

# **Blue Gold Program**

## **Report on Orientation on Community Water Management (CWM) for Field Staff**



**30-31 May'2016, Patuakhali**

**04-05 June'2016, Khulna**

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# 1. Introduction:

It is commonly perceived that salinity is the main reason for non-adoption of improved agricultural technologies and low productivity in the coastal zone of Bangladesh. But actually the poor water management/ waterlogging, in particular, lack of drainage during and at the end of the rainy season is the root cause of low production in polder areas and also lack of coordination among the polder dwellers on water management and that community coordination is needed to enable wide scale adoption of improved agricultural technologies in the polder ecosystems. To overcome of this problem Blue Gold Program started new intervention which was piloted in polder-30 of Khulna zone, commonly known as Community Water Management, in six area of 4 polders and four areas of 2 polders in Patuakhali and Khulna respectively.



To orient the field staff of different implementing agencies (DAE, BWDB) and Blue Gold TA part about community water management, two orientation courses were conducted in Patuakhali and Khulna on 30 to 31 May'2016 and 01 to 02 June'2016 respectively. The specific objectives of this two days course were as follows:

## 1.2 Objectives:

- To improve understanding of the concept of Internal Polder Water Management and Community Water Management (CWM) specifically;
- To develop understanding and techniques to execute a crop-water system analysis for a CWM area in a participatory manner through practical/field observation.
- To develop team spirit and familiarizing with the roles & responsibilities for different field staff members in CWM areas;
- To develop understanding on the main activities, timeline and process steps for CWM;

## 1.3 Venue:

Conference Room of SDA, Patuakhali and Conference room of Saint Bangladesh were used as venue for these courses in Patuakhali and Khulna.

## **1.4. Participants:**

Field staff different Government (BWDB, DAE) and BG TA parts working in CWM areas in Khulna and Patuakhali were attends in the training. The number of the participants are given below and the details list of registered participants of Khulna and Ptua khali are attached herewith as Annex-1

## **1.5. Resources Person and Observers:**

Generally all the session were conducted by Blue gold TA experts except one session namely Introduction to CWM-FFS curriculum where one Upazila Agriculture Officer discuss about the new curriculum. Around 14 and 15 persons from different area of expertise joined this orientation course in Patuakhali and Khulna respectively. A details list of attendees as resource person and observer are attached herewith as annex-1.

## **1.6. Duration:**

The orientation course covered one and half days including half days field visit. A detail training agenda is attached as annex-2.

## **1.7. Major contents:**

- a. Concept of CWM and it process/steps
- b. Crop-water system analysis (Field Visit)
- c. Teambuilding (Polder Team members of CWM areas)
- d. Brief intro to FFS-CWM curriculum
- e. CWM activities and timeline
- f. CWM tasks & responsibilities

## **2. The Orientation Process:**

The orientation course starts with introducing each other at around 09.30 am in both districts followed by the objective of the orientation course. After that the orientation course starts its main business.

## 2.1. 1<sup>st</sup> Session:

In the very first session participants of this course had the chance to know about community water management (CWM). A brief introduction about CWM, its process, benefits/opportunities and its experience of polder -30 was presented with the help of PPT and open discussion. At the end of this session in reply to the question of benefit of CWM the trainees and observer came up with following benefits of CWM:



### **Benefit of CWM/difference between CWM and traditional Practice:**

01. Opportunities for introducing new crop/variety
02. Proper management of water
03. Well coordination among BWDB, DAE, UP and WMOs
04. Maximum production
05. Proper and coordinated Planning for water management
06. Introducing new technology
07. Proper use of fallow land
08. Market development
09. Strengthening local organization/WMOs

## 2.2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Session:

Again PPT was presented in front of the participants about experience of water management in polder-30 where CWM was piloting first time in Blue Gold during last year. The session concluded with open discussion about the various aspects of CWM activities.

## 3.3. 3<sup>rd</sup> Session:



In this session all the trainees are divided in to four group according to their working area i.e. polder area where CWM will be implemented. And then they sat for plenary discussion to identify the steps for starting cwm activities in the selected area and all the four groups prepared a list of steps for carrying out CWM activities. After that they finalize the steps through presenting the posters and open

discussion. The steps are finalized are as follows:

### **The steps for implementing CWM activities:**

01. Area selection
02. Awareness/motivational meeting with WMOs
03. Prepare farmers list
04. problem Identification
05. Identify land type
06. Soil test
07. identify cropping pattern and crop planning
08. Starts training
09. Variety selection
10. Seed bed preparation
11. land preparation –prepare field/plot channel and Ail
12. Transplanting
13. Intercultural operation
14. Harvesting and marketing
15. Preparation for next crop cultivation

## **2.4. 4<sup>th</sup> Session:**

Before lunch break participants are briefed about the field visit and they sat for plenary discussion to prepare checklist and questionnaire for collecting data/information to analysis crop water relation situation of CWM area. Purba Morichbunia of polder 43/2D, one of the six CWM area of Patuakhali zone and Ghater Khal WMG of polder 31 part in Patuakhali were preselected for field visit.

### **Explanation on Crop-water system analysis**

Objective: Map the major crop and water problems and opportunities in the CWM area and some indicative solutions.

Methodology: In field exercise consisting of transect walks and interviews with local WMG representatives

### Steps:

1. Formulation of questions by studying the location map (catchment area map) and summary information on socio-economic, crop and marketing characteristics of the CWM area.
2. Determination of essential points to visit in the field
3. Actual field visit and gathering/introduction with WMG group
4. Actual walk trough / transect walk with 2 or 3 WMG representatives, simultaneously making observations and asking questions
5. Write up of main problems and opportunities; verification with WMG representatives
6. Using the location maps to indicate: existing cropping patterns, main water management bottlenecks and potential opportunities (e.g. alternative water routes), main marketing problems and opportunities; verification with WMG representatives

## Field Visit:



After lunch all the participants were divided in to four group two BG TA staff supported the group start journey by office car and two rented micro bus. The four groups spread out to the four corners of the CWM area and interviewed farmers and WMG members to analysis the present crop water situation of the selected CWM area. After collecting the data they came back to the venue and prepared themselves for presenting their observation in the next day morning:

The major observation of this selected CWM area in Patuakhali and Khulna are given below in brief:

### 2.4.1. Field Visit: Analysis of Crop Water relationship management (Polder-43/2D):

**Name of WMG:** Purba MarichBunia, Polder-43/2D, Patuakhali

Land size of CWM area: 120 acre

Major Cropping pattern:

“Mung Bean- Fallow- T Aman”.

Major crop during rabi season are Mung (80%) Ground Nut (5%), Chilli (3%), Sesame (2%) and fallow (10%) and Local Aman is the major crops in Aman season.

Land type: East part of this area (CWM) is almost levelled and west part is medium to high land

Water Infrastructure:

Number of Cannel: Asuar Suta khal is the main cannel connected with nilkhola sluice.

Number of Sluice gate: 0 but the channels are connected to nilkhola sluice

Inlet/outlet: Three inlets exist in this area.



Present Condition of Water Management of this area:

1. Ashuar Suta khal is fully silted up.
2. The connecting channel Ramer Ma khal also silted up
3. All the three inlet pipes are damaged.
4. The taltoli channel is blocked due to cross dam and water hyacinth.

Solution of the current water management problem:

1. Ashuar suta khal required to re-excavate around 900 meter
2. Ramer ma channel also need to re-excavate around 200 meter
3. Three inlets should be repaired for proper water management
4. A regulator is essential on culvert near the west side of Rashid sikder house to control/properly manage the water flow of Ashuar suta khal.

Opportunities of CWM

1. Collectively water hyacinth can be cleaned
2. It is easy to manage properly the water resources and water management related infrastructure
3. The farmers group of CWM can collectively buy inputs and sell their products which will be financially benefited.
4. It is possible to cultivate new/diversified crop/ HYV variety and thus production will be increased.
5. New and improved technology can be introduced
6. It will create more employment opportunities

Problem of Marketing:

01. The road from Purba Marichbunia to Care road is made of soil as a result it is difficult to transport goods from the field.
02. They often didn't get actual price of their production especially rice as it is local variety.

### **2.4.2. Field Visit in Khulna (Polder-31 part):**

**Name of WMG:** Ghater Khal, Polder-31 part, District: Khulna

**Location:** In East side Packa Road, Embankment at West and South side and Katcha (made of mud) Road at the North side of this CWM area.

**Land size of CWM area:** 90 acre

**Number of Farmers:** 94

**Condition of WMG:** The performance of WMG is not good and also poor linkage with other WMGs/WMA



Major Cropping pattern: “Fellow- Fellow- T Aman”

Major crop during rabi season local sesame (Black and Red) and BRR1 dhan-23 is the major rice variety in Aman season, Morichshail, Katchra, Ranichelot local rice grown in this area.

Present Condition of Water Management of this area:

01. The main cannel Napiter Khal is fully silted up especially near the Sluice gate as a result water movement is very slow.
02. The only sluice gate (Kallyan Sree) also not properly work due siltation near gate.
03. The sluice operated by influential people.
04. Water congestion (Drainage problem) - 20% area.

Solution of the current water management problem:

01. Re-excavation of the main cannel
02. Excavation new channel beside the embankment and packa road
03. Re-excavation cannel between sluice gate and Vadra river.

Problem of Marketing:

01. Unavailability of local market
02. They often didn't get actual price of their production.

## 2.5. 5<sup>th</sup> session: (Team Building)

After presenting the group outcomes on field visit the participants again took part in a funny game competition where they had to prepare a dummy model CWM area reflecting their vision (How did they dream about this area after successfully completing the CWM activities in limited time as it was very competitive task. After completion the task each of the four groups present their model CWM area and also a judge panel was formed to announce the wining team. Group name polder-43/1A and group name Group-3 were declared as the winning team in Patuakhali and Khulna. This session wrap up with the finding of reasons behind the winning team through open discussion and these are:



01. Each of the group members equally participated
02. They had a well coordination and task was distributed equally
03. Leadership

04. Vision was clear and clear understanding
05. Good Planning
06. Proper monitoring and follow-up.

## 2.6. 6<sup>th</sup> Session: (Brief Discussion on FFS curriculum of T Aman for CWM area)

To orient newly developed curriculum of T Aman FFS for CWM area, a plenary discussion was held in group wise and the participants asked to get back comments or observation on FFS module which was developed in two consecutive workshops held on last June'2016 in Patuakhali and Khulna. The session came up with the following observation:

01. Time allocated for each session was too low compare to sub content included.
02. The amount of sub-content was too much to cover in one session.
03. It will be difficult to keep all the farmers around 4 to 5 hours.

## 2.7. 7<sup>th</sup> session: (Experience of Market Orientation FFS)



A PPT was presented in front of the audience to share the experience of MFS in Blue Gold Program. In this session participants had the chance to gather knowledge on Market Orientation, Collective action and MFS and how could they apply knowledge of MFS in CWM FFS activities.

## 2.8. 8<sup>th</sup> session: (Roles and Responsibilities)

In this session participants were requested to write down their roles and responsibilities on VIPP cards and after that all the duties are discussed in large group and finalized. The roles and responsibilities are given bellow according to different agencies who are working under Blue Gold Program.

DAE: Sub-assistant Agricultural Officer

01. SAAO will conduct FFS session especially production technology related topics
02. Will select farmers with the help of COs.
03. They will provide new and improved technology/innovation to the farmers

Blue Gold TA staff: Community Organizers (COs)

01. CO will help to arrange different meeting with WMG/WMA

- 02. They will motivated farmers to actively participated in the FFS session
- 03. COs will play an important role for well coordination among BWDB, DAE, BG and WMG at field level



BWDB: Extension Overseer (XOs)

- 01. They can regularly update the water management situation to the concern BWDB office for water management.
- 02. They will ensure proper water management

Blue Gold TA staff: Producer Group Facilitators (PF)

- 01. Help to conduct session related to market orientation
- 02. Help farmers for collective action (such as inputs- seed, fertilizers etc buy)
- 03. Will help farmers to establish linkage with different actors

## 2.9. Closing of the Workshop:

The orientation course officially closed around 3.00 PM followed by a brief evaluation of the participant's reaction about the training course through open discussion and question and answer. All most all the participants expressed their satisfaction and gratitude to authority to arrange such type workshop. They mentioned that there are lot of new things they learnt in this workshop such as- Community water management and its benefits, Analysis of crop water system, MFS, collective action etc. Finally everybody argued that it will help them to carry out their regular activities as well as implement of CWM activities.

## 3. Observation and Recommendation:

Though these two courses can be considered as successful and appreciated by all the participants but some observation and recommendation were made by the observer, resources persons and trainees on Orientation on CWM courses and these are:

### Major Observations:

01. The participants felt they had learnt new information and practical skills. Examples:

a) One SAAO said in his 30 year career he had often heard about water management and knows it is important for crops, but he never had a good understanding what it really meant and how to discuss it with farmers. He feels now more confident.

b) One CO expressed, she only knew how to collect statistical data from WMGs and was happy to learn how to collect crop-water data in the field. We ourselves noticed that some COs demonstrated an inability to read maps and did not know the difference between sluice, outlet and inlet. They got some better understanding during this training.

02. Participants also emphasised that this was the first time they work so closely together: TA team, DAE and BWDB. For some of them the polder team concept was new and they appreciated this type of working and team building.

03. Good balance between information/presentation and practical group work. And Time allocation of the workshop was also good.

04. Surprisingly, all groups came up with similar Steps 'how to start CWM'. Either the exercise set up was too prescriptive or there was an honest agreement and understanding among field staff how to start CWM due to proper intro presentations.

05. In the field visit the participants were not officially introduced and the visit also made immediately after lunch which is not proper time for any visit.

#### **Major Recommendation:**

01. CWM Orientation can rather be called a "Training", because encompasses a considerable number of practical skills that are being taught.

02. CWM orientation/training should not only be provided to staff working in CWM areas. It is highly recommendable to develop a similar



training for all polder teams. A training "Internal Polder Water Management", in which they can get skills to do crop-water system analysis in the field, receive an understanding of different water management infra and learn methods to do action planning with WMOs with help of maps. The later skills can also be of direct benefit to the WMA Action Planning workshops.

03. CWM orientations can be organized for LGIs, UAOs and XENs and possible other GoB departments.

04. All the presentation (PPT) should be prepared in Bangla and hand-outs should be provided.

05. Some minor improvements are recommended in relation to showing more visual materials at the start of the workshop, explaining better the function of different water management infrastructures (for COs and SAAOs especially) and during a few sessions what more interaction with the participants.

**ORIENTATION ON COMMUNITY WATER MANAGEMENT (CWM) for FIELD STAFF****Patuakhali****Venue: SDA, Patuakhali****Date: May 30-31, 2016**

#	Name	Designation	Organization	Mob. No./ Email Id
01	Md. Johirul Haque	SAAO	DAE,	01712436434
02	Md. Nurul Islam	SAAO	DAE	01748649483
03	ATM Enaytur Rahman	SAAO	DAE	01759015048
04	Hasina Begum	SAAO	DAE	01715714142
05	Narottam Biswas	SAAO	DAE	01724767722
06	Md. Delowar Hossain	SAAO	DAE	01716204427
07	Abdus Salam	SAAO	DAE	01713965226
08	Amulya Ch. Mondal	SAAO		
09	Haralal Ch Mistary	SAAO		
10	S.M Badrul Alam	UAO	DAE, Amtali	<a href="mailto:s.m.badrulalam@gmail.com">s.m.badrulalam@gmail.com</a>
11	Abdul Mannan	UAO	DAE, Galachipa	<a href="mailto:amannan.dae@gmail.com">amannan.dae@gmail.com</a>
12	Md. Mamun-or-Rashid	XO	BWDB	01713531560
13	Sharif Mizanur Rahman	XO	BWDB	
14	Md. Abul Hasan	CO		
15	Lipy Akter	CO		
16	Md. Safiqul Islam	CO		
17	Aklima Akter	CO		
18	Md. Ahsun Habib	CO		
19	Seuly Akter	CO		
20	Amal Krishna Ray	CO (CWM)		
21	Md. Nasir Uddin	PF		
22	Md. Afikul Islam	PF		
23	Md. Tozammel Haque	PF		
24	Mukul Roy	PF		
25	Md. Mazedul Islam	PF		
26	Dino Bandhu Sarkar	PF		

#	Name	Designation	Organization	Mob. No./ Email Id
	<b>Observers</b>			
27	Delowar Hossain	Civil Eng.		<a href="mailto:delower.hossain@bluegoldbd.org">delower.hossain@bluegoldbd.org</a>
28	Md. Shaifullah	BDC		<a href="mailto:shaifullah@bluegoldbd.org">shaifullah@bluegoldbd.org</a>
29	Md. Matior Rahaman	SE		<a href="mailto:matior.rahman@bluegoldbd.org">matior.rahman@bluegoldbd.org</a>
30	Md. Atikur Rahman	TC		<a href="mailto:atikur.rahman@bluegoldbd.org">atikur.rahman@bluegoldbd.org</a>
31	Amalendu Biswas	D&E Eng.		
32	SK Muhibullah	ZSE		
33	Judith de Bruijne	PDP Coordinator		<a href="mailto:judith.debruijne@mottmac.nl">judith.debruijne@mottmac.nl</a>
34	Ruud Leibbrand	BGP-YP		
35	Md. Abul Kashem	TE		
36	F.M. Shorab Hossain	COE		<a href="mailto:shorab.hossain@bluegoldbd.org">shorab.hossain@bluegoldbd.org</a>

**ORIENTATION ON COMMUNITY WATER MANAGEMENT (CWM) for FIELD STAFF****Khulna****Venue: SAINT Bangladesh, Khulna****Date: June 4-5, 2016**

#	Name	Designation	Mob. No./ Email Id
01	Dhraubo Joti Sarker	SAAO, DAE	
02	Uttam Kumer Kundu	SAAO, DAE	
03	Chandan Kumer Biswas	SAAO, DAE	
04	Dipon Kumer Halder	SAAO, DAE	
05	Kamaless Bala	SAAO, DAE	01721-436811
06	Md Abdul Hye Khan	SAAO, DAE	01938-812268
07	Karuna Mondal	SAAO, DAE	
08	Md. Ibrahim Khalil	XO, BWDB	
09	Md. Kaiser Khan	CO, BGP	
10	Md. Altaf Hossain	SAAO, DAE	
11	Md. Rezaul Islam	PF, BGP	
12	Md. Abdul Based	PF, BGP	
13	Md. Humayun Kabir	CO, BGP	
14	Mst. Rokhsana Khanam	PF, BGP	
15	Suravi Sen	CO, BGP	
16	Sujan Kumar Halder	XO, BWDB	
17	Kumaresh Chandra Dam	CO, BGP	
18	Md. Hafijur Rahman	DCEO, BWDB	
19	Tahmina Akter	Sr. SE, BGP	
20	Ashik Billah	ZSE, BGP	
21	Zibanonda Roy	SAAO, DAE	01718-181187
22	Md. Omar Faruq	PF, BGP	
23	Basudeb Roy	CO, BGP	
24	Md. Azizur Rahman	Sr. QCE, BGP	
25	Ruud Lebbeand	YE, BGP	
26	Amaledu Biswas	D/WM-Engr, BGP	

#	Name	Designation	Mob. No./ Email Id
27	Md. Abul Kashem	TE, BGP	
28	Quzi Hayat Masud	SO (SAE), BWDB	
29	Shorab Hossain	COE, BGP	
30	Shusanto Roy	BDC, BGP	
31	Deboprotim Howlader	SDE, BWDB	
32	Bishwajit Baidya	SDE, BWDB	
33	Rubayet Ara	UAO, DAE	
34	Md. Nazrul Islam	UAO, DAE	
35	Mst. Shamima Nasrin	TC, BGP	



**ORIENTATION ON COMMUNITY WATER MANAGEMENT (CWM) for FIELD STAFF****Agenda**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Methods</b>	<b>Facilitators</b>
8.45 – 9.15 am	Registration		
9.15 – 9.30 am	Official opening	Speech and Game	
9.30 – 10.15 am	Introduction to concept of CWM – including video (why and benefits of CWM) Background, objectives and Main activities of CWM	PPT Presentation, Discussion	
10.15 – 10.45 am	Examples of WM problems and CWM solutions from Khulna – pilot polder 30	Experience Sharing	
10.45 – 11.00 am	Tea Break		
11.00 – 11.45 am	How to start CWM (steps of implementation with WMG and WMA)	Small Group Discussion	
11.45 – 1.00 pm	Orientation for field visit CWM and Crop-water system analysis	Maps; presentation; continuation group work	
1.00 – 2.00 pm	Lunch		
2.00 – 5.00 pm	Field Visit and Crop-water system analysis	Field visit	
Evening time	Prepare brief group presentation  Review the day learning	Small Group Work	

**Day 2: 31 May 2016**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Methods</b>	<b>Facilitators</b>
9.00 – 9.30 pm	Open discussion about field visit and joint team building (what was the strategy the group took? who did what?)	Game, Experience Sharing  Question & Answer	
9.30 – 10.30 am	Groups present Crop-water system analysis	Presentation & discussion	
10.45 – 10.45 am	Tea break		
10.45 – 11.15 am	Brief presentation of FFS curriculum	Presentation & Large Group Discussion	
11.15 – 11.45 am	Brief experience sharing on market orientation issues	Presentation, Large Group Discussion	
11.45 – 12.30 am	Presentation timeline and roles & responsibilities of field staff in CWM activities	Presentation & plenary discussion	

12.30 – 1.00 pm	Review and closing		
1.00 – 2.00 pm	Lunch		