is a paradigm that emphasises learning from people and their contexts. PRA uses visual techniques to engage communities with whom we are working. We explore the philosophy, tools, applications and limitations; we also learn how not to do a PRA!

Gender and Water

Conceptual groundwork for the analysis of gender-water relationships

In this section we develop a conceptual understanding of gender. We distinguish it from sex; we understand the concept of the sex-gender system. We examine the value of taking a gender relations perspective in water by exploring the concept of equity, contrasting it with equality. We explore the idea of inter-sectionality.



Rationale for a gendered analysis of water

We will look at why water needs to be studied using a gendered lens. We try to understand how different aspects of water access, control, allocation and distribution are gendered. Households are sustained by a gender-based division of labour around water collection. Women and men even express themselves differently in environmental struggles around water and water infrastructure.

Approaches to engendering the water sector: a review of the experience

Engendering the water sector involves two components: making the water sector more gender balanced and making it more gender sensitive. We explore different approaches to engendering the water sector in South Asia in particular and globally more broadly. We understand the actual experiences with such initiatives. We also review recent efforts at bringing in more women in the water sector in South Asia.

Ecofeminism and feminist environmentalism; feminist political ecology

In this session, we will understand the basics of some conceptual approaches and frameworks that inform our analysis of gender and water relations. We understand their genesis, relevance and application to water research, and engage with some criticisms. We examine why it is necessary to be informed of these approaches.

Bringing a gender perspective to our research

In this session, we will bring together some of the key learnings from the previous four sessions to see how they influence our analysis of gender - water relations. This could be in the form of framing key questions to ask. This session will rely more on involvement from the participants in integrating the learnings from the workshop with their proposed research or areas of interest.



COURSE PROFILE

Date	Time	Modules
29.09.2020	3.00-3.05 pm	Welcome Note by Dr Sreenita Mondal/Ms Shreya Chakraborty
	3.05- 3.20 pm	Introduction with facilitators and participants
	3.20 - 3.25 pm	Introduction to the program by Dr Mansee Bal Bhargava
	3.25 - 3.30 pm	Key Note Address by Dr Melanie Robertson
	3.30 - 4.30 pm	IFRM: Module 1 (Lecture): Thinking about water in an inter-disciplinary way: some approaches and frameworks by Prof. Vishal Narain
	4.30 - 5.00 pm	Discussion
01.10.2020	3.00 - 4.00 pm	Gender and Water: Module 1 (Lecture): Conceptual groundwork for the analysis of gender-water relationships by Prof. Vishal Narain
	4.15 - 4.30 pm	Discussion
06.10.2020	3.00 - 4.00 pm	IFRM: Module 2 (Lecture): Paradigms in social science research by Prof. Vishal Narain
	4.00 - 4.30 pm	Discussion
08.10.2020	3.00 - 4.00 pm	Gender and Water: Module 2 (Lecture): Rationale for a gendered analysis of water by Prof. Vishal Narain
	4.00 - 4.30 pm	Discussion
13.10.2020	3.00 - 4.00 pm	IFRM: Module 3 (Lecture): Qualitative Research: ethnography, semi-structured interviews, key informant meetings and Focus Group Discussions by Prof. Vishal Narain
	4.00 - 4.30 pm	Discussion
15.10.2020	3.00 - 4.00 pm	Gender and Water: Module 3 (Lecture): Approaches to engendering the water sector: a review of the experience by Prof. Vishal Narain
	4.00 - 4.30 pm	Discussion
20.10.2020	3.00 - 4.00 pm	IFRM: Module 4 (Lecture): Collecting and analysing qualitative data: case study and grounded theory by Prof. Vishal Narain
	4.00 - 4.30 pm	Discussion
22.10.2020	3.00 - 4.00 pm	Gender and Water: Module 4 (Lecture): Ecofeminism and feminist environmentalism; feminist political ecology by Prof. Vishal Narain
	4.00 - 4.30 pm	Discussion
27.10.2020	3.00 - 4.00 pm	IFRM: Module 5 (Lecture): Appreciative inquiry and Participatory Rural Appraisal by Prof. Vishal Narain
	4.00 - 4.30 pm	Discussion

This training program aims to provide multidisciplinary insights to the engineering faculty and post-graduate students (SAWA Awardees) from universities to ensure a greater degree of inter-disciplinary element in the IWRM research.

TRAINING DELIVERY AND METHODOLOGY

This workshop will be delivered in online mode using zoom platform. We recommend that you sign-in to the session 5-10 minutes early to download the Zoom app (if needed). All online workshop registrations require a valid email address. This is how the links (invitations) to the training are sent to registered participants.

The workshop will primarily be interactive in nature with the provision of presentation through case studies; dissemination of documentaries; group work; assignments e.t.c.

FEEDBACK

Participants are requested to complete an online survey at the end of the training.

E-CERTIFICATES

On completion of the training program, an E-certificate will be sent to your email address.

COORDINATORS

Dr Mansee Bal Bhargava (manseebb@saciwaters.org)
 Dr Sreenita Mondal (sreenita@saciwaters.org)
 Ms Shreya Chakraborty (shreya@saciwaters.org)
 Ms Judith Darcus Christiana (judith@saciwaters.org)

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Mr Mastan Vali

For any ENQUIRIES, write to:

Dr Sreenita Mondal (sreenita@saciwaters.org)

Ms Judith Darcus Christiana (judith@saciwaters.org)



TECHNICAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Those enrolling in the programme should have access to internet and laptop/desktop /smart phone with audio-visual facilities. We recommend using a headset or speakers with your computer. You also need a microphone for this class. You can type your questions and comments to the course instructors and Coordinators in the training if you choose.

PARTICIPATION LEVEL

Engineering faculty and students pursuing M.Sc. in IWRM from 4 engineering institutes are expected to participate in this programme.

LANGUAGE

Participants should have working knowledge of English Language.

REGISTRATION

In order to receive the zoom link please fill-up the registration form sent to your email address. Each person must be registered with their own email address.



DATE AND DURATION

This programme is scheduled from 29th September to 29th October, 2020. On each day, there will be an online lecture by the instructor, followed by discussion. Apart from that offline assignments will also be provided to the participants during, after or prior to each online classes.

India:

3 pm to 4.30 pm

Sri Lanka:

3 pm to 4.30 pm

Nepal:

3:15 pm to 4:45 pm

Bangladesh:

3.30 pm to 5 pm