

Compile Report of Consultation Workshop On

*“Development of Action plan for SDG 6.5.1 (IWRM Implementation)
Indicator in Bangladesh”*

(A project funded by Bangladesh Water Partnership)



March. 2022

Prepared by



Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services, Bangladesh



Bangladesh Water Partnership

Abbreviation and Acronyms

AGM	Annual General Meeting
BADC	Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation
BARC	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council
BD	Bangladesh
BFD	Bangladesh Forest Department
BMDA	Barind Multipurpose Development Authority
BWDB	Bangladesh Water Development Board
BWP	Bangladesh Water Partnership
CEGIS	Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services
DBHWD	Department of Bangladesh Haor and Wetlands Development
DDM	Department of Disaster Management
DG	Director General
DoF	Department of Fisheries
DpHE	Department of Public Health Engineering
DWASA	Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority
EC	Executive committee
GBM	Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna
GWP	Global Water Partnership
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MoWR	Ministry of Water Resources
NGOs	Non- Government Organizations
RWASA	Rajshahi Water Supply and Sewerage Authority
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
ToT	Training of Trainers
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
WARPO	Water Resources Planning Organization
WRMD	Water Resources Management Division

Introduction:

The consultation workshop on "**Development of Action Plan for SDG 6.5.1 (IWRM Implementation) Indicator in Bangladesh**" was held on March 31, 2022. The workshop was held at the conference room of Pani Bhaban (level-5), Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB). The workshop began with registration and the introduction of the agenda. See **Appendix I** for the agenda for the workshop.

There were approximately forty-one (41) participants, including representatives from government ministries and departments, non-government organizations (NGOs), civil society, and the private sector. See **Appendix II** for a list of participants at the workshop. The workshop was organized by the Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS) under the financial assistance of the Bangladesh Water Partnership (BWP). The main objectives of this workshop is:

- To share the IWRM Implementation status 2020
- To share the challenges related to IWRM implementation status and the way forward from 2020
- To prioritize the challenges and issues
- To identify a list of actions taken by different stakeholders for solving the challenges
- To share and finalize the layout of SDG 6.5.1 Action Plan

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Fazlur Rashid, Director General, Bangladesh Water Development Board. Mr. Kabir Bin Anwar, Senior Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR) was present at the workshop as the chief guest and Dr. Ainun Nishat, Professor Emeritus, BRAC University were present at the workshop as guest of honor.



Figure 1: Guests, key participants and major team members

Opening Session:

Speeches of the guests: Honorable invited guests have provided their valuable opinions and remarks through delivering their speeches. The brief speeches of different guests are given below:

Welcome address by General Secretary, BWP: At the very beginning of the workshop, Mr. Siddiquir Rahman, General Secretary, BWP provided a welcome address and he welcomed the chief guest and other guests as well as the workshop participants.

He said that the Global Water Partnership (GWP) is a global action network with over 3,000 partner organizations in 183 countries. The network has 68 country water partnerships and 13 regional water partnerships. Its headquarters are in Stockholm, Sweden. The GWP's vision is to build "a water secure world." The mission of GWP is to advance the governance and management of water resources for sustainable and equitable development.

He mentioned that BWP is a non-profit, private, non-political, professional organization that was established in 1997 to promote Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM). The network is open to all organizations, including public, private, non-governmental, and community based organizations, professional personalities, and educational and research institutions.

He further went on to explain the programs of the BWP, such as; Training of Trainers (ToT) for Integrated Water Resources Management, programs to strengthen women's involvement in the water sector, training programs to increase the capacity/awareness of school students, newsletter publication, Executive Committee (EC) meeting; and Annual General Meeting (AGM). He indicated that other programs of BWP, such as "Mapping Transboundary Water Resource Management in the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna (G-B-M) River Basin" and "SDG 6.5.1 IWRM Action Plan Implementation (Stage-2)".

Mr. Rahman indicated that the main objective of SDG 6.5.1 Action Plan Achievement (Stage-2) is to develop an Action Plan for the SDG 6.5.1 (IWRM implementation) indicator in Bangladesh. In order to complete this important task, last year, BWP issued a work order to CEGIS. He mentioned that CEGIS has already completed the following task:

- Task force (9-member) formalization;
- Workshops (two);
- Collection of secondary data, which is currently being reviewed;
- Submission of baseline documents;
- Design consultation process; and
- Prioritization of water-related challenges through agency visits.

He said to all, "Let's join our hands and make Bangladesh one of the water-safe countries in the world." Finally, he thanked all the participants for their active participation in this workshop.

Key note Presentation by CEGIS: Mr. Motaleb Hossain Sarker, Director, Water Resources Management Division of CEGIS delivered his presentations in the opening session of the workshop. Mr. Sarker present the keynote paper on '**Development of Action Plan for SDG 6.5.1 (IWRM Implementation) Indicator in Bangladesh**' highlighting the background, objectives, expected outputs and layout of SDG 6.5.1 Action Plan.

After that, he shared the PowerPoint presentation. To begin, he stated that the Sustainable Development Goals comprise 17 global goals and 169 targets. Of these goals, SDG goal 6 has been phrased as "Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all." Then he stated that SDG target 6.5 is "By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, through transboundary cooperation as appropriate." SDG Target 6.5 is monitored through two indicators, such as indicator 6.5.1, which measures the degree of implementation of integrated water resource management, while indicator 6.5.2 measures the proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation.

He further went on to explain that Bangladesh had submitted the SDG 6.5.1 baseline reports in 2017. He also mentioned that a progress report on SDG 6.5.1 was prepared and submitted in 2020. He highlighted that there are several challenges that have already been identified during Stage-1 (**Identifying Problems**) of the IWRM support programme. He also highlighted that the next stage (Stage-2) of the IWRM support programme is to **develop an Action Plan**. He stated that the IWRM Action Plan would be built based on the prioritization of water-related challenges that have already been identified during Stage 1 and will identify the list of potential actions for addressing those challenges.

Then he indicated that the main objectives of this workshop are to share the IWRM implementation status 2020 and to finalize the layout of SDG 6.5.1 Action Plan by identifying the list of actions taken by different stakeholders for prioritized challenges and issues. He also described the government's different initiatives and actions (7th FYP and 8th FYP) to achieve the SDG targets. He mentioned that the expected outcomes of the consultation workshop are a priority list of IWRM implementation challenges and issues, a list of actions (programmes, projects, and plans) to achieve SDG 6.5.1 implementation through overcoming challenges and issues, and the content (layout) of the SDG 6.5.1 Action Plan.

He highlighted that the average score of indicator 6.5.1 increased from 50 to 58 between 2017 and 2020. He also highlighted that there are some key challenges for IWRM implementation in Bangladesh that have already been identified for 2020. He asked the participants to prioritize the challenges. After that, he shared with the participants the draft layout of the SDG 6.5.1 Action Plan and spoke with them to identify a list of actions to address these challenges and issues.

Speech by SDG Focal Point, Ministry of Water Resources: Mr. S.M. Rezaul Mostafa Kamal, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources said that the 193 countries of the UN General Assembly adopted the 2030 Development Agenda titled "Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" on September 25, 2015. After which, he said that SDGs have been developed based on the experience of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The range of SDGs is much larger and wider than that of MDGs. He also indicated that it is an integrated and holistic development plan. In fact, it is a multidimensional plan that includes human development, social development, economic development, and environmental development.

The SDGs have 17 goals with 169 targets. Among the targets, SDG target 6.5 is "By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, through transboundary cooperation as appropriate." SDG Target 6.5 is monitored through two indicators: Indicator 6.5.1 measures the degree of implementation of integrated water resource management, while indicator 6.5.2 measures the proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation.

He highlighted that the progress of indicator 6.5.1 in a country is monitored by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The Global Water Partnership (GWP) and the country's water partnerships are collaborating with UNEP in this globally coordinated SDG monitoring effort. He also highlighted that, between 2017 and 2020, 55 countries made limited or no progress, 52 countries made moderate progress but still need to accelerate their efforts, 22 countries made substantial progress but need to sustain their efforts towards 2030, and 44 countries are close to the target but need to sustain their efforts towards achieving and maintaining the objectives of sustainable water resources management.

He also said that the global average score of indicator 6.5.1 increased from 49 to 54 between 2017 and 2020, but the global rate of progress needs to be doubled. In 2020, the average score for the level of IWRM implementation in South Asian countries was 41, while Bangladesh had a score of 58. He highlighted that there are some key challenges for IWRM implementation in Bangladesh that have already been identified in the status report 2020. Among them, lack of coordination and weak institutional capacity, less participation of women in decision-making, insufficient advanced research activities due to a lack of financial aid and technological advancement, insufficient monitoring of data and information sharing, non-existence or insufficient budget for operation and maintenance of several development projects, and insufficient budget for basin-wide project management are significant.

Finally, he asked the participants to prioritize the water-related challenges and provided a list of potential actions for addressing the challenges in this workshop.

Facilitated discussion and Stakeholder Inputs

After the end of the tea break, facilitated discussion and stakeholder inputs started. This session was moderated by Dr. Ainun Nishat, Professor Emeritus, BRAC University. He advised the participants to break into groups for discussion and prioritization of key water-related challenges. He also advised the participants to identify a list of potential actions to address the challenges.

Speech by Guest of Honor: At first, Dr. Ainun Nishat, Professor Emeritus, BRAC University appreciated the brief statement of Mr. S. M. Rezaul Mostafa Kamal, SDG focal point and Joint Secretary, MoWR. Mr. Nishat said that before the implementation of IWRM, everyone should have a clear idea of what IWRM means. He highlighted that the Global Water Partnership (GWP) gives the basic definition of IWRM, which is globally accepted. He also highlighted that IWRM is an approach that helps to balance competing water demands from across society and the economy without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems. He emphasized the importance of accurately referencing any primary or secondary data.

He mentioned that water is an important environmental resource. For the better management of these resources, four basic conditions should be fulfilled.

1. Rights of future generations
2. The Rights of all of the present generation
3. Protection of ecosystems and biodiversity; and
4. Ensure the role of women in water resources management.

He stated that integrated water resources management supports the economic, social, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. So, its management should be holistic and cannot be confined to a limited number of organizations. He also said that some design parameters might be changed in the

future due to the impact of climate change. To cope with the change, backward and forward research activities should be introduced for the successful implementation of IWRM. The remarks concluded with a focus on understanding the IWRM concept, inter-ministerial collaboration, and also a heartfelt appreciation to all those who attended.

Remarks by Chief Guest: Mr. Kabir Bin Anwar, Senior Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources began by thanking the guest of honor, the officials of his department, as well as the representatives of different government and non-governmental organizations, for their kind presence in the consultation workshop.

Then he mentioned that a coincidence in his life occurred when the "Millennium Development Goals" (MDGs) were set and adopted at the United Nations, and that he then had the opportunity to attend the United Nations General Assembly as the Hon'ble Prime Minister's traveling companion. He also mentioned that when the "Sustainable Development Goals" (SDGs) were adopted globally, the exact same thing happened in his life. He stated that while Bangladesh has made significant progress toward achieving and maintaining the goals of sustainable water resource management, more effort is still required.

Following that, he went on to explain the Hon'ble Prime Minister's Vision 2021. One of the Vision 2021 is to provide safe and potable water to all. He specifically states that water must not only be safe, but also drinkable. He also stated that separate plans would have to be developed for the installation of tubewells, particularly in the southern region, districts of Chittagong Hill Tracts, and the Barind region. He stated that the SDGs, MDGs, Vision 2021, and Delta Plan 2100 goals are all aligned. So, if we implement Delta Plan 2100 properly, the maximum SDG targets will be automatically implemented.

He emphasized the significance of rainwater harvesting. He stated that we can only use 8% of the water that we receive during the rainy season. If we can construct a reservoir and store this rainwater, our reliance on India will be reduced, and the water deficit will be filled during the dry season. He also emphasizes the following topics in order to advance Integrated Water Resources Management:

- Capacity building of the manpower of WARPO
- Engagement of manpower in the Groundwater Hydrology Department, BWDB
- Coordination within the water sector and with other sectors needs to be prioritized and strengthened
- Identify and address the capacity gaps within and between key institutions
- Strengthening of political will through advocacy and communication
- Developing an online national information system (or similar) for IWRM,

Finally, he stated that with the combined efforts of all, this action plan will play an important role in the implementation of SDGs by 2030.

Remarks by Chair: Mr. Fazlur Rashid, Director General, Bangladesh Water Development Board began by thanking the chief guest for saying a lot about SDG Indicator 6.5.1. Then he mentioned that the Bangladesh Water Development Board, as well as other governmental and non-governmental organizations, played an important role in preparing the IWRM Implementation Baseline Report (2017) and the Progress Report (2020). Following this, an initiative has been taken this year to prepare an Action Plan for SDG 6.5.1 (IWRM Implementation) Indicator in Bangladesh.

He also said that in this workshop, the participants have prioritized the water-related challenges and provided a list of potential actions for addressing the challenges. Based on the feedback from participants, CEGIS will prepare a draft action plan for the implementation of integrated water resources management.

He hoped that through our concerted efforts, the implementation of integrated water resources management will be possible by 2030 and Bangladesh will be established as a prosperous country in accordance with the vision 2041 of the Honorable Prime Minister. Finally, he concluded his speech by expressing this hope.

Key Outcomes and Next Steps

- Priority list of IWRM implementation challenges and issues
- List of actions (programmes, projects and plan) to achieve SDG 6.5.1 implementation through overcoming challenges and issues
- Content (layout) of the SDG 6.5.1 Action Plan

Vote of Thanks by SDG 6.5.1 Focal Point, BWDB: All responses from the various groups were collected. Dr. Shamal Chandra Das, Superintending Engineer from the Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) closed the workshop by thanking the participants for their active participation in this workshop.



Remarks by Chief Guest



Remarks by Chair



Remarks by SDG Focal Point, MoWR



Remarks/Wrap up by Guest of Honour



Welcome Remarks



Key Note Presentation



Open Discussion and Stakeholder Input Session

Appendix-I: Agenda

Consultation Workshop on Development of Action plan for SDG 6.5.1 IWRM Implementation) Indicator in Bangladesh

Date: 31st March, 2022

Venue: Conference Room, Level-5, PaniBhaban, 72 Green Road, Dhaka-1215

Programme Schedule

9:30-10:00	<i>Registration</i>
10:00-10:10	<i>Welcome Remarks:</i> Mr. Siddiqur Rahman, General Secretary, Bangladesh Water Partnership
10:10-10:40	<i>Project brief/keynote presentation:</i> Mr. Motaleb Hossain Sarker, Director, Water resources Management Division, CEGIS
10:40-11:10	<i>Remarks by SDG Focal Point, Ministry of Water Resources:</i> Mr. S.M. Rezaul Mostafa Kamal, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources
11:00-11:15	Tea Break
11:15-12:20	<i>Facilitated discussion and Stakeholder Inputs:</i> Moderate by Dr.AinunNishat, Professor Emeritus, BRAC University as guest of honor
12:20-12:30	<i>Remarks/Wrap up by Guest of Honor:</i> Dr.AinunNishat, Professor Emeritus, BRAC University
12:30-12:50	<i>Remarks by Honourable Chief Guest:</i> Mr. Kabir Bin Anwar, Senior Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources
12:50-13:00	<i>Remarks by Chair:</i> Mr. Fazlur Rashid, Director General, Bangladesh Water Development Board
13:00-13:15	<i>Vote of Thanks by SDG 6.5.1 Focal Point, BWDB</i> Dr.Shamal Chandra Das, Superintending Engineer (Civil), BWDB
13:15	Lunch

Appendix-II: List of Participants

Sl. No.	Name	Designation & Organization	Mobile	E-mail
1.	Kabir Bin Anwar	Senior Secretary, MoWR	01713-068422	secretary@mowr.gov.bd
2.	Fazlur Rashid	Director General, BWDB	01711-151652	dg@bwdb.gov.bd , dg.bwdb.bd@gmail.com
3.	S. M. Rezaul Mostofa Kamal	Joint Secretary, Planning Wing, MoWR	01728-104860	rezapwd@yahoo.com
4.	Dr. Ainun Nishat	Professor Emeritus, BRAC University	01819-228245	ainunnishat@yahoo.com
5.	Md. Saifur Rahman	Executive Secretary, BWP	01732-761510	satif951.bwp@gmail.com
6.	Mohammad Alamgir	PSO (Environment, Forests & Fisheries), WARPO	01556-555684	psd_env@warpo.gov.bd
7.	Dr. Md. Aminul Haque	PSO (Water Resources), WARPO	01818-172149	psd_wr@warpo.gov.bd
8.	Fazle Rabbi Mohammed Ahsan	Deputy Chief (Planning) (Add. In.), DWASA	01539-534445	mbaahsan@gmail.com kashahsan@outlook.com
9.	A.K.M. Obaidullah	Executive Engineer, BMDA, Rajshahi	01712-255534	akmo4040@gmail.com
10.	Md. Oli Ul Haque	Deputy Conservator of Forests, BFD	01711-239100	oliul_1967@yahoo.com
11.	Md. Mukhlesur Rahman	Senior Assistant Director, DoF	01711-071888	mukhlesdof@gmail.com
12.	Mohammed Mobassherul Islam	Deputy Secretary, Planning-1 branch, MoWR	01711-946695	plan3.mowr@gmail.com mobassher100@gmail.com
13.	Dr. Ali Muhammad Omar Faruque	Director (Agriculture, Water & Environment), DBHWD	01712-192069	dr.faruque@dbhwd.gov.bd alimuhammadof@gmail.com
14.	Md. ParvezMamud	Chief Engineer, Rajshahi WASA	01713-098863	parvez_mamud@yahoo.com
15.	Ms. Nazmun Nahar Mita	EC Member, BWP	01739034113	nnazmun.mita@gmail.com

Sl. No.	Name	Designation & Organization	Mobile	E-mail
16.	KamrunNahar	Office in Charge (Emergency Response Center)(Addl. Charge), DDM	01728-362227	kamrunddm@gmail.com
17.	Dr. Zia Uddin Baig	Addl. Director General, SCC Office Of The Addl. Dg (Planning), BWDB	01318-234746	adg.planning@bwdb.gov.bd
18.	Mst. Shamsad Mahmuda Fatima	Executive Engineer Planning-3 Directorate,		fatima.bwdb@gmail.com
19.	Dr. Md. Khairul Islam	Cso/ Superintending Engineer (Civil), BWDB	01719-859366	cso.dg@bwdb.gov.bd , k196wre@gmail.com
20.	Dr. NazmunNahar Karim	Member Director (CC) (Livestock), BARC	01715-013033	nazmun.karim@barc.gov.bd
21.	Mohammed Obaid Hossain	Deputy Chief Engineer(MI), BADC	01711-900260	obaiddadc@gmail.com
22.	Dr. Robin Kumar Biswas	SE, Directorate of Planning-3, BWDB	01832-125693	dir.planning3@bwdb.gov.b d
23.	Dr. Shamal Chandra Das	Superintending Engineer (Civil), BWDB	01759-693375	shamalcdas@gmail.com dir.planning1@bwdb.gov.b d
24.	Dr. Md. Abdur Rashid	EC Member, BWP	01921069162	arashidiwm@yahoo.com
25.	Md. Siddiquir Rahman	General Secretary, BWP	01705416046	siddiq.mdal@gmail.com
26.	Md. Mahbur Rahman	Addl. Director General, (Eastern Region), BWDB	01318-235773	adg.eastern@bwdb.gov.bd
27.	Md. Najmul Hasan	ICT, BWDB	01718-041830	nipun1206@gmail.com
28.	Mahamud Hasan Rakib	Asst. Network Engineer, BWDB	01719-760088	rakibictcell@gmail.com
29.	S. M. Azharul Islam	PS to Senior Secretary, MoWR	01771-002301	azhar.sonet@gmail.com

SL. No.	Name	Designation & Organization	Mobile	E-mail
30.	Sojan Bhuiyan	PA to DG, BWDB	01686-129470	sojanbhuiyanbwdb@gmail.com
31.	M. Abdur Rakib	Executive Engineer, BWDB	01721-326279	rakibsbh@gmail.com
32.	Md. Saifur Rahman	Superintending Engineer (Ground Water Circle), DPHE	01711-033115	se.gwc@dphe.gov.bd sagor70@gmail.com
33.	Dr. M. Monower Hossain	Vice President, BWP	01755574250	drmonowarhossain@gmail.com
34.	Dr. Nilufa Islam	EC Member, BWP	01761476382	nilufaislam82@yahoo.com
35.	Malik Fida A. Khan	Executive Director, CEGIS	01819-261274	montee1966@gmail.com
36.	Motaleb Hossain Sarker	Director, WRMD, CEGIS	01715-015419	mhsarker@cegisbd.com
37.	Md. Atiqur Rahman	Jr. Specialist, WRMD, CEGIS	01717-888569	atique.ce05@gmail.com
38.	Foez Ahmed	Research Associate, WRMD, CEGIS	01717-272006	ahmedfoez2014@gmail.com
39.	Pranab Kumar Chowdhury	Junior Specialist, DBICT Division, CEGIS	01811-932989	pchowdhury@cegisbd.com
40.	Zuhayr Shahid Ishmam	Research Consultant, WRMD, CEGIS	01764-467236	ishmamshahid038@gmail.com
41.	Mehsanun Mashud Suhi	Research Consultant, WRMD, CEGIS	01876-294103	mehsanunm@gmail.com