

In the year 2017 BWP implemented and/or participated in 20 activities of which 15 were funded by GWP and in the rest BWP participated in the programs sponsored by partners/other organizations. More details of important programs are presented in the following sections:

❖ Advocacy, Awareness and Capacity Building Programs

Multi-Stakeholder Workshop on “Valuing Water Initiative” held in Dhaka



The Honorable State Minister for Ministry of Water Resources Mr. Mohammad Nazrul Islam delivering his speech. Mr. Rudolph Cleveringa, Executive Secretary, GWPO (Extreme left) was also present

BWP organized a multi stakeholder workshop titled “Valuing Water Initiative” on the occasion of UN-WB High Level Panel meeting in Dhaka on 31 July 2017. The workshop aim was to assist HLPW to build momentum to accelerate and improve the way that governments, societies and the private sector use and manage water. One of its key deliverables is a set of shared principles to motivate and encourage governments, business and civil society to consider water’s multiple values, and to guide the transparent incorporation of these values into decision-making process and assist in mobilizing actions to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, many of which depend on managing water more efficiently.

The workshop was participated by over 60 Experts from government organizations, NGOs, Development

Partners, CBO’s, Semi Govt. Organizations, Research Organizations, Academia, Private sector, relevant stakeholders, foreign experts etc. The inaugural session was graced by the honorable state Minister, Mr. Muhammad Nazrul Islam, Ministry of Water Resources, as the Chief Guest. Ms. Suraiya Begum, Senior Secretary and HLPW Sherpa to the Hon’ Prime Minister of Bangladesh and Mr. Rudolph Cleveringa, Executive Secretary, GWPO were present as special guests, HE Ms. Leonie Cuelenaere, Ambassador of Netherlands in Bangladesh was the guest of honor. Mr. Md. Humayun Kabir, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources Chaired the inaugural session. During the consultation a number of recommendations were forwarded by the participants.

ToT Course on Concept and Practice on Integrated Water Resources Management Conducted



A female participant speaking at the ToT



Mr. HSM Faruque (Second from left), VP, BWP in closing session

BWP, in association with its partner organization Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS), organized a 5-day long Training of Trainers (ToT) course on "Concept and Practice of Integrated Water Resources Management" from 16th to 20th April, 2017 in Dhaka. The aim of the TOT was to introduce the concept of IWRM among mid-level professionals so that they can practice it in their respective fields as well as train other professionals in their own organizations. The training program included two parts, a theoretical lecture sessions and a practical field exercise. The theoretical aspect of IWRM was covered in the first part with theoretical lectures on several concepts, aspects, implications and application aspects of IWRM. The practical field work was conducted as a case study

on Hatirjheel water management intervention, a 'light house' project in Dhaka city. Belonging to different disciplines and having diverse experiences, around nineteen (19) participants attended the program from different organizations such as BWDB, Department of Environment (DoE), Department of Agricultural Extension, Department of Forest (DoF), Dhaka WASA, Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA), BRRI, BARI, BARC, IWFM, BUET, Dhaka University, Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB), Bangladesh Multipurpose Development Authority (BMDA), Soil Resource Development Institute (SRDI), IWM and CEGIS.

Improving Knowledge and Building Awareness on Gender sensitive Safe Water Management and Climate Change Adaptation through Secondary School Students



Price distribution ceremony



Speech by a female student.

The activity was carried out under the initiative and in collaboration with district and sub-district education officers and school teachers. An essay competition and information exchange workshop on "Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Safe Water Management" among students from four selected schools inside the Chitra-Noboganga AWP. A workshop was organized

on 5th August, 2017 at Narail, in collaboration with and participation of sub-district education officers, teachers, students and Mr. Tauhidul Anwar Khan, a member of the BWP Executive Committee. The workshop was followed by a very interactive open discussion which sensitized student on safe water management and climate change adaptation.

Consultation with the Grassroots Level Community on their Understanding and Approach regarding Adaptation to Climate Change



Mr. Md. Abdulla, Managing Director, Khulna WASA in the Dialogue

The consultations were organized with communities who have been suffering from drinking water scarcity and water logging. A total of six (06) community consultations were organized in different Wards of Khulna City Corporation. The total number of participants was 211 of which 167 were female participants. The participants shared their sufferings caused by severe shortage of safe water, limited access to piped water, drainage congestion, water logging etc. The consultations revealed that access to safe water was particularly limited for low-income households which in turn made long and frequent walks necessary for fetching water. Women in particular are the most affected by the scarcity of



View of the training program

safe water since it is their responsibility to fetch water for the whole family. Moreover, the water levels of most of the shallow tube-wells of these communities have significantly dropped and the water is either contaminated with iron or salinity. With the objective of increasing awareness and understanding of different approaches of adaptation to climate change and thereby enhancing their resilience, three (03) training programs were conducted for the vulnerable communities of Khulna City. The training programs were conducted by Mr. Md. Abdullah, Managing Director, Khulna WASA

Pilot study conducted on 'Empowering Young Women through Rainwater Harvesting System for Homestead Eco Farming, Drinking Water Supply and Help to Generate Entrepreneurship'.



Rain Water Harvesting Systems (RWHS)

BWP implemented the project in association with its partner organization Voice of South Bangladesh (VoSB) in Bagerhat district (a southwest coastal region of Bangladesh) in September 2017. The principal objective of the project was to empower young women as potential water entrepreneurs through harvesting rainwater for homestead green farming and increasing access to drinking water in Bijoypur village, a low income area of Bagerhat District. The project implementation included the following activities:

- i. Field Survey
- ii. 2 - day long training program
- iii. Stakeholders Consultation in the selected village
- iv. Field Visit and procurement and installation of rain water harvesting systems.

(Cont'd on page 4 ...)

Project on 'Empowering Young Women ... (Cont'd from page 3)

This pilot project helped 11 (eleven) young women directly through training on rain water based entrepreneurship development. The indirect beneficiaries are more than 300 (three hundred) persons from local communities. Among the 11 (eleven) participants 6 (six) were provided with locally fabricated small rain water harvesting systems with storage capacity of 1000 liter each. The project has already created significant impact on the entire community through generating substantial interest on rainwater harvesting for homestead water supply and green farming.

The project is expected to help young women to reduce significant amount of time now used for fetching water. This will also enable young women to stay in school for longer periods of time. Homestead vegetable gardening will enhance the economic status of the participating women will encourage further participation of women. The trained young women will also act as change agents to help strengthen and protect women's right and dignity.



Training Session on RWHS

Training of Trainers (TOT) on Adaptive Delta Management (ADM): A new initiative with partner organization, Institute of Water Modelling

The training program was jointly by Bangladesh University and Engineering and Technology (BUET), Delta Cap, Delta Alliance, Bangladesh Wing and Wageningen University and Research Centre, at the ITN Centre's training facilities at BUET from 16-19 September 2017.

The overall aim of this training was to develop capacity of the participants in longer term planning and integrated assessment of adaptive delta management, improving capabilities for integrated assessments and analyses, thus widening the scope

for development of sustainable solutions in the GBM delta. This capacity building initiative is a part of a 4 year program to increase capability of the relevant public sector professionals for implementing the ambitious of Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100 of the Government. The training included three day long interactive lecture sessions and a day long field visit to the Rupganj North Water Conservancy Project, Narayanganj district. On behalf of BWP, Ms. Mukta Akter, Executive Secretary participated in the training program.

International Women's Day 2017 Celebrated



On 12 March 2017, BWP celebrated the International Women's Day in the premises of its secretariat with the Bangladesh Women and Water Network (BWWN) with the slogan "Be Bold For Change". The celebration included holding of the 29th Steering Committee Meeting of BWWN. Participated by 6 members of the steering committee, the meeting was presided over by Begum Shamsun Nahar, Coordinator of BWWN.

The meeting ended by reminding that: (1) Women

have a major role to play in overall water management; (2) Women are exclusively responsible for collecting, storing, and distributing water for domestic use and hence their role should be properly recognized; (3) Meaningful participation of women could be a key factor for improving municipal wastewater management; and (4) Participation of women in irrigation management should be further strengthened.

Celebrating the World Water Day 2017



Barrister Anisul Islam Mahmud, M.P. Honorable Minister, Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR), delivering speech at the seminar.



Seminar in SUST at Sylhet

The Bangladesh Water Partnership celebrated the World Water Day 2017 through a number of events both centrally and locally in association with its partner organizations. One of the events was holding a daylong seminar on 20th March, 2017, which was organized jointly with the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE), Shahjalal University of Science and

Technology (SUST), Sylhet. The seminar was presided over by Professor Dr. Mushtaq Ahmed, Head of the CEE Department and participated by Prof. Dr. Md. Aminul Haque Bhuyan, Honorable Vice Chancellor of SUST. Endorsing the theme of the year, they emphasized that improved wastewater management

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World Environment Day 2017 Observed in Barishal



Dr. K. Azharul Haq (right) participating in the program.

In order to create awareness and underline the importance of the Environment Day under the theme “Connecting People to Nature”, BWP organized a workshop jointly with its partner organizations in Barisal district on 12th June 2017. The workshop titled “Conserve Environment and Save Our Ecology”, had a total of 65 participants including environmental experts, representatives from local government agencies, government officials concerned & involved with environment & ecology related issues, BWP officials and members, CSO representatives, stakeholders,

youth leaders and media personalities. The keynote of the seminar was presented by Dr M. Hasinur Rahman, Dean, Faculty of Biology, Barisal University. Dr. Khandokar Azharul Haq, President of BWP, was the Chief Guest on the occasion along with Special Guest Mr. Md. Sajidur Rahman Sardar, Chief Engineer, Water Development Board, Barisal division. During the event, the local partner organizations of BWP shared their experiences as well as successes and lessons learnt on environment conservation issues.

❖ Research and Development

Computation of Crop specific drought Index

The study conducted in association with CEGIS focused on crop specific drought assessment and management at Tanore upazila under Rajshahi district. The study area comprised of four unions (i.e. Kalma, Badhair, Mondumala, and Pachandar) and one Municipality (i.e. Mondulamala) of Tanore upazila one of the most drought prone areas of the country. Although it was originally intended to generate the DSI (Drought Severity Index) using the SADMS model, due to availability of the model, the study was finally carried out following systematic steps of zoning of different drought stems based on secondary GIS data, analysis of satellite images for Vegetation Condition Index (VCI) and Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) mapping using Remote Sensing technology, and field

survey for collecting crop specific (T. Aman) drought data.

The study found that for sustainable crop production in drought prone areas like the North West region of Bangladesh, drought assessment is crucial for enabling timely action to mitigate the impacts of drought. It was recommended that tools like SADMS should be widely used by national agencies and authorities concerned to generate Crop Specific Drought Severity Index (DSI) at local level (Upazila and union levels). However, availability of the model for partner countries at open source is also an imperative. The study recommended that SADMS should be applied for different crops at least two crop seasons to validate the model.

Ensuring Sustainable Access to Water Supply in the Coastal Area of Bangladesh

Sustainable access to water is vital for human existence. Water and sanitation are two of the basic requirements for maintaining good health and quality of life. In Bangladesh, particularly in the coastal zone, access to water is a crucial issue due to salinity intrusion, extreme weather events and groundwater depletion. The broad objective of the study was to explore the challenges of sustainable access to water for water related livelihoods, drinking water, sanitation and hygiene, and adaptation practices with respect to climate change in the coastal zone with a focus on women and youth and to solicit suggestions and recommendations for ensuring sustainable access to water supply.

The study area included six unions from six districts. In addition, the selected sample unions were clustered at two levels: sea-facing and non- sea- facing to capture the variation of accessibility. Research questions were outlined in alignment with the objectives of the study to derive required information. The study observed that most of the available water is used for irrigation and hence adequate drinking water supply continues



Mr. Mohammad Waji Ullah, (4th left), ED, CEGIS participating in a View Exchange Meeting

to remain a major problem. It also adversely impacts livelihood, health, and quality of life of the population. Increased salinity also forcing shrimp farmers to move to crab farming. Rain water harvesting is increasingly becoming popular as source of drinking as well as irrigation water. The study recommended integrated and conjunctive use and management of surface, ground and rain water to ease the situation.



The Coca Cola Foundation Financed Study on Introducing Water-Efficient Technologies to Barind Tract Initiated

BWP in consultation with WRG 2030 has prepared and submitted a proposal "Introducing Water-Efficient Technologies to Barind Tract" in the context of the Bangladesh Water Multi-Stakeholder Partnership (BWMSP), towards attaining the overarching goals of enhancing agro-water productivity, reducing ground-water extraction and increasing farmers' income. The proposed project would be the first catalytic initiative planned as part of targeted transformative agenda for sustainability of groundwater based irrigated agriculture in the Barind Tract area of the North East.

The BWMSP Working Group on Agricultural Water has set its primary objective to 'Achieve significant farm productivity in a sustainable manner by introducing efficient irrigation and other relevant technologies and

management practices by building farmers' adaptive capacity and resilience, and increase farmers' income through crop diversification and gradual shift to high value, low water-intensive crops'. As part of this comprehensive focus, 'Transformative collective action' based projects will be undertaken to contribute to improving water security by reducing the demand-supply gap and improving quality of available water resources for agricultural, industrial and domestic use.

If the project is approved by TCCC, it may commit up to US\$ 600,000 for this 3 year project scheduled to start from Jan 1, 2018.

❖ Regional Programs

7th General Assembly and Partners Forum of GWP-SAS Held in Dhaka*Partners Forum in Progress*

The 7th General Assembly and Partners Forum (GA and PF) of Global Water Partnership-South Asia (GWP-SAS) was held on 29th October, 2017 in Dhaka, back to back with 23 RC meeting. It was attended by the partners and the Regional Council members of the Country Water Partnerships (CWPs) of GWP-SAS, CWP Chairs, Regional Coordinators, observers from the CWPs, special invitees and other key officials of BWP. The meeting was presided over by Dr. Lam Dorji, Regional Chair, GWP-SAS. Dr. Jacques Rey, Head of Network Operations, GWPO ; and Dr Yumiko Yasuda, Senior Network Officer, GWPO participated as special invitees to the meeting.

The meeting included 9 agenda for discussion that

focused on the importance of having a strong network among the partners for achieving meaningful changes in the water sector, and developing a mechanism for active involvement of partners as well as enhancing interaction and communication among them.

In addition, the need for demonstrating GWP's commitment towards SDG 6.5 as well as the response to climate change, was also emphasized. Later, a brief activity report of the GWP-SAS for the years 2014 to 2017, audited accounts for the year 2016, the work plan and budget for 2018 and the progress of both CORE and WACREP program in the last three years were presented.

Celebrating the World Water Day 2017 ... (Cont'd from page 5)

is essential to cope with the growing global pollution challenges. Mr. H S Mozaddad Faruque, Vice President of BWP and Former Director General of BWDB participated in the celebration as the Special Guest. He informed that following the GWP objective, BWP is fostering the application of Integrated Water Resources Management including wastewater, taking into climate change impact s and their adaptation & mitigation strategy.

On 22 March 2017, BWP jointly celebrated the day at central level with the Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR) and its partner organizations namely the Centre for Environment and Geographical Information System (CEGIS), the Institute of Water Modeling (IWM), the

Bangladesh National Committee of ICID (BANCID), the Water Resources Planning Organization (WARPO), the Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) and the Department of Water Resource and Engineering (WRE) of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET). The celebration, consisting of a half day seminar on "Wastewater". The event was graced by the Chief Guest Barrister Anisul Islam Mahmud, M.P, Honorable Minister, Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR). During his speech, he informed that the water flow in the Ganges has reduced significantly, which is a big challenge for the region. He also emphasized on the need for improving wastewater management for sustainable and ecofriendly environment.

Holding of 23rd Regional Council (RC) Meeting of GWP-SAS



Participants in 23rd RC Meeting

The 23rd Regional Council (RC) meeting of GWP-SAS, hosted by BWP, was held on 28th October, 2017. It was attended by the Regional Council members of the Country Water Partnerships (CWP) of GWP-SAS, CWP Chairs, Regional Coordinators, observers from the CWPs, special invitees and other key officials of BWP.

The main objective of the RC meeting was to discuss the progress, concerns and future direction of GWP-SAS activities and to take decisions accordingly. The following 20 agenda were discussed in the meeting; (1) Progress of the three-year GWP Work Programme (2017-2019); (2) resources allocation; (3) Work plan and budget for 2018; (4) Basic requirements of CWPs for eligibility of GWPO funding from 2018 and onwards; (5) Need and mechanism for strengthening the capacity of GWP and CWPs; (6) GWP's current work programme on the SDG framework; (7) Glimpses of current and

future programmes of CWP programmes; (8) Progress of GWP SAS Programmes like Pan Asia, (9) LDAI and Youth Programme etc. in the last four quarters (from the fourth quarter of 2016 to the third quarter of 2017); (10) fundraising strategy of GWP-SAS; (11) collaboration of GWP SAS with other international organizations (e.g. Asia Pacific Water Forum (APWF) for project development and fundraising; (12) participation of GWP and CWPs in different events; (13) application of SADMS at country and regional levels; (14) retirement of RC members and new appointments; (15) Financial and Audit Report of 2016; (16) engagement of Auditor for FY 2017; (17) decision on the venue for the next RC Meeting; (18) indication on future work plan and identification of possible sources of fund in this regard; (19) presentation on "Annual Regional Assessment Grid"; and (20) discussion on the modality of GWP SAS Chairmanship etc.

The Learning Delta Asia Initiative for Sharing Knowledge on Asian Deltas Launched

The Learning Delta Asia Initiative (LDAI) is an initiative of the Global Water Partnership. It is supported by global players in the water sector and aims at stimulating increased cooperation worldwide between those involved in the governance of deltas, strengthening a science-policy interface, and developing a framework for analysis and action. The goal of the LDAI is to accompany urbanizing deltas in better connecting development processes that often unfold in relative isolation. Several activities were undertaken during 2017 in order to progress with the objectives of the LDAI, focusing mainly on the implementation of scoping missions between Bangladesh and Myanmar as a part of building up an effective South-South cooperation. From Bangladesh, the lead agency is the Bangladesh Water Partnership. BWP, which is also supported by external knowledge groups including the Delta Alliance and Delta Coalition. In addition, research institutes such as the Centre for Environmental and Geographic Information services (CEGIS), the Institute of Water Modelling (IWM), the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) etc. are also cooperating with BWP.

Youth Conference on Climate Change in Barisal



General View of concluding ceremony

The Divisional Commissioner of Barisal Division, the Office of the Divisional Director of the Department of Environment and Forest, Barisal and UNICEF Barisal Office have jointly organized a two day long Youth Conference on Climate Change -2017. The conference was held in Barisal Division from 11 to 12 February 2017. The conference engaged Youth groups, Universities, Members of the Parliament, policy makers, experts and concerned stakeholders with the aim to promote and engage the youth to address the challenges of the impacts of climate change. About twenty five youth groups formed a network: YouthNet for Climate Justice in Barisal to work together on climate change issues. Ms. Mukta Akter, Executive Secretary



Presentation by Mukta Akter

of BWP and the Youth Focal Point of GWP-South Asia participated in the conference and presented a paper titled "Youth-The Prime Mover in Climate Resilient Sustainable Water Management: Lessons from Global Water Partnership".

❖ Governance Related Activities

Steering Committee (SC) Meeting of BWWN



View of SC meeting

The 30th Steering Committee (SC) Meeting of Bangladesh Women and Water Network was held at the BWP Secretariat on 25th July, 2017. The main agenda of the meeting was to discuss ways to further strengthen the network. Presided over by Begum Shamsun Nahar, Coordinator, BWWN, a workshop on the topic "Women's easy access to safe water and sanitation service in low income community" was held.

Executive Committee (EC) Meetings of BWP



Views of EC Meetings

The 56th, 57th, 58th and 59th meetings of the Executive Committee of BWP were held on 19 February, 17 May, 23 August and 24 October respectively. The main discussions centered on the following topics/projects: 1. Review of implementation status of the 2017 work plan under CORE and under the Water and Climate Resilience Program (WACREP); 2. Review and approval of the work plan and budget for 2018 under CORE and the Water and Climate Resilience Program (WACREP); 3. Discussion on the SADMS model

validation; 4. Discussion on collaborative work with the Water Resources Group (WRG) 2030 of IFC and SDG preparedness Facility Framework; 5. Discussion on the First Phase of Learning Delta Asian Initiatives; 6. Participation in a number of regional and international as well as other events (e.g. the 15th Annual General Meeting of BWP and the 23rd RC meeting in Dhaka). Dr. K. Azharul Haq, President BWP, chaired all the meetings.

The 15th Annual General Meeting of BWP



View of 15th AGM

The 15th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of BWP was held on 18th November, 2017 at Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) with the participation of 47 members and partners. The AGM highly appreciated the achievements of BWP's assigned activities of the year 2017 and advised the partner organizations to work with the current and more challenging water related issues. The meeting approved the Secretary General's report and Audit Report for the year 2016. Presentations were made on "Valuing

Water Initiative", "Present Scenario of Rivers and Canals of Barisal", and "Empowering Young Women through Rain Water Harvesting System for homestead Green Farming and Generate Entrepreneurships". The 2nd Book on Harvesting Rainwater from Buildings was also introduced at the meeting. The meeting suggested BWP to be more proactive and diversify its program implementation by including more partner organizations, wherever possible.

Executive Committee (EC) Members of BWP

01. Dr. Khondaker Azharul Haq, President of BWP and Former Managing Director, DWASA
02. Mr. H S Mozaddad Faruque, Vice President of BWP and Former Director General, BWDB
03. Dr. Nilufa Islam, Vice President of BWP and Former Director General, WARPO
04. Member, Joint Rives Commission Bangladesh & Treasure, BWP
05. Mr. Moshir Rahman PEng, Secretary General of BWP and Former Superintending Engineer, IWRM. P&D, LGED
06. Dr. Ainun Nishat, EC Member of BWP and Professor, Emeritus, BRAC University
07. Mr. Md. Shahidul Hassan, EC Member of BWP and Former Chief Engineer, LGED
08. Mr. Tauhidul Anwar Khan, EC Member of BWP and Former Member, JRCB
09. Mr. Md. Mahfuzur Rahman, EC Member of BWP and Director General, BWDB
10. Dr. Sultan Ahmed, EC Member of BWP and Member Director (NRM), BARC
11. Chief Engineer, Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority & EC Member, BWP
12. Dr. Umme Kulsum Navera, EC Member of BWP and Professor, WRE, BUET
13. Mr. S.M.A. Rashid, EC Member of BWP and Executive Director, NGO Forum for Public Health
14. Ms. Sabrin Reza, EC Member of BWP and Director, Sigma Engineering
15. Mr. Zahir Uddin Ahmed, EC Member of BWP and Conservator of Forest, Khulna Circle



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