

Regional Workshop on Transboundary Water Cooperation in the context of the SDGs in South Asia and beyond

Pokhara, Nepal – 23-24 May 2017

Agenda

Day 1 – Tuesday, 23rd May 2017

09.00 – 10.00: Opening & Introduction

Moderator: Ms Lesha Witmer

- *Welcome speech by host – Dr. Vijaya Shrestha*, Chair, GWP Nepal (5 min)
- *Opening speech – Dr. Lam Dorji*, Chair, GWP South Asia (5 min)
- *Remarks by – Dr. Watt Botkosal*, Chair, SEA (5 min)
- *Remarks by – Prof. Jiang Yunzhong*, SG, GWP China (5 min)
- **Tour de table & introduction of participants** (30 min)
- *Introduction to the workshop agenda – Ms Angela Klauschen*, Senior Network Officer, GWPO (5 min)

10.00 – 11.30: Session 1 – Setting the scene

Moderator: Dr. Lam Dorji

- *Key note: Status of current international agreements on transboundary waters (1997 UNWC, 1992 UNECE, Draft Article on TB Aquifers, HRW) – Prof. Mara Tignino*, Geneva Water Hub/University of Geneva (30 min)
 - *Questions & Answers* – all participants (10 min)
- *Overview of transboundary cooperation in South Asia – Prof. Surya Nath Upadhyay*, GWP Nepal (15 min)
- *Status of transboundary cooperation between China and its neighbours – Prof. Chen Hui Ping*, University of Xiamen (15 min)
 - *Tour de table/Discussion* – all participants (20 min)

11.30 – 11.45: Coffee/Tea break

11.45 – 13.00: Session 2 – Insights from cooperation in major Asian river basins

Moderator: Mr. Tauhidul Anwar Khan (tbc)

- *Transboundary water cooperation in Mekong countries, key issues, challenges and interventions to address – Dr. Watt Botkosal*, Chair GWP SEA (15 min)
- *Cooperation in the Indus Basin – Dr. Shaheen Akhtar*, Associate Prof / Head of Department, National Defense University in Islamabad (15 min)
- *Regional Cooperation on Water: Opportunities for South Asia – Dr. K. A. Haq*, President, BWP (15 min)
- *Transboundary floods and how regional flood information systems as well as community based flood early warning can help – Mr. Aditi Mukherjee*, Theme Leader Water, ICIMOD (15 min)
- *Contributions and interventions from other participants* – all participants (15 min)

13.00 – 14.00: Lunch + Group Picture + Post-lunch “Wake up” exercise

14.00 – 15.30: Session 3 – Overcoming challenges to transboundary cooperation in Asia

Moderator: Dr. Khondaker Haq

- *Key note: Conflict avoidance and dispute settlement mechanisms – Ms. Zaki Shubber*, Unesco-IHE Delft (30 min)
- *Case #1: Facilitating Transboundary Water Cooperation in South Asia – A Case Study for Kabul River Basin – Dr. Bilal Khalid*, Water Programme, Lead Pakistan (15 min)
- *Case #2: Indus Waters-Kishenganga Arbitration case (Pakistan/India) – Dr. Mara Tignino*, Geneva Water Hub / University of Geneva (15 min)
- *Case #3: Cooperation in the Aral Sea – Ms Elena Tsay*, Regional Expert, GWP CACENA (15 min)
- *Case #4: Cooperation in the Management of common rivers in South Asia – Mr. Tahidul Anwar Khan*, Bangladesh
 - *Questions & Answers* – all participants (15 min)

15.30 – 15.45: Coffee/Tea break

15.45 – 17.00: Session 3: Overcoming challenges to transboundary cooperation in Asia (cont'd)

- *Interactive session on challenges and solutions in break-out groups* – **Moderators:** Angela, Lesha, Mara, Melissa
- *Negotiation skills game “Ugly oranges”* – **Moderator:** Ms Zaki Shubber

19.00 – 22.00: Dinner together at the Hotel

Day 2 – Wednesday, 24th May 2017

08.30 – 08.45: Quick recap of Day 1

Presenter/rapporteur: Ms. Zaki Shubber

08.45 – 10.15: Session 4: Transboundary water cooperation in the context of the SDGs

Moderator: Mr. Lal Induruwaghe (tbc)

- *Transboundary water cooperation and the SDGs, an Overview* – **Ms Angela Klauschen**, GWPO (15 min)
- *Human Right to Water and SDGs* – **Dr. Mara Tignino**, Geneva Water Hub / University of Geneva (15 min)
- *Taking into account ecosystems in transboundary cooperation under the SDGs* – **Ms Lesha Witmer**, WWF
- *Interactive session with break out groups in “World Café” format* - **Moderators:** Angela, Lesha, Melissa, Zaki

10.15 – 10.30: Coffee/Tea break

10.30– 12.00: Session 4: Transboundary water cooperation in the context of the SDGs (cont'd)

- *Key note: Transboundary cooperation and SDG 6.5.2. – incl. presentation of latest GWP TEC Background Paper* – **Ms Melissa McCracken**, Researcher, Oregon State University (30 min)
- *Interactive session and exercise on SDG 6.5.2.* – **Moderator:** Ms Melissa McCracken

12.00 – 13.00: Lunch

13.00 – 14.00: Session 5: “Making transboundary water cooperation more inclusive”

Moderator: Ms Angela Klauschen

- *Transboundary water cooperation, public participation and civil society* – **Dr. Mara Tignino**, Geneva Water Hub / University of Geneva (20 min)
- *Transboundary water cooperation and gender equity* – **Ms Lesha Witmer**, Expert, Women for Water Partnership (15 min)
- *Involving youth in transboundary cooperation and IWRM* – **Mr Kenge Gunya**, KM Officer, GWPO, and **Ms Mukta Akter**, Youth Focal Point, GWP South Asia (15 min)
- Questions & Answers – all participants (10 min)

14.00 – 15.00: Session 5: “Making transboundary water cooperation more inclusive” (cont'd)

Interactive session on Inclusiveness in transboundary cooperation, in “Fishbowl” format – **Moderators:** Lesha, Melissa

15.00 – 15.15: Conclusion/Wrap up – End of Workshop

Concluding Remarks by:

- Dr Lam Dorji, Chair GWP SAS
- Dr Watt Botkosal, Chair, GWP SEA
- Prof. Jiang Yunzhong, Chair, GWP China
- Ms Angela Klauschen, SNO, GWPO

Vote of Thanks – Prof. Surya Nath Upadhyay