

# Regional Consultation on Innovation Strategies for Sustainable Development through Water-Energy-Food Nexus

28-29, June 2017, Bangkok, Thailand

## Role of Knowledge Networks in Promoting Partnerships in W-E-F

**Satyabrata Sahu, Ph.D.**

Coordinator – Technology Intelligence

APCTT-ESCAP

# Outline

1. W-E-F focus areas
2. Complex interrelationships in W-E-F Nexus
3. Regional cooperation and networking
4. Knowledge networks in W-E-F Nexus – Rationale, objectives and characteristics
5. Concluding remarks

# W-E-F focus areas

- Water security (SDG 6): Access to safe drinking water and sanitation
- Energy security (SDG 7): Access to clean, reliable and affordable energy services for cooking and heating, lighting, communications and productive uses
- Food security (SDG-2): Food availability, access, utilization and stability

# Regional cooperation and networking in W-E-F Nexus

- Addressing data gaps with the Nexus
- Evidence-based policy making
- Linking scientific research and policy making
- Capacity development in research, innovation and management
- Exchange of knowledge, experience and best practices
- Forum for dialogue, mutual learning, and cooperative problem-solving
- Promote trans-boundary governance mechanisms

# Knowledge Networks

- “**Knowledge networks**” are collections of individuals, institutions, and teams who come together across organizational, spatial and disciplinary boundaries to develop and share a body of knowledge.
- The **focus** of knowledge networks is usually on developing, distributing and applying knowledge.

# Rationale for knowledge networks in W-E-F Nexus

Given the multidimensional and complex nature of the nexus,

- A transdisciplinary approach to knowledge development through co-production

is needed...

- To timely and effectively inform the decision making processes.

# Participatory approaches for knowledge sharing in W-E-F nexus

- **COLLABORATION AND COORDINATION** - to achieve holistic success across sectors
- **STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT** - to ensure that nexus policies and practices are environmental sustainable and socially acceptable
- **PARTICIPATORY PLANNING** - is a cyclic process with constant internal feedbacks from stakeholders contributing to the planning and implementation process.
- **COMMUNICATION** - to provide the most appropriate and robust evidence to the decision makers at all levels within the nexus.

# W-E-F Knowledge Network Objectives

## Technical assistance

- Influence **resilient policy and decision-making** as a means to enhance good governance and policy coherence across the W-E-F nexus
- **Integrated resource management** for food, energy and water
- **Information sharing**

## Advocacy

- Work with leaders and negotiators of developing countries to help them become better informed and more skilled actors in the **international negotiating** arena

## Research

- Collaborative **research and co-production of knowledge**
- Support **demand-led, policy-relevant, applied research projects**, led and implemented by universities, private sector, NGOs and international agencies

# W-E-F Knowledge Networks

## Vital characteristics

- A tool that makes it possible to connect all three sources of knowledge – Water, Energy and Food
- Bringing together of technical and specialized skills and expertise to provide solutions for the challenges being faced by countries and their stakeholders
- Harnessing of technical and specialized knowledge located beyond the borders of the countries
- Engagement of end-users and local communities, as a part of the design and implementation of plans and programmes in the nexus

# W-E-F Knowledge Networks

## Repository of vital information

- **Policy instruments** guiding sustainable development within the nexus
- **Case studies, experiences and innovative models** that address resource challenges through new technologies and delivery mechanisms
- **Profiles of critical nexus ecosystems** and their characteristics
- **News headlines and meetings**
- **Searchable databases** of experts, partner organizations and donor organizations

# Concluding remarks

- ❑ Complex interrelationships and interdependence between the three sectors require establishment of knowledge networks to enable sharing of information, experience and best practices
- ❑ Regional cooperation and knowledge networking is necessary to address transboundary governance issues related to Water, Energy and Food
- ❑ Knowledge networks are required to promote coordination and collaboration across the three sectors
- ❑ Knowledge networks would help enhance skills for coherent policy making, international negotiations, as well as research, innovation and coproduction of knowledge

# Thank You

[www.apcctt.org](http://www.apcctt.org)



[facebook.com/unapcctt](https://facebook.com/unapcctt)



[twitter.com/unapcctt](https://twitter.com/unapcctt)

