

# IDRC SOUTH ASIA WATER STUDIES FELLOWSHIP

## REVIEW WORKSHOP

### 'CLIMATE CHANGE AND FOOD SECURITY'

HOTEL PLAZA, HYDERABAD

MAY 29, 2015



#### Report on the Review Workshop

In Association with



**SaciWATERS**

Sponsored by



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## SUMMARY

As part of the South Asia Water Fellowships (SAWA), a review workshop was organised for the first batch of SAWAS Fellows on May 29, 2015 on the broader theme of 'Climate change and Food Security'. The training programme was divided into three sessions pertaining to theme of climate change and food security namely Social and Policy approach , impact led assessment and Land Use and Land change. The training programme was financially supported by International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada.

The objective of the programme was to provide a platform to the first batch of the SAWAS Fellows to present their research work among their peer and external reviewers. The purpose of the workshop was to provide feedback on the study done by the fellows for further improvement to a publishable material. The training programme targeted the twenty recipients of the IDRC- SAWA Fellowships from four institutions in four South Asian countries: Bangladesh (Institute of Water and Flood Management - Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology), India (Centre for Water Resources -Anna University), Nepal (Nepal Engineering College) and Sri Lanka (Post Graduate Institute of Agriculture –University of Peradeniya). Unfortunately 4 students could not join at the review workshop.

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# INTRODUCTION

## BACKGROUND – THE SAWA FELLOWSHIPS

South Asia's agricultural economies are vulnerable to extreme environmental events. Better management of water and other natural resources is fundamental to the development of the region. Climate variability and change, food insecurity, population growth and urbanization have intensified environmental disasters in the recent past. 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 interdisciplinary approach. The IDRC-SAWA fellowships seek to address these issues, by providing the opportunity to train a generation of water professionals to tackle water issues using multi-disciplinary approaches that are sensitive to women, the poor, environment and sustainability.

This project continues as part of an earlier project coordinated by SaciWATERS namely the Crossing Boundaries project. This project is funded by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and is implemented by SaciWATERS and its four partner institutions, namely.

- Institute of Water and Flood Management (IWFM) of the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), Dhaka, Bangladesh
- Center for Water Resources (CWR), Anna University, Chennai, India
- Center for Post Graduate Studies, Nepal Engineering College (nec), Kathmandu, Nepal.
- Post Graduate Institute of Agriculture (PGIA), University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

The objectives of the project are firstly; to create a new generation of interdisciplinary water professionals in South Asia trained to deal with issues of climate change adaptation, water and food security, in order to do this, this project has instituted the IDRC-SAWA fellowships. Secondly, the project aims to generate action-oriented research in the aforementioned fields through Master's degrees in Integrated Water Resource Management in Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka. Thirdly, it has been noted that women and girls are often the primary users, providers and managers of water in rural and urban households, thus being the most affected by planning and policy in water resources. It has often been seen that women's voices are not taken into consideration when forming policy. Additionally, it is seen that women are underrepresented in the field of water resources engineering and policy making. This project seeks to address this imbalance by awarding 80 percent of the fellowships to women; the rest of the fellowships will be awarded to men from lower socio-economic groups. Fourthly, it aims to share knowledge and ideas about water issues in the South Asian context, through meetings and exchanges between fellows. This is especially important as it fosters the spirit of regional and trans-boundary cooperation in the fellows, which would hopefully lead to larger regional cooperation in future. Such interdisciplinary, regional and trans-boundary co-operation is essential for IWRM approaches. Fifthly, the projects supports free access to the journal "South Asian Water Studies" and encourages young water professionals to publish peer reviewed journal articles.

## ORGANIZERS

**SaciWATERS : the South Asia Consortium for Interdisciplinary Water Resources Studies**, is a policy research institute at Hyderabad, India and working on the issue of water resources education, capacity building, research and action in South Asia. It is committed to bringing about structural changes in the dominant water resources management paradigm in South Asia by focusing on transforming water resources knowledge systems through working with universities and academic institutions. The key ideas are in interdisciplinary approach to undertaking water resources issues from a pro-poor, gendered and human development perspective and emphasis on exchange, interaction and collaboration at South Asia level. SaciWATERS is active in three domains- Education, Research and Advocacy.  
[www.saciwaters.org](http://www.saciwaters.org)

## SPONSORS

**International Development Research Centre (IDRC)** is a Canadian Crown Corporation that initiates, encourages and supports research in developing countries in order to help find practical and sustainable solutions to social, economic and environmental problems that are being faced in these countries. Additionally, IDRC on the means for applying and adapting scientific, technical and other knowledge to the economic and social advancement of those regions. <http://www.idrc.ca>

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## WORKSHOPS OBJECTIVES, PARTICIPANTS PROFILE AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

### OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this training programme was to bring together the first batch of SAWAS Fellows from Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal and India to present their masters dissertation work among their peer and external reviewers. The external reviewers were assigned students based on their area of expertise. Each reviewer was to provide comments and suggestions to the fellows for them to be able to develop a publishable material out of their research work.

### PARTICIPANTS PROFILE

The participants for this review workshop were those who were selected as fellows as part of the first batch of South Asia Water Studies (SAWAS) fellowships, through a competitive process from each of the four partner institutes. All participants were pursuing post graduate level courses in IWRM. Fellows were in the last phase of completion of their masters dissertation work.

### OUTCOMES EXPECTED

It is expected that the students will make use of the constructive feedback received from the reviewers and will further improve their study to be able to publish the same.

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## PROGRAMME DETAILS

### EXTERNAL REVIEWERS

- **Prof. Chandan Mahanta** – Professor, Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati
- **Dr. Priyanie Amerasinghe**- Head, International Water Management Institute, Hyderabad
- **Prof. S. Janakarajan** – Professor, Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai
- **Prof. N.C. Narayanan** – Professor, Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai
- **Dr. Vishal Narain** – Associate Professor, Management Development Institute, Gurgaon

### FACILITATORS

- **Dr. Anamika Barua** , Executive Director, South Asia Consortium for Interdisciplinary Water Resources Studies (SaciWATERS). Hyderabad, India
- **Ms Jyoti Nair**, Research Associate, SaciWATERS, Hyderabad, India.

The SAWAS Fellows presented their masters dissertation, each student was allotted 15 minutes for presentation with 10 minutes discussion and comments from the reviewers. Each reviewer was assigned with few papers based on their area of expertise prior to the workshop. Respective reviewer gave specific comments post the student presentation. The agenda and list of topics with reviewers assigned is appended in the end of the document. The students took note of the comments given to them in specific and also benefitted from other students presentation which dealt with similar topic. Dr. Anamika Barua summed up the workshop with a brief presentation on requirements for publication.



## PROGRAMME AGENDA

Time	Session	Persons Responsible/ Resource Persons
9:00 – 9:30	Registration	
9:30 – 9:45	Setting the context of the workshop	Dr. Anamika Barua
9:45 – 10:00	Introduction of the Reviewers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof. S. Janakarajan, MIDS, Chennai</li> <li>• Prof Chandan Mahanta, IIT Guwahati</li> <li>• Dr. Vishal Narain, MDI, Gurgaon</li> <li>• Dr. Priyanie Amerasinghe, IWMI, Hyderabad</li> <li>• Prof. N.C. Narayanan, IIT, Mumbai</li> </ul>	Jyoti Nair
	SAWAS Fellows presentations	
10:00 – 12:30	<b>Session 1:</b> Climate Change and Food Security – Social and Policy approach	Sangita Dandekhya
		Vidhya A.
		Taznin Naher
		Elakiya Priyaa A.
		Debanjali Saha
		D.M.N. Diyawadana
12:30 – 13:15	Lunch	
13:15 – 14:45	<b>Session 2:</b> Climate Change and Food Security - Impact led assessment	Md. Gulam Kibria
		Tamanna Kabir
		S. Thusyanthi
		Pratikshya Neupane
14: 45– 15:00	Tea Break	
15:00 -16:30	Session 2 continues	R.P.S.P. Chandrasiri
		Malarmathi Divinya A
		A.C.S. Perera
		Anitha P.

16:30 – 18:30	<b>Session 3:</b> Climate Change and Food Security - Land Use Land Change Dynamics	Durga Adhikari Rajendra Shrestha Monisha S. I.P.S.K. Pelpitiya Sultana Maliha
18:30 – 18:45	Vote of Thanks	SAWAS Co-ordinator – Jyoti Nair
18: 45	High Tea	

#### List of research topics and Reviewers assigned.

S.No.	Name of Student	Country	Research Title	Reviewers
1.	Sangita Dandekhya	Nepal	Understanding vulnerability of Farm household to Climate Variability in Dadhikot VDC, Bhaktapur	Dr. Vishal Narain
2.	Vidhya A	India	Impact of IAMWARM on food security in Vellar basin	Dr. Vishal Narain
3.	Taznin Naher	Bangladesh	Crop decision making model and impacts of crop selection on the livelihood of farmers in coastal area.	Prof. Chandan Mahanta
4.	Elakiya Priyaa A	India	Impact of climate variability on agro ecosystems and its vulnerability to livelihood	Prof. S. Janakarajan
5.	Debanjali Saha	Bangladesh	Prospect of rabi crops in south-west coastal area under climate change scenarios	Dr. Priyanie Amerasinghe
6.	D.M.N. Diyawadana	Sri Lanka	Impacts of climate change and policy environment on rural smallholder farmers in Hakwatuna-Oya scheme	Dr. Vishal Narain

7.	Md. Gulam Kibria	Bangladesh	Storm surge propagation and crop damage assessment in a coastal polder of bangladesh	Prof. Chandan Mahanta
8.	Tamanna Kabir	Bangladesh	Assessment of biophysical factors for storm surge hazard and their implications for food security	Dr. Vishal Narain
9.	S. Thusyanthi	Sri Lanka	Identification and assessment of processes and functions affected by extreme events due to climate variation in paddy field in a tank cascade system	Dr. Priyanie Amerasinghe
10.	Pratikshya Neupane	Nepal	Impacts of Water Induced Disasters on Food Security	Prof. Chandan Mahanta
11.	R.P.S.P. Chandrasiri	Sri Lanka	Evaluate water management practices of the <i>Bayawa</i> tank' s farmers to assess its sustainability under the seasonal rainfall variability	Prof. S. Janakarajan
12.	Malarmathi Divinya A	India	Impact of climate variability on cropping pattern and crop diversification in Manimukthanadhi sub basin	Dr. Vishal Narain
13.	A.C.S. Perera	Sri Lanka	Impact of climate variability and anthropogenic activities on Water Availability and Food productivity in the "Hakwatuna oya" Irrigation Scheme	Prof. Chandan Mahanta
14.	Anitha P	India	Impact of Climate Variability on Agricultural Productivity in Vellar Basin	Dr. Vishal Narain
15.	Durga Adhikari	Nepal	Impacts of Changing Land Cover Dynamics on Vulnerability of Agro-ecosystems and Food Security	Dr. Priyanie Amerasinghe
16.	Rajendra Shrestha	Nepal	Urbanization as a Driver of Landuse and Land cover Change and Its Impacts on Local Food	Prof. S. Janakarajan



			Security	
17.	Monisha S	India	Land cover dynamics and its impact on vulnerability of agro - ecosystems and food security	Prof. Chandan Mahanta
18.	I.P.S.K. Pelpitiya	Sri Lanka	Impacts of Land Cover Dynamics on Ecosystem and Food Security in Hakwatuna Oya Watershed in Deduru Oya Basin	Prof. Chandan Mahanta
19.	Sultana Maliha	Bangladesh	Changes on land use and soil properties and their impact on rice yield in dacope upazila, khulna	Dr. Priyanie Amerasinghe