

**Project Launch Meeting**

**Expanding Tradable Benefits of Trans-boundary Water: Promoting Navigational Usage of Inland Waterways in Ganga and Brahmaputra Basins**

The Lily Hotel, Guwahati, India

Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2016

**Agenda**

<b>09:00 – 09:30</b>	<b>Registration</b>
<b>09:30 – 10:00</b>	<p><b>Opening</b> <i>Introduction about the project and its importance for the BBIN region</i></p> <p><b>Welcome Remarks</b> Bipul Chatterjee, Executive Director, CUTS International</p> <p><b>Introductory Remarks</b> Aditya Pillai, Program Officer, The Asia Foundation</p> <p><b>Keynote Address</b> Arup Kumar Dutta, Senior Journalist, Guwahati</p> <p><b>Opening Address</b> Bharat Bushan Dev Choudhury, Director, Inland Water Transport, Department of Transport, Government of Assam</p>
<b>10:00 – 10:15</b>	<b>Tea/Coffee</b>
<b>10:15 – 11:45</b>	<p><b><i>Work Plan - Activities, Outputs and Outcomes</i></b></p> <p><b>Chair</b> Dina Mani Pokharel, Senior Environmental Lawyer, National Law College Nepal &amp; Member Secretary, ISET-Nepal</p> <p><b>Presentation</b> Veena Vidyadharan, Policy Analyst, CUTS International and Deputy Head, CUTS Centre for International Trade, Economics &amp; Environment</p> <p><b>Discussants</b> Mini Bhattacharyya Thakur, Head, Department of Anthropology, Guwahati University Abhinandan Saikia, Assistant Professor, Tata Institute of Social Science Sobhanlal Bonnerjee, Principal Architect, S. Bonnerjee and Associates</p> <p><b>General discussion on work plan</b></p>

11:45 – 13:45	<p><b><i>Country-Specific Institutional Analysis of Governing Inland Waterways</i></b></p> <p><b>Chair</b> Dwarika Nath Dhungel, Senior Researcher Social Science, Former Executive Director- IIDS, Former Secretary- Ministry of Water Resources Government of Nepal</p> <p><b>Presentations</b>  <b>Bangladesh:</b> A.K. Enamul Haque, Professor, East-West University, Dhaka and Consultant, Unnayan Shamannay  <b>Bhutan:</b> Kinley Tenzin, Executive Director, Royal Society for Protection of Nature*  <b>Nepal:</b> Dikshya Singh, Research Officer, South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics &amp; Environment  <b>India – Ganges Basin:</b> Rakesh Tiwary, Assistant Professor, A.N. Sinha Institute of Social Studies, Patna (Presented by Saurabh Kumar, Policy Analyst, CUTS International)  <b>India – Brahmaputra Basin:</b> Aneeta Dutta, Assistant Director, Rashtriya Gramin Vikas Nidhi, Guwahati</p> <p><b>Discussants</b> Govinda Sharma Pokharel, Vice Chairperson, Nepal Water Conservation Foundation Nirmalya Choudhury, General Manager – Operations, Assam Bengal Navigation</p> <p><b>General discussion on institutions governing inland waterways</b></p>
13:45 – 14:30	<b>Lunch</b>
14:30 – 16:00	<p><b><i>Scope of Cooperation Under Civil Society Fund in Water Governance and Diplomacy in BBIN Region</i></b></p> <p><b>Chair</b> Shahriar Wahid, Director - Kosi Basin Initiative, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development</p> <p><b>Presentations by CSF/SAWGP collaborators</b> Shilpa Chohan, Partner, Indian Environment Law Organization, New Delhi Vishwaranjan Sinha, Programme Officer, Natural Resources Group, IUCN Asia Regional Office, Bangkok Bibhab Kumar Talukdar, Secretary General &amp; CEO, Aaranyak, Guwahati Arundhati Deka, Research Associate, SaciWATERS, Secunderabad</p> <p><b>Discussants</b> Mreeshi Agarwala, Assistant Professor, Assam Institute of Management Sabyasachi Dutta, Founder Director, Asian Confluence Sushanta Talukdar, Editor, NEZINE</p> <p><b>General discussion on cooperation among various partners</b></p>
16:00 – 16:15	<b>Tea/Coffee</b>

<b>16:15 – 17:30</b>	<p data-bbox="389 197 1193 230"><i>Monitoring and Evaluation of the Project and Way Forward</i></p> <p data-bbox="389 271 475 300"><b>Chair</b></p> <p data-bbox="389 309 1305 376">Ratnesh Kumar, Management Specialist, United Nations Development Programme, New Delhi, India*</p> <p data-bbox="389 418 695 448"><b>Presentation on M&amp;E</b></p> <p data-bbox="389 456 999 486">Kyle Cote, Policy Analyst, CUTS International</p> <p data-bbox="389 528 587 557"><b>Way Forward</b></p> <p data-bbox="389 566 1070 595">Aditya Pillai, Program Officer, The Asia Foundation</p> <p data-bbox="389 604 1134 633">Bipul Chatterjee, Executive Director, CUTS International</p>
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