

Bangladesh Water Partnership
Monthly Report
January, 2016

The month of January was spent mostly to prepare and submit the GWP in Action 2015 report and the Q4 Financial Report for 2015 as well. BWP has also assigned its partner organizations to implement work plan programs for 2016.

1. Preparation of Audit for 2015

BWP has appointed the audit firm “Anisur Rahman & Co” for auditing its accounts for the financial year 2015. As per Auditor requirements BWP supplied all necessary documents like Cash book, Ledger, Trial balance, Comparable accounts, Vouchers, Bank statements etc. The Audit Report is being finalized. It will be submitted to BWP for onward submission to GWP-SAS on or before the due date i.e 12 February 2016.

2. The Bangladesh National Committee of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (BANCID) Meeting on ‘Observance of the World Water Day, 22 March, 2016’

A meeting of the Seminar Sub-Committee of the Bangladesh National Committee of ICID (BANCID) was held on 28 January 2016 in the conference room of Joint Rivers Commission, Bangladesh with a view to detailing the program on the occasion of the World Water Day on 22 March 2016. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Saiful Alam, Convener, Seminar Sub-Committee of BANCID and Director General, Water Resources Planning Organization (WARPO). On behalf of BWP the Executive Secretary participated in the meeting.

The following agenda were discussed in the meeting:

1. Observance of the World Water Day, 22 March, 2016
2. Publication of BANCID News Letter 2015
3. Future Events of ICID

The meeting decided that BANCID will organize a half day Seminar on the World Water Day with its associate partners and members. The venue for the event has been identified at the conference room of Bangladesh University of Engineering and

Technology (BUET). The committee also decided to request the President of BWP to deliver the Keynote paper in the event.

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

1. A National Dialogue on ‘The Paris Agreement: A Critical Look’ on 05 January 2016 at Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) Bhaban, E-4/B, Agargoan Administrative Area, Dhaka-1207.

Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) organized a half-day National Dialogue on “The Paris Agreement: A Critical Look”, on 05 January 2016. BWP was invited in the dialogue and Ms. Mukta Akter, Executive Secretary of Bangladesh Water Partnership and Youth Focal Point of GWP- South Asia participated in the Dialogue.

Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad, Chairman, PKSF and Coordinator of Bangladesh Climate Change Negotiating Team, chaired the Dialogue and commented on the Paris Agreement by way of a review.

The dialogue was held to have an analytical look on the achievements and failures from the Paris Agreement 2015.

The meeting observed that the Paris Agreement is a big achievement and it is applicable for all countries as per the conventional principles. The dialogue specially focused on the commitment from developed countries on Climate Finance, Climate Mitigation & keeping Global Warming below 2 degree. It also observed that the Paris Agreement recognized the right of vulnerable people and climate migrants as per Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and Damage. The review also urged to ensure the Aid and Grant from developed countries to strengthen the Green Climate Fund for low income/Developing countries.

The meeting also expressed that the “Adohoc Working Group on Paris Agreement (APA)” will play important role to execute the Paris Agreement. The dialogue also expects that Bangladesh will play a leading role, in the committee, on behalf of vulnerable as well as developing countries.

2. A Multi-Stakeholder Workshop on ‘the Bangladesh Initiative of the 2030 Water Resource Group’ on 30 January 2016 at Hotel Westin, Gulshan, Dhaka.

BWP has become a member of Water Resources Group (WRG) 2030/International Finance Corporation (IFC) which is working under Bangladesh Water Multi-stakeholder Partnership (Bangladesh Water MSP) formed by IFC/WRG 2013. The Honorable Prime Minister has approved the formation the Bangladesh Water MSP. A gazette notification has also been published in this regard where BWP has been identified as a civil society member/partner of the Bangladesh Water MSP National Steering Board.

A National Steering Board (NSB) meeting and Multi-Stakeholder Workshop were held back to back on 30 January 2016 at Hotel Westin, Gulshan. Dr. K. Azharul Haq was invited to participate in both events and made a power point presentation on “Overview of Bangladesh Water Challenges”.

The NSB was chaired by Hon’ble Cabinet Secretary. The meeting was followed by paper/powerpoint presentations from the distinguish water stakeholders from home and abroad.

The Multi Stakeholder workshop on “The Bangladesh initiative of the 2030 Water Resource Group” discussed on White Paper for 2030 WRG Bangladesh Initiative.

The objectives of the workshops were to Identify potential areas of work & raise interest of stakeholders to join the work-stream, identify priority topics /issues/themes, agree on next steps leading to the formalization and formation of the work-stream.

The workshop identified the following three work-streams:

- a. Water Governance and Sustainability
- b. Greater Dhaka Watershed (GDW) Restoration
- c. Agri-Water Efficiency

It was agreed that 1-2 projects in each of the above 3 areas will developed by the working groups and presented to the National Steering Board scheduled meeting on 30 April 2016, for approval.