

## Blue Gold Program

Catchment O&M Planning Workshops  
Polder – 2, Satkhira

### Introduction

When I am writing this report, all the Catchments O&M Plans (12 Catchment) under Polder -2, Satkhira has been completed successfully. On 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> I observed to 02 workshops and remaining 01 workshop was conducted on 10<sup>th</sup> Jan 2019.



The WMA were drafted the Catchment O&M plans (which actions have common interests/effects to other WMGs, involvement or support required from UP and other GoB departments in implementing the actions) in the Pre-workshop meeting involving the Catchment Committee, WMG, WMA and UP members where CCF facilitated the process.

The revised objectives of this day-long workshop are to

- Review & sharing the Catchment O&M Action Plans for correcting date & timing of operation the sluice gates and reconfirmation of responsible persons for implementing the actions;
- Develop partnership and linkages with the UP & govt. departments (BADC, LGED and UZPs etc.) for getting financial/technical support for small infrastructure's to implement these actions;
- Discuss the WMA key roles and responsibilities, procedure of application/submission request to the govt. departments and validation the catchments O&M plans.

### Workshop Participants

Following are the basic information of the 03 Catchment O&M Planning workshops:

Date	Catchment	Venue	Participants						Total # Participants
			WMA	CCM	# of WMG	Farmer	UP	GoB	
07.01.19	Beradangi, Chagla & Beradangi	DB High School	01	17	06	07	02	05	37 (M-34 & F-03)
08.01.19	Andarmanik & Suparigha	Dhulihar UP	01	14	09	07	05	06	36 (M-31 & F-05)
10.01.19	Amodkhali Catchment	Fingri UP	01	18	16	04	12	07	51 (M-47 & F- 04)

## BADC & LGED's Contribution

From my observations the main attraction of the workshop were the interaction in between



WMA – BADC & LGED – UP regarding the way of getting funds, submission of application for the small infrastructure's following the departmental formats, dates of application etc. Both the officials from the BADC and LGED opined/given assurance of financial and technical support to the WMA to implement these actions.

Mr. Abdur Rahman Mollah, Assistant Engineer, Irrigation Section, BADC, Satkhira, Cont. # 01928170453 and Mr. Shaik Badruzzaman, Sub Assistant, Engineer LGED Satkhira, Cont. # 01918288131, clarified their departmental roles in funding and supporting the small infrastructural schemes and date/procedures of submission applications.

Both the officials and their representatives have participated in each workshop and explain funding for rehabilitation, maintenance, and reconstruction of small such infrastructure is one of the main key functions of their department. They become very happy to participate in these wonderful workshops where they find a comprehensive water management plans for increasing crop production which prepared by the farmers.

They are hoping that funding of almost all these small infrastructures included in the presented plans by the WMA will be agreed by their department. They are also clarified following other funding field/schemes, criteria and encouraged WMA to submit the schemes. Without any lobbying and difficulties they can get their departmental support in these fields as govt. is highly positive in supporting for these small infrastructures:

- Excavation/Re excavation of Khal ( generally 30 to 50 feet wide)
- They discouraged manual labor and usually use excavator in khal/canal excavation
- Funding for underground drainage pipe
- Construction /reconstruction of culvert both box and pipe
- Construction cattle crossing dam
- Excavation of Govt. Pond for surface water reservation which water can be used for agriculture
- Supply of Small Water Pump Machine with very minimum contribution from the
- Connection of Electricity by the PBS but funds will be provided by the BADC

*At the end of their discussion we observed that the WMA representatives circled them, asking for their contact no's, availability of seeds and when those officials will come back to visit their agricultural field & problems and how they can contact in the office etc. So, all these actions are indicating these department/officials are the main attraction of this workshop. We realized the WMO people's needs for rehabilitation these O&M actions, what we need to do for functional WMA and this may be the new widows where BGP needs to concentrate or focus.*

## UP's Contribution

Based on experience of 3 workshops, we found very positive roles of UP chairman where they have demonstrated their positive attitude, given assurance to the WMA to support in implementing catchment O&M plans and solve any conflicts for betterment of the water management. The UP chairman mentioned that they do not have big fund or funding source for implementing all these plans but they will try to contribute as much as possible from their capacity. They will assure to incorporate their requirements & plan of rehabilitation small infrastructures in their development plans. He told that he will try to collect some support from the UZP and other departments. The UP chairman suggested to WMA for keeping regular communication and follow up with the Union Parishad whether these actions are included in their development plans.

## Overall conclusion and recommendations

Through these workshops WMA have identified the hopes and potential opportunities (supporting partners) where from they can get technical and financial support to rehabilitate & maintain small water management infrastructures for solving in-polder water management problems even in absence of Blue Gold. The presence of govt. officials created a healthy environment & opportunities for WMA to develop linkages/relations with the BADC, LGED, UP and UZP officials.

At this stage Polder Teams need to do intensive follow up for signing the catchment O&M plans through a general meeting, submit O&M plans to the UP, BADC, LGED, UZP by the WMA. A continuous follow up and support will be required by the Polder Teams to facilitate the submission of proposals on small infrastructures according to the concerned departmental format and requirements.

The Polder Teams should facilitate, what should be the relations with the UP, how they can develop their partnership relations with UP and other govt. departments, what will be the way to keep updates and day-to-day develop relationships what will contribute to develop a self-sustainable Water Management organizations.

*BGP Training  
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