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# Blue Gold Trends Watcher

This is the second issue of Blue Gold Trends Watcher, a seasonal project bulletin that aims at summarising the seasonal agricultural information of the Blue Gold polders which includes climate, cropping, contexts, outcome, impact, and lessons learned. This issue offers some insights of different activities of the BGP. Firstly, a brief overview of the Community-led Agricultural Water Management (CAWM) of BGP and a comparative analysis of crop damages due to heavy rainfall in CAWM and non-CAWM areas. Secondly, a Value Chain Analysis on mustard as an alternative profitable crop for farmers. Thirdly, a description of fish trial ponds that focus on the difference between theory and practice from the learning point of views. Rest of the parts of the bulletin highlight the dietary improvement and success stories of BGP beneficiaries to provide a glimpse of the impact of BGP interventions.

The next Trends Watcher is expected to be issued in October 2017. Suggestions for improving the content of this seasonal bulletin are very welcome and can be sent to: [bluegold\\_mrlteam@bluegoldbd.org](mailto:bluegold_mrlteam@bluegoldbd.org)

### In this Issue:

- Community-led Agricultural Water Management (CAWM) and a comparative pictures of crop damages due to heavy rain fall in CAWM and non-CAWM areas.
- Dietary improvement
- Outcome of Fish Trial Ponds
- Mustard Value Chain Analysis in Patuakhali-2017
- Success Stories

### COMMUNITY-LED AGRICULTURAL WATER MANAGEMENT (CAWM)

BGP is trying heart and soul to make the Water Management Groups (WMGs) more functional by supporting different sorts of collective actions and economic activities. One of its major efforts is the CAWM that is trying to ensure proper internal water management of the polders and empowering farming communities through collective efforts that support them to ensure more production as well as profit.

Below table shows a brief overview of the CAWM coverage

CAWM coverage	Total
Total No. of polders	7
Total No. of catchments	10
Total No. of CAWM groups	10
Total sluice catchment size covered (ha)	418
Total CAWM area (ha)	64
Total No. WMG members	928
Total No. HHs covered	1020
Total No. CAWM farmers	275

### Major Challenges in CAWM Areas

The communities of CAWM areas face the challenges of waterlogging, risks resulting from climate change (e.g. heavy rainfall, early monsoon), unavailability of quality seeds and inadequate technical knowledge on improved varieties and production system, lack of group unity and crop synchronization.

### Mitigation Measures in CAWM Areas

In CAWM areas, some mitigation measures were demonstrated by BGP while cultivating demo crops. The farmers of CAWM areas have adopted some mitigation actions like creating field channels and constructing X-dams between high and low land; and, these initiatives have helped them to protect their lands and crops. The last Rabi season cropping was hampered due to heavy rainfall in the coastal areas, especially in the polder 43/2A, 43/1A, 43/2B, and 43/2D in Patuakhali and in the polder 22, 29, and 31 Part in Khulina. According to the BGP technical experts, rainfall-induced crop damage was significantly lower in CAWM areas compared to non-CAWM areas. A comparative analysis of the crop damage in CAWM and non-CAWM areas is discussed below for some of the BGP polders.

### Patuakhali

**Polder 43/2A:** BGP technical experts estimated that in areas adjacent to the CAWM areas, crop damage was about 70-80% for local Mung bean, Groundnut, and Chili, while it was 50% for Sesame and Groundnut in the CAWM intervention areas. It is noteworthy that the production of sunflower and Mungbean-BARI-6 was not affected in the CAWM area.

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This page was last edited on 8 July 2020, at 11:26.

## Blue Gold Program Wiki

The wiki version of the Lessons Learnt Report of the Blue Gold program, documents the experiences of a technical assistance (TA) team working in a development project implemented by the Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) and the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) over an eight+ year period from March 2013 to December 2021. The wiki lessons learnt report (LLR) is intended to complement the BWDB and DAE project completion reports (PCRs), with the aim of recording lessons learnt for use in the design and implementation of future interventions in the coastal zone.

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