

**Bangladesh Water Partnership**  
**Monthly Report**  
**August, 2017**

BWP has implemented the following activities in August 2017.

❖ **Under Core Workplan**

**01. The 58<sup>th</sup> EC meeting of BWP**

The 58<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee (EC) Meeting and the 3<sup>rd</sup> for the year 2017 was held on 23 August 2017 at BWP Secretariat. A total number of 8 Members (EC & RC Members) were present in the meeting. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Khondaker Azharul Haq, President, Bangladesh Water Partnership.

Discussion on the main agenda of the meeting is described below:

The meeting was informed on the status of actions taken on the decisions during the 57<sup>th</sup> EC Meeting. The meeting also discussed on the updated status of the work plan 2017 under core and WACREP. The EC was informed that among the 10 activities under core, 6 have already been implemented. The committee was also informed about 2 activities of WACREP in 2017, which are under strategic goal-02 & package-07.

The consultation under Valuing Water Initiative was one of the important agenda of the EC meeting. The workshop aims was to assist HLPW to build momentum to accelerate and improve the way that governments, societies and the private sector use and manage water. During the consultation, a number of recommendations were forwarded by the participants, details of which have been included in the report. A draft report has been prepared by the global and national facilitators and sent to GWPO for further comments.

Another agenda was about the updated status of Learning Delta Asia Initiative (LADI). The first phase of Learning Delta Asia Initiative (LADI) has been completed which included two missions, one by a 4 member delegation from Myanmar in February 2017 and another by a 2 member delegation from Bangladesh in June 2017.

SADMS Validation Work 2017 was also on the agenda of the EC meeting. The committee was informed that the first phase of South Asian Drought Monitoring System (SADMS) has been successfully completed through a Regional Workshop held during 30-31 January, 2017 in New Delhi. The committee was informed that the CEGIS developed a draft proposal, which has been sent to the Regional Coordinator of GWP-SAS. GWP-SAS has allocated and already transferred Euro 5,000 for the purpose. The EC appreciated the efforts made by BWP on the SADMS Validation work for 2017.

Project Proposal Submitted to Coco Cola:

Another important agenda was update on the Development of a Project Proposal to access CSR funding from The Coca-Cola Company (TCCC). The committee was informed that BWP in consultation with WRG 2030 has prepared and submitted a proposal “Introducing Water-Efficient Technologies to Barind Tract” in the context of the Bangladesh Water Multi-Stakeholder Partnership (BWMSP). The proposal and relevant docs have already been submitted to TCCC for review and comments from TCCC. More details will be provided in the Sept’ 2017 monthly report.

## **02. Improving knowledge and awareness build up on safe water management and climate change adaptation through gender sensitive secondary school Students**

This was a pilot activity to improve knowledge and enhance awareness of youths from the selected four secondary schools focusing gender response to climate change adaptation towards safe water management. These schools have been selected inside Chitra-Nabaganga AWP in Narail Sadar and Kalia sub-districts under Narail district and represented areas are at risks from arsenic, salinity and flood problems.

Following activities were done under the above mentioned activity:

- i) The study has been conducted in collaboration with the district and sub-district education officers and school teachers.
- ii) The project included essay competition and information exchange workshop on “Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Safe Water Management” among the youths of four selected school inside the Chitra-Noboganga AWP.
- iii) The workshop was organized on 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2017 at Narail, in collaboration with and participation of sub-district education officers, teachers, students and Executive Committee Member of BWP. The workshop was followed by very interactive open discussion among the students and resource persons on safe water management and climate change adaptation

The comprehensive report and photos of the activity will be sent to you in the end of Sept’ 2017.

### **❖ Under WACREP**

1. **Activity 6A:** Ensuring sustainable access to water supply for the communities, living in the coastal areas, especially those of women and youth, to bring a qualitative change in their livelihood with special reference to climate change adaptation.

The activity was scheduled to be implemented in Q2 of 2017 by CEGIS. But at the request (due to prior heavy commitment) of CEGIS project has been rescheduled for implementation during Q3 (July to September).

The progress of the activity is as follows:

- Out of 19 coastal districts, 6 districts were selected through cluster sampling. The criteria for selection includes: vulnerability to water related problems, and location of districts such as sea-facing and non-sea facing. Thus, 3 sea facing and 3 non-sea facing districts were selected. Following same criteria, 6 upazilas of these 6 districts were chosen, and 6 unions of chosen 6 upazilas were selected. A field team was mobilized to collect data from the selected unions. Before going to the field, a semi-structured questionnaire was prepared, and following this, the study team collected data.
  - Meanwhile out of planned three dissemination workshops two workshops have been organized one at Patharghata Upazila of Barguna district and the other in Morrelganj Upazila of Bagerhat district. The third dissemination workshop will be conducted in Shuborno Char of Noakhali District some times in September.
2. **Activity 6B:** Consultation with the grassroots level community on their understanding on adaptation of climate change and their approach to meeting the challenges.

Initiative for Right View (IRV)/ Bhairab Area Water Partnership in Khulna district will implement the project in Q3, 2017.

A Letter of Agreement (LoA) has already prepared and signed between BWP and IRV. As per signed LoA, a concept note with detailed implementation plan have also been received from IRV which is enclosed.

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

##### **1. Project on "Empowering Young Women through Climate Smart Rain Water Harvesting System".**

Ms Mukta Akter, Executive Secretary of Bangladesh Water Partnership (BWP) is going to implement her follow-on project on "**Empowering Young Women through Climate Smart Rain Water Harvesting System**" in association with the Voice of South Bangladesh (VoSB), a partner organization of BWP. The Goal of the project is to “Generate Young Women Entrepreneurs through Rain Water Harvesting on Small Scale farming” in Bagerhat District (coastal area & located at southeast of Bangladesh), where water is very scarce and sources of fresh water have been contaminated by salt water. The principal objectives of the project are as follows:

- a) **Recruit six 16-20 year-old female students in rural coastal Bangladesh to run 6 Rain Water Harvesting Systems (one for each)**
- b) **Building awareness and provide knowledge on Climate Change and its adverse impact on fresh water and Rain Water Harvesting System.**

c) **Provide the necessary training and tools/equipment to run rain water catchment systems for business venture**

The Direct Beneficiary of her project is female students with age group of 16 to 20 years old and the Indirect Beneficiaries are Family, Educational Institutions, Community Based Organizations, Stakeholders and Community people.

The following are the expected outcomes from the project:

**Expected Result:**

1. Promote young women to be empowered as entrepreneurs in the selected coastal area.
2. Boost up poor young womens' attendance at school.
3. Make aware about the impact on climate change in Bangladesh and capacity on climate resilience knowledge.
4. Assist act as a change agents to mobilize the community in rain water management

The field survey of the project has already been completed in August 2017. The detailed activities of the project will be followed by stakeholders' consultation, two day long training and set up Six Rain Water Harvesting Systems on 23 to 25 September 2017.

The detailed programme of the project will be shared with you after finalizing in the next week.

It could be mention here that she secured the fund for implementing her project from USA during her four month long fellowship at CSP 2016, which was under the theme "Gender and Women". It was a program of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, U.S Department of State Government and implemented by International Research and Exchange Board (IREX).