



**Sylff**

The Ryoichi Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund

The JU-SYLFF Association invites you to

**JU-SYLFF Lecture Series**  
**Lecture No. 2016-4**

Speaker:

**Dr. Sulagna Maitra**

Lecturer in Humanitarian Action  
UCD Centre for Humanitarian Action  
University College Dublin

Topic:

**Role of Identity in Transboundary River Conflict Resolution**

Date:

**July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016 (Tuesday)**

Time:

**4:15pm – 5:15pm (Including Q&A Session)**

Venue:

**Global Change Programme,  
First Floor, Biren Roy Research Laboratory  
Jadavpur University**

## Note on the Speaker

Sulagna Maitra (Ph.D. University College Dublin, 2013) is currently a Lecturer and the academic coordinator for the NOHA Joint Masters programme in Humanitarian Action. She joined the Humanitarian Action Programme in UCD in 2010 as a doctoral researcher and coordinator of the NOHA Masters course. Prior to joining UCD, she worked as a researcher on the Global Change Programme in Jadavpur University, India. She has a Masters degree in International Humanitarian Assistance from Uppsala University, Sweden and a Masters in International Relations from Jadavpur University, India. Her research interests include identity and natural resource conflict resolution, intra-State transboundary river water conflicts, regional cooperation in South and Southeast Asia, governance issues in post-conflict societies and professionalization of humanitarian action. She is a recipient of Erasmus Mundus Scholarships and the SYLFF Fellowship.

## Note on the Lecture

Water disputes in the context of water scarcity have led to protracted conflicts and acute violence all over the globe. Conflict bottlenecks and cooperation challenges in transboundary water relations sit within a complex mosaic of impending water scarcity, securitization of river water by riparian parties and a cross-border institutional water management system designed to protect the rights and obligations of parties in transboundary relations. A unidimensional extractive perception of river as a channel carrying water results in inherent competition between uses and users which in turn results in otherization among the riparian parties instead of treating rivers as a collective resource. This perception of water and the sense of entitlement that goes with it are at the heart of most contemporary transboundary conflicts and a key determinant in relations between upper versus lower riparians. The contest between riparian parties increases in intensity as demand for water grows. In this context, this discussion will explore the relationship between actor identity and conflict-cooperation intensity within the conflict resolution process and the impact this relationship on the sustainability of resolution outcomes.