**South Asia Network on the Sustainable Development Goals (SANS)**

**Membership Criteria**

**Network Members**

UNESCAP South and South-West Asia office in New Delhi has launched the South Asia Network on the Sustainable Development Goals (SANS) as a platform for networking among the South Asian governments, think tanks, civil society organizations, agencies working on the SDGs and other stakeholders for dissemination of good practices to further accelerate the implementation of the SDGs. This network will be used by partners for dissemination of knowledge, outreach and exchange of good practices in SDGs achievement, with UNESCAP as its core partner.

The SANS network is an open network of institutions to promote research, academics, exchange of good practices and sharing of knowledge in South Asia. The network partners may participate in each other’s activities on a self-funding or on mutually agreed terms, including sponsoring of travel support etc.

SANS would comprise of institutional members and founder members and will be guided by an advisory committee.

(i) **Members**

a) International, regional, or national organizations located in South Asia subregion willing to participate or collaborate with SANS network to foster subregional cooperation in knowledge sharing and cross-dissemination of research outputs for achievement of SDGs are eligible to become members of SANS.

b) They may provide considerable support and active engagement on a long-term or on an ad-hoc basis (e.g., platform to publicize and promote research, for any joint project or any training/capacity building activities, policy dialogues or consultative policy meetings)

c) UNESCAP-SSWA may invite institutions from across the subregion with potential to contribute to the objectives of SANS to join the Network. In addition, institutions can also express their interest in joining the Network and contribute to its objectives.

d) The SANS network membership is free. Institutions wishing to join can make a written application to UNESCAP South and South West Asia Office at sswa.escap@un.org addressing the Director indicating their interest in becoming a member of the network, along with the following details:

   o Name and contact information of the Head of the institution.
   o Half page institutional profile
   o Aim and objectives of the organisation
   o Commitment to associate their works with SANS
   o Organization web link
   o Social media webpages (Facebook/LinkedIn/Twitter) – user profile links
   o Focal Point
   o Copy of certificate of incorporation (or registration) of the organization
   o Copy of annual audit reports of the last 3 years
e) The application shall entail an approval process.

(ii) Founder Members

South Asian think tank organizations which have facilitated in the establishment of the SANS network and have provided regular support to SANS activities undertaken in the form of research outputs, expertise and substantive inputs are recognized as founder members.

These founder members are:

- Biruni Institute, Afghanistan;
- Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Bangladesh;
- Research and Information Systems for Developing Countries (RIS), India;
- South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWTEE), Nepal;
- Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Pakistan;
- Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (IPS), Sri Lanka.