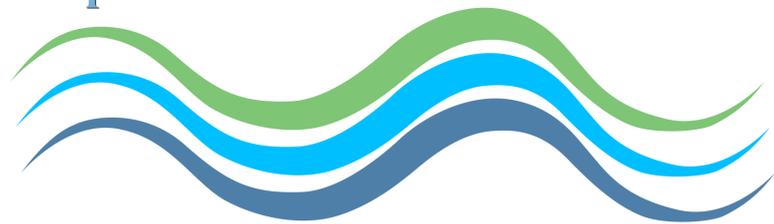


# SCaN

**Saci**WATERS - CapNet Network



## Mid-Term Report

January – June 2015

Submitted to

# Cap-Net



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*

## Table of Content

Sr. No	Content	Page
1.	Summary of Outputs	3
2.	Period	4
3.	Introduction	4
4.	Network Management	6
4.1.	Network Membership	6
4.2.	Network Staff	6
4.3.	Network Communications & Interaction with other Network Partners	7
4.4.	SCaN Brochure	7
4.5.	Network Meeting	8
4.6.	Network Strategy and Focus Areas	8
5	Network Activities	9
5.1.	Establishment of SCaN Governance Body	9
5.2.	Capacity Building	10
5.3.	Expression of Interest for Capacity Building Training Program	14
5.4.	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (MELP)	14
5.5.	Challenges	14
6.	Results	15
7.	Work plan in 2015 – 2016	15
8.	Conclusion	16

## 1. Summary of Outputs

January to June 2015

<b>Network Management and Capacity Building</b>	
Establishment of SCaN Board	SCaN Board established with 7 members from South Asia, 4 members are yet to confirm. The first Board Meeting is planned in February 2016.
Membership	There is an increase of 48 members from South Asia. Most of these members belong from NGO, Academia, and Government.
Website and Promotion Materials	SCaN website redesigned. SCaN Brochure widely shared through electronic and print media.
Capacity Building Training Programs	5 Capacity Building training programs are planned from the month of October to December 2015. Partner contracts are signed and first installment will be released soon.
SCaN Strategy (2015-2018)	Aligning to Cap-Net (2014-2018) Strategy, SCaN has identified its own focus areas for South Asia and developed the 2015-2018 Strategy Paper.
Participated in the Cap-Tec Stakeholder's Meeting	SCaN coordinated attended the Cap-Tec Stakeholder's Meeting at UNESCO – IHE, Delft on March 26 <sup>th</sup> - 27 <sup>th</sup> 2015. The meeting focused on developing partnership in capacity development on the use of new technologies for improved water productivity and management.
Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Plan	2 Training Programs from 2014 will be evaluated in 2015.

## 2. Period

SCaN progress (Jan – June 2015)

## 3. Introduction

Since 2009, SaciWATERs Cap-Net Network (SCaN) has been successful to initiate collaborative activities with numerous national, regional and international organizations. In 2015, this has helped us to reach-out to a diverse group of stakeholders from academia, researcher, policymaking, donors and practitioners and community members. Realizing the enormous demand for capacity building in the water sector across the region, SCaN has expanded its activities aligning with Cap-Net 2013-2018 Strategic Framework to reach many more institutions and individuals. This has led SCaN to review its focus areas and develop stronger governance model in 2015.

SCaN for South Asia saw several changes in 2015 – change in leadership, review of SCaN goals and objectives, development of a Strategic Plan (2015-2018), constitution of SCaN Board, call for training proposals from network partners, redesign the SCaN website and increased network members.

SCaN has enhanced the platform to academics, researchers, and professionals from government, non-government, public and private sector to collectively strengthen the human and institutional capacity in IWRM in South Asia. To achieve its goals, SCaN brought about major shift in its strategy for 2015 to 2018.

### Strategy

SCaN aligned its strategy with Cap-Net's Strategic Plan (2013-2018) that emphasized support to capacity building which will lead to enhancing national and local capacities for human development. In South Asia, the challenges in water resource management are diverse due to different geo-climatic conditions - from the Alpine climate in the mountains of the vast Gangetic plains to the Deltas of the semi-arid and the coastal ones. SCaN with its vision to strengthen human and institutional capacity in IWRM across South Asia has identified certain 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

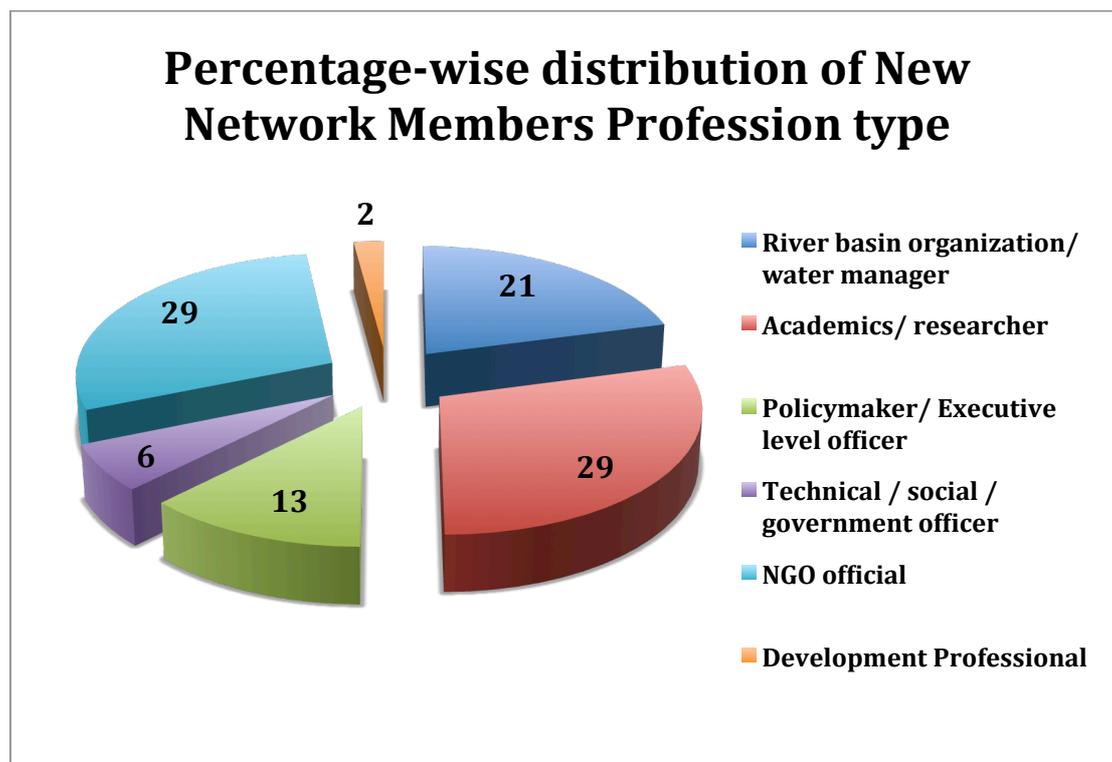
of specific capacity development products. It is the expectation for Cap-Net to be able to respond to such demands and be able to fulfill the knowledge and expertise gap expressed by private sector organizations.

## 4. Network management

### 4.1. Network Membership

There is a steep increase in network membership over the period of 6 months. Until 2012 the total documented members were 133 across the globe. In 2015, an additional 48 members joined the network. Members from the network are active Academics, Researchers, Government Officials, and Practitioners. The total SCaN members in 2015 have reached to 181 members.

From the new members joined in 2015, we find an increasing percentage (about 29 per cent each) belonged to Academia/Researcher and the NGO official categories. Most of the members are involved in IWRM focused activities. There is also an increasing percent, about 13 per cent, of leaders who have joined the South Asia IWRM Network.



### 4.2. Network Staff

SCaN in 2015 witnessed a drastic change in its leadership. Dr. Aditya Bastola succeeded the position as SCaN coordinator.



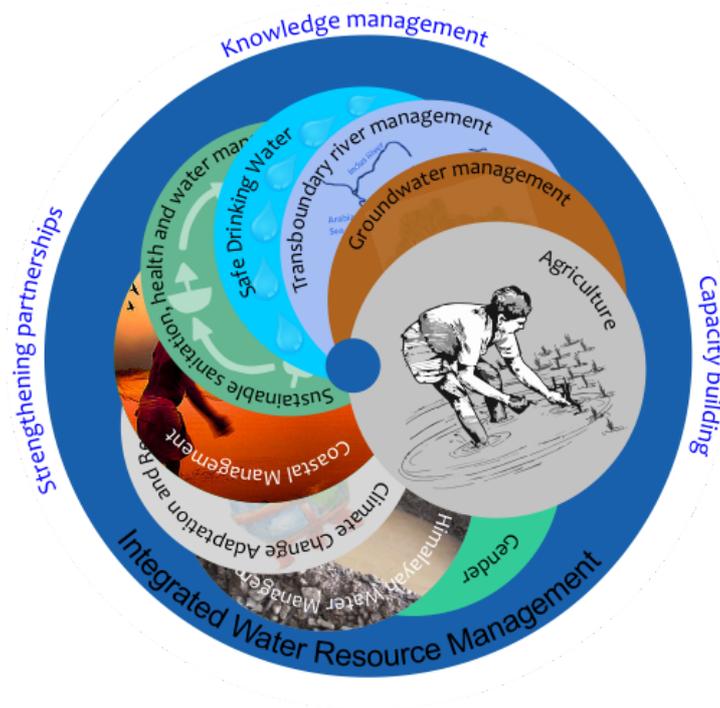


### 4.5. Network Meeting

- 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.
- Meeting with Mr. Sujoy Mujumdar, WASH specialist, UNICEF India, (May 10, 2015) suggested ScaN efforts in IWRM capacity building can be highlighted to promote ScaN as a Key Resource Center (KRC) for the Government of India.

### 4.6. Network Strategy and Focus Areas

ScaN has prepared its own Strategy Plan for 2015-2018 aligning with UNDP Cap-Net 2013-2018 Strategic Plan and identifying new focus areas for South Asia: - Groundwater Management, Transboundary river management, Safe drinking water, Sustainable sanitation, Health and Water management, Agriculture, Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Building, Gender, Coastal Management and Himalaya Water Management.



## 5. Network activities

In 2015 SCaN has undertaken several key decisions that have brought about significant changes in its activities.

### 5.1. Establishment of SCaN Governance Body

Since the inception of SCaN, it was agreed that a formal governance structure was to be placed by 2011. SCaN in 2015 was successful to establish the international governance body with representative from South Asia. 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, SasiWATERS, India
7. SCaN Coordinator

Confirmation pending:

1. Dr. Eklabya Sharma - ICIMOD
2. Mr. Chhewang Rinzin - Druke Green Power Cooperation, Bhutan
3. Mr. Jorma Suvanto - Ambassador - Embassy of Finland, Nepal
4. Mr. Ryan Thew, AusAid, India.

The first SCan Board meeting is planned in February 2016, at Nepal. This will provide an opportunity to promote SCan's visibility in Nepal.

## 5.2. Capacity Building

As per the Annual work plan 2015, there are five Capacity Building activities to be implemented from October – December 2015:

Sr. No	Capacity Building Training	Date	Venue	Cap-Net Support
1	Negotiated Approach Workshop at South Asia towards Integrated Ground Water Management	India: 7 <sup>th</sup> October 2015 Bangladesh	Kolkata (India) & Kulna (Bangladesh)	USD 3,173 (Total USD 6340)
2	Capacity Building to strengthen CSO's engaged with the Sanitation and Water for All partnership (SWA) in South Asia	November 25-27, 2015	Kandy (Sri Lanka)	USD 8,100 (Total USD 27,100)
3	Capacity Building of SwachhataDoot under SwachabharatAbhyan in Kendrapara District	October – November 2015	Kendrapara District (India)	USD 4,701 (Total 9,406)
4	Regional Training for South Asia Water (SAWA) Fellows on Interdisciplinary Research Methods	December 2015	Kandy (Sri Lanka)	USD 5,000 (Total USD 31,388)
5	Capacity Building Training on Water rights, equity, and gender issues for working water professionals in South Asia	December 21-23, 2015	Jalpaiguri (India)	USD 4,839 (Total USD 19,960)

### A. Negotiated Approach (NA) Workshop at South Asia towards Integrated Ground Water Management

Groundwater depletion and water quality deterioration are common trend in majority of the rapidly growing towns & cities of south Asia. The pattern of groundwater insecurity is more critically observed in the suburban or peri-urban areas and the institutional structures in the form of formal organizations such as state ground water departments, municipalities, village panchayats, Public Health Engineering Departments and informal mechanisms like rules, laws, values etc. are not well equipped to address the changing demands of these rapidly growing transitory spaces. The NA workshop therefore aims to understand the complex institutional mechanism, changing usages, formal and informal rules and values – and devise a method or mechanism to resolve these issues. Many conventional and contemporary approaches for dialogue are being used in order to resolve these institutional issues in the peri-urban context. Negotiated approach is one the contemporary approach – which aims at analyzing the real life experience, including both successful and less successful attempts. The NA aims to improve integrated groundwater resources management by making it more problem and need-driven by supporting local communities. The training is organized in two countries – Kulna (Bangladesh) and Kolkata (India). These two workshops intend to

provide stakeholders (local communities as well as local government) an introduction to the project and on the Negotiated Approach, to do a need and perception assessment with regards to the groundwater resources and to perform some capacity building on Rights to information and Rights to water and sanitation. The workshop will provide a platform to deliberate issues of concerns across farmers, fishermen, shrimp industries owners, researchers and policy makers.

The implementing partners are: SaciWATERs, The Researcher, JJS,

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

Access to adequate water supply and sanitation is considered not only a fundamental need but also a human right in itself. In India 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of the population do not have access to basic sanitation (32.7 % coverage) (SACOSAN V, 2013). The total sanitation coverage in Nepal is 43% (GoN, 2011), Bangladesh 57.95%, Pakistan 58%, and Bhutan 58% (only 3% defecate openly) (GoB, 2010). Sri Lanka has the maximum coverage with more than 90 percent. The data shows that the poorest 40 percent of the population in southern Asia have barely benefited from improvements in sanitation. JMP report (2012) reveals that poor people in South Asia are over 13 times less likely to have access to sanitation than rich people.

There are systematic challenges in South Asia to achieve improved sanitation as they are coupled with growing pressure on water through increasing population, intensive farming, political tensions and environmental degradation and changing climatic conditions. To address the seemingly inherent political challenges and changing environmental conditions, it is significant to capacitate SACOSANs – the high level inter governmental platform that exists on sanitation and hygiene in the region and reflect on the Millennium Development Goals and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to address mechanism for reconciliation in CSO's strategic frameworks. This requires SWA South Asia to work with SACOSAN for a common set of commitments and thrive for collaboration and continuous engagement with federal states. Therefore, the training programs aims to develop shared understanding by reviewing the current functioning and commitments of SWA, SACOSAN and SDGs and its contribution to achieving water, sanitation and hygiene for all amongst those CSOs, and WASH sector partners of SWA. The training also aims at building the capacity of CSO partners on policy analysis, budget tracking, and advocacy and improve collaboration and networking with other CSOs at national and regional levels, and to identifying methods and opportunities through developing action plans and common framework of indicators for WASH in South Asia.

The implementing partners are: FANSA, SaciWATERs and CJS.

### **C. Capacity Building of SwachhataDoot under SwachabharatAbhyan in Kendrapara District, Odisha**

To accelerate access to toilet and clean drinking water, the Government of India initiated Swachh Bharat Abhijan or the Clean India Campaign. This saw the revamp of Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) to make India Open Defecation Free by 2019. The roles of District level Sanitation coordinators under the TSC underwent a major shift. SwachhataPreraks (doot) were formed as the catalysts of the programme at the district level, facilitating Gram Panchayats (GPs) to achieve the Nirmal Gram (100% Open Defecation Free-ODF) status. To achieve the ODF status, SwachhataPrerakswere considered to spearhead the activities of Nirmal Bharat Abhyan (NBA) by planning, coordinating, monitoring, and executing the annual implementation plan for sanitation in their respective districts. However, there is a need to train and properly sensitize the sanitation work force at the GP level. This is because the SwachhataDoots carry out multiple roles in the course of triggering demand for toilet construction.

Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Identified above Poverty Line (APL) households within a Gram Panchayat (GP) have provision for Individual Household Latrine (IHHL) through NBA. It is therefore, in this context the Sarpanch, Naib Sarpanch and Ward Councilors are to be capacitated on various aspects of Water and Sanitation, to bring about good governance in the water and sanitation sector and overall development in the rural areas. The training aims to enhance the roles and responsibilities of the SwachhataDoot, build awareness amongst villagers and promote cost effective and appropriate technologies of sustainable sanitation and water management. The training will be imparted to 230 SwachhataDoots from Kendrapara District through 8 Batches.

The implementing partner is Institute of Rural Development and Planning (IRDP).

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

South Asia's communities remain vulnerable due to extreme environmental events. This is compounded by climate variability and change, food insecurity, population growth and urbanization. Poor land and water resource allocation, utilization and pollution have robbed the poor, particularly women, of livelihood and dignity. Such broad, yet closely linked issues can only be effectively tackled through a holistic approach.

SaciWATERS in collaboration with its four South Asian partner institutions will address these water issues by striking at the root of the problem – university learning – through an integrated and interdisciplinary water resources management program in Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka. It plugs two key gaps by generating water problem-solving research, while creating a generation of interdisciplinary water professionals, trained to tackle water issues using multi-disciplinary approaches sensitive to women, the poor, the environment and sustainability. The training is proposed to generate interdisciplinary water professionals' trained in integrated water resource management, gender and social inclusion issues to deal with concerns of food

insecurity, adaptability to climate change and resilience. The project aims to build capacity by awarding IDRC South Asian Water (SAWA) Fellowships to generate action-oriented masters' theses, whose solutions include the welfare of poor. Through the capacity building training program it aims to deepen their knowledge of water and issues that surround holistic water management in South Asia through gender, equity, climate change, and food security lens. Initiate and encourage 'regional co-operation' and develop leadership skills among water professionals in the long run. Promote interdisciplinary approach to water resource management and research.

The implementing partners are: SaciWATERs, India, Institute of Water and Flood Management (IWFM), Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), Bangladesh, Center for Water Resources (CWR), Anna University, India, Center for Post Graduate Studies, Nepal Engineering College (NEC), Nepal and Post Graduate Institute of Agriculture (PGIA), University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

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

A transnational and multi-partner research project titled 'Poverty squares and gender circles: unraveling agriculture gaps, challenges and opportunities in the Eastern Gangetic Plains (Bangladesh, India and Nepal)' aims to understand the perspectives and practice for achieving gender equity by identifying new and innovative approaches to modify sectoral interventions of agriculture and water sector and to develop capacity of technical staff in official and non-governmental organisations. Recent studies indicate a new agrarian crisis, in particular 'feminization of agriculture'. Men's out-migration across rural households in search of livelihood options has left the women to work in the agriculture sector and also perform the domestic roles. The role to prepare the field for cultivation by men has shifted onto the shoulders of women thereby increasing vulnerability and also building resilience and avenues for opportunities.

The structural changes in agrarian economies, policies and practices caused by environmental change are minimally understood. Professionals (from government and non-government) involved in the sector fail to understand the emerging nuances with increasing involvement of women in agriculture. Projects where gender initiatives are supply-led do not sustain beyond project cycles. There is a need to understand the "know-do" gaps and collaboratively operate to build gender capacities through establishment of continuous dialogues at multiple levels.

Using case study from the region, participants will be exposed to the value of appreciating the significance of different normative repertoires, outside state law, in shaping access to water – particularly how equity could be inclusive for both women and men. The capacity building training will refresh participants' awareness on water rights, equity, and gender issues, understand the multiple dimensions of inequality that shape gendered access to resources and

opportunities and encourage them to practically apply the concepts in their project/ programme settings.

The implementing partners are: SaciWATERs, India, International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Nepal), Water Resource Management (WRM) Group, Wageningen University (WU), Nepal Madesh Foundation (NEMAF), Nepal, Interdisciplinary Center for Food Security (ICF), Bangladesh Agriculture University (BAU), and North Bengal University (NBU), India.

### **5.3. Expressions of Interest for Capacity Building Training Program**

For the first time SCaN has invited a call for training proposals among its network partners. This call was widely shared in different networks/platform such as Cap-Net website, Newsletters, Workshops and meetings with Government officials. The focus of 2016 Training Activities are more at regional level in South Asia.

### **5.4. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (MELP)**

From three training conducted in 2014, SCaN has identified two trainings for monitoring and evaluating in 2015. The training programs include:

- a. Inclusive, Gender & Justice Approaches in Water-Based Livelihoods, conducted by Utthan with the support of Cap-Net and Arghyam in April 23-27, 2014.

The online e-mail survey is planned. The questionnaire will be shared to all participants. Response received will be analyzed for the evaluation purpose.

- b. Capacity Building for PRIs Members on Water and Sanitation in Kendrapara District, Odisha with the support of Cap-Net in November 2014.

From the total of 230 participants, representative samples from each block totaling to 100 participants are selected for monitoring and evaluation of the training program.

Both these training programs are contextually different and address different issues therefore the Evaluation Tool 3 Form A is modified to understand the impacts of the training.

### **5.5. Challenges**

- After taking over the position of SCaN Coordinator, it was found there was very little information available on SCaN activities. Few were obtained from the Cap-Net Capacity Building Coordinator. This delayed understanding and implementation of some of the activities.
- The fees to resource persons/authors from the Workshop on developing the Training Manual on the impact of Climate Variability in

South Asia were not paid. This was because the funds were not released. The Coordinator had to resolve the issue with assurance of involving these resource persons (from Nepal and Sri Lanka) in 2016 SCaN activities.

- Reduced Cap-Net funds for Networks have reduced number of Network management activities in 2015.

## 6. Results

From January to June 2015 SCaN has been successful to reach out to several stakeholders – Government Officials, Academics, NGOs and Water Professionals.

In brief, SCaN formed the governance body with representatives across South Asia – Nepal, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh. The representatives from other South Asian countries such as Maldives, Bhutan and Afghanistan will be invited to the Board by 2017-2018. There are few international donor agencies and private sector invited to SCaN Board for strategic reasons. SCaN first Board meeting is scheduled for February 2016.

As part of the promotional activities, SCaN has developed its brochure with its Strategic Plan and the focus areas during 2015 to 2018. These promotional materials are widely circulated amongst Network Partners and members. As a South Asia regional capacity building network on IWRM, SCaN for the first time has focused on Integrated Management of Himalayan Water and the Coastal Management.

In comparison to 2014, SCaN in 2015 is conducting five capacity building training programs. Some of the training programs have direct policy impacts such as the CSOs meeting on Sanitation and Water. The training intends to provide inputs to SACOSAN to develop the country and SAARC focused Sustainable Development Goals on Sanitation with clear targets for each country. The Capacity Building Training Program on Water rights and Gender and Equity issues will develop extension education curriculum to the Government Officials implementing Agriculture and Irrigation Projects in Nepal, Bangladesh and India. The Extension Education Curriculum will highlight the emerging gender nuances caused by Agrarian Economics, Environmental Changes and Cultural Practices.

Every year, SCaN evaluated one training program, this year two capacity building training programs were evaluated.

## 7. Work plan in 2015-2016

1. Implementation of the 5 Capacity Building Training Programs for 2015.
2. Organize SCaN Board meeting in February 2016.
3. Increase core fund for SCaN and its activities in 2016 for wider visibility and outreach at South Asia level.
4. Involve private/inter-governmental bodies as core supporter to SCaN by 2016.

5. Establish SCaN Nepal/Bhutan as a unit of SCaN.
6. Increase collaborative training programs with South Asian Governments with IWRM focus.
7. Develop transparent model to sustain the IWRM network in South Asia.
8. Attend Cap-Net Annual Managers meeting in November 2015.

## 8. Conclusion

The SasiWATERS Cap-Net Network (SCaN) has established its Governance Body with eminent professionals in the water sector. The first SCaN board meeting is planned in 2016. In 2015, SCaN saw a whooping increase in its membership from South Asia. Most of these members are NGO officials and Academics.

In comparison to 2014, SCaN has increased its capacity building activities in the region. The increased participation of government officials through the training has supported the development of a strong network with the Government officials from Nepal, India and Bangladesh. A training primarily focusing on Government capacity building is planned for 2016.

The capacity building training programs in 2015 are designed to bring about policy change. The capacity building training with CSOs on Sanitation in November 2015 intends to support development of country specific targets under the Sustainable Development Goals. The training on water rights, gender issues and equity will test the education model for government officers working in agriculture and irrigation sector in India, Nepal and Bangladesh. The outputs from the training programs fit with Cap-Net focus on education and advocacy.

SCaN has developed effective medium for promotion of its focus area and strategic plans through redesigning the SCaN website and publication. To bring about transparency and greater participation of Network members, a call for 2016 capacity building training proposal was shared with members through direct emails and hosting on partner websites.

In future SCaN intends to strengthen the SCaN Board and promote the focus areas through increasing capacity building activities in 2016. SCaN plans to secure the core support through other donor agencies/private sector involvement in IWRM.