

# Blue Gold Program

## Water Management and Productive Sectors Innovation Funds

### Quarterly Progress Report: April – June 2017

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#### **Innovation Fund: Scope and Purpose**

The Blue Gold Innovation Fund is a tool created to accelerate the development process in the program area of the Blue Gold program, by financing innovative approaches and new initiatives to socio-economic development. Innovations submitted to the Blue Gold Innovation Fund are expected to contribute to the outcome / results of the Blue Gold program; the expected impact expected to be mostly locally or regionally centred.

In March 2017, as a result of revision to the overall TA budget, the Innovation Fund was restructured by EKN as follows:

1. Water Management Fund with a budget of € 1.4 million (focusing on water resources management)
2. Productive Sectors Fund with a budget of € 1.05 million (focusing on agricultural production and food security).

In addition, a fund of approximately € 1.4 million was transferred to the direct administration of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands (EKN), under the joint management of Deltares/ Institute of Water Modelling: Water Management Knowledge and Innovation Program (WMKIP).

The Innovation Fund is setup to utilize the establishment of linkages between Blue Gold and Bangladesh and Netherlands-based businesses / organisations. Contributions to innovation within Blue Gold may emerge from a wide variety of knowledge centres and enterprises, as long as the proposed activities fit within the framework of either the Water Management Fund or the Productive Sectors Fund. The Blue Gold Program will scan relevant institutions and enterprises for emerging opportunities in specific technical fields.

# 1. Introduction

This report provides quarterly updates showcasing the innovative approaches that have benefited, or will have a positive impact on, the lives of the people in the polders.

The Innovation Fund consists of a total budget of € 3.85 million, and has been divided into three separate funds: the Water Management Fund with a budget of € 1.4 million (focusing on water resources management), the Productive Sectors Fund with a budget of € 1.05 million (focusing on agricultural production and food security), and the fund for the Water Management Knowledge and Innovation Program of € 1.4 million.

Applications to the Innovation Fund follow two routes:

- (1) **Unsolicited proposals**, which have a budget ceiling of €50,000 and focus on smaller interventions such as feasibility studies or pilots.
- (2) **Solicited proposals**, which have a budget ceiling of up to €133,000 and are initiated by Blue Gold through an international call for proposals (tender), and have a separate TOR and guideline document that will be published together with the call for proposals;

This report provides an overview of the activities of the Blue Gold Innovation Fund in the quarter April to June 2017 including:

**Unsolicited Proposals:** Chapter 2 Activities in the quarter; Chapter 3 Projects under implementation; Chapter 4 Projects under review; Chapter 5 Projects under development; Chapter 6 Projects rejected; Chapter 7 Projects completed, and Chapter 8 Financial report.

**Solicited Proposals:** Chapter 9 Status of solicited proposals.

## Blue Gold Program Innovation Fund

### Overview of Innovation Fund Proposals – as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017

**Unsolicited Proposals** - The table below provides an overview of the numbers of applications in process:

<b>Projects under implementation</b> (Chapter 3)	<b>Proposals under review</b> (Chapter 4)	<b>Concept under development</b> (Chapter 5)	<b>Projects Rejected</b> (Chapter 6)	<b>Projects Completed</b> (Chapter 7)
<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Four new contracts signed in Q2</b>	<b>Five proposals being reviewed in Q2</b>	<b>Two new concepts received in Q2</b>	<b>Two proposals rejected in Q2</b>	<b>Three projects completed in Q2</b>

**Solicited Proposals** - The table below provides an overview of the progress with solicited proposals (tenders). Further details are provided in Chapter 9.

	<b>Planned Activities</b>	<b>Completion schedule</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
<b>1.</b>	Low cost embankment protection measures in tidal rivers	November 2019	As a result of joint EKN-BWDB-BGP-FRERMIP meetings in April 2017, a revised program has been proposed (see Chapter 8).
<b>2.</b>	Tender process on Improved Information in Agriculture	September 2019	Call for Proposals published on 10 <sup>th</sup> of June, 2017

## 2. Activities in Q2 2017

### **Roll-out of the marketing campaign of the Blue Gold Innovation Fund amongst SMEs in the Netherlands**

Since the roll-out of the Innovation Fund in 2015, the applications to the fund have been characterized by a relatively small participation of Netherlands based enterprises, with the majority of applications coming from Bangladesh-based enterprises. As the Innovation Fund is aimed at giving practical implementation to the 'Aid to Trade' policy of EKN in Bangladesh, a larger involvement of Dutch enterprises within the scope of the Innovation Fund is desirable. Not only for the development of Dutch business in Bangladesh, but also for the opportunities that this provides for collaboration between the Netherlands and Bangladesh.

The Innovation Fund offers favourable circumstances for Netherlands-based enterprises operating in the fields of water management and agriculture that are interested in expanding their operations to Bangladesh. In order to communicate these opportunities to Small and Medium Enterprises in the Netherlands, the Innovation Fund started a partnership with the **Dutch Network Group** (DNG) in March 2017. Together with DNG the Innovation Fund launched a marketing campaign, titled '*Ondernemen in Bangladesh*', using email, social media (LinkedIn, Twitter) and a website ([www.oibd.nl](http://www.oibd.nl)) to target SMEs and entrepreneurs from the Netherlands. The marketing campaign was launched on June 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 and will run till the end of September 2017. The campaign has three main objectives:

1. Create awareness amongst Dutch entrepreneurs in both the agriculture and water management sector, of the business opportunities that the Blue Gold Program area offers, and to motivate them to submit applications to the Blue Gold Innovation Fund
2. Enlist the Dutch agriculture- and water management- entrepreneurs to an information route to nurture them
3. Create engagement with the Dutch agriculture- and water management- entrepreneurs to enlist with the Blue Gold Program and inspire them to implement their business ideas in Bangladesh

The aim of the marketing campaign is to result into a total amount of 48,000 views, spreading awareness about the Blue Gold project and the Innovation Fund amongst entrepreneurs in the Netherlands, which should result in 15 – 20 feasibility study applications from Netherlands-based entrepreneurs to the Innovation Fund.

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The table below provides an overview of the results of the marketing campaign, as per 21 June 2017:

Website visit (number of sessions)		Total media outreach (number of individuals)	
Target: N/A	Actual: 469	Target: 48,000	Actual: 14,944

Mini course (number of registrations)		Feasibility study applicants (number of applicant)	
Target: 75	Actual: 29	Target: 20	Actual: 0

### Publication of first Innovation Fund project video

Broadcasting the activities of the Innovation Fund can stimulate adoption and replication, and even form the motivation for the development of new innovative approaches. In order to promote a wider dissemination of knowledge and lessons-learned, the Innovation Fund is currently developing project videos for all of the implemented innovation activities.

The project videos are produced by the implementing partners of the Innovation Fund and targeted towards people generally interested in development. These could be citizens from the Netherlands or Bangladesh, academicians, development practitioners, donors, government agencies or partner organizations. The project videos' primary focus is the innovation itself: how did the idea for the innovation come up, where and how has it been implemented, what went well and what went wrong during implementation, what are the lessons learned, and what kind of future is there for this innovation? The take-aways of the video are: (1) highlighting the spirit of innovation in development, (2) showcasing how innovation in development can benefit the local people, and (3) creating a sense that learning from innovation includes sharing mistakes and successes.

The Innovation Fund has published its first project video on the Blue Gold website. Produced by Practical Action, the video showcases the aqua-geoaponics project. The video can be viewed via <http://www.bluegoldbd.org/innovationfund/video/>.

### 3. Projects under implementation – Q2 2017

As of 30 June 2017, the Innovation Fund has 14 running projects, of which 4 have recently started and contracts signed in Q2-2017.

**Table 1 - Summary of projects under implementation as of 30 June 2017**

Contract code	Name of applicant	Proposal topic	Lead Unit	Fund type	Budget	Status	Contract signed	Contract Office	Amount paid	Amount Due
WU11-FHR	FHRC	Collective action for improved water management	SVC	Water Management Fund	€ 49,996	09 Nov 2016: Progress report Sept - Oct received 11 Nov 2016: comments TA-team on progress report shared 22 Dec 2016: second invoice received 08 Jan 2017: Progress report Nov - Dec received, PAPD report received 13 Feb 2017: Field visit TA-team to FHRC project site 13 Mar 2017: Progress report Jan-Feb received 17 Apr 2017: Project visit by TA-tea, 18 Apr 2017: Meeting on project progress 08 May 2017: Bi-monthly progress report received	YES	DHAKA	€ 44,152	€ 5,844
PU10-WFI	WorldFish	EcoPonds II and empowering of women	SVC	Productive Sector Fund	€ 50,000	25 Oct 2017: Addendum to contract signed 12 Nov 2017: Progress report Sep - Oct received 17 Nov 2017: field visit BG team to project site 06 Dec 2017: Observations project visit TA-team shared 02 Feb 2017: Meeting WF and TA-team on project progress 07 Mar 2017: Visit to WF project site by TA-team 31 Mar 2017: Project site visit by PCD 19 Apr 2017: Visit TA-team to project site 23 May 2017: WorldFish workshop in Khulna	YES	DHAKA	€ 12,500	€ 37,500

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PU13-WFI	<b>WorldFish</b>	Tilapia fish feed improvement	SVC	Productive Sector Fund	<b>€ 49,996</b>	<p>01 Sep 2016: First proposal received</p> <p>07 Sep 2016: Revised proposal + response WF received</p> <p>19 Sep 2017: Revised proposal received</p> <p>27 Oct 2017: Final proposal &amp; budget received</p> <p>30 Oct 2017: Draft contract approved</p> <p>22 Nov 2016: Presentation on proposal by WF in Khulna office</p> <p>01 Dec 2016: Contract signed</p> <p>06 Dec 2016: Trial ponds selected</p> <p>11 Dec 2017: Field visit report TA-team received</p> <p>23 Jan 2017: Project activities start with one month delay</p> <p>04 Feb 2017: Quarterly progress report received</p> <p>05 Mar 2017: Monthly progress report Feb received</p> <p>07 Mar 2017: Field visit TA-team to project site</p> <p>30 Mar 2017: Project Inception Meeting in Dumuria &amp; Batiaghat</p> <p>07 Apr 2017: Progress report March received</p> <p>23 May 2017: Meeting TA-team &amp; project on how to improve progress</p> <p>29 May 2017: 1st Quarterly progress report received</p> <p>04 Jun 2017: 2nd Quarterly progress report received</p> <p>05 Jun 2017: Progress report May received</p> <p>11 Jun 2017: Plan to increase field staff efficiency received</p>	YES	DHAKA	<b>€ 11,858</b>	<b>€ 38,138</b>
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PU14-SBY	<b>Social Business Youth Alliance</b>	Blue Gold Innovation Challenge	IF	Productive Sector Fund	<b>€ 39,435</b>	01 Sep 2016: Comments TA-team shared 18 Sep 2016: Additional comments TA-tea shared 22 Sep 2016: Revised proposal received 03 Nov 2016: Proposal approved 01 Dec 2016: Contract singend 18 Dec 2016: Launch event Dhaka 28 Jan 2017: Progress report received 20 Feb 2017: Patuakhali applicant selection 07 Mar 2017: Start enterprise development training Patuakhali 02 Apr 2017: Pitch day event Dhaka 05 Apr 2017: Review meeting on SBYA pitch event 23 May 2017: progress report received	YES	DHAKA	<b>€ 27,834</b>	<b>€ 11,601</b>
PU15-MAR	<b>MarGEn</b>	Natural Cold Storage	SVC	Productive Sector Fund	<b>€ 7,747</b>	18 Sep 2016: Comments TA-team shared 25 Sep 2016: Revised concept note received 17 Oct 2016: Comments DAE on concept note received 18 Oct 2016: Revised proposal received 31 Oct 2016: Meeting with TA-team to discuss propsoal 06 Nov 2016: Revised proposal recieved 10 Nov 2016: Final proposal received 4 Dec 2016: Final budget received 27 Dec 2016: Contract signed 15 Jan 2017: Inception report received 28 Jan 2017: Meeting with MarGen in Khulna office 28 Feb 2017: Field research data compilation received 21 Mar 2017: Draft feasibility study report received 20 Apr 2017: Final report received 18 May 2017: Approval of Final Report 29 May 2017: Additional comments of TA-team on final report 05 Jun 2017: Waiting for revised version of Final Report 19 Jun 2017: revised Final Report received	YES	DHAKA	<b>€ 5,810</b>	<b>€ 1,937</b>



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PU16-JFA	<b>Just Farming</b>	Mung Bean production Management	SVC	Productive Sector Fund	<b>€ 38,010</b>	<p>20 Sep 2016: concept note received</p> <p>30 Oct 2016: Meeting Just Farming to discuss concept note</p> <p>31 Oct 2016: Comments TA-team and notes meeting shared</p> <p>15 Nov 2016: Revised proposal received</p> <p>11 Dec 2016: Comments SVC-team shared</p> <p>15 Dec 2016: updated proposal received</p> <p>18 Dec 2016: Final proposal and final budget received</p> <p>26 Dec 2016: Draft contract shared</p> <p>27 Dec 2016: Contract signed</p> <p>16 Jan 2017: First invoice received</p> <p>13 Mar 2017: Progress report Jan - Feb recieved</p> <p>23 Mar 2017: Field visit TA-team + observations shared</p> <p>21 Mar 2017: Second invoice received</p> <p>24 Mar 2017: TA team shares recommendations for project</p> <p>28 Mar 2017: JF submits action plan for implementing TA-team recommendations</p> <p>10 May 2017: Progress report April received</p> <p>22 May 2017: Progress report March received</p> <p>04 Jun 2017: Update summary based on action plan</p> <p>30 Jun 2017: Draft final report received</p>	YES	DHAKA	<b>€ 22,806</b>	<b>€ 15,204</b>
PU17-MOR	<b>Moringa Ltd</b>	Moringa business market study	SVC	Productive Sector Fund	<b>€ 3,438</b>	<p>25 Sep 2016: New proposal and businessplan outline received</p> <p>28 Nov 2016: Revised proposal received</p> <p>30 Nov 2016: Revised proposal approved</p> <p>25 Jan 2017: Final proposal received</p> <p>28 Feb 2017: Contract signed</p> <p>03 May 2017: Request for executive summary sent</p> <p>30 May 2017: Project status request sent</p> <p>06 Jun 2017: Request for executive summary sent</p> <p>11 Jun 2017: progress report received</p> <p>29 Jun 2017: draft final reported expected</p>	YES	DHAKA	<b>€ 1,703</b>	<b>€ 1,735</b>

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PU18-ASP	<b>Aspire</b>	Insect Fish Feed	Agri	Productive Sector Fund	<b>€ 8,000</b>	03 Oct 2016: Concept note received 08 Oct 2016: Revised concept note received 7 Nov 2016: Revised concept note received 24 Nov 2016: Meeting BG office 15 Dec 2016: Proposal for feasibility study received 25 Dec 2016: Comments TA-team shared 07 Mar 2017: Final proposal received 20 Mar 2017: Contract signed 16 May 2017: Field visit report received 27 May 2017: Research proposal received 29 Jun 2017: Request for no costs extension up to 31 July	YES	DHAKA	<b>€ 2,000</b>	<b>€ 6,000</b>
PU19-UPU	<b>United Purpose</b>	Women Business Centers	SVC	Productive Sector Fund	<b>€ 25,000</b>	10 Oct 2016: Meeting at UP office 19 Oct 2016: Visit to WBC in Batiaghata 14 Nov 2016: field visit to UP in Khulna 09 Mar 2017: Final proposal received 21 Mar 2017: Contract signed 22 Mar 2017: Promotional leaflet UP project received 13 June 2017: first monthly progress report received and approved	YES	DHAKA	<b>€ 8,750</b>	<b>€ 16,250</b>
PS20-DNG	<b>Dutch Network Group</b>	Marketing campaign BG IF	IF		<b>€ 15,450</b>	30 Jan 2017: First discussion on BG promotional campaign 15 Mar 2017: Final ToR of DNG received 28 Mar 2017: Contract DNG signed 26 Apr 2017: First Skype call 08 Jun 2017: Website launched 09 Jun 2017: Start of online campaign 10 Jun 2017: First monthly progress report 21 Jun 2017: Skype call to review progress	YES	ARNHEM	<b>€ 13,086</b>	<b>€ 2,364</b>

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PU21-PRO	<b>ProPortion Inc &amp; Grameen Intel</b>	Soil testing kits	SVC	Productive Sector Fund	<b>€ 25,000</b>	05 Sep 2016: Meeting at BG office 23 Oct 2016: Revised proposal received 26 Oct 2016: Comments TA-team shared 23 Dec 2016: Introduced ProPortion Foundation as support for proposal development 12 Mar 2017: Proposal received with ProPortion as lead 16 Mar 2017: Comments TA-team shared 21 Mar 2017: Revised proposal received 11 Apr 2017: Final proposal received 13 Apr 2017: Contract signed 1 Jul 2017: First monthly progress report received	YES	DHAKA	<b>€ 6,250</b>	<b>€ 18,750</b>
WU23-DEL	<b>Deltares</b>	Pump drainage Polder 2	WRM	Water Management Fund	<b>€ 49,882</b>	30 Apr 2017: Contract signed 6-15 May 2017: Field mission in polder 2	NO	ARNHEM	<b>€ -</b>	<b>€ 49,882</b>
PU24-BAU	<b>BAU Germ Plasm Center</b>	Action Research on Fruits and Vegetables	Agri	Productive Sector Fund	<b>€ 48,194</b>	01 Mar 2017: Initial project proposal received 22 Mar 2017: Initial proposal shared with DAE 27 Mar 2017: TL shares comments on proposal with BAU 12 Apr 2017: Revised proposal received 26 Apr 2017: Revised proposal received 02 May 2017: Revised proposal received 17 May 2017: Contract signed	YES	DHAKA	<b>€ 12,049</b>	<b>€ 36,146</b>
PU25-AUG	<b>AU Gazipur</b>	Aquaculture intervention in seasonal waterlogged areas	Agri	Productive Sector Fund	<b>€ 49,972</b>	07 May 2017: Concept note received 20 May 2017: Revised proposal received 28 May 2017: Revised budget received 01 Jun 2017: Contract signed	YES	DHAKA	<b>€ 24,646</b>	<b>€ 25,326</b>

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### Projects started in Q2-2017:

#### **ProPortion Inc & Grameen Intel – ICT-based agriculture advisory services**

Small holder farmers in the Southern delta regions of Bangladesh who are solely dependent on agricultural income often suffer from low and/or loss of income from their crop yields. This is mainly attributed to lack of appropriate knowledge; information, expertise and tools that can help them increase their agricultural yield and income. To this extent Grameen Intel has developed a portfolio of 4 ICT based agricultural services (4 type of expert services) that they wish to market to farmers in the Blue Gold Program area. Together with ProPortion, Grameen Intel will conduct a feasibility study to develop a self-sustainable service and business model for the ICT-based agriculture advisory service, with an intention to help them improve their farming productivity & profitability.

#### **Deltares pumped drainage facility of Polder 2**

A broader study of the potential for pumped drainage for waterlogging areas in Polder 2 will consider economics, design and operations. The TA-team aims for the feasibility study to be followed by an action-research pilot within a suitable WMA catchment (or sub-catchment) to demonstrate the benefits of pumped drainage along with an “improved” cropping pattern – similar to one of Blue Gold’s community-led agricultural water management (CAWM) schemes. In the interests of ensuring the active participation of the community in the continuation of the pilot, the pump station financed by the grant of the Innovation Fund would be auctioned off to the highest bidder at the end of the action-research.

The TA-team has requested Deltares to take the lead in designing the feasibility study on pumped drainage in Polder 2, with possible inclusion of experts from the Wageningen University (WUR), IWM and CEGIS. Deltares had been requested to recommend and prepare a technical and financial proposal for an action research program for a pumped drainage CAWM at one or two locations to demonstrate the benefits of pumped drainage and a cropping pattern to maximise returns.

After the initial submission of Deltares’ feasibility study proposal, it was agreed that the first phase of the feasibility study on Pumped Drainage in Polder 2 would be funded under the *unsolicited proposals* category of the Innovation Fund. Deltares followed-up by splitting the original feasibility study in two, and has submitted Phase I of the study for consideration. Phase II will comprise an action research component.

#### **Bangladesh Agriculture University – research on fruits and vegetables**

Nutritional food deficiency is a common problem in Southern Bangladesh. About 30% of the population suffers from shortage of nutritional food. As fruits and vegetables are rich source of vitamins and minerals, they are not readily available in Southern Bangladesh, especially during the ‘lean season’<sup>1</sup>, in which the production of rice is preferred over producing fruits and vegetables. This limited availability can lead to deficiency of nutritional food, which can have serious consequences for the local population (especially rural population).

The Bangladesh Agriculture University (BAU) has observed that many of the vegetable and fruit species varieties that are available in Bangladesh are underutilized by farmers, although they have good potential in the polders of the Blue Gold Program. In this proposal BAU will work directly

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<sup>1</sup> The ‘lean season’ in Bangladesh is the pre-summer period (April-May) and post-summer period (August-November)

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with farmers, testing new crops and varieties (both vegetables and fruit trees) in their homestead to simultaneously assess the agronomic potential as well as the acceptability of unknown crops/varieties under a range of conditions. The focus lies on underutilized fruits and vegetables with a potential to provide produce in the lean-season.

Most of these activities will be carried out during the first year of the project. However, while the vegetables (and some fruits) have a short growing season, most of the fruit trees in this research require a longer period to be evaluated. The involvement of BAU staff to monitor progress and report results was therefore spread out over a period of 3 years, with a final report to be prepared in end 2019.

### **Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Agriculture University**

Fisheries not only provides food security and generates more foreign exchange earnings than the revenues earned from any other traded food commodity in Bangladesh, but is also an important source of livelihood. Although the aquaculture sector in Bangladesh has been growing at a steady pace, there remains potential to expand the existing fish production by utilizing Bangladesh' vast perennial and seasonal water resources.

Large areas of Polder 2 remain flooded for a prolonged period of the year, largely because gravity drainage from the polder into surrounding rivers is not possible. In these waterlogged areas agriculture is the hardest hit and this in turn has a serious impact upon the lives of the farming population. Although the waterlogged areas are considered a threat to the agriculture, they offer an unrealized potential for use in aquaculture.

The Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Agriculture University has submitted a pilot proposal to test if these seasonal stagnant waters can be productively used for food production and livelihood improvement of the farming communities in the polder areas of the Blue Gold Program by introducing fish polyculture (with tilapia)

## 4. Projects under review

As of 30 June 2017, there are 2 projects pending for contract signature, and 5 are under review by the TA-team.

**Table 2 - Summary of projects under review as of 30 June 2017**

Date received	Name of applicant	Proposal topic	Lead Unit	Fund type	Budget	Status	Details
16/06/2015	<b>BARI</b>	Hydroponics	Agri	Productive Sector Fund	€ 20,333	23 Dec 2015: email to DG BARI requesting concurrence and signature on MoU 17 Jan 2016: follow-up email to DG BARI 2 Mar 2016: visit to BARI headquarters 31 Aug 2016 BARI accepts proposal to sign MoU with BGP	Project implementation halted by BARI until MoU is signed. Awaiting opportunity to sign the MoU with the BARI Director of Training
20/07/2016	<b>BARI</b>	Irrigation technology	Agri	Productive Sector Fund	€ 44,374	07 Sep 2016: comments TA-team shared 24 Sep 2016: Revised proposal received 09 Oct 2016: Comments TA-team shared 10 Oct 2016: Revised proposal received 18 Oct 2016: Started drafting of contract	Project implementation halted by BARI until MoU is signed. Awaiting opportunity to sign the MoU with the BARI Director of Training
30/05/2017	<b>Practical Action</b>	Scale-up of aqua geponics	SVC	Productive Sector Fund	€ 25,000	30 May 2017: Scale-up proposal received 18 Jun 2017: Request for more information on similar scale-up project financed by another donor	Awaiting comments of TA-team on proposal feasibility
31/05/2017	<b>United Purpose</b>	Sustainable Water management through Indigenous Finance and Technology	WRM	Water Management Fund	€ 25,000	31 May 2017: Concept note received 15 Jun 2017: Comments TA-team shared 22 Jun 2017: Proposal received	Putting comments of TA-team on proposal feasibility together (positive assessment)

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11/06/2017	<b>mPower</b>	Shurokkha' livestock service delivery	SVC	Productive Sector Fund	€ 25,000	11 Jun 2017: Concept note for feasibility study received 19 Jun 2017: Comments TA-team shared 23 Jun 2017: Revised concept note/proposal received	Awaiting comments of TA-team on proposal feasibility
19/06/2017	<b>CDR International</b>	MAR upscale for agriculture irrigation	WRM	Water Management Fund	€ 25,000	19 June 2017: Concept note received	Awaiting comments of TA-team on proposal feasibility
22/06/2017	<b>Prottyon</b>	Strengthening resilient agriculture and diversified livelihoods for enhancing food security	SVC	Productive Sector Fund	€ -	22 Jun 2017: Concept note received	Awaiting comments of TA-team

### Proposals newly received and under review during Q2-2017:

- **Practical Action:** a proposal to upscale the previously implemented aqua-geoponics pilot project.
- **United Purpose:** a proposal to facilitate sustainable water management with the help of financial training and new technology.
- **mPower:** a proposal for a market assessment around digital livestock advisory services.
- **CDR International:** a proposal for Managed Aquifer Recharge for the improvement of fresh water access of small communities for agricultural irrigation and drinking water supply in the Khulna District, Bangladesh.
- **Prottyon:** a proposal for strengthening resilient agriculture and diversified livelihoods through three less common agri/irrigation-practices in the coastal belt of Bangladesh.

The feasibility study proposal of **ProPortion Inc** and **Grameen Intel**, under review during Q1 of 2017, moved to the implementation stage in Q2. More information on this project can be found under Chapter 3.

## 5. Projects under Development

The Innovation Fund has 15 different concept notes and proposals under development as of 30 June 2017. These consist of ideas for projects that were sent to the TA-team of Blue Gold for review and feedback purposes. The ones that are pending since 2016 can be considered as not viable. The TA team has sent clear feedback to the applicants on the received concept notes/proposals, but the applicants do not seem to be interested to pursue their opportunities (even after several email reminders). This leaves us with about 5 organisations, as of 30 June 2017, who are keen to improve their concept notes/proposals to safeguard funding through BGIF. Two proposal applications, which are in the process of further development, are very recent.

**Table 3 - Summary of projects under development as of 30 June 2017**

Date received	Name of applicant	Proposal topic	Lead Unit	Fund type	Budget	Status	Details
04/04/2016	<b>Classical Handmade Products</b>	Handicraft production Sathkira	SVC	Productive Sector Fund	€ 21,490	4 April 2016: Concept note/ proposal received 3 Oct 2016: Proposal on hold as many staff have left CHP 11 Nov 2016: Revised proposal received 8 Dec 2016: Comments TA-team shared	Awaiting revised proposal
02/06/2016	<b>Center for River, Harbor &amp; Landslide Research</b>	Climate based adaption against riverbank failure		Water Management Fund	€ -	02 Jun 2016: Concept note received 06 Jun 2016: Comments TA-team shared 24 Aug 2016: Follow-up email on status of proposal	Waiting for proposal
09/06/2016	<b>Urban Wetlands</b>	Floating Units for Sustainable Water treatment and Agriculture		Productive Sector Fund	€ -	16 May 2016: Visit to BG office 2 Jun 2016: Comments TA-team shared 9 Jun 2016: Concept note received 3 Aug 2016: Revised concept note received 4 Aug 2016: Comments TA-team shared	Waiting for proposal
14/07/2016	<b>Multisourcing</b>	Digital Farmer Field Schools	SVC	Productive Sector Fund	€ 25,000	5 Oct 2016: Concept note received 10 Oct 2016: Comments TA-team shared 13 Nov 2016: Revised proposal received 4 Dec 2016: Meeting at BG office 18 Dec 2016: Updated proposal received 29 Dec 2016: Comments TA-team shared 19 Jan 2017: Revised proposal received 08 Feb 2017: Comments TA-team shared 22 Feb 2017: Meeting with applicant at BG office	Awaiting revised proposal



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20/07/2016	<b>SPS</b>	Non-electric fridge		Productive Sector Fund	€ 25,000	18 Sep 2016: Feedback TA-team shared, invited for a meeting at BG office 8 Oct 2016: Meeting BG office 24 Oct 2016: Revised proposal received 30 Oct 2016: Comments TA-team shared 7 Nov 2016: Revised proposal received 10 Nov 2016: TA-team recommends external support for proposal development	Waiting for proposal
14/08/2016	<b>BAU</b>	Turkey Rearing		Productive Sector Fund	€ 25,000	9 Dec 2016: Revised concept note received 25 Dec 2016: Comments TA-team shared	Waiting for proposal
08/09/2016	<b>North South Univrsity</b>	Application of hybrid dryer for agriculture purposes		Productive Sector Fund	€ -	09 Oct 2016: Concept note received 8 Nov 2016: Comments TA-team shared	Waiting for proposal
25/09/2016	<b>Errorlab</b>	Automatic solar irrigation system	Agri	Productive Sector Fund	€ 25,000	25 Sep 2016: Concept note received 24 Oct 2016: Meeting BG office 5 Nov 2016: Draft business model received 28 Nov 2016: Draft proposal received 11 Dec 2016: Comments TA-team shared 28 Jan 2017: Revised proposal received 28 Feb 2017: Updated proposal received 15 Mar 2017: Revised proposal received 30 Mar 2017: Revised proposal received	Awaiting revised proposal
05/10/2016	<b>Lalteer</b>	Off-season vegetable production	SVC	Productive Sector Fund	€ 117,000	5 Oct 2016: Concept note received 10 Oct 2016: Comments TA-team shared 22 Dec 2016: Draft proposal received 19 Jan 2017: Comments TA-team shared 02 Mar 2017: Email from Lalteer received as response	Awaiting revised proposal
20/12/2016	<b>FlexBase</b>	Floating Agriculture		Productive Sector Fund	€ -	20 Jan 2017: Revised concept note received 20 Feb 2017: Meeting in BG office 17 Mar 2017: Renewed concept note received from WUR 31 Mar 2017: Revised concept note received from WUR 06 Apr 2017: Comments shared on revised concept note	Waiting for proposal
11/01/2017	<b>Kaizen CR</b>	Digital Marketplace		Productive Sector Fund	€ -	11 Jan 2017: Concept note received 17 Jan 2017: Meeting at BG office & comments TA-team shared	Waiting for proposal

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31/01/2017	<b>LCP</b>	Farmer Market Place	SVC	Productive Sector Fund	€ 25,000	31 Jan 2017: Concept note received 23 Mar 2017: LCP discusses concept with Khulna office 23 Apr 2017: Field visit to Khulna polders for interviews and location selection 31 May 2017: Presentation LCP findings & concept at BG office	Waiting for proposal
06/03/2017	<b>Aid Environment</b>	Feasibility study on enhancing water availability	WRM	Water Management Fund	€ 25,000	06 Mar 2017: Concept note received 01 May 2017: Proposal received 29 May 2017: Comments TA-team shared	Awaiting revised proposal
25/05.2017	<b>BOP Inc</b>	VR in training		Productive Sector Fund	€ -	25 May 2017: Concept note received 30 May 2017: Initial comments shared	Waiting for proposal
21/05/2017	<b>SHARE Bangladesh</b>	Women Empowerment in Agriculture		Productive Sector Fund	€ -	21 May 2017: Concept note received 08 Jun 2017: Comments TA-team shared 22 June 2017: Request for field visit with TA gender specialist	Waiting for revised concept note

### Newest proposals submitted during Q2-2017 and under development for improvements:

#### **BoP Inc: using virtual reality for training purposes**

BoP Innovation Center has been piloting the use of Virtual Reality in workshops. More than paper case studies, training materials or workshops, VR will allow people to look around in a different household or village and experience how things are done differently (as proven by different studies from Stanford). BoP believes this has major implications for how you can encourage horizontal learning within projects, and is working on the development of a concept note for the Blue Gold Program.

#### **SHARE Bangladesh: stimulating women empowerment in agriculture**

SHARE Bangladesh is developing a concept note with a focus on the role that women can play in agriculture. As the Blue Gold Program stimulates the creation of women producer groups, female input suppliers, female *paikers* (agents) and women collection centers, SHARE has indicated that Polder 29 would be a good location for trying these new activities as the women there are very advanced. Field visits will be undertaken in July/Augustus.

## 6. Projects rejected

The Innovation Fund has 18 rejected proposals as of 30 June 2017. Two projects have been rejected in Q2-2017.

**Table 4 - Summary of rejected projects as of 30 June 2017**

Date received	Name of applicant	Proposal topic	Lead Unit	Fund type	Budget	Status	Details	Amount paid
08/03/2015	<b>Acacia Water</b>	Feasibility study Managed Aquifer Recharge for Agriculture	C2	Productive Sector Fund	€ 5,000		Both the EKN and the BG IF found that the commercial viability of using water for irrigation during the dry season is not sufficiently proven.	€ 5,000
24/03/2015	<b>EcoStories</b>	Improved Cooking Stoves	C5	Productive Sector Fund	€ 30,500		After 5 months of inactivity from the applicant the BG IF decided to reject the proposal.	€ -
22/06/2015	<b>Winning Agro</b>	TA on calf rearing and product placement	C4	Productive Sector Fund	€ -		WinningAgro did not see a possibility to introduce their livestock feed product without the BG IF directly subsidizing the price of the product. Therefore the BG IF rejected the proposal.	€ -
22/07/2015	<b>Twijnstra Gudde</b>	Study wind and tidal energy	C2 + C5	Water Management Fund	€ 125,000		The TG proposal does not fit within the funding structure of the BG IF. The proposal focuses on research only and has a budget of €125,000.	€ -
17/09/2015	<b>MetaMeta</b>	Biological rodent control	C2	Water Management Fund	€ 84,500		As the Blue Gold polders are not experiencing any hindrance from rodents the BG IF declines the proposal for biological rodent control.	€ -
03/12/2015	<b>Matrix Consultancy</b>	Strengthening cattle supply chain	C3	Productive Sector Fund	€ 50,000		No follow up on meeting, no response. Proposal is removed from application status	€ -
01/03/2016	<b>Patuakhali University</b>	Carp & Tilapia hatchery	C3 + C4	Productive Sector Fund	€ 50,000		No follow up on meeting, no response. Proposal is removed from application status	€ -

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21/03/2016	<b>Practical Action</b>	Crab market study	C3 + C4	Productive Sector Fund	€ 24,963		The TA-team is of the opinion that there is currently no scope for commercial & sustainable crab production inside the BG program area.	€ -
07/05/2016	<b>Dutch Water Partners</b>	Feasibility study on commercial water filtration	C2	Productive Sector Fund	€ 25,000		EKN not convinced that proposal offers or promises anything very different from what other similar studies/projects (Sujol, MAR, etc.) have offered/tried out – and which did not, thus far, yielded any sustainable successes in terms of introducing sustainable models for commercial water vending (i.e. others than already exist local).	€ -
10/02/2016	<b>Bangladesh Bondhu Foundation (part of GIZ)</b>	Collaboration on improved cookstove dissemination	C5	Productive Sector Fund	€ 21,175		Applicant is not willing to revise proposal according to comments of the BG TA-team. Applicant refuses to include a detailed description of the implementation area in the proposal. As applicant shows no willingness to revise proposal, it was decided to halt the collaboration	€ -
23/12/2015	<b>Witteveen &amp; Bos</b>	Scoping mission on small scale dredging	C2	Water Management Fund	-	15 Sep 2016: No follow up, no response. Proposal is removed from application status	With the launch of the BG tender on small scale dredging there is no direct need for a separate study on SSD	€ -
24/09/2016	<b>JADE</b>	Study on sheep rearing feasibility in BGP			€ 23,000	24 Sep 2016: Proposal received 10 Oct 2016: Comments TA-team shared	Proposal rejected, as there is no clear innovative aspect to the study proposal	€ -
25/09/2016	<b>BASD</b>	Women Empowerment – Fostering Entrepreneurship of Organic Vegetables and Fish			€ -	25 Sep 2016: Concept note received 02 Oct 2016: Comments TA-team shared. Concept note rejected	Concept rejected. The CN does not convince about any innovative nature of this project (and no research either); the project seems to overlap too much with our own vegetable and fish FFS activities; and the proposed action is too vaguely described.	€ -
23/09/2016	<b>Wageningen University</b>	Information service for water logging			€ 24,500	23 Sep 2016: Proposal received 03 Nov 2016: Comments TA-team shared. Concept note rejected	The TA-team feels that the proposal of Wageningen University is too close to the Deltares proposal. Additionally, the TA-team feels that the proposal misses the connection with the needs of the BG farmers and the needs of the Bangladesh Water Development Board.	€ -

## Blue Gold Program Innovation Fund

10/06/2016	<b>Next Billion</b>	Mobile movies Blue Gold platform	C4	Productive Sector Fund	€ 25,000	08 Sept 2016: Skype call on proposal development NB 10 Oct 2016: Skype call Next Billion 3 Nov 2016: Next Billion informs that PROOFS is not onboard for proposal 12 Nov 2016: TL decides that remaining working modality with Next Billion is not feasible for BGP	The Next Billion modality focused on utilizing the PROOFS video ladies inside the BGP area. However, PROOFS did not agree to operate under the ToR setup by BGP. The alternative option was to train BG staff and beneficiaries to do video promotion themselves, but this was deemed unfavorable as it does not match with the core priorities of the BGP.	€ -
03/10/2016	<b>LCP</b>	Potato processing in BG polders	SVC	Productive Sector Fund	€ 11,216	03 Oct 2016: Concept note received 05 Oct 2016: Comments TA-team shared 14 Oct 2016: Revised concept note received 1 Nov 2016: Proposal received 5 Dec 2016: Meeting with LCP to discuss proposal 8 Dec 2016: Revised proposal received 28 Jan 2017: Proposal rejected	Proposal deemed unfeasible due to lack of potato production in the BG polders.	€ -
12/03/2017	<b>Nice Foundation</b>	Developing pig-mear value chain	SVC	Productive Sector Fund	€ 25,000	12 Mar 2017: Concept note received 19 Mar 2017: Meeting at BG office 08 Apr 2017: Revised concept noe 18 May 2017: Revised concept note received 03 Jun 2017: Meeting at BG office 08 Jun 2017: Revised concept note received 11 Jun 2017: Meeting at Blue Gold office 18 Jun 2017" Scale-up proposal rejected	The TA-team concludes that there is currently no scope for a scale-up of the production of pig-meat to a commercial level, be it local or regional. The TA-team believes that it is currently still too early to undertake such scale-up activities, as a solid basis for pig-rearing in the Blue Gold polders, amongst the Blue Gold farmers, has not yet been established.	€ -

## Blue Gold Program Innovation Fund

03/06/2017	<b>Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University</b>	Water fowl (ducks) for food and nutrition security and income generation	SVC	Productive Sector Fund	€ 25,000	3 June 2017: Proposal received 15 June 2017: Comments TA-team shared	The TA team concludes that the proposal topic (duck rearing) and proposed activities are very much similar to the work that the Blue Gold program is implementing through its poultry FFS. In these activities the Blue Gold Program follows the same extension method to increase local poultry production. Therefore the activities mentioned in the proposal do not qualify as 'innovative'.	€ -
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### Rejected Proposals during Q2-2017

#### Nice Foundation proposal for developing pig-meat value chain rejected

This was a proposal to scale-up the previous pilot project of Nice Foundation on hygienic pig rearing. Having provided extensive support in the development of the scale-up proposal, when reviewing the final proposal, the TA-team concluded that there is currently no scope for a scale-up of the current production of pig-meat to a commercial level, be it local or regional. The TA-team rationalized that it is currently still too early to undertake such scale-up activities, as a solid basis for pig-rearing in the Blue Gold polders, amongst the Blue Gold farmers, has not yet been established.

#### Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University rejected

The TA team concludes that the proposal topic (duck rearing) and proposed activities are very much similar to the work that the Blue Gold program is implementing through its poultry FFS. In these activities, the Blue Gold Program follows the same extension method to increase local poultry production. Therefore, the activities mentioned in the proposal do not qualify as 'innovative'. The involved professor has submitted already three times earlier a similar proposal, but did not demonstrate any understanding of the importance of introducing and testing new practices or approaches.

## 7. Projects completed

The Innovation Fund has 12 completed projects at the moment. During Q2-2017 three projects were completed.

**Table 5 - Summary of completed projects as of 30 June 2017**

Date received	Name of applicant	Proposal topic	Lead Unit	Fund type	Budget	Status	Date Contract Awarded	Contract office	Payment Details
01/04/2014	<b>WorldFish</b>	Women-managed small household ponds (SHHP)	C3	Productive Sector Fund	€ 45,000	05 Apr 2014: Start of project 08 Mar 2015: No cost extension June 2015 18 Jun 2015: No cost extension Dec 2015 28 Dec 2015: Final report received	05/04/2015	DHAKA	COMPLETE
01/05/2014	<b>Neelen en Schuurmans</b>	Development of web-based GIS information platform	C2	Water Management Fund	€ 48,000	01 May 2014: Start of project 22 Aug 2015: Training mission BG staff completed 03 Sep 2015: Final report received	21/05/2014	ARNHEM / DHAKA	COMPLETE
01/07/2014	<b>IMARES</b>	Pearl cultivation	C4	Water Management Fund	€ 10,000	01 Jul 2014: Start of desk study 01 Jan 2015: Final report received	01/07/2014	ARNHEM	COMPLETE
16/02/2015	<b>Deltares &amp; IWM</b>	Study of Riverbank Erosion management	WRM	Water Management Fund	€ 47,700	16 Feb 2015: Contract signed with IWM 7 Dec 2015: Contract signed with Deltares	16/02/2015	ARNHEM	COMPLETE
11/03/2015	<b>DWA - YEP</b>	YEP consultant via DWA Rijnland	C2	-	€ -	11 Feb 2015: Start of YEP recruitment procedure 09 Sep 2015: Contract signed with DWA 17 Sep 2015: Start date Ruud Leibbrand	NA	-	Value of BG contribution to YEP is € 34,510. This is funded outside of the IF

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10/04/2015	<b>GreyShack</b>	Scoping study on energy use in BG area	C5	Productive Sector Fund	€ 7,316	25 Aug 2015: Start project 11 Dec 2015: Initial study report received 14 Jan 2016: Workshop and discussion on report conclusions 25 Feb 2016: Received the revised final report	11/08/2015	DHAKA	COMPLETE
16/03/2015	<b>NICE Foundation</b>	Kawra pig rearing Khulna	C3	Productive Sector Fund	€ 49,967	1 Aug 2015: Project started 13 Aug 2015: Inception workshop 11 Nov 2015: Quarterly report 18 Nov 2015: Visit by FP DLS (Lutfur Rahman) 22-27 Dec 2015: Knowledge-sharing visit to Vietnam 31 Jan 2016: Half yearly report 4 Apr 2016: Extension request received 31 May 2016: No-cost extension approved till 1st July 2016 10 Nov 2016: Final report received 13 Nov 2016: Final report approved	05/07/2015	DHAKA	COMPLETE
WU17-DEL	<b>Deltares</b>	Waterapp dashboard	WRM	Water Management Fund	€ 49,238	12 Sep 2016: Revised proposal + budget received 28 Sep 2016: Proposal accepted 13 Oct 2016: Contract prepared 6 Nov 2016: Meeting BG office 7 Dec 2016: Agreement on supplementary service work IWM 30 Dec 2016: Draft report Deltares received 31 Dec 2016: Contract extended to 31st Jan 2017 31 Jan 2017: Final report received & approved	13/10/2016	ARNHEM	COMPLETE
WU6-MET	<b>MetaMeta</b>	Roads for Flood Protection and Water Management	WRM	Water Management Fund	€ 24,820	14 Oct 2016: Meeting BG office 03 Nov 2016: Start of project scheduled for December 15 Nov 2016: Polder selection finalized 02 Jan 2017: First invoice processed 11 Jan 2017: Workplan submitted to BG 10 Feb 2017: MetaMeta publishes blogpost on the project 15 May 2017: Final report MetaMeta received	16/05/2016	ARNHEM	COMPLETE



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PU9-PAC	<b>Practical Action</b>	Aquageoponics	SVC	Productive Sector Fund	€ 44,317	06 Sept 2016: Comments and observations BGP field team shared 15 Nov 2016: Field visit BG team to project site 07 Dec 2016: summary findings project visit shared with PA 22 Jan 2017: International field visit at PA project site 31 Mar 2017: Visit of PCD of PA project site 07 Jun 2017: Final report received - waiting for approval	31/05/2016	DHAKA	AWAITING FINAL PAYMENT
PU8-CON	<b>Consiglieri Consulting</b>	Follow-up study on access to energy in the polders	IF	Productive Sector Fund	€ 24,957	13 Sep 2016: Request for project extension to October 22nd received and approved 22 Oct 2016: Extension deadline past 30 Nov 2016: Comments on not having received final report 07 Dec 2016: Final report received 14 Dec 2016: Comments shared, final report not accepted 20 Dec 2016: Skype call to discuss report revision 12 Jan 2017: Consiglieri re-starts field research activities 17 Mar 2017: Revised research report received 24 Apr 2017: Feedback on report shared - final report rejected 03 May 2017: Terms of payment changed and shared with Consiglieri 18 Jun 2017: No further input from Consiglieri. Closing the project	23/12/2016	DHAKA	See comments below
WU22-DEL	<b>Deltares</b>	Preparations for Water Management and Knowledge Innovation Program	WRM	Water Management Fund	€ 37,600	20 Apr 2017: contract signed 2-5 May 2017: workshops and meetings in Dhaka 5 June 2017: Draft final report received 14 June 2017: Comments TA and EKN shared 20 June 2017: Final report received; ready for payment	YES	ARNHEM	Invoice received; corrections required

## Completed projects during Q2-2017

### Practical Action – aqua-geoponics project

Practical Action concluded the aqua-geoponics pilot project with a workshop organized on 27<sup>th</sup> April. In front of an audience consisting of the Blue Gold stakeholders, BWDB, DAE and Department of Fisheries, Practical Action presented the lessons-learned of the project and the proposed

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future application of the aqua-geoponics concept. Practical Action sees a clear application for this concept for larger-scale aquaculture in the waterlogged areas of Southwestern Bangladesh, as well as the haor areas of Northern Bangladesh.

After submission of the final report, Practical Action is expecting to apply to the Innovation Fund with a scale-up proposal, focusing on the commercialization of the aqua-geoponic concept for smallholder farmers (see also Chapter 4: Proposals under Review).

### **Consiglieri – follow-up study on access to energy in the Blue Gold polders**

Unfortunately, the contracting of Consiglieri Consulting (CC) for executing the study on access to energy in the Blue Gold Polders did not produce the expected and desired results. At first CC asked for a one month extension of the contract period, as they were not able to deliver the research report on time. Afterwards a research report was delivered by CC an additional two months after the initial extension date, without any further communication. The quality of the report was below par, and could not be accepted by the TA-team. After a thorough explanation of the revisions that the TA-team expected to see, Consiglieri took another three months to submit a revised research report.

The revised research report again did not meet the standards as set out in the original project proposal and explained by the TA-team. After internal consultation, it was decided by the TA-team to penalize Consiglieri with a 50% reduction in consultancy fees. Having communicated this decision to CC, it became clear that they have already received more than 50% (EURO 15,150) of the project budget as payment, and were no longer motivated to revise the final report and resubmit it to Blue Gold. Therefore, the TA-team decided to 'close' this project and mark it as 'completed'. Consiglieri will no longer be considered as a qualified applicant to the Innovation Fund.

### **Deltares Partnership Program on Innovation and Action Research for Water Management**

As part of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands' commitment to water management solutions for Bangladesh, the Blue Gold Innovation Fund has launched the Water Management Knowledge and Innovation Program (WMKIP). Based on a partnership between the Institute of Water Modelling (IWM) in Bangladesh, and Deltares in the Netherlands, WMKIP will facilitate innovative research on key water management issues in South West Bangladesh in the context of the Blue Gold Program. For this purpose, an amount of € 1.4 million from the Blue Gold Innovation Fund has been allocated to WMKIP through the Embassy.

## 8. Financial report on unsolicited proposals

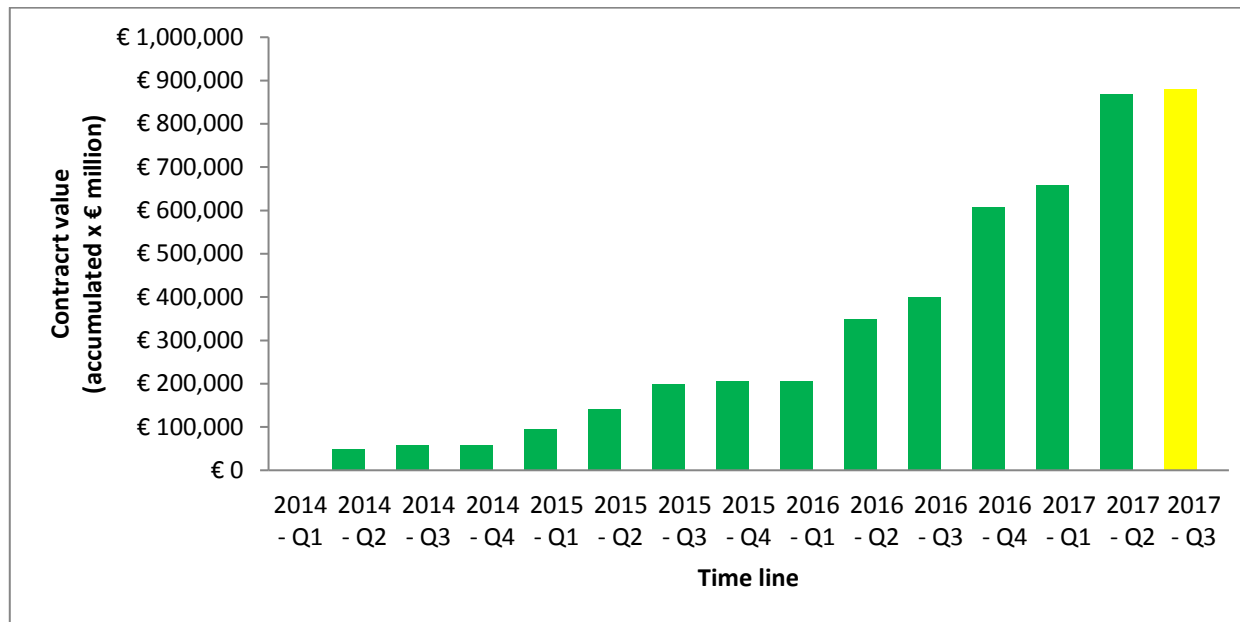
**Table 6 – Value of Contracts Awarded by Date of Award**

Period	Number of Contracts Awarded	Value of Contract Awarded	Cumulative Value of Contracts Awarded		
2014 - Q1	0	€ 0	€ 0	<b>Actual</b>	
2014 - Q2	1	€ 48,000	€ 48,000		
2014 - Q3	1	€ 10,000	€ 58,000		
2014 - Q4	0	€ 0	€ 58,000		
2015 - Q1	0	€ 0	€ 58,000		
2015 - Q2	2	€ 45,000	€ 103,000		
2015 - Q3	2	€ 57,283	€ 160,283		
2015 - Q4	0	€ 0	€ 160,283		
2016 - Q1	0	€ 0	€ 160,283		
2016 - Q2	5	€ 144,094	€ 304,377		
2016 - Q3	1	€ 49,996	€ 354,373		
2016 - Q4	7	€ 207,000	€ 561,373		
2017 - Q1	4	€ 51,888	€ 658,461		
2017 - Q2	<i>Forecasted for Q2</i>	€ 122,482	€ 780,943		
	<b>Actual for Q2</b>	<b>€ 210,648</b>	<b>€ 869,109</b>		
2017 - Q2	<i>Forecasted for Q3</i>	€ 10,000	€ 879,109		<i>Forecast for Q3</i>

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Although it was forecast that 4 contracts would be awarded in Q2 2017 with a cumulative value of €122,482, the total number of contracts awarded in Q2 was 5, with a cumulative value of € 210,648. Taking account of the anticipated award of one contract for the expected implementation of the Error Labs proposal, the forecast cumulative total for Q3 2017 is €879,109.

**Figure 8.1 Cumulative Value of Contract Awards**



## 9. Status of solicited proposals

**Table 7 - Summary of solicited proposals**

Tender topic	Expenditure	Completion Schedule	Status	Details
Low cost embankment protection in Polder 29	€ 600,000 ( <i>forecasted expenditure over 2017 – 2018</i> )	September 2019	<p>23 Jun 2016: First BWDB committee meeting to agree core objectives of initiative</p> <p>19 Jul 2016: ADG Planning office order establishing six member committee</p> <p>18 Aug 2016: Meeting to agree design principles</p> <p>04 Sep 2016: Visit to Lower Bhadra River by committee, IWM and EKN team</p> <p>22 Aug 2016: Revised ADG Planning office order establishing six member committee</p> <p>15 Oct 2016: BWDB prepared a design for semi-permeable groynes</p> <p>01 Nov 2016: Meeting BWDB to discuss procurement</p> <p>02 Nov 2016: Project setup shared with Deltares and IWM</p> <p>09 Nov 2016: BWDB design work completed, cost estimate requested</p> <p>29 Nov 2016: Involvement Deltares confirmed</p> <p>03 Dec 2016: Involvement IWM confirmed</p> <p>06 Dec 2016: Technical and financial proposal requested</p> <p>15 Jan 2017: Tripartite meeting (BWDB, BGP, EKN) at BWDB office</p> <p>22 Jan 2017: The cost estimate for the work was finalised by BWDB; Request sent to IWM for proposal on review of BWDB design and post construction performance monitoring.</p> <p>2 Feb 2017: At a meeting with ADG Planning, BWDB advised that they would not be willing to tender and supervise construction of the groynes</p> <p>10 Feb 2017: Request sent to Deltares for proposal on review of BWDB design and construction performance monitoring</p> <p>13 March 2017: visit by the FRERMIP team resulted in the recommendation of sand-filled geobag revetment. River surveys to provide information for designing the groynes were also recommended</p> <p>21 April 2017: A joint EKN-BWDB workshop to discuss and agree the way forward was held in BWDB</p> <p>27 April 2017: Start of River surveys and investigations</p> <p>4 May 2017: Start of tendering of works “Emergency stabilisation of river bank”</p>	

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Tender topic	Expenditure	Completion Schedule	Status	Details
Improved Information in Agriculture	€ 500,000 <i>(total budget reserved for implementation of tender proposals)</i>	September 2019	10 Jun 2017: Call for Proposals launched  <b>Future dates</b> 10 Aug 2017: deadline for submission of concept notes 11 Aug 2017: evaluation of concept notes & short-listing for project proposals 01 Oct 2017: application of project proposals opens for short-listed applicants 01 Dec 2017: deadline for submission of project proposals 02 Dec 2017: evaluation of project proposals & short-listing for implementation 01 Feb 2018: start of project implementation 01 Sep 2019: end of project implementation	Awaiting submission of concept notes

### Low-cost embankment protection in coastal rivers

Based on the outcomes of a study (dated May 2016) on river bank erosion management in Polder 29 (Chandgor, Khulna) by the institute of Water Modelling (IWM), it is proposed that the permeable groynes recommended in IWM's report would be piloted to assess their suitability as a low-cost form of protection for coastal river embankments. BWDB prepared a design for semi-permeable groynes in October 2016. The cost estimate for the work was finalised by BWDB on 22nd January 2017. On 2nd February, at a meeting with ADG Planning, BWDB advised that they would not be willing to tender and supervise construction of the groynes. After further discussions, it became apparent that the finalisation of contractual arrangements by the TA team, and the procurement or prefabrication of piles and their installation would not be possible by end-May 2017, after which pile driving operations from floating pontoons in monsoon floodwaters would be inadvisable. At the suggestion of Erik Mosselman, a Deltares modelling specialist, a mechanism for stabilising the riverbank was recommended as a pre-requisite for the installation of groynes. As a result of a visit by the FRERMIP team on 13<sup>th</sup> March, sand-filled geobag revetment was recommended for this purpose. River surveys to provide information for designing the groynes were also recommended. A joint EKN-BWDB workshop to discuss and agree the way forward was held in BWDB in April 2017. The agreements of this meeting were as follows and implementation of those actions started:

1. Completion of retired embankment (before 25 June 2017)
2. River surveys and investigations
  - (a) Float tracking 27/28 April
  - (b) Phase I surveys (11/13 May and 27/29 May):
  - (c) Phase II surveys (post-flood)

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3. Emergency stabilisation of river bank (before 25 June 2017)
  - (a) Tender and award
  - (b) Implementation
4. Design review of semi-permeable spurs -FRERMIP/Blue Gold (April-August 2017)
  - (a) Modelling using results of recent river surveys (Item 2 above) – FRERMIP/Deltares
  - (b) Design of piles using results of borehole investigations
5. Construction of semi-permeable spurs – FRERMIP (October 2017-April 2018)
  - (a) Tender and award
  - (b) Implementation
6. Monitoring performance of spurs – FRERMIP/Blue Gold
  - (a) Direct appointment to IWM/Deltares
  - (b) Conduct performance monitoring (May 2018 – June 2020)
  - (c) Prepare report and design manual (January -June 2020)

### Improved Information in Agriculture

The TA-team launched the Call for Proposals for the tender on Improved Information in Agriculture on June 9<sup>th</sup> 2017. The Call for Proposals document was distributed to 130+ preselected recipients from both Bangladesh and the Netherlands. The list of recipients includes Civil Society-, Educational-, Government- and Private Sector Organizations.

The selection process for the Call for Proposals is divided into two rounds. In the first round the TA-team will accept concept notes, which can be submitted until 10<sup>th</sup> August 2017. Between August and September the TA-team will shortlist max. 10 concept note applicants to move to the second round.

In the second round, which starts on 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2017, the shortlisted applicants will be invited to submit a full-fledged project proposal. The deadline for submission is 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017. After which the TA-team will have two months to make a final selection of maximum three proposals that will be implemented. The final decision of the TA-team will be communicated on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018 latest, after which implementation of the selected project proposals can start on 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2018.