

“UPPER AND LOWER RIPARIAN ISSUES AND OPTIONS”

Workshop 18-19 January, 2011 IUCN

**Beyond Indus Water Treaty
Ground Water and Environmental Management
Policy Issues and Options**

*** How for the topic of the policy brief relates to national priorities?**

- * Generally agreed that it covers the topics of national importance.
- * Information on Pakistan situation is rather scanty and can be elaborated.

*** Are the key issues identified in the Policy Briefs relevant to the topic and the priority nature?**

- * Generally policy issues covers the topic.
- * Drainage water and wastewater which is being discharged into river bodies should also be mentioned as a major issue.
- * Problems of eastern rivers should also be mentioned.

* **Whether the options listed in the policy briefings are of practical nature and viable?**

- * Dialogue should be initiated after complete home work based on scientific data analysis to support our arguments.
- * No need for another organization as mentioned in 4.2 as it will complete the issues.
- * For changing mindset of the people, people to people contact, exchange visits of scientists and civil society persons should be encouraged.
- * An independent commission may be established-consisting of experts of both sides for informal discussions.
- * Mass awareness campaign can be launched jointly.
- * Hydro-power projects monitoring should be given priority. CBMs are needed for trust development especially on data sharing.

* **Any other issues related to Brief?**

- * Issues of minimum flows in eastern rivers for domestic purposes should be discussed especially in low flow times.
- * Comprehensive basin study should be initiated to understand current groundwater situation, water table declines and quality degradation.
- * Brief should discuss how a trustable data set can be established which is acceptable to both countries—a third party monitoring could be an option.
- * Issues pertaining to eastern rivers should also be highlighted as they are equally important.

* **How to improve Policy Brief?**

- * Its size may be further reduced for easy ready.
- * Brief is heavily based on the information and data collected by Indian scientists. It is suggested that references of work done in Pakistan should also be included.
- * Success stories from the world should be made part of the brief as examples.
- * Overall impact of Indian actions on Pakistan should be supported by concrete data and arguments.
- * References should be added for further reading on the issues mentioned in the brief.

* **What IUCN can do more?**

- * IUCN should take lead in internationalizing these issues.
- * Joint think tank should be established—IUCN can facilitate with possible funding from Dutch or other donors.
- * These forums should be made sustainable.
- * IUCN can also facilitate dialogue within Pakistan on these issues to develop consensus.

Thank you

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