

# Indus Basin Knowledge Forum 2

## 4-6 July 2017 Colombo



*New Knowledge Frontiers  
for Development and  
Resilience*

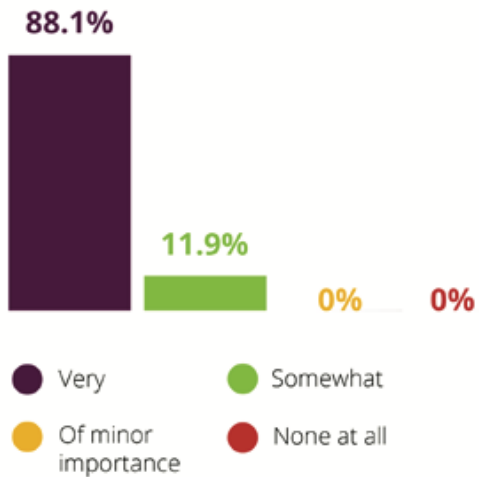
# Purpose

- *To assess the nature of existing knowledge related to development of the Indus Basin and the challenges faced, to explore new knowledge frontiers, and to build greater coordination through further co-development and sharing of knowledge.*
- More than 100 stakeholders mapped out the knowledge landscape; shared policy maker/decision maker perspectives and established working groups leading to 10 agreed actions



## Day 1: 4th July 2017 - The Current Knowledge Landscape

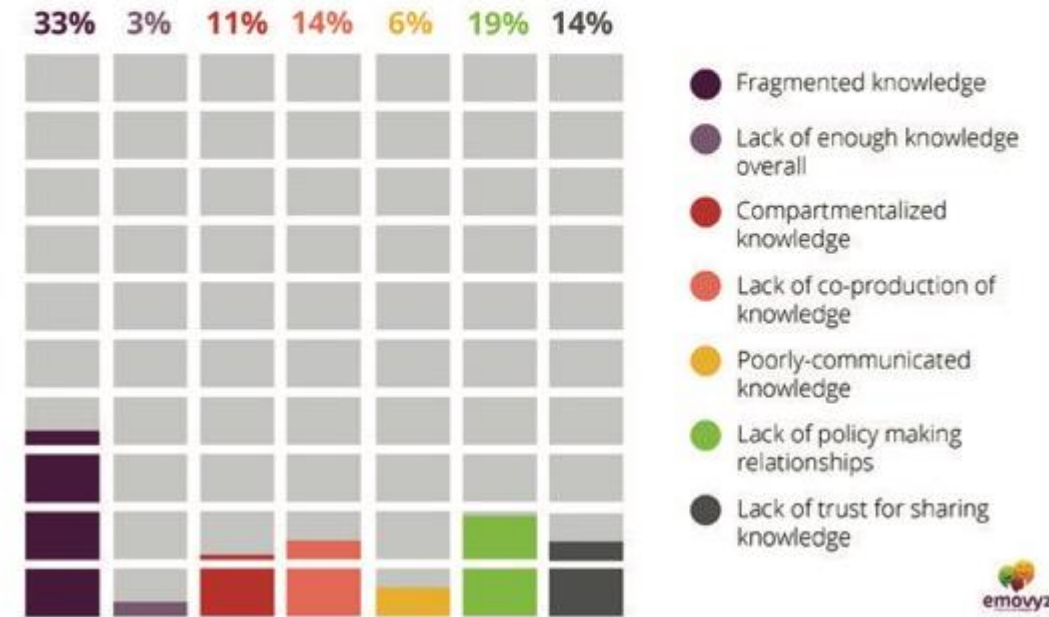
How important is a strong knowledge environment to sustainable development in the Indus Basin?



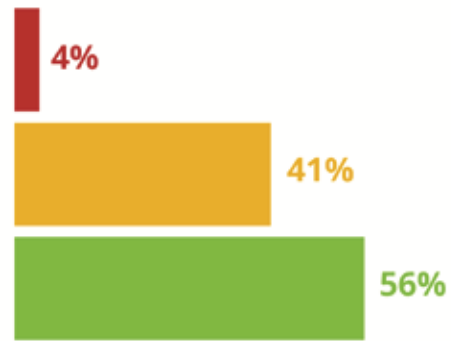
What do you feel about the outcome of the Knowledge Forum?



Which of the following are the major challenges we face?



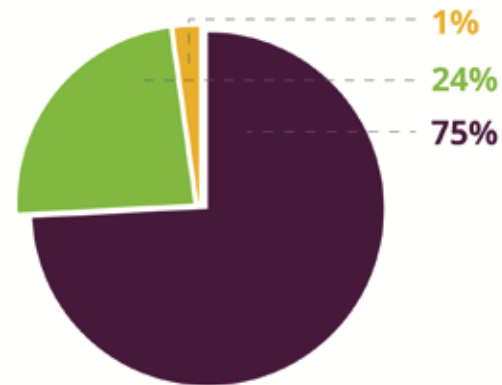
Have you learnt something this morning that will be useful in your work?



Source: Survey conducted on 12/12/2019

- No
- Yes, somewhat
- Definitely

How important are gaps in knowledge to achieving sustainable development outcomes in the Indus Basin?



- Very
- Somewhat
- Of minor importance



Demand for, and supply of, water resources will be a major challenge for the countries going forward, which will be further complicated by the uncertainties regarding the impacts of climate change.

While there is considerable knowledge on the various aspects of these challenges, key knowledge gaps exist.

There is also potential for further coordination between the countries and institutions *in the basin to help shrink some of these gaps.*



**Where is knowledge sharing the strongest?**

- Climate and hydrological data
- Sharing among researchers
- Remote sensing data
- Treaty that requires knowledge
- Population growth

**Where is knowledge sharing the weakest?**

- Flow data
- Transboundary data
- Data on dam filling and emptying
- Science to policy
- Planned measures
- Glaciers

**What are the big gaps?**

- Legality of data sharing
- Access to high-altitude regions
- Lack of demand-driven research
- Insufficient data on groundwater

**Where do we need to be stronger?**

- Economics
- Benefit sharing
- Institutions
- Minimizing redundancies
- Country-level collaborations
- Political will to collaborate

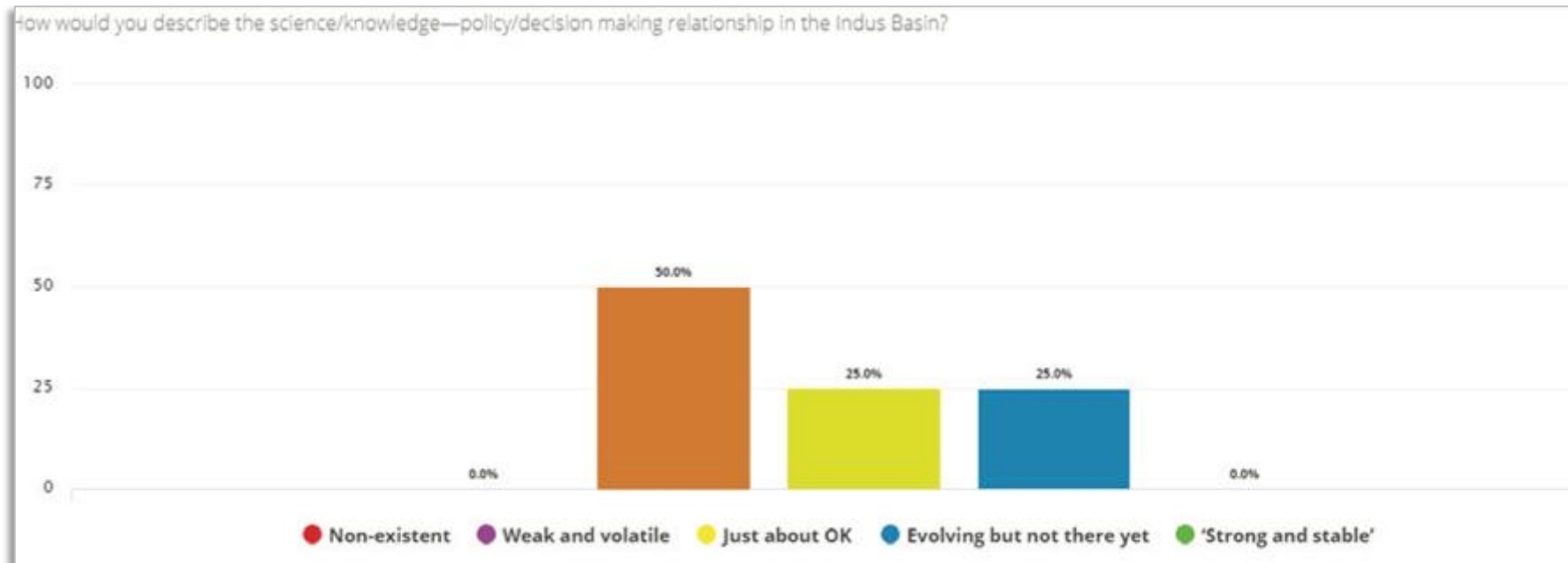
**How do we do it – what are the opportunities?**

- Present outcomes and recommendations to governments
- Third-party engagement
- Categorization of data from sensitive to non-sensitive
- Using data for consensus building
- Joint research and studies
- Use of media for awareness raising



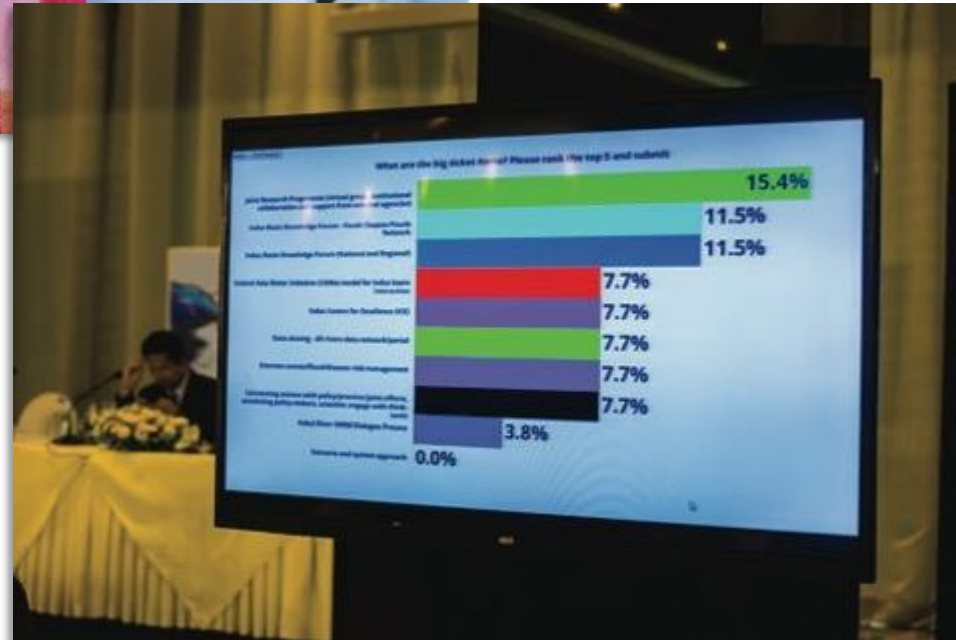
# What Do Key Decision Makers Think?

- Important to understand that priorities are different; heavier focus on country development needs
  - Link research and development outcomes more effectively
- Media have an important role in interpretation and understanding
  - However established (science) knowledge distribution process not well synchronized with media



# Towards concrete actions...

- Ten action groups met and worked on 10 'big bucket items' or Action Points.
- The ideas were developed through open-space working groups.
- Flexible working format enabled members at a table to move to other tables and contribute to other discussions.



- 1. Centre of Excellence: Shakil Romshoo, University of Kashmir:**
- 2. Indus Basin Knowledge Forum/Platform: Muhammed Nawaz, USAID**
- 3. Connecting science with policy/practice: Muthukumara Mani, World Bank/Kallur Subramanyam Murali, International Development Research Centre (IDRC)**
- 4. Extreme event/floods/disaster risk management: Tian Lide, Chinese Academy of Sciences**
- 5. Kabul River Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) dialogue process: Jamal Naser Shokory, Researches Organization for Development:**
- 6. Capacity building (youth and policy focus): Hamza Khalid, DFAT**
- 7. Data sharing, including hydrometeorological data, data portals and knowledge networks: Muhammad Riaz, Pakistan Meteorological Department; Ali Tauqeer Sheikh, Leadership for Environment and Development (LEAD), Pakistan**
- 8. Joint research program (requesting external support agency/donor engagement): Idrees Malyar, Individual Consultant:**
- 9. Scenarios/trends/futures (systems): Simon Langan, IIASA**
- 10. Central Asian Water (CAWa), South Asian water networks (SAWI, South Asia Consortium for Interdisciplinary Water Resources Studies [SaciWATERS])/Indus Basin interaction: Jay Sagintayev, University of Maryland:**