



OPENING REMARKS



Ms. Åsa Heljón,
Counsellor Programme
Manager-Environment
and Climate,
Embassy of Sweden,
Bangkok, Thailand

OUR SPEAKERS



Ms. Gitika Goswami,
Senior Programme Director -
Policy Research and Planning,
Development Alternatives Group, India



Mr. Vishwaranjan Sinha,
Programme Officer,
Water and Wetlands,
South Asia, IUCN

A SUPER INTERACTIVE SESSION ON INTEGRATING INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE IN THE DESIGN OF NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS (NbS)

Date & Time: 25 AUGUST 2021 @ 13:00-14:25 CEST/04:30PM-05:55PM IST

TROSA @ WORLD WATER WEEK

Rivers-Rights-Resilience

OUR MODERATORS



Mr. Jyotsna Patra,
Project Manager,
TROSA, Oxfam



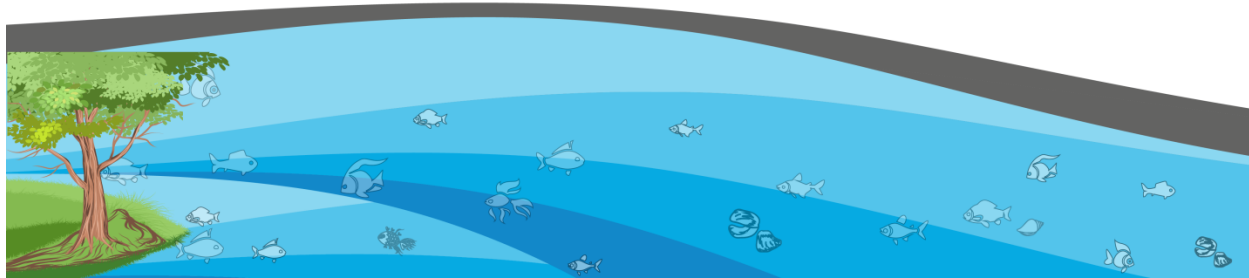
Ms. Khadiza Tul Kubra Nain,
Youth Basin Ambassador (YBA),
TROSA



Ms. Pratibha Brahma,
Community Leader,
NERSWN, Assam, India



Ms. Nuzhat Nueary,
Project Officer-Stakeholder
Engagement for Water Cooperation,
Oxfam in Bangladesh



An Interactive Session on Integrating Indigenous Knowledge in the Design of Nature-Based Solution (NbS)

Transboundary rivers of South Asia (TROSA) project of Oxfam along with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and other partners organised an event during World Water Week 2021 to highlight the lessons learnt from some of the Nature-based Solutions (NbS) and to identify potential opportunities to scale up such approaches at various levels. Speakers at the event were Mr. Vishwaranjan Sinha, Programme Officer, Water and Wetlands, South Asia, IUCN; Ms. Nuzhat Nueary, Project Officer-Stakeholder Engagement for Water Cooperation, Oxfam in Bangladesh; Ms. Pratibha Brahma, Community Leader, NERSWN, Assam, India; **Ms. Gitika Goswami, Senior Programme Director - Policy Research and Planning, Development Alternatives Group**, India and Mr. Rajan Subedi, Project Manager- River Basins, Oxfam in Nepal. This platform was used by representatives from different CSOs to share their work and experiences on Ganga-Brahmaputra-Meghna (GBM) river basin, mechanisms for the integration of indigenous knowledge, governance systems in nature-based solutions (NbS) design, and implementation for water governance.

Gitika in her presentation showcased the Development Alternatives study that has evaluated nature-based solutions (NbS) design in West Bengal as a part of the capacity building support to local CSOs. This project was implemented by Development Research Communication Service Centre (DRCSC) in Bankura and Purulia districts of West Bengal. In these two districts, DRCSC implemented some Nature based Solutions by synergizing indigenous knowledge of the communities with the scientific knowledge and revitalized the entire agricultural ecosystem of the semiarid region which not only helped the communities in terms of livelihoods improvements but also it helped in the improvement of the nutritional status of the families, social cohesion and overall improvement of the ecology of the area. The learnings from the project highlighted the need involving communities at the conceptualization stage and putting women at the forefront and bringing their voices at the decision-making level. This

project could be a flagship project for land based semi-arid regions in India and across South-East Asian countries.