

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Partners: South Asian University, Oxfam, UNESCO Chair of International Water Cooperation, Uppsala University



The Mahakali River OXFAM TROSA/ Minket Lepcha

INTRODUCTION

In recent years the complexity of threats posed by the water sector in South Asia has brought water to the forefront of international, regional and national concerns. Water stress is being felt not only in terms of the access to clean water but also in light of growing agricultural, domestic and industrial demands, climate change and growing challenges posed to protect the eco-systems.

While water in the environmental context demands that holistic ways are needed, geographically the South Asian cartography reflects that water will be a contested issue and has to be negotiated at multiple scales and levels. This not only poses a challenge to water politics and governance at the national level but also inclusive water governance at the transboundary level. Marked by both major and minor river systems, South Asia can also be termed as riverine South Asia.

Given that rivers are dynamic social, political and environmental systems which cannot be addressed by solutions that are stagnant, it is important that inclusive water governance becomes an important theme for deliberation and action among water practitioners, community, private sectors and researchers alike. Given the complexity of water challenges, it is important that political-scientists and ecologists start speaking to each other and inform their discourses with lived problems of the border landers inhabiting South Asia.

The Summer School jointly organised by SAU, Oxfam, and the UNESCO Chair of International Cooperation, Uppsala University as part of the Government of Sweden funded Transboundary Rivers of South Asia (TROSA) project. This Summer School is one such attempt to start an interdisciplinary conversation at multiple scales in terms of looking at inclusive water governance in a holistic manner. This upscaling and downscaling of water discourse is not only needed to meet the challenges of the sustainable development agenda highlighted under the auspices of United Nations, but also the sustainable development targets identified by states as part of their normative obligations in South Asia. In this backdrop, the Summer School will offer a platform for an interface between water researchers and water practitioners and discuss some of the emerging issues in the shared water sector which can facilitate tools through which the idea of inclusive water governance can be actualised in the long term. The Summer Schools is anchored to three broad areas- Emerging Debates on Shared Water Governance, Creating Networks for Water Governance, Localising Water Governance.

The Summer School aims to expose candidates to discourses on inclusive water governance. The primary focus is on discussing ways to regionalise and localise sustainable development in South Asia and examine the relevance of scales, actors and practices associated with inclusive water governance. Aiming to offer an overview of the changing international water policy context and the emerging practices from the region, the candidates will get an opportunity to engage with an interdisciplinary team of experts working on transboundary water issues. There shall be a brief visit to a field site, where candidates get an opportunity to engage with the community.

TARGET GROUPS

This Summer School aims to facilitate learning and build technical capacity on inclusive water governance and promote collaboration on shared waters in the region. Through an active and participatory learning process, this Summer School will be conducted for 20 participants in English language covering the contemporary current topics on the following broad areas: international, regional and national policy contexts and frameworks on water cooperation; various dimensions of inclusive water governance with a focus on gender and indigenous communities; networks, negotiations and multi-track diplomacy; multi-stakeholder engagement and evidence-informed advocacy; SDGs implementation (SDGs 5 & 6). The primary candidates for this Summer School are mid-level water governance professionals from civil society including women and youth networks, academia, think tanks, businesses, governments and media.

REQUIREMENTS

- Interested and eligible applicants are required to have a university degree in water or environmental sciences, international relations, hydrology, sociology or geography or a related field.
- Applicants should be citizens of Bangladesh, Nepal, India, Myanmar, Bhutan. TROSA and partners are currently working in river basins in these countries.
- Applications from other Asian countries will be considered on merit basis.
- Applicants should be less than 35 years of age at the time of application.
- All sessions at the Summer School will be conducted in English.
- Applicants are expected to share relevant case studies and examples from their work. Participants are expected to complete and review reading materials prior to the workshop.

FUNDING

The Summer School will support the participation costs of selected candidates. Self-sponsored participants are expected to cover their accommodation and travel costs. Self-sponsored participants may approach other development partners or projects for possible support. *You may indicate your need for financial assistance on the application.*

APPLICATIONS

Please submit the following documents to apply for the Summer School:

- Application Form
- A CV (not more than 2 pages) and the contact information of two references.
- A letter of motivation (description of past and current work as well as your suitability for the Summer School)
- One letter of recommendation from your supervisor or place of work.
- Please indicate visa requirements in the applications. The organisers will provide a letter of selection, including funding support and are unable to provide any additional assistance in the support of visa application.

Applications will be accepted from February 24 to March 10, 2020. Incomplete applications will not be considered for evaluation. Successful candidates will be notified by March 17, 2020.

Participants who successfully complete the training will receive a Certificate of Attendance ratified by the Summer School organizers.

Click to apply

[TROSA SUMMER SCHOOL APPLICATION FORM](https://www.asia.oxfam.org/TROSA)



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