

## Workshop on Dredging and Spoil Management



Left to right: Dr. K. A. Haq, Vice President, BWP. Mr. Shahidul Hassan, President, BWP. Mr. Mahabubur Rahman MP, Honorable State Minister, Ministry of Water Resources. Mr. Ramesh Chandra Sen MP, Honorable Minister, Ministry of Water Resources. Mr. AKM Shahiduzzaman, Director General, BWDB.

A workshop on "Capital Dredging of Rivers in Bangladesh with Emphasis on Spoil Management" was held on 4 February, 2012 at CIRDAP Conference Room, Dhaka. Mr. Ramesh Chandra Sen MP, Minister and Mr. Mahabubur Rahman MP, State Minister, Ministry of Water Resources, People's Republic of Bangladesh, were the chief guest and special guest of the workshop, respectively. Mr. AKM Shahiduzzaman, Director General, Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) was the guest of honor. Mr. Md. Shahidul Hassan, President, BWP, chaired the workshop. Dr. Kh. Azharul Haq, Vice President, BWP welcomed the participants. Mr. Md. Sazedul Karim Chowdhury, former Chief Engineer, BWDB was the moderator of the workshop. Mr. Abdul Wadud Bhuiyan, former Additional Director General, BWDB presented the keynote paper. The workshop emphasized the need for rivers dredging with short, medium and long term plans and recommended ways for management of river system and dredged materials and implementation of projects through public private partnership (PPP) approach.

## Application of IWRM Principles

BWP has completed a study on the application of IWRM principles in the implementation of water supply and sanitation projects in Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (DWASA). The goal of the study was to promote water as a key part of sustainable development. The study was conducted by Environment and Population Research Centre (EPRC) in January 2012. The five projects selected for the study included Sayedabad Water Treatment Project (Phase-II), Dhaka Water Supply Sector Development Project (DWSSDP), Emergency Rehabilitation and expansion of Water Supply System Project (EREWSSP), Dhaka Water Supply and Sanitation Project (DWSSP), and Tetuljhara Bhakurta Well Field Construction Project. During the study from July to December 2012, projects understanding on the water supply and sanitation services with the growing urbanization and population pressure in Dhaka city water were assessed. Project documents available at DWASA were reviewed and DWASA officials, stakeholders and community people were interviewed to verify the application of the four guiding principles that emerged at the Dublin Conference. The principles are i) Water is a finite and vulnerable resource, essential to sustain life, development and the environment, ii) Water development and management should be based on a participatory approach, involving users, planners and policy makers

at all levels, iii) Women play a central part in the provision, management and safeguarding of water, and (iv) Water has an economic value in all its competing uses and should be recognized as an economic good.

The study found that baseline survey and feasibility study were carried out during the project inception phase. In addition, project goal was set to contribute to sustainable provision and operation of urban water supply services. Following the implementation of the projects, water quality and improvement of water monitoring system were regularly evaluated. Though the water users were provided with a number of responsibilities the participatory approach was not adequately followed in the project cycle. The projects focused less on the women's role. The coordination between the agencies (DCC, DWASA and RAJUK) with respect to service delivery within the slum areas was not strong. It was absent among the relevant stakeholders for efficient functioning of slum WSS facilities and low income communities. DWASA local level officials were not much interested to deliver support service to the lower income or slum communities in collaboration with other DCC programs. DWASA needs to follow the IWRM principles strictly to improve the water supply and sanitation services.

## Training on Climate Change Adaptation



Ms. Catharien Terwisscha van Scheltinga, Director, Dhaka Project Office, Alterra/Wageningen University and Research Centre providing training on Climate Change Adaptation – Global Perspective

Institute of Water Modeling (IWM) and BWP have organized a training course on "Climate Change Adaptation". The goal of the training was coping with critical water challenges through partnerships to secure mutual goals. Local and international professionals including engineers, economists and public health specialists from the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE), Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (DWASA), Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology (BUET), Bangladesh Agriculture Research Council (BARC), Water Resources Planning Organization (WARPO), Department of Environment (DoE) and NGO Forum participated the two-day course from 23 to 25 September 2012. The course aimed to increase awareness of the key critical issues related to climate change from different perspectives.

## Water and Culture

Folklore Research Institute (Gorai AWP) has carried out a study on water and culture in Kushtia district in the southwest region of the country. The relationship between people, water and nature is unique in Bangladesh. Water is the most essential element for people's life, social development and industrial and agricultural production. In the rural area all economic activities are water centered. However, the rapid growth in groundwater irrigation and urbanization in recent decades have exerted severe ecological stresses on water resources which created social conflicts. Water is also universally used in the country by all religions for performing different religious rituals which has also become part of the local culture.

## Capacity Building

A trainings workshop was organized for the application of Environmental Health and Climate Change Adaptation Capacity Building in schools in disaster prone and arsenic affected Narail District. The goal of this activity was to reinforce knowledge sharing and communications. Part of the Narail district is flood area and salinity prone area. The district is situated on the bank of the Chitra River. Four schools were selected randomly for the training. Pre- and post- training evaluation including quiz competition was organized to assess the awareness among the students about environmental health and climate change. Water quality was tested in the course to determine arsenic contamination, DO level, turbidity and temperature. Reinforce knowledge sharing and communications were the goals of this training workshop.



Students in the training workshop

## Awareness among Women in Sunamganj



Participants in the Gender Awareness Workshop on 28 Nov 2012

A workshop on "Gender Awareness and Networking on IWRM at sub Basin Level" was organized in Sunamganj district under the Surma River Area Water Partnership (AWP) program on 28 November 2012. It was organized by the Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS), Bangladesh Women & Water Network (BWWN) and BWP. Md. Abul Kalam Azad, Superintendent Engineer, Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB), Sylhet was the chief guest. The special guest was Md. Kamrul Alam, Additional District Commissioner, Sunamganj. Dr. Abdul Hamid, Director, Business Development, CEGIS chaired the workshop. Syeda Mohsina Muhit, Water Resources Division, CEGIS and Engr.

K M Zeba Rahman, Executive Secretary, BWP presented a paper on "IWRM Concepts and its

Application: Bangladesh Perspective". The presentation covered IWRM definition, concepts, needs, history, visions, prospects and integration in various sectors. The paper on "Mainstreaming Gender on IWRM" presented by Begum Shamsun Nahar, Coordinator, BWWN focused on gender concept, role of government of Bangladesh on gender and development, government policy on gender and water, IWRM concept and application, women's employment for economic development, important issues to ensure women active participation and development, gender, water and networking. A total number of 50 participants from water user groups, water management cooperative association and local women organization, representatives of local NGOs working on water, local Union Parishad chairman and members, local elites, teachers etc. participated in the workshop where most of the participants were women.



Engr. K M Zeba Rahman, Executive Secretary, BWP presenting paper in the Gender Awareness Workshop on 28 Nov 2012.

## Low River Flow Raises Salinity in Coastal Region

Status of the rivers in the southwest region of Bangladesh was assessed in a study. With a population of 30 million the coastal region in the country covers around 25,000sqkm. The ecology in the region is influenced by 78 large, medium and small rivers including the Ganges. Siltation has significantly reduced river flow particularly in the dry season. Construction of earthen dams on the rivers restricts inflow. The low flow increases salinity and adversely affects agriculture, fisheries, trading, municipal water supply and irrigation in the region. The Sundarban one of the largest natural mangrove forest in the world, is under threats for the increased salinity. Further upstream withdrawals and the impending climate change may aggravate the situation.



Bhairab River dries up in the winter season.

## BWP Executive Committee Meeting

The 36<sup>th</sup>, 37<sup>th</sup>, 38<sup>th</sup> and 39<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee (EC) Meetings were held on 27 March 2012, 27 June 2012, 6 September 2012 and 20 October 2012 respectively. The important issues discussed in the meetings were implementation status of the 2012 work plan and preparation of the 2013 work plan, nominations of new Regional Council (RC) Members for GWP-SAS, Audit Report for 2011 and participation in the Consulting Partners (CP) Meeting in Stockholm. The 38<sup>th</sup> meeting principal agenda was to discuss about the holding of the RC Meeting in Dhaka which was successfully held from 28 – 30 September 2012. The EC approved the Audit report for presentation to the AGM for the year 2011 in the 39<sup>th</sup> EC Meeting. It has also finalized the work plan and budget for 2013. The EC also formed a committee for organizing the workshop on "Building Climate Resilience in the Bangladesh Delta: Managing for effective Water Solution". The EC was satisfied with the performance of BWP but recommend to strengthen gender participation.

## BWWN Steering Committee Meeting

Four Steering Committee meetings of the Bangladesh Women and Water Network (BWWN) were held in 2012. The principal agenda was strengthening of BWWN. The meeting reviewed the progress on the drafting of constitution, linkage with BWP website and opening a bank account. Importance was given to take initiative for increase of members in the network. The meeting agreed to extend BAWWN programs beyond the capital city to cover grassroots levels in the country. It was decided that professionals from any discipline working in the water sector could be enrolled as an individual or organizational member.

## BWP Annual General Meeting



10th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of BWP for the year of 2011

The tenth annual general meeting (AGM) of BWP was held on 10 November 2012 at Bangladesh Agriculture Research Council (BARC) conference room. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Md. Shahidul Hassan, President, BWP. The meeting reviewed the BWP annual report and the audit report for 2011 as presented by the BWP Secretary General. The reports were unanimously approved with a few observations. The meeting agreed to appoint Mohammed Quddus & Co as auditor for 2012-2013 financial year among the three firms participated in the bidding invited for auditing of BWP financial account. The new firm will replace Anisur Rahman & Co. who has audited from 2008-2009. Reappointment of audit firm in every three years is a BWP policy. The revised constitution of the BWP was also approved in the AGM.

## GWP Consulting Partners Meeting and World Water Week 2012

The GWP Consulting Partners (CP) meeting was held on 26 August 2012 in Stockholm. The one-day CP meeting encompassed three separate sessions. These were the statutory GWP Network meeting, the CP meeting and finally the GWP annual lecture. The meeting was concluded with a farewell reception in honor of the outgoing GWP Chair Dr. Letitia A. Obeng. It was her last CP meeting she chaired. The meeting brought GWP Partners together from all over the world with its strategic allies to explore this year overarching theme "Beyond Rio+20: Water as a catalyst for climate-resilient development". The objectives of the meeting were review of the perspectives for global, regional and national climate-resilient development; set the stage for scaling up collaboration with GWP Partners and key strategic allies, and the implementation of climate resilience programs at region and national level; and set the context for GWP 2020 vision of a water secure world. Mr. Giasuddin Choudhury, BWP Executive Committee Member and Executive Director, Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS) attended the meeting. Dr. Kh. Azharul Haq, BWP Vice President participated as a member of panel session in the workshop on "Building climate resilience in the World's Deltas: Managing for effective water solutions".

The World Water Week was held from 26 to 31 August 2012 in Stockholm, Sweden. Dr. Kh. Azharul Haq, Vice President, BWP participated the seminar on "Managing the World's Deltas: Unique Systems, Unique Challenges" organized on this occasion. He presented a paper on Delta Development Plan 2012, Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna Delta. The presentation highlighted three major issues in Bangladesh and the ways Bangladesh deals with the issues. As a result of the presentation by Dr. Haq and Mr. Giasuddin Ahmed Choudhury GWP agreed to provide special financial assistance to BWP to hold a workshop on water management in Bangladesh Delta and implementing some projects on "Climate Change and Water Security".

## World Water Day

Ministry of Water Resources, Government of Bangladesh observed the World Water Day in 64 districts in the country. BWP was made a cosponsor of the event. A workshop was organized on "Water & Food Security" in Dhaka. Mr. Ramesh Chandra Sen MP, Minister, Ministry of Water Resources, was present as the chief guest. Sheikh Altaf Ali, Senior Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources was the special guest. Mr. AKM Shahiduzzaman, Director General, Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) chaired the workshop and Ms. Kamrun Nahar Khanam, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources addressed the workshop in the opening session.





News paper supplement on the occasion of the World Water Day. Government of Bangladesh circulated poster to observe the day.

paper on "Integrated Haor and Wetland Resources Management". He indicated that the building of proposed Tipai Mukh dam on the Indian side of the border should preceded by joint feasibility study by both India and Bangladesh. The other issues identified in the presentation were registration fee for land transfer in haor areas, consideration of water treatment plant, revisiting the leasing system of water bodies in haor areas by the government and fitting the master plan in the context of long term plan. Rotarian Dr. Monzurul Haque Choudhury concluded the seminar with vote of thanks.

The interactive and participatory session recommended ways to improve water and food security in a word with increased demands for water. Dr. Kh. Azharul Haq, Vice President, BWP participated as a designated discussant. BWP cosponsored news paper supplement. Surma Area Water Partnership and Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS) organized a seminar on "Integrated Haor and Wetland Resources Management for Food & Water Security" on March 20, 2012. Professor Syed Akmal Mahmood, Vice Chancellor, Sylhet International University was present as the Chief Guest. Mr. N. M. Zeaul Alam, Divisional Commissioner, Sylhet was present as the special guest. Members of civil societies and officials from government, semi-government and autonomous organizations, NGO representatives, and university teachers attended the seminar. Rotarian Shafique Ahmed Bakth, President, Rotary Club, Jalalabad, Sylhet, addressed the seminar in the opening session. Mr. Giashuddin Ahmed Choudhury, Executive Director, CEGIS, presented a key note



Mr. Giashuddin Ahmed Choudhury, presents a keynote paper.

## Awareness Building on Fish Sanctuary in Halda River

An awareness meeting to protect the Halda River from encroachment and pollution for the fish sanctuary was held on 31 March 2012 in Hathazari upazila, Chittagong district. Halda Area Water Partnership (AWP) supported by NOWZUWAN, a local NGO, organized the meeting. Dr. Kh. Azharul Haq, Vice President, BWP presided over the meeting. Among other Ms. Shejada Begum, Vice Chairman, Hathazari upazila Parishad, Mr. Abul Hossain, Chairman, South Maddasha Union Parishad, Mr. Syfuddin Mahmood, Principal, Mid Maddasha Shah Akbaria School & College, Md. Jakir Hossain, Upazilla Fisheries Officer, Hathazari Upazilla and Mr. Kashob Kumar, President Press Club, Hathazari attended the meeting. Members of civil society, journalists, fishermen, women and youth were present. Professor Dr. Md. Ali Azadi, Researcher, Halda River Project and Professor, Department of Zoology, Chittagong University presented the keynote paper. The presentation focused on the significant contribution of the Halda River to the economy as the largest spawning ground for Carp fish. Over the years due to encroachment and pollution this important breeding ground was being lost



Dr. Md. Ali Azadi Presentation of keynote paper.



Human chain in Dhaka on the World Water Day 2012

with severe adverse impact on fish production. The speakers urged that local people be involved proactively to strengthen the government attempt to prevent the encroachment and pollution of the river. They suggested that the elected representatives should play the key role. Dr. Haq assured that BWP would continue assist the Halda AWP in its endeavor to save the river through its advocacy role. BWP along with Bangladesh Water Integrity Network (BAWIN), Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB), Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon (BAPA) and NGO Forum for Public Health organized a human chain on the World Water Day where poster for protection of Halda River was also displayed by BWP.

## Regional Council Meeting

The eighteenth Regional Council (RC) meeting was held from 28 to 29 September 2012 in Dhaka. Regional Chair, Regional Coordinator, Support Officer to Regional Chair, Network Support and Programming, Senior Network Officer of GWP-SAS, Chair and one RC member from each CWP and BWP Secretariat attended in the meeting. In the opening session of the workshop, Mr. Shahidul Hassan, President, BWP stressed on the strengthening and effectiveness of RC in future to deal with the regional issues. Mr. Sardar Muhammad Tariq, Regional Chair, GWP-SAS gave brief resume of the activities in the region during his tenure and hoped that the GWP-SAS Chair designate with the RC would continue to carry the GWP flag more efficiently and effectively. Mr. Chaminda Rajapakse, Senior Network Officer, GWP reported on the status of the projects submitted by GWP-SAS. He indicated that the DFID funded climate change impact project was likely to be on board very soon and the region might get an additional €300,000 at the beginning of 2013. This would be followed up by an additional €200,000 in 2014. The drought management project was expected to be funded very soon.



Participants of the Regional Council Meeting in Dhaka.

He also informed that the Delta Initiative Project would be started at the end of the year and BWP shall have to organize a workshop by mid December 2012. The designate Regional Chair GWP-SAS Mr. Iswer Raj Onta assured the RC to advance the excellent work initiated by the outgoing Chair and he wished him all the success. Mr. Upali S. Imbulana, Regional Coordinator, GWP-SAS presented the minutes of seventeenth RC meeting held in Katmandu, Nepal for approval. Several issues related to RC activities were also discussed in the meeting. These included outcome of the orientation meeting in July 2012, submission of finalized/rephrased GWPSAS guidelines approved by the fifth General Assembly, retirement of RC members and new

appointments, review of financial and physical progress, proposed regional activities/programs, regional work planning and strategic planning for 2014-2018, report on global/regional meetings, communications strategy, website and bulletins, SAWAF-IV and proposals for regional conferences, regional participation in the India Water Week 2013 and decision on the venue for the next RC meeting.

## Work Planning and Outcome Mapping

A workshop on "Work Planning and Outcome Mapping" was held on 30 September 2012. Regional Chair, Regional Coordinator, Support Officer to Regional Chair, Network Support and Programming, Senior Network Officer of GWP-SAS, Chair and country coordinator from each country. Two participants from BWP Secretariat attended the meeting. Mr. Jacques Rey, Network Support and Programming office of GWP, GWP discussed on midterm review report, GWPO progress review, GWP focus areas and expectations on the next strategic plan.



Mr. Jacques Rey, Network Support and Programming, GWP discusses at the workshop.

## World Environmental Day



Dr. K. A. Haq, Vice President, BWP addresses at the seminar on World Environment Day.

Workshops and seminars were organized to observe the World Environment Day. BWP was the co-sponsor of the events held on 5 to 7 June 2012. Geographic Information Services (CEGIS) organized a seminar on "Water Resources Management for Environmental Friendly Development" on 6 June, 2012. Mr. Ramesh Chandra Sen MP, Minister, Ministry of Water Resources, was the Chief Guest. Mr. Mahabubur Rahman MP, State Minister and Mr. Sheikh Altaf Ali, Senior Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources Mr. AKM Shahiduzzaman, Director General, BWDB Executive Director were present at the seminar. Mr. Giasuddin Ahmed Choudhury, Executive Director, CEGIS presented the keynote paper on "Water Resources Management in Bangladesh for Green Economy".

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BWP and Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon (BAPA) organized a seminar on “Re-directive Development and Rio+20: Progress of Bangladesh” on 7 June, 2012. Mr. Zunaid Ahmed Palak MP, Vice President, Climate Change Caucus of the Bangladesh Parliament was present as the Chief Guest. Dr. Deba Pryio Bhattacharya, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dr. Atiq Rahman, Bangladesh Center for Advance Studies (BCAS), Syeda Rizwana Hasan, Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (BELA) and Prof. Mahbuba Nasreen, Dhaka University were the discussants at the seminar. Prof. Feroze Ahmed, Former Professor, Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology (BUET) and Vice President, BAPA, presided over the session. The seminars were widely covered by the media.



From left: Syeda Rizwana Hasan, BELA, Mr. Zakir Hossain, BAPA, Prof. Feroze Ahmed, BUET, Dr. Atiq Rahman, BCAS, Mr. Zunaid Ahmed Palak MP and Vice President, Climate Change Caucus of the Bangladesh Parliament, Prof. Mahbuba Nasreen, Dhaka University and Dr. Deba Pryio Bhattacharya, CPD.

## APAN Phase II



Consultation Meeting on Climate Change Adaptation in Water Management for Food Security: Recent Developments in South

Preparation of research outline by BWP under Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN) phase II completed in 2012. BWP was assigned to draft a policy brief to be completed by July 2012. It conducted a consultation meeting on “Climate Change Adaptation in Water Management for Food Security: Recent developments in South Asia”. Professionals from government and non-government organizations (NGOs) and universities participated in the meeting. A discussion was held in the meeting and the outcome was reflected in details in the proposal. Mr. Tauhidul Anwar Khan, Secretary General, BWP was assigned to prepare the report. The report was submitted to GWP-SAS.

## Performance of Tertiary Canals in GK Irrigation Project

The Ganges-Kopadak (GK) project is a pioneering irrigation project in the southwest region of the country. It was implemented by the Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) in late 1950s and was commissioned in early 1960s. The primary objective of the project was to provide supplementary irrigation for aman rice crop production. The crop is transplanted in the beginning of the monsoon (kharif 2) season and harvested in the early dry (rabi/boro) season. The irrigation water supply protects the crops from drought stress frequently encountered by the farmers in the post-monsoon season. The source of water is the Ganges River. The project components include two major pumping stations, flood control and drainage facilities and an irrigation distribution network comprising main, secondary and tertiary canals. The contribution of the project to supply surface water for irrigation is invaluable for the country.



Study team in GK Project area.

With the introduction of high-yielding modern rice varieties in the 1960s a large area was brought under irrigation in the boro season and aus (pre-monsoon) seasons. Later, conjunctive use of ground and surface water was practiced in the irrigated area. In 2012, CEGIS was entrusted to assess the performance of the tertiary canals in the GK project area. The study team carried out field work in March at the T5S4K tertiary canal located in Dohakula, Shimulia and Asthanpara villages in Alampur Union Parishad of Sadar Upazilla in Kushtia district. The study identified a number of constraints related to the efficiency of the tertiary canal. No water management system was found to be operating in the canal. Until last year, farmers used to irrigate crops in the dry season by shallow tube-well which involved huge cost. Since cropping pattern and crop calendar are primarily determined by the availability of water, the canal network of the project was performing moderately. Success of the GK project largely depends on the efficiency of the tertiary canals where associated technical and management issues need to be addressed in a proactive manner especially with participation of the farmers.



## Training of Trainers on IWRM Practices

A Training of Trainers (ToT) course on IWRM Practices for District Level Water Managers was organized by CEGIS from 9 to 14 June 2012. BWP and South West Area Integrated Water Resources Planning and Management Project (SWAIWRPMP) supported the training. The course covered IWRM concept and principles and field application of IWRM in SWAIWRPMP. The main purpose of the training was to introduce the IWRM concept and principles and share its application and experience with district level as well as regional level water managers and experts. It was envisaged that the trainees would use and share the knowledge and experience in their respective working areas. Thirty participants from BWDB, BWP, Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), Department of Environment (DoE), Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), WARPO, Khulna University, Action Aid, Environment and Population Research Center (EPRC), Field Wing, DoF and CEGIS participated in the course. Participants visited two sites of SWAIWRPMP in Narail district. They were assigned to monitor and evaluate Water Management Groups (WMGs) activities. Mr. Giasuddin Ahmed Choudhury, Executive Director CEGIS, Mr. Md. Kamarur Rahman Talukder, Project Director, SWAIWRPMP and Dr. Kh. Azharul Haq, Vice President, BWP were present at the opening session of the training course.



TOT course on IWRM concept and principles.



TOT participants discuss with WMGs members.

## Workshop on Transparency & Accountability in Water Supply in Dhaka City



From left: Dr. Kh. A Haq, Vice President, BWP; Dr. Iftekharuzzaman, Executive Director, TIB; Mr. Ramesh Chandra Sen MP, Minister, Ministry of Water Resources; Dr. Inamul Haque, Executive Director, IW&E; Mr. Quamrul Alam Chowdhury, Deputy Managing Director, DWASA

A workshop on "Transparency and Accountability in Water Supply in Dhaka City: Challenges and Actions" was organized by BAWIN on 26 May 2012 in Dhaka. Mr. Ramesh Chandra Sen MP, Minister, Water Resources was the Chief Guest. Mr. Quamrul Alam Chowdhury, Deputy Managing Director, Dhaka Water Supply & Sanitation Authority (DWASA) was the Special Guest. Dr. Kh. Azharul Haq, Former Managing Director, Dhaka WASA and Vice President, BWP presented one of the two keynote papers. The paper focused on global context of water integrity, Bangladesh Government policies and challenges to water integrity, poor consumer services and way forward. Dr. Haq indicated that 5 million slum dwellers in Dhaka city pay five times more than the official rate for DWASA water tariff. He explained that slums dwellers have no legal connection for DWASA water supply. Unscrupulous middlemen collect water from illegal connections to sell in the slums. A middleman makes Taka 40,000 per month by a single

illegal connection. There are thousands of unauthorized connections in the slum areas. The DWASA run into 30 percent loss of revenue each year where one percent equals Taka 45 million. Meter tempering by dishonest customers with the connivance of corrupt WASA employees is a key reason behind this huge pilferage, which is officially termed as system loss. Dr. Haq identified defective monitoring and supervision system in WASA project implementation and service delivery as the main reason for this. He suggested for ensuring oversight and providing effective autonomy to make WASA a transparent and effective service provider.



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