

## Training Workshop On Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM)



### **Introduction:**

Water is a basic necessity for sustaining life and development of society. Proper management, protection and exploitation of the water resources are a challenge. The crisis of safe water has increased due to natural disasters, increased population, water pollution, ground water contamination, and development activities of the people. Therefore an integrated water resources management is very important to secure safe water in future.

Bangladesh is a small part of a larger hydrodynamic system that comprises several countries in the region. It is a deltaic plain with diverse hydrological, morphological and meteorological characteristics. Water is the most precious resource for the development of the country and forms an integral part of the society, economy and culture. Until very recently, water has been looked upon in a fragmented manner from narrow departmental perspectives of the different water user agencies. Lack of a coherent policy led to the use of this resource in an unsustainable, counterproductive and harmful manner. There was thus a need for a more comprehensive and holistic approach towards an integrated water resources management for obtaining the optimal benefits.

Building human and institutional capacity is the foundation of sustainable water resources Management and service delivery. The importance of capacity building was recognized during the Second World Water Forum and Ministerial Conference, The Hague, 17-22 March 2000. Mainstreaming youth in water sector is a global attention. The important role of youth in the water sector is beginning to be recognized. Youth are capable of much more about the need for the wise use of water. Increasing attention is being given these days to the education of youth on water related topics.

Education, training and awareness rising have been identified as key elements in forging a strategy to prepare humankind for the challenges of the twenty-first century. The youth has a great role in this endeavor. Youth are capable of much more about the need for the wise use of water. Today's youth will, eventually, decide the future use of our world's water resources. Youth are eager to learn and put into practice the knowledge they have obtained and they should be given the opportunity and freedom to do so.

### **Report of the training workshop:**

With the support of Bangladesh Water Partnership, Bhairab River & Gorai River Basin Area Water Partnership and Initiative for Right View (IRV) organized a day long training workshop on Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) on 13 May 2011, at VIP lounge, Khulna press club, Khulna. The training workshop was divided into two sessions.



At the beginning of the first session Safikul Islam Bhuvan, organizing secretary of Bangladesh southwest water youth forum presented the goal objectives of the Forum.

In the inaugural session Professor Dr. Muhammad Alomgir, Vice Chancellor, KUET was present as chief guest. The chief expressed his thanks to the organizers especially BWP to involve youth in water management initiative. Water is very much essential for environment conservation and also for the human being. Water scarcity has been increasing day by day. Unplanned urbanization and climate change also increasing the problem. We need planned and integrated approach to conserve our water resources. In this regard youth should come forward and organized them for the conservation initiative. I hope that through this training their skill will be develop and this will help them in future.



As special guests Principal Rehana Akter shared that water is life. Women engagement in water management is very much important. I am very happy to see that students from different colleges and university working on water issues. The two presentations on water crisis is very much practical and pathetic. Government should take initiative for the proper water treatment and swarege network management.



Mollah Safikur Rahman, Associate Professor, Environment Science Discipline, Khulna University expressed that IWRM is very much important for the water management of the southwest coastal region. An integrated initiative can make fruitful result. Government has take initiative to integrated agriculture, fisheries and water resource initiative for getting

better output.

As the chair of the workshop Firoz Ahmed, Convener, Bhairab River Area Water Partnership hoped that youth will come forward to face the challenges and develop themselves for the conservation of environment especially the water resource and river basin of the south west coastal region. They have opportunity and can develop their experience and skill through this kind of initiative and able to implement in their future life.



In the second session (technical session) as one of the facilitators of the training workshop Nazia Hasan, Lecturer, Environment Science Discipline, Khulna University facilitated her training on **IWRM for Youth Forum to Have Better World**. Her topics of training were:

- Why IWRM? Key issues in water management
- Where are we headed?
- Why IWRM useful



- Water Resources Management issues in Bangladesh
- Definition of IWRM
- Water Management Principle
- Evaluation of IWRM
- Economic Dimension of IWRM
- IWRM and Agenda 21
- Objective of IWRM

- Water policy in Bangladesh
- Coverage of GWP
- Implanting IWRM
- Natural system of integration
- Human system integration
- Gender and water
- Youth forum and IWRM

Zihan Al Tuhin, Assistant Engineer, LGED, Khulna facilitated his training based on the following topics:

- Mandate of Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM)
- Water Resource Management Projects in Southwest Region under Local Government Engineering Department
- Types of sub project under Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM)



Md. Azizur Rahman, Senior Zonal Trainer, IPSWAM conducted the training on



- Water management and people's participation
- Goal and objective
- Concerned people for integrated water resource management
- Water Management Organization (WMO)
- Local Government Institutions (LGIs)
- Participation process in water resource management

- Capacity Building Process in water management
- Orientation and need assessment
- Monitoring and evaluation

Representatives form Southwest water youth forum, Gorai River Basin Area Water Partnership, IPSWAM Water management group took part in the training.