



## River basin planning - Policy and Institutional Assessment, India

India is a country facing considerable challenges in water policy, planning and management. With a population of 1.25 Billion, more than 15% of the world's population, it has only 4% of the world's freshwater resources. This large population and limited water supplies, coupled with strong economic growth, has led to growing imbalances in supply and demand.

Alluvium International is providing river basin modelling and water policy/regulatory expertise on a Australian Water Partnership funded team tasked with advising on river basin planning in India. The Secretary of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation has requested that the team develop a User Guide for River Basin Planning and Implementation in India. To inform the development of the User Guide, the team are undertaking a review of river basin planning policy and regulatory frameworks in India to identify recommendations on possible policy reform options, including appropriate policy frameworks and related institutional and legal mechanisms to support effective basin planning and governance in the country.

The project is closely linked to a broader Government of India and World Bank funded program to strengthen the institutions and water information required for integrated water resources management in India. Our role is to look at the best approach to harnessing the investment in data and modelling systems to enable river basin planning, and to how shape the legislative and regulatory information to promote basin planning .

To date, the team has undertaken a review of river basin planning policy and regulatory frameworks in India. The purpose of the review is to: i) document the existing policy and regulatory framework for water management and river basin planning in India, both nationally and at the state level focussing on the riparian states of the Krishna Basin; and ii) provide a comparison of the Indian policy and regulatory context against global best practice for river basin planning and the policy framework developed for the Murray Darling Basin. Following the review the team has made an identified a series of opportunities for river basin planning in India and are now undergoing consultation with stakeholders in India.

Following consultation on the review the team will work closely with counterparts in India to develop the User Guide for River Basin Planning and Implementation in India.