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**Blue Gold Program  
Participatory Water Management  
Field Manual**

**Introduction**

This guide is a reference for the polder teams responsible for establishing functional Water Management Organisations in the polder-areas. The process described here helps local communities stabilise their environments and pursue sustainable socio-economic development through participatory water management and diversified farming practices with increased market participation. The concise description of the work process in this guide gives the polder teams a global activity chart; and leaves them adequate room for improvisation, for anticipating and supporting local initiative; for helping build relations with partner organisations, line agencies, local resource persons, private sectors; and for optimising the mix of disciplinary support to the situation at hand.

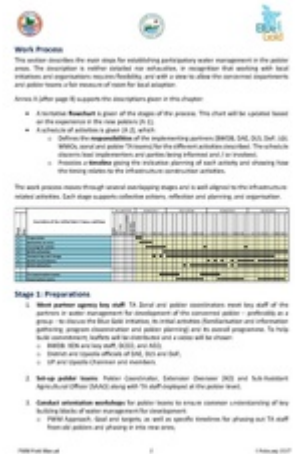
Through the approach described in this manual, the polder teams (BWDB OCWM and BWDB O&M Divisions, DAE and TA field staff) help establish sub-catchment-based Water Management Groups and polder-level Water Management Association (see annex B).

The WMGs and WMA will be assisted to engage in water management, to build their organisations (self-evolving) and to foster inclusive economic development. In this way, improved water management and the organisation required to improve water management forms the driver for economic development in the polders. To harness the organisational powers of local people, collective actions to generate economic benefits will form the first point of entry. DAE supports this by introducing knowledge and skills for improved agricultural production. Through collective actions, the cohesion and benefit created by working together on a small scale, will pave the way for development of water management organisations. Moreover, economically beneficial collective actions will provide a starting point for the financial sustainability of improved water management. Organisational strength will be developed by stimulating horizontal and experiential learning; and by helping the development of a support network through relevant linkages with other public and private entities.



In line with the Government's Guidelines on Participatory Water Management, the WMGs and WMA are – when fully established – responsible for operation of the water infrastructure in the polder and for regular maintenance of the same. This includes the mobilisation of adequate resources for operation and maintenance. The Local Government (Union Parishad) supports the WMOs in an advisory capacity. The BWDB is the key agency responsible for periodic maintenance, emergency repairs and rehabilitation.

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**Summary** [\[edit | edit source\]](#)


Field Manual BGP PWM (English)

Blue Gold Program

A process by which the local stakeholders are directly and actively involved in identification, planning, design, implementation, operation & maintenance and evaluation of a water management project.

## File history

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This page was last edited on 2 July 2020, at 09:58.

## 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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