

## **Pakistan's Interprovincial Water Accord- 25 Years on**

The Apportionment of Waters of the Indus River System between the Provinces of Pakistan (sic) is widely hailed as a historic agreement between four provinces of Pakistan on the apportionment of water. This agreement signed into effect in 1991 marks 25 years. A primary objective of the Accord appears to be to improve national unity and cohesion. This lecture presents a detailed examination of the clauses of the Accord and interprets literature and the datasets that have become available over the last 25 years to review the Accord and how well it has achieved this objective. It concludes that the Accord leaves considerable room for interpretation and misinterpretation which has fuelled rather than quelled mistrust and disharmony between the provinces notably Sindh and Punjab. The implementation of the Accord has only furthered that mistrust. However with the better understanding of both the social context of such agreements and the bio-physical environment this offers an opportunity for informed discussion and change.