Background

Water Diplomacy is a logical progression of Water Leadership

- There is a trend to expand leadership capacity away from vertical hierarchies to reach horizontally across boundaries of organizations, functions, disciplines, expertise, stakeholders, cultures and geographical areas.

- Need for Water Professionals/Water Managers with IWRM approach & leadership skills. Thus these two factors need to be embedded in education and training

- How is Water Diplomacy a logical progression of water leadership?
Why Water Diplomacy?
Transboundary Rivers – Bones of Contention
Hydropower Projects Due To Energy Crunch
Larger Ones Cause More Controversy
Why Water Diplomacy

- Transboundary issues: Water Sharing and Cooperation demand wider perspective
- Socio – Economic, Political Aspects- IWRM Approach
- Multi Stakeholder Engagement
- Need to give exposure and sensitize Diplomats as well as policy makers
What Is Water Diplomacy

- **Water diplomacy** to establish novel solutions based on scientific knowledge & sensitivity towards societal & ecosystem needs
- These solutions are arrived at after examining interactions between competing needs: natural & societal domains
- Nature & validity of competing uses and their corresponding feedback is also taken into consideration
- Synthesis of scientific and contextual water knowledge helps arrive at actionable solutions
- Helps formulate /framing water problems -appropriate to the context and stakeholders for each water dispute
Diplomacy Levels

- **Track I** - dialogue at the apex (Government) level for more formal mediation and arbitration, legal procedures, mediation, fact-finding, conciliation, arbitration and adjudication.
- **Track I & half** - official and government representatives participate in seminars and discussions in their personal capacity
- **Track II** - education and knowledge development for early warning of potential conflict, conflict prevention through better water governance and water management.
- **Track III** - facilitation, training, capacity building, & knowledge development with a participatory approach and documentation of good practices at the grassroots level.
SaciWATERs’ Experience

Crossing Boundaries & SAWA Fellowship Programme

Examples of Track II & III level Diplomacy

- Operational in four countries (BD, IN, NP, SL) Focused on bringing interdisciplinary technical education
- Promoted special scholarships for women
- Trained 150 professionals and researchers
- Created a pool of trained students across south Asia
SAWA Fellowship Programme  Examples of Track II & III level Diplomacy

- Special scholarships for women
- Training 60 water leaders – Training programme in Kathmandu- sessions on leadership skills involving private sector resource persons, exposure to transboundary issues.
- Creating a cadre of trained water leaders who can understand the complexities of transboundary issues and contribute towards Water Diplomacy in South Asia
Questions

- CapNet - Network of Networks offers opportunities to provide a platform to address such issues.

- What are the transboundary issues in your region where “Water Diplomacy” may be required?

- What can CapNet do?
THANK YOU!