

Second Regional Upper Indus Basin Network (UIBN) Workshop: Science for Strengthening Regional Cooperation



About ICIMOD

The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) is a regional knowledge development and learning centre serving the eight regional member countries of the Hindu Kush Himalaya (HKH) – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Pakistan – based in Kathmandu, Nepal. Globalization and climate change have an increasing influence on the stability of fragile mountain ecosystems and the livelihoods of mountain people. ICIMOD aims to assist mountain people to understand these changes, adapt to them, and make the most of new opportunities, while addressing upstream and downstream issues. ICIMOD supports regional transboundary programmes through partnerships with regional partner institutions, facilitates the exchange of experiences, and serves as a regional knowledge hub. We strengthen networking among regional and global centres of excellence. Overall, we are working to develop economically and environmentally-sound mountain ecosystems to improve the living standards of mountain populations and to sustain vital ecosystem services for the billions of people living downstream – now and in the future.



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Second Regional Upper Indus Basin Network (UIBN) Workshop: Science for Strengthening Regional Cooperation

17–18 January 2019 | Kathmandu, Nepal

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AC	Afghanistan Chapter
CC	Country Chapter
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
GNP	Gross national product
IBI	Indus Basin Initiative
ICIMOD	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
RSC	Regional Strategic Committee
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SWaRMA	Strengthening Water Resources Management in Afghanistan
TWG	Technical Working Group
UIB	Upper Indus Basin
UIBN	Upper Indus Basin Network
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature

Executive Summary

The Upper Indus Basin Network (UIBN) was established in 2014 to promote coordination and collaboration among the organizations working in the member countries of the Upper Indus Basin (UIB) – Afghanistan, China, India, and Pakistan. The Second Regional UIBN Workshop was held in Kathmandu from 17–18 January 2019 by the Indus Basin Initiative (IBI) and Strengthening Water Resources Management in Afghanistan (SWaRMA) with support from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Government of Australia, and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). The event brought together the Country Chapter (CC) members of the UIBN and expert civil society members and academics. The key objective of the workshop was to arrive at a consensus on the working principles of the UIBN in order to shape research and advocacy activities. Another important agenda was to decide upon the governance structure of the UIBN as recommended by the ad hoc strategic committee. Decisions regarding key functions such as the formation of a Regional Strategic Committee (RSC) and the composition of Country Chapters have provided important guiding principles in order for the UIBN to come into fruition. In a nutshell, the primary objectives of the UIBN workshop were to:

- endorse the governance structure as recommended by the ad hoc strategic committee;
- form regional strategic committees;
- discuss and formulate a future strategic direction for the UIBN; and
- plan the functioning of the Country Chapters of the UIBN.

UIBN: A Gateway to Regional Collaboration

In order to help the UIBN realize its full potential, a key area would be to further expand the network's strategic focus towards all the four riparian countries in terms of research and knowledge-sharing activities. As described by David Molden (Director General, ICIMOD), the strategic objectives of the UIBN are embedded in the need to address the environmental and sustainability concerns of all mountain people. The UIBN, therefore, is poised to act as a platform that consolidates the strengths of all the actors currently working in the region. Furthermore, the impacts of climate change in the UIB are inextricably linked to water resource management, food security, disaster risk, and resilience. These issues, as noted by the Australian ambassador to Nepal, Pete Budd, have a global significance where the UIBN, as a regional facilitator, could contribute to gaining fundamental understanding on linking science to national and regional planning and policy.

In his address, Khalid Mohtadullah, the UIBN chair, stated that as far back as the 1980s, it was realized that there was a dearth of knowledge and collaboration in the region. As for understanding the growing impact of human activities on the environment – and not merely on the Indus basin – the global efforts can be traced to the 1970s (Messerli 2012). He said that over the years, the localization of the global agenda on adaptation measures in mountain systems have been focused on a need to combine scientific research and civil society action. Thus, he said, while the UIBN's focus is primarily on expanding scientific research, it is also seeking to generate more synergy among the four member countries. This need for cooperation and coordination was further reflected in the opening session remarks of the country representatives. In this regard, Nisar Memon (former senator, Pakistan) noted that the UIBN has progressed towards setting up a chapter in Pakistan, where the focus has been on linking governmental, non-governmental and private organizations. As the UIBN evolves, it is hoped that a similar level of coordination is achieved among member countries as well as the technical working groups (TWGs) that are part of the network.



Experiences from the Indus Basin

Biophysical impacts on development

Almost 39 per cent of the water resources in the UIB in Pakistan are glacial. Other sources are dependent on snowmelt. Thus any climate change event will have a significant impact on these important sources of water that nourish the agro-economic sector in Pakistan which contributes more than 25 percent to the country's gross national product (GNP). Linked to this is the challenge of too much and too little water.

In his presentation, Furrukh Bashir, from the Pakistan Metrological Department, stated that parts of the basin are expected to see an increase in precipitation in the eastern regions whereas the western regions are expected to face flooding. Bashir further noted that apart from the glaring issue of climate change, there are several other aspects and more which need to be explored – melting rates, discharge variations, causes of glacier melt, and other cryosphere-related issues. Another speaker, A.P. Dimri (professor, Jawaharlal University), in his presentation on future climate change issues in the Indus basin said that data availability poses a significant challenge. He recommended the conversion of the available data into gridded data, which would further help in the mapping of impacts on the hydrological cycle.



Contextualizing the global agenda for the Indus

In his address, Matthias Winiger (University of Bonn) stated that long-term coordinated efforts are required in order to achieve the strategic objectives that will ultimately lead to greater cooperation among the UIBN partners. He drew the group's attention to how the striving for coordinated research in the UIB is embedded in the global agenda that seeks to raise awareness about mountain systems. He explained that in order to improve coordination among the network's partners, the network could draw inspiration from the focused studies done in the past. He cited the example of the "Man and the Biosphere Programme" launched by UNESCO in 1970 which "...assess[es] the changes in the biosphere resulting from human and natural activities...ensure[s] basic human welfare and a liveable environment..." Drawing from such success stories, Winiger said the network's focus should be on collating older studies even as it looks for coordinated institutional support. He emphasized that although the UIBN's mission objective is well drawn, there's a need for further remedial steps, such as:

- overcoming internal barriers to cooperation through joint efforts and setting of priorities;
- taking the support of government entities such as those in charge of academia and research;
- banking on existing academic networks such as ICIMOD's Himalayan University Consortium which can provide important resources for research activities in the network; and
- strengthening the network of high-altitude meteorological stations, as well as carrying out more field activities with international collaboration.

The relevance of the UIBN can be further linked to the potential that it holds in influencing national policy. In her presentation, Suzan Cuddy (from DFAT) stated that although the Pakistan part of the river basin has become self-sufficient in food production – showing a surge of almost five to eight times – this has increased the reliance on extraction of groundwater. She said that the projected variations in precipitation may render this extraction unsustainable, especially in the Punjab region of the basin. The discussions among the participants brought forth the point that the remedial solution to any of the socio-economic issues should not rest on a trade-off. Cuddy said that this would mean a loss to one of the stakeholders, so the focus should rather be on win-win scenarios. She stated that the aim should be to localize the goals of sustainable development, while maintaining a balanced approach in addressing some of the pressing issues of human development and well-being in the region.

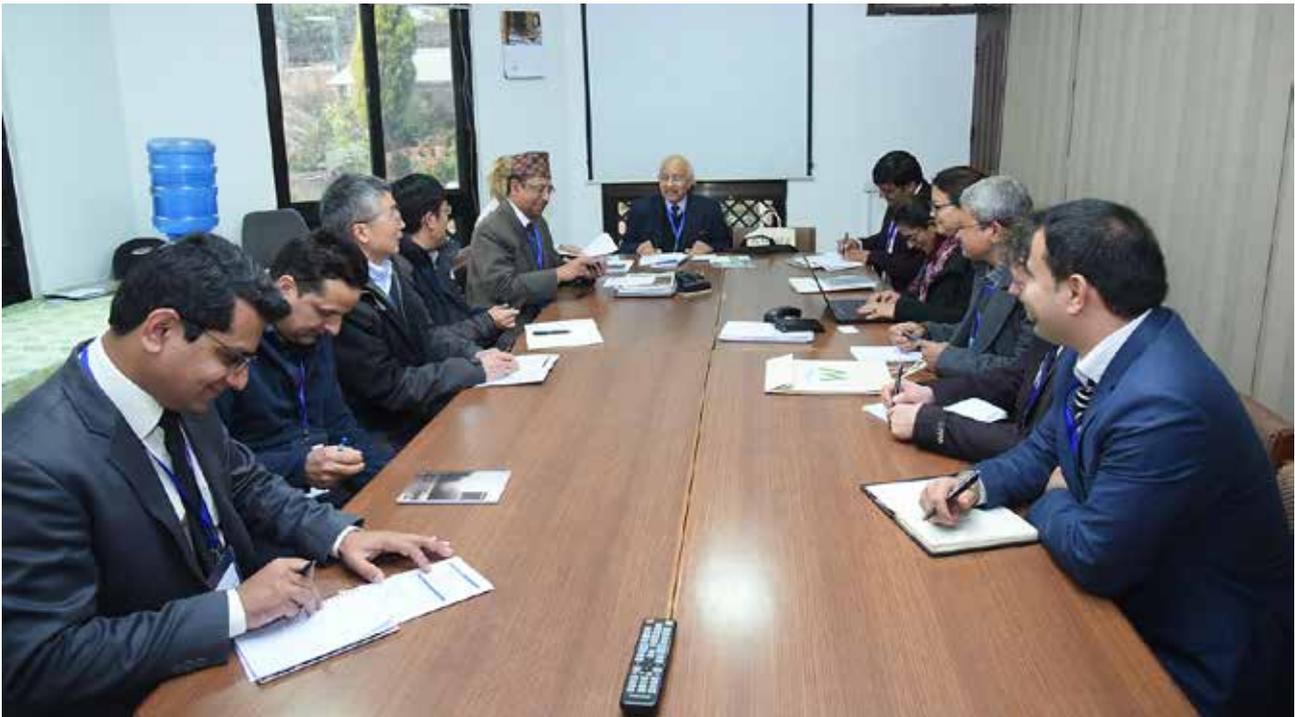
Addressing Country-level Challenges

Prior to the deliberations on the governance structure of the UIBN, a panel discussion – moderated by David Molden (Director General, ICIMOD) – was held where the following questions were posed to the members:

- What are the two challenges your country is facing?
- How can the UIBN help your country in tackling climate change challenges?

In the discussions that followed, the themes that emerged revolved around the present threats that climate change poses in terms of food, water, energy and livelihood security. Equity issues too came to the fore with regard to water supply and management wherein communities and governments are forced to rely on unsustainable means, such as subsidies on tube wells. It was pointed out by Winiger that the pace and type of research in this area should adapt to the times. While acknowledging the political and institutional limitations that are a reality in the region, he said that one of the primary concerns is over the focus of specific research traditions; he added that it is essential to include social science dimensions in the physical sciences, as was originally done in the draft UIBN governance framework.





Taking up this issue of inclusion of social sciences, Aditya Bastola (Gender Specialist, ICIMOD), in a separate discussion, dwelt on the variety of challenges that are at play in interacting with the diverse social groups of the UIB. He said the members must realize that there are different interests, needs, opportunities, and challenges that are specific to each of the social setups. Bastola stated that while the focus should be on understanding the disparate needs of these social groups, it is also important that the benchmarks of equality and equity be included in the scheme of things. In this regard, he said the UIBN would need to mainstream gender and social inclusion in all of the six TWGs.

Some of the key recommendations that emerged from these discussions were:

- A coordinated effort is required to address the gap in data that exists in the Indus basin at this stage. More hydro-meteorological stations should be established in higher altitude regions, with a special request for extending them to the upper parts of the Kabul River basin.
- In order to address the issue of uncoordinated research, common protocols such as the one for monitoring glaciers are required.
- Within the working groups, more focus is required on linking the physical sciences to larger issues of human wellness. A mechanism should exist to involve social scientists in the framework of the UIBN. This approach of bridging the physical sciences and social sciences can be partly explored by incorporating the ongoing research in the UIBN into the university curricula.
- In order to bring into the mainstream the topics of gender and other social issues, and include them in the working plans of the TWGs, a matrix structure can be explored. TWG 1 can focus on collecting gender-disaggregated data; TWG 2 can focus on research topics on well-being; TWG 3 can assess the impacts of climate change on livelihoods; TWG 4 can assess the issue of access and control over the water resources; TWG 5 can examine the variety of impacts that communities face from hazards and risks; and TWG 6 can explore the different capacities of the communities in the UIB.

Workshop Outcomes: The Operational Details of the UIBN

Endorsement of the UIBN framework

The first regional UIBN meeting was held in April 2018, and it registered several milestones, including the formation of a regional UIBN body, and a six-month ad hoc strategic committee to provide guidance on the UIBN activities.

Following the panel discussions, some of the thematic concerns were carried forward into a later session on the endorsement of the draft on the UIBN governance framework. The discussions laid down the criteria for membership in key bodies such as the Country Chapter (CC) and the Regional Strategic Committee (RSC), as shown in the figure.

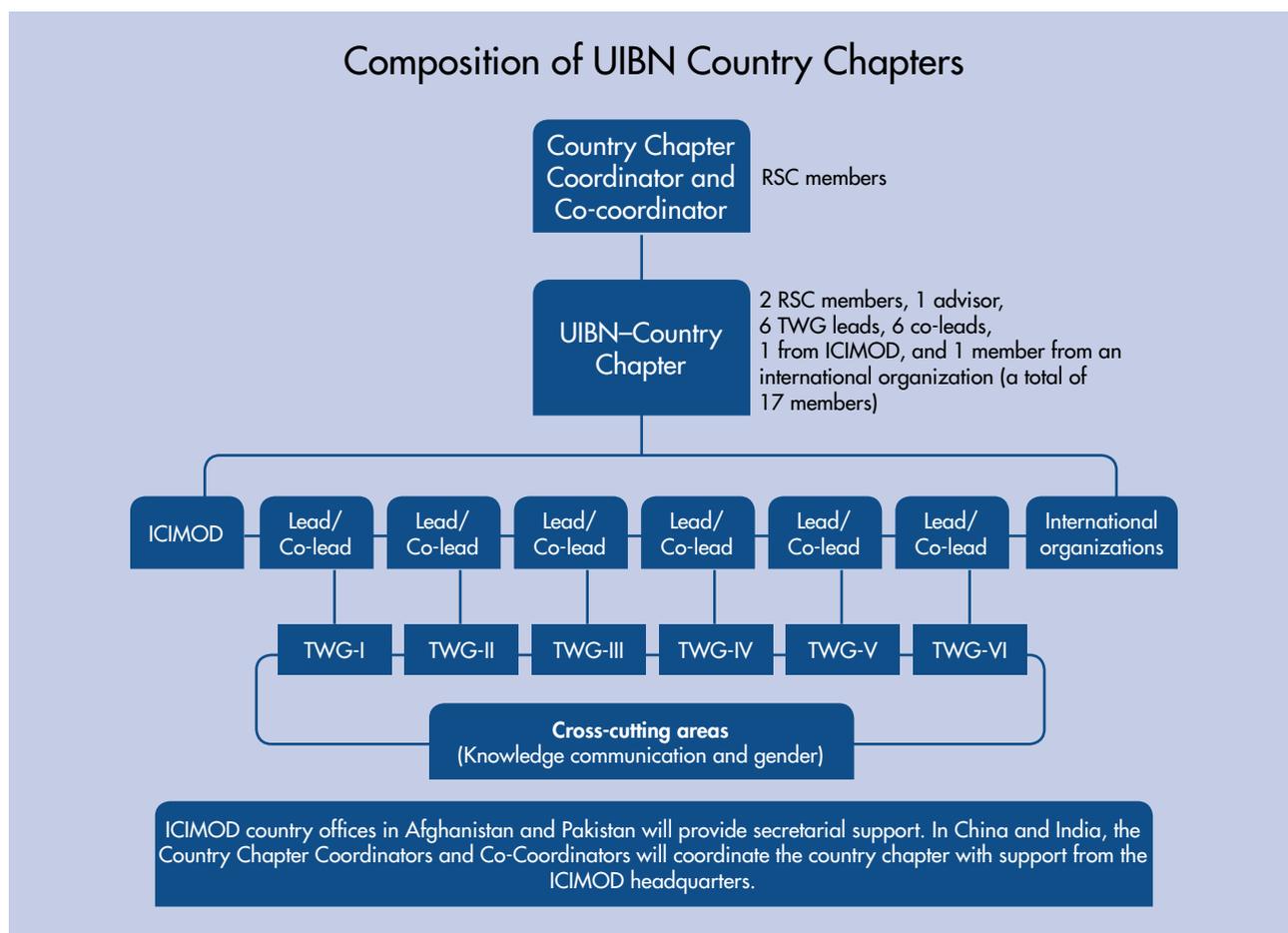


Figure 1: Composition of UIBN Country Chapters taken from “Governance Framework – Upper Indus Basin Network”. Refer to page 5 of the framework document for further details.

Country Chapter composition

The setup of the CC is as follows: there are 17 members in total –two RSC members, six TWG leads, six TWG co-leads, one advisor, one member from ICIMOD, and one representative from a relevant international research/development organization.

New members are to be recommended to the respective strategic committee through their secretariat with a short profile of the candidate for further discussion and final approval based on the set criteria developed by the strategic committee.

The memberships are to be reviewed every two years in order to assess new entries, the status of the membership, attendance, contributions, and proactiveness. The total membership should not exceed a certain number, which is to be decided by the county strategic committee. Hence, the entry and exit of members should be equally proportionate, to keep the total number of members within the agreed limit.

The Regional Strategic Committee

The role of the RSC would be to enable closer coordination among the CCs and the TWGs, as well as to offer value-added inputs of strategic significance for the functioning of the TWGs. These include but are not limited to providing technical details on funding proposals, knowledge products, and promotion of gender inclusion, as well as facilitating new members into the UIBN.¹ An important session during the workshop was about how to take a deeper look at the RSC roles which would ultimately lead to the network meeting its strategic objectives. It was also discussed that the role of the RSCs should be shared by the eleven members.

The participants were briefed by the RSC chair, Khalid Mohtadullah, about the strategic leadership that the committee would provide in the future functioning of the UIBN. Based on the previous day's discussions, a few points to note:

- According to the governance framework, the position of the RSC chairman would be occupied in turns by representatives from the member countries in alphabetical order – Afghanistan, China, India, and then Pakistan. However, the members from Afghanistan requested that the current chairman, Khalid Mohtadullah, continue his tenure for one more year, following which a representative from the Afghanistan CC would take over.
- DFAT would recommend one person from its organization to serve as an advisor to the UIBN.
- The RSC members agreed that there is a willingness on the part of all the member countries to work together on a systematic approach to increase coordination.
- Although the work is largely voluntary in nature, the onus of managing country-level research activities lies on the respective countries, i.e., the process of the network will be led by the respective country chapter activities.
- Sharing of best practices is encouraged among the country members for better inter and intra coordination.
- To ensure that the strategic goals are met, a performance evaluation matrix is to be developed that tracks the changes in the UIBN. And any work that is carried out could use the existing research outcomes from each of the CCs which are linked to activities that foster sustainable development goals (SDGs).
- Thematic groups will implement the working plans. Group members are encouraged to guide decision-making processes by actively participating in planning discussions where they can provide critical inputs to the RSC to ensure that an inclusive, bottom-up approach to governance is implemented in the UIBN.
- Regional annual meetings are to be held once a year.



¹ For further details, refer to page 8 of the "Governance Framework – Upper Indus Basin Network" document.

RSC Members

1	Khalid Mohtadullah	Chair, UIBN	Chair, UIBN
2	Farhad Noorzai	Coordinator, AC	Director of Water Programme Department, Ministry of Energy and Water, Afghanistan
3	Mohammad Tayib Bromand	Co-Coordinator, AC	Water Resource and Climate Change Adaptation Specialist, Ministry of Energy and Water, Afghanistan
4	Liu Shiyin	Coordinator, CC	Glaciologist, Yunnan University, China
5	Tain Lide	Co-Coordinator, CC	Professor, CAS Institute of Tibetan Plateau Research, China
6	A.P. Dimri	Coordinator, IC	Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India
7	Farhat Shaheen	Co-Coordinator, IC	Scientist, Division of Agricultural Economics and Marketing, Kashmir University
8	Muhammad Riaz	Coordinator, PC	GD, Pakistan Meteorological Department
9	Ms Hina Lotia	Co-Coordinator, PC	Programme Director, LEAD Pakistan
10	Neera Shrestha	Member, ICIMOD	Water and Adaptation Specialist, ICIMOD, Kathmandu
11	TBC	DFAT or CSIRO	TBC

UIBN Advisors

1	Mohammad Rafi Qazizada	Advisor, Afghanistan	DG, Natural Resource Management, Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock, Afghanistan
2	Anil Kulkarni	Advisor, India	Distinguished Visiting Scientist, Divecha Centre for Climate Change, Centre for Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences, Indian Institute of Science
3	Nisar A. Memon	Advisor, Pakistan	Chair, Water Environment Forum, Pakistan
4	Arun B. Shrestha	Advisor, ICIMOD	Regional Programme Manager, ICIMOD, Kathmandu

Advisors from China, and DFAT are to be nominated as well.

Formation of the country chapters

A final outcome of the UIBN workshop was the formation of the China and India CCs. Along with this, the roles and actions to be undertaken by the CCs of Pakistan and Afghanistan were also discussed. The details of the individual CCs are given below.

Afghanistan Country Chapter Meeting

The main objectives of the Afghanistan CC meeting were to review the structure of the CC and discuss the outcomes of the New Delhi meeting which was organized in October 2018 to review the progress made by the TWGs.

A major achievement noted by the members was the increased interest of organizations to be a member of the six TWGs and contribute to them. Owing to the smoother coordination among organizations and institutions, the Afghanistan CC has progressed quickly.

Some of the pertinent issues, as presented by the leads of the TWGs, were: the gaps in meteorological data; the quality of available data; and the retrieval of missing data. In line with this, a study on the impacts of climate change on the water resources of the Kabul basin was shared by the lead of TWG 2. TWG 4 and 6 shared their detailed study plans on adaptation measures which combine social, economic and gender aspects.

The participants pointed to the following solutions for the issues that need to be tackled by the Afghanistan CC:

- involving more partners in the TWGs and exploring who is doing what;
- developing a standard methodology/approach for data collection and sharing;
- presenting any issue the TWGs are facing to the Technical Secretariat of Land, Environment and Water; and
- coordinating with the relevant agencies and requesting them to share the available data

The next meeting is scheduled for 16 February 2019, in Kabul, where each of the TWGs will present their work plans/matrices and the list of additional members.

Pakistan Country Chapter Meeting

The chair of the Pakistan CC presented the outcomes of the previous meetings held in Islamabad on 29 November 2018 and 14 January 2019. The major outcomes of these meeting were the establishment of the governance body of the Pakistan chapter, including the appointment of the leads and co-leads of the TWGs, coordinator, co-coordinator, and advisors.

The participants arrived at a consensus on the selection of the RSC members and advisors. The TWG leads and co-leads defined the way forward and chalked action plans for their groups in the context of the relevant research questions, as well as relevant country-level government policies and strategies.

It was agreed upon that the members of the TWGs will coordinate on sharing of knowledge and understanding of research issues, as well as on offering solutions. It was felt that this level of coordination is essential within and among the TWGs to ensure better results. The TWG leads and co-leads will now be responsible for preparing the TWG progress report by following the simple reporting template (provided below) and then share it with the regional UIBN Secretariat twice a year, ahead of the RSC biannual meetings.

Each of the TWG lead and co-leads will share and discuss the progress report of their group with other TWGs at the UIBN CC and regional meetings.

Upper Indus Basin Network (UIBN) Technical Working Group (TWG) Reporting Template

Reporting period: From <input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/>		To <input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/>	Country <input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/>
Name of TWG _____			Co-Lead <input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/>
Activity update <i>(What, when, where, and why)</i>		Partners and their role <i>(Who and how)</i>	
Further opportunities/ upcoming events <i>(What next)</i>		Challenges	
Activity 1.2	Activity:		
Activity update <i>(What, when, where, and why)</i>		Partners and their role <i>(Who and how)</i>	
Further opportunities/ upcoming events <i>(What next)</i>		Challenges	

Significantly, one of the action points is the inclusion of more women in the TWGs. At the moment, women's representation is inadequate in a setup where there are nominated government officials in each of the working groups.

The next meeting is scheduled for 28 March 2019, which LEAD Pakistan has offered to host.

China and India Country Chapter Inception

The workshop also saw the formation of CCs for China and India, along the lines of the existing Pakistan and Afghanistan CCs. The discussions began by identifying the members and member institutions, which were followed by a submission of the list of members and a draft plan of action.

China Country Chapter

Action Plan:

- To enable a wider network for the China CC, the leads will attempt to recruit as many members as possible in the TWGs.
- Further meetings will discuss the structure of the CC, following which an annual report shall be prepared.
- Establish, if possible, a data management service overseen by the Chinese members.
- The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for the first or second weekend of April depending on the availability of the recommended members. A quarterly meeting, either face-to-face or via WeChat/Skype, has also been proposed.

Reflections

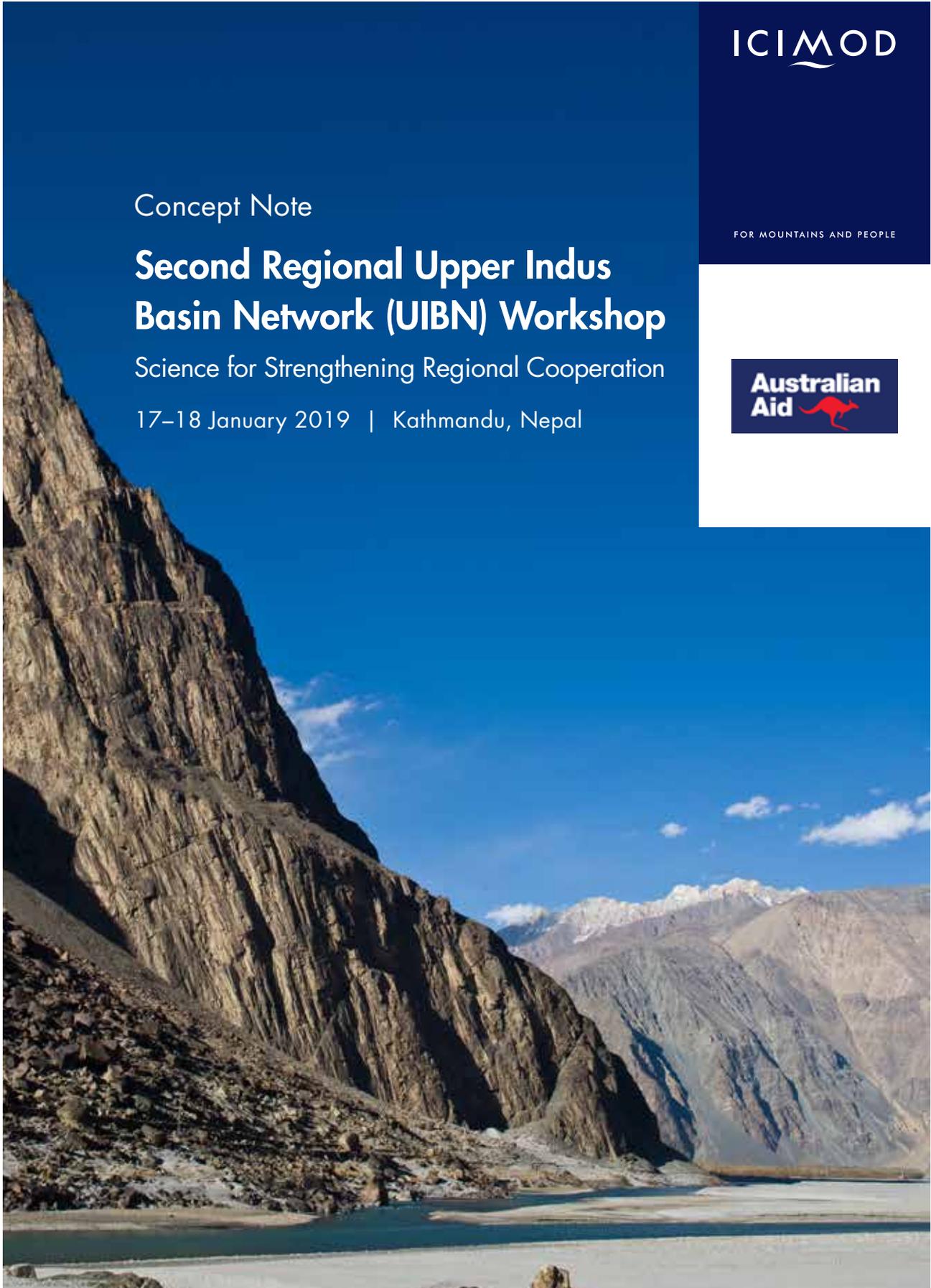
As noted by a member of the Pakistan CC, the Chinese researchers could bank on existing academic networks such as the collaboration between Karakoram International University and Tibet University.

One of the participants pointed out that the members whose names were recommended were mostly from the academia. A concern was also raised over the inclusion of the government sector, and it was decided that this will need further discussions as a number of procedural matters have to be dealt with in finding experts from the governmental sector.

India Country Chapter

Action Plan:

- The primary areas of focus will be to synthesize the available knowledge and information across the TWGs, as well as assess gaps and opportunities, thereby paving way for recommendations for the future. For this purpose, two potential members have been identified.
- The first India-level UIBN CC meeting will be held in New Delhi on 19 April 2019.



Concept Note

Second Regional Upper Indus Basin Network (UIBN) Workshop

Science for Strengthening Regional Cooperation

17–18 January 2019 | Kathmandu, Nepal

ICIMOD

FOR MOUNTAINS AND PEOPLE

Australian Aid 

BACKGROUND

The Upper Indus Basin (UIB), shared by Afghanistan, China, India, and Pakistan, has been facing the impacts of climate change on its water resources and allied sectors. The basin is crucial for all the riparian countries and they face many common challenges and opportunities when working together to manage water resources and water-induced risks such as floods, glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs), and erosion.

The Upper Indus Basin Network (UIBN), with six Technical Working Groups (TWGs), was established in 2014 to promote coordination and collaboration among organizations working in the UIB; to improve understanding of water availability, demand, and associated hazards; and to develop gender sensitive solutions for all stakeholders. The People's Republic of China has been an active member of the network and leads one of the six TWGs – on hydrology, water availability, and basin-scale water demand. The UIBN has been playing an important role in promoting a shared understanding of regional challenges and opportunities, and fostering coordination among researchers working in the region to deal with the effects of climate change on water resources as well as upstream/downstream linkages.

The UIBN has been active in Pakistan since its establishment. The first regional UIBN workshop on “Enhancing Science Based Regional Cooperation” was organized in Kathmandu on 24–25 April 2018 where participants from different government and non-government organizations of Afghanistan, China, India, Pakistan, and other international research and academic organizations agreed to use the UIBN as a regional platform to discuss emerging issues and potential solutions related to the UIB. The major outcomes of the workshop included revision of the network's governance structure, a proposal for the formation of country chapters, and formation of an ad-hoc Strategic Committee for six months and a permanent Strategic Committee thereafter.

With this mandate from the UIBN workshop in Kathmandu, ICIMOD, as a secretariat of the network, has been supporting UIBN member countries in establishing the regional network and an ad-hoc Strategic Committee in drafting the UIBN governance structure.

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE OF REGIONAL UIBN

The governance structure of the Regional UIBN consists of:

i. Regional Strategic Committee

A Regional Strategic Committee (RSC), headed by a Chairperson, will govern the Regional UIBN. The RSC will comprise of eleven members including two members (coordinator and

co-coordinator) from each member country, one member from any relevant international organization and two members from ICIMOD. The Chairperson of the RSC will be selected for three years and the position will be rotated among the member countries alphabetically. Additionally, a group of six advisors (one from each member country and two from any relevant international organizations) will be nominated/suggested by UIBN members to provide technical and strategic support to the RSC as and when needed. The RSC meeting will be held biannually to assess the network's functioning, provide strategic guidance to the UIBN country chapters, and to discuss future course of action. The RSC members and advisors will serve for three years.

ii. Country Chapters and Strategic Committee

The governance structure of the Regional UIBN is rooted in the member countries. Each member country will have its UIBN Country Chapter comprising of a coordinator, a co-coordinator, members of respective TWGs, including its leads and co-leads, and two advisors (one each from the respective country and an international organization). The Country Chapter Strategic Committee will consist of a coordinator, a co-coordinator, and two advisors.

The Coordinator and Co-coordinator will work with the leads and co-leads of each TWG to hold biannual meetings of the country chapter, assess progress, and provide support in achieving the desired objectives. The leads and co-leads of the six TWGs will coordinate regularly with members of the respective working group to assess progress. They will also organize biannual meetings and meet as and when required. Based on these meetings, the UIBN Country Chapter coordinator and co-coordinator will present the progress in the next RSC meeting.

OBJECTIVE OF THE MEETING

With the above background, ICIMOD is planning to organize the second regional UIBN workshop in Kathmandu at the ICIMOD headquarters. The main aim of the workshop is to give the UIBN a regional shape and agree on the governance structure proposed by ad-hoc Strategic Committee.

The major objectives of the UIBN workshop are:

- To endorse the governance structure that has been finalized by the ad-hoc Strategic Committee
- To form a Regional Strategic Committee
- To provide strategic direction for the future of the UIBN
- To discuss functioning of Country Chapters of the UIBN

TENTATIVE AGENDA

DAY 1 (17 January 2019)		
Time	Programme	Facilitator
9:00–9:30	Registration	<i>Ashmita Shakya</i>
9:30–10:30	Opening session <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome remarks by <i>David Molden, DG, ICIMOD (10 minutes)</i> 2. Participants round of introduction 3. Opening remarks by <i>HE Peter Budd, Australian Ambassador to Nepal (10 minutes)</i> 4. Objectives of the meeting : <i>Khalid Mohtadullah, Chair UIBN (10 minutes)</i> 5. Opening remarks of representatives: <i>(20 minutes)</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Afghanistan – <i>Fayezurrahman Azizi</i> b. China – <i>Prof Liu Shiyin</i> c. India – <i>Dr Ashwini Kulkarni</i> d. Pakistan – <i>Senator Nisar Memon</i> 	<i>Arun Shrestha</i> Rapporteurs: <i>Smita Ghimire</i> and <i>Nisha Wagle</i>
10:30–11:00	Group photo and Tea/Coffee Break	
11:00–12:30	Experiences from Indus Basin (10+5 min each) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Importance of Upper Indus Basin for Water and Energy Security of Pakistan • Artificial glacier as a measure to cope with water scarcity in Ladakh, India • Recent changes in western disturbances and possible impacts on water resources of Indus Basin • Experience and lessons-learnt of UIBN in Pakistan 2014-17 • The importance of the UIB in the bigger picture: changing climate and changing demands 	<i>Eklabya Sharma</i> <i>Furrukh Bashir</i> <i>Chewang Norphel</i> <i>AP Dimri</i> <i>Matthias Winiger</i> <i>Susan Cuddy</i> Rapporteurs: <i>Mudassar and Madhav Dhakal</i>
12:30–13:30	Lunch Break	

DAY 2 (18 January 2019)		
Time	Programme	Facilitator
9:00–9:30	Action points and way forward discussed in the RSC meeting Objectives of the session Gender and Social issues in Technical working group Participants split into country chapter groups for parallel sessions	RSC Chair <i>Arun Shrestha</i> <i>Aditya Bastola</i> Rapporteurs: <i>Smita Ghimire</i> and <i>Nisha Wagle</i>

(Working Tea/Coffee in the parallel sessions)

Afghanistan Country Chapter Meeting (parallel)		
Time	Programme	Facilitator
9:30–10:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recap of Afghanistan Country Chapter and outcomes of New Delhi meeting (Oct 2018) Presentation and discussion on progress made by UIBN_AC after New Delhi meeting Discussion on working and reporting mechanism 	Coordinator and Co-coordinators and PO SWaRMA, <i>Ayub Shinwari</i>
10:30–12:15	<p>Technical working group – Group work</p> <p>Detail discussion on each thematic area and the topic of study as discussed in and after New Delhi meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is being done - What are the gaps <p>How UIBN-AC will address the gaps</p>	Rapporteurs: <i>Nargis Mansoor</i> and <i>Madhav Dhakal</i>
12:15–13:00	Afghanistan country chapter SC meeting and way forward	
13:00–13:10	Country Chapter Group Photo	
13:15–14:00	Lunch Break	

Pakistan Country Chapter Meeting (parallel)		
Time	Programme	Facilitator
9:30–10:30	<p>Operationalize Pakistan Country Chapter (Formed in Islamabad on 29th Nov 2018)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Recap of the country chapter meeting outcomes in Islamabad, by the Chair Discussion on the Country Chapter Strategic Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequency of SC meetings SC ToRs Discussion on the Technical Working Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss the criteria for membership TWG ToRs Discuss the TWGs inter/intra coordination Discuss the TWGs reporting mechanism 	<p>Coordinator and Co-coordinators and ICIMOD Pakistan Country Representative, <i>Abdul Wahid Jasra</i></p> <p>Rapporteurs: <i>Mudassar and Ajaz Ali</i></p>
10:30–11:00	<p>Technical working group – Group work (Define way forward and action plan for the respective TWG)</p>	
11:00–12:00	<p>Group work presentations (10 minutes each group)</p>	
12:00–13:10	<p>Pakistan Country chapter SC meeting and Way forward</p>	<i>Khalid Mohtadullah</i>
13:10–13:15	<p>Country Chapter Group Photo</p>	
13:15–14:00	<p>Lunch Break</p>	

China Country Chapter Meeting (parallel)		
Time	Programme	Facilitator
9:30–12:50	<p>Brain storming on the formation of China Country Chapter</p> <p>Plan of country chapter formation Enlist potential members from China for the TWGs Plan to hold a meeting in China to form the country chapter Tentative framework and action plan of the country chapter</p>	<p>Coordinators and Co-coordinators</p> <p>Rapporteurs: <i>Smita Ghimire and Nisha Wagle</i></p>
12:50–12:55	<p>Country Chapter Group Photo</p>	
13:15–14:00	<p>Lunch Break</p>	

India Country Chapter Meeting (parallel)		
Time	Programme	Facilitator
9:30–12:55	Brain storming on the formation of India Country Chapter Plan of country chapter formation Enlist potential members from India for the TWGs Plan to hold a meeting in India to form the country chapter Tentative framework and action plan of the country chapter	Coordinators and Co-coordinators Rapporteurs: <i>Debabrat Sukla</i>
12:55–13:00	Country Chapter Group Photo	
13:15–14:00	Lunch Break	

Plenary Sessions		
Time	Programme	Facilitator
14:00–15:00	Reporting from Country Chapter parallel meetings (8+7 minutes for each Country Coordinator)	Coordinators and Co-coordinators Rapporteurs: <i>Mudassar, Smita Ghimire and Nisha Wagle</i>
15:00–15:20	Presentation on web based Indus Climate Portal	<i>Bikram Shakya</i>
15:20–15:40	Tea/coffee break	
15:40–16:00	Action points and follow-ups	<i>Neera Shrestha Pradhan</i>
16:00–17:00	Closing Session: Remarks by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. UIB-N Chair 2. DG, ICIMOD 3. Afghanistan – Representative 4. China Representative 5. India Representative 6. Pakistan – Representative Closing Remarks: <i>Eklabya Sharma, DDG, ICIMOD</i> Vote of Thanks: <i>Ajaz Ali, ICIMOD</i>	Rapporteurs: <i>Nargis Mansoor and Debabrat Sukla</i>

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