





SIGNPOST TO BALI

Women, Wetlands and Climate Resilience in Asia: Policy and other elements for an empowerment roadmap

Gender sensitivity needs to be at the heart of any agenda to manage water, our most precious natural resource essential for our survival. From times immemorial, women have had responsibilities to ensure domestic water security, without often getting any decision-making voices in resource management. The Water Action Agenda declared at UN2023 Water Conference appears to have sidestepped the issue of engaging and empowering women as key stakeholders, to enhance climate resilience and water security around the world. Women for Water Partnership (WfWP), affiliated to UN Water, is advocating for immediate attention to this issue by organising a series of webinars to emphasise women's empowerment - especially in the Asian region. The messages evolving from this series are intended to be communicated at the World Water Forum in Bali in 2024. WfWP, with its Asian partner organisations has named this series of webinars Signpost to Bali.

SCOPE (Society for Creative Opportunities and Participatory Ecosystems) and DISHA (Society for Direct Initiative for Social and Health Action), along with WfWP are organising the first webinar on October 5. *The emphasis is on strengthening women's agency by supporting them in wetland management* – wetlands are endangered resources with immense potential to defend against climate change. The webinar will also discuss roles of extended stakeholders who can provide policy inputs on wetlands and climate resilience.

The webinar on 5 October 2023, Thursday is an effort to bring policy-makers, experts, academicians, and practitioners together to discuss and prepare what may be an implementable agenda to empower women to be wetland conservators.

Conveners:

Women for Water Partnership (WfWP) SCOPE (Society for Creative Opportunities and Participatory Ecosystems) and DISHA (Society for Direct Initiative in Social and Health Action) *WEBINAR via Google meet:* Time – 1 hour 30 minutes (Starting 4.30 PM IST, 1.00 PM CEST, 7.00 AM EDT) *Convenor:* Mariet Verhoef-Cohen, WfWP *Chair:* Kusum Athukorala, Chairperson, GWP-SAS (Global Water Partnership – South Asia) *Summing up:* Christiaan Morssink, President, Global Water Alliance



Slogan coined by Dhruba Das Gupta Conceptualisation and design by Amit Roy

Speakers:

- Neelam Meena, Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of West Bengal
- Shilpa Nandy, Member, DISHA (Society for Direct Initiative in Social and Health Action), Dakshinbanga Matsyajibi Forum (South Bengal Fishermen's Forum) and National Platform for Small Scale Fishworkers (NPSSFW)
- K V Jayakumar, Member, Governing Body, Wetlands International South Asia and Former Emeritus Professor at National Institute of Technology, Warangal
- **Dhruba Das Gupta**, Project Director, Society for Creative Opportunities and Participatory Ecosystems (SCOPE)

To register, please fill up the form here https://forms.gle/djRRRoNVATWhcGLU6

Since we have limited capacity, kindly register early

If there are any queries, kindly write in to meeting.scope@gmail.com