

## **ATTACHMENT H**

### **Summary of the Fourth National Coordinators Meeting (5-7 July, 2004)**

With two years remaining the International Waters Project has now turned greater attention to the process of measuring positive changes generated by project activities in the pilot communities, the environment, and at the national level.

This Fourth National Coordinators assisted National Coordinators to:

- develop their understanding of the GEF/UNDP framework for monitoring
- develop relevant and achievable monitoring indicators for three focal areas (waste, freshwater, and coastal fisheries)
- consider ways to discuss monitoring with project stakeholders and, ultimately;
- develop initial monitoring plans for their projects.

All countries participating in the International Waters Project have now established administrative structures for the project and selected their focal areas and pilot communities. The National Coordinators have carried out participatory problem analysis workshops with the communities to help them understand the “root causes” of the problems and possible solutions. Work has also begun to collect important baseline information about the socio-economic status of the communities, the local environment, and the relevant national legislation and institutions.

This Fourth National Coordinators meeting has now helped to clarify exactly what changes the pilot projects are trying to achieve. A two-day workshop, facilitated by monitoring expert, Dr Sango Mahanty, assisted National Coordinators to develop plans to measure the tangible results generated by their pilot projects in the community and the environment. These monitoring sessions helped the National Coordinators to develop indicators to assess the three levels recommended by the GEF:

1. Process (project activities),
2. Stress (behaviours and actual changes to reduce stress on the environment), and;
3. Status (physical changes in the environment).

The National Coordinators Meeting also discussed ways to improve the management of information generated by the project and ways to improve the way the project communicates with its key audiences.

The NCM also considered the venue and timing for their next Meeting. They suggested a meeting be convened in November 2003 to address the following issues:

- Finalization of national monitoring plans
- Link the national monitoring plans to the Project monitoring plan,
- Consider Project means to generate lessons learned and document best practice information, and
- Consider the project’s Replication Strategy.

The MPR was asked to consider this proposal.

National Coordinators have been provided with an approved summary record of the meeting.