Freshwater Action Network South Asia

Advocacy Influencing Training Workshop Report

15-17 April 2024

Kathmandu Nepal

Prepared by:

FANSA Regional Secretariat

Kathmandu Nepal

Table of Contents

1. Background of FANSA 1
1.1 Background of the "Rising for the Rights (R4R)" Project 1
2. Overview of Advocacy Influencing Training Workshop 2
2.1. Objectives of the Training Workshop 2
2.2 Training Participants 3
2.3. Pre-workshop preparation and assignments 3
2.4. Training Methodology 3
3. DAY 1: Advocacy Fundamentals and Power Thinking 4
3.1. Welcome Remarks 4
3.2. Objective Sharing 4
3.3. Participants Introduction 4
3.4. Coverage of Module 1 4
3.5. Session I: Country Teams Fundamentals: Country wise group work 5
3.6. Session II: Advocacy Fundamentals and Power thinking 5
3.7. Session III: Country Group Work: Power Mapping/Power Analysis 5
3.8. DAY 1-Participant Feedback 7
4. DAY 2: System Thinking and Future Thinking 8
4.1. Coverage of Module 2 8
4.2. Session IV: Sharing and Reflection on the Case studies 9
4.3. Session V: System thinking and System Mapping 9
4.4. Session VI: Country Group Work: System Mapping 9
4.5. Session VII: Futures Thinking and Contextual environment analysis and scenarios 10
4.6. Session VIII: Country Group Work: Scenario 10
4.7. Session IX: Mobilizing and Organizing 10
4.8. Session X: Country Group Work: Ambition and Limitation of FANSA 11
4.9. DAY 2-Participant Feedback 12
5. DAY 3 Strategy Framework Development 13
5.1. Session XI Country Group Exercise: Possible mitigation of limitation and blockers 13
5.2. Session XII: Advocacy Strategy 13
5.3. Session XIII: Group Work: Developing Theory of Change (ToC) 13
5.4. Session XIV: Panel discussion on Alliance building, Networking and Partnership 14
6. Next Step: Action Plan 16
7. Closing Remarks 16
8. Conclusion 16
9. DAY 3 Participant Feedback 17
10. Online Session: Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) 17
ANNEX 1: List of Participants 18
ANNEX 2: Agenda of the Training Workshop 21

ANNEX 3: Photo Gallery 24
ANNEX 4: Day wise presentation 25

1. Background of FANSA

Freshwater Action Network South Asia (FANSA) is a network of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) active in the WASH sector in South Asia with representation from eight countries of South Asia, (i.e., Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka). It was formally launched in 2008 mainly with the purpose of facilitating effective engagement of CSOs in national, regional, and international policy-making processes and to ensure accessible water and sanitation services to all Leaving No One Behind. FANSA is engaged in empowering community leaders and civil society organizations to engage to support influence policies, processes, and institutions responsible effectively and collectively for ensuring access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene for everyone. FANSA is governed by the Regional Steering Committee headed by the Regional Convenor. Currently, National Convenor from seven countries namely Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka are represented in the Regional Steering Committee. All National chapters of FANSA have different organizations as members.

Over the past one and half decade, FANSA has grown to be a known and recognized forum for supporting CSOs' and most marginalized communities at all levels. FANSA has pioneered the practice of "bringing the community voices" to the Regional and Global platforms to sensitize and influence the highest political and administrative authorities by directly listening to their issues, concerns, and recommendations". The concept to establish the South Asia regional civil society organization's network evolved during FANSA global meeting. Currently FANSA has a network of 500 plus organizations working in the sector of water and sanitation across the South Asia region. The network is active in implementing and influencing water and sanitation policy and practice around the region. FANSA, through its programs and alignment with regional and global agendas such as the UN resolution on the 'Rights to Water and Sanitation' and UN Sustainable Development Goals, as well as its ongoing collaboration will continue to contribute towards achieving the target to provide universal access to sanitation and water by 2030 in South Asia, by bridging regional boundaries and facilitating dialogue between policymakers, practitioners, researchers, media and other stakeholders.

1.1 Background of the "Rising for the Rights (R4R)" Project

"Rising for the Rights: Strengthening CSOs in South Asia to Achieve SDG 6" is a project funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, operational since December 2022 in all seven South Asian countries [Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka], by FANSA (Freshwater Action Network South Asia) with its Regional Secretariat in Nepal. The project aims to strengthen the Civil Society Network across South Asia, fostering unified endeavours to accomplish SDG 6 by expanding City-Wide Inclusive Sanitation (CWIS). The project's measurable impact revolves around ensuring the underprivileged, vulnerable, and marginalized communities have equitable access to safe Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) services with the execution of CWIS initiatives. Targeted groups include low-income communities, marginalized individuals, women, people with diverse sexual identities, and sanitation workers.

Employing a multifaceted strategic approach, the project involves advocating for policy action, strengthening accountability mechanisms, and strengthening FANSA as a vibrant advocacy network to amplify community voices. Eventually the project's impact manifests in increased access to safely managed sanitation services (SMSS) for the specified populations across the South Asia Region. Key partners and stakeholders of the R4R project encompass various sectors, including governmental entities at local, subnational, and national levels, community networks, Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), academic and research institutions, private sectors for collective actions. Besides, multilateral/bilateral agencies, domestic and global private philanthropies, and other donors etc. are also the targeted audiences of this project.

2. Overview of Advocacy Influencing Training Workshop

To tackle the persistent challenges in City wide Inclusive Sanitation (CWIS), evidence-based advocacy is imperative for driving policy changes. Thus, FANSA Regional meticulously organized advocacy influencing training works spanning three days, held from 15-17 April 2024 in Kathmandu Nepal. The training workshop was specifically tailored for the FANSA members' and implementing partners of the 'Rising for Rights' project operating throughout South Asia. The training was aimed to upscale skills of the partners to develop advocacy strategy tailored to their respective country contexts.

Training Module	**Advocacy Influencing Training Workshop**
Organizer	FANSA Regional Secretariat
Date	15-17 April 2024
Platform	Physical
Time	9:00 am- 5:00 pm (each day 8-9 hours)
Participants	FANSA National Chapters; Bangladesh; Bhutan; India; Maldives; Nepal; Pakistan and Sri Lanka
Resource Person	Ramesh Singh Malla
Co-Facilitator	Samira Shakya
Overall Guidance	Lajana Manandhar and Kabir Das Rajbhandari
Coordination and Documentation	Prajina Maharjan and Newton Maharjan

2.1. Objectives of the Training Workshop

The overall objectives of the training workshop are multi-folded as follows:

- Develop a shared knowledge/understanding/skills about the concepts, practices, language and tools and methods for advocacy- campaigning-influencing.
- Develop a shared understanding/knowledge/skills about the strategy preparations, process and product required for developing Advocacy Strategy.
- Learn from each-others' in the workshop advocacy contexts, focus and efforts, so far, especially at the frontlines-but also at state or province or national levels, as relevant.
- Agree an action plan, including periodic follow-up, for participants and the process for the next 18 months broadly and next 6 months in more focus.

2.2 Training Participants

A total of 34 participants, comprising 16 females and 18 males from FANSA members across South Asia, attended the training workshop (please refer to ANNEX 1 for details). The breakdown of participants country wise is as follows:

a. Bangladesh: 4 participants (1 female, 3 male)

b. Bhutan:1 participant (1 male)

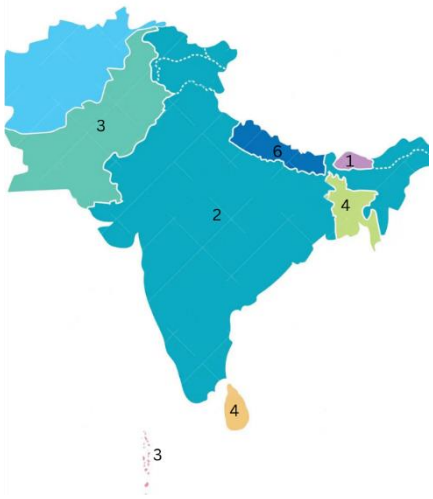
c. India: 2 participants (1 female, 1 male)

d. Maldives: 3 participants (1 female, 2 male)

e. Nepal: 7 participants (2 female, 5 male)

f. Pakistan: 3 participants (1 female, 2 male)

g. Sri Lanka: 4 participants (4 female)



In addition to the FANSA participants mentioned above, there were also observers from Lumanti (2 participants- 2 female) and eight members (4 female, 4 male) of the organizer team from FANSA Regional Secretariat. The enthusiasm and active engagement demonstrated by the participants throughout the training workshop was highly appreciated.

2.3. Pre-workshop preparation and assignments

The facilitator meticulously curated each training session, which involved one-on-one meetings and discussions with the organizing team, FANSA RS.

To gain insights of the participants, they were given pre-preparatory exercises. For their convenience, a Google form was redesigned to complete these assignments. The facilitator shared these assignments with all participants to ensure a seamless experience.

2.4. Training Methodology

Various methodologies were undertaken to enhance the effectiveness of the training, ensuring proactive engagement of the participants. The following approaches were implemented during the workshop:

a. PowerPoint presentation: The resource person utilized comprehensive PowerPoint presentations to deliver advocacy components.

b. Video documentary: Informative YouTube video documentaries were incorporated to expand the participants' knowledge base.

c. Group exercise: Participants engaged in both country-specific and mixed-group exercises to foster collaboration and learnings. Country specific groups were reflecting, reporting as well as designing and planning work from and for the real life work back home.

d. Gallery walk and Sticky notes comments: Group exercises were showcased in the gallery format, allowing participants to provide comments using sticky notes.

e. Plenary discussion/Brainstorm/ Q&A per session: Each session encouraged participants to share their thoughts, raise queries, and offer suggestions or recommendations.

f. Panel Discussion: In response to participants requests, a panel discussion on Alliance, Networking and Partnership was organized on DAY 3.

3. DAY 1: Advocacy Fundamentals and Power Thinking

3.1. Welcome Remarks

Ms. Lajana Manandhar, Regional Convenor extended a warm welcome to all the participants, emphasizing the training objective to enhance advocacy skills for effectively amplifying the voices of vulnerable and marginalized communities. She further shared the expectation of the training, to convey the acquired knowledge to community leaders. Additionally, she highlighted the goal is not only to ensure that the voices of CSOs are heard but also to empower community leaders to advocate for their rights.

3.2. Objective Sharing

Mr. Kabir Rajbhandari, Regional Coordinator outlined the FANSA missions and Rising for Rights project three crucial outcomes, highlighting the objectives of this training to strengthen FANSA National chapters and its network partners in advocacy initiatives through technical support and transferring skills to make an impact on the lives of vulnerable and marginalized communities.

3.3. Participants Introduction

As an ice breaking session, Ms. Samira Shakya, facilitated an interesting introductory game. Each participants received paired WASH related words where each participants introduced their paired partner sharing their name, passionate about advocating and hobbies. Following the introductory session, Mr. Ramesh Singh Malla took the lead as the resource person in the training workshop.

3.4. Coverage of Module 1

The first module of Day 1 encompassed the following domains:

TABLE 1: Coverage of Module 1

Topics under Module 1	Detailed Coverage
Country Teams Fundamentals: Country wise group work	- Each FANSA Country team state: Mission; values; role; and identity - Gallery walk and Q&A
Advocacy Fundamentals	- Advocacy, Campaigning, Lobbying - Why and What is advocacy? - Advocacy-Campaign-Lobby Comparison - Anchoring advocacy - Advocacy strategy-essentials - What's in the advocacy spectrum? - What is needed for advocacy? - Advocacy ecosystem: who is who - Potential errors or risks - Where does FANSA fit in? - Contextual shifts-disruptions-reconfigurations?
How Change Happens	- The power of social norms - Challenges of social divisions - Different pathways to change
Power thinking: Understanding power	- What is power, bases of social power, expression, forms and sources of power? - Power in roles - Inequity in power dynamics
Power Analysis, Power Mapping for FANSA advocacy-influencing	- Power mapping - Power analysis-power mapping grid
Country group presentation in flip charts	- Gallery Walk and Q&A

3.5. Session I: Country Teams Fundamentals: Country wise group work

In the initial session, each country team including FANSA region was assigned group exercise, to articulate FANSA mission, roles, values and identity from an advocacy and their country perspective. Six country groups and one regional group were formed for this purpose. Participants were provided 25 minutes to outline their fundamentals. Subsequently, group statements were displayed in gallery format, enabling participants to review and provide feedback/comment on the fundamentals of other groups.

After the group work, the facilitator transitioned into a 10-minute plenary session. Here, participants were encouraged to voice any objections or contradictions they may have observed regarding the fundamentals presented in the gallery. This open discussion not only ensured that all perspectives were heard but also served as a catalyst for refining, aligning and strengthening the collective and shared vision of FANSA.

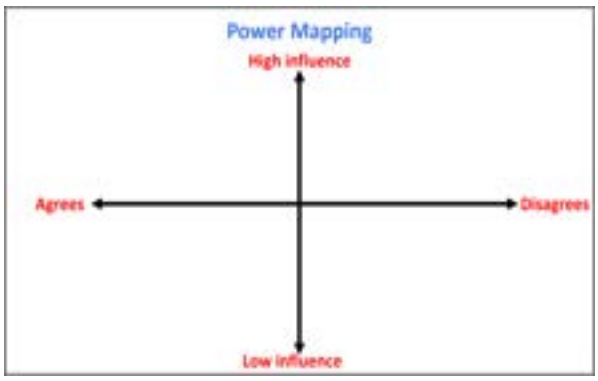
3.6. Session II: Advocacy Fundamentals and Power thinking

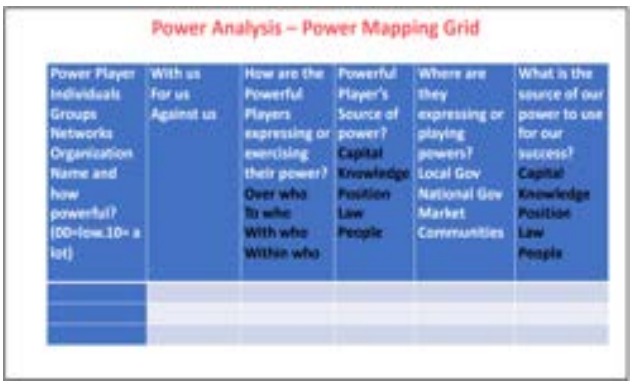
In this pivotal session, participants were engaged into the advocacy fundamentals and power thinking, as detailed in Annex 4. Here facilitator not just share the theoretical part to the participants, but he also provoked for the brainstorming sessions that propelled participants beyond theoretical understanding into practical application.

During this session, participants as a FANSA tended to agree upon some terminology such as to use constituency or primary stakeholders (instead of just broad term of 'stakeholders') to represent marginalized, vulnerable communities, similarly use duty bearers to represent states. These discussions helped the participants to be more alert while using specific terminologies in advocating in their respective countries.

3.7. Session III: Country Group Work: Power Mapping/Power Analysis

The country groups were engaged on the power mapping or power analysis for a specific advocacy agenda. Each group was provided 35 minutes to complete the work. For this, countries were required to select an advocacy agenda they intended to pursue further and identify pertinent institutions and stakeholders crucial for the advocacy's success. This activity helped participants to recognise the power differences and understand whose what kinds of power in what spaces to strategize better while they





were developing the advocacy strategy on DAY 3.

Figure 1: Power Mapping and Power Analysis-Power Mapping Grid

The key insights on the advocacy agenda country group want to achieve along with power mapping/analysis are mentioned below:

1. Effective Utilization of Financial Commission Tied Grants

High Influence/Agree: Ministry of Panchayat Raj; Ministry of Jal Shakti; NITI Aayog; FANSA India; SWA, INGOS, NGOS; Ministry of Housing and urban Affairs	**High Influence/Disagree:** MPs, MLAs, BDOs, DPROs
Low Influence/Agree **Communities; PRIs/GPs**	**Low Influence/Disagree**

2. Advocating to increase WASH to ensure Leave No One Behind

Power Player	Support	Power of Players	Source of Power	Where power is expressed	Source of our Power
MP (Political Leaders LGRD Ministry (Md. Tajal Islam)	Sometimes with us	Domination Manipulation	Capital Knowledge Position Law People	LG/S National Government Community	Capital Knowledge Law People

3. Advocating for inclusive and participatory climate resilient WASH governance.

High Influence/Agree: State parties (MWSC, Social Council); Political Influences; FANSA Maldives and members**.**	**High Influence/Disagree:** Political appointees (MPs); Political parties
Low Influence/Agree PWDs; Vulnerable communities; Excluded /Marginalized	**Low Influence/Disagree** General public

4. Development and implementation of CWIS Plan

Power Player	Support	Power of Players	Source of Power	Where power is expressed	Source of our Power
Provincial Government	Neutral	Provincial Assembly	Decision making authority	Provincial Assembly	• Community • CSO/CBOs • Local Government/CWIS task team
City Government (Mayor)	Against (lack of resources)	City council	Execution and Implementation	City Government	• WASH Network • Local Political Leadership
WASH/LG Minister	Neutral	Ministry Department	Budget Allocation	Provincial Assembly	• Shift Flow Diagram (Evidence) • Media (Print and Social)

5. WASH policy regulation

High Influence/Agree: Federal Ministry; provincial government; local government; CSOs; CBOs; Media	**High Influence/Disagree:**
Low Influence/Agree Water and sanitation user committee (WSUC), private sectors(sanitation workers, sanitation service providers); marginalized community (LGBTIQ+, slum community, sanitation workers, people with disability)	**Low Influence/Disagree** Religious groups

6. Mahaiyawa Slum Area of Kandy achieved equal access for purposed sewerage system by FANSA Project.

High Influence/Agree: JICA project proponent; Ministry of Health; PHI; Medical officer; WDC and CEJ; Water Board; Media; religious leaders	**High Influence/Disagree:** Community members of Mahaiyawa; municipal council in Kandy; politicians; technical officer
Low Influence/Agree R4R network of Kandy; youth/women CBOs; disable community forums	**Low Influence/Disagree** Surrounding communities of Mahaiyawa

To ensure the attainability of the mentioned advocacy agenda, it was observed that the involvement of ministries, national chapters, marginalized and vulnerable communities is crucial for the success of the advocacy efforts.

3.8. DAY 1-Participant Feedback

At the end of each day participants were asked to provide feedback to the facilitators on what went well, what could be improved and other suggestions for the workshop. Written feedback was obtained from 30 participants on two major aspects i.e. Areas of Improvement and Key Takeaways. Some of the feedback are depicted as follows:

Areas of Improvement

- Required Energizers;
- Online feedback would be better;
- Sharing more practical examples to further understand the concepts and apply them;
- Gallery walk should have group presentation analysis from all; reflecting of group work in summary form;
- Better to use microphone to grab attention;
- YouTube video-good but would have better to allocate time for a bit discussions;
- Trainer may include co-trainer for facilitating the sessions;

Key Takeaways

- Difference between advocacy/Campaign and lobbying clear;
- Power dynamics were explained clearly;
- Power; Ice breaker; Good Facilitation; Categories; well managed;
- Power analysis;
- Advocacy ecosystem;
- Power analysis;
- Power thinking;
- Activities brainstorming;
- Potential errors of risks;
- Time management of Trainer;
- Sources of power and its ways of exercises;

Advoc

By the conclusion of Day 1, participants were assigned to review at least three case studies and come up with comments (if they have any) on Day 2.

4. DAY 2: System Thinking and Future Thinking

Day 2 began with a thorough review of the feedback provided by the participants on Day 1. On this day, most of the feedback (Day 1) received from participants was considered. To make the Day 2 session more interactive, energizers were also curated. Among them was the Power Walk, skillfully facilitated by co-facilitator.

4.1. Coverage of Module 2

Table 2: Coverage of Module 2

Topics under Module 2	Detailed Coverage
Sharing and reflecting experience on Case studies	- Individual sharing of comments via sticky notes + plenary discussion
Systems thinking	- Systems and levers - What is system thinking? - What does a system (sub-system) consist of? - Complexity thinking; complexity framework-system characteristics - Strategic systems-STEEP; understanding the system deeper-Iceberg model
System mapping	- Examples on system mapping - Systems change; ingredients of system change; overview of systems change perspective
Country Group Work	- System mapping (problems and players) for FANSA advocacy influencing strategy - Presentation via flip charts, Q&A + comments via sticky notes
Future thinking	- Future forward-future backward; forecast-foresight, one future -many futures-scenarios
Contextual environment analysis and scenarios	- Scenario development -
Country group work	- Each country team analyzing the contexts and developing 3 scenarios for FANSA advocacy-influencing; choosing one plausible scenario to strategize - Presentation via flip charts, Q&A + comments via sticky notes
Mix Country Group Work	- FANSA Ambition vs Limitations - Driving forces driving to meet the ambitions? - Blockers that are stopping FANSA to meet ambitions? - Presentation and plenary discussions/sharing

4.2. Session IV: Sharing and Reflection on the Case studies

Participants were allotted 10 minutes to provide comments on the case studies they reviewed – the case studies, as requested, were provided by each country participant to all participants before arrival in the workshop. Following this, country chapters had the opportunity to respond to the feedback received on their specific case studies. This structured approach allowed for a thorough exploration of case studies from across South Asia, fostering rich discussions and learning opportunities.

FANSA India, Nepal and Pakistan discussing on the comments they have received in their country case studies

4.3. Session V: System thinking and System Mapping

The session delved into the intricate realm of system thinking, exploring fundamental concepts such as systems and their levers. Participants gained insights into the essence of system thinking, understanding the components of a system and its sub-systems. Strategic system was also highlighted, emphasizing the STEEP (Social, Technological, Economic, Environmental, Political Systems) framework and the Iceberg model to emphasis the need to understand patterns, structures and drivers beyond just the trends, were explored to deepen participants understanding of system dynamics. Moreover, system mapping was introduced as a tool, with examples illustrating its application in various contexts. (please refer to Annex 4)

As an important part and extension of Systems Thinking, some detailsabout Complexity and Complex systems were presented. It was emphasized that most of the system we want to change are complex where cause and effect relationships are not clear or linear – therefore, a lot of sense-making and adaptations are required on a continual basis.

4.4. Session VI: Country Group Work: System Mapping

Country groups were given 30 minutes to delve into system mapping for their own advocacy agenda. This group exercise prompted interactive discussions among participants, as they explored types of systems that affect their chosen advocacy agenda. Following this, all the group exercises were displayed in the gallery for others to review. Each group discussed the comments they received from fellow participants.

FANSA Sri Lanka and Bangladesh working on system mapping group exercise

4.5. Session VII: Futures Thinking and Contextual environment analysis and scenarios

During this session, participants were equipped with comprehensive insights covering various aspects. They explored the nature of the future and why/how its complexity poses challenges for our understanding. The session delved into strategic foresight, emphasizing its essence over forecasting/prediction methods. Participants gained an understanding of how foresight operated through activities such as horizon scanning, identifying change drivers, and crafting scenarios to anticipate opportunities and challenges.

Additionally, the importance of scenario planning was underscored, elucidating its role as a systematic approach to exploring potential futures. Two primary scenario development methods, deductive and inductive, were explored. Furthermore, the session involved an exploration of contextual environments and a transition through the scenario development process. (For detail, please refer to ANNEX 4)

4.6. Session VIII: Country Group Work: Scenario

Following an engaging session on the future thinking and contextual environment analysis and scenarios, each country groups were assigned to identify a specific priority advocacy agenda and based on that advocacy agenda, each FANSA country team to identify key trends, key drivers behind those trends and develop three scenarios. For this, participants were allotted 45 minutes to complete the exercise. Unfortunately, due to time constraints, the planned gallery walk and discussion had to be omitted.

FANSA Maldives and Nepal exercising on scenarios

4.7. Session IX: Mobilizing and Organizing

In this session, the facilitator pointed out that "mobilizing and "organizing" are two distinct, even if related, terms with specific meanings, emphasizing the importance of using and practicing them correctly. Participants were then asked to discuss which term they/their organization preferred. They shared their thoughts and choices. Afterward, the session explored the differences between mobilizing and organizing, providing valuable insights to apply when crafting their respective country advocacy strategies.

4.8. Session X: Country Group Work: Ambition and Limitation of FANSA

For this, five mixed country group teams were formed, and they were provided 30 minutes to list FANSA's ambitions, limitations, driving factors and blockers they have felt throughout the journey (refer figure 1). This activity served as a vital step in identifying potential strategies to mitigate limitations and overcome barriers, which was exercised in Day 3.

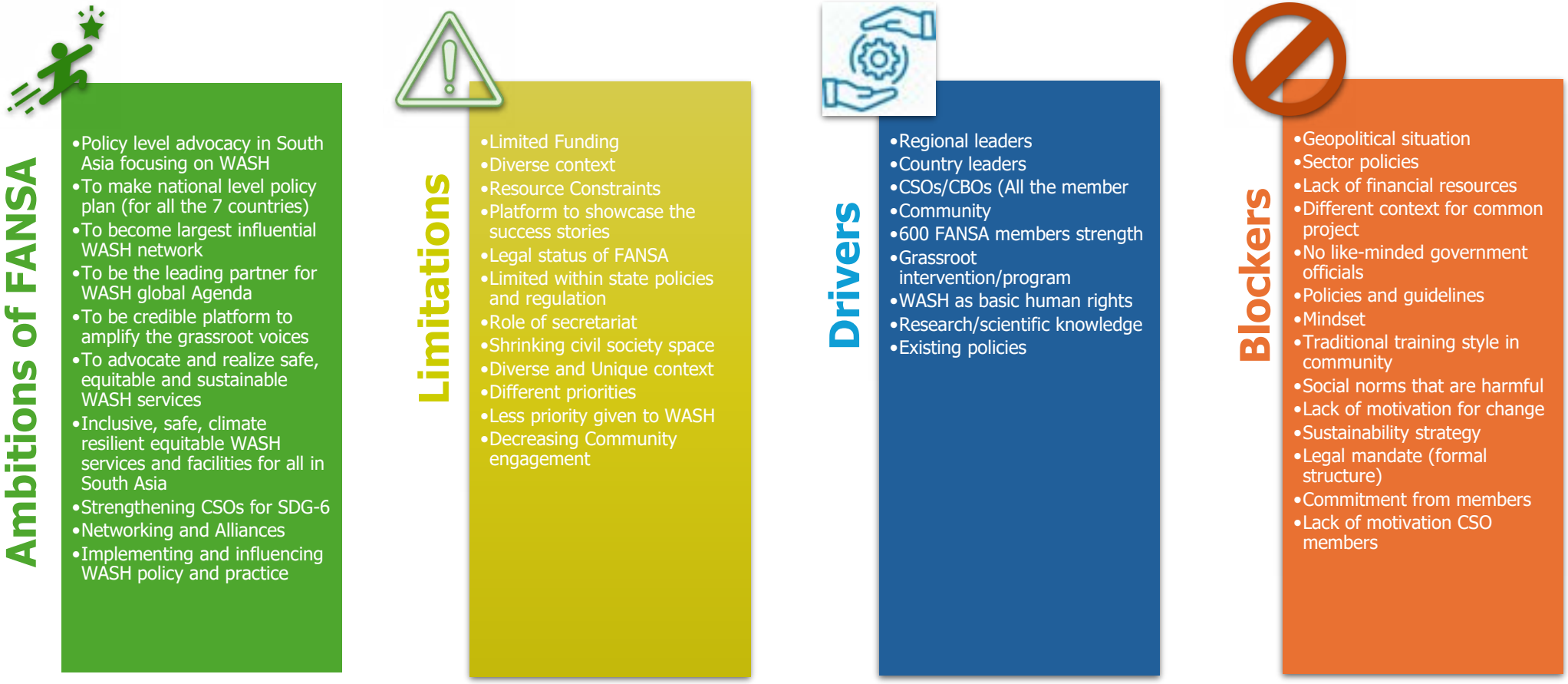


Figure 1: Group exercise on FANSA ambition, limitations, drivers and blockers

4.9. DAY 2-Participant Feedback

On the second day of the workshop, participants were encouraged and prompted to provide feedback using an online form. Out of the 19 responses received, a selected responses are presented below:

Key Takeaways

- System Mapping, System Thinking
- Understanding the systems and levers of change
- Future thinking and scenario analysis
- Plan for different futures; critical thinking; writing scenarios
- Criteria for assessing scenarios; scenario development process
- The power walk was really good it made participants to engage and understand to what extent entitlements are accessible to various communities/individual mapping in country groups

Areas of Improvement

- Session was perfect today
- More on futures thinking
- More elaboration to understand the terminology
- Group interaction was quite effective. Group work should be instructed properly
- May we have more group works
- Examples might have been related to WASH

5. DAY 3 Strategy Framework Development

The day three also started with the review of the participant's feedback. Following the review, the day proceeded by engaging participants in subsequent sessions, continuing the planned activities outlined in the workshop agenda.

5.1. Session XI Country Group Exercise: Possible mitigation of limitation and blockers

In this group exercise, participants were asked to revisit the limitation and blockers they meticulously listed out on Day 2, to identify the possible mitigation measures of each limitation and blocker (refer figure 2). This exercise served as a powerful reminder that every obstacle has a solution, often attainable through collective efforts and innovative thinking. The culmination of group exercise was displayed in a gallery setting, where the works of each group were subject to discussion and analysis.

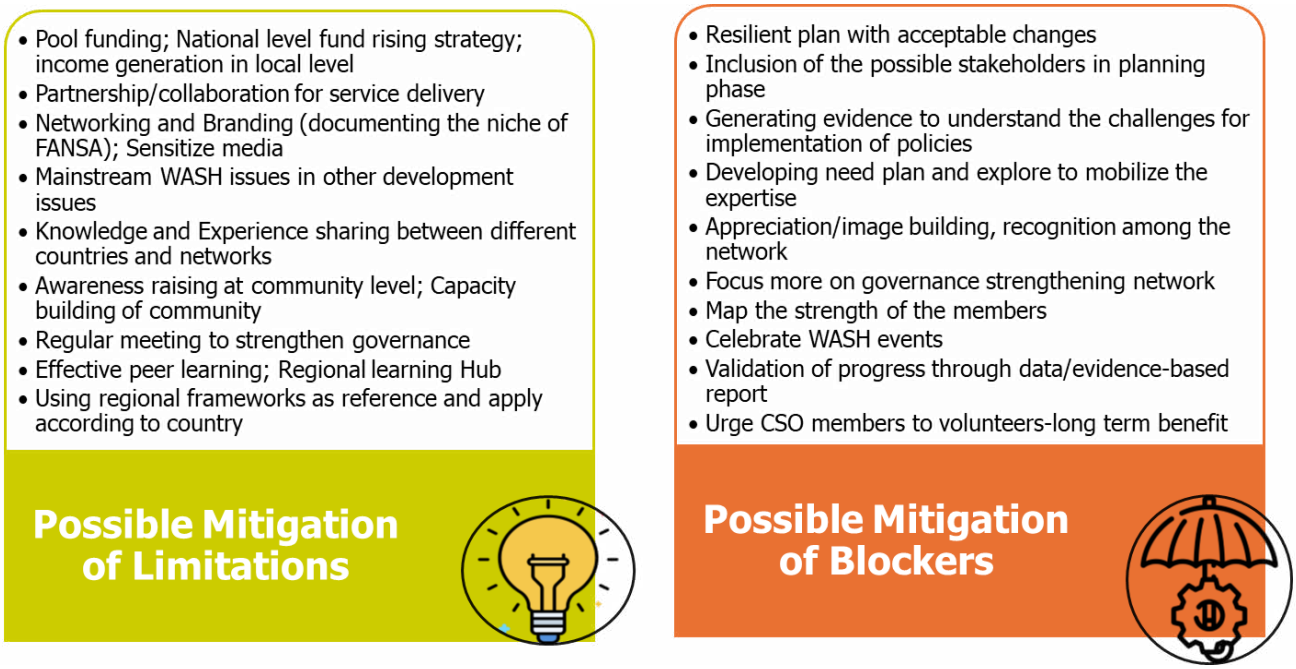


Figure 2: Group exercise on possible mitigation of limitation and blockers

5.2. Session XII: Advocacy Strategy

During the session, the facilitator presented an informative video lasting 10-15 minutes, which highlights the distinction between planning and strategy. Following the video presentation, the session proceeded to several key domains (for details refer to ANNEX 4), including the structure of a typical strategic framework, the concept of Theory of Change (ToC) with template along with actual sample example.

5.3. Session XIII: Group Work: Developing Theory of Change (ToC)

During the group work session focused on developing Theory of Change, participants engaged in a country wise collaborative exercise aimed at crafting ToC frameworks tailored to their respective contexts and advocacy agenda. To facilitate this process, participants were equipped with digital and hard copies of essential resources, including Rising for Rights result framework, project concept notes, CWIS documents, policy review reports, and exemplar of ToC templates. Over the course of approximately 1 hour and 45 minutes, participants dedicated themselves to formulate their country-specific ToC framework. Following this intensive group exercise, participants showcased their ToC frameworks in a gallery, inviting peer review, feedback, and discussion. Below is a snapshot of the

group exercise conducted by FANSA India, exemplifying the collaborative spirit and dedication exhibited by participants throughout the session.

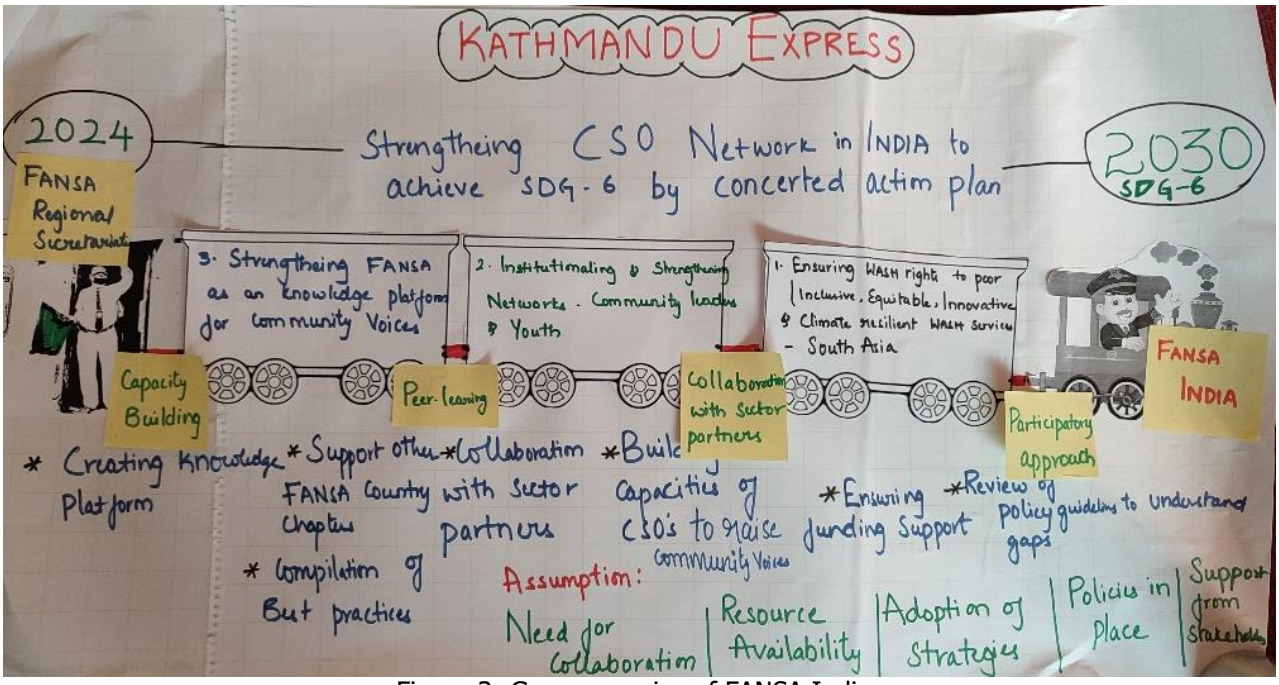


Figure 3: Group exercise of FANSA India

5.4. Session XIV: Panel discussion on Alliance building, Networking and Partnership

It is crucial to build alliance with likeminded organization, CSOs along with the government on the ground level to achieve outcomes of the project. This session aimed to gain insights into panelists' perspectives and strategies for establishing networks and partnerships with CSOs, government entities. The session was moderated by Mr. Ramesh Singh Malla, a resource person.

Table 1 : List of Panelists

S.N.	Name	Gender	Designation/Organization/Country
1	Khadiza Ahmed	Female	Deputy Director, DORP, FANSA Bangladesh
2	Mazhar Rashidi	Male	National Co-Convenor, FANSA India
3	Shah Syed Nasir	Male	Regional Co-Convenor, FANSA Pakistan
4	Dammika Podimenike	Female	Project Coordinator, WDC, FANSA Sri Lanka

The following questions were being raised and discussed among the panelist:

What kind of networks/coalition are the most important?

Bangladesh: All networks are very important for coalition.

Sri Lanka: Women and youth networks are most important. In Sri Lanka, they have already built two networks of youths and women from marginalized community.

India: Working for deprived communities. Need the unique platform for strengthening community, CSOs and create umbrella for image building, visibility of CSOs.

What is the experience of advocating at provincial level government?

Pakistan: has parliamentary democracy. In provincial government, there are two departments via public health engineer responsible for rural and local government department for urban. Federal government is only responsible to provide policy guideline. While provincial government, they have own policy, strategy, allocate fund and they are responsible for implementation.

Bangladesh: We have committee sanitation sub-district committee and tie up with "JILLA PARISAD". We advocate at national level collecting data with local community, organize work with policy maker and government.

What are the strategies adopted to bring the local government on board?

Pakistan: Local government is the one who are supposed to provide water and sanitation services at urban level. Besides that, we approach public health engineer department.

India: We have unique level of approach on community level advocacy to engage government and political level. During the dialogue, community is the considered as the panellist where government representation listens to the demands of community. The documents will be submitted to the government officials. Most of the government officers are accepting, recognizing and give feedback. The tool is very effective.

FANSA as a member with how many networks?

Pakistan: FANSA member in national and international members, SWA and End water poverty.

India: associated with organizations like Kachara supported by BMGF, BANI, UPAWAN and other different regional level networks.

In Sri Lanka, CEJ is the member of FANSA. There are several community levels, district level and rural level communities working on FANSA

In Bangladesh working under SWA, water sanitation coalition committee, water, sanitation and hygiene collation committee and Faecal Sludge Management Network. Youth group, mother clubs are working together.

Post- project follow-up:/feedbacks and learning ?

India prioritizes policy interventions like "Swachh Bharat," with extensive infrastructure for waste management, including Material Recovery Facilities (MRF) in urban areas and Resource Recovery Facilities (RRF) in rural zones.

Sri Lanka emphasizes engaging people and officials for project data, utilizing the Right to Information (RTI) for government information.

6. Next Step: Action Plan

Ms. Samira Shakya, Program Manager, briefed on the crucial action plan that national chapters must undertake within a specified timeframe. The emphasis was placed on referring and leveraging from various documents, learning which were:

- Policy view and sector investment Report
- Community Mobilization Training; Shit Flow Diagram Orientation; Advocacy influencing training workshop.
- Rising for rights project documents-Result framework
- CWIS Framework- [Orientation of CWIS/CWIS leadership training]

In this regard, the following points outline the agreed-upon actions and associated responsibilities, along with deadlines for completion of the action plan.

Table 2: Action plans

S.N.	Action points	Responsibility	Support	Deadline
1	**Develop Country Strategy**	Country Chapters	FANSA Regional Secretariat	30 June 2024
2	**Bonus technical online session**	Facilitator, FANSA Regional Secretariat	Country Chapters	13 May 2023

7. Closing Remarks

In his closing remarks, **Mr. Syed Shah Nasir, Regional Co-Convenor** warmly conveyed his appreciation to Ramesh ji, our resource person, whose expertise and insights have enriched the understanding of the participants. Extending his gratitude, he recognized the tireless efforts of the FANSA Regional Secretariat and organizer team, whose seamless coordination ensured success of the workshop. Mr. Nasir further expressed his deep appreciation to all the participants for their pro-active engagement in the workshop. Lastly, he thanked FANSA India and Sri Lanka for indulging the participants with the sweets of their hometown.

8. Conclusion

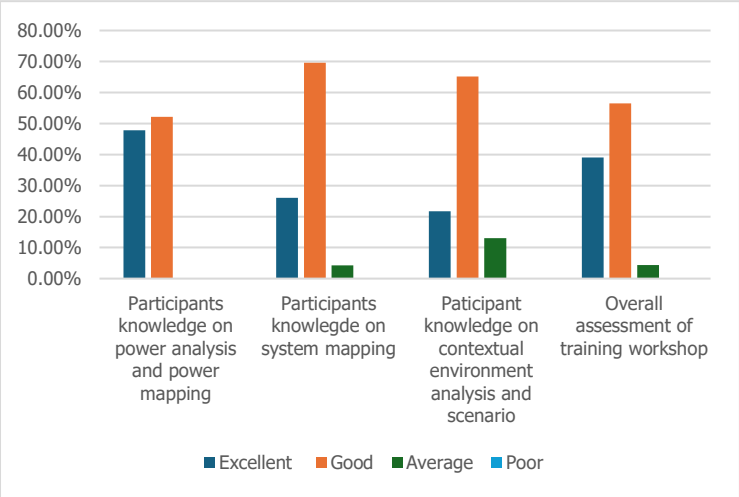
The advocacy influencing training workshops spanning three days from 15-17 April 2024, held in Kathmandu Nepal has been successful completed under the facilitation of Ramesh Singh, co-facilitation of Samira Shakya, guidance of Lajana Manandhar and Kabir Das Rajbhandari and with active engagement of 34 participants from FANSA members and national chapters across the South Asia implementing Rising for Rights project.

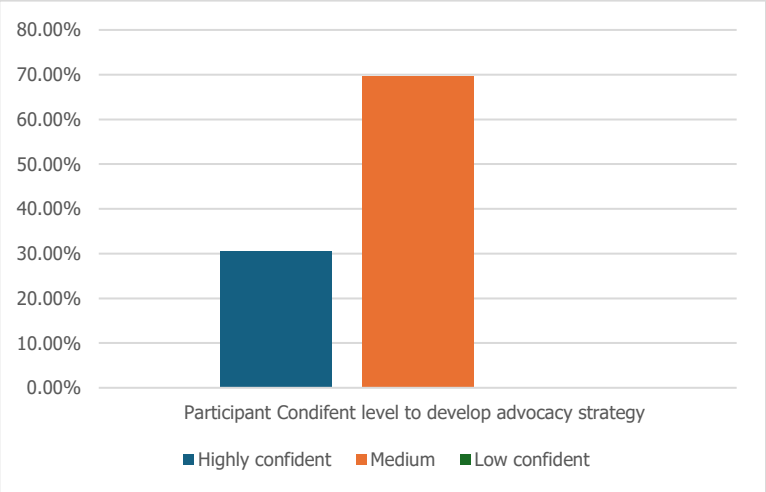
From this training workshop, participants have built knowledge on the power thinking, system thinking and future thinking, upscaled skills through engaging in the group exercise and plenary discussions.

Each day feedback was gathered from the participants to make everyday sessions more interactive and enjoyable. During this training workshop, participants have built their skills on developing the advocacy strategy. Regarding this, they are committed to develop their country specific advocacy strategy/theory of change by 30 June 2024.

9. DAY 3 Participant Feedback

The compiled feedback from the 23 responses received on Day 3 is summarized below:





10. Online Session: Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL)

The two-hour online session was organized on 13 May 2024, continuation of the advocacy training workshop especially focusing on advocacy monitoring and evaluation insights and its tools. Mr. Ramesh Singh Malla, the facilitator, provided insights on the fundamental concepts of monitoring and evaluation tailored to advocacy contexts, which included most significant change, outcome harvesting, outcome mapping and narrative assessment.

Following the presentation, an open discussion was facilitated, allowing participants to pose queries and engage in discussions regarding monitoring and evaluation practices.

After the discussion, country chapters were asked to update on the action plan (Table 1), reflect their current progress and determine the need for additional sessions.

ANNEX 1: List of Participants

S.N	Name	Pronoun			Designation/ Organization	Email address	I represent one of these groups				
		He/ Him	She/ Her	They/ Them			CSOs	Community Leader	Government Officials	Youth Group	Others
BANGLADESH											
1	Prodip Kumer Das	✓			Focal Person, AVAS	avas.prodip@gmail.com	✓				
2	Khadiza Ahmed		✓		Deputy Director, DORP	khadiza@dorpbd.org	✓				
3	MD Ashraful Alam	✓			Coordinator-Public Relation	ashraful@sks-bd.org	✓				
4	Xavier Sku		✓		National Co-ordinator, FANSA Bangladesh	xavier@sks-bd.org	✓				
BHUTAN											
5	Tshedrup Dorji	✓			National Coordinator, FANSA Bhutan	dtshedrup@gmail.com	✓				
INDIA											
6	Mazhar Rashidi	✓			National Co-Convenor, FANSA India	mazhar@pratinidhiindia.org	✓				
7	Spandana Naikoti		✓		National Coordinator, FANSA India	nc-fansa-india@mari-india.org	✓				
MALDIVES											
8	Mariyam Shifana Hussain		✓		Advocacy Coordinator, Maldivian Nurses Association	mariyam.shifana@gmail.com	✓				
9	Ahmed Mohamed	✓			Chairperson, MAPD	mapd.mv@gmail.com	✓				
10	Solah Hassan	✓			Council Executive, Kulhudhuffushi City Council	solah.hassan@kulhudhuffushicity.gov.mv			✓		

S.N	Name	Pronoun			Designation/ Organization	Email address	I represent one of these groups				
		He/ Him	She/ Her	They/ Them			CSOs	Community Leader	Government Officials	Youth Group	Others
NEPAL											
11	Lasata Manandhar		✓		Officer, ENPHO, FANSA Nepal	lasata.manandhar@enpho.org	✓				
12	Uddhav Bhattrai	✓			Program Manager, Lumanti, FANSA Nepal	urbhattarai@gmail.com	✓				
13	Ram Bahadur Ghimere	✓			Executive Director, FEDWASUN, FANSA Nepal	ram.ghimire@fedwasun.org	✓				
14	Ashim Poudel	✓			Coordinator, KIRADCA	apoudel@kirdarc.org	✓				
15	Dr Basista Shah	✓			Executive Director, SIDS	dr.basista@gmail.com	✓				
16	Ayusha Chhetri		✓		Advocacy officer, ENPHO, FANSA Nepal	ayusha.chhetri@enpho.org	✓				
17	Rajendra Aryal	✓			FEDWASUN, FANSA Nepal		✓				
PAKISTAN											
18	Gul Khan Naseer Baloch	✓			National Coordinator, FANSA Pakistan	program.hope@yahoo.com	✓				
19	Anum Malik Mengal		✓		Advocacy officer, FANSA Pakistan	advocacyofficer.hope23@gmail.com	✓				
20	Syed Shah Nasir	✓			Regional Co-convenor, FANSA Pakistan	director@irsp.org.pk	✓				
SRI LANKA											
21	Madushani		✓		Project Coordinator, CEJ, FANSA Sri Lanka	cejruvini7@gmail.com	✓				
22	Ruvini Wijithalal		✓		Program Officer, CEJ, FANSA Sri Lanka	madusendanayaka@gmail.com	✓				
23	Dhaneesha		✓		Project Coordinator, ALSDC	dhanesha.alsdc@gmail.com	✓				
S.N	**Name**	**Pronoun**			**Designation/**	**Email address**	**I represent one of these groups**				

		He/ Him	She/ Her	They/ Them	Organization		CSOs	Community Leader	Government Officials	Youth Group	Others
24	Dammika Podimenike		✓		Project Coordinator, WDC, FANSA Sri Lanka	dammi.podi@wdcsl.org	✓				
OBSERVER (LUMANTI)											
25	Lumanti Joshi		✓		Program Manager, Lumanti	lumantijoshi@gmail.com	✓				
26	Sobina Lama		✓		Program Manager, Lumanti	d.theeng@gmail.com	✓				
ORGANIZER											
27	Kabir Das Rajbhandhari	✓			Regional Coordinator, FANSA RS	kabir.fansa@gmail.com	✓				
28	Samira Shakya		✓		Program Manager, FANSA RS	sshakya.fansa@gmail.com	✓				
29	Prajina Maharjan		✓		Program Support, FANSA RS	maharjanprajina618@gmail.com	✓				
30	Newton Maharajan	✓			M & E Coordinator, FANSA RS/Lumanti	newtonum@gmail.com	✓				
31	Asmita Tamang		✓		Admin and Logistic Assistant, Lumanti	asmita@lumanti.org.np	✓				
32	Gyanil Shakya	✓			Finance Manager, FANSA RS/Lumanti	gyanil@lumanti.org.np	✓				
33	Sujata Bajracharya		✓		Admin and Account Officer, FANSA RS/Lumanti	sujata@lumanti.org.np	✓				
34	Ramesh Singh Malla	✓			Resource person, Facilitator	rameshsinghmalla@gmail.com					✓

ANNEX 2: Agenda of the Training Workshop

Day 1:

Session 1

09:00-09: 30 Introduction –

- Welcome address by FANSA Co-Convenor/Coordinator
- Introduction about the background, objects, overall design and the content of the training-workshop
- Sharing and learning methods
- Team/event code of conduct contract

Session 2

09:30-10:00 Participants introduction – getting to know each other

Session 3A

10:00-10:30 Our fundamentals

- Each participant team's (country teams– region ream – Lumanti team) state their identity/roles statements in relation to FANSA Advocacy-influencing strategy: who are we? what are our roles? Why are we here?
- Presentation by each country team in flip charts
- Our shared identity – our diversity – our complementarity: Discussion/quick capture

10:30-10:45 Tea/Coffee break

Session 3B

10:45-11:15 Country Team x7 presentation + Q&A

Session 4

11:15-12:15 Advocacy fundamentals – primer setting the scene: presentation +Q&A

- Definitions – Language - Glossary
- What is in it

Session 5

12:15-13:00 How Change Happens?: presentation +Q&A

13:00-14:00 Lunch Break

Session 6A

14:00-15:00 Power thinking: Understanding power: **presentation +Q&A**

15:30: 15:45 Tea/Coffee break

Session 6B

15:45- 16:30 Power analysis, power mapping for FANSA advocacy-influencing: Country Teams Presentation

Session 6C

16:30-17:00 Country Group presentations in flip charts: Gallery Walk, Q&A, comments in sticky-notes

17:00-17:25 Contingency

17:25-1730 Exit Notes: 2 Major Take-away from the day + 1 main suggestion to trainer/facilitator

17:30 end of Day 1 [Home work: (a) reading/reviewing at least 3 experiences shared by participants, available via Google folder (b) come prepared with comments on sticky-note to share in the morning**]**

Day 2:

Session 7

08:30-09:30 Sharing and reflecting experience: Individual sharing of comments via sticky notes + plenary discussions.

Session 8A

09:30-10:30 Systems thinking systems and levers

10:30-10:45 Tea/Coffee break

Session 8B

10:45-11:30 Systems mapping: Country Group work - Systems mapping (problems and players) for FANSA advocacy-influencing strategy –

Session 8C

11:30-12:00 Country Group presentation via Flip Charts, Q&A + comments via sticky notes

Session 9A

12:00-13:00 Futures Thinking: Future forward – Future backward | Forecast - Foresight | One future – many futures – scenarios

13:00-14:00 Lunch break

Session 9B

14:00-15:00 Contextual environment analysis and scenarios: Each country team analysing the contexts and developing scenarios for the next 3 for FANSA advocacy-influencing | Choosing one plausible scenario to strategize

Session 9C

15:00-15:30 Context and scenario: Group work presentation via flip charts **–** Gallery Walk, Q&A + comments via sticky-notes

15:30-15:45 Tea/Coffee break

Session 10

15:45-16: 45 Doing Advocacy-influencing: Constituency building = community organising/mobilising – presentation and plenary discussion/sharing

Session 11

16:45-17:45 Doing Advocacy: Alliance building/Networking = solidarity mobilizing: presentation and plenary discussion/sharing

17:45-1755 Exit Notes: 2 Major Take-away from the day + 1 main suggestion to trainer/facilitator

17:30 end of Day 2

Day 3:

Session 12

08:30-09:30 Doing Advocacy: Policy Analysis – Policy Development – Policy Responding: presentation and plenary discussion/sharing

Session 13A

09:30-10:30 Doing Advocacy: Campaigning – including digital campaigning: presentation and plenary discussion/sharing

10:30-10:45 Tea/coffee break

Session 13B

10:45-11:15 CONTINGENCY

Session 14

11:15-13:00 Doing advocacy: Lobbying – presentation and plenary discussion/sharing

13:00-14:00 Lunch break

Session 15

14:00-15:00 Strategizing advocacy-influencing: What is strategy? | What kind of strategy? |Theory of change | What Components and templates | Monitoring and evaluation framework

15:30-15:45 Tea/Coffee break

Session 16A

15:45-16:45 Country Group work: Developing Theory of Change for FANSA advocacy-influencing for 3 years based on the Day and Day 2 Group works (fundamentals, power map, systems map, context analysis and selected scenarios) + (FANSA regional Strategy, FANSA Country Strategy) | identification and description of output and outcome indicators based on ToC goals and objectives for FANSA advocacy-influencing for 18 months

Session 16B

16:45-17:30 Group presentation: via flip charts **–** Gallery Walk, Q&A + comments via sticky-notes

Session 17

17:30-1755 Closing and follow up session

- Next steps – follow up action plan
- Review, reflections and evaluation of the 3 -day training-workshop – virtual response by each participant between 48-72 hours of the end of the training-workshop.
- Closing statement by FANSA Regional Coordinator

17:55-18:00 Exit Notes: 2 Major Take-away from the day + 1 main suggestion to trainer/facilitator
18:00 end of Day

ANNEX 3: Photo Gallery

DAY ONE

DAY TWO

DAY THREE

ANNEX 4: Day wise presentation

For Further Details, Contact

Freshwater Action Network South Asia

FANSA Regional Secretariat Hosted by

LUMANTI SUPPORT GROUP FOR SHELTER

Freshwater Action Network South Asia (FANSA)

Regional Secretariat

396 Kumaripati, Jagannath Marg, Dakshinkali Tole,

Lalitpur Metropolitan City, Ward 05, Nepal

P.O. Box No. 10546

Lalitpur, Nepal

Call us at +977-1-5435156/ 5435157

Website: www.fansaregional.net