

Annual Report 2010

SaciWATERS-CapNet Network





Introduction

The South Asia Consortium for Interdisciplinary Water Resources Studies (SaciWATERS) is committed to bringing about structural changes in the dominant water resources management paradigm in South Asia Region. SaciWATERS, through its flagship project 'Crossing Boundaries' (CB), has attempted to strengthen integrated and gender-sensitive water resources management policy and practice in the region through higher education, research, knowledge base development and advocacy.

The SaciWATERS joined the Cap-Net Global Network in 2009 as one of its South Asian networks to create the SaciWATERS-CapNet Network (SCaN). The SCaN comprises of autonomous regional & national institutions and individuals committed to capacity building in the water sector. It has members from India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Bhutan. The network is open and inclusive and is operated based on mutual benefit and trust. It aims to integrate the available skills and knowledge, which is otherwise scattered throughout various institutions and disciplines. Individuals and institutions from varied disciplines interested in IWRM capacity building activities can join the network. The SaciWATERS hosts the network and acts as its legal, administrative and financial umbrella.

The vision of SCaN is to strengthen the human and institutional capacities by adopting an integrated approach within the water sector in South Asia region through education & training; research; knowledge based development; advocacy and networking. It has the following objectives:

1. Facilitating network members to conduct capacity building programmes in IWRM through partnerships.
2. Providing network members a platform for sharing skills, expertise and resources to strengthen and upscale their efforts and impact in IWRM.
3. Expanding multidisciplinary knowledge base in IWRM and its reach in the water sector.

The SCaN started functioning in 2010. It successfully implemented two regional level capacity building programmes. It is also working towards strengthening the network further. Through its activities it has been able to reach a diverse group of stakeholders such as academics, researchers, policymakers, donors and implementers. This annual report provides narrative details of the activities conducted in 2010.

I. Delivery of Capacity Building

(I) Gender, Water and Equity Training held at Kathmandu, Nepal (June 14-18, 2010)

The Gender, Water and Equity Training (GWET) workshop was the fifth in a series for researchers, policy makers, development practitioners, academics and activists from the South Asian region. This programme was jointly organized by SaciWATERS; Cap-Net; Society for Promoting Participative Ecosystem Management (SOPPECOM); Gender and Water Alliance (GWA); Water Supply & Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC); UN HABITAT and Nepal Engineering College (nec) during June 14-18, 2010 in Kathmandu, Nepal.



The workshop aimed to increase participants' awareness on key gender, water and equity issues in South Asia and challenges in mainstreaming a gender equity perspective in water policy and practice, with the following objectives:

- To make participants understand the larger political context of water wherein, gender and equity issues are placed at the centre.
- Strengthen conceptual perspective on gender, water and equity.
- To provide skills to examine analytical frameworks for incorporating gender and equity in the planning and implementation of programmes in the water sector.

The workshop was a five days training programme, carried out through a mix of participative and interactive sessions, group work, field exposure and panel discussions. The content was divided into four themes viz., Gender and Equity – concepts & analytical frameworks; Water, IWRM and Equity; Policy Reviews and Sectoral Analysis from a Gender Perspective; and Sanitation and Menstrual Hygiene. Each theme had interactive sessions and a group exercise. The field exposure component included visit to three project sites of Lumanti viz. the Water, Environmental Sanitation and Hygiene Programme for Urban Poor in Narayan Tole; Implementation of cost recovery approach in private toilet construction in Thecho; and Low Income Consumer Support Unit (LICSU) Water Supply Project, Kathmandu. The panel discussion on the last day focused on “Challenge of Addressing Gender Equity in Water Management in Nepal”

Participants were primarily mid-level professionals from South Asia associated with developmental organizations; educational and research institutes; state and central government departments working in water sector and activists. A detailed background of the participants is provided in Appendix 2. There were a total of thirty (30) participants, belonging to Bangladesh (3), Bhutan (3), India (6), Nepal (9), Pakistan (6) Sri Lanka (2) and Uzbekistan (1). There were sixteen female and fourteen male participants in the workshop. The age of participants ranged from 26-54 years.

The overall assessment of evaluation by participants showed that they found the workshop to be very relevant and unique, having met most of their expectations. Participants also found the course content and support materials to be good and comprehensive. However, there was a clear demand for more skill oriented sessions and group work in the future. They also opined that time allocated for each session was inadequate and suggested that the training should be extended for a few more days. They also mentioned looking forward to, an advanced level training workshop sometime in the future.

The fifth GWET workshop appeared to meet its goal of sensitizing participants on key gender and equity issues in the water sector of South Asia, as indicated by their willingness to incorporate gender and equity concerns as an integral part of their work.

Dr. Anjal Prakash (SaciWATERs), Ms. Seema Kulkarni (SOPPECOM), Dr. Sara Ahmed (International Development Research Centre-IDRC), Ms. Archana Patkar (WSSCC) and Mr. K .J. Joy (SOPPECOM) were the lead facilitators. The workshop was coordinated by Dr. Anjal Prakash. Mr. Sarbin Sayami (nec) and Dr. Jayati Chourey, who provided the coordination support.

For further information on the workshop, refer to the detailed technical and financial report submitted to the Cap-Net.

(ii) Training of Trainers in Integrated Water Resources Management held at Kandy, Sri Lanka (September 16-25, 2010)

A ten day Training of Trainers (ToT) in Intergrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) was held in Kandy, Sri Lanka from September 16-25, 2010. SaciWATERs as a regional network partner of Cap-Net in South Asia along with the Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture of the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka organized the training. The training was jointly funded by the Cap-Net and the Crossing Boundaries (CB) Project, a regional capacity building project on IWRM, Gender and Water.

The ToT aimed to catalyze curriculum reform in Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) with the following objectives:

- Disseminate knowledge on IWRM to academics of higher educational institutions in South Asia
- Review and reformulate IWRM curriculum
- Develop a training manual on IWRM in South Asia
- Expand the IWRM capacity building network in South Asia



The training included interactive classroom sessions on Introduction to IWRM and curriculum development; Water and Equity; Gender in IWRM; Water and Ecosystems; Economic and Financial Aspects of IWRM; Water Supply, Sanitation and Health; Sewage and Wastewater Management; River Basin Planning and Management; Water Rights and Laws; Water Policy, Regulation and Governance. The field work included visit to Mahweli System and interactions with the stakeholders.

The trainers teaching masters level programme in water or related subjects at higher educational institutions in South Asia were selected for the ToT. There were 22 trainees belonging to Bangladesh (4), India (6), Nepal (5), Pakistan (2) and Sri Lanka (5). There were 8 female participants, of the total 22. Preference was given to female candidates during selection.

The CB Project has provided fellowships, staff trainings and research support to establish/strengthen IWRM postgraduate programmes in four universities in four countries of South Asia since 2006. After five years of CB support, these four institutions have developed capabilities to serve as IWRM knowledge hubs in their own countries. This TOT provided an opportunity to share the experiences of these academics from the four institutions of the CB project, with those who are currently attempting to introduce IWRM postgraduate programmes in the region. The notable outcome from the TOT in IWRM includes a development of a regional curriculum on IWRM and lesson materials relevant to the South Asian context.

The participants appreciated the overall facilitation and support materials provided for the training. The choice of resource persons and participants with different backgrounds were well appreciated by the participants. There were suggestions to include sessions on Disaster Management and Climate Change. They intend to improve the curriculum in their own organizations based on this training. They also plan to improve teaching materials, change the content of existing courses, introduce a new course of IWRM and conduct sensitization, TOT and Master level programmes in IWRM. Few participants have indicated their desire to serve as resource persons in future training programmes.

The resource persons for the training included Prof. Nimal Gunawardena (Post Graduate Institute of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya), Prof. N C Narayanan (Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay), Prof. Deepthi Bandara, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka; Ms. Seema Kulkarni (SOPPECOM), Prof. Hemasiri Kotagama (Sultan Qaboos University, Oman), Mr. K. J. Joy (SOPPECOM) India, Prof. Brij Gopal (National Institute of Ecology, India), Prof. E. J. James Karunya University, India); Dr. Anjal Prakash (SaciWATERS), Dr. Priyani Amarasinghe (IWMI, India), Prof. N. K. Ambujam (Anna University, India), Prof. M.K.Ramesh (National Law School of India University) and Mr. Sachin Warghade (Prayas, India)

The ToT was coordinated by Prof. Nimal Gunawardena, Prof. NC Narayanan, Dr. Jayati Chourey and Dr. Dibya Ratna (SaciWATERS).

For further information on the workshop, refer to the detailed technical and financial report submitted to the Cap-Net.

II. Network Management

(i) Establishment of Network: The SaciWATERS joined the Cap-Net Global Network in 2009 as one of its South Asian networks. The network started functioning in 2010 and was named as SaciWATERS-CapNet Network (SCaN). The SaciWATERS hosts the SCaN and acts as its legal, administrative and financial umbrella. It also provides all the required logistic support to the network.

(ii) Network Coordination: One of the SaciWATERS' team members is assigned the responsibility to act as a Network Manager to coordinate network's activities. SaciWATERS' office manger and finance manager provide the required administrative support.

(iii) Strengthening of the Network: SCaN has started enhancing its reach to many more individuals and institutions active the in water sector. A call for membership was widely circulated through various forums. This year around 80 new members have joined the network.

(iv) Network's Website and Members' Database Development: SCaN's web site has been launched and is linked to the SaciWATERS' home page. A membership database is also being developed.

(v) Networks' Work Plan for 2011: Realising 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. The Annual Work Plan identifies twelve (12) capacity building activities to be implemented by its members. It also plans to have the operational guidelines and a formal governance structure in place in 2011. (For further details, refer to the Annual Work Plan 2011 submitted to the Cap-Net).

III. Summary of Financial Reports

S.No	Capacity Building Activities	Total Expenditure (US\$)	Contribution from Cap-Net (US\$)	Contribution from other partners (US\$)
1	GWET -5	42461.16	17379.57	25084.59
2	IWRM ToT	58745.12	26282.12	32463.00
3	Network Management	14999.27	10000	4999.27
Total		116205.55	53661.69	62546.86