

Activity Report 2022

Bangladesh Water Partnership (BWP) Supported Integrated Water Resources Management, Capacity Building, Advocacy, and Awareness Programs in the Year 2022

Consultation Workshop on Development of Action Plan for SDG 6.5.1 (IWRM Implementation) Indicator in Bangladesh

The consultation workshop on “Development of Action plan for SDG 6.5.1 (IWRM Implementation) Indicator in Bangladesh” was held on 31 March 2022. The workshop was held in the conference room of Pani Bhaban (level-5), Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB). There were approximately 45 participants, including representatives from government ministries and departments, non- government organizations (NGOs), civil society, and private sector. The workshop was financially assisted by Bangladesh Water Partnership (BWP) and organized by Centre for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS). The meeting was chaired by Mr. Fazlur Rashid, Director General, BWDB. Mr. Kabir Bin Anwar, Senior Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources was present at the workshop as a Chief Guest, and Dr. Ainun Nishat, Professor Emeritus, BRAC University was present at the workshop as a Guest of Honor. The main objectives of the workshop were:

- To share the IWRM Implementation status 2020
- To share the challenges related to IWRM implementation status and the way forward from 2020
- To prioritize the challenges and issues
- To identify the list of actions taken by different stakeholders for solving the challenges
- To share and finalize the layout of SDG 6.5.1 Action Plan



Figure 1: Consultation Workshop on Development of Action plan for SDG 6.5.1 (IWRM Implementation) Indicator in Bangladesh

Partnership between Bangladesh Water Partnership and Institute of Water and Flood Management (IWFM), BUET

A meeting was held between BWP and IWFM, BUET (a renowned academic institution in Bangladesh) in order to enhance the partnership for capacity building, engaging fresh graduates as interns and young professional, and transferring knowledge through experts between both organizations. A MoU has been drafted and will be signed between both the parties to formalize the institutional procedures. The meeting was held on 2 July 2022 at the IWFM conference room in presence of Mr. Moshir Rahman PEng, President, BWP and the Director and Assistant Professors of IWFM, BUET.



Figure 1: Meeting at the IWFM conference room between BWP and IWFM, BUET

Youth and Gender Capacity Enhancement to Improve Sustainable Water Management,

BWP directed a youth and gender capacity enhancement program with the cooperation of the BWP's partner organization named Reach to Unreached (RUN), which facilitated students of high school to interact with their classmates on IWRM, understanding climate change and its impact, and knowing about students' role to protect water resources. The program was conducted from 3 July to 5 July 2022 in the selected three schools, namely, Rahmatpur Secondary School, Rashed Khan Menon Model Secondary School and Babuganj Government Pilot High School, situated in the South West region of Bangladesh at Babuganj in Barisal district. The program included classroom training followed by essay and art competition and information exchange workshop in "Climate change adaptation and Sustainable safe water management" among the youths. The classroom training program included contents e.g., water resources and impacts of climate change, IWRM, drinking and agricultural water management and other aspects. The main objectives of the program were:

- To raise awareness and capacity building on efficient groundwater extraction and water resources management.
- Enhancing cooperation among the school and administrative authorities.
- Enhancing knowledge of students focusing on safe water management and climate change adaptation in the climate-vulnerable areas of Barisal district.

The project directly and indirectly educated about 2330 students and 57 teachers from the selected three schools.



Figure 1: Field visit in Babuganj in Barisal district



Figure 2: Learning and sharing event in presence of Mr. Md. Aminul Islam, UNO, Babuganj, Ms. Nasrin Jobayda Akhter, Upazila Education Officer, Babuganj, Principals from three schools, Ms. Nazmun Naher, coordinator, BWP, Sharif Nur Shames, AE, LGED and Md. Rafiqul Alam, ED, RUN

Training of Trainers (ToT) on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)

BWP and Centre for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS) jointly organized a training course on “Training of Trainers (ToT) on IWRM” to build capacity of water professionals for better understanding of IWRM principles and practices for its implementation. The six-day long training started on 30 July 2022 and ended on 04 August 2022, and it was held in the CEGIS Conference room. Total 22 participants attended the training program. Participants were from different organizations related to water resources management and development. The main objective of this training was to enhance knowledge on water resources management theories and practices followed by present & future challenges in the sector. Under this training a field visit to Hatirjheel Project was also conducted. The participants had certain objectives in their mind while starting the training. The evaluation output of ToT of IWRM 2022 showed that most of the participants achieved their expectations and the learning objectives.

Pictures of the Training



Figure 1: Speech by Chief Guest, Prof. Dr. Monowar Hossain, Sr. Vice President, BWP in inaugural session



Figure 2: Speech by the Special Guest, Md. Siddiquir Rahman, General Secretary, BWP in inaugural session



Figure 3 : Certificate distribution during the Concluding session



Figure 4 : Distribution of gifts to trainees for their group work

Pictures from the Field Visit



Figure 5: Hatirjheel field visit



Figure 6: Discussion with A.S.M. Rayhanul Ferdous, Chief Engineer, Hatirjheel Project Office.

Training on IWRM for Women Professionals

BWP organized a one-day training on “Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) for Women Professionals” in cooperation with Bangladesh Women and Water Network (BWWN) on August 13, 2022 at the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) XEN conference room, LGED Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka. A total number of 21 participants from different water-related organizations of different discipline with diverse experiences participated in the training program. The main objective of the training was to enhance knowledge about IWRM concept and to share experiences among participants to apply the integrated and participatory water resource management approaches. In the inaugural session Introductory Speech was addressed by the Coordinator of BWWN and Vice President of BWP, Ms. Begum Shamsun Nahar. Mr. Moshir Rahman, PEng, President of BWP and Dr. Nilufa Islam, Executive Committee Member of BWP, former Regional Chair of Global Water Partnership-South Asia, Former Vice President of BWP, and Former Director General, WARPO were the Guest of Honors in the inaugural session and delivered their valuable speech on the concept and practice on IWRM. After successful completion of the one day-long training program, the participants have been given certificates of completion along with necessary training materials.



Figure 1: Participants in the training on IWRM for Women Professionals



Figure 2: Training on IWRM for Women Professionals

Co-organizing the Conference IPWE 2023 with the Cooperation from IWFM, BUET

The 11th International Perspective on the Water Resources and the Environment (IPWE) Conference will be held from Jan 4-6, 2023 in Dhaka, Bangladesh and BWP is nominated as one of the Local Organizing Committee members. In this regard BWP is supporting the the Environmental and Water Resources Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE-EWRI) and Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET-IWFM) to organize the event. This conference will create a platform for professionals to share knowledge, network, and gain perspective of water resource issues unique to the conference destination. This event will be accessible to participants from a wide range of cultural, socio-economic, and professional backgrounds. The theme of the conference is the Risk & Resiliency in the Time of Climate Change. The center piece of the conference is a hybrid summit/round table conferences to be held both in Dhaka, Bangladesh and Reston, Virginia and will be broad-casted simultaneously internationally between the two countries. The Topics for the 1st summit in Dhaka are the Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100 (BDP 2100); restoration of major rivers and impacts of climate change. The Topics at the Reston Summit are the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP); flood mitigation of lower Mississippi River; and western mega-drought and impacts of climate change.

Validation Workshop on Climate Risk And Vulnerability Assessment for the WASH Sector in Bangladesh to Support Climate Shift

The GWL program is funded by the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) and implemented by Global Water Partnership (GWP), the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the Sanitation and Water for All Partnership (SWA) and the World Health Organization/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Program (JMP). The aim of the program was to strengthen leadership and collaboration in water resources and WASH governance (minimizing gap between WASH and IWRM) at global and national levels, create evidence, norms and standards to inform climate-resilient water and sanitation policies. This GWL program is working in 10 countries. In Bangladesh UNICEF led the program in coordination with the Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE). A continuation conducted a climate risk and vulnerability assessment for the WASH sector with an aim to contribute on enhancing climate resilience. This assessment consisted of 3 virtual workshops in addition to 1 final in person validation workshop in Dhaka. It was technically being led and supported by Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI). Virtual workshops were completed beforehand with active and enthusiastic participation of relevant stakeholders on 6 July 2022 and 7 September 2022. Then, the final validation workshop was conducted on 21 – 22 September 2022, from 9 am – 4.30

pm at Renaissance Dhaka, Gulshan, 78 Gulshan Avenue, Dhaka -1212. Ricard Gine and Henning Göransson Sandberg from Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) facilitated the 2-day in person validation workshop. BWP actively participated and advocated to connect WASH and IWRM followed by enhancing climate resilience through technologies. The objectives of the final workshop were to:

- Validate findings from the climate risks and vulnerability analysis
- Identify and appraise climate solutions at national / subnational, watershed, and community and local level
- Develop a response framework to guide the sector towards more climate resilient services



Figure 1: Presentation of the final response framework developed in the workshop by Lamiya Sharmeen, Young Professional, BWP



Figure 2: Preparation of Response Framework in the workshop

Mapping Transboundary Water Resources Management in the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna River Basins

GBM river basin system, often referred to as one large, combined river basin, comprises of three river basins featuring unique geomorphology and flow regime with variety of ecological, social, economic, and political realms. The combined flow of the Ganges and Brahmaputra travels about 100 km southeast with name the Padma, joins with the Meghna near Chandpur, and travels 140 km further south with name the Lower Meghna before empties into the Bay of Bengal. Therefore, this river basin is one of the important water resources for the people living in this basin areas. However, GBM river basin is still underdeveloped. Considering the social, political and cultural context, GWP initiated a project to mapping GBM river basin system in Bangladesh, India and Nepal. The aim of this project was to produce a comprehensive study on transboundary water resources management, stocktaking and produce suggestions on integrative transboundary river management. The project will yield one stocktaking report on the Ganges and Brahmaputra Basin, jointly produced by GWP Bangladesh, GWP India and GWP Nepal. The continuation of mapping the GBM basin is the finalization of the report generated from Bangladesh, India and Nepal. Each analysis report consisted of several key components that will contribute to clarify overall situation analysis of transboundary water governance within Ganges-Brahmaputra basin in South Asia, and to identify GWP South Asia's entry points. It is expected that the identified areas of intervention will bring GWP key partners, and institutional donors later on for basin level cooperation.

Delta Knowledge Days 2022 of Bangladesh Delta Plan (BDP2100)

An International Joint Cooperation Programme (JCP) was held on 17-18 September, 2022 at Lakeshore Hotel, Gulshan, Dhaka. IWM, CEGIS, WUR and Deltares as partner organizations, worked together for four years towards concerning an app to provide easy access

to information on BDP2100, quantifying future water demand for food, monitoring clean and safe water for Dhaka city, ensuring the flow in the Old Brahmaputra, designing polders of the future and the Bangladesh Metamodel for assessing investment in BDP2100. The objective of the Delta Knowledge days was to share knowledge and insights. Over 250 participants from different discipline took part in 2 days conference including high-level policy makers, government officials, academicians, researchers, students and private sector representatives. Md. Siddiqur Rahman, Secretary General and Md. Saifur Rahman, Executive Secretary of BWP also attended the conference.



Figure 1: Delta Knowledge Days 2022 of Bangladesh Delta Plan (BDP2100)



Figure 2: Md. Siddiqur Rahman, Secretary General, BWP attending the workshop

Regional Programs

28th Regional Council Meeting

The Regional Council (RC) meeting is the annual governance meeting of Global Water Partnership South Asia (GWP SAS) held from 9-10 November 2022 in Negombo, Sri Lanka. The two-day planning and progress review meeting was hosted by the Regional Chair, Ms Kusum Athukorala with the support of the GWP SAS Regional Secretariat. This was the first in-person regional meeting, which was held after three years of online meetings. The meeting was attended by representatives of the six Country Water Partners (CWP) including RC members, Chairs and Country Coordinators as well as the Senior Network Officer, GWPO. The hybrid mode allowed those representatives of the CWPs who were unable to attend the meeting in person to participate and contribute. In recognition of the importance and support given to climate and water issues by the host, the Honorable Prime Minister of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Mr Dinesh Gunawardena graciously agreed to be the Chief Guest and inaugurated the 28th RC Meeting of GWP SAS. Mr. Moshir Rahman PEng, President, BWP and Dr. Prof. Monowar Hossain, Vice President of BWP attended the meeting. **The Minutes of the 27th RC Meeting** were circulated and GWP SAS Programme update was presented by Lal Induruwage, Regional Coordinator, GWP SAS. He also discussed about the Financial and Audit Reports 2021 and GWP SAS 3 Year Work Plan. The concluding remarks were presented by Ms. Kusum Athukorala, Regional Chair and vote of thanks was presented by Mr Laurent-Charles, Network Specialist of GWP SAS.



Figure 1: Prime Minister Dinesh Gunawardena, Sri Lanka Speaking to President Moshir Rahman, PEng, BWP in the 28th Regional Council Meeting in Sri Lanka

Figure 2: 28th Regional Council Meeting in Negombo, Sri Lanka

Governance Related Activities

BWP Executive Committee Meetings

BWP Executive Committee (EC) meetings (75, 76, 77 and 78) were held respectively on 24 March, 18 June, 29 September and 25 November 2022 at the Conference Room, Dhaka LGED XEN Office, 62, West Agargaon. The main agenda of the meetings included progress of Action plan development to achieve targeted IWRM Implementation of SGD indicator 6.5.1 in Bangladesh (Phase-2), progress of mapping Transboundary Water Resources Management in the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna (GBM) River Basins, progress of the work plan 2022 under GWP core funds, progress of External Audit Report 2021, BWP Official Webpage up-gradation, discussion on holding the 20th AGM of BWP, appointment confirmation of Lamiya Sharmeen, Young Professional, BWP and decision making about Mukta Akter, Executive Secretary, BWP, proposal of the new Regional Council member and the Executive Committee member, decision on new institutional and individual members and Audit Report 2021 approval.



Figure 1: BWP 75th Executive Committee Meeting



Figure 2: BWP 77th Executive Committee Meeting



Figure 3: BWP 78th Executive Committee Meeting

20th Annual General Meeting of BWP

The 20th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Bangladesh Water Partnership (BWP) for the year 2021 was held on 25 December 2022 at the Conference Room, Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) Executive Engineer Office, Dhaka. BWP executive committee, general members and representatives of partner organizations of BWP participated in the meeting. Mr. Moshir Rahman PEng, President, BWP chaired the meeting. The Chairperson welcomed the participants of the AGM and invited them to introduce themselves. Following the introduction and recitation from the Holy Quran by Dr. Abdur Rashid, EC Member, BWP, the Chairperson called the meeting to order at 10:30 A.M. The agendas in the AGM were: Confirmation of the minutes of the 19th AGM; Placement of Secretary General’s report; Placement of BWP audit reports 2021 for information, rectification, and selection of Auditor for 2022; Progress under work plan for 2022; Programs under work plan for 2023. Valuable suggestions were proposed by the members who participated in the meeting to improve BWP activities.



Figure 1: BWP 20th Annual General Meeting