

## Third South Asia Water Research Conference

# Innovative Modeling Approaches for IWRM

May 24-26, 2008

Dhaka, Bangladesh

Organized by

SaciWATERs, Hyderabad, India;

Institute of Water and Flood Management,

Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology; and

Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies

### Background

The process of IWRM involves decision making based on information on the natural, economic, socio-political and institutional systems. In this process, it is often essential to synthesize and analyze the information in order to predict the impacts of management interventions, assess the risk and uncertainty in resource management, evaluate unknown decision variables, and optimize resource allocation. Modeling frameworks and decision support systems, which address the hydrological, environmental, economic, social, institutional and legal aspects of water in an integrated way, are useful tools for this purpose.

A model is a simplified representation of a system that provides a basis for analysis of information. Although a model popularly means a mathematical representation usually manipulated by a computer, IWRM modeling approaches may also include other techniques. Significant advancements have been made in hydrological and water quality modeling contributing efficiently in a modeling framework for IWRM. However, other aspects of IWRM modeling approaches including environmental, social, economic and institutional aspects need further improvements.

Water resources management in South Asia is challenging because of its diverse natural settings and complex institutional systems shaped by unique socio-political dimensions. The need for integrated approaches to modeling is often ignored in this challenging process, resulting in faulty policy formulation and decision making. This conference aims at bringing together the advances in IWRM modeling in this region, creating an opportunity to share knowledge, and finding future directions of modeling for IWRM in South Asia.

### Conference Theme

In general, the conference will address modeling approaches towards IWRM. The papers may address the following more specific themes:

- Participatory modeling approaches involving stakeholders in model development exercises, thereby incorporating local knowledge and understanding of the system and ensuring local-level participation in decision making;
- Simulation and modeling approaches for social dimensions;
- Modeling approaches for Hydro-economic and management;
- Ecological, hydrological and water quality modeling approaches;
- Physical modeling approaches that provide a physical representation of the water resources systems, that accounts for the natural and anthropogenic forcing functions, and is useful in analysis and prediction of the system response;
- GIS-based modeling approaches for simulation of impacts under various management options and strategies;
- Modeling approaches for water security in changing climate;
- Impact modeling of large dams and diversions.

### Abstract and Paper Submission

Original research papers are being invited from researchers, professionals, decision makers, policy makers, government officials, NGO staff and other practitioners in South Asian countries. Abstracts of about 350 words along with title of the paper, 5 keywords, names and affiliations of the authors, and name, contact address, email address and brief curriculum vitae of the presenting author should be sent to the Conference Coordinator by December 31, 2007. Authors of the selected abstracts will be invited to submit full papers. The proceedings of the conference will be published by SaciWATERs.

### Financial Support

Twenty papers will be selected for the conference. The presenting authors will be awarded financial support to cover travel, accommodation and per diem.

### Venue

The conference will be held during May 24-26, 2008 at Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

### Important Dates

Deadline for abstract submission: December 31, 2007  
Notification of abstract acceptance: January 15, 2008  
Deadline for full-paper submission: April 15, 2008  
Notification of full-paper acceptance: April 30, 2008

### Contact Address

Coordinator

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