

Bangladesh Water Partnership

Monthly Report

May, 2017

BWP has implemented the following activities in May 2017.

❖ Under Core Workplan

01. The 57th EC meeting of BWP

The 57th Executive Committee (EC) Meeting and the 2nd for the year 2017 was held on 17 May 2017 at BWP Secretariat. A total number of 10 Members (Eight EC & Two 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 actions taken on the decisions during the 56th EC Meeting. The meeting also discussed on the implementation status of the work plan 2017 under core and WACREP. The EC was informed that among the 10 activities under core, 4 have already been implemented and the 2nd EC Meeting of the year 2017 is being implemented on the day. The committee also was informed that the implementation plan of activity under WACREP for Q2' 2017 has been finalized with Center for Environmental and Geographical Information Services (CEGIS), a partner organization of BWP. The EC expressed its satisfaction on the status of both the work plans and the actions taken on the decisions under the 56th EC Meeting.

SADMS Validation Work 2017 was another important agenda of the EC meeting. The committee was informed that BWP communicated with the Regional Coordinator, GWP-SAS and came to know that there is a modest fund for SADMS for focused countries (Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka & Pakistan) for the year 2017. Dr. Haq informed the committee that as per request from the Regional Coordinator, BWP is developing a proposal for the 2nd phase of SADMS and assigned CEGIS as they were involved in the 1st phase.

Another agenda was about the updated status of Learning Delta Asia Initiative (LADI). The EC was informed that as a follow up, a 4 member delegation from Bangladesh are going to visit Myanmar from 01 to 05 June 2017 to complete the scoping study and make plan for the 2nd phase of the delta learning process.

Proposed transboundary workshop in Nepal was discussed in the meeting. The committee was informed that the GWP, GWP South Asia and GWP Nepal in cooperation with the Geneva Water Hub and UNESCO-IHE are going to organize a regional workshop on **“Transboundary Water Cooperation in the context of SDGs in South Asia and beyond”**, Pokhara, Nepal, 23-25 May 2017.

Dr. Haq informed the committee that the workshop aims are at promoting the exchange of experiences, knowledge sharing, capacity building, and other forms of cooperation on transboundary rivers in South Asia and other Asian regions, with a view to foster mutual trust and enhanced collaboration in the region and to build on the recently adopted 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development. Dr. Haq informed the committee that from Bangladesh, a 4 number delegation has been invited by GWPO to participate in the aforementioned workshop.

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

Progress Report

(Main activities done till May 2017)

Following activities were done under the above mentioned research study:

- i) Informed about the study activities to Area Water Partnership Committee Narail, Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) Narail, District and Thana Education Officers of Narail etc.
- ii) School Selection: Four schools have been selected inside Chitra-Nabaganga AWP in Narail Sadar and Kalia sub-districts under Narail district based on consultation with district education officer and sub-district secondary education officer. The four schools represented areas at risks from arsenic, salinity and flood problems. The selected schools are –
 - a) Tularampur High School;
 - b) Maizpara Ideal Girls High School;
 - c) Rogunathpur Girls secondary School; and
 - d) Uzipur High School.
- iii) Made announcement and distributed letters through Thana Education Officers to the local schools authority about essay competition (minimum 800 words). The theme of the essay competition is “climate change adaptation and safe water management”. The essays are now being evaluated by Environment and Population Research Centre (EPRC).
- iv) School Profiling: Schools profiling have been done from the respected schools authority.

❖ Activities outside the work plan of BWP

01. Regional Workshop on Transboundary Water Cooperation in the context of SDGs in South Asia and beyond” and “Inter-Regional Coordination Meeting”

The GWP, GWP South Asia and GWP Nepal in cooperation with the Geneva Water Hub and UNESCO-IHE have organized a regional workshop on **Transboundary Water Cooperation in the context of SDGs in South Asia and beyond** and **“Inter-Regional Coordination Meeting”**, Pokhara, Nepal, 23- 25 May 2017

The workshop aims were at promoting the exchange of experiences, knowledge sharing, capacity building, and other forms of cooperation on the common issue of transboundary cooperation in South Asia and other Asian regions, with a view to foster mutual trust and enhanced collaboration in the region and to build on the recently adopted 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development.

From BWP, the following delegation participated in the workshop and made 3 presentations.

- a. Dr. Khondaker Azharul Haq, Presedent, BWP
- b. Mr. Tauhidul Anwar Khan, EC Member, BWP
- c. Ms. Mukta Akter, Executive Secretary, BWP

The titles of the presentations are:

01. “Regional Cooperation on Water: Opportunities for South Asia”- by Dr. K. Azharul Haq
- 02” Mutual Cooperation in Management of Common River Waters Can Change the Fate of Millions in South Asia” - by Mr. Tauhidul Anwar Khan.
03. “Involving Youth in Trans-Boundary Cooperation and IWRM: Challenges and Recommendations”- by Mukta Akter