



IWA in Asia-Pacific

Sushmita Mandal
Water Associations Meeting, JWVA,
Takamatsu Oct 2017



THE REGION



CENTURYASIAN ECONOMYBOOMING CITIESBUZZING PEOPLEUPBEAT WATERWEALTH?

Can this current economic boom be sustained?

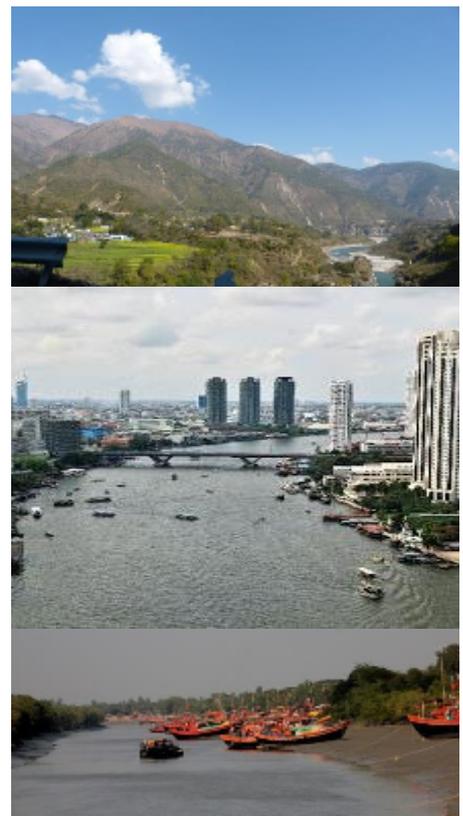
Yes it can, if we can manage one of the basic pillars supporting this growth :

WATER

IWA IN ASIA-PACIFIC

How we organise vis-à-vis the region

- Trans Himalaya (Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bangladesh)
- India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Sri-Lanka
- Myanmar, Thailand, Lao, Cambodia and Vietnam
- Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia
- Japan, Korea, Singapore, New-Zealand, Australia
- Pacific islands



Delivering on IWA Strategic Plan in Asia-Pacific

IWA IN ASIA-PACIFIC supporting implementation of global projects



Flood and Drought Management Tools

WSP Asia Pacific Network

FLOOD & DROUGHT MANAGEMENT TOOLS

Flood and drought events are becoming increasingly common, in some cases with less predictability. Climate change is the major driver, as both extreme global precipitation and higher temperatures lead to increased demand for water from agriculture and industry, and public pressure to reduce consumption.

This hydrological uncertainty dramatically increases risks for many countries, affecting the capabilities essential for managing river basins as well as the water services for industry and cities. These risks are magnified for transboundary river basins, which face the additional challenge of nation countries competing for water resources.

There is a growing sense of urgency around the need to improve our ability to recognize and address flood and drought events, and to improve resilience and conservation within river basins and across vital zones.

IWA, under real water risk scenarios, can better prepare for water-related risks by bringing information on flood and drought events into planning and analysis processes. This includes the secondary Strategic Analysis of Strategic Action Framework (SAAF) and Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) and the Water Risk (WSP) with the local utility level.

Participants

The Flood and Drought Management Tools project is a joint effort of IWA, IWRM, and WSP, supported by the World Bank (WB) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), in the region where IWRM, UNEP, and the International Water Association (IWA) are the leading organizations.

- Developing online tools to provide decision support in planning from the **transboundary basin to water utility level** by including better information on floods and droughts.

<http://fdmt.iwlearn.org/en>

- Working in three pilot basins including Chao Phraya Basin in Thailand

- Partners are:

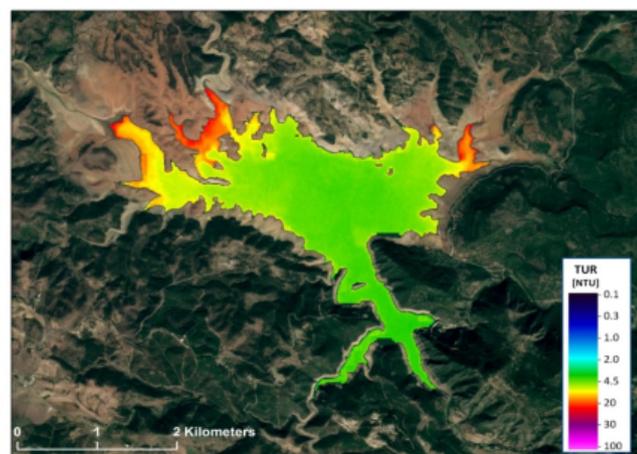
- Hydro and Agro Informatics Institute
- Metropolitan Waterworks Authority
- Provincial Waterworks Authority



SPACE-O



- **Problem:** Lack of data for managing water quality and supply, and optimizing performance
- **Solution:** SPACE-O developing products and services using satellite data to complement in-situ monitoring, and provide tools to analyse and apply information for the response, planning and optimization of water utilities
- EU project but looking at expanding applications to Asia
- Singapore International Water Week
 - Proposed Hot Topic - use of Earth Observation products (e.g. satellite data) in improving water management
 - Exhibition
 - Focused meeting with Asian utilities



Satellite derived turbidity in the Mulargia Reservoir, Sardinia, Italy (Reservoir operated by ENAS, data source: Sentinel-2A recorded on 2016-10-16 © ESA, processed with EOMAP MIP-EWS)

HILSA AND RIVERSCAPES PROJECT

- **Problem:** Over-fishing, siltation in river beds, decrease in water flow and fragmentation of rivers in dry season has caused a decline in *Hilsa* over the last 30 years in India-Bangladesh
- **Impacts:** project is working towards developing trans-boundary deliberative mechanisms, creating common ground for agreements while building confidence between the two countries.
 - ✓ Functioning dynamic mechanisms in place for dialogue between fisheries federations and other CSOs across the countries;
 - ✓ Regional understanding on linkages between sustainable livelihoods, Hilsa conservation and water management.



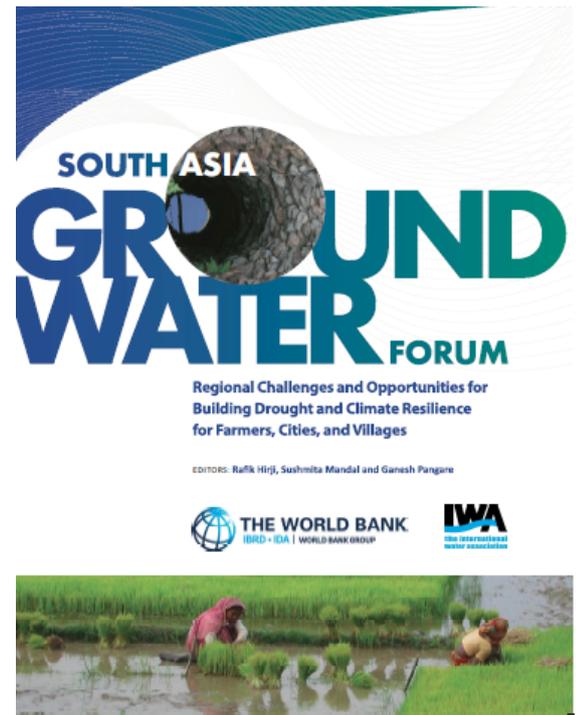
JOINT BANGLADESH-INDIA SUNDARBAN MANAGEMENT

- Consensus Building and Development of Action Plans for joint management of Sundarban a shared mangrove ecosystem between India and Bangladesh. Sundarban is one of the seven most important wetlands of the world.
- Working with South Asia Water Initiative of World Bank.
- Key activities
 - ✓ Joint Landscape Narrative
 - ✓ Platform meetings
 - ✓ Five Stand alone Proposals



SOUTH ASIA GROUNDWATER FORUM (SAGF)

- IWA organised SAGF on 03-05 June 2016 in Jaipur, India
- Attended by 130 delegates from 15 countries
- Historic : first time Government representatives of 8 countries, viz., Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bhutan, China, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka came on one platform
- Provided platform to discuss strategies for elevating, at the policy level, the vital role groundwater plays in the water sector
- Explore opportunities for local, national and regional action to achieve sustainable groundwater use and build drought and climate resilience in South Asia

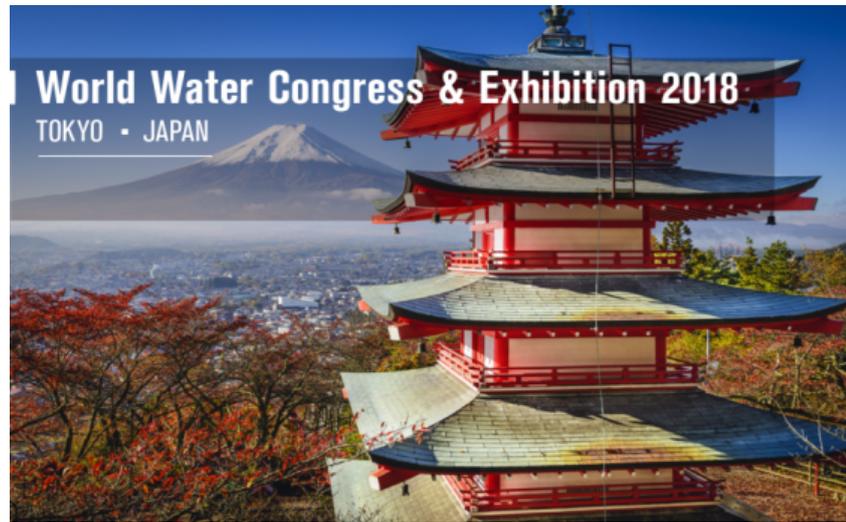


EVENTS: IWA organized/participated/facilitated

- Regional Seminar & Training Program on Lisbon Charter & Aquarating, Bangkok, Thailand
- Global Water Safety Conference, Palawan, Philippines.
- IWA Water Loss Conference, Bengaluru, India.
- Pacific Water and Waste Water Association meeting, AWP
- 1st Korea International Water Week
- Paris COP 21 and Marrakesh COP 22
- World Water Day Technical Conference, Myanmar organised by the National Water Resources Committee, Government of Myanmar.
- 18th Int. River Symposium in Brisbane, Australia and 19th in Delhi, India
- 4th International Fecal Sludge Management Conference, Chennai, India
- 6th International Conference on Water and Flood Management (ICWFM 2017) Dhaka, Bangladesh
- VietWater, Myanmar Water, Smart Cities and Water India, etc.



- 2017 ASPIRE conference in Malaysia
- Busan Global Water Forum, 2017
- 2018 IWA Congress & Exhibition (Tokyo)
- SIWW 2018



Reflections...

- Implementable projects have helped build IWA credibility in the region, thus able to leverage better on membership.
- Asia Pacific team works both on projects and plays representation role for IWA in the region
- Continued drive to strengthen membership and engage meaningfully with members is the key focus this year
- Regional complexities need to be understood and strategized for better engagement
- Explore synergies for collaboration with Water Associations in the region working towards a water-wise world.

