

# SCaN

SaciWATERs - CapNet Network



## Annual Report 2015

# Cap-Net



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*



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## 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 SasiWATERs 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 2015 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>											
Negotiated Approach Workshop at South Asia towards Integrated Ground Water Management	India: 7 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> October 2015 in Bangladesh & India	SaciWATERs, Jagrata Juba Shangha (JJS),	NOW, TU Delft, BUET, Both ENDS & The Researcher, SCaN, Cap-Net	49	14	73	August 2016	USD 3,173	USD 3,167		
Capacity Building to strengthen CSO's engaged with the Sanitation and Water for All partnership (SWA) in South Asia	November 25-27, 2015, Sri Lanka	CEJ	FANSA, WA UK, EWP, WSSCC, SCaN, Cap-Net	34	7	41	June 2016	USD 8,100	USD 18,549		
Capacity Building of Swachhata Doot under Swacha Bharat Abhyan in Kendrapara District, Odisha	29 <sup>th</sup> October – 10 <sup>th</sup> November 2015, India	IRDP,	IRDP, SCaN, Cap-Net	163	67	230		USD 4,702	USD 4,704		
Regional Training for South Asia Water (SAWA)	28 <sup>th</sup> November – 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2015,	PGIA	IWFM, BUET, CWR, AU, NEC, SaciWATERs	10	26	36	June 2016	USD 5,000	USD 26, 388		



Fellows on Interdisciplinary Research Methods	Sri Lanka		, SCaN, Cap-Net & IDRC								
Capacity Building Training on Water rights, equity, and gender issues for working water professionals in South Asia	15 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> December, 2015, India	SaciWATERS	WLE CGIAR, IWMI, BAU, WU, NBU, SCaN, Cap-Net	18	5	23	July 2016	USD 4,840	USD 15,120		Gender Training Materials

### 3. Capacity Building Activities

#### i. Negotiated Approach Workshop at South Asia towards Integrated Ground Water Management

Funded by the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO), the Shifting Grounds project executed by a group of academicians, researchers and civil society organizations from the Delft University of Technology (TU Delft), SaciWATERs, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), Both ENDS, Jagrata Juba Shangha (JJS) & the Researcher came together to build knowledge and capacity among local actors to support a transformation process in peri-urban delta communities in Bangladesh and India for a pro-poor, sustainable and equitable management of groundwater resources across caste/class and gender. The Shifting Ground project designed to address sustainable management of underground water brought together the local users to enhance the knowledge and capacity to identify the problems and solutions by themselves.



The capacity building training program was organized in India and Bangladesh on 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> October respectively. A total of 55 villagers participated in the two-days training program. In India, 20 villagers from Tihuria Gram Panchayat situated at Sonarpur Block of South 24 Parganas district, and 35 villagers from Hogleadanga village, Kulna district in Bangladesh participated in the training

program.

Participants were divided in small groups with respect to gender, age, social and economic class. The groups were asked to identify the constraints and challenges they face related to water (both groundwater and surface water) and were asked to discuss problems related to water from quality, quantity, affordability, accessibility or equity perspective. The idea was to understand how various users face challenges of competitive uses of water, what were the drivers of demand, factors of seasonality, the opportunity cost related to poor quality or inadequate quantity of water. Similarly, the second group activity focused to understand solutions from people's perspective that related with concern government departments. A very elaborate problems and solutions with respective government departments were listed by the groups.

The participants from the workshop shared the workshop helped them to increase their awareness as well as their working capacity. The participants from both countries shared their sadness to understand the peri-urban areas in their neighboring countries face similar problems. The participant considered their knowledge and capacity would increase if they are given opportunity to participate in similar types of workshop and training in future. Nevertheless, the participants felt the Government officials from District administration and Upazila (both India and Bangladesh) should have been involved in the workshop.

## ii. Capacity Building to strengthen CSO's engaged with the Sanitation and Water for All partnership (SWA) in South Asia



On 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> November 2015, the capacity building training brought together practitioners and leaders in the WASH sector from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, who have influential roles to achieve the water and sanitation goals. More than 20 Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) from the SAARC Countries

participated to develop an advocacy strategy and plan of action for CSOs with a view to accelerating WASH progress in South Asia. This was to be achieved through a comprehensive assessment of the WASH situation in South Asia by sharing and identifying regional and country-specific issues. The meeting provided an invaluable platform to share knowledge and exchange ground realities on the WASH sector. Representatives of UNICEF, SWA and experts from other WASH related organisations shared their experiences through videoconferences.

The CSO participants shared their country-specific experiences, issues, problems and solutions that set the agenda and the need for developing countrywide advocacy strategies and action plans. A comprehensive assessment of the WASH situation in South Asia and measures to improve the efficacy and impact of SACOSANs was the shared understanding of the participants in the region. The regional level sessions that focused on the functioning of SAARC, SACOSAN and achieving SDGs (Goal 6) reflected on the implementation gaps and the reduced involvement of CSOs with the governments of South Asia.

Participants promoted the idea for WASH focused regional institutions such as the Regional Resource Centre (RRC) on Sanitation and advocated for a permanent SACOSAN secretariat within SAARC. Through such involvement, CSOs could play an important role in contributing towards setting the indicators for Goal 6.

The future direction of SWA in the context of SDGs was to ensure universal access to WASH, for which CSOs would be involved in developing their regional advocacy action plan and strengthening partnerships to accelerate progress on equitable, inclusive and sustainable WASH across South Asia.

*“Thank you very much indeed for all your support and great contributions in the South Asian CSOs meeting. It was really a great opportunity to learn and plan for the future interventions on WASH development in the region. I also take this opportunity to share the efforts of AwazCDS and Pakistan Development Alliance regarding post 2015 development*

*workshop. This required developing a common framework of indicators for WASH and improved sharing and collaboration among the CSOs and their networks in South Asia. The workshop was supported by Cap-Net, SCaN, End Water Poverty (EWP), Water Supply & Sanitation Collaborative*

*Council (WSSCC), and WaterAid UK.*

### iii. Capacity Building of Swachhata Doot under Swacha Bharat Abhyan in Kendrapara District, Odisha

Institute for Rural Development and Planning (IRDP), with the financial assistance from Cap-Net trained a cadre of 230 village representatives as Swachhata Doots under the national flagship program on Swacha Bharat Abhyan in Kendrapara District of Odisha State, India. The training program was conducted across nine blocks of the district.



The training aimed to support the Government of India's flagship program - Swacha Bharat Mission or the Clean India Campaign to make India Open Defecation Free by 2019. To achieve the ODF status, there are several activities designed at State, District and Village levels. At village level one of these are to train Swachhata Doots/Sena to carry

out the village level implementation of the program through triggering demand for toilets and promotion of behavioral change communication. The Cap-Net capacity building training focused on building awareness on the Swachhata Doot's roles and responsibilities on Water and Sanitation, methods of building awareness and motivational strategy, and promotion of cost-effective technologies for ecologically safe and sustainable solutions.

### iv. Regional Training for South Asia Water (SAWA) Fellows on Interdisciplinary Research Methods

As part of the South Asia Water Fellowships (SAWA), program, the Institute of Water and Flood Management (IWFM) of the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), Dhaka, Bangladesh; Centre for Water Resources (CWR), Anna University, Chennai, India; Centre for Post Graduate Studies, Nepal Engineering College (NEC), Kathmandu, Nepal and Post Graduate Institute of Agriculture (PGIA), University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka came together to train 22 students from South Asia on Interdisciplinary Research Concepts and Methodologies. The training was organized in Kandy, Sri Lanka from 28<sup>th</sup> November to 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2015. The training program was financially supported by International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada and UNDP Cap-Net.

The objective of the program was to acquaint the participants with qualitative and quantitative research methods. The workshop content covered the overview of IWRM across South Asia, gender and water, qualitative and quantitative research methods; followed by field visit. The sessions were interactive in nature. Participants got the chance to apply classroom learning through a field visit to an irrigation system in Dambulla. Students used PRA tools and made presentations of their field learning's on the last day of the workshop.

Excerpt of Experiences shared by a student:

*“As a SAWA fellow, I got the opportunity to attend the workshop held in Kandy, Sri Lanka and it was an opportunity not to be missed. The program focused on the present condition of water resources all over the world, future scenario of this resource and solutions and measurements taken to preserve and manage water properly. The workshop also had the spotlight on the relation of gender and water and also focused on how this relation is getting more important day by day. Finally, the program gave us thorough knowledge about interdisciplinary research and now we understand how important it is nowadays. Overall, the workshop was very useful and it helped us to realize what we should do and what our focus should be. Meeting lots of wonderful teachers and friends from different countries, sharing knowledge with them made this workshop a memorable one.”*

- Sabrina Mehzabin, BUET

The six-day training program was managed to provide a good learning exercise to the SAWA fellows of four partner institutions on interdisciplinary approaches to water resources management. It also gave an exposure to the local conditions with respect to large scale irrigation water management. The combination of interactive

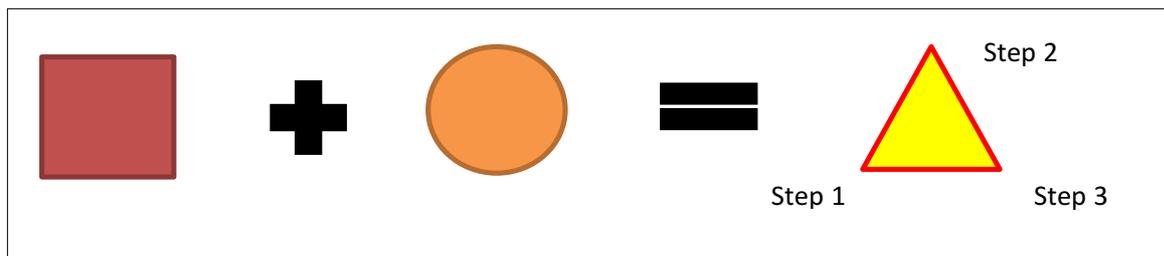


sessions, group activities, presentations and the field visit helped the students to gain knowledge and some experience within a short period of time. Apart from being a platform for knowledge sharing and cross country learning it also provided a platform for cultural exchange across the four South Asian countries.

#### **v. Capacity Building Training on Water rights, equity, and gender issues for working water professionals in South Asia**

As part of the Consortium Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) supported research project titled “*Poverty squares and gender circles: unravelling agriculture gaps, challenges and opportunities in Eastern Gangetic Basin- India, Nepal and Bangladesh*” the implementing partners from Nepal, India and Bangladesh came together to capacitate the key decision makers in the case study projects, grassroots level practitioners, staff of identified government departments and other institutions closely linked with irrigation and agriculture in the respective field sites. The capacity building training focused on water rights, equity and gender and was organized at Marina’s Motel, Bagdogra, West Bengal, India from 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> Dec 2015.

A total of 20 participants attended the workshop from India, Nepal and Bangladesh. The workshop was facilitated by Janwillem Liebrand, Netherlands and coordinated by Aditya Bastola and Manish Maskara through power point presentations, group discussions and plenary sessions. The workshop began with making the participants aware about the historical background, varied perceptions of gender and its transition from Women in/and Development (WID, WAD) to Gender and Development (GAD).



The following model was presented– from squares and circles to triangles. The session began with analysing ‘core problems’ out of the complexity of all squares and circles, that helped define the problems and measures for advocacy. Through the country level reflections from the field sites in each country, the emerging core problems in the field sites were identified based on which recommendations were shared by the participants. The workshop provided the space to highlight the major challenges faced by practitioners in doing and implementing gender in projects related to water and agriculture. The workshop provided a good platform to bring both research and practitioners, decision makers together to share knowledge on gender, water rights and equity.



As a follow-up, one of the participant from Bangladesh shared his experiences after the training.

*“The training was very realistic, pragmatic and time worthy. We, the participants, were very much serious, attentive and meticulous which rendered the training successful. We are, truly speaking, working on these issues in field. After the training cum workshop, I think, the magnitude of my proving has got a new dimension and I am conducting training courses with more soundness and more efficiently regarding climate change and effects on gender equity and making the adaptive means as well. We are also giving high preference to disseminate and implement the issues of climate change, gender equity, efficient water use especially alternative way of making less under ground water use. Our government is discouraging the installation of deep tube wells which detrimentally exploits the nature by mining under ground water reservoir. Our Hon. Minister of Agriculture is pressing us to go for low water requiring crops instead of high water requiring rice crop. The gender issue is also finding pace with equal importance.”*

#### 4. Networking and Knowledge Development

##### i. Establishment of SCaN Board

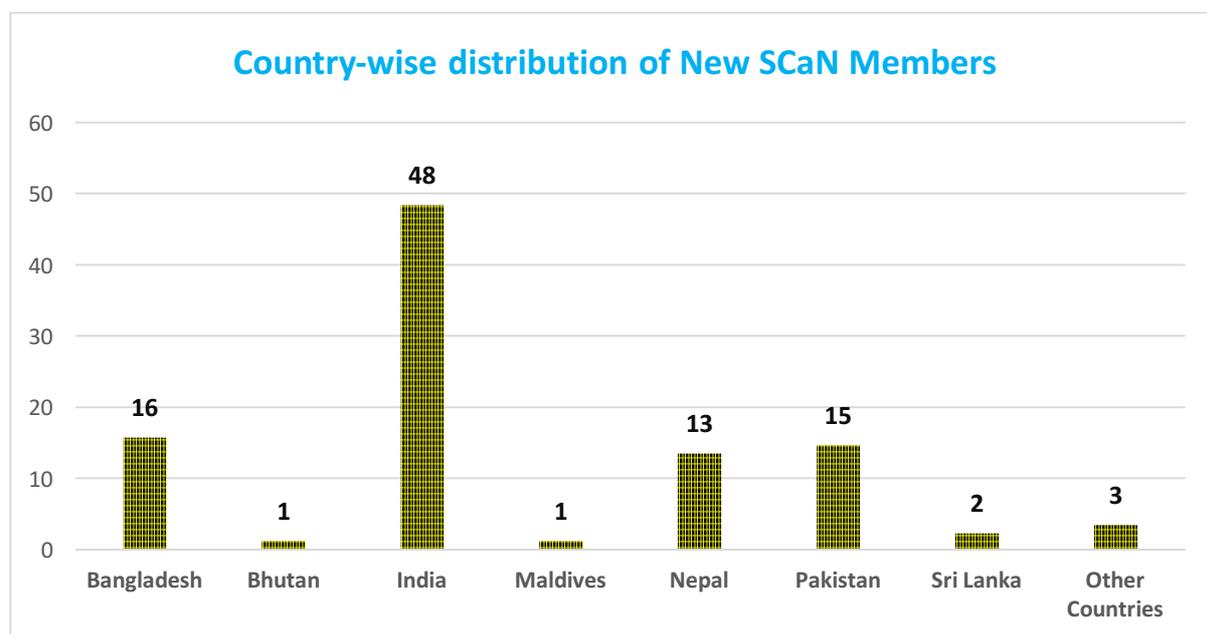
Since inception 2010, SCaN in 2015 established the first formal governance structure. The roles and responsibilities (Terms and Conditions) of the Board members have been finalized. At present, the SCaN Board members are:

1. Mr. Golam Rabbani - Bangladesh Center for Advance Studies, Bangladesh,

2. Prof. Nimal Gunawardana - Dept. of Agricultural Engineering, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka,
3. Ms. Farzana Ahmed Saleem - Hisaar Foundation, Pakistan,
4. Prof. Asit K. Biswas - Lee Kaun Yew School for Public Policy, Singapore
5. Dr. Pushpam Kumar - Chief Economist, UNEP, Kenya
6. Dr. Anamika Barua - Executive Director, SaciWATERS, India
7. Dr. Eklabya Sharma - ICIMOD
8. SCaN Coordinator

## ii. SCaN Membership

In 2015, an addition of 89 members from South Asia joined the SCaN Network. The total SCaN membership in 2015 reached to 222 members.



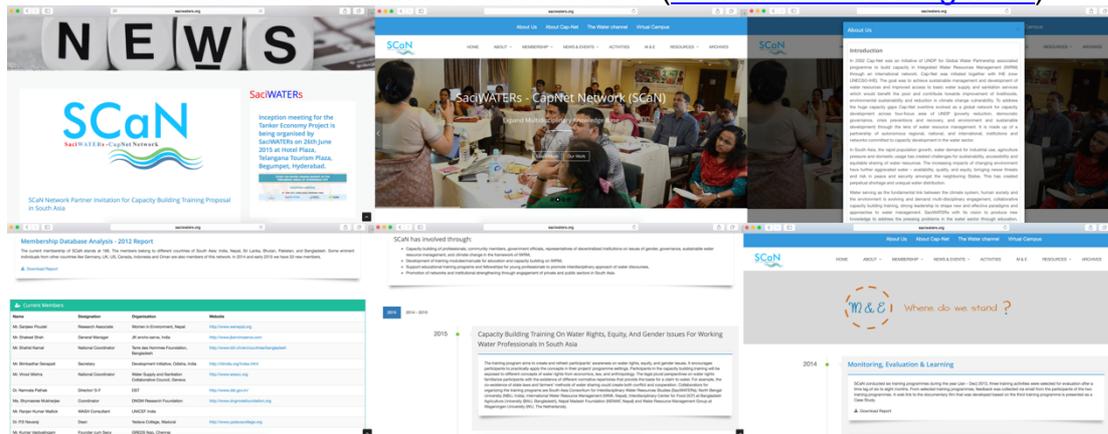
In 2015, 48 per cent of the membership belonged to India, followed by 16 per cent from Bangladesh and 15 per cent from Pakistan. There is an increasing proportion of memberships from Pakistan and other countries such as Iran, Maldives and The Netherlands.

The membership data reveals that SCaN as a South Asia network is gradually extending to truly represent South Asia with two new SAARC country members from Bhutan and the Maldives.

## iii. Website

SCaN revamped its website into user-friendly technology (mobile web browsing). The website contains additional resources including training materials, workshop reports, strategy plan, membership database, online SCaN membership form and Resource Links and Archives from Cap-Net and CAWST.

Screenshot of the SCaN Website ([www.saciwaters.org/scan](http://www.saciwaters.org/scan))

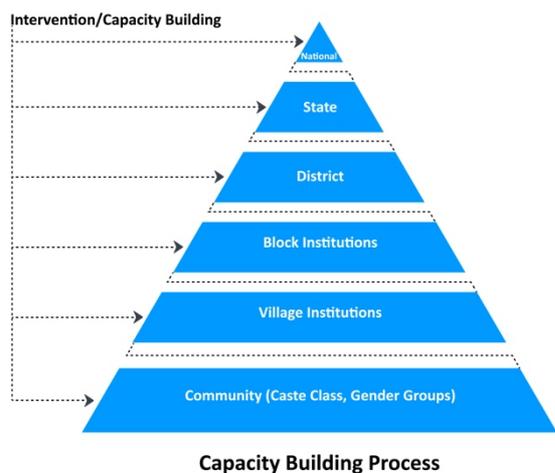


**iv. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (MELP)**

In 2015 SCaN as part of the the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (MELP) exercise assessed two training programs (Capacity Building for PRIs Members on water and sanitation in Kendrapara District and Training on Inclusive, Gender & Justice Approaches in Water-Based Livelihoods). The evaluation of these training programs provided an opportunity to understand how capacity building development activities have an impact on individuals, institutions and policy.

For the first time SCaN carried out the field evaluation survey with 101 sample size. This provided an opportunity to understand the field implications of the training program.

The feedbacks from the evaluation highlight there is an increasing need to involve women’s group as participants in training program. Trainings designed for specific groups should be less discouraged unless classified but should promote an array of stakeholders. This will ensure dissemination of information and knowledge to wider section of the population.



Gender issues at household and common resources should be an integrated component of all training agenda. This will help address the gender concerns across sectors and particularly women in decision-making at households and institutions.

Capacity Development Activities that intend to bring about perception change or policy impacts should be a continuum process every year. Networks could recognize such issues as their focus area.

#### v. Other activities

- SCaN Coordinator attended the UNDP – Cap-Tec Stakeholder’s Meeting at UNESCO – IHE, Delft on March 26<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> 2015. The Stakeholder’s meet was to develop a partnership in capacity development on the use of new technologies for improved water productivity and management. The meeting gathered the supply and demand sides of new technologies; water professionals and managers, development practitioners, policy makers, farmer representatives and industrialists, researchers, and capacity development specialists.
- SCaN Coordinator Dr. Aditya Bastola participated at the Cap-Net Annual Manager’s Meeting held from 17-20 November 2015 at Cartagena, Colombia.
- Due to SCaN’s participation in several Cap-Net supported training programs, it has helped to increase its network membership.
- As a democratic process to invite training proposals from network partners in South Asia, SCaN for the first time send out a call for proposals. The call was widely shared across networks and at SaciWATERS and Cap-Net websites.

#### 5. 2016 Annual Plan

The active engagement of SCaN in 2015 with network members invited several capacity building training proposals. The network members who could secure matching funds for the training program were selected and shared with Cap-Net as 2016 Annual Work Plan.

Cap-Net budget summary for all the proposed activities			
Sr. No	Activities	Month	Collaborators
South Asia Activities			
1	Capacity Building Training on Water rights, equity, and gender issues for working water professionals in South Asia and promotion of education curriculum.	Dec-16	Wageningen University SaciWATERS, Nepal Madesh Foundation, North Bengal University, Bangladesh Agriculture University and IWMI Nepal.
2	Sustainable Management of Groundwater Resources in South Asia: Technology, Economics, Institutions and Policy	Mar-16	Madras Institute of Development Studies, and Institute for Resource Analysis and Policy
3	Training on Research Methodologies for South Asian Water (SAWA) Fellows	Dec-16	SaciWATERS, IDRC

4	Training and Module Development on Arsenicosis for Medical Practitioners and Preventive Measures to Check its Spread and Severity	February, June, August and October 2016	S.M. Sehgal Foundation, Arsenic Network (SaciWATERS), SCaN, WaterAid, Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI), IIT Guwahati, Arghyam
5	Sustainable Transboundary management of the Brahmaputra River System in a changing climate for water security and disaster resilience in South Asia	March-April 2016	Aaranyak (India)
6	Capacity Building of SACOSAN Members to promote integrated WASH services through the application of SSWM Toolbox	To be decided	SaciWATERS (SCaN), to be discussed with Cap-Net Lanka and Bangladesh
7	Capacity Building on Climate Change and Water Resource Management for Forest Professionals in South Asia	May 2016	New Brunswick Climate Change Research Collaborative, Association of Registered Professional Foresters, University of Toronto, Université du Québec à Montréal and SaciWATERS
8	Rural peri-urban water conflicts: Challenges for governance & water Justice in South Asia	April/May 2016	SaciWATERS, International WaTERS Network – British Columbia University, SOPPECOM
9	Workshop on Module development on rural urban linkages and peri-urban water governance	January 2016	SaciWATERS, International WaTERS Network – British Columbia University
India Level Activities			
1	Capacity Building of Famers on Equitable Groundwater Management in Karnool District, Andhra Pradesh	Feb-16	Bharathi Integrated Rural Development Society (BIRDS), Andhra Pradesh