

TROSA Annual Learning Forum 2018

Theme: Partnerships for Inclusive Water Governance in South Asian River Basins

Location: Kathmandu, Nepal

Venue: ICIMOD Campus

Date: 23-25 July 2018

Background

The Transboundary Rivers of South Asia (TROSA) is a five year (2017-2021) regional program working to support poverty reduction among communities living in the transboundary river basins of GBM and Salween. The program is funded by the Government of Sweden and implemented by Oxfam and partners (national and regional). The program's first year implementation ends in June 2018.

The annual learning forum is being organised to:

- a. Discuss and share the program's learning and insights, both among the program partners and with relevant external audience.
- b. Help foster longer-term engagement and synergies with programs and networks working on transboundary water cooperation issues in the region.

Format: 2 days of Conference (24 and 25 July 2018) + 1 day for TROSA partners (23 July to focus on Working Together)

Participants: 50-60 participants. TROSA program partners (local, national and regional), other similar programs ([Hi-AWARE/CARIAA](#), [Mekong Water Governance](#), [SAWI/World Bank](#), [IHCAP/SDC](#) etc.), researchers, key policy makers, donors (SIDA and others like DFAT, IDRC, DFID etc.), private sector and industry associations and development banks like ADB, AIIB, NDB etc and participants from the UNECE workshop. Please suggest any suitable institute, network or program working in transboundary water governance issues in south Asia you think we should invite.

Workshop on the UNECE Water Convention

Location: Kathmandu, Nepal

Venue: ICIMOD Campus

Date: 26 July 2018

Targeted audience: government officials, CSOs, and participants from TROSA ALF.

Background: about the Water Convention

For more than 20 years, the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (signed in 1992 in Helsinki, into force in 1996) has provided a unique legal and institutional framework for sustainable management of shared water resources, both surface and groundwater. The institutional structure, including a Meeting of the Parties and an adaptive set of subsidiary bodies, and a programme of work, adopted every three years, make this convention operational and responsive to the needs of countries. The work involves both political and technical support to transboundary cooperation, covering a broad range of topics. As a framework, the Convention does not replace bilateral and multilateral agreements for specific rivers, lakes and groundwaters, but, instead, it fosters their establishment, implementation, and further development.

Some 100 countries have already participated in the Convention's meetings or activities. Initially negotiated for the pan-European region, the Convention was amended to become open to all UN Member States in 2016. Chad is the first Party from outside the pan-Europe and a number of countries in different regions of the world are actively evaluating or pursuing accession. Most countries in Central Asia are already Parties to the Convention and there is also interest in South Asia. The workshop will provide for a dialogue with and among South Asian countries about the implications and benefits of joining the community and regime of the Water Convention, and contributing to its future development.

DAY 1	(TROSA INTERNAL – Working Together)			
Timing	Session	Objective	Content or Key Questions	Resources/Responsible
08:00-09:00	Registration			
09:00-09:20	Welcome	Participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • know who is in the room • agree on how we will work together over the next three days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who is in the room? • How will work together over the next three days? 	PMU/Steering Committee
09:20-10:30	LOOKING BACK	Participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • learn about what partners do, what they have achieved and how they achieved it. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What the partners do, where they do it (basin/regional)? - What has been the most significant outcome/output that the partner has contributed to? - Why do they think the outcome/output is significant? - How did they contribute? - How were women and youth included in the process? 	Enam and Samira
10:30-11:00	TEA		-	
11:00-12:00	LOOKING BACK	As above	-	Animesh & Rajan
12:10-13:00	LUNCH		-	

13:00-14:30	Gender Strategy		Recap of the outcomes of the learning trip in February 2018. Overview of the gender strategy of TROSA How are we going to make use of the TROSA gender strategy to achieve gender-inclusive outcomes?	Auvi
14:30-15:00	TEA		-	
15:00-16:30	Trosa MEAL Updates		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Progress Overview • Program Baseline Findings • TROSA MEAL System • Outcome Harvesting Practical Guidance/observations (to be shared by partners) 	Nimul
CLOSING REMARKS			-	Raj
15:00 onwards	TROSA Steering Committee Meeting		-	
DAY 1	TROSA Annual Learning Forum			
	Session	Objective	Content/Key Questions	Resources/Responsible
09:00-09:15	Registration			ICIMOD/Oxfam
09:15-10:15	INAUGURATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome: Dr A.B. Shrestha, ICIMOD - Remarks: Dr. David Molden, Director General ICIMOD - Remarks: Ms. Cecilla Kelzer, Country Director, Oxfam Nepal - Remarks: Govt of Nepal rep (WECS or MOFE) - Remarks: Govt of India rep (tbc) - Vote of Thanks: Mr. Raj Patra, Oxfam 		

10:15-10:30	TEA & Group Photo		ICIMOD
10:30-11:00	Key Note	- Mr. Dipak Gyawall Nepal Water Conservation Foundation, former Minister of Water Resources, Nepal	
11:00-12:30 (90 minutes)	Thematic Session I: Strengthening community voices and representation in water governance (Poster presentations – TBC)	- Saralbhnaga Experience, <i>Mr. Raju Kumar Narzary, NERSWN, Assam</i> - Salween Experience, <i>Mr. Casper Palmano, KESAN, Myanmar</i> - CBFWS Experience in Nepal, <i>Ms. Sarswati Khadka, RUWDUC, Nepal</i> - Mahakali Sambad process and learning, <i>Mr. Ashok Bikram Jair, INJAF</i> - Nadi baithak process: a breathing space for river communities, <i>Md Munir Hossain, Gana Unnayan Kendra (GUK), Bangladesh</i>	Chair Mr. D. Datta Country Director, Oxfam in Bangladesh
12:30-13:30	LUNCH		
13:30-15:00 (90 minutes)	Thematic Session I continued	- International River's Experience, <i>Mr. Samir Mehta, International Rivers</i> - Participatory river basin planning on Kamala river basin, Nepal, <i>Dr. Sanju Koirala, Policy Entrepreneurship, Inc, Kathmandu</i> - What do the fisherfolk of Brahmaputra think about the river fisheries governance in Bangladesh? <i>Mr. Mohammad Arju, Gana Unnayan Kendra</i> - Community-based Renewable Energy initiative in Nepal, <i>Mr. Yeeshu Shukla, ChristianAid Nepal</i> - Transboundary flood EWS in South Asia: Way Forward, <i>Mr. Gehendra B. Gurung, Practical Action</i>	
15:00-15:30 (30 minutes)	Soap Box Presentations (6 presentations /5 minutes each)	- <i>Dr. Mandira Shrestha, ICIMOD</i> - <i>Mr. Wilfred Topno, PAD Assam, India</i> - <i>Mr. Govinda Joshi, RUDES, Nepal</i> - <i>Mr. Narayan Joshi, Sankalpa, Nepal</i> - More participation welcome	Moderator Mr. Raju Kumar Narzary
15:30-16:00	TEA	-	
16:00-17:00 (60 minutes)	Panel Discussion	Partnerships for Inclusive water governance - <i>Ms. Pauline Taylor Mckeown, Asia Water Governance Cluster, Oxfam</i> - <i>Dr. Eklabya Sharma, Deputy Director General, ICIMOD</i> - <i>Mr. K L Induruwage, Regional Coordinator, Global Water Partnership, South Asia</i> - <i>Mr. Bhisma Pandit, International Finance Cooperation (IFC)</i>	Moderator Dr. A. B. Shrestha ICIMOD

		- Dr. Annukka Lipponen, <i>Water Convention secretariat</i>		
18:00 onwards	Welcome Dinner			Hotel Summit
DAY 2	TROSA Annual Learning Forum			
	Session	Objective	Content/Key Questions	Resources/Responsible
09:00-09:15	INTRODUCTION	Participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall what they did on day 1 Understand the agenda for the day 		
09:15-10:30 (60 +15= 75 minutes)	Theme 2: Engaging stakeholders and influencing inclusive water governance policy and practice, including private sector engagement Pechakucha presentation (20 image slides x 20 seconds) followed by organized debate (TBC)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dhangadi declaration: genesis and prospects, <i>Mr. Rajan Subedi, Oxfam in Nepal/ Shrestha Krishna Kumar, RUWDUC</i> How we influenced decisions on flash flood management in the Haor region, <i>Mr. Mokhlesur Rahman Chowdhury, CNRS</i> Traditional soft infrastructure for erosion control: avenue for engaging local governments in water governance in Brahmaputra, <i>Mr. Sheikh Rokon, Riverine People</i> Water Governance Collective Action Network (WG-CAN) for basin-level convergence, <i>Mr. Animesh Prakash, Oxfam India</i> 	Chair Mr. D. Bajracharya Oxfam Nepal
10:30-11:00	TEA			
11:00-12:30 (90 minutes)	Session Continues		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building an institution for CSOs in the GBM, <i>Mr. Vishwa Ranjan Sinha, IUCN</i> IPPAN Experience, <i>Mr. Shailendra Guragain, President, Independent Power Producers' Association, Nepal</i> Private Sector Engagement in the Mahakali basin, <i>Mr Rajesh Sada, WWF-Nepal</i> 	ICIMOD (tbc)

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gender Impact Assessment (GIA) and private sector engagement in the Mekong, Mekong Water Governance Program - Effective public participation in transboundary water management in the context of the obligations of the Water Convention. <i>Mr. Vadim NI, Chairperson, Ecoforum of NGOs of Kazakhstan</i> 	
12:30-13:30	LUNCH			
13:30-15:00 (90 minutes)	<p>Theme 3: Mobilizing women and youth leadership in water governance</p> <p>(World Café)</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lepcha community experience in Sikkim, <i>Ms. Ayesha DSouza, International Rivers</i> - Engaging youth for water cooperation: preparations in Bangladesh, <i>Mr. Enamul Mazid Khan Siddique, Oxfam in Bangladesh</i> - RECOFTC's experience of gender inclusive NRM in Asia – <i>Mr. Neeraj Katwal, RECOFTC, Nepal</i> - Women empowerment centers and water governance in Mahakali, <i>Ms. Samira Shakya</i> - Youth & SDGs in Nepal, <i>Mr Saroj Baniya, Nepal Youth Council</i> - Water Management Committees: Experience from Sharda basin, <i>Mr Aditya Ranjan, Oxfam India</i> 	<p>Chair Dr. Chanda Gurung Goodrich, ICIMOD</p>
15:00-15:30	TEA			
15:30-16:30	Closing			
DAY 3	UNECE Workshop			
	Session	Objective	Content/Key Questions	Resources/Responsible
08:00-09:00	Registration			

09:00-13:00	<p>General introduction to the Water Convention: the scope, obligations, institutional framework, soft-law instruments developed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Examples about the application of the Water Convention and cooperation developed on that basis - Group exercise on the Convention: Frequently asked questions and answers 			
13:00-14:00	LUNCH			
14:00-17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Programme of Work under the Convention - Examples about the tools and activities, e.g. monitoring and assessment, climate change, public participation, benefits of cooperation – TBC - Group exercise: How the Water Convention and its tools can be used in the region - Plenary discussion: Is there a role for TROSA partners to promote accession to the Convention in the region? - Conclusions 			