



Blue Gold Program

Quarterly Progress Report (QPR)02

Quarter 2 (April01 – June 30,2014)

Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands,
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB)
Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE)

August, 2014



Program Data

Name of Program	Blue Gold Program
Activity Number	DHA 0116534/ Act. 24007
Project Start Date	20 February 2013
Project Completion Date	19 February 2019
Approval date DPP (BWDB component)	30 July 2013
Approval date DPP (DAE component)	24 July 2013
Signing Contribution Agreement	04 December 2013
Donors	GoN, GoB
Contractor	EuroconsultMott MacDonald
Implementing Partners	Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE)
Date of Progress Report	July, 2014
Reporting Period	From 1 April to 30 June, 2014
Contribution GoN	€ 15,750,000 to be administered by BWDB € 995,000 to be administered by DAE € 33,100,000 Technical Assistance
Contribution GoB	BWDB: € 7,499,000 DAE: € 356,080
Total project budget	EURO 57,700,080
Exchange rate	1 EURO = 100 Taka

Contact Details

Address	<p><u>BWDB Office:</u> 23/1 Motijheel Commercial Area, Hasan Court, 8th Floor, Dhaka 1000 Phone: +88 02 7111525; +88 029569843 Fax: +88 029569843</p> <p><u>Gulshan Office:</u> Karim Manjil, Ground Floor, House 19, Road 118, Gulshan, Dhaka 1212</p>
Email	<p>BWDB Project Coordinating Director (PCD): masud.bwdb@yahoo.com DAE Project Director: kbtahmina@gmail.com Blue Gold Team Leader: dirk.smits@bluegoldbd.org; dirk.smits@mottmac.nl Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands: dha-OS@minbuza.nl</p>
Website	http://bluegoldbd.org/
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/bluegoldprogram

Green corner – Save a tree today!



Mott MacDonald is committed to integrating sustainability into our operational practices and culture. As a world leading consultancy business we are always seeking to improve our own performance and reduce the environmental impact of our business. Meanwhile, many of our staff are committed to living sustainably in their personal lives – as an employee-owned company Mott MacDonald shares their concerns. We feel an ethical obligation to reduce our emissions and resource use and have committed to reducing our per capita carbon footprint by a minimum of 5% year on year.

We print our reports and client submissions using recycled, double-sided paper. Compared to printing single sided on A4 virgin paper, double sided printing on recycled paper saves the equivalent of two trees, over a ton of CO₂ and a cubic metre of landfill space for every 100 reams. By choosing the greener path we have been able to achieve efficiencies benefiting both Mott MacDonald and our customers.

We would like to share some of the principles of our own 'Going Green' initiative:

- When possible we scan rather than print and consider what really needs to be on paper
- We use electronic faxing when practicable
- We work on e-forms
- We use recycled paper when possible
- Reducing paper in the office creates a better working environment for our staff and our clients

We believe that you, as one of our esteemed clients, will share our concern to conserve precious resources for the benefit of our planet and its inhabitants.

Issue and revision record

Revision	Date	Originator	Checker	Approver	Description
01	08-07-2014	Blue Goldteam	Dirk Smits; Natasha Haider	Dirk Smits	First draft QPR02, 2014
02	04-08-2014	Blue Gold team	Dirk Smits	Hero Heering	Second draft QPR 02, 2014

This document is issued for the party which commissioned it and for specific purposes connected with the above-captioned project only. It should not be relied upon by any other party or used for any other purpose.

We accept no responsibility for the consequences of this document being relied upon by any other party, or being used for any other purpose, or containing any error or omission which is due to an error or omission in data supplied to us by other parties

This document contains confidential information and proprietary intellectual property. It should not be shown to other parties without consent from us and from the party which commissioned it.

Contents

Chapter	Title	Page
1.	Program Highlights	1
1.1	General _____	1
1.2	Field Visits and Missions _____	1
2.	Context	5
2.1	Program Rationale and Objectives _____	5
2.2	Program Area _____	6
2.3	Program Components _____	6
3.	Project Status	7
3.1	Program Management _____	7
3.2	Component 1: Community Mobilization and Institutional Strengthening _____	10
3.3	Component 2: Water Resources Management _____	14
3.4	Component 3: Food Security and Agricultural Production _____	22
3.5	Component 4: Business Development and Private Sector Involvement _____	26
3.6	Component 5: Cross Cutting Issues _____	31
3.7	Training _____	39
3.8	Communication and Knowledge Management _____	44
3.9	Monitoring & Evaluation _____	46
3.10	Institutional Strengthening _____	49
4.	Main Challenges	51
4.1	Component 1 _____	51
4.2	Component 2 _____	52
4.3	Component 3 _____	52
4.4	Component 4 _____	53
5.	Financial Overview	54
Annexes		
Appendix 1 Staffing Status		56
A-1 Blue Gold – Technical Assistance Team staffing as per 30 June 2014 _____		56
A-2 Blue Gold – Bangladesh Water Development Board staffing _____		60
Appendix 2 Environmental Mission Report		62
Appendix 3 Role of UP for Participatory Water Management		72
Appendix 4 Proceedings of Internal Meeting on Lessons Learned on ODK Usage of Blue Gold Baseline Survey		74
Appendix 5 Minutes of PMC meeting		82
Appendix 6 Reports Overview		87

List of Tables

Table 1-1: Overview of external visits to Blue Gold during the period April – June 2014.....	1
Table 1-2: Overview of Blue Gold internal international missions during the period April – June 2014	2
Table 3-1: Update of staffing in different Blue Gold offices up till June 2014	9
Table 3-2: Status of component 1 activities (April-June 2014)	10
Table 3-3: Component 1 cooperation with other projects.....	11
Table 3-4: Component 1 next quarter planning.....	12
Table 3-5: Status of component 2 activities (April - June, 2014)	14
Table 3-6: Progress of implementation works till June 30, 2014	17
Table 3-7: Component 2 cooperation with other projects.....	19
Table 3-8: Component 2 next quarter planning.....	19
Table 3-9: Status of component 3 activities (April - June 2014)	22
Table 3-10: DAE TOT participants	23
Table 3-11: Status of Component 4 activities (April - June 2014)	26
Table 3-12: Component 4 cooperation with other projects.....	28
Table 3-13: Component 4 next quarter planning.....	28
Table 3-14: Status of Component 5 activities (April – June 2014).....	31
Table 3-15: Component 5 cooperation with other projects.....	34
Table 3-16: Overview of conducted training.....	39
Table 3-17: Training next quarter.....	41
Table 3-18: Status of Communication activities	44
Table 3-20: Next quarter planning for communication.....	44
Table 3-21: Status of M&E activities	46
Table 3-22: Progress and Time schedule of Blue Gold baseline survey	46
Table 3-23: Progress and Time schedule of Outcome Monitoring	47
Table 3-24: Progress and Time schedule of Output Monitoring	47
Table 3-25: M&E next quarter planning	48
Table 3-26: Status of Institutional Strengthening activities (April - June 2014).....	49
Table 3-27: Cooperation with other projects	50
Table 5-5-1: Financial and TA contributions.....	54
Table 5-5-2: Budget Overview 31 March 2014 (final) – TA, Contracted Services & Equipment, Training and Operational Costs	54
Table 5-5-3: Budget Overview 30June 2014 (estimate) – TA, Contracted Services & Equipment, Training and Operational Costs.....	54

List of Abbreviations

ADP	Annual Development Plan
AEO	Agricultural Extension Officer
BWDB	Bangladesh Water Development Board
CAHW	Community Animal Health Worker
CBO	Community-Based Organisation
CDMP	Comprehensive Disaster Management Program
CDSP IV	Char Development and Settlement Project Phase IV
CEGIS	Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services
CEIP	Coastal Embankment Improvement Project
CGIAR	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
CIMMYT	International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center
CO	Community Organizer
CSISA	Cereal Systems Initiative for South Asia
CUB	Concern Universal Bangladesh
CWM	Chief Water Management (BWDB)
DAE	Department of Agricultural Extension
DLS	Department of Livestock Services
DoC	Department of Cooperatives
DoF	Department of Fisheries
DP III	Directorate of Planning III
DPP	Development Project Proforma
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DTL	Deputy Team Leader
ECHO	European Community Humanitarian Office
EKN	Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
FFS	Farmers Field School
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FO	FFS Organiser
FY	Financial Year
GAP	Gender Action Plan
GESAP	Gender Equality Strategy and Action Plan (of BWDB)
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GoB	Government of Bangladesh
GoN	Government of the Netherlands
GPWM	Guidelines for Participatory Water Management
HH	Household
IFMC	Integrated Farm Management Component
IGA	Income Generating Activity
IPSWAM	Integrated Planning for Sustainable Water Management
IPSWARM	Guidelines for Integrated Planning for Sustainable Water Resources Management
IRRI	International Rice Research Institute
IWM	Institute of Water Modelling
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
LCG	Local Consultative Group
LCS	Labour Contracting Societies

LGED	Local Government Engineering Department
LGI	Local Government Institutions
MMC	Mass-line Media Centre
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
PCD	Project Coordinating Director
PD	Project Director
PDP	Polder Development Plan
PMC	Project Management Committee
PSC	Program Steering Committee
SAFAL	Sustainable Agriculture, Food security and Linkages
SDE	Sub-Divisional Engineer
SME	Small and Medium Enterprise
SSSWRDSP	Second Small-Scale Water Resources Development Sector Project
SSWRDSP	Small Scale Water Resources Development Sector Project
SWAIWRPMP	Southwest Area Integrated Water Resources Planning and Management Project
TA	Technical Assistance
TL	Team Leader
TNA	Training Needs Assessment
TOT	Training of Trainers
UAO	Upazila Agricultural Officer
UDMC	Union Disaster Management Committee
UP	Union Parishad
VAP	Village Action Plan
VC	Value Chain
VCA	Value Chain Analysis
VCD	Value Chain Development
VCS	Value Chain Selection
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene education
WMA	Water Management Association
WMG	Water Management Group
WMIP	Water Management Improvement Project (World Bank)
WMO	Water Management Organisation
WUR	Wageningen University and Research Centre
XEN	Executive Engineer (BWDB)
ZSE	Zonal Socio economist

1. Program Highlights

1.1 General

Blue Gold Program

- During this quarter the transfer of an advance of EURO 1,216 mln from Bangladesh Bank to the BWDB account and an advance of EURO 160,000 to the DAE account were completed.
- Recruitment of TA team staff members is almost completed. On 30 June 2014 141 staff were employed, of which 76% in the project areas and 24% in Dhaka.
- The publication of the new Participatory Water Management Rules 2014 (PWM Rules 2014) resulted in a lot of discussion between CWM (Office of the Chief Water Management), BWDB DP-III, Blue Gold and other BWDB-implemented projects.
- The training plan of Comp 1 and Comp 2 focused on the training of newly established LCS in view of the anticipated start of civil works by LCS. However, due to the delays in fund placement the actual works could only start in June, which seriously limited the output as the rain season commenced in July.
- After rigorous preparation by the (international and national) M&E team the baseline survey for the nine IPSWAM polders was carried out. The first results and analyses will be available in the next quarter.
- Slow progress was made in compiling of Polder Development Plans (PDP) for polders 22 and 43/2F. In order to get this important activity on a faster track in a structured way a junior consultant from Euroconsult Mott MacDonald in Arnhem joined the Blue Gold team on a temporary basis.
- The second Project Management Committee (PMC) Meeting was held on 10 June 2014 in the Office of Blue Gold at Motijheel. The MoM of the PMC meeting are included under Appendix 5.
- The MoU between BWDB and DLS was signed in April 2014. The MoU between BWDB and DoF is still awaiting approval of DoF. The MoU between BWDB and DoC is delayed in order to assess the impact of the new PWM Rules 2014

1.2 Field Visits and Missions

Table 1-1: Overview of external visits to Blue Gold during the period April – June 2014

No.	Organization	Name of visitor	Date	Comment
1.	Bangladesh Country Team , The Hague	Ms Louise Huijbens, DAO/ZO, Sr. Policy Officer Bangladesh Mr Aart van der Horst, DME/MW - Water expert Ms Elly Leemhuis, DSO/GA - SRHR expert Mr Wijnand van IJssel, DDE/NB - Food Security expert Ms Nicolette Koopman, DIO – Sr. Policy Advisor	14-15 April 2014	
2.	Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands (EKN)	- Gerben de Jong, Ambassador - A.T.M. Khaleduzzaman, Senior Advisor Water Resources Management	18-19 June 2014	Joint program with SAFAL in Khulna District

Table 1-2: Overview of Blue Gold internal international missions during the period April – June 2014

No.	Name of visitor	designation	Purpose	Period
1.	Hero Heering	Project Director Blue Gold Program		02 – 17 April 2014 26 June – 11 July 2014
2.	Tanja Laan	Project Controller South Asia	Financial control (internal)	02 – 09 May 2014
3.	Kim Janssen	Consultant Environment & Natural Resources Management	Work with new environmental expert on PDP, SEMP, annual work plan and follow up on EIA with CEGIS	12 May – 2 June 2014
4.	Judith de Bruijne	Consultant Water Resources Management	Development of a standard structure and format for Polder Development Plans (PDP)	17 June – 25 July 2014
5.	Bastiaan Roos and Ber Albers	GIS experts Nelen & Schuurmans, the Netherlands	Develop GIS / MIS Information Platform under Water Management Fund	14 June – 2 July 2014

Pictures from the period April-June, 2014



Training course on Water Management for Community Organizers (CO), BARD Kotbari, Comilla, 6 -16 April 2014



Training course on Water Management for Community Organizers (CO), BARD Kotbari, Comilla, 6 -16 April 2014



Discussion meeting between Chief Water Management, BWDB and Blue Gold team, Khulna, 19 May 2014



Workshop on Polder Development Plan (PDP), Patuakhali, 20 May 2014



C4 information collection from WMG, Uttar Khekuani, Polder 43/2F, Patuakhali, 19 May 2014



Workshop on Polder Development Plan (PDP), Patuakhali, 20 May 2014



TOT training on modules of livestock, fisheries and value chains, Khulna, 1 – 5 June 2014



TOT training on modules of livestock, fisheries and value chains, Khulna, 1 – 5 June 2014



Sluice gate operation by WMG, Patuakhali, June 2014



WMG meeting, Patuakhali, June 2014



Homestead garden, Patuakhali, June 2014



earthworks by LCS, Patuakhali, June 2014



earthworks by LCS, Patuakhali, June 2014



Needs Assessment at WMG, Patuakhali, June 2014

2. Context

2.1 Program Rationale and Objectives

Bangladesh, the largest river delta in the world, depends largely for its economic growth on integrated and sustainable water resources management. The three major river systems of the country mark its physiography and life of its people. Its waters, its **Blue Gold**, have fundamentally shaped Bangladesh culture. Efficient management of this immense natural resource remains a continuing challenge and offers at the same time tremendous opportunities.

The essence of Blue Gold is to establish and empower community organizations/water management organizations (WMOs) to sustainably manage their water resources and to make these resources more productive. The Program aims to create strong cooperatives that will interact with public and private organizations that play a role in the development of the area. Participatory water resources management is the entry point and the initial driver of the community organization process. The explicit objective of Blue Gold is to reduce poverty of the people in the coastal areas by enhanced productivity of crops, fisheries and livestock and increasing incomes by improved processing and marketing of agricultural products including value chain development.

Overall and Specific objective(s) of the Blue Gold Program

The overall objective of the Blue Gold Program is:

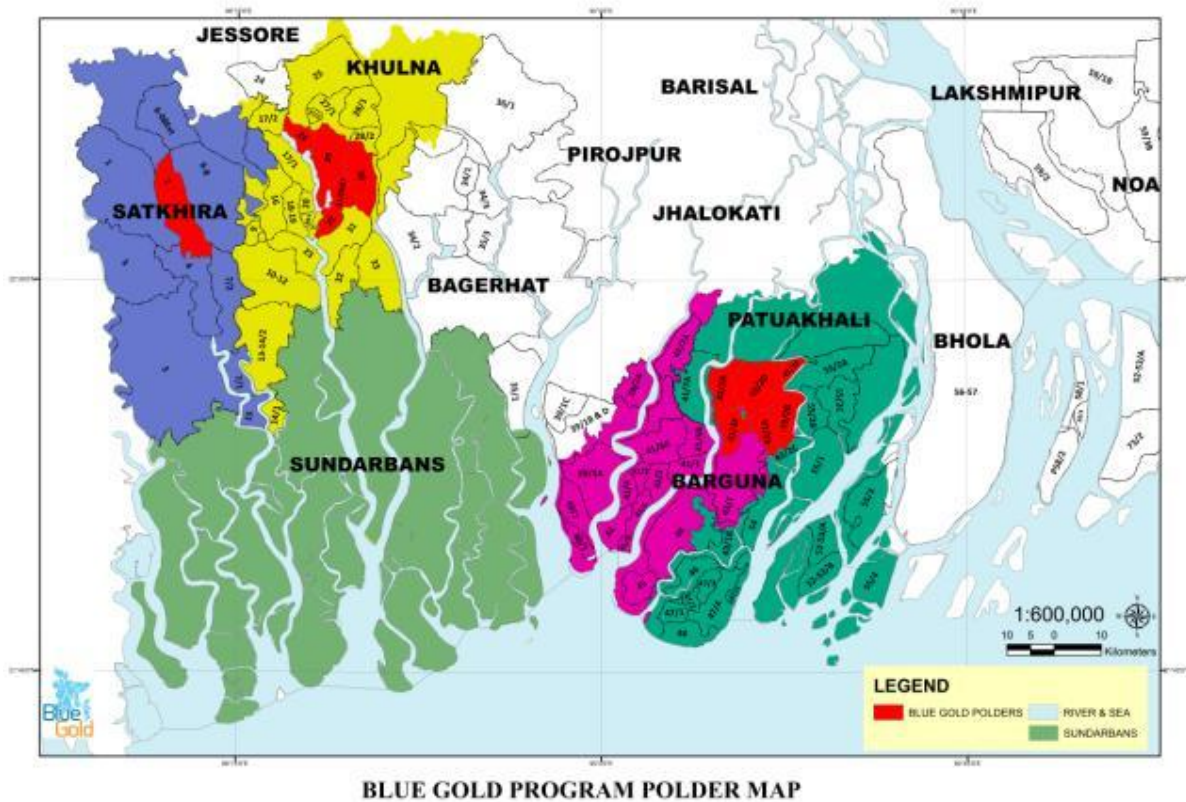
“to reduce poverty for 150,000 households living on 160,000 ha of selected coastal polders by creating a healthy living environment and a sustainable socio-economic development”.

The specific objectives of Blue Gold are:

- i. To protect the communities and their land located in polders against floods from river and sea (climate change adaptation) and to optimize the use of water resources for their productive sectors.
- ii. To organise the communities in water management organizations and/or cooperatives which will be the driving force for the natural resources based development (agriculture, fisheries and livestock), whereby environment, gender and good governance are effectively addressed.
- iii. To increase the household income derived from the productive sectors.
- iv. To strengthen the institutional framework for sustained water resources development and related development services in the SW/SC coastal zones

2.2 Program Area

The Blue Gold Program covers a gross area of 160,000 ha of selected polders in the Districts of Satkhira, Khulna and Patuakhali. The first twelve polders selected under Blue Gold, of which five polders are included in the first year program (season 2013-2014), are shown in red colour in the following map of Bangladesh South West and South Central coastal polders.



2.3 Program Components

- 1 - Community Mobilisation and Institutional Strengthening
- 2 – Integrated Water Resources Management
- 3 - Food Security and Agricultural Development
- 4 - Business Development and Private Sector Involvement
- 5 - Cross Cutting Issues: Gender, Governance, Innovation, Climate Change and DRR

In addition four other Dutch-funded projects are closely linked to the Blue Gold Program implementation:

- 1) The Sustainable Agriculture, Food Security and Linkages (SAFAL) project, developing value chains in the subsectors aquaculture, dairy and horticulture;
- 2) The Max Value for WASH project, aiming to provide 800.000 people in rural communities with safe drinking water and sanitation facilities, as well as hygiene education;
- 3) The BRAC WASH II program, providing improved access for all to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene education in polders 22, 29 & 30 of Khulna District; and
- 4) Through UNICEF and Acacia Water additional innovative drinking water supply systems will be installed under the MAR (Managed Aquifer Recharge) project.

3. Project Status

3.1 Program Management

Blue Gold is implemented by BWDB (Ministry of Water Resources) and DAE (Ministry of Agriculture). BWDB is the lead implementing Agency. Technical Assistance (TA) is provided through a consortium consisting of Euroconsult Mott MacDonald, the Netherlands (lead firm), Femconsult, the Netherlands, Mott MacDonald Bangladesh, Socioconsult (Bangladesh), and BETS (Bangladesh). Participation of other GoB institutions, notably the Department of Cooperatives (DoC), the Department of Fisheries (DoF) and the Department of Livestock Services (DoLS) is channelled through the TA contract.

Regular coordination meetings are held between EKN and Blue Gold TA management. Coordination with BWDB and DAE takes place on an ad-hoc basis, facilitated by shared offices in Motijheel (BWDB) and Khamarbari (DAE). Since March 2014 regular coordination meetings with BWDB are held in the Motijheel office.

3.1.1 Organizational Issues

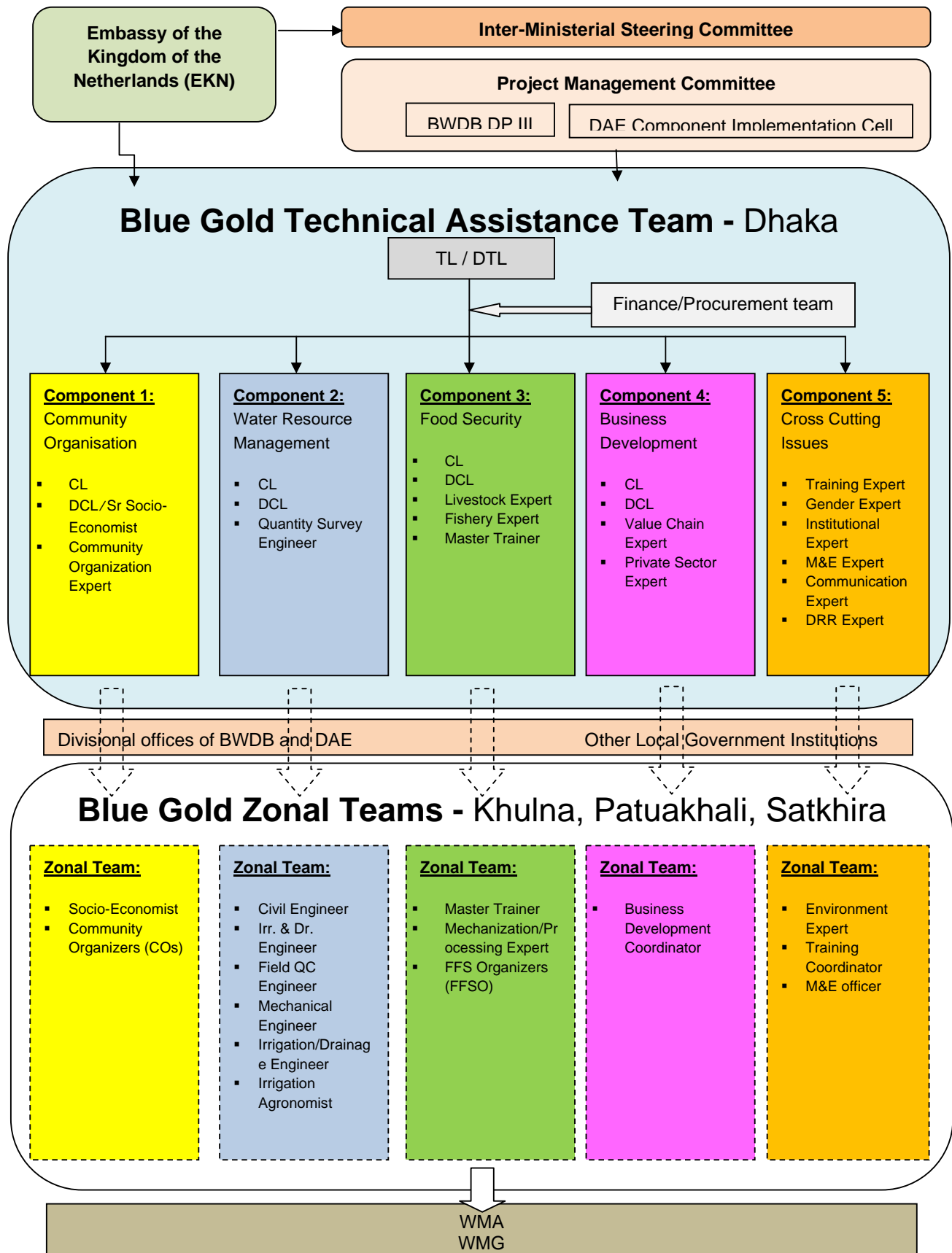
The Project Management Committee (PMC) is chaired by the Project Coordinating Director (PCD) of BWDB and consists of representatives from the Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR), Planning Commission, IMED and from the four executing Departments (Agriculture Extension, Fisheries, Livestock and Cooperatives). The TA Team Leader is the Secretary to the PMC. The office of the PCD serves as the Secretariat of the PMC. The PMC would aim to meet once a month but should at least meet every three months.

The second PMC meeting was held on 10 June 2014. See Appendix 5 for the minutes of the meeting.

The Inter Ministerial Steering Committee (IMSC) is chaired by the Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources and consists of representatives of the Ministries of Water Resources, of Agriculture, of Fisheries and Livestock and of Local Government Rural Development and Cooperatives. In addition, EKN, PCD and Team Leader TA Blue Gold are members of the IMSC. The IMSC will meet once a year. For a detailed list of the TOR of the IMSC and its members see DPP–Recast May 2013, Appendix 9.

The IMSC did not meet during the reporting period.

3.1.2 Organogram



3.1.3 Staffing

The following table shows the updates of staffing in different Blue Gold offices up till June 2014:

Table 3-1: Update of staffing in different Blue Gold offices up till June 2014

Date	Dhaka	Khulna	Patuakhali	Polders	Total
31 Dec, 2013	32	18	13	51	114
31 March, 2014	38	20	14	51	123
30 June, 2014	33	20	16	72	141

On 20 April 2014 Kabil Hossain was appointed as the new Environmental Expert, based in Khulna.

Appendix 1 shows an overview of the current staffing status for the Blue Gold TA team (1-A) and the BWDB team (1-B).

3.1.4 Logistics

The procurement of eight 4WD cars (jeeps) could not yet start. The main reason is that the custom duties (CD) on imported 4WD vehicles amount to approximately 400%, depending on the duty free price of the vehicles. In the DPP under GoB contribution an amount of EURO 450,000 is budgeted for CD/VAT. At the current duty free price for Ford Everest 4 WD vehicles, the budget would allow Blue Gold to purchase not more than 3 or 4 cars. BWDB has included the amount of EURO450,000 for CD/VAT in the ADP allocation for the financial year 2014-2015. This money will not be available before October 2014. In the meantime the project procured three minibuses and two 4WD double cabin pick-ups.

Furthermore a first batch of 75 motorbikes was purchased in March 2014 within the budget of EURO 1,250 per motorbike. Registration of the motorbikes, training of drivers and certification of driving licenses took another month. At the beginning of June 2014 the motorbikes were operational, most of them for use by Community Organisers and FFS Organisers. Operational rules are being established to ascertain proper use and maintenance of the motorbikes.

The Blue Gold TA team is using the newly rented premises in Gulshan (Road 118, House 19), while the Motijheel office (notably the library room) is used for larger meetings. Some support staff is available in this office on a permanent basis and running cost (mainly utilities) continues to be paid by Blue Gold. However, at the end of the quarter BWDB indicated that they still would prefer co-location of BWDB and Blue Gold. As the Motijheel office is not suitable, other options will be explored after EID.

Installation of a solar panel system, air conditioners and fans in the Khulna office was completed. However, the solar panel system still doesn't function well due to some problems with the inverters. Furniture for the training room at the first floor was purchased.

Repair and upgrading of several offices at the BWDB compound in Patuakhali to accommodate the ever growing staff numbers of Blue Gold in this District were completed. The guesthouse – which also contains office accommodation – is functioning very well.

3.2 Component 1: Community Mobilization and Institutional Strengthening

3.2.1 Status Overview of Activities

The table below describes the Component 1 Activities in the second quarter of 2014:

Table 3-2: Status of component 1 activities(April-June 2014)

No.	Planned Key Activity	Polder and/or Subject	Completion Schedule	Progress
Component 1: Community Organisation and Institutional Strengthening				
1.	Participate in Polder Selection	All Polders	Early 2015	Together with Comp 2 selected Polder 2 in Satkhira and Polder 31 (Part) in Khulna
2.	Screening, Hiring and orientation of COs	All polders	December 2015	Training for 22 new COs in April 2014. Training of COs on Value Chains and operation and management of FAO farm machineries.
3.	Community Immersion, social investigation/ data gathering and village mapping	All Polders	December 2016	On-going in Polder 26 and started in Polder 31 (Part) where COs were posted in April 2014.
4.	Information dissemination/ campaigns	All polders	May 2017	Completed in Polder 26 and on-going in Polder 31 (Part)
5.	Household (HH) Survey	All polders	March 2017	Completed data entry and statistical tables for Polder 26 HH survey.
6.	WMO functionality assessment	All IPSWAM polders	March 2014	Completed summary tables for remaining 5 IPSWAM Polders
7.	Village Needs Assessment and Initial Action Plan Formulation (Options development formulation)	All polders	December 2017	Completed in Polders 30, 43/2E, 43/1A, & 43/2B and on-going in Polder 29.
8.	Formulation of Polder Development Plans (PDP) – jointly with all components	All polders	December 2016	PDP's for polder 22 and polder 43/2F in process
9.	Assessment and validation of fine tuning works on water management infrastructure (joint activity with C2)	All Polders	December 2016	Completed in Polders 43/2A, 43/2E and 29.
10.	Formation of Water Management Committees (WMCs) and Monitoring Committees (MCs) jointly with C2	All Polders	December 2017	WMC formation completed in 43/2E, 43/2B, 43/1A and Polder 29 MC training completed

No.	Planned Key Activity	Polder and/or Subject	Completion Schedule	Progress
				in Polders 22, 30, 43/2D, and 43/2F.
11.	Organize, train and register LCS groups and mobilize for earthwork jointly with C2 and Training team	All Polders	December 2017	Mobilized LCS groups for actual works in Polder 22 (7 groups), 43/2D (18 groups) and 43/2F (14 groups).
Other activities:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of list of members of the Executive Committees of all WMOs including LCS Leaders with their contact details for BWDB-DP III Organized day-long discussion meeting in Khulna with Chief Water Management (CWM) and BWDB officials on the new PWM Rules 2014 Participation in Draft By-Laws formulation relative to the new PWM Rules 2014 				

Preparation and implementation of the orientation training for the 22 newly hired COs (implemented jointly with the training team) and then their posting to various polders were the major tasks in April 2014.

The notification in the official Gazette of the Participatory Water Management Rules 2014 (PWM Rules 2014) prompted implementation of other activities during the period as follows: a) discussion meeting with Chief Water Management (CWM) and staff to arrive at a common understanding on the new rules and to discuss their implications to Blue Gold objectives and components (May 19, 2014); b) dissemination and gathering feedbacks from WMO members during their regular monthly meetings; c) assisting CWM in the formulation of draft By-Laws to support implementation of the new rules (June 16-19, 2014).

Strengthening and capacity building of WMOs continued to be the major activity in the field in all polders. Reformation of existing Water Management Groups (WMGs) and Water Management Associations (WMAs) with election of new Executive Committees is the focus of the strengthening activity. Other WMO strengthening activities being undertaken by the COs included the following: firming-up of membership (including collection of basic information on potential WMG members in each polder) and enrolment of new members; updating and maintenance of books of accounts and records; installation of WMO regular meetings; and strengthening of shares and savings collection.

Needs assessment and initial action plan formulation is an on-going activity in Polder 29 which is a precursor to Comp 1 PDP planning activity and foundation for needs assessment and validation activity at the catchment level which is jointly done with Comp 2. The second PDP workshop was conducted in Patuakhali on April 20, 2014 focusing on Polder 43/2F.

3.2.2 Cooperation with Other Projects

Table 3-3: Component 1 cooperation with other projects

Organisation	Related Project/ Programme	Contact Made	Potential for collaboration
Chief Water Management, BWDB		Nasir Uddin Khan, Chief Water Management and 2 Deputy Chief Extension Officers (DCEO)	Responsible for registration of existing WMOs under BWDB based on PWM Rules 2014. Collaboration on by-laws formulation
FAO	Enhancing Food	National Project Coordinator,	Jointly with C4, cooperation established with

	Security	Irrigation Engineer, Agronomist, National M&E Specialist, DAE Focal person, FFS Specialist	regard to capacity building program for WMGs on proper operation and management of distributed farm machineries.
BRAC	BRAC-WASH	Upazila Manager	Collaboration in the planning and awareness building for safe drinking water using the PSF method in 3 villages, namely: Kalinagar, Harinkhola and Darun Mallik of Polder 22
BWDB	Southwest	Chief Extension Officer, (former Deputy Chief Extension Officer, Jessore)	Consultation on approach and procedures in LCS works, BWDB handing over of resources to WMOs and PWM Rules 2014
CDSP IV		Project Area Coordinator	Consultation on PWM Rules 2014
Innovision		Managing Director	Collaboration on LCS IGA concept (jointly with Comp 4)
IRRI, IWM	On-Farm Water Management	Zahirul Islam, IWM Engineer, Dr. Manoranjan, IRRI	Collaboration in planning, designing and implementation of pilot area in Fultala WMG under Polder 30
World Food Program	Food for Works (FFW) Program	WFP in charge of Barisal Region	Collaborated in planning FFW program in Polder 43/2B

3.2.3 Next Quarter Planning (July-September 2014)

Table 3-4: Component 1 next quarter planning

No.	Planned Key Activity	Polder and/or Subject	Completion Schedule	Progress Envisaged
1.	Registration of existing WMGs with BWDB in accordance with PWM Rules 2014	All IPSWAM Polders	August 2014	To be started once draft by-laws are completed and circulated. Extension of deadline for registration of existing WMGs is requested.
2.	Participate in Polder Selection	All Polders	Early 2015	New Polders in Satkhira and Khulna to be selected, jointly with Comp 2.
3.	Community Immersion, social investigation/ data gathering and village mapping	All Polders	December 2016	To continue in Polder 31 (Part) and to be started in Polder 2 after COs are posted early July.
4.	Community mobilization for identification and prioritization of fine tuning/ rehabilitation works	All polders	December 2016	To continue in Polders 43/2B, 43/1A, 26, 31 (part) and Polder 2.
5.	Information dissemination/ campaigns	All polders	May 2017	To continue in Polder 31 (Part) and to be started in Polder 2 once COs are posted.
6.	Household Survey (through FGDs)	All polders	March 2017	Identification of households and potential WMG members to

				continue in Polders 29, 43/2A, 43/2E, 43/2B, and 43/1A and to be started in Polders 31 (Part) and Polder 2).
7.	WMO Formation	New Polders	December 2016	To be completed in Polder 26. To start in Polders 31-part and Polder 2.
8.	WMO functionality assessment	All IPSWAM polders	July 2014	Submit summary report for remaining IPSWAM Polders (Polders 29, 43/2A, 43/1A, 43/2B& 43/2E)
9.	Village Needs Assessment and Initial Action Plan Formulation (Options development formulation)	All polders	December 2017	To continue in Polder 29.
10.	Formation of Water Management Committees (WMCs)	All Polders	December 2017	Boundaries of existing WMCs will be confirmed and organized into 2 nd tier WMAs in accordance with PWM Rules 2014
11.	Organize, train and register LCS groups and mobilize for earthwork	All Polders	December 2017	Prepare LCS completion report jointly with C2. Next Financial Year, new LCS groups will be organized in accordance to PWM Rules 2014
12.	Form and train WMO Monitoring Committees	All Polders	December 2017	To be formed in all polders for fine-tuning next Financial Year
13.	Mobilize WMO Monitoring Committees for earthwork	All Polders	December 2017	To resume next Financial Year

3.3 Component 2: Water Resources Management

3.3.1 Status Overview of Activities

The table below describes the Component 2 Activities in the period April – June 2014.

Table 3-5: Status of component 2 activities (April - June, 2014)

No.	Planned Key Activity	Polder and/or Subject	Completion Schedule	Progress
1. Polder Identification and Selection				
1.1	Identification 2 new non-IPSWAM Polders	Polders 55/2C, 55/1	May 2014	Preliminary information collected. Will visit in July 2014
1.2	Final Selection of first 2 non-IPSWAM polders	Polders 2 & 31-part	May 2014	Done
2. Polder Development Plan, Physical Survey and Assessment of Rehabilitation Works				
2.1	Preparation of Polder Development Plan (PDP)	Polder 22 & 43/2F	May 2014	Draft PDP done.
2.2	Topographical Survey, Analysis and Reporting (Embankment)	Polders 43/2A, 43/2E, 43/2B, 43/1A, 29, 31-part, 26 & 2	May – September 2014	In progress
2.3	Topographical Survey, Analysis and Reporting (Canals)	Polders 43/2A, 43/2E, 43/2B, 43/1A, 29, 31-part, 26 & 2	May – December 2014	Selection of canals in progress. Topo-survey will start after the monsoon
2.4	Assessment of rehabilitation works and costs for earthwork (part)	Polder 43/2A	May 2014	Done for retired embankment. For other works will be done after getting topo-survey report.
2.5	Assessment of rehabilitation works and costs for earthwork (part)	Polders 43/2E, 43/2B, 43/1A, 29, 31-part, 26 & 2	May-December 2014	Will start after getting topo-survey reports.
2.6	Assessment of rehabilitation works and costs for structures (part)	Polders 43/2A, 43/2D, 43/2F, 22, 30	May – October 2014	In progress
2.7	Catchment area delineation, rehabilitation needs assessment and validation in WMA General Meeting.	Polders 43/2A, 43/2E and 29	May-June 2014	Done
3. Engineering Designs by BWDB Design Offices and Submission of Estimates by BWDB Field Offices				
3.1	Design and Estimate Submission for Earthwork (part)	Polders 43/2A, 43/2D, 43/2F, 43/2E, 43/2B, 43/1A, 29, 31-part, 26 & 2	May – December 2014	Discussion meeting was held on 27-5-2014 with Chief Engineer-Design, SE-Design Circle-2, SE-Design Circle-5, and PCD. Designs for some works are in progress.
3.2	Design and Estimate Submission for Structures (part)	Polders 43/2A, 43/2D, 43/2F, 22 & 30	May – November 2014	Same as above

No.	Planned Key Activity	Polder and/or Subject	Completion Schedule	Progress
4. Estimate Vetting by TA Team				
4.1	Design & Estimate Vetting for Earthwork (part)	43/2A, 43/2D, 43/2F, 43/2E, 43/2B, 43/1A, 29, 31-part, 26 & 2	June – December 2014	In progress
4.2	Design and Estimate Vetting for Structures (part)	Polders 43/2A, 43/2D, 43/2F, 22 & 30	June– December 2014	Will start after receiving designs and estimates from field.
5. Fund Placement				
5.1	Fund placement	Polder 22, 30, 43/2D, 43/2F, 43/2A (part)	January 2014 (As planned)	EKN fund was placed in project account in May 2014 and GOB office order to release the fund was issued in June 2014. Advance to LCSs was arranged temporarily from BWDB Loan, which caused subsequent delay in all works.
6. LCS & WMA Monitoring Committees				
6.1	Formation & Training of LCS	N/A	N/A	N/A
6.2	Formation and training of Monitoring Committees	Polder 22, 30, 43/2D, 43/2F	May-June 2014	Done
7. Implementation of Rehabilitation Works 2014				
7.1	Earthwork in embankment repair and construction	Polders 22, 30, 43/2D, 43/2F, 43/2A	March –June 2014	In polders 43/2A and 30, LCS refused to start work. Two contractors started work in polder 30. In polders 43/2D & 43/2F work started in the 1 st week of June. Limited work started in polder 22.
7.2	Earthwork in canal re-excavation	Polder 30 & 22	March – May 2014	Six LCS in polder 22 started work. No LCS started work in polder 30.
7.3	Monitoring and quality control	Polders 22, 30, 43/2D, 43/2F, 43/2A	March – June 2014	Monitoring and quality control was done on a regular basis.
8. Field Visits				
8.1	Field visit for selection of new polders	Polder 2, 31 part	April-June 2014	6 – 10 May 2014.
8.2	Field visits for monitoring and quality	Patuakhali & Khulna	April -June	Field team

No.	Planned Key Activity	Polder and/or Subject	Completion Schedule	Progress
	control		2014	continuously, Dhaka team as and when required during May and June 2014.
8.3	Field visit for staff meeting, checking renovation of BWDB buildings in polder 22, on-farm water management pilot scheme in polder 30 and meeting with field XEN, Khulna	Khulna	April – June 2014	16-21 April 2014
8.4	Field trip for engineering assessment of rehabilitation of structures and probable costs.	Polder 43/2A, 43/2E	April-June 2014	21 April – 01 May 2014
8.5	Field visit for catchment area delineation, rehabilitation needs assessment and polder level validation by WMA.	Polder 43/2A, 43/2E, 29	April – June 2014	01 – 05 June, 08 - 12 June & 21 – 27 June 2014
8.6	Field trip for PDP workshop in Patuakhali	Polder 43/2F	April-June 2014	18 – 21 May 2014
8.7	Field visit for TOT and Training of Monitoring Committees	Khulna & Patuakhali	April –June 2014	27 - 30 May & 06 – 07 June 2014.
8.8	Field visit to CDSP for experience sharing	Noakhali	April – June 2014	16 – 18 June 2014
9. Other activities				
9.1	Internal discussion meetings among different components regarding development of PDP and Village Action Plans.	Dhaka	April – June 2014	During May and June 2014
9.2	Meetings and discussion with an architect regarding development of alternative plans and design of WMG/WMA centres considering WMO needs, coastal characteristics, climates change and available local building materials.	Dhaka	April – June 2014	During May and June 2014
9.3	Meeting with Chief Engineer, Design and SEs, Design Circle 2 & 5	Dhaka	-	27 May 2014
9.4	Staff recruitment for Component 2: total 18	-	April –June 2014	Three staff joined in April 2014. Two staff discontinued after May 2014.

3.3.2 Implementation Works

As mentioned earlier because of late fund placement, implementation works could not start as planned. In Bangladesh the usual working season for earthwork is from January to May. Although 70 LCS were formed and about 60 LCS were trained, the work could not start in time as necessary fund to pay initial advance to

the LCSs was not available. However, under special arrangement BWDB made a temporary loan available in April to pay initial advances to the LCS. But completing of all BWDB procedures after approval of the loan took almost up to the middle of May 2014. By that time many LCS members migrated to other districts in search of work and in many places soil borrow pit areas were inundated making earth unavailable for re-sectioning of embankments. Most of the canals were already filled with water.

LCS as well as BWDB decided not to start work for construction of the retired embankment in polder 43/2A because the huge amounts of earth required for construction of retired embankment would not be available after the start of pre-monsoon rains. LCS in polder30 refused to start work because most of their labourers migrated to other districts after long waiting. Only 2 contractors in polder 30 and 7 LCS in polder 22 risked to start work in May 2014. LCS and some contractors in polders 43/2D and 43/2F also took the risk to start work in re-sectioning of embankment in the 1st week of June. A brief progress of works till June 30, 2014 is given below. However, the LCS and the contractors are still doing some finishing works.

Table 3-6: Progress of implementation works till June 30, 2014

Polder	District	LCS /Contractor		Work Item	Length in km	Approximate Progress %
		Nos.	LCS/Contractor			
22	Khulna	01	LCS	Embankment Re-sectioning	1.20	85%
		01	Contractor	Embankment Re-sectioning	1.60	70%
		06	LCS	Re-excavation of Canals	7.225	85 -95%
30	Khulna	02	Contractors	Embankment Re-sectioning	8.05	20 – 40%
43/2D	Patuakhali	18	LCS	Embankment Re-sectioning	22.56	20 – 50%
		01	Contractor	Embankment Re-sectioning	4.07	17%
43/2F	Barguna	14	LCS	Embankment Re-sectioning	20.995	40 – 60%
		09	Contractors	Embankment Re-sectioning	12.20	20 – 55%

Photographs of implementation works are given below.



Figure 1: Embankment Re-sectioning in Polder 22



Figure 2: Canal Re-excavation in Polder 22

3.3.3 Cooperation with Other Projects

Table 3-7: Component 2 cooperation with other projects

Organisation	Related Project/ Programme	Contact made	Potential for collaboration
Nelen & Schuurmans	GIS Company in the Netherland	Bastiaan Roos, Ber Albers, GIS experts	Setting up web-based GIS/MIS Information Platform
IRRI, IWM	Challenge Program for Food & Water (CPWF)	Dr. Monoronjan Mandal, Zahir Uddin	Potential pilot project on sub-poldering and on-farm water management.
Dhaka University, Acacia Water	MAR Project	Dr. Matin, Albert Tuinhof, Seiger Burger, Prof. Sarmin	Potential cooperation in Managed Aquifer Recharge for drinking and irrigation water supply between Acacia and Blue Gold program.
Concern Universal	Different programs on Food Security, Livelihood, DRR and Cash for Work	Cornelis De Wolf, Country Director; Md. Abdul Hamid, Head Organizational Dev. & Education	Potential cooperation in drainage improvement, earthwork for cash, livelihood improvement and DRR
World Fish	Different programs on Food Security, Livelihood, DRR and Cash for Work	Kevin T. Kamp, Deputy Regional Director, South Asia	Potential cooperation in drainage improvement, earthwork for cash, livelihood improvement and DRR

3.3.4 Next Quarter Planning (July - September 2014)

Table 3-8: Component 2 next quarter planning

No.	Planned Key Activity	Polder and/or Subject	Completion Schedule	Remarks
1.	Polder Identification and Selection			
1.1	Identification of 4 new non-IPSWAM Polders	Polder 55/2C, 55/1 & 2 others	July 2014	-
1.2	Final selection of 2 non-IPSWAM polders	Polder 55/2C, 55/1	September 2014	-
2.	Physical Survey and Assessment of Rehabilitation Works			
2.1	Finalization of Polder Development Plans	Polder 22, 43/2F	July – September 2014	
2.2	Topographical Survey, Analysis and Reporting (Embankments)	Polder 43/2A, 43/2E, 43/2B, 43/1A, 29, 31-part, 26 & 2	July – September 2014	Analysis and report preparation
2.3	Topographical Survey, Analysis and Reporting (Canals)	Not planned	-	

No.	Planned Key Activity	Polder and/or Subject	Completion Schedule	Remarks
2.4	Assessment of rehabilitation works & costs for earthwork (embankment)	Polder 43/2A	July - September 2014	
2.5	Assessment of rehabilitation works & costs for earthwork (Embankment), part	43/2E, 43/2B, 43/1A, 29, 31-part, 26 & 2	July – November 2014	
2.6	Assessment of rehabilitation works for structures (part)	Polder 43/2A, 43/2D, 43/2F, 22, 30	July-November 2014	
3. Design and Estimate Submission by BWDB Field Office				
3.1	Design and estimate submission for earthwork	Not planned	-	
3.2	Design and estimate submission for structures-Part	Polder 43/2A, 43/2D, 43/2F, 22, 30	September - November 2014	
4. Estimate Vetting by TA Team				
4.1	Design and estimate vetting for earthwork	Not planned	-	
4.2	Design and estimate vetting for structures-part	Polder 43/2A, 43/2D, 43/2F, 22,30	September - November 2014	
5. Tendering by BWDB				
5.1	Tendering for 40-50% earthwork	Not planned	-	
6. LCS and WMA Monitoring Committees				
6.1	LCS TOT Training	Not planned	-	
6.2	Formation & Training of LCS and Monitoring Committees	Not planned		
7. Implementation of Rehabilitation Works 2014				
7.1	Earthwork in embankment repair and construction	Not planned	-	
7.2	Earthwork in canal re-excavation	Not planned	-	
7.3	Monitoring and quality control of rehabilitation works	Polders 22,30, 43/2D,43/2F & 43/2A	September – October 2014	Organising WMA meetings for satisfactory completion certificate for works done.
8. Fund Placement				
8.1	Fund placement for this Quarter	Not planned	-	
9. Field Visits				
9.1	Field visit for identification & selection of 4 new polders	55/2C, 55/1 and 2 other polders	July – September 2014	
9.2	Field visit for organising WMA meetings for satisfactory completion certificates.	43/2D, 43/2F, 30 & 22	September - October	
9.3	Field visit with Review Mission	-	August 2014	

No.	Planned Key Activity	Polder and/or Subject	Completion Schedule	Remarks
10. Others				
10.1	Coordination with C-2 Zonal offices, Inter component meetings and discussion on issues related to PDPs and implementation.	All	July - September 2014	
10.2	Staff recruitment for Comp2	18 staff	-	1 staff will join in September 2014

3.4 Component 3: Food Security and Agricultural Production

3.4.1 Status Overview of Activities

The below table shows the status of Component 3 activities over the period April-June 2014 in accordance with the Annual Plan 2014.

Table 3-9: Status of component 3 activities (April - June 2014)

No.	Planned Key Activity	Polder and/or Subject	Completion Schedule (with comments)	Progress
Component 3: Food Security and Agricultural Production				
1	First cycle FFS vegetables, poultry, nutrition (44 FFS)	4 polders	June 2014 (will be completed in August)	80%
2	Field days of first cycle FFS	4 polders	June 2014 (will be completed by August)	0%
3	Second cycle FFS, fish and livestock (44 FFS)	4 polders	Nov 2014	40%
4	Curriculum development	All polders	Jan 2014 (curricula for all planned FFS modules are completed and documentation is ongoing)	95%
5	TOT for FFS Organizers (small ruminants, business idea generation with Comp 4)	All polders	May 2014 (instead of "business idea generation" (BIG) an "introduction to value chains" was included. The BIG training is under preparation)	100%
6	Select 18 Community Animal Health Workers (CAHW)	IPSWAM polders	March 2014 (delayed, preparations are ongoing)	10%
7	Polder Development Plans (PDP)	4 polders	June 2014 (drafts of 2 PDPs have been prepared)	40%
8	MOUs with DoF and DLS	All polders	Jan 2014 (DLS has signed MOU, DoF is finalizing the process)	90%
9	Orientation workshops DoF and DLS in Patuakhali and Khulna	All polders	(waiting for MOU DoF)	0%
10	DAE TOT for 25 AEOs and 25 SAAOs	All polders	June 2014 (closing ceremony is on 3 July)	100%
11	DAE training for tag-SAAO and FFS monitors	All polders	May 2014	100%
12	50 FFS T.Aman 2014	All polders	Nov 2014 (planning workshop was held in June)	1%
13	Demonstration-trials during T.Aman 2014	All polders	Nov 2014	0%
14	DAE purchase motorbikes, computers	All polders	Feb 2014	100%

3.4.2 Component 3 activities April to June 2014

Main Component 3 activities during this reporting period (April-June 2014) involved the ongoing 88 Farmer Field Schools and the ongoing season-long TOT by DAE.

The first cycle of 44 Farmer Field Schools (homestead garden, poultry and nutrition) and the second cycle (44 FFS fish, large ruminants and nutrition) are proceeding well. The first cycle had to be slightly extended as FOs have been busy with sessions of the second cycle. No field days were organized yet. The first cycle is expected to be complete by end August. The second cycle is expected to run until November. FFS info is now collected in a database, showing that the 88 ongoing FFS have a total of 2200 participants of which 1522 are women (69%).

Curricula for all FFS modules are complete and are being documented. A one-week Training of Trainers course (TOT) for the 22 FFS organizers (1-5 June) complemented their training on the fish and small ruminant modules and included 2 days training on “introduction to value chain”, which was organized by Comp 4. The planned training on “business idea generation” (BIG) is under preparation by Comp 4.

Component 3 field staff supervised and monitored FFS activities, continued data collection about the polder areas, and initiated some additional production related activities.

- To promote Moringa (drumstick tree) as a vegetable in Patuakhali, about 1200 cuttings were collected in Khulna and distributed to FFS participants (24 FFS) in Patuakhali. Survival of the cuttings is being monitored and seems to be not satisfactory. A “lessons-learned” report will be prepared to help planning similar activity next year.
- An innovation activity has been started in Polder 22 using mini-ponds to store water which will be used to grow watermelon during the Rabi season. It is a practice developed by one of these farmers which is now replicated and tested with a group of 25 farmers in the same WMG. Fish production in these mini ponds is included.

DAE completed its season-long TOT for 25 AEOs and 25 SAAOs at the Daulatpur Horticulture Center in Khulna (closing is on 3 July). Progress of this training has been satisfactory. The TOT participants organized and completed 8 practice FFS (Boro rice) in polder 30 during this training.

Table 3-10: DAE TOT participants

FFS	Posting place	Male	Female	Total	% Female
AEO	Blue Gold (within 10 anticipated Upazilas)	3	3	6	50%
AEO	Outside Blue Gold area	12	7	19	37%
SAAO	Blue Gold (within 10 anticipated Upazilas)	9	1	10	10%
SAAO	Outside Blue Gold area	14	1	15	7%
	Total	38	12	50	24 %

The 16 newly trained FFS facilitators in Blue Gold area will proceed to run FFS under the Blue Gold program, while the other facilitators will be useful for other FFS programs (DAE, IFMC, FAO, etc.) in their respective posting places.

Three reports relating to the reporting period are not yet finalized but will be available in July:

1. Training report TOT for FOs (1-5 June 2014)
2. Compilation of curricula of FFS modules
3. Training report TOT for DAE FFS facilitators (to be provided by DAE)

3.4.3 Cooperation with Other Projects and Organizations

The table below highlights contacts and points of cooperation between Comp 3 and other projects and organizations.

Project/Organization	Comment
DLS, DoF	Specialists of DLS and DOF participated as resource persons in the training for FFS Organizers
DAE	A consultant has been contracted by Blue Gold to assist DAE in preparing a draft for a revised DPP (TTAP project).
WorldFish	The WorldFish proposal for "Participatory Research on a Habitat Restoration Approach to Small Pond Fish Productivity, Diversity and Resilience" or women-managed small household ponds (SHHP) was approved by EKN (22-4-2014). A contract with WorldFish was signed (15-05-2014) and implementation has already started.
BAU	Together with Professor Rahim, a fruits expert of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU), we have started drafting a concept note for collaboration on introducing improved fruit species and varieties (and possibly vegetables) in the Blue Gold area.
BAU	A meeting was organized with Dr Salam of BAU to explore possibilities on collaboration related to testing aquaponics/hydroponics in Blue Gold area. While technical challenges make these innovations less suitable for the majority of farmers we plan to look into possibilities of testing low-tech versions of these techniques or working with more advanced and progressive farmers. A Concept Note will be prepared later this year, possibly also to look at working with simple green houses (tunnel farming).
iDE	A meeting was held with iDE to discuss possibilities of working together on drip irrigation systems. Follow up meetings are needed to decide if this could be taken up as an innovation activity under Blue Gold.
CIMMYT	We were contacted by CIMMYT to discuss collaboration on developing curriculum for mungbean FFS. (Note: Mungbean has been selected as value chain for Patuakhali area)
FAO	Contacts are maintained with an FAO project (Establishment of Livestock Health Care System) in Tongipara and Kotalipara under Gopalganj District, which has been involved in training for CAHW.
FAO	Exchange of information related to quality of FFS, budgets, curricula, etc. with staff of FAO's GCP/BGD/050/NET project.

3.4.4 Next Quarter Planning (July -Sep 2014)

The following table shows adjusted planned activities of Component 3 for the third quarter of 2014.

Task Name	Jul	Aug	Sep
Component 3			
First cycle FFS			
Continue 44 FFS homestead garden poultry nutrition	X	X	
Organize 44 field days		X	
Second cycle FFS			
Continue 44 FFS fish livestock	X	X	X
Third cycle FFS			

Task Name	Jul	Aug	Sep
Preparations for 44 FFS homestead garden poultry			X
FFS Organizers training (Business Idea Generation C4)			
Finalize training plan and prepare training	X	X	
Train FOs (2days)			X
Community Animal Health Workers (CAHW)			
Prepare training curriculum	X		
Select participants	X	X	
Train 18 CAHWs of 9 IPSWAM polders		X	X
Provide materials and mobilize CAWS			X
Polder development plans (PDP)			
Gather relevant agricultural information	X	X	X
Continue work with C1, C2 and C4 to develop PDPs	X	X	X
MOUs with DOF and DLS			
Signing of MOU DoF	X		
Blue Gold Orientation workshop DOF and DLS in Khulna		X	
Orientation workshop DOF and DLS in Patuakhali			X
DAE			
FFS T. Aman season			
50 T.Aman FFS in 12 Blue Gold polders (8 Upazilas)	X	X	X
25 T.Aman FFS in Upazilas outside Blue Gold	X	X	X
Demonstration trials			
16 demo-trials summer tomato (2 in each of 8 polders)	X	X	X
DPP revision			
Drafting revised DPP for TTAP (DAE)	X	X	X

During the next reporting period (Jul-Sep 2014) the ongoing 88 FFS continue and 44 first cycle FFS will be completed, including field days. Preparations will start for third cycle FFS (homestead vegetables and fruits, poultry, nutrition), which will involve two more polders (29 in Khulna, 43/2B in Patuakhali).

Activities will include training for FOs, in collaboration with Comp 4, on “business idea generation” (BIG).

TA staff will finalize selection of candidates, and organize training for Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) for the 9 IPSWAM polders.

After signing the MOU with DOF it is foreseen to organize orientation workshops in Khulna and Patuakhali for staff DOF and DLS.

DAE will start organizing T.Aman FFS and will organize demo-trials during the summer season and T.Aman rice season.

Work will continue on the revision of DAE DPP for the TTAP project.

3.5 Component 4: Business Development and Private Sector Involvement

3.5.1 Status Overview of Activities

The table below provides an overview of Component 4 Activities implemented in the period April-June 2014. The activities relate to the selected polders, except if otherwise indicated.

Table 3-11: Status of Component 4 activities (April-June 2014)

No.	Planned Key Activity	Polder and/or Subject	Completion Schedule	Progress
Component 4: Business Development and Private Sector Involvement				
1.	Contribute to Baseline Survey	Baseline Survey	March-April 2014	Completed.
2.	Contribute to Household Survey	Household survey	April 2014	Completed.
3.	Selection of sub-sectors/products and value chains on a polder basis (Polders 22/30 & 43.2F/43.2D)			
3.1	Engage with communities to define broad development options	Support multi-disciplinary survey	May 2014	C4 monitoring of WMO functionality assessment and VAP completions, for options development.
3.2	Develop regional development framework (RDF)	Define information, collect, liaise with other programmes and draft RDF	On-going	Collection, recording, improvement of polder master files. PDP workshop (Polder 43/2F) held
3.3	Select or prioritise value chains for analysis	Define criteria, collect and analyse data, & select. Value Chain selection matrix prepared and ranking started	On-going	Criteria defined (100%), alignment of data with polder data carried over. Matrix prepared and potential Value Chain Ranking completed in Polder 22 and 43/2F(100%)
3.4	Formulating PDPs	Assess polder info, develop scenario and draft PDP	Dec 2014 June 2014	Polder information assessment (on-going), component coordination for PDP formulation near completion for P43/2F. Draft PDP for Polder 22 completed (100%) Other Polders to follow in sequence over 2014.
4	Undertake in-depth Value Chain Analysis (specific to defined VC)			
4.1	Consult the actors for VCA	In depth analysis of specific VC (Sesame – Polder 22) (Tilapia – Polder 43/2F)	July-Sept 2014	Develop map, actor baseline data, identify constraints and opportunities
5.	Facilitate Value Chain Development			

5.1	Influencing incentives by awareness	Facilitate Value Chain Development	On-going 2014	DLS, DoF, BWDB March Orientation workshop postponed, planned July
5.2	Enhancing skills by Capacity Development	Prepare Capacity Development for specific target groups	On-going throughout project	See sub-activities
5.2.1	WMO Skills Development	Cooperative skills development for WMO	On-going throughout project on issue basis	Developing mechanisation service as WMO business opportunity – WMO service curriculum (70%)
			On-going 2014	Assessment of Savings & Credit function –(70%) identification of DoC requirements on hold
5.2.2	CO & FO Skills Development	VC and Business skills Development programme for CO and FO/DAE	August 2014	Identification of CO and FO value chain skills development needs (100%), VC Curriculum development for CO/FO/DTs (100%) VC Training programs organized for COs and FOs (100%), for DT's planned
			August 2014	Business Idea Generation module curriculum development started (75%)
6.	Monitor and Evaluate Business Development Programme			
6.1	Contribute to M&E plan	Define boundary partners, stakeholder engagement plan	Dec 2013	Boundary partners defined, Stakeholder engagement plan drafted (100%), contribution to M&E plan completed Contribution to baseline survey analysis and reporting outline completed

Information collection for the preparation of PDP is ongoing for different polders, including the familiarisation with the project area, stakeholders and related programmes. The Value Chain Selection framework was established. The first PDP for polder 22 is at the final stage of completion and polder 43/2F will follow suit. Lessons have been learned of these first PDP and adaptations have been made.

Work on the Value Chain Analyses of some of the selected Value Chains for Polder 22 and Polder 43/2F have started.

For the CO/FO/DT staff a Value Chain Development Curriculum has been developed. Training sessions for the CO and the FO have been completed to good result. The development of the first of two Business Development Curricula, namely the Business Idea Generation is nearly completed and work is on-going for the preparation of WMO Development Curriculum based upon the FAO agricultural machineries.

Contacts were maintained with DANIDA IFMC, DANIDA FBS, WorldFish, SAFAL, Samriddhi (HELVETAS), Innovation, SCITII and BRAC BCUP.

3.5.2 Cooperation with Other Projects

Table 3-12: Component 4 cooperation with other projects

Organisation	Related Project/ Programme	Contact made	Potential for collaboration
Solidaridad	SAFAL	InduBhushan Roy	Coordination requirement wrt value chain development
FAO	GCP/BGD/050/NET	DR. Mazharul Aziz	Coordination requirement wrt mechanisation for coop development
DANIDA	IFMC (integrated farm management component)& DANIDA FBS	RillaNorslund	Joint development of FBS curriculum for FFS
BRAC	BCUP programme	Belayet Hussain	Explore appropriateness of agricultural finance programme (beyond MFI)
Innovision	EU IGA	RubaiyathSarwar	Explore IGA development approach for landless and female household heads
SCITI (Small and Cottage Industry Training Institute)	Enterprise Development	Abdul Wadud	Joint development of business development curriculum
WorldFish	CSISA-BD	Md. Mokarram Hossain	Technical Information sharing for aquaculture promotion in polder region
BARI	Oil Seed Department	Dr. Md. Mubarak Ali	Technical information on Sesame
BINA	Plant Breeding Division	Dr. Md. Abdul Malek	Technical information on Sesame
PatuakhaliScience Technology University	Faculty of Fisheries	Prof.Dr. Sultan Mahmud	Technical information on Tilapia promotion

3.5.3 Next Quarter Planning (July-Sep 2014)

Table 3-13: Component 4 next quarter planning

No.	Planned Key Activity	Polder and/or Subject	Completion Schedule	Progress Envisaged
1	Selection of sub-sectors/products and value chains on a polder basis (Polders 22/30 & 43.2F/43.2D)			
1.1	Engage with communities to define broad development options	Support multi-disciplinary survey	On- going	Monitor initial VAP/PDP options developments for first 5 polders
1.2	Develop regional development framework (RDF)	Define information, collect, liaise with other programmes and draft RDF	On- going	Ongoing collection& recording to initiate Polder Scenario Workshop (Polder 43/2D and 30)

				Liaison with SAFAL and PROOFS (on-going)
1.3	Select or prioritise value chains for analysis	Define criteria, collect and analyse data, & select.	2014	Apply ranking matrix in support of polder development option identification (Polder 43/2D and 30)
1.4	Formulating PDP	Assess polder info, develop scenario and draft PDP	2014	Drafting of a polder growth scenario with other components following workshop (Polder 43/2F, 43/2D and 30)
2	Undertake in-depth Value Chain Analysis (specific to defined VC)			
2.1	Consult the actors for VCA	In depth analysis of specific VC (Sesame – Polder 22) (Poultry – Polder 22) (Tilapia – Polder 43/2F)	July-Sept 2014	Develop map, actor baseline data, identify constraints and opportunities
2.2	Identify and Assess solutions	VC under analysis	Dec 2014	Assess potential solutions on viability Consider collective action Define basic approach to VC development
3	Facilitate Value Chain Development			
4.1	Influencing incentives by awareness	Facilitate Value Chain Development	On-going 2014	DLS, DoF, BWDB Orientation workshop re-scheduled for July
3.1	Enhancing skills by Capacity Development	Prepare Capacity Development for specific target groups	On-going throughout project	See sub-activities below
3.1.1	WMO Skills Development	Cooperative skills development for WMO	On-going throughout project on issue basis	Develop Mechanisation Service curriculum as WMO business opportunity, organise CO orientation and WMG programme. Review DoC involvement on training needs related to S&C record keeping and overall bookkeeping. Initiate IGA development programme design Test BIG with WMG requesting business development assistance
3.1.2	CO & FO Skills Development	Develop and Implement VC and Business skill development programme for CO and FO/DAE	August 2014	Training of DT in VC development. Evaluation of training.

			July-Sept 2014	Business Idea Generation curriculum development, and initiate CO/FO training on this module. Include BIG in FFS programme Start-up Business Planning curriculum development.
--	--	--	-------------------	--

The weight of the activities during the next reporting period is on the joint development of Polder Development Plans and the conclusion of the PDPs for polder 22 and 43/2F. The work on the selected value chain analyses has started in full earnest and good progress should be made on the respective reports.

Meanwhile the skills development programmes for CO and FO/DAE staff have started and only the DT of DAE still need to be trained. The programme will be evaluated and up-dated for future use with new groups. More such capacity building activity will continue for different stakeholders (WMOs/DAE). Capacity building training will also be piloted with WMOs on FAO Mechanisation in this quarter. In this period we expect to see the completion of the first Business Development module (Business Idea Generation, BIG) and it will be piloted with FFS, and WMG with sub-committees requesting assistance with business development.

3.6 Component 5: Cross Cutting Issues

3.6.1 Status Overview of Activities

The table below provides an overview of Component 5 Activities carried out in the period April – June 2014.

Table 3-14: Status of Component 5 activities (April – June 2014)

No.	Planned Key Activity	Polder and/or Subject	Completion Schedule	Progress / Remarks
Gender				
1.	Focus Group Discussions (FGD) in cooperation with Comp 1 on Gender perspective for effective women participation in WMG along with Executive Committees.	Component-1	01-8 April 2014	Main purpose of these FGDs was to aware about the importance of the women participation in WMOs. The FGDs will work as pre-motivational concept to the community as a whole on Gender Perspective.
2.	Cooperation with Comp 2, especially on the planning for LCS formation with women's groups. Taking active part in LCS formation meetings for strengthening the issue of women participation in LCS activities.	Component -2	08-12 Feb 2014	Ongoing Many women LCS Groups are formed, trained and ready to get involved in LCS work.
3.	Cooperation with Comp 3	Component -3	22 -26 June 2014	Participated in FFS monthly meeting at Patuakhali and discussed with FOs about Gender as most of them are not very clear about Gender concept.
4.	Updating the Gender Equity Strategy and Action Plan of BWDB.	BWDB	19 June 2014	Meeting with Azizun Nesha, additional director (one of the previous Steering Committee Members), BWDB. She suggested a meeting with Chief Planning and previous Steering Committee Members to find out the existing gaps of Gender Equity Strategy and Action Plan 2006 - 2011.
5.	Coordination with GWA (Gender and Water Alliance)	Gender Network	19 – 22 May 2014	Two staff from DAE participated in a five-day workshop on Capacity Building for selected professionals of partner organizations at BRAC Centre at Savar. As a result, Blue Gold initiated to explore the scope of collaboration to focus on improving women's productivity, market linkages, income, leadership and intra-household negotiating power.

No.	Planned Key Activity	Polder and/or Subject	Completion Schedule	Progress / Remarks
6.	Gender Action Plans	All polders	-	A Gender Action Plan (GAP) has been developed for Polder 22 as part of the PDP
7.	Finalize Blue Gold Anti-Harassment Policy(English and Bengali version)	Anti-Harassment Policy	August 2014	Ongoing
8.	Conduct Gender Orientation Session with newly recruited COs during their training course at BARD, Comilla	Component-1	06-16 April 2014	Done
Environment				
1.	Appointed new national Environmental Expert	Environment	20 April 2014	done
2.	Meetings with EIA team of CEGIS on mobilization for EIA activities	Environmental Clearance	April/ May 2014	done
3.	Assist CEGIS Team in the field in Patuakhali with the Environmental Impact Assessment	Polder 43/D, 43/2B	25-28 May 2014	done
4.	Preparation of PDP for polder 22	Polder 22- Environmental Chapter	May 2014	100%
5.	Preparation of format for M&E of output results and outcome monitoring	Environment	May / June 2014	100%
6.	Preparation of environmental monitoring checklist for construction works to be used by monitoring group from WMA	Environment	May 2014	100%
7.	Participation in the PDP workshop	Polder 43/2F	May 2014	done
8.	Guide and supervise CEGIS during EIA study	Polders-22, 30, 43/2A, 43/2D and 43/2F	May- November 2014	30% and in progress for the first batch of polders
9.	Develop the 2014 environmental work plan	Environment	June 2014	100%
10.	Development of SEMP framework for PDPs	All polders	June 2014	Done for polder 22
11.	Preparation of summary on SEMP both in English and Bangla for WMA validation meeting	All polders	June 2014	Done for polder 22
12.	Determination of environmental activities for volunteers to be selected by WMG	Polder 22	June 2014	100%
Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)				
1.	Compilation of contributions from different components for PDP of P22.	Program management	01 April -30 June 2014	Ongoing
2.	Meeting with Kasia Paprocki, PhD	DRR + C3	02 April 2014	Information about Blue Gold

No.	Planned Key Activity	Polder and/or Subject	Completion Schedule	Progress / Remarks
	Candidate in Development Sociology at Cornell University, USA.			activities, climate change adaptation with special focus on the impact of shrimp farming was shared.
3.	Meeting with CUB for sharing of experience from joint field visit held in March, 2014.	DRR	03 April 2014	Completed
4.	DRR orientation to COs during Water Management training for COs held in BARD, Comilla.	DRR	06-16 April, 2014	Completed
5.	Participate in brainstorm meeting for finalization of format and structure of PDP.	Program management	13 April 2014	Completed
6.	Meeting with FCubed personnel regarding pilot implementation of solar water desalination/purification panels.	DRR + Environment + C2	21 April 2014	Two solar water desalination/purification panels were purchased for demo purposes in polder 22
7.	Field visit to polder 22 to gather additional information on DRR for PDP of polder 22.	DRR + Institutional Strengthening	27 April – 1 May	This was a joint field visit with institutional expert to inform UP about Blue Gold. Linkage between union disaster management committee (UDMC) and WMG is crucial to ensure sustainability.
8.	Meeting with Nazmus Saquib, architect regarding design of multipurpose and disaster resilient training centres for WMOs.	Program management + DRR + C2	05 May 2014	The architect visited Khulna polders on 20-22 May to observe available building structures and materials and prepare a proposal based on his field findings.
9.	Meeting with Mass-line Media Centre (MMC) regarding airing of Blue Gold information through Lokobetar radio. Give input to MMC's proposal on disaster prevention and preparedness community radio program	Communication + DRR	11 May 2014 26 June 2014	DRR and institutional expert were involved as Blue Gold will start with airing disaster related awareness building messages at the beginning of disaster-prone season in Bangladesh. MMC will undertake a 3 months pilot project (July-Sep 2014) to disseminate disaster related information in Barguna and Patuakhali
10.	Coordination with the NGO Shushilan for outsourcing training of WMG volunteers on DRR and environment.	DRR + Environment	29 April – 30 June 2014	Shushilan submitted a draft training proposal for polder 22. DRR and Environment experts provided input. The proposal should be finalized by the end of June so that the training can be conducted after Eid al-Fitr (28-30 July 2014).

3.6.2 Cooperation with Other Projects

Table 3-15: Component 5 cooperation with other projects

Organisation	Related Project/ Programme	Contact made	Potential for collaboration
Environment			
GIZ	Improved Cooking Stoves (ICS)	GIZ representative Erich Otto Gornn	Kim Janssen established contact with GIZ on how Blue Gold and ICS project could cooperate
BAU	Fodder hydroponics & aquaponics	Dr. Salam	Possibility for pilot program on fodder hydroponics & aquaponics
WorldFish in Dhaka	Aquaponics	Kevin Kamp	Possibility of introduction Aquaponics at polder level
DRR			
Shushilan	-	Md. Rafiqul Haque Deputy Director Program	Outsourcing training of WMG volunteers on DRR and environmental issues to Shushilan

3.6.3 NextQuarterPlanning (July - September 2014)

3.6.3.1 Gender Next Quarter Planning (July - September 2014)

No.	Planned Key Activity	Polder and/or Subject	Completion Schedule	Progress Envisaged
1.	Cooperation with C1, Focus Group Discussion on Gender perspective for effective women participation in WMG	Component-1		Continued
2.	Cooperation with C3 on gender in FFS, in particular via a gender session in the FFS organizers (FO) training	Component -3	-	Throughout the program
3.	Next steps in consultations with the Chief Planning, BWDB on the review and/or update of their Gender Strategy and Action Plan	BWDB	-	Continued
4.	Gender Network Meeting with other (Dutch funded) projects	-	-	Continued
5.	TOT on Gender and Leadership Development in collaboration with the training team	All polders	-	Continued
6.	Develop Gender and Leadership Development Training Module in close collaboration with the training team	WMOs	-	Continued

3.6.3.2 Environment and DRR Next Quarter Planning (July - September 2014)

No.	Planned Key Activity	Polder and/or Subject	Completion Schedule	Progress Envisaged
Environment				
1.	Participation in PDP validation session with WMOs	Polder 22 and others	July-September 2014	
2.	Gather information from the CEGIS fieldwork for the EIAs of the polders	Environmental Chapter of the PDPs	July-September 2014	
3.	Preparation of power point slides for UP orientation meeting (Environmental and DRR part)	Polders -43/2F, 43/2D, 30	July-September 2014	
4.	Preparation of PDPs	Environmental Chapter for polders 43/2F, 43/2D and 30	July-September 2014	
5.	Preparation of SEMP for PDPs	Polders 43/2F, 43/2D and 30	July-September 2014	
6.	Preparation of summary on SEMP both in English and Bangla for WMA validation meeting	Polders 43/2F, 43/2D and 30	July-September 2014	
7.	Determination of environmental activities for volunteers to be selected by WMA	Polders 43/2F, 43/2D and 30	July-September 2014	
8.	Visit FFS in Khulna and Patuakhali	Polders 22, 30, 43/2A, 43/2D and 43/2F	July-September 2014	
9.	Conduct training or workshops for WMO on SEMP implementation	Polder 22 & polder 43/2F	July-September 2014	Training will be adapted for each polder on a needs basis.
Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)				
1.	Formulation of CBDRR plan for PDP of Polder 22	DRR Polder 22	July- Aug 2014	Linked to polder 22 PDP
2.	Formulation of CBDRR plan for PDP of Polder 43/2F	DRR Polder 43/2F	Aug - Sep 2014	Linked to polder 43/2F PDP
3.	Follow up finalisation of WMG volunteer training proposal by the NGO Shushilan	Environment, DRR Polder 22	July-Aug 2014	Linked to collaboration with Shushilan and Institutional expert
4.	Follow up discussion with architect to design options for disaster resilient WMG Centres	DRR, C1, C2	July-Aug 2014	Linked to collaboration with Comp 1, Comp 2
5.	Ensure implementation of solar desalinization panels in Polder 22	Environment, DRR Polder 22	Aug 2014	In collaboration with Comp 2

3.6.4 Water Management Fund and Production Support Fund

1. **Long term perspectives for WMOs / cooperatives as business organizations.**

The central purpose of the assignment is to study existing cooperatives to gain more insight and understanding of cooperatives in the Netherlands and in Bangladesh with attention for their governance principles, organizational and institutional arrangements as well as their performance and success or fail factors. The study is a first assessment, an exploration of this field which may be deepened later on if new challenges or specific questions arise. The results of the study of cooperatives will be utilized by the Blue Gold Program for the development of WMO's as cooperatives or for the development of WMO related cooperatives.

The study was scheduled to be completed in May 2014 but submission of the final report has been delayed and is now expected in August 2014.

2. **Development and introduction of a web-based Information Platform (MIS/GIS)**

The proposal submitted by N&S to develop a web-based MIS/GIS Information Portal for Blue Gold was approved in the EKN – Blue Gold coordination meeting of 06 April 2014.

A first mission was carried out between 14 June and 02 July 2014 by Bastiaan Roos and Ber Albers of N&S. This mission was combined with a mission for the Dutch-funded Remote Sensing for Crops project. On 01 July Bastiaan Roos presented the results of their work to the component leaders and other team members interested in GIS/ MIS. In particular:

- Options for outsourcing of collection and structuring of relevant data
- Follow up activities and how to secure connection with all Blue Gold activities (via M&E and use of tablets with ODK software)
- GIS capacity building and options for external support
- Need for elevation data (for Comp 2)
- Possible cooperation with the Remote Sensing for Crops project.

The second mission is tentatively scheduled for October 2014, depending on progress with data collection and structuring.

3. **Women-managed Small Household Ponds (SHHP)**

The CGIAR institutes (CIMMYT, IRRI and WorldFish) are involved in community based participatory demonstrations and adaptive research trials in the Blue Gold Program area.

Regular contact between Blue Gold's TA team and WorldFish has resulted in a proposal entitled:

"Participatory Research on a Habitat Restoration Approach to Small Pond Fish Productivity, Diversity and Resilience".

The objective is to develop a sustainable system of fish production in small women-managed household ponds (SHHP = Small Household Ponds). The aim is to make these ponds more productive with a focus on continuous fish harvests for daily consumption rather than focusing only on fish production for income (with just 2 or 3 harvests per year). This is a very relevant activity in the context of Blue Gold as it relates to increased production in the polders and combines strong gender, food security/nutrition and environmental aspects of food production. Actually the idea for this proposal was initiated through contacts between gender specialists of Blue Gold and WorldFish. We expect that the result of this participatory research activity will lead to recommendations that can be expanded in other Blue Gold polders in coming years. The budget for this activity (one year from April 2014 to March 2015) amounts to EURO 60,902. WorldFish applies for a grant of EURO 45,007 from the Blue Gold Production Support Fund. The balance of EURO 15,895 will be contributed by CGIAR itself, to be used for scientific backstopping.

The SHHP proposal was approved in the EKN – Blue Gold coordination meeting of 22 April 2014. The project will run from April 2014 to March 2015. In May, a start was made with selection of villages and households to be included in the project.

4. Procedures Manual

On 29 March 2014 a draft proposal was submitted to EKN by NWP (Netherlands Water Platform) with a TOR for a consultant to assist in the development of a procedures manual for the management of the Blue Gold Funds. Some initial comments were forwarded to NWP. In the EKN – Blue Gold coordination meeting of 04 May 2014 it was decided not to engage an external (international) consultant for the procedures manual, but to ask the Blue Gold team to draft a manual, in cooperation with EKN and based on the work done so far. The manual should contain: a) criteria to qualify and b) procedures for contracting and supervision.

5. New initiatives

Together with Component 3, discussions will continue with WorldFish and/or others (e.g. AVRDC – who have been working on trials with vertical tower gardening in rural Bangladesh), which may lead to a concept note for a simplified aquaponic trial (using manual techniques) to be funded under the Production Support Fund.

Regarding hydroponics the advice is to conduct a pre-feasibility study during the next mission of the international environmental expert to analyse the options for hydroponic production of either fodder, or vegetables, or both. Lessons learned from other hydroponics trials may be used to steer towards an adapted (and improved) hydroponics pilot under Blue Gold. The pre-feasibility study will serve to establish Terms of Reference (ToR) for a pilot that will be funded under the Production Support Fund. The pilot may be implemented by students from the Bangladesh Agriculture University and Wageningen University.

3.7 Training

3.7.1 Training Conducted (April – June 2014)

Table 3-16: Overview of conducted training

No.	Training Title	Date(s)	Place	Participants	Participants (number)		
					Male	Female	Total
Program Management							
01	Workshop on Polder Development Plan (PDP) for Polder 43/2F	May 20, 2014	SDA Patuakhali	Dhaka team & Patuakhali staff	25	9	34
02	Blue Gold Orientation for UP Representatives	June 9, 2014	Deluti Union, Polder 22	UP Representatives, WMA, DAE, DLS and DoF officials	11	02	13
03	Training on data collection for the Blue Gold baseline survey and operation of tablets	23 March-1 st April 2014	AVA center, CSS Khulna.	Enumerator and supervisors of baseline survey	17	8	25
Component 1							
01	Water Management Organizations for Community Organizers	April 7-16, 2014	BARD Comilla	Newly recruited COs	12	11	23
Component 2							
01	ToT on Construction Monitoring & Quality Control (2 batches)	May 28, 2014	Blue Gold Training Room, Khulna SDA, Patuakhali	Blue Gold and BWDB staff (C-2 Dhaka & Khulna Team)	34	9	43
02	Training on Construction Monitoring & Quality Control for WMA Monitoring Committee	May 29, 2014	Polder 22, Polder 43/2F. Polder 43/2D Union Parishad Auditorium	WMA Monitoring Committee, LCS Members & Contractor	79	26	105
Component 3							
Component 4							
01	Value Chains & Efficient Management of Agricultural Machineries	April 21-23, 2014	Khulna	Community Organizers	12	13	25
02	Value Chains & Efficient Management of Agricultural Machineries	April 28-30, 2014	Barisal	Community Organizers	15	13	28
03	ToT course on Modules of Livestock and Fisheries and intro to Value Chains	4-5 June 2014	Ava Center, Khulna	Farmer Field School Organizers (FOs)	12	10	22
Component 5							

No.	Training Title	Date(s)	Place	Participants	Participants (number)		
					Male	Female	Total
Capacity Building Team							

1. **Workshop on Polder Development Plan (PDP) for Polder 43/2F:** The objectives of the PDP are to prepare a plan where the Blue Gold components will integrate their efforts for the specific polder. In this workshop Blue Gold Components' staff presented their assessment of polder 43/2F, analysed the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT), and then presented their proposed Initial Plan & actions.
2. **Blue Gold Orientation for UP Representatives:** The Union Parishad is an important implementing partner of Blue Gold at the polder level. The objective of this orientation is to introduce Union Parishad representatives to Blue Gold activities, identify the areas for cooperation and develop partnership between BWDB, DAE, DLS, DoF, UP, WMO and Blue Gold.
3. **Training on data collection for the Blue Gold baseline survey and operation of tablets:** Based on the Blue Gold logical framework the baseline survey was implemented to measure impacts of the project interventions. At the end of the program, an end line survey will be carried out following the same methodologies and systems. The actual survey was outsourced to a survey team from Mott MacDonald Bangladesh under supervision of Blue Gold's M&E team.

The objectives of this 10 days training was to build capacity of field enumerators and field supervisors of the survey on data collection through the baseline questionnaire, the sampling procedure of household selection and the use of WALTON tablets in the field and finally how to ensure data quality of the survey work.

4. **Water Management Organizations for Community Organizers:** This course is organized for newly recruited Community Organizers who will work directly at the community level with Water Management Organizations. The objectives of this course are to develop knowledge and understanding on Blue Gold Program Components, Community Organizing Process in WMO formation & strengthening and Cooperative Development Process. At the end of this course, all the participants were taken to visit a successful Cooperative Development organization where they shared their observations, concerns and experiences.
5. **TOT on Construction Monitoring and Quality Control:** To ensure the performance and quality of construction work WMA Monitoring Teams will monitor the construction activities. Also, to ensure that WMA monitoring teams have a basic understanding of the water management infrastructures, quality of different construction materials, techniques to assess the quality and tools for monitoring etc. A one day training module was developed for construction monitoring teams. The objective of this ToT is to develop understanding on the training module and practice to conduct training sessions for monitoring teams at the polder level. This ToT is conducted for 2 batches at Khulna and Patuakhali where 43 Blue Gold staff and BWDB officials were trained who will conduct the actual training at the polder level.
6. **Training on Construction Monitoring & Quality Control for WMA Monitoring Committee:** The objectives of this training are to develop knowledge and skills to monitor the construction activities for quality control. This was a one day training attended by WMA Monitoring Team, Contractor representatives, LCS leaders and UP representatives. Five main sessions were conducted: a) Importance of Construction Monitoring and Quality Control by the WMA monitoring Team, b)

Importance of Construction Monitoring and Quality Control, c) Construction work in Blue Gold, d) Techniques to monitor of construction work and e) practice to use Monitoring Tools.

7. **Training course on Value Chain & Efficient Management of Agricultural Machineries:** The Community Organizer is directly involved in the day-to-day capacity building initiatives of Water Management Organizations. In that context Community Organizers have a strong role to guide WMOs in business development and value chain initiatives. To improve knowledge and understanding of Community Organizers this training was planned and implemented in 2 batches in 2 Districts. The objectives of this training were to strengthen the knowledge and skills of COs on Business Development and Value Chains and FAO Mechanization issues.

Similarly the 22 Farmers Field School Organizers (FOs) were trained in 2 districts so that they can assist the farmers in business and value chain development, as well as efficient management of agricultural machineries (supplied by FAO).

3.7.2 Next Quarter Planning (July-September 2014)

Table 3-17: Training next quarter

Component-1: Community Mobilization & Institutional Strengthening

Training Course	Target Participants	Duration	# of Batches/ Participants	Jul-Sep 2014			Remarks
				01	02	03	
1. Community Organizing and Facilitation Skills	District Training staff (ZSE, TO, CO, G&IGA)	5 days	1 batch (Khulna & Patuakhali)			x	
2. Information Campaign and Awareness Raising using local Folk Song	WMOs, LGIs Polder level Community People	--	15-20 session All Polders			x	
3. Blue Gold Orientation and Roles of Partners in Project Implementation	BWDB, DAE, DoC, DLS and DoF	1 day	2 batches (Khulna & Patuakhali)			x	
4. TOT on Organizational Management	District Training staff (ZSE, TO, CO, TC, G&IGA)	5 days	2 batches (Khulna & Patuakhali)		x		
5. Organizational Management	WMG & WMA	3 days	44 batches (P-1584)			x	

Component-3: Food Security and Agricultural Production

Training Course	Target Participants	Duration	# of Batches/ Participants	Jul-Sep 2014			Remarks
				01	02	03	
1. FFS on introductory sessions, homestead garden, poultry and nutrition modules (1 st cycle)	Farmers under WMGs	23 session	44 batches (25/batch)	x	x	x	
2. FFS on beef fattening and aquaculture modules (2 nd cycle)	Farmers under WMGs	14 session	44 batches (25/batch)	x	x	x	

Training Course	Target Participants	Duration	# of Batches/ Participants	Jul-Sep 2014			Remarks
				01	02	03	
3. FFS on introductory sessions, homestead garden, poultry and nutrition modules (3 rd cycle)	Farmers under WMGs	5 session	44 batches (25/batch)			x	New area
4. DAE FFS on T. Aman	FFS farmers	20 session	75 batches (50/batch)		x	x	
5. Community Animal Health Worker (CAHW) training	Local livestock service providers	5 days	1 batch (25/batch)		x		
6. Orientation on Blue Gold to DOF and DLS in Patuakhali and Khulna	Departmental Officers	1 day	2 batch (25/batch)			x	

Component-4: Business Development and Private Sector Involvement

Training Course	Target Participants	Duration	# of Batches/ Participants	Jul-Sep 2014			Remarks
				01	02	03	
1. VC orientation training	DAE FFS field staff	2 days	2 batches (25/batch)	x	x		
2. Piloting of training on Efficient use of Agri. machineries for WMG members	WMG members and COs	01 day	2 batches (25/batch)	x	x		
3. Piloting of Business Idea Generation training for FFS members.	FOs	01 day	2 batches (25/batch)			x	For piloting

Component-5: Cross Cutting Issues (Gender)

Training Course	Target Participants	Duration	# of Batches/ Participants	Jul-Sep 2014			Remarks
				01	02	03	
1. Develop Gender and Leadership Development Training Module	WMG	3 days	--		x		
1.1 TOT on Gender and Leadership Development	District Training staff (SE, ZSE, TO, CO + FO, G&IGA)	4 days	2 batches			x	Khulna & Patuakhali

Project Management & Capacity Building

Training Course	Target Participants	Duration	# of Batches/ Participants	Jul-Sep 2014			Remarks
				01	02	03	
1. Orientation on Blue Gold Program	UP Members, WMA, DAE, DLS & DoF	01 day	13 batches	x	x	x	Khulna-6 Patua. - 7
2. Blue Gold Orientation	LGI Representative (U/Z and UP representatives)	01 day	# U/Z		x		U/Z level

Training Course	Target Participants	Duration	# of Batches/ Participants	Jul-Sep 2014			Remarks
				01	02	03	
3. Orientation on Blue Gold Program	Local Press Media	01 day	2 batches (50/batches)			x	Khulna-1 Patua.-1
4. Workshop on Partnership Development	U/Z Administration and Local Partners	01 day	Selected U/Z under Khulna & Patuakhali			x	
5. Advanced TOF course for District Training Team	District Training staff (ZSE, MT, TO, CO + FO, G&IGA & BWDB Selected Officials)	06 days	01 batch		x		District Level
6. Workshop on Partnership Development	BWDB, DAE, DoC, DoF, DoL, Other Groups and Program Support Staff	01 day	3 batches			x	Central and District Level
7. Training on ODK Software Programming related to Progress Markers for Outcome Mapping.	M&E Team (3) CL/DCL (8) Experts (4) BWDB (3) DAE (2)	2 days	20 Participants	x			Mott will provide training
8. Training on ODK on how to operate Tablet and Collect data.	All COs Khulna & Patuakhali	2 days	2 batches		x		Mott will provide training
9. Training on Motor Cycle Driving	CO and FO	--	Khulna and Patuakhali	x	x	x	Continued
10. Workshop on Institutional Issues in Water Management	BWDB Central and Zonal officials		--			x	
11. Exchange visit to successful Cooperatives	WMAs		Selected Polders			x	
13 Need based/Quarterly Staff Development Training	District and Field Staff	--0--	Khulna & Patuakhali	x	x	x	District Level
13.1 Component 1	District and Field Staff			x		x	Do
13.2 Component 2	District and Field Staff		--0--		x		Do
13.3 Component 3	District and Field Staff		--0--	x		x	Do
13.4 Component 4	District and Field Staff		--0--		x		Do
14 Gender in Water Management	District and Field Staff		--0--	x		x	Do
15 Office Management	Central and Zonal Support Staff		--0--		x		Do

3.8 Communication and Knowledge Management

3.8.1 Status Overview of Activities

The table below describes the communication and knowledge management activities performed in the period April – June 2014.

Table 3-18: Status of Communication activities

No.	Planned Key Activity	Completion Schedule	Progress
1.	Preparation for Piloting community radio program	June	Completed. Program scripted and ready for broadcast from July
2.	Printing revised folder	May	Completed.
3.	Local stakeholder list	June	Additional data being collected
4.	Preparing community fair	Ongoing	Ongoing. Fairs are planned in November – March period
5.	Vendor selection for poster design	June	Completed. Poster will be designed and pre-tested
6.	Using mobile phones for dissemination of relevant messages / information	December 2014	Contact made with Bangladesh Institute for Information Technology for Development (BIID)
7.	Photographing good practices	Ongoing	Ongoing A series of purposive photographing is done
8.	Finalizing anti-harassment policy	June	Completed
9.	Communication strategy	June	Ongoing

3.8.2 Next Quarter Planning (July - September 2014)

Table 3-19: Next quarter planning for communication

No.	Planned Key Activity	Completion Schedule
1.	Finalizing communication strategy	August
2.	Printing poster	September
3.	Video documentation	September
4.	Evaluating pilot radio program	September/October
5.	<i>Meet the Press</i> at Patuakhali and Khulna	August and September
6.	Printing new English brochure	September
7.	Printing festoons/billboard/signboard as per component 1's requirement	August/September (Depending on component-1's requirement)

No.	Planned Key Activity	Completion Schedule
8.	Reporting retreat	July
9.	Reporting on rural media behaviour	August

3.9 Monitoring & Evaluation

3.9.1 Status Overview of Activities

The table below gives a general overview of M&E activities carried out in the period April – June 2014.

Table 3-20: Status of M&E activities

No.	Planned Key Activity	Completion Schedule	Progress
1.	Carry out Baseline Survey in nine IPSWAM polders	June 2014	Data Collection completed, Data analysis and report writing is going-on
2.	Continuous Output Monitoring	Throughout program	On-going
3.	Continuous Outcome Monitoring (Mapping)	Throughout program	On-going

During this reporting period, M&E activities focused mainly on survey implementation, cross checking to reduce data error, finalization of the outcome mapping scoring sheet of the four boundary partners after testing at field and set-up of implementation strategy, and the development of the output monitoring datasheets and methodology. Blue Gold's M&E system comprises of the three pillars of Impact Measurement, Outcome Monitoring and Output Monitoring. In the following sections, the process and main results per each pillar are described.

3.9.1.1 Impact Measurement

After providing 10 days training to Enumerators and Supervisors on questionnaire of Blue Gold Baseline Survey and Tablet operation using ODK software, enumerators collected data from 1400 sampled households (i.e. 600 hhs in Khulna and 800 hhs in Patuakhali). The baseline data was collected from the nine IPSWAM polders. In the remaining 17 polders of the Program, the same sampling procedure and survey methodology will be applied.

To learn from the baseline survey experience, a 'Lessons Learned' sharing meeting was conducted with the Blue Gold Program Team Management, BWDB staff and the Baseline Survey Team from Mott MacDonald on 12 June 2014. In this meeting the Mott MacDonald team introduced the Open Data Kit (ODK) software and WALTON tablets and explained the positive and negative experiences. The proceedings of the sharing meeting on Lessons Learned on ODK usage of Blue Gold Baseline Survey are included under Appendix 4.

The table below provides a detailed overview of the impact measurement activities that took place during this reporting period.

Table 3-21: Progress and Time schedule of Blue Gold baseline survey

No.	Planned Key Activity	Completion Schedule	Progress
1.	Training to enumerators and supervisors on Baseline Questionnaire and Tablets operation using ODK software	March/April	Completed
2	Carry out Field work for data collection	March –May 2014	Completed
3	Outline for the table of content for Blue Gold Baseline Survey report	May 2014	Completed
4	General data aggregation, process and analysis	June/July 2014	On going
5	Final Report	July/August 2014	On going

3.9.1.2 Outcome Mapping

The set-up for the outcome monitoring methodology and progress markers scoring criteria of the boundary partners was further refined and finalized. The progress markers scoring criteria were tested by the M&E team at the field level in Patuakhali and Khulna with the respective contact persons/WMGs. Steps weretaken to roll-out the methodology and to start implementing related activities in the two Districts.

The table below provides a detailed overview of the Outcome Mapping activities that have been taken place during this reporting period.

Table 3-22: Progress and Time schedule of Outcome Monitoring

No.	Planned Key Activity	Completion Schedule	Progress
1.	Make list of all staff involved in Blue Gold of BWDB, Unions, and DAE and familiarize them with the monitoring program of Blue Gold	April-June	Completed of 9 Polders
2.	Edit/Correct WMG and Geographic names	April	Completed
3.	Field testing of the scoring system for the WMG together with selected CO's	April	Completed
4.	Organize meeting with different suppliers to discuss cooperation in the area of ODK applications, data collection, analysis and GIS development.	April-May	Not applicable anymore, N&S has been awarded a contract for setting up the MIS/GIS under the Water Management Fund
5.	Study Outcome Mapping methodology (manual, subscribe to outcome mapping learning community on www.outcomemapping.ca)	April-May	Going on
6.	ODK programming course 2-4 days for Blue Gold Staff and selected BWDB staff	May-June	Postponed till third quarter
7.	Collect GPS location data and photograph of each WMG	June-Sept.	Going on

3.9.1.3 Output Monitoring

During this reporting period, the following steps have been undertaken for regularly tracking of inputs, activities and outputs. Output Monitoring Datasheets for component 1-4, DRR, gender, environment, training & institutional strengthening were refined through discussions and comments and suggestions were incorporated. The excel datasheets will be used in the next quarter by the respective component staff; output results/achievements will be published from the 3rd quarterly report onwards.

Table 3-23: Progress and Time schedule of Output Monitoring

No.	Planned Key Activity	Completion Schedule	Progress
1.	Review and finalize output monitoring formats with components	April	Completed, need to be discussed again for finalization
2.	Present to each component output monitoring sheet. Assure that workbook sheets with geographic and WMG names are protected.	April -May	Going on
3.	Make format for output monitoring quarterly summary report (based on the output of reports of the components and sections)	June	Activity yet to be started
4.	Introduce the agreed output reporting formats to each component and section	June	Activity yet to be started

3.9.2 Next Quarter Planning (July - September 2014)

Table 3-24: M&E next quarter planning

No.	Activities	Timeframe	Responsible Person/s
1.	Study Outcome Mapping methodology (manual, subscribe to outcome mapping learning community on www.outcomemapping.ca)	July-Sept	M&E Team
2.	ODK programming course 2-4 days for Blue Gold Staff and selected BWDB staff	August	M&E Team / Mott MacDonald
3.	Collect GPS location data and photograph of each WMG	July-September	M&E Officers
4.	Review and finalize output monitoring formats with components	July/August	M&E Expert
5.	Finalize progress markers scoring formats and make ODK forms for android tablets and integrate into GIS	July - Sept	M&E expert with Technical Assistance from Mott MacDonald
6.	Present to each component output monitoring sheet. Assure that workbook sheets with geographic and WMG names are protected.	September	M&E Expert
7.	First output monitoring summary report, based on component reports	Sept/Oct.	Component Leaders and respective Experts
8.	Outcome and output monitoring system operational, including data storage and processing	Aug-Sept.	M&E Expert

3.10 Institutional Strengthening

3.10.1 Status Overview of Activities

Table 3-25: Status of Institutional Strengthening activities (April - June 2014)

No.	Planned Key Activity	Timeframe	Progress
1.	Follow-up for signing of MoUs with DoC, DoF and DLS	August 2014	Ongoing (MoU with DLS signed)
2.	Updating of the draft Format for Key Stakeholders analysis and Action Plan	October 2014	Ongoing
3.	Follow-up for review and updating of Gender Strategy of BWDB	-	Ongoing
4.	Prepared Institutional Strengthening Plan for Polder 22	May 2014	Completed
5.	Review of the status of WMG, WMA and Water Management Cooperatives (with Comp 1)	Continuous	Ongoing
6.	Union Parishad Orientation at Polder level	Continuous	Completed UP orientation at Polder 22
7.	Provided inputs for community mobilization and information dissemination through Community Radio along with Communication Expert	September 2014	Ongoing
8.	Explore possibilities of collaboration with Concern Universal Bangladesh (CUB) and others regarding DRR activities linking Union Parishad	Continuous	Ongoing
9.	Preparation of Fact Sheets on Blue Gold key stakeholders	December 2014	4 Draft Fact Sheets prepared
10.	Coordinated and edited the translation of Participatory Water Management Rules 2014	April 2014	Completed
11.	Linkage with Horizontal Learning Program (World Bank)	Continuous	Ongoing
12.	Linkage with LOGIN	Continuous	Ongoing

3.10.2 Next Quarter Planning (July - September 2014)

- Follow-up for signing of MoUs with concerned Stakeholders
- Follow-up and updating of the stakeholder analysis and Action Plan
- Facilitation for Union Parishad Orientation
- Facilitation for briefing of WMG and UP on scope for cooperation
- Facilitation for preparation of joint work plan on cooperation by the WMG and UP representatives through participatory workshop
- Follow-up for review and updating of Gender Strategy of BWDB
- Facilitate for cooperation with Concern Universal Bangladesh and others
- Facilitate for linkage and cooperation with Horizontal Learning Program
- Facilitate for elaborating the M&E format (progress markers) for Union Parishad and briefing on data collection from Union Parishad

- Review status of O&M Agreements between BWDB and WMG
- Facilitate strengthening of Water Management Department of BWDB regarding registration of WMOs in view of PWM Rules 2014
- Facilitate for utilizing Community Radio and organizing Community fair involving WMG/WMA and UP
- Facilitate for establishing linkage of DRR activities with Union Disaster Management Committee
- Assist environmental expert in extending pilot for Solar desalination/purification panel as alternative option for safe drinking water source.
- Facilitate linkage and cooperation with LOGIN

3.10.3 Cooperation with Other Projects

Table 3-26: Cooperation with other projects

Organisation	Related Project/ Programme	Contact Made	Potential for collaboration
Mass-Line Media Centre (MMC)	Community Radio (Loko Betar)	Executive Director, Program Manager, Editor and others	Preparation of programme and broadcasting of Radio program on Blue Gold related messages
Shushilan	Environment, DRR	Deputy Director	Training of DRR Volunteers and linkage of UDMC
BRAC Wash	Water and Sanitation		Cooperation among UP, WMGs
Concern Universal Bangladesh	DRR	Head of Organizational Development and Education Unit	Activities of CUB, potential areas of cooperation, linking DRR activities with UDMC
Union Parishad	-	Chairman, Member (Female and Male), Secretary	Possibilities of linking DRR activities and cooperation with WMOs
Horizontal Learning Program (HLP)	WSP (World Bank), JICA and others	Focal Person, Senior Decentralization Specialist (WB) and other HLP partner's representatives,	Linking with Union Parishad Network, sharing of experience and good practices among the UPs, WMGs, CBOs
FCUBED Bangladesh	Solar Desalination/ Purification Panel	Sales and Marketing Manager	Possibilities of piloting of alternative source of safe drinking water in water scarcity areas in Blue Gold polders.
LOGIN	SDC, WSP, JICA and others	Program Officer, SDC, Country Facilitator, LOGIN and others	Coordination with Local Government Institutions and LOGIN members

4. Main Challenges

4.1 Component 1

4.1.1 New PWM Rules 2014

This is one of the major challenges being faced in the strengthening of WMOs. Registration of the existing 242 WMGs and 16 WMAs has to be completed within six months after the issuance of the new rules which falls on August 10, 2014. This will be difficult to achieve because the draft By-Laws to supplement the new rules are not yet ready. Only after getting the draft by-laws from CWM (Chief Water Management) the WMOs can formulate their own by-laws which is required before they can register under BWDB. The draft By-Laws for WMG, WMA and WMF are yet to be completed by CWM. As of June 30, 2014, only the draft by-laws at WMG level had been formulated, with a strong input from Blue Gold staff. In addition to the by-laws, WMGs have to enrol more members (at least 55% household representation) and to elect new Executive Committee members. Completing all these requirements will need more time. Therefore, extension of the six-month deadline is required which is supported by the Project Coordinating Director (PCD) of BWDB.

The PWM Rules 2014 will also impact on the organizational activities in the 3 new polders. WMOs in the new polders have to be formed and registered before December 2014 in order to comply with the new LCS system e.g. LCS contracts will be awarded to the WMGs who will be responsible in forming the LCS groups. There is therefore the need to accelerate implementation of WMO formation in Polders 26, 31-part and 2.

4.1.2 LCS System under PWM Rules 2014

It will be challenging to implement LCS works next FY in accordance to the PWM Rules 2014 because of the following reasons:

- a. In the new polders (Polders 26, 31-part and Polder 2), formation of WMOs will take time but the WMOs have to be registered before December 2014 to be able to undertake contracts for earthworks. Moreover, training and preparing the newly formed WMOs to be able to carry out their responsibilities during the construction phase will also take considerable time. Considering this situation, it would be more realistic and viable to continue with the old system and procedure for LCS implementation (which entails contracts directly between BWDB and LCS), at least during the next financial year.
- b. In the 5 polders for 2014 fine-tuning, LCS groups have been formed and trained earlier and many of these groups were not mobilized because of the delay in fund placement. Those LCS groups who started work on the other hand, could not complete the work due to late start and onset of monsoon rains. These existing groups should be given the opportunity to work and/or resume work next FY which will only be possible if the old system will continue. It is recommended that the extension of the old LCS contracting system be applied for the next FY.

4.1.3 Needs Assessment in New Polders (Polders 26, 31-part and 2)

All needs assessment meetings at catchment level in the new polders need to be completed before October 2014 in order to give adequate time for designing and preparing cost estimates. There is a need to fast track program dissemination and identification of WMO boundaries in the 3 polders to prepare and complete needs assessment meetings in time.

4.1.4 Creation of O&M Fund

While the idea of creating an O&M fund is agreeable as well as a demand of the time, one needs to take into account the issues related to this. Collection of fund from polder inhabitants will not be an easy task. Even in irrigation projects, where the benefits and beneficiaries (farmers) are clear cut, collection of water charges from farmers has not been always successful. The experience in IPSWAM also showed that users were not interested in paying fees on a regular basis but more inclined to render voluntary labour whenever routine O&M activities were required. It is a challenge now for Blue Gold to come-up with a realistic and workable framework and strategy in O&M fund creation through collection of regular contributions from the users (in cash and in kind). During the regular meetings of WMGs and WMAs, people are now being motivated to think of ways and means on how they can fully perform their routine O&M responsibilities and also address some preventive maintenance needs, including the creation of O&M fund.

In the meantime, Blue Gold and BWDB should pursue seriously the handing-over of BWDB acquired properties to WMOs. As stipulated in the BWDB DPP, BWDB will give the 'use-right' of infrastructure and unused properties of BWDB within the polder to WMOs and the income from these properties will also contribute to the O&M fund if managed well, and this would also encourage WMOs to participate in (more) O&M activities.

4.2 Component 2

1. Registration of WMOs under new BWDB PWM Rules 2014 is anticipated to take longer time than expected, because of procedural and administrative constraints. So, permission to continue implementation works by LCS under existing BWDB rules is required to be given by 31st August 2014, otherwise it will not be possible to form and train several hundred LCSs in 12 polders during September – December 2014 for implementation of earthwork in 2014-15 financial year, and subsequently it will hamper implementation of earthworks during 2015.

2. Design and field estimates for repair and construction of structures in polders 43/2A, 43/2D, 43/2F, 22 & 30 shall have to be submitted by BWDB field offices in September 2014 to enable concurrence and vetting by TA team, preparation for tendering and award of contracts by December 2014. Otherwise repair/construction of structures in these 5 polders may not be possible in 2015.

4.3 Component 3

The 'Transfer of Technology for Agriculture Production under the Blue Gold Program' (TTAP) of DAE has been implementing activities outside the Blue Gold annual plan and without informing TA. Progress is being claimed for activities that are mentioned in DAE's DPP, but which could not (yet) be verified and approved by the TA team.

DPP revision has started with assistance of Blue Gold, but it will be a challenge to make this document flexible enough to allow DAE to work as an integrated partner of Blue Gold. In addition to the revised DPP

there is an urgent need to define so-called 'rules of the game' between DAE and the Blue Gold TA team in view of their respective responsibilities.

4.4 Component 4

Including some crop value chains in the selection portfolio per polder we face a challenge in being dependent on the DAE to start-up crop FFS, e.g. Sesame. DAE does not seem to have allocated resources to this due to a focus on rice development and spreading their programme over 25 Upazila, nor have they the required FFS module material for such crops. With the DPP revision we hope to get better alignment of the DAE FFS modules to the requirements, as laid down in the Polder Development Plans (PDP), which will imply the development of other FFS than rice only.

The business development of the WMG is hampered by the fact that these organisations have very few assets beyond the FAO agricultural machineries (LLP, rice threshers and power tillers) as the transfer of 'common resource' assets by BWDB to WMOs has not yet taken place as suggested in the agreements. Besides the shareholding funds, there are no financial means in the cooperatives. The savings while used in group lending belong to the individuals, not to the cooperatives. At the hand of the FAO agricultural machineries we are attempting to bring home the principles of cooperative development and financial management to the benefit of its members. Without the inclusion of a common asset belonging to the whole WMG membership, it is difficult to conceive a group of members to allow the WMG to cream off a meaningful part of the margin of their business undertaking set up with their own means.

The newly introduced BWDB registration appears a 'light registration procedure' in comparison to the DoC-registration and one can expect that few WMOs will maintain the cooperative registration.

5. Financial Overview

5.1.1 Project Financing

The overall project budget as laid down in the Administrative Agreement (AA) of 20 February 2013 amounts to EUR 57,700,080 including the contribution of the Government of Bangladesh (BWDB and DAE) of EUR 7,855,080.

The following three tables give an overview of the financial and TA contributions and a budget overview of the TA, Contracted Services, and Equipment, Training & Operational Costs at the end of March 2014 (final) and June 2014 (estimated).

Table 5-5-1: Financial and TA contributions

Agency	Financial and TA Contribution			
	GoB Contribution (€ x 1,000)	GoN Contribution		
		RPA (€x 1,000)	DPA (€x 1,000)	PA (€x 1,000)
BWDB	7499	15750	33100	48850
DAE	NA	995	-	995
Total for Blue Gold Program (as per AA)	7855	16745	33100	49845

*100 Tk = 1 €

Table 5-5-2: Budget Overview 31 March 2014 (final)– TA, Contracted Services & Equipment, Training and Operational Costs

	Original Budget	Claimed Q2/Q3 2013	Claimed Q4 2013 plus Q1 2014	Total cumulative 31 March 2014
TA contract				
TA team – Component 1	3,782,613	284,265	288,020	572,285
TA team – Component 2	2,996,412	152,922	206,314	359,236
TA team – Component 3	3,542,865	126,483	256,132	382,615
TA team – Component 4	2,127,315	107,404	155,749	263,153
Program Management	2,359,241	115,214	153,138	268,352
Contracted Services	11,842,000	20,947	120,830	141,777
Equipment, Training, Operational Costs	4,898,150	175,597	328,451	504,048
SUBTOTAL TA contract	31,548,596	982,831	1,508,634	2,491,465
SUBTOTAL including Contingencies	33,100,000	982,831	1,508,634	2,491,465
GoN Contribution to BWDB	15,750,000	0	1,216,000	1,216,000
GoN Contribution to DAE	995,000	0	160,000	160,000
Total GoN contribution	49,845,000	982,831	2,884,634	3,867,465

Table 5-5-3: Budget Overview 30 June 2014 (estimated)– TA, Contracted Services & Equipment, Training and Operational Costs

	Original Budget	Cumulative 31 March 2014	Estimate Q2 April – June 2014	Estimate cumulative 30 June 2014
TA contract				
TA team – Component 1	3,782,613	572,285	150,000	722,285
TA team – Component 2	2,996,412	152,922	130,000	282,922
TA team – Component 3	3,542,865	382,615	120,000	502,615
TA team – Component 4	2,127,315	263,153	85,000	348,153
Program Management	2,359,241	268,352	110,000	378,352
Contracted Services	11,842,000	141,777	120,000	261,777
Equipment, Training, Operational Costs	4,898,150	504,048	250,000	754,048
SUBTOTAL TA contract	31,548,596	2,491,465	965,000	3,456,465
SUBTOTAL including Contingencies	33,100,000	2,491,465	965,000	3,456,465
GoN Contribution to BWDB	15,750,000	1,216,000	0	1,216,000
GoN Contribution to DAE	995,000	160,000	0	160,000
Total GoN contribution	49,845,000	3,867,465	965,000	4,832,465

Appendix 1 Staffing Status

A-1 Blue Gold – Technical Assistance Team staffing as per 30 June 2014

		Total planned input (days)	Input previous (days)	Input Q2 2014 (days)	Cumulative input (days)	% of time utilised
Component 1						
International experts:						
Component Leader	Vicki Pineda	1,320	222	64	286	22%
Short term	Kitty Bentvelsen/Geert Rhebergen	374	165		165	44%
National experts:						
Community Organisation Expert	Shorab Hossain	1,302	247	66	313	24%
Gender expert	Ms Khuku Chakraborty	1,302	230	55	285	22%
Development Planner / DTL	Alamgir Chowdhury	1,302	232	33	265	20%
Sr Sociologist/Cooperative Expert	Ms Showkat Ara	1,085	49	59	108	10%
Jr Sociologist/Cooperative Expert	TBN	0	0	0	0	0%
Senior Socio-Economist /DCL	John Marandy	1,302	224	63	287	22%
Socio-economist 1, Khulna	Jashim Uddin	1,302	200	61	261	20%
Socio-economist 2, Patuakhali	Mator Rahman	1,302	210	61	271	21%
Socio-economist 3, Satkhira	TBN	868	0		0	0%
Socio-economist 4, Satkhira	TBN	868	0		0	0%
Socio-economist 5, Khulna	Ummay Asma Khanam	1,223	149	66	215	18%
Socio-economist 6, Patuakhali	Tahmina Akter	1,223	155	64	219	18%
Community Organisers	TBN	66,185	8,226	1,357	9,583	14%
Technical/administrative staff:						
Data Entry Operator	TBN	3,472	0	10	10	0%
Training Coordinator Khulna	Ms Shamima Nasrin	651	0	21	21	3%
Training Coordinator Patuakhali	Atikur Rahman	651	0	21	21	3%
Subtotal Component 1		85,732	10,309	2,001	12,310	14%
Component 2						
International experts:						
Team Leader / Component Leader	Dirk Smits	1,320	208	64	272	21%
Short term	Andrew Jenkins	330	6	8	14	4%
National experts:						
QC Engineer/Deputy Component Leader	Mofazzal Ahmed	1,263	225	66	291	23%
ST hydrologist	TBN	176	19	0	19	11%
irrigation/drainage engineer (3 districts)	Mustafizur Rahman	239	205	34	239	100%
Irrigation Agronomist, Khulna (3 districts)	ShaharUddin	195	160	35	195	100%
Civil engineer, Khulna	Mainul Islam	1,203	190	53	243	20%
Civil engineer, Satkhira	S.M. Saiful Islam	1,164	102	54	156	13%

		Total planned input (days)	Input previous (days)	Input Q2 2014 (days)	Cumulative input (days)	% of time utilised
Civil engineer, Patuakhali	Delower Hossain	1,164	97	54	151	13%
Senior Field QC Engineer (3 districts)	Azizur Rahman	1,263	222	64	286	23%
Quantity Surveyor Engineer/GIS expert	Mahmadur Rahman Aveek	1,164	114	61	175	15%
Quantity Surveyor Assistant	Ms Jinat Rehana	1,164	111	61	172	15%
Reimbursement Engineer	Ms Farzana Rahman Moury	1,085	63	51	114	11%
Reimbursement Engineer Assistant	Ms Tahmina Akter Tunny	1,085	60	54	114	11%
Field Mechanical Engineer (3 districts)	Ahsan Ahmed Bapi	1,164	112	60	172	15%
Jr Field QC Engineer 1, Patuakhali	Shahidullah	1,164	215	57	272	23%
Jr Field QC Engineer 2, Patuakhali	S.M.Zakir Hossain	1,085	40	57	97	9%
Jr Field QC Engineer 1, Khulna	Moshiur Rahman	1,085	20	67	87	7%
Jr Field QC Engineer 2, Khulna	Abdul Hannan	1,085	20	66	86	7%
Jr Field QC Engineer, Satkhira	TBN	868	0	0	0	0%
Sub-assistant Engineer Khulna	Md Aman Ullah	1,085	0	63	63	5%
Sub-assistant Engineer Patuakhali	Md Nur Islam	1,085	0	60	60	5%
Sub-assistant Engineer Satkhira	Md Sadeque Ali	1,085	13	70	83	7%
AutoCAD Operator (3 districts)	Abdul Alim	1,085	0	52	52	4%
Subtotal Component 2		23,606	2,202	1,211	3,413	14%
Component 3						
International experts:						
Component Leader	Hein Bijlmakers	1,320	209	59	268	20%
Short term	TBN	330	0		0	0%
National experts:						
Agriculturalist 1/Deputy Component Leader	Ashrafur Islam	1,243	183	57	240	19%
Agriculturalist 2	Zahangir Alam	1,203	79	59	138	11%
Agriculturalist 3	Sumona Rani Das	1,184	109	58	167	14%
Fisheries Expert	Shamsul Huda	1,184	217	63	280	24%
Livestock Expert	Munir Ahmed	1,263	128	60	188	15%
Mechanisation/processing expert 1	Anayet Hossain	868	218	52	270	31%
Mechanisation/processing expert 2	TBN	1,184	0		0	0%
Mechanisation/processing expert 3 -on farm mech.	TBN	1,184	0		0	0%
Master Trainer (Rice Agronomist)	Md.Alam Hossain	1,203	54	57	111	9%
TC/Master Trainer (OFWM Specialist)	Abdullah Sani	1,203	127	58	185	15%
Master Trainer (Homestead Gardening)	Shameem Ahmed	1,203	115	53	168	14%
TC/Master Trainer (High-value Cash Crops)	TBA	1,203	0		0	0%
FFS Organisers (Khulna -10, Patuakhali-12)	TBN	22,805	2,168	470	2,638	12%
Subtotal Component 3		38,580	3,607	1,046	4,653	12%
Component 4						
International experts:						
Component Leader	Karel T Jonck	660	123	15	138	21%
Short term	Jaap de Heer/TBN	308	23		23	7%

		Total planned input (days)	Input previous (days)	Input Q2 2014 (days)	Cumulative input (days)	% of time utilised
National experts:					0	
Value Chain Expert/DCL	Tanvir Islam	1,184	225	61	286	24%
Senior Private Sector Expert	ASM Shahidul Haque	1,263	177	60	237	19%
Jr Private Sector Expert	TBN	1,085	0		0	0%
Business Dev Coordinator, Khulna	Shusanto Roy	1,184	127	60	187	16%
Business Dev Coordinator, Patuakhali (1)	Abdullah Al Mamun	986	111	56	167	17%
Business Dev Coordinator Patuakhali (2)	Kazi Mozzammel Hossen	1,085	59	60	119	11%
Marketing Expert	Islam Chowdhury	1,085	0	0	0	0%
Investment Specialist	Md. Anisur Rahman	1,085	80	55	135	12%
Gender/IGA Specialist	Ms Jhorna Begum	1,203	97	63	160	13%
Good Governance	AKM Saifullah	594	0	0	0	0%
Technical/administrative staff:						
Administrative Assistant	TBN	1,203	22	0	22	2%
Subtotal Component 4		12,925	1,044	430	1,474	11%
Component 5						
International experts:						
Short term	Hero Heering	132	23	14	37	28%
National experts:						
National Project Coordinator	TBN	1,243	0	0	0	0%
Institutional/Legal Advisor	Aowlad Hossain	1,243	180	53	233	19%
Training Expert	Abul Kashem	1,302	227	61	288	22%
Environment Expert	Kabil Hossain	967	94	52	146	15%
M&E Expert	Shital Krishna Das	1,263	180	60	240	19%
M&E Officer 1	Zakir Hossain	1,243	103	54	157	13%
M&E Officer 2	Nurur Rahman	1,085	44	57	101	9%
Communication Expert	Anis Parvez	1,302	201	56	257	20%
Disaster Risk Reduction Expert	Syeda Sajeda Haider	1,085	190	54	244	22%
Training Coordinator Dhaka	Khairul Islam	1,243	108	63	171	14%
Subject matter specialists	TBN	8,680	0	0	0	0%
Subtotal Component 5		20,788	1,350	524	1,874	9%
Support Staff						
Office Manager (Dhaka)	Abu Zahir	848	256	60	316	37%
Office Manager Khulna	Rabiul Alam	1,302	188	59	247	20%
Office Manager Patuakhali	Monir U.Patwary	1,302	188	58	246	
Accounts Assistant Khulna	Ms Humaira Sultana	1,040	0	40	40	3%
Accounts Assistant Patuakhali	Shahabuddin Ahmed	1,040	0	40	40	3%
Finance Manager	AFM Hedayat-UI-Al-Arif	1,282	213	62	275	21%
Operation Manager	Ms Shahanaz Jahan	1,160	90	55	145	13%
Finance and Administration Officer	Naeem Farhad Islam	1,243	169	62	231	19%
Asst. Manager- (IT)	Shahabuzzaman	1,263	177	53	230	18%
Support staff/office assistant	various	3,906	625	58	683	17%
Receptionist	Yesmin Akther	1,302	246	58	304	23%

		Total planned input (days)	Input previous (days)	Input Q2 2014 (days)	Cumulative input (days)	% of time utilised
Secretary / library assistant	Yasmin Ara Rekha	1,302	190	62	252	19%
Drivers	12 drivers	15,407	532	374	906	6%
Messengers/Cleaners	Various	5,208	981	136	1117	21%
Subtotal support staff		37,605	3,855	1,177	5,032	13%
TOTAL		219,236	22,367	6,389	28,756	13%

A-2 Blue Gold – Bangladesh Water Development Board staffing

The staffing situation of the BWDB Central Planning Unit and the BWDB Zonal offices on 30 June 2014 is given below. Not all staff mentioned is assigned to the Blue Gold Program yet.

In Patuakhali there is a lack of qualified staff after the departure of Mr. Delwar Hossain (XEN), which seriously hampers decision making.

SI No.	Name of the Post	Qty.	Post filled (Y/N)? - Name	Remarks &Comments
Central Planning Cell Dhaka (planned: 19 staff)				
1	Project Coordinating Director (PCD)	1	Mr. Md. Masud Ahmed	
2	Executive Engineer (XEN)	1	Mr. Md. Abul Kausar	
3	Executive Engineer (XEN)	1		
4	Chief Agronomist	1	Mr. Md. Enamur Rahman	
5	Assistant Chief (Sociology)	1	Mr. Shafiqul Islam,	
6	Sub-divisional Engineer (SDE)	1	Mr. Kamruzzaman Khan	
7	Sub-divisional Engineer (SDE)	1	Ms. Nasrin Akter Khan	
8	Assistant Chief(Economics),	1	Ms. Shahnaz Akter	
9	Assistant Engineer	1	Mr. Md. Shahinur Rahman	
10	Sub-assistant Engineer (SAE)	1	Mr. Md. Saiful Alam	
11	Draftsman (Gr-A)	2	Mr. Sunil Chandra Majumder Mr. Md. Anwar Hossain Khan	
12	Stenographer		Mr. Prasanta Kumar Das	
13	Draftsman (Gr-A)	2	Mrs. Pervin Mustary Mst. Soheli Pervin	
14	LDA/DEO		Mr. Md. Salah Uddin Khan	
15	Tracer		Mr. Md. Ruhul Amin	
16	Driver	4	Mr. Md. Mazibur Rahman Khan Mr. Md. Rafiqul Islam Mr. Md. Abdul Matin Abdul Aziz	
17	DMO		Mr. Md. Humayun Kabir	
18	Guard cum Chowkider		Mr. Md. Nazrul Islam	
19	Gate Operator		Mr. Md Osman Ali	

SI No.	Name of the Post	Qty.	Post filled (Y/N)? - Name	Remarks &Comments
Zonal Planning cell South-Western Zone Khulna (planned 10 staff)				
1	Executive Engineer (XEN)	2	Md. Muzibur Rahman, O&M Division 2; Apurba Kumar Baoumik, O&M Division 1	
2	Hydraulic Engineer / SDE	2	Pijush Karishna Kunda Division 2; Deboprotim Hawladar Division 1	
3	Civil Engineer / Asstt Engineer (AE)	1	Md. Ishak Ali	
4	Account Clerk	1	Md. Hadisur Rahman	
Zonal Planning cell Southern Zone Barisal (planned 10 staff)				
1	Executive Engineer (XEN)	3	Md. Shafi Uddin, O&M (in charge) Division Patuakhali; Md. Shafi Uddin, WDD Division Kalapara; Md Abdul Malek, O&M Division Barguna	
2	Hydraulic Engineer/ SDE	3	Md. Abdul Motalib Division Patuakhali; Shahanawz Talukder WDD Division Kalapara; Md. Abul Khaier, O&M Division Barguna	
3	Civil Engineer/ Asstt Engineer (AE)	2	Shahidul Islam, WDD Division Kalapara Nurul Islam, O&M Division Patuakhali	
4	Quality Control Engineer/ AE	2		
5	Assistant Chief/ Research Officer (Econ)	1		
6	Assistant Chief/ Research Officer (Socio)	1		

Appendix 2 Environmental Mission Report

By Kim Janssen
12 May to 02 June 2014

Table of Contents

1. Mission Objectives & Activity Schedule
 - 1.1 Mission objectives
 - 1.2 Mission activities and timeframe
2. Activities, Results, Next Steps
 - 2.1 Environmental Impact Assessment for Environmental Clearance
 - 2.1.1 Activities undertaken
 - 2.1.2 Next steps
 - 2.2 Sustainable Environmental Management Plans (SEMPs)
 - 2.2.1 SEMP in Blue Gold
 - 2.2.2 Activities Undertaken
 - 2.2.3 Next steps
 - 2.3 Environment – Water Management Fund and Production Support Fund
 - 2.3.1 Habitat Restoration Approach to Small Pond Fish Productivity, Diversity and Resilience
 - 2.3.2 Aquaponics / Hydroponics
 - 2.3.3 Other
 - 2.3.4 Next Steps
 - 2.4 Other activities: involving students in Blue Gold
 - 2.4.1 Discussions during mission
 - 2.4.2 Next steps
3. Work Plan 2014

1. Mission Objectives & Activity Schedule

1.1 Mission objectives

From 12 May to 2 June 2014, a variety of activities were undertaken; main objectives of the mission:

- to introduce the new national environmental expert into the project, and discuss the ToR for the position;
- develop a 2014 work plan for 'environment' as cross cutting issue;
- assist CEGIS in the field with the Environmental Impact Assessment;
- follow up on ideas for integrating 'environment' into project activities, as well as potential projects for the Water Management Fund and the Production Support Fund

1.2 Mission activities and timeframe

The table below describes the activities undertaken during May 2014:

Activity	Timeframe
Arrival in Dhaka, visit project office; discuss input with TL and DTL; plan field activities	12 May
Buddhist national holiday; reading updated project info	13 May
Discuss project matters with various members of the Blue Gold team; confirm field activity planning	14 May
Meet with CEGIS in their Dhaka office	15 May
Travel to Khulna and meet/discuss with the new national environmental expert	18 May
Visit to polder #22 and travel to Patuakhali	19 May
PDP workshop on polder #43-2F	20 May
Visit to the field (FFS) in Patuakhali	21 May
Discuss with national environmental expert and write-up results	22 May
Field visit to Patuakhali with CEGIS team	25 – 28 May
Meeting with Dr Salam of BAU in Dhaka (on fodder hydroponics & aquaponics)	29 May
Meeting with Catharien Terwisscha van Scheltinga to discuss potential involvement of WUR	1 June
Meeting with Kevin Kamp from WorldFish to discuss ongoing project in Blue Gold & aquaponics	2 June
Meeting with Erich Otto Gomm to discuss energy program of GIZ	Cancelled on 2 June; scheduled a Skype meeting
Travel back to the Netherlands	2 June

2. Activities, Results, Next Steps

2.1 Environmental Impact Assessment for Environmental Clearance

2.1.1 Activities undertaken

As explained in the previous mission report (latest version March 2014), an Environmental Clearance needs to be obtained in order to receive approval of the Bangladesh Department of Environment (DoE) for the rehabilitation works under Component 2 of Blue Gold. In order to obtain this Environmental Clearance, an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is to be conducted. In November/December 2013, discussions were initiated with CEGIS for them to support Blue Gold in preparing the EIA and to facilitate the processes to obtain the Environmental Clearance from DoE.

In January 2014, a contract was signed with CEGIS for the development of a EIA and facilitating the process for Environmental Clearance for 5 of the Blue Gold polders.

During the mission, a field trip was undertaken together with CEGIS and the new national environment expert to Patuakhali, to observe and discuss CEGIS' activities in the field, and see potential opportunities for improving collaboration for the EIA. We visited sites in polder 43-2B where, under Blue Gold, rehabilitation works are planned for sluices and inlets/outlets, and attended a number of focus group sessions with farmers. It was observed that much of the data being gathered by CEGIS are similar to the questions asked in our own baseline survey (of which a report is expected later in June). This will allow us to cross-reference the CEGIS data.

2.1.2 Next steps

Over the next months, it is of importance to continue having regular contact with CEGIS, and to exchange information with them to optimize information integration into the environmental tasks for Blue Gold (i.e. in making up the environmental elements and SEMP's in the PDP's).

It is advised for the national environmental expert to meet with, or have a phone call with CEGIS EIA representatives once a week to discuss the progress made and possibility to exchange data.

Furthermore, a next contract will need to be negotiated with CEGIS, for the EIA of the next batch of polders. A new contract should ideally be negotiated before November 2014, when the current assignment is completed.

2.2 Sustainable Environmental Management Plans (SEMPs)

2.2.1 SEMP in Blue Gold

The Sustainable Environmental Management Plan (SEMP) is one of the elements in the fourth step of the six step approach of Blue Gold, and is part of the Polder Development Plan for each polder. Each SEMP will take into consideration the existing environmental hazards (i.e. the baseline scenario), and will provide for a number of environmental actions to be undertaken in relation to the Blue Gold Program. The SEMP format used during IPSWAM are taken as reference in developing the SEMP's for Blue Gold.

A SEMP will cover the following:

- Environmental management planning and monitoring of Component 2 activities, based on the EIAs for the planned water structures construction;
- Plan of environmental actions regarding Component 3 topics and activities, based on environmental reviews/ tests/ studies, which are either carried out by Blue Gold staff or readily available from other organisations (e.g. World Fish, BRRI, SRDI);
- Plan of other environmental actions based on needs expressed by WMOs;

2.2.2 Activities Undertaken

During May 2014, the following activities were undertaken:

Framework SEMP

With the national Environmental expert, and in consultation with Blue Gold team members, a Framework SEMP was developed. The IPSWAM SEMP was reviewed, improved and updated (see Appendix 1). The Framework SEMP will be used as a starting point for the SEMP for each polder; it serves as a checklist to identify the main environmental issues in a specific polder, and consequently as a template to systematically define which environmental actions are to be undertaken, in which timeframe, and by whom.

SEMP for polder 22

To assist the national environmental expert in the establishment of a SEMP as part of the Polder Development Plan (PDP), support was given to develop the SEMP for polder 22, which the Blue Gold team

has chosen as the first polder to develop a PDP for. Basically, the existing polder 22 field trip reports were used to make a first write up; a second draft will be made, based on the information made available by CEGIS (from their EIA studies), as well as on information from other sources (e.g. the soil research institute in Khulna).

Training in relation to SEMP

Discussions were held with various colleagues (including the national environmental expert, training expert, DRR & climate change expert, Component 1 colleagues), to identify the needs for training concerning SEMP elements. The idea came up to organise SEMP participatory workshops/trainings after the PDP validation sessions with the WMAs, as a next step towards implementation of these plans, and strengthening WMOs in their ability to carry out measures as presented in those SEMPs. This idea needs to be elaborated upon, and potentially the workshop will be tailored to the needs in every polder.

SEMPs may identify the need for specific training or awareness campaigns in a specific field; these could include, for instance, training or campaigns on tree plantation, use of balanced doses of chemical fertilizers and the preparation and use of organic fertilizers, effects of use and handling of chemical insecticides and use of IPM/ICM, effects of drinking arsenic-contaminated water, etcetera. Some of those training or campaigns may be integrated in the planned WMG and WMA training under Component 1 activities, and FFS sessions under the Component 3 activities. Other needs for training and awareness building may be integrated in the proposed village level training to be outsourced to an NGO (and which is currently being discussed between the DRR/Climate Change expert and an NGO).

SEMP – synergizing Environmental Actions with other initiatives & organizations

Throughout May, options were identified to synergize environmental activities in Blue Gold with other existing initiatives or organizations. Contact was sought with the GIZ representative of the Sustainable Energy Development program (Erich Otto Gomm), to discuss the activities of GIZ on Improved Cooking Stoves (ICS), and see how Blue Gold and the ICS project could cooperate.. Potential ways of cooperation include for Blue Gold to promote the ICS distribution in the polder areas, and for GIZ to expand their ICS project in the Blue Gold areas. The ICS are known to be better for indoor air quality, and more fuel efficient than traditional stoves; a household was visited in polder 22, who is using the ICS (bought the ICS pipe for Tk250 from Grameen Sukthi) – household members indicated that indeed they much enjoyed the benefit of indoor air quality improvement, the need for less fuel (40% reduction in comparison with traditional stoves), however that the ICS needed more time to heat. ICS could potentially reduce demand for cow dung – if less cow dung is needed for the stoves, more cow dung will be left for preparing organic fertilizer, which would ideally lead to less use of chemical fertilizer (and hence contribute to improving soil fertility).

Furthermore, a potential opportunity was identified with the Department of Information (DoI), which as part of their activities, produces and broadcasts local short documentaries about 'best practices' (they are interested in any subject). We may request them to make a 'best practice' short documentary on farmers who are taking good care of their land and water resources, i.e. farmers who implement proper IPM, or use sustainable innovative farming practices etc.

Other Blue Gold team members have identified collaboration opportunities with other initiatives and governmental departments, which would potentially also benefit the 'environment' cross cutting activities. Examples include the BRAC-WASH II water supply and sanitation project, the Community Radio (Krishi Radio) of the Department of Agriculture Extension (to disseminate information and raise awareness of good practices), and the Solar Desalination/Purification Panel (FCUBED) (for piloting alternative sources of safe drinking water in water scarcity areas).

2.2.3 Next steps

Taking the framework SEMP as starting point, and the SEMP for polder 22 as an example, the SEMPs for polders 30, 43-2A, 43-2D and 43-2E will be developed throughout 2014 by the national environmental expert (with distance support by the international expert). This will be undertaken in close alignment with

the work plan of CEGIS for the EIAs of the 5 polders, to ensure integration of latest data into the SEMP. CEGIS will finalize the EIA reports for the 5 polders by November 2014; it has been agreed with CEGIS staff that in the meantime data will be shared with Blue Gold 'environment' staff , for Blue Gold reporting purposes (i.e. for the PDP environment chapters and SEMP).

The following activities will facilitate in developing the SEMP for the 5 polders:

- Participate in the PDP validation sessions with WMOs ;
- Join Blue Gold team members in field trip activities to the polders, and conduct interviews and Focus Group Discussions (FGD) to identify environmental issues;
- Discuss, with team members from Component 2 and 3, the environmental issues in each polder;
- Gather information from the CEGIS fieldwork for the EIAs of the polders, to be used as input in the 'environment' chapters of the PDPs: To optimize the use of data and information collected by CEGIS, as well as the EIAs being prepared for the individual Blue Gold polders, we will coordinate:

CEGIS

Baseline report for EIAs

With

Environmental Impacts section of the EIAs

With

Environmental Management Plan section of the EIAs

With

Blue Gold

Environment Chapter in PDPs

Updating the impacts in the SEMP for the PDPs

Updating environmental management actions in the SEMP of the PDPs

- Collect secondary data from other sources, i.e. research institutes (e.g. soil research institute in Khulna, CGIAR etc), governmental departments (e.g. Upazaila offices), or other organisations;

After the establishment of the SEMP, activities will include to:

- Conduct trainings or workshops for WMAs on SEMP implementation (these training/workshops will be adapted for each polder on a needs basis);
- Discuss with Component 3 the environmental issues in relation to FFS: discuss with master trainers how environment is incorporated in their training modules and how this can be improved. Based on these discussions, a proposal will be made on how to integrate environmental issues more into training, and discuss this again with master trainers. If agreed, sessions may be organized with thematic FOs, and in a participatory way, discussions may be held on how to better include environmental issues in the training curricula. Consequently, ToT/ participatory workshop sessions with FOs may be held on environmental aspects;
- Identify specific actions or studies to be conducted as part of Blue Gold, which will target to avoid or minimize environmental impacts, and/or find innovative solutions for environmental issues; ideas may be generated from this activity for potential pilots under the Water Management Fund and the Production Support Fund;
- Take up further discussions to outsource a combined DRR/Climate Change/Environment training for village volunteers, together with the DRR/Climate Change expert (discussions are already ongoing between the DRR/Climate Change expert and the NGO Shoshilan);
- Continue with synergizing Environmental Actions with other initiatives & organizations;

All abovementioned activities are part of the ToR for the national environmental expert, and have been discussed with the new expert for taking up over the next couple of months.

2.3 Environment – Water Management Fund and Production Support Fund

2.3.1 Habitat Restoration Approach to Small Pond Fish Productivity, Diversity and Resilience

The previous mission report referred to an idea that was discussed with WorldFish to develop a pilot project on “Challenged Ponds”. WorldFish was requested to develop a concept note on the pilot and formally request for a fund for its implementation under Blue Gold. In March, the Blue Gold Gender expert conducted further discussions with WorldFish, and a concept note entitled “Participatory Research on a Habitat Restoration Approach to Small Pond Fish Productivity, Diversity and Resilience” was developed, submitted, and approved by EKN. The project has started its implementation.

2.3.2 Aquaponics / Hydroponics

Aquaponics was discussed in the previous mission report as a ‘soilless agriculture’ pilot opportunity to be funded under the Production Support Fund. In May 2014, meetings were organized with external stakeholders to discuss the feasibility of an aquaponics pilot in Blue Gold. A first meeting was organized with Professor Dr. M.A. Salam of the Department of Aquaculture of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU), to hear about his department’s activities in the field of aquaponics and hydroponics. Dr. Salam explained his aquaponic trial with farmers in Khulna, which was implemented over an 8 months timespan in 2013 (in collaboration with the NGO Shoshilan). The trial was well received by the farmer participants – however, after the trial ended, part of the aquaponic system broke down, and the trial participants abandoned the system as they didn’t know how to repair it. It was decided (in discussion with Component 2 and 3 members) that we should either find a way to develop a less sophisticated aquaponic pilot system, or abandon the idea, as Blue Gold pilots should primarily be focused on low tech easy and practical solutions that are workable for local farmers.

After the discussion with Dr Salam, a meeting followed with WorldFish, who suggest to integrate vertical tower gardening with aquaculture, without using the sophisticated aquaponic piping/pumping system, but rather promoting efficient manual techniques. WorldFish (or a partner organization) may develop a concept note for a pilot using this technique, however further discussions will need to take place to discuss the viability of the idea.

Another idea that was discussed with Dr. Salam is the use of hydroponics to produce fodder; hydroponics is another 'soilless agriculture' system, and differs from aquaponics in that it is not combined with aquaculture.

2.3.3 Other

A number of discussions took place with Component 3 to integrate trials for crops to tackle environmental challenges such as the scarcity of fresh water, the trend of increasing salinity of soils in coastal Bangladesh, and issues related to soil fertility.

Many saline tolerant crops studies have been or are done by IRRI and other organizations in Bangladesh. The outcomes of these studies and trials will be taken into account before deciding which one(s) could be developed into a practical pilot with farmers (to be outsourced under the Production Support Fund).

Component 3 is in discussion with BAU on vegetable/fruit farming ideas – one idea that could possibly lead to a trial under the Production Support Fund is to produce beetroot instead of sugarcane (as beetroot is tolerant to saline conditions).

The potential for spirulina farming was identified; spirulina is a type of algae which has many benefits: it has considerable potential as a small-scale crop for nutritional enhancement, livelihood development and environmental mitigation. Spirulina is highly nutritional: it contains huge amounts of protein, vitamins, and minerals. Furthermore, spirulina has been identified (by FAO¹, amongst others) as being an integrated solution for waste water treatment, small-scale aquaculture production and livestock feed supplement. Spirulina Platensis in particular is tolerant to saline conditions, doesn't need fertile land, is efficient in the use of water, quite simple to cultivate, and could possibly function as a crop to provide i) a nutritional addition to the diet of local people, ii) a supplement to animal feed, and iii) an integrated option for waste water treatment. In Bangladesh, spirulina is being researched and cultivated on trial basis since the 1980s (by Bangladesh Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, as well as FAO); the FAO already documented in 1981 that blue-green algae production could possibly replace chemical fertilizers (e.g. as nitrogen source for rice farming) and support the rebuilding of the structure of depleted soils. The feasibility of a Spirulina pilot project under the Production Support Fund deserves further investigation. This may be one of the topics that the national environmental expert could take up with Component 3.

2.3.4 Next Steps

Together with Component 3, discussions will continue with WorldFish and/or others (e.g. AVRDC – who have been working on trials with vertical tower gardening in rural Bangladesh), which may lead to a concept note for a simplified aquaponic trial (using manual techniques) to be funded under the Production Support Fund.

Regarding hydroponics the advice is to conduct a pre-feasibility study during the next mission of the international environmental expert to analyse the options for hydroponic production of either fodder, or vegetables, or both. Lessons learned from other hydroponics trials may be used to steer towards an adapted (and improved) hydroponics pilot under Blue Gold. The pre-feasibility study will serve to establish Terms of Reference (ToR) for a pilot that will be funded under the Production Support Fund. The pilot may be implemented by students from the Bangladesh Agriculture University (under supervision of Dr. Salam) and Wageningen University (under supervision of Catharien Terwisscha van Scheltinga).

To conduct this pre-feasibility study, it is proposed that a **next mission of about 2 or 3 weeks will take place in September or October 2014, which will have as output a pre-feasibility report and ToR for the hydroponics pilot.** This mission may be combined with i) initiating discussions with CEGIS for the next batch of polder EIAs, and ii) follow-up activities with the national environmental expert.

¹<http://www.scribd.com/doc/13570807/Spirulina-Farming-Report-FAO>

2.4 Other activities: involving students in Blue Gold

2.4.1 Discussions during mission

Discussions were held with the Team Leader about engaging students for internships (i.e. 3 or 4 months) to either support on-going activities or assist in new and innovative initiatives. This was further discussed with Catharien Terwisscha van Scheltinga, Director of the Wageningen UR project office in Dhaka. Catharien offered her support to link up with resource persons at Wageningen UR who would be able to identify students with a relevant background and interest to do an internship at Blue Gold in Bangladesh. Topics include, but are not limited to: i) value chain research, ii) developing demonstration pilots of saline-tolerant crops, iii) 'long-term thinking in farmers', iv) integrated water, crops, and fisheries management, and v) an internship regarding the on farm water management pilot in polder 30 which is currently in its concept phase.

Further discussions took place to involve other universities such as ITC in Enschede (for GIS/MIS applications) and TU Delft (for water infrastructure related topics); also, the possibility to organise a "challenge" in collaboration with Enviu (www.enviu.org) was discussed; this "challenge" could well function as a media tool to gain momentum for Blue Gold.

2.4.2 Next steps

It is proposed to spend a total of 5 days in the next months (June-September) liaising in the Netherlands with Wageningen UR and other universities (e.g. ITC Enschede, TU Delft), as well as Enviu. The liaising with Universities will include:

- Identification of potential topics that students of a particular University Department may work on during an internship;
- Discussing the terms of involvement: what is needed from our side for the universities to engage students in Blue Gold (i.e. logistics, costs recovery, etc.), and what do we expect in return?
- Which are the necessary steps to undertake to get the right, and motivated, students on board? i.e. would Blue Gold need to organise an explanatory presentation?
- Develop and agree upon a plan of action to engage a first batch of students between October 2014 and March 2015;

Specific for Enviu, a meeting will be organised with the CEO to discuss the usual "challenge" format that Enviu uses, to see which topics Enviu could cover within this format, and discuss the organisational requirements as well as costs.

3. Work Plan 2014

No.	Planned Key Activity	Polder and/or Subject	Completion Schedule	Progress
13.	Reviewing of Blue Gold project reports; review Literature and reports of other projects to define key environmental issues in the Blue Gold polders, and 'lessons learned'	Environment, all Blue Gold polders	Throughout program	On-going
14.	Sign contract with CEGIS for preparation of EIA and facilitation for Environmental Clearance for first 5 Blue Gold polders	Environment, polder # 22, 30, 43-2A, 43-2D, 43-2F	-	Signed January 2014
15.	Assist CEGIS with EIA preparations of first 5 Blue Gold polders	Environment, polder # 22, 30, 43-2A, 43-2D, 43-2F	November 2014	CEGIS visited polder 22 and 30 early May 2014, and remaining 3 polders in Patuakhali at the end

No.	Planned Key Activity	Polder and/or Subject	Completion Schedule	Progress
				of May. Blue Gold environment experts joined CEGIS in Patuakhali. In June, the baseline report for 5 polders will be completed and shared with Blue Gold.
16.	Draft a contract with CEGIS for EIA/EC of next batch of Blue Gold polders	Environment	New contract to be concluded November 2014	Not yet initiated
17.	Development of framework SEMP to be integrated into the PDPs	Environment	May-June 2014	Done, see Appendix 1 of the mission report
18.	Assess, based on identified environmental issues and the info available (i.e. from the EIA, as well as other projects, other organisations, or BWDB), what additional data need to be collected	Environment	Throughout program	Ongoing
19.	Based on data needs assessment (6), collect additional data, either from secondary sources or by own data collection activities	Environment	Throughout Program	Ongoing
20.	Development of SEMP for first batch of Blue Gold polders	Environment; polder # 22, 30, 43-2A, 43-2D, 43-2F	June (polder 22); remainder of the 5 polders until November 2014 (in alignment with CEGIS planning)	Ongoing; first draft of SEMP for polder 22 is produced;
21.	Verification/validation of SEMP with WMOs	Plan the activity along with overall PDP verification activities	Throughout Program	Ongoing
22.	Integrate SEMP specifics into training of WMOs, to strengthen local capacity for SEMP implementation	Environment; polder # 22, 30, 43-2A, 43-2D, 43-2F	First efforts for 'environment' integration into Components until December 2014. Review and updating of 'environment' integration for all components throughout program	Review of incorporation of 'environment' into the training curriculum on "Construction Monitoring & Quality Control" was performed; this is specifically related to Component 1 & 2 activities.
23.	Ensure integration of 'environment' into relevant FFS (including IPM, organic composting irt chemical	Environment	Ensure integration into general FFS until December	Ongoing

No.	Planned Key Activity	Polder and/or Subject	Completion Schedule	Progress
	fertilizers, etc)		2014; reviewing and updating (i.e. for specific environmental issues in specific polders) throughout program	
24.	In relation to all Blue Gold components, research and define potential innovations with environmental improvement aspects	Environment	Throughout Program	Several options have been identified (see environment mission reports)
25.	Provide linkages and stimulate collaboration with (inter)national research institutes, universities, existing relevant initiatives or projects as well as organizations in relation to innovations in technologies and their environmental sustainability in the Blue Gold area;	Environment	Throughout Program	Several linkages have been made (see environment mission reports)
26.	Ensure integration of 'environment' in the M&E baseline survey, and in the progress markers in the M&E outcome monitoring	Environment	May-June 2014	Integration of "Environment" in Output Monitoring completed; proposal was made to integrate "Environment" into Outcome monitoring
27.	Develop work plan for "environment" for 2014	Environment	May-June 2014	Completed
28.	3-week visit of international environmental specialist in May 2014. Specific focus on discussing ToR and Blue Gold environment activities with the new national expert; SEMP framework development, EIA supervision	Environment	May-June 2014	Completed

Appendix 3 Role of UP for Participatory Water Management

By Institutional Expert
03 June 2014

Role of Union Parishad for Participatory Water Management as Advisor to the WMOs:

“Union Parishad will provide the supporting/facilitating/coordinating assistance for project/sub-project/scheme covering one union for participatory water management. On behalf of the Union Parishad, the Standing Committee on Agriculture and other development works will provide such functions”.

GPWM, Ministry of Water Resources, 2000, page 6 and PWM Rules 2014.

As advisor to the WMOs Union Parishad can provide necessary assistance through following activities:

- Conflict resolution;
- Clearing obstructions in water bodies;
- Cleaning water hyacinth from water bodies and compost production;
- Digging and re-excavation of canal (not covered by Blue Gold);
- Plantation in the side of roads and in the berms of the embankment;
- Construction/re-construction of earthen roads, drains, culverts;
- Arrangement of safe water and sanitation;
- Income generating activities for poor;
- Connecting the market places, improvement of management and facilities of market places;
- Formation of Union Resource and Service Unit (Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock) and allocation for agri. Development in UP budget;
- Participate in WMO meetings as advisor;
- Activation of Standing Committees and inclusion of WMO representatives;
- Activation of Union Disaster Management Committee and inclusion of WMO representatives;
- Assist for O&M of Water Management facilities;
- Invitation of WMO representatives in Ward meeting and open budget meeting;
- Sharing the important issues and achievements of WMOs/Blue Gold in Upazila and District Development and Coordination meeting;
- Encourage farmers for increase production (through organizing fair and rewarding);
- Conservation of local variety of fish and promote to increase fish production and promote for livestock production;
- Offering of physical facilities (Meeting room) for use by the WMOs;
- Activation of Union Development and Coordination Committee (UDCC) and inclusion of WMO representatives;
- Mutual sharing of plans of UP and WMOs, make necessary adjustment and coordination of activities;

Following steps may be taken for capacity building of Union Parishad:

- Inclusion of UP representatives in Participatory Water Management, Environment, DRR and Gender training program;
- Facilitate for activation of Standing Committees, UDMC, UDCC;
- Facilitate to establish linkage with WMGs and Volunteer Groups;
- Facilitate for establishment of Union Agriculture Resource and Service Unit
- Facilitate/support for mutual experience sharing on successful initiatives;
- Highlighting of successful joint initiatives of WMOs and UPs in different forums and Networks;
- Facilitate to connect the interested UPs with different effective Networks;
- WMOs can support UP in planning and implementation of different schemes of UP as organized groups towards capacity building on citizen's engagement;

Appendix 4 Proceedings of Internal Meeting on Lessons Learned on ODK Usage of Blue Gold Baseline Survey

12 June 2014

Minutes prepared by: Nurur Rahman, M&E Officer, Khulna, Zakir Hossian, M&E Officer, Patuakhali

Introduction

It was decided to conduct an After Action Review with the Blue Gold Program Team Management, BWDB staff and the Baseline Survey Team from Mott MacDonald on 12 June 2014 to explore best practices and lessons learned from the first ODK instigated baseline survey.

The meeting brought together an experienced group of Baseline professionals from Mott MacDonald (who introduced the Open Data Kit (ODK) software to collect, collate and analysis baseline data) with considerable field experiences from both the Blue Gold fields of Khulna and Patuakhali where the Baseline Survey was conducted. The M&E team of Blue Gold organized and facilitated the meeting. The large numbers who turned up for the internal meeting is indicative of the real interest among baseline actors and others to document best practices, challenges and recommendations for future response.

The participation of the representatives from BWDB - Mr. Md. Abul Kausar Executive Engineer; Nasrin Akter Khan Sub-Divisional Engineer; Mr. Kamruzzaman Khan, Sub-Divisional Engineer; Mr. Shafiqul Islam, Assistant Chief; Mr. Md. Enamur Rahman, Chief Agronomist; and from DAE - Mr. Md. Humayun Kabir, Monitoring Officer; Mr. Md. Enayet Hossain, Production Economist to attend the *Internal Meeting on Lessons Learned on ODK Usage of Blue Gold Baseline Survey* was much appreciated. Their ideas and suggestions contributed positively to the meeting. We are encouraged by their suggestions and recommendations that they made and anticipated the results.

The participants were asked to think and speak as individuals rather than as representatives of their respective organizations. Consequently, no progress reports about the baseline activities were requested and the views captured in this report reflect the thoughts of individual participants, not their institutions. Instead, the participants were asked to pool their collective experiences to reflect on the impact of the baseline works and to provide some clarity, realism and focus to the international ODK communities' thinking and planning for the best practice of ODK usage in future.

These proceedings reflect the views of the participants and as far as possible endeavours will be made to address the outcomes in future baseline planning.

Purpose of the Meeting:

The purpose of the internal meeting on "Lessons Learned on ODK usage of Blue Gold Baseline Survey" was to obtain learning in order to more widely draw on and apply lessons to further enhance baseline and upcoming output and outcome monitoring operations by using ODK system. The specific objective of the internal meeting was to share experiences and identify the effectiveness and challenges of ODK usage in pooling baseline data as well as understanding the possibilities in collecting data for other purposes within the Blue Gold Program.

Discussion issues:

Discussant	Topic	Important Parts of Discussions
Dirk Smits, TL	Welcome and thanks	• Welcomed and thanked to all participants;

Discussant	Topic	Important Parts of Discussions
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appreciated to the baseline survey team to complete data collection of BGBS by using ODK software successfully; • This is very important to see the learning and recommendations from the meeting.
Shital Krishna Das, M&E Expert	Purpose of Blue Gold Program and Blue Gold baseline survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stated that the main purpose of the Blue Gold Program that is to eradicate poverty of the 150000 households; • The purpose of baseline survey is to provide in-depth information on the socio-economic situation of the target population at a certain point in time, he opined; • Explained the purpose of the baseline survey. It is to identify the baseline results of the Blue Gold Program; so that we could compare the differences (positive changes) and measure the successes at the end-line evaluation; • The baseline questionnaire was finalized by attempting quite a lot of revisions and finally we are satisfied that it covered all the aspects Blue Gold components;
Adeeb Chowdhury and Shaker Bin Shams	Brief introduction on ODK system and usage and baseline survey management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ODK saves time and additional manpower; • The manual process of data aggregation and analysis take 2 to 3 months whereas ODK requires 2 to 3 days only; • It has a very simple and user friendly characteristics; • ODK was introduced globally in the mid part of the year 2012; • In ODK system, the field data are accumulated in a web-server(a computer or computer based program that manages access to a centralized resource or service in a network); • Projected visuals of XLS form, coding systems of ODK build, GPS location view and procedures of ODK build format etc. on screen; • Organized 11 daylong training workshop on questionnaire and ODK; • Total sample size of Blue Gold Baseline Survey (BGBS) was 1400 households both for Khulna and Patuakhali; • Problems were solved immediately by discussing over mobile phone frequently with enumerators-supervisors-coordinators;
Enumerators	Challenges and opportunities of BGBS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We were worried earlier about the new technique, but after receiving training we are become familiar with the questionnaire, tablets and in collecting data for baseline survey through using tablets/ODK software; • There were few villages where road communication is not easy, but we tried to give our best to overcome those unavoidable difficulties; • The poor household members are daily laborer in maximum extent; hence they go out of their home in the very early morning. When we asked them for an appointment, they often requested to go in the morning time and we respected them by caring their

Discussant	Topic	Important Parts of Discussions
		<p>request accordingly;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Blue Gold field staffs (COs and FFSOs) were very helpful and encouraging and that helped us to make our whole task easy and more effortless; • Collecting information regarding field crops were tough by ensuring crop to crop detailed description;
Supervisors	Challenges and opportunities of BGBS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Blue Gold Program is very well known at the field level specially in Khulna and that was really very helpful for us; • The field situation is seemed one type from beyond and it is observed totally different type after arriving that field; • Unfortunately there were some dissimilarities with Household census report (that Blue Gold component 1 has been done in its working areas in 4 polders) and the reality. As example- A village that is mentioned in the census report, but in practical there is none in that name! Household head is a person who is mad, another one is under aged (child), the names and family titles of household headswere not matched in some extent as well; • There are still few scopes to modify the Blue Gold baseline questionnaire including some issues/variables based on Logical Framework for implementing further surveys in remaining polders;
Zakir Hossain Lucky, MEO Patuakhali	Share Experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No remarkable problems of ODK usage found as it was new and technology based data collection system; • This new technique of data collection will be supportive to all enumerators' future professional carrier; • This survey is not for a particular institution, this is for the Blue Gold Program; • MEOs visited survey field not to supervise them (enumerators), but to cooperate them.
Nurur Rahman, MEO, Khulna	Share Experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trainers and supervisors were successful regarding this issue (introducing questionnaire, tablets operation, and other technical terms of the questionnaire); • Training is a task of a special quality of people; in that point of view there were some limitations in conducting training sessions, but it was ten days training, hence lots of opportunities to practice and field test and field visits as well; • The baseline questionnaire were very fighting fit, organized, elaborated and covered all the aspects of Blue Gold Program; • When I tried to learn ODK, it was seemed not that complicated. It was just a 1-2 hour-long discussion with respective experts and afterwards started to build questionnaire for outcome mapping where I utilized the score sheets and completed successfully; and therefore, we may apply the ODK system for our other purposes also.

Discussant	Topic	Important Parts of Discussions
Dirk Smits, TL	Closing notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This ODK usage is quite new, therefore this experience will lead us for a better practice in our future work; • Preparing questionnaire that is related to the food security issues, always challenging; • Measuring impacts of a complex project like Blue Gold is not an easy task. The ODK system is certainly very helpful to capture the most important aspects of the project.

Questions and Answers:

1. Question

Md. Abul Kausar, XEN, BWDB: Is this a baseline survey for measuring socio-economic condition only or a baseline survey for Blue Gold Program as a whole? If so, the engineering issues that Component-2 comprises should be included in the questionnaire.

Answers/Opinions:

Mr. MM Khaleque, Survey Manager, BGBS: Last year crop-damage happened in different polders due to lack of technical opportunities and/or ineffectiveness of water management infrastructures that is related to component-2 of the Blue Gold Program, hence the technical issues as well as the engineering issues were important to incorporate in the Blue Gold baseline questionnaire.

M&E Expert: We'll try to incorporate this issue in the Blue Gold baseline questionnaire in future, but some variables were covered in the section C- Water of Blue Gold baseline questionnaire which are relevant to Component 2 activities.

Team Leader: Engineering issues are very technical and cannot be recognised by interviewing farmer households. An engineering survey is different in type and characteristics and is usually carried out by BWDB and Blue Gold Component-2 together.

2. Question

Dirk Smits-TL, Blue Gold: When baseline data collection is conducted by using paper-based/manual questionnaire, there are no technical hazards. On the other hand, ODK, as a technology based data collection system, what was the volume of technical hazards with this new system?

Adeeb Chowdhury, Survey Coordinator, BGBS:

We have replaced only 4 (four) numbers of tablets due to the technical problems out of 25 WALTON tablets. Considering all other technical problems, the total volume of technical hazards was more or less 15%. As we assumed and discussed earlier about this issue of technical hazards, we preferred and suggested to buy WALTON tablets, so that we can get after-sale services directly from the field (Khulna and Patuakhali) that will be helpful to take necessary technical services within an earliest moment from WALTON outlets at the local level. Other than this, there were no remarkable technical difficulties that we faced during the period of ODK usage.

3. Question

Ashraf Islam-DCL, Blue Gold Program: I'm afraid that either the household members provided the authentic data to the baseline survey enumerators or not?

Answers/Opinions:

Shaheen, Supervisor, BGBS: As the enumerators informed us several times during data collection that there were on-spot data verifying opportunity; when a stranger comes in rural area with a new technology (like the tablets) curiously other peoples (neighbours of the household) gather around to see what is happening. In this circumstance, if the household reluctantly or even willingly provides unauthentic information, very enthusiastically they (neighbours) try to make him/her correct.

4. Question

Hein Bijlmakers – CL, C-3, BlueGold: Is there any in-built opportunity in ODK software to analyse survey data?

Answers/Opinions:

Adeeb Chowdhury, Survey Coordinator, BGBS:

No, there is no such opportunity in ODK software to analyse baselinedata or any sort of collected field data. Open Data Kit (ODK) is just a free and open-source set of tools which help organizations, author, field, and manage mobile data collection solutions. ODK provides an out-of-the-box solution for users to:

- a. Build a data collection form or survey (XLSForm is recommended for larger forms);
- b. Collect the data on a mobile device and send it to a server; and
- c. Aggregate the collected data on a server and extract it in useful formats.

In addition to socio-economic and other surveys with GPS locations and images, ODK is being used to create decision support and for building multimedia-rich nature mapping tools.

5. Question

Shital Krishna Das-M&E Expert, Blue Gold: Did you (enumerators) experience complexities in using tablet to collect baseline data from the field?

Answers/Opinions:

Zahin- Enumerator, BGBS: At the initial stage specially in the period of field testing of the training; as we've seen the written/composed questionnaire in papers earlier that it was huge in size and characteristically complex; we were really anxious that how we shall operate it through using tablets practically in the field. But fortunately the ODK system was so easy and trouble-free that we enjoyed much the data collection phase by using tablets.

6. Question

Ashraful Islam-DCL, Blue Gold Program: During my presence in the training for enumerators to facilitate session on agricultural issues; I observed there were lots of confusions and clarifying questions on this particular subject from both the participants and supervisors. Did you (enumerators) experience problems during the time of data collection for BGBS?

Answers/Opinions:

Banani-Enumerator, BGBS: No problem we faced during data collection regarding agricultural issues. In a very few occasions there were questions appeared during data collection and solved them by instant discussion with the supervisors over mobile phone.

7. Question

John Marandy, DCL,C-1 Blue Gold: Do you have recommendations and/or observations regarding the census that we have conducted in polder areas? If yes, please provide us for our learning and taking decisions accordingly in further execution.

Answers/Opinions:

Adeeb Chowdhury, Survey Coordinator, BGBS: Yes, we have very particular observations on the census in accordance to its report that you have given us before starting survey and we'll provide you within a very earliest convenience.

Challenging Issues:

- ODK is newly introduced in collecting baseline data in Bangladesh; therefore it was previously untested and unpredictable in question of its quality and success;
- Unavailability of technical support in case of appearing mechanical problems in a specific device;
- Tablets recharging opportunity was limited due to unavailability of power in some particular and remote areas;
- After being a government approved and involved as a potential stakeholder of the project; no administrative reference and/or approval was in place for the enumerators during the survey time;
- Some of the selected villages are located in very remote areas where road and communication condition is terrible and no electricity available in those areas;
- Local transports are not available during coming back from the field;
- Normally the household heads/members are available either early in the morning or in/after the evening;
- The survey time was in a season when natural occurrences like rain, storm, attack of northwesterners etc. happen frequently.

Significant Learning and Recommendations:

- ODK is a time saving, minimum resource requiring data collection system that can be used in not only baseline purpose but also in other purposes as well, i.e. output and outcome monitoring, etc.;
- When manual data aggregation and analysis require 2 to 3 months, whereas ODK system requires only 2 to 3 days with a very minimum number of human resources;
- The paper questionnaire has a visible aspect that usually produces uneasiness among the interviewees, which may create negative impact on an interview when the volume questionnaire is huge in size. Whereas ODK all along invisible to interviewees that helps to keep them tolerant;
- With the assistance of meta-data (*a set of data that describes and gives information about other data*) we can see the start and end time of an interview, hence there is an opportunity of habitual and repeated monitoring in ODK system. If anyone in any stage wants to edit or make any change on filled BGBS questionnaire, automatically the questionnaire will show the time differences;
- In any case, the enumerators are forced to stop an interview in a mid-point of it, that can be resume in anytime in the next from the same point onward;
- A written reference from the concerned government officials is required before starting the baseline survey;

Conclusion:

Participants in the meeting found they agreed more often than they disagreed on the strengths and weaknesses characteristic of the ODK system and the baseline survey as well. In accordance with the participants' view, there are very strong opportunities to use ODK in Blue Gold Program's core activities, especially to collect output monitoring and outcome mapping data through using the ODK system because of its user friendly characteristics

The teams of Mott MacDonald and Blue Gold have been working together effectively on this first and innovative baseline survey. No disagreements over managerial or other implementing issues occurred and a broad consensus is emerging on the key issue, the "ODK USAGE". All practitioners know that good and reliable outcomes from collecting data from baseline surveys are crucial for future impact assessment. It is considered of the utmost importance that the practical experience of implementing baseline surveys will be shared with and extended to the BWDB and DAE teams working under the Blue Gold Program.

Component-3: Food Security and Agricultural Production

Training Course	Target Participants	Duration	# of Batches/ Participants	Apr-Jun 2014			Remarks
				01	02	03	
7.							
8.							
9.							

Appendix 5 Minutes of PMC meeting

Draft Minutes of the second meeting of Project Management Committee (PMC) regarding Blue Gold Program (BGP) held on 10 June 2014 in the conference room of Project Coordinating Director's (PCD) office (Planning-III, BWDB)

The second meeting of the Project Management Committee (PMC) of Blue Gold Program was held on 10 June 2014 at 12:30 PM in the conference room of Blue Gold Program office in Motijheel, Dhaka under the chair of Mr. Md. Masud Ahmed, Project Coordinating Director (PCD), Blue Gold Program in the presence of PMC members, BWDB officials and TA team. The list of participants is in Annex 'A'.

The Chairperson welcomed the participants at the outset of the meeting. He also requested the participants to introduce themselves. Then he invited the Team Leader to present the overall progress of the Blue Gold project activities and other important issues.

Mr. Dirk Smits, Team Leader of Blue Gold presented the following agenda:

- follow-up of the first PMC meeting
- Component- wise achievements
- MoUs with DLS, DoF and DoC and
- Participatory Water Management Rules 2014.

1. Follow-up on the last PMC meeting held on 27 January 2014

Fund transfer to DAE and BWDB from EKN was delayed due to procedural complications in the banking system, but finally solved.

Inception Report of Blue Gold Program has been approved by BWDB on 24 April 2014.

Revision of DPP of DAE is needed as the implementation areas of DAE and Blue Gold do not match, DAE is planning to work in 25 upazilas but Blue Gold will work in 10-12 upazilas and EKN insists that DAE activities are concentrated in the Blue Gold project areas. DAE agreed to revise the DPP and work for revision started in June 2014 with the assistance of one Blue Gold expert who has been placed in DAE Dhaka office.

Revision of the DPP of BWDB is also required as some items are not included in the present DPP. Revision of the DPP of BWDB is yet to be started.

2. Component wise achievements

Component-1: Household survey completed in 4 polders covering 30,000 households in 89 villages; 50 Community Organizers trained and deployed in 11 polders; Polder Development Plans (PDP) initiated in polder 22 and 43/2F, PDP for polder 22 is at final stage.

Component-2: Nine IPSWAM polders have already been included in the Blue Gold Program. Polder 26 was selected before start of Blue Gold. Two new polders (polders 31-part & polder 2) are selected and approved for inclusion. 57 LCSs (with 3,500 members) have been trained (jointly with Comp-1). Fund placement for Q 1+2 obtained late in May 2014 and therefore, earthwork as planned could not start in time. Moreover, promulgation of new PWM Rules 2014 further delayed the start of earthwork because of procedural complexities. First earth works (canals) by 6 LCSs are almost completed in polder 22. First earth work (embankments) by one contractor started in polder 30 but progress is very slow because of late start and inundation of borrow pits due to monsoon rain. One LCS started re-sectioning of embankment in polder 22 and Union Parishad is constructing brick soling road on this part of the embankment. Earthworks in re-sectioning of embankment just started in polders 43/2D & 43/2F in the first week of June but it's quite uncertain if LCSs can complete the work before the rainy season. BWDB as well as LCS did not dare to start earthwork in polder 43/2A so late. The start of earthwork in 4 IPSWAM fine-tuning polders under so many uncertainties was a real challenge.

Component-3: Season long ToT for FFS (DAE) for 25 AEOs plus 25 SAAOs on- going (to be completed in June 2014). First cycle FFS vegetables, poultry, nutrition (44 FFS) almost completed and second cycle started (44 FFS). On Farm Water Management (OFWM) pilot in polder 30 started with Component-1, Component-2 and IRRI and IWM.

Component-4: In-depth Value Chain Analysis will be undertaken for each polder (sesame in polder 22). Formulating PDP for polder 22 (almost completed) and polder 43/2F (started), drafting Mechanization Service Curriculum as WMO business opportunity using FAO agricultural equipment.

Environment: CEGIS contracted for EIA in five polders.

Climate Change/ DRR: Draft training program for DRR volunteers in WMO's prepared in cooperation with NGO Shushilan.

Gender: Main approach is gender mainstreaming in all project activities and achieving gender balance in Blue Gold field staff (COs and FOs).

Institutional: Cooperation between WMOs and Union Parishad started.

Monitoring and Evaluation: M&E Manual for outcome monitoring developed (Blue Gold Technical Report # 08), baseline survey fieldwork in 9 IPSWAM polders completed with Walton tablets and ODK software, Output monitoring formats developed and data collection started.

3. MoUs with DLS, DoF and DoC

MoU between BWDB and DLS has been signed but MoU between BWDB and DoF not yet. Dr. Sainar Alam, Assistant Director, DoF and member of PMC informed that the MoU will be signed soon. Signing of MoU between BWDB and DoC depends on division of tasks between Chief Water Management Office and DoC for supporting WMOs/cooperatives.

4. Participatory Water Management Rules 2014

The Team Leader highlighted the following aspects of the PWM Rules 2014:

- a) Applicable for all BWDB managed projects
- b) Registration of WMOs with BWDB Office of the Chief Water Management, three tiers of WMOs (WMO, WMA, WMF)
- c) in principle only 6 months to register (till 11 August 2014)
- d) Registration should not be exclusive
- e) Chief Water Management office lacks resources, By-laws not yet drafted – Blue Gold offered to assist
- f) Letter from Chief Water Management to DoC regarding cancellation of registration by DoC.

AOB

Mr. Mofazzal Ahmed, Deputy Component Leader, Component-2, informed the PMC about On-Farm Water Management (OFWM) and arrangement of early drainage in polder 30 to prevent damage of sesame. Due to insufficient drainage system farmers start cultivation of sesame 15 days to one month late and they suffer the consequences of damage of sesame crop by rain, as the rainy season starts before harvesting. The meeting agreed that emphasis should be given to OFWM and early drainage.

Mr. Dirk Smits mentioned that training on making business plans is needed for FAO Agri. machineries for effective utilization and sustainability. He also mentioned that 1,300 Households are covered by the baseline survey under M&E.

Dr. Sainer Alam, Assistant Director, DoF inquired about the extent of nutrition mentioned in the FFS and whether value chains will cover only crops or fish and livestock also? The Team Leader informed that it is mainly awareness raising on nutrition among the WMG members. The Project Coordinating Director, Blue Gold Program replied that value chains will cover fish and livestock also. The Team Leader informed that Component-3 focuses mainly on crops and SAFAL, another Netherlands supported project is concentrating on horticulture, dairy and aquaculture (shrimps).

Ms. Tahmina Begum, Deputy Director (Water Management) and Project Director, Blue Gold Program (DAE part) informed that 8 practices of FFS have already been completed, exploring possibilities of saline tolerant crops, cluster methods are followed by DAE, conducting different surveys. A complication is that DAE is working on basis of upazilas and Blue Gold is working on basis of polders. She also mentioned that the revision of DPP (DAE) is ongoing.

Md. Shahadat Hossain Masud, IMED representative said that Blue Gold Technical Reports should be forwarded to all PMC members. It was decided to share the soft copy of the technical reports with all the PMC members. In reply to another question the Team Leader informed that outcome mapping indicators are developed and included in the M&E manual; boundary partners (or stakeholders) are identified and progress markers have been drafted.

In reply to one query by Mr. Md. Faridul Islam, Senior Assistant Chief, Irrigation Wing, Planning Commission regarding approval of Planning Commission, PCD informed that after the next Review Mission due in August 2014 decision will be taken for approval of Planning Commission.

Chief Water Management informed the meeting that after cancellation of DoC registration, BWDB will register the WMOs. He also added that a 6 member committee (3 from BWDB and 3 from Blue Gold) will prepare the by-laws soon. Four extension officers each at Khulna and Barisal will be deployed to assist WMO registration and Deputy Chief Extension Officers (DCEOs) will register the WMGs. He also informed that he is expecting response on his letter to DoC shortly. BWDB needs detailed information of existing WMOs.

Vicki Pineda, Component Leader, Component-1, requested clear instructions on placement of staff and procedures for registration with copy to Blue Gold. The Chief Water Management assured that this will be done.

As there was no other agenda the Chair concluded the meeting and thanked all the participants for their contribution.

(Md. Masud Ahmed, P.Eng.)
PCD, Blue Gold Program
BWDB, Dhaka

Annex-A

Attendance Sheet

Second PMC Meeting of Blue Gold Program

Date: 10 June 2014

Venue: Conference Room of PCD of Blue Gold Program office, BWDB, Motijheel, Dhaka

Chaired by: Md. Masud Ahmed, PCD, Blue Gold Program

Sl.	Name	Designation	Organization	Contact Phone Number & E-mail Address
1	Mr. Dirk Smits,	Team Leader	Blue Gold Program	
2	Md. Aowlad Hossain	Institutional/Legal Advisor	Blue Gold Program	
3	Mr. Mofazzal Ahmed	Deputy Component Leader, Component-2	Blue Gold Program	01711660633
4	Mr. Md. Faridul Islam	Senior Assistant Chief	Planning Commission	01929205780

5	Dr. Alamgir Saiful Alam	Deputy Director, A.H & Admin-2	Department of Livestock Services	01712722840
6	Mr. Rathindra Nath Roy	Assistant Chief	Ministry of Water Resources	01723270216
7	Mr. Md. Enamur Rahman	Chief Agronomist, Planning-III	BWDB	01912710437
8	Dr. Md. Sainar Alam	Assistant Director	Department of Fisheries	01716730666
9	Ms. Victoria Pineda	Component Leader, Component-1	Blue Gold Program	
10	Mr. Shafiqul Islam		BWDB, Blue Gold Program	01916823589
11	Mr. Kamruzzaman Khan	Sub-Divisional Engineer	DP-III, BWDB, Blue Gold Program	01911907973, bwdb05.khan@gmail.com
12	Mr. Md. Abul Kausar	Executive Engineer	BWDB	01712962502, rumikausar1@yahoo.com
13	Ms. Tahmina Begum	Project Director, TTAP-BGP (DAE Component)	Department of Agriculture Extension	01716481517, kbtahmina@gmail.com
14	Mr. Md. Shahadat Hossain Masud	Assistant Director (Water)	IMED, Ministry of Planning	01670959125
15	Mr. Nasiruddin khan	Chief Water Management	BWDB	01819157404

Note: Followed the Registration Sheet of the PMC meeting

Version 10.07.2014

Appendix 6 Reports Overview

No.	Name	Date
IR	Final Inception Report	31 Mar, 2014
AR	Annual Plan 2014	06 Feb, 2014
Quarterly Progress Reports		
QPR 01, 2013	Progress Report 2013, Q2+Q3 (April – September 2013)	10 Dec, 2013
QPR 02-03, 2013	Progress Report 2013, Q4 (October – December 2013)	26 Feb, 2014
QPR 01, 2014	Progress Report 2014, Q1 (January – March 2014)	15 May, 2014
Technical Reports		
TR 01	Proceedings of the Workshop on Blue Gold Draft Inception Report Presentation, 26 June 2013	Sep, 2013
TR 02	Health & Safety Measures	18 Dec, 2013
TR 03	WMO Functionality Assessment in four polders	12 Dec, 2013
TR 04	Introduction to the M&E Manual	17 Dec, 2013
TR 05	Geo information for Blue Gold: Inventory of needs, data collection and roadmap for implementation	01 Dec, 2013
TR 06	Household Survey Report – Polder 22, 30, 43/2D and 43/2F	31Mar, 2013
TR 07	Field Trip Reports 2013	31 Mar, 2014
TR 08	Operational Manual for Output and Outcome Monitoring	April, 2014
TR 09	Water Management Organisations - Comparative Analysis	April, 2014
Workshop Reports		
	Orientation on Blue Gold Program for DAE Officials Khulna	16 Nov, 2013
Training Reports		
	Training of Trainers Course for FFS Organizers	02-14 Nov, 2013
Field Trip Reports, 2014		
FTR 01	C4 to Khulna	19-23 Jan, 2014
FTR 02	C3 to Khulna	20-23 Jan, 2014
FTR 03	C1 to Khulna	2-5 Feb, 2014
FTR 04	C4 to Patuakhali	26-30 Jan, 2014
FTR 05	C3 to Patuakhali	27-31 Jan, 2014
FTR 06	C1+C5 to Patuakhali	1-5 Feb, 2014
FTR 07	C5 to Patuakhali	10-13 Feb, 2014
FTR 08	C1 + C5 to Patuakhali	08-13 Feb, 2014

FTR 09	C1 + C2 + BWDB to Khulna and Patuakhali (TOT for LCS)	08-18 Feb, 2014
FTR 10	C1 + C2 LCS Training in Patuakhali	08-18 Feb, 2014
FTR 11	C4 to Khulna (assist BDCC and BDC, follow up C4 field activities)	09-13 Feb, 2014
FTR 12	C4 to Patuakhali (attend WMO meeting, meetings with DoC, visit private sector actors, attend staff development meeting)	09-14 Feb, 2014
FTR 13	C1 to Patuakhali (attend WMA meeting, election and bylaws and review completed functionality assessment)	24-28 Feb, 2014
FTR 14	C5 to Patuakhali (joint field visit with CUB to explore possible cooperation)	03-06 Mar, 2014
FTR 15	C4 to Khulna (conduct group meeting with farmer, meeting with different actors, visit DAE)	30 Mar – 3 April, 2014
FTR 16	C4 to Khulna (prepare training tool for training on value chain and mechanization)	18-24 April, 2014
FTR 17	C1 to Khulna (participate in monthly staff meeting and field visit to polder 29)	20-25 April, 2014
FTR 18	C4 to Barisal (Value chain and mechanization training to COs)	26-30 April, 2014
FTR 19	C1 to Patuakhali (follow up monthly progress, attend training on value chain)	27 April- 1May, 2014
FTR 20	C5 to Khulna (meeting with UP, actors mapping for DRR, test progress markers scoring sheet)	27 April- 1May, 2014