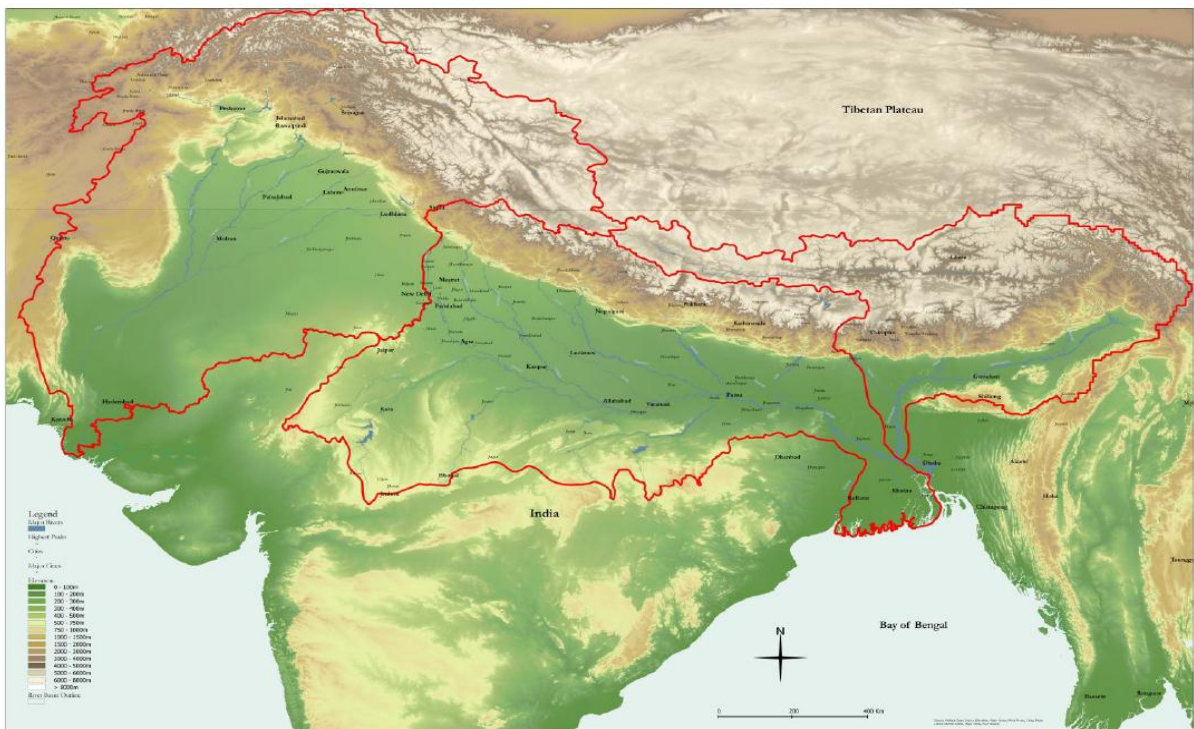


Report on CUTS Workshop with Strategic Partners



**Hotel Greenwich Village
Kathmandu, Nepal
15-16 May, 2014**

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Acronyms

BIMSTEC	Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CIRC	CUTS Institute for Regulation and Competition
CRC	CUTS Calcutta Resource Centre
CRRID	Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CUTS	Consumer Unity & Trust Society
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
HKH	Hindu Kush Himalaya
ICIMOD	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
IOD PARC	(Trading name for) International Organisation Development Ltd
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NEFORD	Nand Educational Foundation for Rural Development
RE	Renewable Energy
RGVN	Rashtriya Gramin Vikas Nidhi
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SAC	South Asian Countries
SAFIR	South Asia Forum for Infrastructure Regulation
SAWTEE	South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment
SDIP	Sustainable Development Investment Portfolio
SDPI	Sustainable Development Policy Institute
US	Unnayan Shamannay

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Report on CUTS Workshop with Strategic Partners 15-16 May 2014, Kathmandu, Nepal

Venue: Greenwich Village Hotel, Kathmandu, Nepal

Participating organizations: BASIX, CRRID, CUTS, DFAT, ICIMOD, IOD PARC, NEFORD, RGVN, SAWTEE, SDPI, SNV, US

Objectives of the Workshop:

- *To develop a shared understanding of SDIP objectives, preconditions and domains of change among the strategic partners*
 - *To know each partner and its developmental approach*
 - *To build understanding on partnership approach*
 - *To discuss CUTS activity plan with strategic partners*
-

Introduction

The Sustainable Development Investment Portfolio (SDIP) designed by Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Australia, aims to tackle some of the basic development challenges in South Asian region by strengthening trans-boundary cooperation in order to promote all-encompassing, robust and resilient economic growth. The primary goal of SDIP is to promote water, food and energy security in the basins of the three Himalayan Rivers namely, Ganges, Indus and Brahmaputra. The target group are the poorest and most vulnerable sections of South Asian population, particularly women and girls. The project spans over 12 years in three phases of four years each. The main objectives are broadly stated as follows:

- Confident and cooperative decision-making across jurisdictional borders for the effective and equitable management of shared water resources
- Increased access to and cooperation on energy
- Increased agricultural productivity and farm incomes through the adoption of more efficient and sustainable agricultural practices and better developed value-added market chains

In order to achieve the specific workshop objectives enlisted above, a 2 day workshop was organised by CUTS with its eight strategic partners across the region at Kathmandu. The workshop successfully met its objectives and was able to develop a fairly good understanding on the overall partnership approach. This report attempts to capture the major highlights and outcomes of the workshop.

Day-1

The workshop commenced with a welcome note by Pradeep S Mehta, Secretary General, CUTS following which Bipul Chatterjee shared the objectives and agenda of the workshop. Ryan Thew, DFAT briefed about SDIP goal and objectives and said that SDIP aimed at

addressing the nexus between water, energy and agriculture targeting the poor and vulnerable including the women. Therefore, it was crucial to embrace the complexity of the system to capture different forces influencing changes on trans-boundary processes. He also laid stress on the necessity to keep the entry points flexible so that at every point benefits are optimized.

Partnership Approach:

SDIP undertakes an innovative and multi-disciplinary partnership approach called 'Portfolio Approach' that aims at fostering direct and cross synergies. Following the same approach, CUTS identified 8 strategic partners (four country partners and four Indian partners) to strengthen its network across the region. The partners widely differed in their capacities and expertise; SNV (in Bhutan) is an international NGO working mainly on issues related to sustainable development whereas CRRID (Chandigarh) and SDPI (Pakistan) undertakes policy-oriented research and advocacy on various issues. Financial modelling on livelihoods is the key area of work for BASIX (Patna) while NEFORD based in Lucknow offers technical know-how in sustainable agricultural practices. With regard to RGVN, it mainly focuses on livelihoods, agriculture and microfinance at field and policy levels in North Eastern region of India. While Unnayan Shamannay from Bangladesh works on regional cooperation by addressing water issues and market chains, SAWTEE (Nepal) has its presence in policy advocacy through robust networking and alliance building on developmental issues. In order to know each partner's profile and expertise, a brief presentation was done by each organization about its vision, mission and objectives and its justification as a suitable partner of CUTS for SDIP. It was evident from the partners' presentations that all the strategic partners had competence in capacity building, advocacy and networking in their respective domains and they fit well in SDIP framework.

With the objective of developing a shared understanding on the essence and principles of partnership, a short presentation was delivered by CUTS. A true partnership initiative envisages co-creating activities, bringing contributions and mutual accountability underpinning the principles of equity, transparency and mutual benefit. Each organization with its expertise and linkages in the three pillars of SDIP is to use its individual strengths through strategic collaborations at different levels, in order to contribute towards the portfolio objectives. Since the strategic partners of CUTS work at different proficiency levels in different domains, it is possible to address regional issues more holistically through the portfolio partnership approach. This would ultimately enhance the overall value of regional co-operation with respect to SDIP. Outcomes must be able to generate positive spill over effects across the regions and aggregation of all these portfolio outcomes would eventually enhance the regional economic cooperation.

The shared objective of CUTS with its partners ***“is to act as a change agent and work towards enhancing the value of SDIP by linking its interventions with key actors (other partner organisations) and stakeholders through local and regional networks and to enable policy changes at sub national, national and regional levels through policy research and advocacy”***.

The participants were asked to list out their individual objectives with regard to their partnership with CUTS. The outcome of the exercise is given in the table below.

Table 1-Partners' Individual Objectives

Organization	Objectives
CUTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening networks and presence in the domain of sustainable development • Leveraging other donors/partners • Enriching knowledge on the three pillars of SDIP • Expanding geographical outreach • Enhancing own capacity
SAWTEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leveraging and furthering existing partnerships • Expanding networks throughout the region • Understanding ground level efforts through the efforts of other partners-capacity building
CRRID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop perspective on regional cooperation • Common understanding on areas of cooperation & sharing of knowledge-food/water/energy • Promote joint research studies on issues related to cross border trade • Prospective of partnership beyond SDIP • Policy advocacy-joint conferences/workshops • Media cooperation from partners networks /linkages • Sharing of financial resources
US	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify common interest of water use for poverty reduction in the Brahmaputra basin • Develop mutual trust through exchange of partnership and knowledge • Help engage CSOs/private sector/entrepreneurs for developing mutual beneficial relationships
BASIX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge building in all the three pillars • Leveraging investments • Adding more technical partners • Showcasing of pilots (innovative models) in larger forums • Visualize the macro economic situation • Understand regional policy issues
SDPI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze policy implications on SDIP thematic areas
NEFORD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity to enhance networking profile • Building capacity of other partners • Enhancing its capacity in advocacy • Leveraging other donors and partners
RGVN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playing an important part in regional networks • Need for learning in technology adaptation • Sharing of efficient agricultural practices • Greater visibility in the region by linking with other CSOs and CBOs
SNV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategically positioning for advocacy • CUTS taking lead on documenting of sharing of good practices • Partnership beyond SDIP

The comprehensive role of the strategic partners was laid down by CUTS. Endorsing policy positions through effective networking, facilitating policy and regulatory amendments and articulating civil society concerns in the pre-demarcated domains, disseminating the accrued knowledge, commercial (media) engagement, designing research plans, capacity building activities to address evolving needs etc. are the shared responsibilities that the strategic partners are to discharge.

Monitoring & Evaluation framework:

A concise presentation on the portfolio level monitoring and evaluation was done by Julian Gayfer of IOD-PARC, the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) specialist within SDIP. This M&E approach takes into consideration the sectoral dimensions and aims at three goals: *to regularize improvements in management, to maintain accountability among the partners and to disseminate the learning*. Portfolio M&E provides the means by which the pace and extent of change in each of the three domains are to be assessed. Effort was made to develop conceptual clarification about the preconditions and domains of change of SDIP. Planning starts with defining the pre-conditions; i.e. the impacts we want to experience. In other words, the pre-conditions are the ultimate outcomes of our activity plans that the portfolio seeks to contribute in. The ‘domains of change’ are those areas where the SDIP engagement can be focussed. The activities of the partners should bring in the impacts by addressing these domains of interventions. Since, SDIP spans over 12 years, there are long term impacts too, along with well-defined target area and geography. There are two types of outcomes from M & E perspective; the organisational outcome and development outcome. It is necessary to see at what proportion the SDIP, as an investment portfolio, makes a difference in both.

Day 2

CUTS SDIP Activity Plan

Day 2 started with the sharing of the activity matrix of CUTS with its strategic partners. It is assumed that the activities performed by CUTS and its strategic partners will strive to make positive impact on selected ‘pre-conditions’ and ‘domains of change’ on the three domains of water, agriculture and energy.

The Activity Plan is presented in the Annexure (Table 1).

A discussion on the plan and indicative time frame followed the presentation made by Prithviraj Nath in which partners raised concerns about the indicative time frame and stakeholders to be interviewed for the diagnostic study.

- It was also suggested that the term ‘scoping study’ should be used instead of ‘quick and dirty diagnostic study’.
- There were uncertainties about tapping the trans-boundary elements during the proposed diagnostic study. The round of discussions which followed helped in building consensus among partners about the need of this diagnostic study as this

would help in understanding the prevailing conditions and identifying the entry points to transboundary elements of SDIP.

- It was noted that interventions made by the strategic partners need to focus on those areas/issues that have trans-boundary implications.
- Engagement with the private parties to address regional issues needs to be further explored.
- There was much deliberation on energy issues related to off grid solutions and the relevance of off-grid to trans-boundary elements of energy access and sharing. Though a clear consensus could not be reached regarding whether or not to focus on off-grid RE solutions, it was understood that the diagnostic study would bring some more clarity on the same. The activity plan would therefore concentrate on knowledge sharing on off-grid renewable energy for the time being.

To build understanding on individual strengths and area of contribution to SDIP as well as to visualize the possible risks to partnership and their treatment strategy, the partners were asked to do an exercise on resource mapping and risk register. Along with this, a group exercise was conducted to generate a common understanding on the specific issues related to agriculture, water and energy in each basin. Based on the significance of issues and sub issues in each basin, the partners were asked to prioritize them and identify the domains of change where they have to intervene to address those issues. The outcomes of the three exercises are given below.

Partners' Resource Mapping

- The aim of this activity was to identify the know-how and strengths of CUTS strategic partners in the field of policy research, field research, advocacy, networking and capacity building-under the three SDIP pillars, sub divided into six issues.
- The purpose was to enable the partners to understand the different spaces that different partners inhabit; their different roles and outlooks to harness their strengths and also to leverage the productivity of CUTS partners' profile.
- After the elaborate session on domains and preconditions of change in conjunction with the proposed CUTS activities under all the three issues, partners were asked to indicate their core competence in relation to the three pillars of SDIP, viz. Energy, Agriculture and Water – whether their strong point is policy research, field research, advocacy, networking or capacity Building and at which of the following levels-local, sub-national, national and regional.
- The outcome of this session was reflected in the matrix graphs showing the core competence of the partners and how their activities contribute to the overall objectives of the SDIP project.

The matrices of engagement are presented in the tables 2 to 7 below. The graphs are presented in the Annexure (Graph 1, 2, 3)

Table 2-Partners' resource mapping in cross border energy trade

Level/Activity	Policy Research	Field Research	Advocacy	Networking	Capacity Building
Regional	SDPI, CRRID			SDPI	
National	US, BASIX, CRRID	SNV, US, BASIX	SNV, US, SDPI	US, BASIX	US, BASIX
Sub-national		US, SNV	US, SNV	US, BASIX, SNV	US, SNV, BASIX
Local		US, BASIX	US	US, BASIX	US, BASIX

Table 3- Partners' resource mapping in access through RE

Level/Activity	Policy Research	Field Research	Advocacy	Networking	Capacity Building
Regional		SNV		BASIX	
National	SNV, SDPI, US	US	SNV, US, SDPI	BASIX, US, SDPI	BASIX, US, SDPI
Sub-national	CRRID, SDPI	SNV, US, BASIX, RGVN	SNV, US, SDPI, RGVN	US, BASIX, RGVN	SNV, US, BASIX, RGVN
Local	BASIX	BASIX, US	BASIX, US	BASIX, US	BASIX, US

Table 4- Partners' resource mapping in trans-boundary water sharing

Level/Activity	Policy Research	Field Research	Advocacy	Networking	Capacity Building
Regional	SDPI, CRRID			SDPI	
National	US, BASIX, CRRID	US	US, SDPI, CRRID	US, BASIX	US
Sub-national		US, BASIX	US, BASIX, SDPI, CRRID, RGVN	US, BASIX, RGVN	US, RGVN
Local	BASIX	US, BASIX	US, BASIX	US, BASIX	US, BASIX

Table 5- Partners’ resource mapping in groundwater resource management

Level/Activity	Policy Research	Field Research	Advocacy	Networking	Capacity Building
Regional					
National	US, SDPI		US, SDPI	US	US
Sub-national		US	US, RGVN	US, RGVN, BASIX	US, RGVN
Local	CRRID	US, NEFORD, BASIX	US	US, BASIX	US, NEFORD

Table 6- Partners’ resource mapping in sustainable agricultural practices

Level/Activity	Policy Research	Field Research	Advocacy	Networking	Capacity Building
Regional	CRRID, SAWTEE	SNV	SAWTEE, NEFORD		
National	US, SDPI, CRRID, SAWTEE	US, NEFORD	US, NEFORD, SNV, SAWTEE	US, NEFORD	
Sub-national		NEFORD, RGVN, US	US, RGVN, SNV	US, SNV, RGVN, NEFORD	NEFORD, US, RGVN
Local	SNV	NEFORD	NEFORD	NEFORD	NEFORD

Table 7- Partners’ resource mapping in value-added market chains

Level/Activity	Policy Research	Field Research	Advocacy	Networking	Capacity Building
Regional	CRRID, SAWTEE	SNV	SAWTEE	SAWTEE	SAWTEE
National	SDPI, BASIX, US, SAWTEE	BASIX, US	BASIX, US, SNV, SAWTEE	BASIX, US, SNV	SAWTEE, US, SNV
Sub-national	BASIX, CRRID	BASIX, US, SNV, RGVN	RGVN, US	BASIX, US, RGVN	BASIX, US, RGVN
Local	BASIX	BASIX, US	BASIX, US	BASIX, US	BASIX, US

Risk Register

- All the partners were asked to rate the likelihood and consequence of the pre-identified risks related to this portfolio partnership. The risks were divided into four categories: human resource, change in government / political environment, loss of policy champions (policy champions here refers to the key persons capable of influencing policy changes) and partner activity not aligning with CUTS strategy. They also provided the treatment strategy related to each risk.
- The exercise was done country wise since all the identified risks and treatment strategy may vary according to the prevailing political conditions in respective countries. All the four Indian partners had intense deliberations among themselves and they collectively rated the risks for India and same was done by Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and Pakistan.

The consolidated table of this exercise is presented in the Annexure (Table 2).

Basin-wise Issues Mapping

- The aim of this exercise was to identify specific sub-issues from the pre-identified issues in relation to their relevance at the respective basins- Indus, Ganges and Brahmaputra keeping in mind their effect on SDIP preconditions and domains of change.
- The group was divided into three sub-groups representing the three basins. The group members were asked to prioritise amongst the three main focus areas (agriculture, water and energy) and further prioritise three major sub-issues under the two issue-heads for each of the three main focus areas. The team leaders shared the identified basin-level issues with all the participants and explained the influence of the issues on the preconditions and domains of change.
- From this exercise, it became clear that issues are not as homogeneous as they might appear to be across different river basins. Issues can also be classified on the basis of other parameters such as up-stream/down-stream, cultural dimensions, historical or political linkages etc.
- Sometimes, visibility of certain issues might be very high at national level but low or nil at regional level. Local context may or may not be relevant for regional co-operation. To check its importance and adoption, there should be enough flexibility in the framework leading to fruitful holistic engagement to effect change.

Segregation of Basin-wise issues in relation to the preconditions and domains of change is collated in the matrix table presented in the Annexure (Table 3).

Way Forward

- The partnership seeks clarity of understanding on the activity matrix. Therefore, fine tuning the existing list of activities and the indicative time frame should be done and circulated among the strategic partners.
 - Resource and risk mapping which also fit within the immediate activity chart, have already been completed. Partners are to provide their suggestions on the resource and risk mapping tables (same can be referred from the charts and graphs presented in the report).
 - As this platform brings together organisations with different types of expertise, avenues for effective collaborations among them are to be explored further. Keeping the framework flexible would therefore be essential as it will evolve over time.
 - MoUs need to be signed between CUTS and its strategic partners which would serve as a legal document in obtaining the governing body's approval in respective cases.
 - Also, the house reached a consensus to create and maintain a common electronic forum where knowledge on progress made by each of the strategic partners could be shared. CUTS SDIP team will soon be sending the partners an invitation request to join this e-forum which will serve as a virtual platform for sharing latest development and other news related to SDIP project.
 - The workshop ended on a constructive note where each of the participants agreed to dissolve existing ambiguity and work towards the better attainment of SDIP objectives.
-

CUTS-ICIMOD Partnership

SDIP emphasizes both direct and cross linkages between partners. This encourages the existing portfolio partners and sub-partners to explore possibilities for future partnerships among them. CUTS-ICIMOD Partnership on enhancing the livelihoods of rural people in the Eastern Hindu Kush Himalayan (HKH) belt is one among such endeavours that aims at achieving following core objectives.

- Promoting sustainable tourism on a regional basis
- Promoting regional cooperation for sustainable investment and trans-boundary trade in hydropower
- Enhancing the value of agro-products originating from the Eastern HKH belt

Optimization of social profit and reduction in the reliance on limited resources for sustenance-are the primary objectives of this project. Sustainable tourism as a way to enhance the livelihood options and employment opportunities of the poor and vulnerable sections of Hindu Kush Himalayan population needs to be explored. Similarly, greater access to energy at a lesser cost and value-addition in products where this region has comparative advantage is needed in order to attain a better price realisation and employment generation.

Cooperation at both regional and sub-regional levels is essential to ensure that this region is able to harness its existing potential effectively. Trans-boundary dialogue engaging the policy makers, members of different social and economic institutions, private parties and media personnel is important to address different prevailing development issues.

The emerging CUTS-ICIMOD partnership is basically two dimensional as this attempts to look at both bio-physical and political economy sides of the issues. This session gave clarity on the possible methodologies that would be adopted by CUTS in implementing the proposed project. While addressing the development of local communities, some other not so explicit issues like FDI regime, environmental concern, comprehensive sustainable trade practices, standardisation, and removal of technical barriers of trade would also needs be looked at under the proposed project.

ANNEXURE

Table 1-Activity Table

Issue	Sub-Issue	Activity	Domain of Change
Agriculture	a. Market Supply Chain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Mapping/tracking (survey) ii. Policy research iii. Advocacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Market Supply Chain of inputs and service b. Enabling policy and regulatory environment c. CSO voice d. Co-Benefit: Collaborative Structures
	b. Sustainable Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Policy research ii. Perception survey iii. Good practices iv. Capacity building of CSO on best practices, regulatory environment v. Advocacy 	
Energy	a. Access through off-grid RE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Survey ii. Policy research iii. Good practices iv. Advocacy v. Capacity building(knowledge sharing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Market Supply Chain for Off-grid b. Enabling policy and regulatory environment c. Effective models d. CSO Voice e. Facilitate SAARC dynamics f. Co-Benefit: Collaboration on energy option
	b. Cross-border trade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Policy research ii. Capacity building(knowledge sharing) iii. Advocacy 	
Water	a. IWRM (Groundwater)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Policy research (groundwater policy and regulation) ii. Perception Survey iii. Advocacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Enabling policy and regulatory environment b. Facilitate SAARC debate c. CSO/Community voice
	b. Trans-boundary water sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Policy research (on treaties) ii. Perception survey iii. Advocacy(dialogues on sub-national and regional) 	

Graph- 1

	Energy Trade					Access Through RE				
Regional Level	SDPI, CRRID			SDPI			SNV		BASIX	
National Level	US, BASIX, CRRID	SNV, US, BASIX	SNV, US, SDPI	US, BASIX	US, BASIX	SNV, US, SDPI	US	SNV, US, SDPI	BASIX, US, SDPI	BASIX, US, SDPI
Sub - National Level		US, SNV	US, SNV	US, SNV, BASIX	US, SNV, BASIX	CRRID, SDPI	SNV, US, BASIX, RGVN	SNV, US, SDPI, RGVN	US, BASIX, RGVN	SNV, US, BASIX, RGVN
Local Level		US, BASIX	US	US, BASIX	US, BASIX	BASIX	BASIX, US	BASIX, US	BASIX, US	BASIX, US
	Policy Research	Field Research	Advocacy	Networking	Capacity Building	Policy Research	Field Research	Advocacy	Networking	Capacity Building

Graph- 2

	Trans -boundary Water Sharing					Ground Water				
Regional Level	SDPI, CRRID			SDPI						
National Level	US, BASIX, CRRID	US	US, SDPI, CRRID	US, BASIX	US	US, SDPI	US, SDPI	US	US	
Sub National Level		US, BASIX	US, BASIX, SDPI, CRRID, RGVN	US, BASIX, RGVN	US, RGVN		US	US, RGVN	US, RGVN, BASIX	US, RGVN
Local Level	BASIX	US, BASIX	US, BASIX	US, BASIX	US, BASIX	CRRID	US, NEFORD, BASIX	US	US, BASIX	US, NEFORD
	Policy Research	Field Research	Advocacy	Networking	Capacity Building	Policy Research	Field Research	Advocacy	Networking	Capacity Building

Graph- 3

	Sustainable Agricultural Practices					Value Added Market Chains				
Regional Level	CRRID SAWTEE	SNV	SAWTEE NEFORD			CRRID SAWTEE	SNV	SAWTEE	SAWTEE	SAWTEE
National Level	US SDPI CRRID SAWTEE	US NEFORD	US NEFORD SNV SAWTEE	US NEFORD		SDPI BASIX US SAWTEE	BASIX US	BASIX US SNV SAWTEE	BASIX US SNV	SAWTEE US SNV
Subnational Level		NEFORD RGVN US	US RGVN SNV	US SNV RGVN NEFORD	NEFORD US RGVN	BASIX CRRID	BASIX US SNV RGVN	RGVN US	BASIX US RGVN	BASIX US RGVN
Local Level	SNV	NEFORD US	NEFORD US	NEFORD US	NEFORD	BASIX	BASIX US	BASIX US	BASIX US	BASIX US
	Policy Research	Field Research	Advocacy	Networking	Capacity Building	Policy Research	Field Research	Advocacy	Networking	Capacity Building

Table 2-Risk Register

Risk	Countries / Partners	Likelihood (L-M-H)	Consequence (L-M-H)	Risk Rating (L-M-H)	Treatment Strategy
Human resource	Bangladesh	L	L	L	Capacity Building
	Bhutan	M	M	M	Proper HR/succession planning
	India	M	M	M	To train & orient & motivate the pool of resources (HR)
	Nepal	M	M	M	Quick replacement
	Pakistan	L	L	L	-
Change in government / political environment	Bangladesh	M	M	M	Dialogue, Media Advocacy and Research
	Bhutan	L	L	L	Timely Govt. engagement
	India	L	L	L	To be in regular touch with govt. key officials
	Nepal	H	L	M	-
	Pakistan	M	H	M	No significant impact on SDPI
Loss of policy champions	Bangladesh	L	L	L	Policy research, Dialogue, Networking
	Bhutan	L	L	L	-
	India	L	L	L	To be in regular consultation with PC
	Nepal	L	L	L	-
	Pakistan	L	L	L	No significant impact on SDPI
Partner activity not aligning with CUTS strategy	Bangladesh	L	L	L	Meeting and Networking
	Bhutan	L	L	L	-
	India	L	L	L	Consultation & training to key staff & Service Management Group (SMG)
	Nepal	L	L	L	-
	Pakistan	L	L	L	-

Table 3-Basin-wise Issue Mapping

Indus Basin			
Focus Area	Issues & Sub issues	Domains of Change	Preconditions
Water (Rank 1)	<p><u>Transboundary water sharing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water management being a state own subject (specifically in India) have complicated trans boundary issues due to lack of consensus between the state and the central government • Need for revised Indus Water Treaty • Domestic water policies of SACs do not stress upon the issue of trans boundary water sharing <p><u>Integrated Water Resource Management (Ground water)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overexploitation of groundwater resulting in inefficient and unsustainable use of water • Poor ground water quality due to natural and anthropogenic contamination • Unsustainable agricultural practices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enabling (national and subnational) policy and regulatory environment • Facilitate SAARC debate • CSO/Community voice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reform/refinement to existing national cross-border treaties/agreements on water resources • More timely actions taken by water management authorities in the region on when to share and when to discharge water linked to flood and drought mitigation measures • Deepening of the policy dialogue between countries [which embraces water resource] set within the wider political evolution towards cooperation in the region • Shared learning from basin scale planning and management: testing the assessment of trade-offs in managing water resources equitably and managing for water scarcity.
Agriculture (Rank 2)	<p><u>Sustainable Agriculture Practices</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of policy support for sustainable/climate resilient agricultural practices and crop diversification for their adoption • Lack of efficient land use planning and flood control measures structural and non-structural • Collaborative research on weather forecasting, pest and disease control measures and crop improvement and sharing of good practices on regional basis <p><u>Value- added Market Chains</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of storage facilities (warehouses and cold storages) and low investment (Public and private) • Lack of agri-products standards and labelling • Trans- boundary market access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enabling national and sub national policy and regulatory environment for sustainable agricultural practices • Civil society voice for change, reform and standards • Collaborative structures between farmer organisations and service providers, agro-business and researchers. • Market Supply Chain of inputs and services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant increase in investment (public and private) in agricultural research (conservation agriculture and precision agricultural practices) • Accelerated uptake of proven climate resilient agricultural practices • Accessible vital support services [credit, energy, technical knowledge and market information] • Stronger value-added market chains for agricultural products

Energy (Rank 3)	<p><u>Improving energy access through off-grid RE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of adequate, reliable and affordable financing for RE development. Need for knowledge sharing on good practices/case studies within and across borders • Need for a market mechanism for commercial success of off-grid systems. <p><u>Cross-border trade of Energy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulatory and legal frameworks related to energy/electricity are not harmonised across borders. • Need to encourage cross-border private investment for tapping into the potential of the region Unsustainable agricultural practices • Need for a regional facilitating agency/strengthen South Asia Forum of Infrastructure Regulators (SAFIR). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market supply chains to support off grid systems • Enabling (National and Sub-National) Policy and regulatory environment including large scale private sector investment • Effective models: intra-regional cross border energy deals • Civil Society voice for change, reform and standards • Facilitative [SAARC] dynamic on the need for cross border cooperation on energy • CO-BENEFIT/Collaboration [regional and intra-country] on energy options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accelerated development of off grid- energy systems for rural communities • Accelerated extension of grid connections to rural areas • Accelerated development of small hydropower infrastructure
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Ganges Basin

Focus Area	Issues & Sub issues	Domains of Change	Preconditions
Agriculture (Rank 1)	<p><u>Sustainable Agriculture Practices</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of policy support for sustainable/climate resilient agricultural practices and crop diversification for their adoption • Poor technology dissemination • Collaborative research on weather forecasting, pest and disease control measures and crop improvement and sharing of good practices on regional basis <p><u>Value-added Market Chains</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of storage facilities (warehouses and cold storages) and low investment (Public and private) • Timely supply of quality Inputs • Lack of agri-products standards and labelling 	Same as in Indus Basin	Same as in Indus Basin

Water (Rank 2)	<p><u>Transboundary water sharing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conflict between the state and the central government on water management • Need to relook India and Nepal bilateral water sharing agreements • The Ganges Treaty between India-Bangladesh <p><u>Integrated Water Resource Management (Ground Water)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overexploitation of groundwater • Poor ground water quality due to natural and anthropogenic contamination • Groundwater governance is not very strong and effective. 	Same as in Indus Basin	All those applicable to Indus Basin + Increasing usage of reliable and repeatable tools and scientific methodologies for water resource management(Advocating the tools developed by other portfolio partners)
Energy (Rank 3)	<p><u>Improving energy access through off-grid RE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for knowledge sharing on good practices/case studies within and across borders • Grid connectivity of off-grid production units • Lack of adequate, reliable and affordable financing for RE development <p><u>Cross-border trade of Energy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to encourage cross-border private investment • Harmonized Regulatory and legal frameworks across borders • Need for a regional facilitating agency/strengthen South Asia Forum of Infrastructure Regulators (SAFIR) 	All those applicable to Indus Basin + Innovative financing mechanisms and services for small scale clean energy investments	Same as in Indus Basin
Brahmaputra Basin			
Focus Area	Issues & Sub issues	Domains of Change	Preconditions
Water (Rank 1)	<p><u>Transboundary water sharing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water sharing treaties of Teesta and other rivers • Conflict between the state and the central government on water management • Political economy of trans boundary water sharing <p><u>Integrated Water Resource Management (Ground Water)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overexploitation of groundwater • Unsustainable agricultural practices • Poor ground water quality 	All those applicable to Indus Basin + Facilitate BIMSTEC dialogues at national and sub-regional level	Same as in Indus Basin

<p>Agriculture (Rank 2)</p>	<p><u>Sustainable Agriculture Practices</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborative research on weather forecasting, pest and disease control measures and crop improvement and sharing of good practices on regional basis • Lack of a rational pricing for irrigation water and chemical fertilisers • Lack of insurance support and Early warning system <p><u>Value-added Market Chains</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Processing/ post-harvest technology • Timely supply of Inputs • Market- led Extension Services (Access to production technology) 	<p>All those applicable to Indus Basin + Knowledge base resources for agricultural quantification of water needs (Alternative technology)</p>	<p>All those applicable to Indus Basin + Adequate knowledge of water resource and technology</p>
<p>Energy (Rank 3)</p>	<p><u>Improving energy access through off-grid RE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for knowledge sharing on good practices/case studies within and across borders • Grid connectivity of off-grid production units • Lack of adequate, reliable and affordable financing for RE development <p><u>Cross-border trade of Energy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to encourage cross-border private investment • Harmonized Regulatory and legal frameworks across borders • Need for a regional facilitating agency/strengthen South Asia Forum of Infrastructure Regulators (SAFIR) 	<p>Same as in Indus Basin</p>	<p>Same as in Indus Basin</p>

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