

Bangladesh Water Partnership Monthly Report March 2015

BWP has implemented the following 2 activities under core program.

1. Training for Building Capacity on Climate Change Adaptation



[Closing session of the training programme]



[Awarding of certificate among the participants]

.In association with Institute of Water Modelling (IWM), BWP organized a 7 day training program on ‘Building Capacity on Climate Change Adaptation’ from 19-29 March, 2015. The training was held at the IWM training facilities in Mohakhali DOHS, Dhaka. The training comprised of primarily class-room sessions.

The training was attended by 10 mid-level professionals from different organizations viz. Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB), Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC), Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC) took part in the training program. The training program mainly consisted of class-based discussions. The training program included 20 lecture sessions each comprising of a full one-hour deliberation by resource persons drawn from local experts covering various vital issues such as Agriculture & Food Security, Public Health, Water Supply & Sanitation, Infrastructure & Flood Management, Gender, Mainstreaming and Cross-Cutting issues. The entire lecture series included contributions from 20 experts from various sectors. The topics were selected to enable the participants to gain insight into the emerging challenges of climate from different disciplinary perspectives.

The aim of the training program was to increase awareness on critical issues related to capacity building on climate change adaptation. Furthermore, trainees were able to comprehend a holistic view in developing an understanding of some of the main challenges that Bangladesh is likely to face in the future. The participants came from various cross sections of development agencies and views exchanged by the trainees gave them an excellent presentation of a knowledge base on climate change.

The closing sessions of the training program was graced by the President of BWP Mr. Shahidul Hassan and presided over by Prof Dr M Monowar Hossain, Executive Director, IWM & former Professor, Water Resources Engineering & Dean Civil Engineering Faculty, Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology [BUET]. The training program was coordinated by Mr. Saad Siddiqui, PEng., Principal Specialist & Head, Human Resources Development [HRD], IWM and support services facilitated by Mr. Ashraf Ali Khan, Manager, HRD, IWM. The participants were all awarded with certificates at the concluding session of the training program.

2. Observed World Water Day 2015 on 22 March 2015.



Dr. K Azharul Haq, Vice President, BWP is presenting his paper

Bangladesh National Committee of ICID (BANCID) observed the World Water Day 2015 and held a Seminar in this occasion on **“Water and Sustainable Development”** on 22 March, 2015 at Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) Auditorium, Farmgate, Dhaka. The event was observed under the guidance of Ministry of Water Resources in association with Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB), Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS), Institute of Water Modelling (IWM) and Bangladesh Water Partnership (BWP), Dhaka on Sunday, 22 March, 2015.

More than 100 eminent Water Experts and Engineers from different government and non government organizations, Academicians, representatives from NGO's, attended the Seminar. A special supplement containing message from honourable Minister, honourable State Minister and Secretary of the Ministry of Water Resources, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh was published in four well circulated national dailies "The Daily Jugantar", "The Daily Inquilab", "The Daily Star" and "The Daily Sun" on 23 March, 2015.

Mr. Muhammad Nazrul Islam, Bir Protik, MP, honourable State Minister, Ministry of Water Resources, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Dr. Zafar Ahmed Khan, Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, Government of the

People's Republic of Bangladesh attended the seminar as Special Guest. The Seminar was chaired by Eng. Abdur Rab Miah, Director General, Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) and Chairman, Bangladesh National Committee of ICID (BANCID).

Two papers related to the theme of the Seminar were presented in the seminar, one by Mr. Md. Waji Ullah, Executive Director, Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS) and the other by Mr. Abu Saleh Khan, Deputy Director (Operation), Institute of Water Modelling (IWM).

Three distinguished discussants discussed on the presentation of the paper and the theme of the occasion. Eng. Abdur Rab Miah, Director General, Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) and Chairman, BANCID conducted the discussions. The designated Discussants were (i) Dr. K. Azharul Haq, Former Managing Director, Dhaka WASA and Vice President, Bangladesh Water Partnership (BWP) (ii) Dr. Umme Kulsum Navera, Professor, Department of Water Resources Engineering, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), (iii) Md. Mahfuzur Rahman, Project Coordinating Director, Char Development and Settlement Project- 4, BWDB-Member. Besides, many participants took part in the open discussions and expressed their valuable comments and observations. The seminar ended with vote of thanks from the chair.

❖ Participations : Outside activities of BWP

1. Constitutive Assembly of Pakistan Youth Parliament for Water (PYPW)

On the occasion of World Water Day 2015, the Board of World Youth Parliament for Water and the WYPW-members in Pakistan established Pakistan Youth Parliament for Water (PYPW) through a constitutive assembly, as a national movement similar to the global World Youth Parliament for Water. The event was took place in the Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources (PCRWR) premises on 26 March 2015 in Islamabad, Pakistan.



The aims of PYPW was to promote the involvement of young people in water related policies, both by raising their awareness of water resource management issues with a vision towards a world where all people have equal access to safe water and sanitation, including the most

vulnerable, and where water is sustainably managed for the benefit of people, economy and the environment.

The following were the general objectives of the Constitutive Assembly of the Pakistan Youth Parliament for Water:

- Bring together the 25 Founding Members of Pakistan Youth Parliament for Water
- Brief the 25 Founding Members about the existing forms of youth engagement in water sector in other countries, and internationally
- Adopt the Founding Act of Pakistan Youth Parliament for Water
- Agree on the way forward for Pakistan Youth Parliament for Water: Action Roadmap, next General Assembly, upcoming events and
- Adoption of Pakistan Youth Parliament for Water Founding Charter

Ms. Mukta Akter, Youth Focal Point, GWP-South Asia presented a paper on “Youth Involvement: The prime mover in Sustainable Water Management for South Asia” in the event.

There were over 35 participants and representatives including Ambassador of the French Embassy in Pakistan, ADB, PCRWR, NGO's, PWP, WYPW, PYPW, youth representative(founding members of PYPW) from Universities and GWP-South Asia.

The constitutive assemble emphasized on IWRM and capacity building through research and education so that young people can be involved to play vital role in sustainable water management.

2. Conference on Water and Sustainable Development – Role of Youth

Analyzing and evaluating the existing water stressed situation and the main challenges in water sector of Pakistan, a conference focusing on ‘Role of Youth for Sustainable Water Resource Management’ was organized by the Pakistan Water Partnership (PWP) under patronage of the Planning Commission of Pakistan and collaboration of the World Youth Parliament for Water (WYPW) on 27 March 2015 in the Planning Commission Auditorium, Pak Secretariat, Islamabad.

It was a daylong conference, attended by over 100 participants, including the Minister of Planning, Development and Reform / Planning Commission, Secretary, middle to top management cadre of the water related experts, stakeholders- UNESCO, PCRWR, PC, PWP,

ECOSF, WYPW, ICIMOD, French Embassy, German Embassy, GWP-SAS and youth from institutions and academics at the national and provincial levels .

Inaugural Session was followed by a comprehensive presentation on Pakistan by Sardar Muhammad Tariq, Chief Executive of Pakistan Water Partnership and messages from all partner organizations during the first and second Technical Sessions. Ms. Mukta Akter, Youth Focal Point, GWP-South Asia also delivered a short message on “Youth and Water: Perspective on GWP-South Asia” in the technical session-1.