

UN-ESCAP's New Delhi office for South and South-West Asia in collaboration with
MHHDC Pakistan and India Water Foundation is organizing a
Special Session on
“Regional Cooperation, Human Development and Water”
and Launch of Human Development in South Asia 2013 : Water for Human Development
29th November 2013

*Inclusive Development via Environment Plus
Approach for Water &
Human Development in South Asia*

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Save Water Save Environment

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Water-Human Development Linkages

- Water is key to sustainable human development
- Water scarcity limits ability to achieve full potential in terms of good health, education and livelihood
- Water and climate-induced disasters, put strain on already scarce water resources
- The existing institutional mechanism have proven insufficient to address the challenges
- Resultant impact is unsustainable growth in almost all sectors of economy and in the management of natural resources
- The role of water in human development is determined by a combination of critical factors

South Asia: Critical Water Challenges

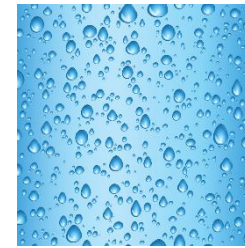
South
Asia
Region



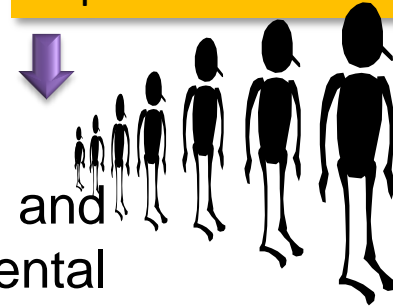
Over 21% of World's
Population



Just over 8% of global
water resources



Decreasing Water
Availability per
Capita



- Population explosion, intensified agricultural practices and irrigation; multiplying energy demand, complex environmental consequences of climate change, deteriorating river ecology, and deteriorating water quality
- New challenges continue to unfold for region's already scarce water resources
- Current planning and management have proven insufficient to address these challenges
- According to a report titled "SAARC Regional Poverty Profile", though the South Asian region achieved a good economic growth it has not reduced poverty nor ensured food security

Other Major Challenges

- Water has unprecedented significance in South Asian development discourse
- Water is closely associated to all the major challenges that the region faces now and will continue to face in the future
- Unsustainable development are all closely related to or determined by water – its availability and usability.
- South Asia, despite having fair share of the world's water resources, has temporal and spatial variability in per capita water availability
- Climate variability has rendered parts of the region vulnerable to severe droughts and intense floods, with irregular patterns of rainfall
- The hydro-social contract of the people with water is determined by the way in which water resources are harnessed.
- Water is a primary human need and consequently it should be regarded as a human right that must be gradually realized by respective countries



Transforming Paradigm for Reengineering of Water Governance

- Need for Paradigm Shift in the existing Water Governance approach to harness full potential of water
- Ongoing official & public discourse on water is highly political and motivated more by national & local interests than shared regional concerns
- Current water management practices are predominantly technical - Water policy formulation and implementation has been dominated by engineers, scientists and 'hydrocrats' for decades
- This hard approach to water management results in underrepresentation of social and ecological perspectives.
- A shift in approach to water management is needed to have a more holistic understanding of water. The new policy shift should focus on equal emphasis on technical approach along with soft approach
- An increased role for civil society in national and regional water discourse. So far, the role of civil society engagement on issues of water management has been almost negligible in India.
- Regional Water Hub to tackle trans-boundary water issues

Transforming Paradigm for Reengineering of Water Governance

- Priority being accorded to 'privatized development rights' on water and mobilized foreign investors to finance projects
- This affords least opportunities for local communities to express their voice at the policy level.
- The approach of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), can best help in maximizing sustainable use of water resources
- The involvement of civil society is a vital part of this process.
- Inputs from civil society and stakeholder groups can help address the social and ecological dimensions of water use, it can also help to reduce uncertainty in investment decisions
- Importance of moving towards a stronger, dynamic and inclusive South Asia, centered around four key socio-economic policy areas:

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_6071

