

Bangladesh Water Partnership Monthly Report November 2016

The following activities were carried out during November 2016.

❖ Activity under core program

Activity-1: 55th Executive Committee (EC) Meeting of BWP

The 55th Executive Committee (EC) Meeting of Bangladesh Water Partnership was held on 13 November 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 11 members out of 15 were present in the meeting.

The main agenda of the meeting were as follows:

- Confirmation of the minutes of the 54th EC Meeting held on 02 August 2016.
- Actions taken on the decisions of the 54th EC meeting held on 02 August 2016.
- 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.
- Discussion on the work plan and budget for 2017 under core & WACREP.
- Expansion of EC and its Reconstitution
- Approval of Secretary General's Report and Audit Report 2015 for presenting in the 14th AGM
- Participation in the international events
 - i) 22nd RC Meeting of GWP-SAS held on 28-30 September 2016
 - ii) Workshop on "Learning Deltas", Manila, 24 October 2016
- Miscellaneous.
 - a. Participation at "Stakeholder Meeting of DeltaCap" held on 23rd October 2016
 - b. Retirement of RC Member/New Appointment

i) The President informed the house that BWP has planned to implement 10 activities in 2016 under core funding out of which 9 activities have already been completed while the implementation of the rest is under way. He informed that some detailed reports of the implemented activities have been electronically sent to its member and uploaded in the website as well. He also informed that the remaining reports of the implemented activities are in the final stages.

ii) The president informed that BWP has planned to implement the following 2 activities for the year 2016 which is under WACREP project. Both activities are being implemented from Q3, 2016. The president informed that the activity 2F has nearly been completed in Q3, 2016. He informed that Activity 2F has been implemented with Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS) and the final report has been electronically sent to its member and uploaded in the website as well. He also informed that the remaining report of the Activity 2E with IWM is in the final stage.

The EC expressed their satisfaction after reviewing the draft final report of the activity 2F. The EC members also suggested to arrange two presentations by IWM and CEGIS on the Activity 2E & 2F

respectively at the next Annual General Meeting (AGM) of BWP to be held on 17 December 2016.

iii) Dr. Haq informed the EC that, BWP identified two partner organizations: Institute of Water Modelling (IWM) and Centre for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS) for proposal development under SDG Preparedness Facility Framework. Dr. Haq also informed that the draft project proposal titled "Adaptation of sustainable micro-irrigation for improving irrigation efficiency and water productivity in orchards (Mango/ Lichi/ Banana)" and the preliminary draft project proposal titled "Sustainable Water Development at Micro-level in a Selected Drought Prone Area" have already been developed in collaboration with IWM and CEGIS respectively and circulated to the Executive Committee (EC) members of BWP for review and comments. BWP has sent the proposals to the GWP-SAS and GWPO for their review and comments. BWP has recently received the comments. According to the comments received from GWPO and GWP-SAS, both project proposals, unfortunately, did not match the objectives of the SDG Preparedness Facility; one did not connect at all to the SDGs and the other very narrowly matched the target 6.4.

Dr. Haq informed the EC that the draft project proposal were resent back to IWM and CEGIS for aligning with the initial Design Phase document that supports preparing Bangladesh to implement the water and water-related SDGs. According to information received from GWPO and GWP-SAS, BWP is among the two countries from CWPs worldwide to submit the draft proposals.

iv) It was informed that a committee was formed at the RC meeting with Mr. Avinash Tayagi, RC Member, India to have a Skype conference with IWMI, GWP-SAS, participating CWPs, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and India. A Skype conference was held on 31 October 2016 where Mr. Waji Ullah, ED of CEGIS, the implementing partners of BWP participated on behalf of BWP. The President also informed that the Skype meeting decided to hold a workshop in New Delhi, India from 12-13 December 2016 to formulate the next course of action.

v) The EC was informed that BWP is planning to implement 12 activities under Core and WACREP during the year 2017 with a budget of Euro 20,000 & 10,714 respectively, from GWPO. The list of activities was also discussed which were presented in the 22nd Regional Council (RC) meeting on September 29 & 30, 2016 in Kathmandu, Nepal. The EC was also informed that the RC approved the Workplan of BWP.

vi) The President informed the house that the approved revised constitution of BWP has provision for increasing EC members (including office bearers) from 11 to 15. The EC was informed that Dr. Nilufa Islam has been co-opted as Vice President (Female), One EC member each from NGOs and Private Sector was also co-opted as per constitution of BWP. The EC was informed that 2 female members were also included as mandated by the constitution. The new EC members were welcomed by the house.

vii) The President informed the house that the 14th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Bangladesh Water Partnership (BWP) for the year 2015 has been scheduled to be held on 17 December, 2016 (Saturday). BWP has already sent the invitation letters to all of its members and partner

organizations. The venue is yet to be confirmed. It was also decided that the next AGM for the year 2016 will be held in April 2017 i.e. during Q2. The EC was also informed that the Secretary General's report will be presented by Mr. Moshir Rahman. The Secretary General's report was approved in the meeting. The Audit Report 2015 and the Management Report 2015 were also presented in the meeting. The EC expressed their satisfaction on the reports and approved for their presentation at the 14th AGM.

viii) The President informed that the 22nd Regional Council (RC) Meeting of Global Water Partnership South Asia (GWP SAS) and the Regional Workshop on Rapid Country Level Analysis was held back-to-back from 29-30 September and on 28 September, 2016 respectively in Hotel Annapurna, Kathmandu, Nepal with the participation of the RC members, Chairpersons of the CWPs under GWP SAS, Regional Coordinator of GWP SAS and Senior Network Officers together with the Regional Chair. The main objective of the RC meeting and the Regional Workshop were to discuss the progress, concerns and way forward of GWP SAS and take decisions accordingly at the RC meeting. Dr. Khondaker Azharul Haq, President of BWP, Begum Shamsun Nahar, RC Member and Ms. Tahmina Tamanna, Jr. Professional of CEGIS participated in the 22nd RC meeting of GWP SAS. Ms. Tamanna was an observer in the RC meeting. Mr. Rudolph Cleveringa, Executive Secretary, GWP attended as a special invitee. The President informed the house that the RC Meeting and the Regional Workshop on Rapid Country Level Analysis was a fruitful exercise in deciding the work plan and tentative budget of the CWPs under GWP SAS for the next three years.

ix) The President informed that the Global Water Partnership (GWP) organized a workshop on "Learning Deltas" Initiative which was held on 24 October 2016 at ADB Headquarters in Manila, Philippines. Three participants from Bangladesh Dr. K. Azharul Haq, President of BWP, Md. Mafidul Islam, Joint Chief, General Economics Division, Planning Commission and Mr. Md. Sarafat Hossain, DG, WARPO participated in that workshop. The EC members were informed about the objective of the Learning Deltas Initiative. The President also informed that the program is expected to be initiated in March/April 2016 with a regional workshop to be held in Dhaka. GWPO will provide necessary funding for the event. It was decided in the meeting that the partners of BWP working with deltas will help and support BWP in successful implementation of the initiatives.

x) The President informed that a Workshop on 'DeltaCap' was organized by Institute of Water Modelling (IWM) on 23-24 October, 2016 at BRAC Centre Inn, 75 Mohakhali, Dhaka. On behalf of BWP, Mr. H S Mozaddad Faruque, Vice President and Mr. Tauhidul Anwar Khan, EC Member of BWP participated in the workshop.

xi) The President informed that the nomination of Mr. Emaduddin Ahmad, Former Executive Director of IWM and member of BWP as a RC member was approved in the 22nd Regional Council (RC) meeting held on September 29 & 30, 2016. The tenure of Mr. Emaduddin Ahmad, RC Member of BWP is from 01-01-2017 to 31-12-2019.

The meeting was ended with vote of thanks from the Chair.

Activity-2: Annual Newsletter Publication

The Newsletter for the year 2015 has been further reviewed and sent to the press for printing. It is expected that the newsletter will be distributed on or before 15 December 2016.

❖ Activity under WACREP Phase II

Activity- 2E: Conduct a case study on the feasibility of Rain Water Harvesting in urban areas.

Bangladesh Water Partnership in association with, its partner organization, Institute of Water Modelling (IWM) organized a case study on “The feasibility of Rain Water Harvesting in urban areas to reduce water logging”. The draft final report of the study has been submitted by IWM at the last week of November 2016.

Main objective of the project is to carry out a technical feasibility study of rain water harvesting by artificial recharge using injection well in Urban Areas to Reduce Water Logging.

Over the last few decades Dhaka City has experienced major increase in population. The current population is around 12 million. Increase in population has resulted in extensive urban development which was mostly unregulated and unplanned. As a result, city utility services like water supply, sewerage and storm water drainage are under tremendous pressure. The city experience significant drainage congestion and water logging in many parts of the city in a normal storm event. It is envisaged that the drainage problem will be more pronounced in the changing climate condition in which higher intensity rainfall with shorter duration is expected.

This report presents a technical feasibility study of the option for reducing the storm water runoff by injecting a part of the runoff to the groundwater aquifer system. The analysis is based on an experiment conducted by DWASA in 2010 with technical support from IWM. In the experiment, rainwater harvesting system was constructed at Segunbagicha area of Dhaka. Rainwater was collected from the rooftop of a building having an area of 380m². Rainwater from the rooftop was collected and injected to the saturated aquifer at a depth of 80-110 meter below ground surface through two injection wells.

The experiment recorded the injection rates over time against corresponding to different hydrostatic pressure. It has been observed that for a given dimension of recharge pit and open area in the injection wells, the injection rate at equilibrium state is approximately 31.93mm/hour under a hydrostatic pressure of 560Kpa.

A rainfall runoff model was constructed during the study to simulate three scenarios: (i) runoff generated from the Segunbagicha catchment without rainwater injection; (2) runoff generated from the same catchment excluding the runoff volume from roof top of areas => 300m² ; It is pertinent to mention that, RAJUK has issues a Statutory Regulatory Order (2011) which gave direction to construct such rainwater harvesting system for roof tops => 300m², and (3) mitigation of the impact of climate change on the storm water drainage system in 2025 and 2050.

Based on the experiment made following conclusions and recommendations could be made –

- (1) The experiment successfully demonstrated that rainwater from roof tops can be harvested to recharge groundwater in the saturated aquifer.
- (2) Given certain conditions of injection well design, recharge pit dimension and generated water column pressure significant rainwater injection is possible. The rate of injection has been calculated only at Segunbagicha recharge pit in Central Dhaka. Similar experiments in other parts of Dhaka city yet to be perform. It is envisaged that due to different aquifer properties in different areas, the rate of injection might vary. This is yet to be ascertained.
- (3) Quality of rainwater being injected has been recorded for a particular period of 2010. No significant threat to the contamination of aquifer has been observed if rainwater in the first 10 minutes is flashed outside the recharge pit.
- (4) Rainwater harvesting from roof tops could be a good adaptation measure to offset the impact of climate change on urban drainage
- (5) The experiment with rainwater harvesting needs to be performed in other parts of the city with different design of injection wells and recharge pit.
- (6) The SRO (2011) of RAJUK is timely and should be strictly enforced.
- (7) Groundwater quality change needs to be monitored over an extended period, covering pre-monsoon, monsoon and post monsoon periods.

❖ **Associated program of BWP**

Activity-1: National Workshop on ‘Sustainable Development Goal-6: Clean Water and Sanitation for all: Bangladesh Context’

The day long National Workshop was held on 20 November 2016 at the Prime Minister’s Office. Dr. Khondaker Azharul Haq, President of BWP participated in the workshop as a Technical Expert. The Honorable PM was supposed grace the occasion as the Chief Guest. But due to her sudden illness she could not be present. Her speech was read out by the Minister for Agriculture. In her speech the PM urged to develop strategies for attaining SDG for water supply and sanitation. The event was widely covered in the local media including the Daily Star, the leading English daily in Bangladesh.

Four EC members from BWP were invited (out of around 50 participant) in this high level workshop. The President and Mr. HS Mozaddad Faruque, Vice president, BWP were invited as Panel of Experts (The President for Target 1 and 2 and Mr. Faruque for target 6). Mr. SMA Rashid, Executive Director NGO Forum for Public Health and Prof. Umme Kulsum Navera, Professor, Water Resources Dept., BUET, both EC Members of BWP, were also invited to participate. For BWP, such representation was quite impressive.

BWP also participated in a number of meetings organized at the Department and Ministerial level for the preparation of the draft documents leading to the final workshop held at the PMs office on 20 Nov 2016.