

Bangladesh Water Partnership Monthly Report May, 2016

BWP has implemented the following activity in May 2016 under core program.

Activity-1: 53rd Executive Committee Meeting of BWP



- i) The 53rd Executive Committee (EC) Meeting of Bangladesh Water Partnership was held on 18 May 2016 at BWP Secretariat. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Khondaker Azharul Haq, President, Bangladesh Water Partnership. The President initiated the discussion by welcoming the EC members. A total number of 8 members out of 11 were present in the meeting.
- ii) The main agenda of the meeting were as follows:
 - Implementation status of 2016 Work Plan under Core Funding.
 - Implementation status of 2016 Work Plan under WACREP Funding Phase-II.
 - Discussion on the updated status on the SDG Preparedness Facility Framework Document 2016.
 - Discussion on the updated status on the SADMS Validation.
 - Collaborative work with Water Resources Group (WRG) 2030/IFC.
 - Participation in the Singapore International Water Week 2016.
- iii) The president informed that a total number of 5 out of 10 activities have been completed till date under Core and the implementations of the rest are on schedule.
He also informed that BWP plans to implement the following 2 activities under WACREP funding phase-II under strategic goal-1, Work Package-02.
 - a. Activity 2E (BWP) : To conduct a case study on the feasibility of Rain Water Harvesting in urban areas in Q2, 2016

- b. Activity 2F (BWP) : To conduct a study on Affect of Climate Change on Water and Food Security in Selected Coastal Deltas and its possible economic impact in Q3, 2016.

Further he informed that due to delay in identifying suitable partner, the activity under 2E has been rescheduled from Q2 to Q3. The committee has reviewed the reschedule and agreed that both the activities 2E and 2F will be implemented in Q3, 2016.

- iv) The EC was informed about the recommendation received from GWPO regarding the proposals under SDG. The President informed that the GWPO advised the identified CWPs to stay away from Water Supply and Sanitation target and try to develop programs on other targets as GWP does not have “necessary technical capacity to address water supply and sanitation” issues. The President informed that BWP has decided to submit two proposals: one on Water Supply and the other on increasing water use efficiency in agriculture during the design phase under SDG-PF. He informed that BWP has sufficient capacity to implement WSS related projects with DWASA and SPHE (RESPONSIBLE FOR RURAL WATER SUPPLY) are strong and active partners of BWP and the President of BWP is a former Managing Director of DWASA. He further informed that BWP has already initiated consultation with Institute of Water Modelling (IWM) and Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS) for the development of the two project proposals under SDG-PF.
- v) The President informed the EC that the South Asia Drought Monitoring System (SADMS) validation work has been scheduled as per advise from International Water Management Institute (IWMI). They requested BWP through GWP-SAS to schedule the implementation in the Q3 of 2016 as they are busy until then.
- vi) The EC was informed that the first meeting of the IFC supported Water Governance and Sustainability National Work-Stream Working Group (WGS Group) of the Bangladesh Water Multi-Stakeholder Partnership (MSP) was held on March 21, 2016. Dr. Zafar Ahmed Khan, Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh chaired the meeting. Dr. K. Azharul Haq, President of BWP, attended the meeting on behalf of BWP. During the meeting, the participants raised different issues with regard to governance issues in water resources management. One of the key decisions made during the 1st meeting of the WSG Group was that the WSG Group was given mandate to the 2030 WRG to prepare

two concept notes on the Institutional Reform for the Water Sector and Pricing and Incentives Study for the Water Sector in Bangladesh.

- vii) GWP is going to organize the Pan Asia Workshop on 14-15 July 2016 in Singapore back to back with Singapore International Water Week (SIWW). Dr. Haq, President of BWP, has been invited by GWP-South Asia to be a speaker in the technical session on the topic “Storm water and Urban Floods Management”. Ms. Mukta Akter, Executive Secretary of BWP, has also been invited to participate in the Young Water Leaders Summit at SIWW, 2016. Her nomination was made from GWP which has been approved by the Regional Chair, GWP-SAS and the PUB Singapore’s National Water Agency, the organizer of SIWW.
- viii) The EC members expressed satisfaction at the work progress of BWP and wished good luck for the upcoming projects.

❖ **Activities outside the work plan of BWP**

Activity-1 : First meeting of the task force for Institutional Reform of the Water Sector Water Governance and Sustainability Work Stream Bangladesh Water Multi-Stakeholder Partnership

The 1st meeting of the task force for Institutional Reform of the Water Sector, Water Governance and Sustainability Work Stream, Bangladesh Water Multi-Stakeholder Partnership was held on 22nd May, 2016 at the IFC Secretariat. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Mohammad Ali Khan, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, Government of Bangladesh. In his presentation, Peter Ravenscroft, Consultant of 2030 WRG, discussed the probable strengthening strategies of Water Resource Management in Bangladesh, focusing on WARPO. He gave an overview of the existing situation, technical and social goals, structural options, parallel paths, authorization and advocacy, overcoming obstacles and road map. Taking part in the discussion, Dr. Haq, President of BWP, suggested that WARPO is just one of the organizations and thus it is necessary to address entire water management sector and not just a particular organization. Mr. Ravenscroft agreed with him and said that strengthening WARPO is just the starting point of the entire process. The meeting received valuable recommendations from experts including Dr. Ainun Nishat an EC member of BWP and the likes.

Activity-2 : First meeting of the task force for Pricing and Incentives Study of the Water Sector

Water Governance and Sustainability Work Stream Bangladesh Water Multi-Stakeholder Partnership

The 1st meeting of the task force for Pricing and Incentives Study of the Water Sector, Water Governance and Sustainability Work Stream, Bangladesh Water Multi-Stakeholder Partnership was held on 22nd May, 2016 at the IFC Secretariat. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Mohammad Ali Khan, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, Government of Bangladesh. A presentation on “Economic incentives for sustainable water management in Bangladesh” was given by Gonzalo Delacamara, Consultant of 2030 WRG. Issues such as how pricing will affect competition in the industrial sector, especially export, agricultural sector, farmers, scope of the study and relevant examples of other developing countries were discussed in the meeting. Dr. K. Azahrul Haq, President of BWP participated in the meeting as a designated participant.

Activity-3 : Skype Meeting on Development of WACREP 3 Year Work Plan (2017-19) – GWP SAS

A SKYPE meeting on Development of 3 year WACREP work plan (2017-2019) was held on 30 May 2016. The following from GWP-SAS participated in the meeting:

1. K. A. Haq (PhD) (Mr.), President, BWP,
2. Kinga Wangdi (Mr.), Country Coordinator, BhWP,
3. Veena Khanduri (PhD) (Mrs.), Executive Secretary, IWP,
4. Batu Uprety (Mr.), Regional Council Member, GWP Nepal
5. U. G. Abeygunawardena (Mr.), Consultant, SLWP,
6. Tejendra Bahadur (Mr.), Country Coordinator, GWP Nepal,
7. Priyanka Dissanayake (Ms.), Regional Coordinator, GWP SAS,
8. Lal Induruwage (Mr.), Programme Manager, WACREP,
9. Diluka Piyasena (Ms.), Communication Coordinator, GWP SAS

The meeting was moderated by Angela Clauschen (Ms.), Senior Network Officer, GWPO. Alex Simalabwi (Mr.), Global Leader, Water & Climate, GWPO, Stockholm interacted with the participants and briefly explained the background of WACREP, the current global context and the objective of the meeting. Alex informed that at present the global focus is on implementation of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs), to execute the commitment of Paris Agreement and to contribute on SDGs. He further informed that there is a road map of implementation which is being developed by the countries where 108 countries have submitted INDCs. He added that initially INDCs indicated only mitigation, but

since COP 20 at Peru Lima, this has been changed and NDCs has now included adaptation, especially for developing countries. Alex also explained the importance to align CWPs activities on climate change for supporting NDCs. Furthermore, he informed that all the activities of GWP now focus on adaptation component of the NDCs which is important to be relevant with CWPs actions.

It was an interactive meeting, where the CWPs of GWP-SAS exchanged their views and issues with GWP officials on the new strategies/processes on 3 year WACREP action.

The meeting was ended by the concluding remarks from Angela. She thanked Alex and all to make the meeting a success. Further she assured that she will assist the countries to develop their work plan.