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PUBLISHED BY:

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Signing Ceremony on Second Twinning Arrangement in between Govt. of Peoples Republic of Bangladesh and the Royal Netherlands Government

The Second Twinning Arrangement for 2 years (2008-2009), was signed on 02-03-2008 in the Conference Room of Director General, BWDB. From Bangladesh side Mr. H.S Mozaddad Faruque, Director General, BWDB and Netherlands side, Mr. Bert Keijts, Director General, Rijkswaterstaat, has signed the agreement. Twinning Committee members, Mr. M. Mahbulul Haque, Joint Secretary, MoWR and Mr. M. Inamul Haque, Director General, WARPO, were present in the signing ceremony. Her excellency Mrs. Beaten Tusscher, the Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and distinguished members of the Dutch delegation were also present on the occasion. The occasion was graced by among others, Mr. Jalal Uddin Mohammad Abdul Hye, Additional Director General, Planning, Mr. Abul Kalam Azad Additional Director General, O & M-1, Mr. Md. Habibur Rahman Additional Director General, O & M-2, Mr. M. Azizul Haque, Chief Planning, Mr. M. Makbul Hossain, Additional Chief Engineer, Mrs. Shamsun Nessa, Secretary, BWDB and Mr. Md. Shahjahan, Director and Taskforce Coordinator, WARPO.



From left: DG, WARPO, Joint secretary, MoWR, Ambassador, EKN and sitting front DG, BWDB, DG, Rijkswaterstaat, Netherlands and others are seen

The 1st Twinning Arrangement (2000-2005), was extended up to 31 December 2007. Considering its successful contribution within the broader framework of bi-lateral active cooperation of Dutch Twinning Mission, BWDB and WARPO have formulated the following action plans in view of consolidation of BWDB and WARPO institutional development and capacity building.

See page 6

Bangladesh-UK Conference on Climate Change



Dr. Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury, Honourable Foreign Affairs Adviser, delivering his opening speech in the Conference

The UK, in collaboration with the Government of Bangladesh, hosted a major climate change conference at the Sheraton Hotel in Dhaka on 25 March 2008. The day long conference, arranged jointly by the British High Commission and DFID-Bangladesh. Honorable Advisers, top level representatives from different government ministries, climate change experts, the media and heads of donor organizations, were present in the conference. It served as a stepping stone for the high-profile international event on Climate change in Bangladesh, to be held in London in May 2008.

In the conference four sessions on (i) Bangladesh and UK perspectives (ii), Building capacity for resilience and adaptation (iii), Lessons from the field and (iv) Financing climate change were held. Dr. Nilufa Islam, PSO (Environment, Forest & Fisheries) and Nahid Sultana SO (Soil) from Water Resources Planning Organization (WARPO) participated the conference.

Seminar Programme by WARPO Professionals

During the last 4 months of 2008 WARPO professionals have performed 4 presentations in the conference room of WARPO. Presentations were mainly held on the topic related to water management and planning, current development issues of our country, professional trainings in local and abroad etc. The schedule of the presentation during this period of Newsletter is given below:

SL	Name & Designation	Presentation Topic	Date
9	Md.Hasan Shahriar SO (Geologist)	Aduki Fault	17/01/08
10	M. Inamul Haque Director General	Netherlands Visited	28/01/08
11	M. Inamul Haque Director General	World Wetland Day- 4th February	2/02/08
12	Md. Hasan Parvez PSO (Engineering)	Training Course on Changing Management and Managing Change for BWDB and WARPO Officials in Netherlands	3/04/08

WARPO and CEGIS Professional Letsited Community based Flood Warning System (CFWS) at Daulatpur, Manikgong

A group of twelve professionals from WARPO, CEGIS visited pilot areas in Daulatpur of Manikganj district on 26 February 2008 to evaluate the "Community-based early flood warning system (CFWS)" presently under implementation by CEGIS. The system was developed under Environmental Management Information Network (EMIN), a project implemented by WARPO in collaboration with CEGIS and BWDB. The system interpret the 48 hours predictions from Flood forecasting Warning Center (FFWC) for the nearby river water levels and relay that information directly to local government officials and households. The project implemented the early warning system in Nagarpur upazila of Tangail District and Daulatpur Upazila of Manikgong District in the year 2004-2007 in the Brahmaputra basin area.



In the morning the team reached sub-divisional office of BWDB at Minikgang Sadar. The location was found suitable as local office of WARPO/BWDB to monitor and oversee the local flood warning system in the Brahmaputra Flood basin. The team then visited a BRAC school, a local community gathering and households at Bara Boinna village of Daulatpur to appraise the impact of the system. This localized early warning system piloted there was found quite effective to empower the locals in reducing flood loses. It was underscored that CFWS activity should be further replicated in other places in the Brahmaputra flood basin under a project of joint collaboration among BWDB, WARPO and CEGIS.

WARPO and CEGIS officials are seen with the community people

Comprehensive Training on EIA and Application to "Impact Assessment of IRLP for inter-basin water transfer.

A four day long training program was arranged on EIA and application in connection with the project "Impact Assessment of Indian River Linking Project (IRLP) for Inter Basin Water Transfer" between 17-20 February 2008. The objective of the project is to assess probable socio-economic and environmental implication with the proposed IRLP. The study project is being implemented by WARPO in association with IWM and CEGIS and associates. CEGIS has been contracted to support environmental assessment of the project.



Participants of the training are seen in the picture

CEGIS organized the training program to brief about the approaches/methods that are being used for the assessment of socio-economic and environmental implication, future projections, water demand assessment, environmental flow assessment etc in connection with the Project. About fifteen professionals from WARPO and CEGIS participated in the training program. In the concluding session of the program Muhamud Inamul Haque, Director General, WARPO interacted with the participants on some important issues of training course and finally distributed certificates among the participants of the training program.

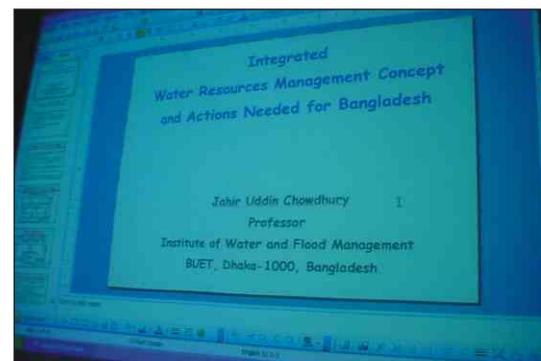
Training program on “Risk-based evaluation of Brahmaputra water development in meeting future water demand”

A two day long training program was organized by WARPO on “Risk-based evaluation of Brahmaputra water development” between 24-25 March 2008. The objective of the program was to train the professionals of WARPO on risk-based evaluation technique for water sector projects with particular reference to the Brahmaputra Barrage Project. The training lectures described the methods and technique adopted in the evaluation of Brahmaputra Barrage under a collaborative research project undertaken by Institute of Water and Flood Management (IWFm) of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) with Water Resources Planning Organization (WARPO). Other partner institutions of the research project were CEGIS and BARC. A MoU was signed between WARPO and IWFm in this regard in 2005. The study aims to develop tools and criteria that would enable improved assessment of the options for development of the Brahmaputra River in meeting long term water demand of the Brahmaputra Dependent Area within Bangladesh (BDA). The research project is in line with the National Water Management Plan (NWMP) program MR 001 under Major River cluster. The tools and indicators are widely accepted for water resources planning and expected to contribute in the future water resources development projects.

M. Inamul Haq, Director General, WARPO inaugurated the training program. Prof. Jahir Uddin Chowdhury, IWFm, BUET and Dr. M. Shahjahan Mondal, IWFm, BUET were the key resource persons in the training program. Lectures were delivered on Concepts and Principles of Integrated Water Management, Time Series Modeling of Brahmaputra Flows, Risk-Based Approach in Water Resources Planning, Risk-Based Evaluation of Water Development Options (Brahmaputra Barrage). Around twenty-four professionals from WARPO, representatives from BARC and CEGIS participated in the training program.



DG, WARPO, Prof. Jahiruddin Chowdhury and other are seen in the in the Picture.



Power Point Presentation Session on Training Program.

WARPO signs MoU with Planning Commission for data sharing

Water Resources Planning Organization (WARPO) and the Transport Sector Coordination (TSC) Wing of the Planning Commission signed an MoU on 13 April, 2008 concerning collaboration in sharing data. TSC and WARPO, in pursuance of their mandated activities and responsibilities, wish to collaborate mutually by signing the MoU between themselves for sharing data both in digital and hard copy form.

Mr. A. M. M. Nasir Uddin , Member, Infrastructure, Planning Commission chaired the inaugural MoU signing ceremony at the Planning Commission conference room. Mr. M. Inamul Haque, Director General, WARPO and Mr. Kamal Uddin Ahmad, Division Chief, Planning Commission signed in the MoU on behalf of the respective organizations.

Type of data that can be exchanged from TSC includes mainly data on roads, railways, waterways and on-going & proposed transport section projects/programs undertaken by different organization/authorities.

The WARPO Act 1992 and The National Water Policy (NWPO) have mandated WARPO to maintain, update and disseminate the National Water Resources Database (NWRD). NWRD is the major source of water related data in the country and contains data of different agencies, organizations and projects. It was established in 1998. The NWRD maintains a countrywide database on administrative units, surface water, groundwater, meteorological, socio-economic, soil and agriculture, environment, forest, and fisheries information. A wide variety of agencies, users, projects and researchers are getting benefits from efficient use of NWRD.

For the sustainable NWRD, enhancement of use of this database is a must. NWRD needs to be continuously updated so that most recent information is available to the users. Signing MoU for exchange of data is one of the long term actions for that purpose. So far WARPO has signed MoUs for data sharing with JRC, LGED, BWDB and TSC Wing of Planning Commission. WARPO hopes to establish similar protocol (MoU signing etc.) for smooth data sharing and exchange with different organization in the near future.



Mr. A. M. M. Nasir Uddin , Member, Infrastructure, Planning Commission, Mr. M. Inamul Haque, DG of WARPO and Mr. Kamal Uddin Ahmad, Division Chief, Planning Commission are seen at the MoU signing ceremony.

KOICA Training on Hydro-Infra Development and Management (Bangladesh)

A sixteen days (13 March - 28 March, 2008) international training on "Hydro-Infra Development and Management (Bangladesh)" organized by Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) was held at K-water Academy Daejeon, Korea. A total of fifteen (15) government official including ten (10) officials from Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB), three (3) officials from Water Resources Planning Organization (WARPO), one (1) official from Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR) and one (1) official from River Research Institute (RRI) attended the training. Mr. Akhter Hossain Bhuiya, Secretary; Mr. Abu Taher Amanullah, Principal Scientific Officer and Mr Mohammad Alamgir, Senior Scientific Officer attended in the training from Water Resources Planning Organization.



Participants of Hydro-Infra Development and Management (Bangladesh) training course.

The course consisted of a formal orientation including Welcoming Reception, Video Presentation on Korea and KOICA's Activities, Class on Korea's Culture, Society and its Language, Presentation on daily life in Korea, Seoul



Mr. Akhter Hossain Bhuiya, Secretary and Mr. Abu Taher Amanullah, Principal Scientific Officer of WARPO, receiving certificate from Director, K-Water Academy.



Mr Mohammad Alamgir, Senior Scientific Officer of WARPO shown in presentation and discussion session.

City Excursion including outdoor practice, etc. The class room lecture divided into five major sessions namely: Session I: Introduction to Water Resources and Investigation; Session II: Water Resources Development; Session III: Water Use and Management; Session IV: Water Management Applications; and Session V: Presentation and Discussion.

Apart from class lecture the participants also attended in a number of site visits i.e. : Hydrologic Observation Station; Groundwater Monitoring Site ; Nakdong River Estuary Barrage ; Hwabuk Dam Construction Site; Water Resources Operation Center (WROC); Gumi Multi-Regional Water Supply Facilities ; Ulsan Multi-Regional Water Supply Facilities etc.

The course ended with distribution of certificate to the participant by Director, K-Water Academy followed by a formal closing ceremony. The organizer as well as the participants expressed their hopes to effective implementation of the shared knowledge in the respective fields of both the countries.

Water Boards in Netherlands

Netherlands is geographically a low-lying country and a large river delta at the mouth of several major rivers. Most of the lands lie below sea level & was reclaimed from the sea by inhabitants over the time. Netherlands is historically associated with water management. The country is divided in water districts, governed by a water board. Dutch water boards are one of the oldest democratic entities in the world. At present the number of water board is 26, covering the whole country. Approximately 11000 people are working in the water boards. In 1850 there were about 3500 Water Boards.

Water Boards are decentralized public authorities with legal tasks and a self supporting financial system. Water Boards are based on the Dutch Constitution and their responsibilities are elaborated in Water Boards Act(1995).



In front of Water Board Noorderkwartier

Water Boards have: i) General Administrative Body ii) Executive Board and iii) Chairperson. The members of General Administrative Body are selected from Residents, Farmers, Tenant farmers, House owners, Businessmen, Industry, Institutions. The members are elected for 4 years as individuals, not party representatives. The members of the Executive Board are Land owners, House owners and Businessmen. General Administrative Body elects the members of the Executive Board among its members. The government appoints the Chairperson for 6 years. Importance & financial contribution decide how many representatives each category may delegate.

Water Boards in Netherlands (Cont.)

Water Boards are responsible for: i) management & maintenance of water barriers: dunes, dikes, quays, levees etc . ii) management & maintenance of waterways. iii) maintenance of surface water quality through water treatment. Water Boards are not responsible for drinking water & sewage system. Each water board has taxing authority. The central govt. only contributes to the cost of constructing & maintaining the water barriers & main waterways. Operational tasks include the maintenance of flood defense structures, planning, licensing discharges, operating waste water treatment plants & maintenance of water infrastructure.

WARPO-representative participated in Challenge Program on Water and Food-Indo-Gangetic Basin (CPWF-IGB) Stakeholders Workshop-2007

An International Stakeholders Workshop-2007 on "Challenge Program on Water and Food, Indo Gangetic Basin, was organized by CGAIR-ICAR-BARC-IRRI from 27-28 February 2008 in Bangladesh, at BARC Seminar Hall, Farmgate, Dhaka. The objective of the Workshop was to strengthen the stakeholder participation in Challenge Program on Water and Food (CPWF) activities in Indo Gangetic Basin, Synthesis of water related activities of CP & non-CP funded projects, strengthening network of partners to develop a regional alliance and dissemination and scaling up of CPWF projects outputs in IG Basin. The workshop was attended by the participants from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri-Lanka, Nepal of CGAIR, ICAR-IWMI, IRRI & BARC, BWDB, WARPO, BARI, BRRI, BADC etc. Mr. Md.Shahjahan, Director (Technical), WARPO, MoWR, participated in all the two days technical sessions of the workshop. On the same Venue, Inception Meeting of the CPWF-IWMI Basin Focal Project on the Indo-Gangetic Basin, was also held on 26-02-2008. This meeting was also attended by CPWF-IGB stakeholders workshop participants. The main objectives of the project are to have an assessment of the water poverty, agricultural productivity, institution; and policy changes and disseminate this new synthesised knowledge through policy advocacy and improved knowledge sharing mechanism. This meeting was coordinated by Mr. Peter G McCornick, IWMI, Director, Asia.



Mr. Md. Shahjahan, Director WARPO (2nd from right) and others are seen in the picture

Ongoing Activity of RETA Supporting IWRM (Bangladesh) Project

To stimulate the adoption of a more strategic and sustainable approach to water resource development, ADB with financial support from the Government of the Netherlands, has prepared Technical Assistance (TA) to promote effective and efficient preparation of Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) plans.

The overall objective of the RETA Supporting IWRM (Bangladesh) Project is to facilitate and strengthen effective implementation processes of IWRM as outlined in the policy, plan and programs while meeting the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) commitments of the Government. Specific objectives include:

- (i) Operationalizing the functions of NWRC and ECNWRC for periodic review and guidance on sector policy, plan, and program formulation and implementation;
- (ii) Identifying operational gaps of National Water Policy and supporting specific actions to address those gaps;
- (iii) Strengthening the National Water Management Plan (NWMP) and its implementation process with better alignment with the Government's National Poverty Reduction Strategy (NPRS) with effective and monitorable indicators;
- (iv) Reviewing the performance of BWDB reforms and further steps to enhance their effectiveness;
- (v) Advising on the preparation process of comprehensive National Water Act;
- (vi) Support operationalizing essential roles of WARPO as identified in the Organizational Development Plan (ODP) of WARPO;

The duration of the project is 18 months. Implementation of the project was started from August, 2008 and it will be completed by January, 2009. The overall physical progress of the project is about 45% upto March 2008. Present ongoing works are review & identification of laps & gaps of NWPo, NWMP, Bangladesh Water Use Act & Water Resources Planning Act, review of data system & recommendations (WARPO & BWDB) and review and analyses of water tariffs and recovery. 1st Steering Committee meeting of RETA Supporting IWRM (Bangladesh) Project was held on 30 March, 2008 at MoWR under the chairmanship of the Secretary, MoWR. A proposal for a Legal Expert has been sent to the Asian Development Bank(ADB) by the TA Team to assist them in the preparation of draft Bangladesh Water Use Act.

from page-1

Signing Ceremony on Second Twinning Arrangement in between Govt. of Peoples Republic of Bangladesh and the Royal Netherlands Government (from page 1)

Action 1: BWDB ACT 2000

Action 2 : Five Year Plan of BWDB

Action 3 : Accounting and Financial Management of BWDB

Action 4 : Human Resources Development (HRD)

Action 5 : BWDB Services and Revenues

Action 6 : O & M of BWDB projects

Action 7 : Performance Evaluation of BWDB

Preparation of Organizational Development Plan (ODP) of WARPO focusing Mission, Vision, Development of Clearing House Criteria for Water Sector Projects, Human Resource Development Plan, Updating of WARPO NWRD Plan, Development of Monitoring and MIS etc.

Objective of New Twinning Arrangement

The objectives of joint efforts and actions under the twinning arrangement are to:

- Provide taking into account the policy framework for the bilateral development cooperation relation, a long term basis for inter-agency/institutional collaboration in the management sector;
- support the ongoing transformation process in the water sector of Bangladesh, with an emphasis on multidisciplinary cooperation, management structures, policy development and implementation, and division of tasks and responsibilities in the public sector between government bodies (i.e Bangladesh Water Development Board- Water Resources Planning Organization) and local water management organizations
- Strengthening capacities in the field of integrated approaches for planning, implementation and maintenance of water and coastal resources and water related infrastructure, including sharing knowledge in trans boundary river management.

Under the present agreement, cooperation can take among others, the following:

Informal exchange of views, supported by regular twinning meetings with participants members of the side Rijkswaterstaat and member of the side of BWDB and WARPO

Training, seminars for specific target groups which can not otherwise be accommodated by WMIP

Traineeships for individuals or small groups, which can be facilitated under this twinning arrangement

Exchange of researchers\research works on applied research works on all aspects of BWDB and WARPO activities, which can be facilitated under this twinning arrangement

Cooperation between institutes in both countries, related to BWDB\WARPO and Rijkswaterstaat, to identify subjects in the field of knowledge sharing which are important for water management

First National Haor Conference

The First National Haor Conference was held on 6th & 7th March 2008 at Engineer's Institute of Bangladesh organized by first national hoar conference convenor committee. The main by word of the conference was to establish a National Policy for the protection of natural environment of haor and the livelihood of the local people of haor area. Many high level officials of the government, NGO's, the media people, stakeholders of the haor orient districts came to Dhaka to attend this very harmonized 2 day long conference. Seminars, discussion sessions, work plan delineation and a rally were organized to accomplish the maxim of the conference.

Mr. M. Inamul Haque, Director General, WARPO presented an essay paper on "Review of the Haor Policy" in the seminar session. Dr. Nilufa Islam, PSO (Environment, Forest & Fisheries), Nahid Sultana, SO (Soil) and Md. Jahid Hossain, SO (Ground Water) also joined the conference from WARPO.



Mr. M. Inamul Haque DG, WARPO delivering his presentation on the First National Haor Conference

Water Resources/ Disaster Management

Overview

There are many people in developing countries like Bangladesh who are unable to even secure safe drinking water. It should take a comprehensive approach to solving water resource problems in developing countries by considering such issues as irrigation, flood control, and the aquatic environment. It should also actively support disaster-prevention schemes to lessen the effect that disasters have on aggravating poverty and disrupting lives.

Around the world, explosive population growth and economic development have exacerbated and expanded the range of water-related problems, such as shortages of supply and pollution.

Today, one-third of the world's population faces a water shortage and more than 1 billion lack access to clean drinking water. Moreover, contaminated water is believed to be responsible for 80% of the illnesses that occur in developing countries, and every eight seconds a child dies of a water-borne disease. Floods and food shortages caused by unfairly distributed water supplies are also among the numerous water resource problems confronting developing countries. This situation requires urgent international attention, and the global response to it has intensified in recent years.

In the past, support for disaster prevention was addressed principally by reinforcing dams and other physical structures. Recently, however, a combined approach that incorporates nonphysical measures, such as disaster warning systems, has gained greater importance. In addition, Government should address the weaknesses in disaster-prevention administration by focusing on community-based prevention strategies and strengthening the capacity of residents to deal with natural disasters on their own.

Targets for Water Management:

1. Promoting integrated water resource management

-Comprehensively address such problems as flood control, irrigation, and the aquatic environment.

2. Ensuring efficient and sustainable supplies of safe water

-Provision of safe and stable access to clean water, especially for the poor and socially vulnerable.

3. Improving flood control to protect lives and property

-Considers the importance of both physical and institutional infrastructure, implementation. Balanced flood control measures that address the river basin as a whole, both upriver and downriver.

4. Conserving the water environment

-Comprehensive, integrated approach to the maintenance of the aquatic environment by encouraging effective use of the world's limited water resources while promoting sustainable development.

Targets for Disaster Management:

1. Social and economic development incorporating a disaster-prevention perspective

-Sustainable development that includes adequate measures to reduce preexisting risks and prevent new ones.

2. Disaster risk awareness

-To spread disaster risk awareness in developing countries at the national, district, and community levels through a number of programs, including the creation of local hazard maps.

3. Integrated disaster-prevention plans

-Supports the creation of integrated disaster-prevention master plans that consider disaster risk and prevention awareness, capacity building for administrative disaster-prevention systems, revision of pertinent laws, and strengthening of disaster response capabilities. It also supports the formulation of action plans to carry out the master plan.

4. Empowering the citizenry through assistance based on a human security perspective

-In developing countries where governmental disaster response capabilities are insufficient, the establishment of community-based disaster-prevention policies is essential. Accordingly, Government should work to strengthen the disaster-prevention capabilities of both individuals and their communities and to link these local efforts with those of their national government.

Water Related Major Disasters



Flood



Flash Flood



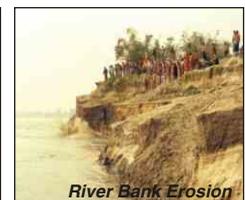
Drought



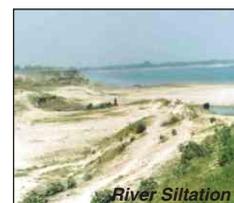
Cyclone



Water Logging



River Bank Erosion



River Siltation



River Pollution



Arsenic Problem



Congratulation to Sharmin

Our heartiest congratulation to **Sharmin Ranisha (Dristy)** for her successful achievement in the Primary Scholarship with talentpul for the year 2007 from 41 No. Khash Kawlia Chawddo Roshi Primary School, Chowhali, Sirajgonj. She is daughter of Mrs. Momtaz Begum and Mr. Delower Hossain, Stenotypist, Water Resources Planning Organization (WARPO), Ministry of Water Resources. Sharmin wants to bless from all.

Editorial

WARPO has established and is The custodian of National Water Resources Database (NWRD) and the Integrated Coastal Resources Database (ICRD). More than 400 data layers are available in each of NWRD and ICRD. The data contained in these databases have been collected from a wide range of sources and organized into a relational database format. About 50 organizations throughout the country have contribution to this database.

These databases, the collection and compilation of huge volume of data on surface water, groundwater, environment, meteorology, soil and agriculture, socio-economic condition etc. and images have become an important resource in many disciplines. Regular updating will enrich the datasets and their different users. Establishment of MoU for smooth data sharing and exchange with different organizations is one of the effective ways to data collection and thereby to update the NWRD. In Coastal zone policy, the establishment of the ICRD is insisted in order to strengthen meaningful participation of relevant agencies by linking ICRD with other databases and facilitating the formulation of agreed guidelines that will enunciate the principles of common standard, protocols, and data sharing. Effective data sharing reduces the time and cost, overheads for all parties of the constant re-collection of data, and could also make gaining free access to other parties data.

So far, WARPO has signed MoUs with LGED, JRC, BWDB and TSC Wing of Planning Commission for data sharing. Through these MoUs all organizations can collect and exchange their data with WARPO with nominal formalities and free of cost. Recently, CDSP-III has signed a protocol with WARPO to have an access to ICRD of WARPO through the online using the server facilities at WARPO premises. According to this protocol, digital copy of all the CDSP-I, II & III databases along with metadata bases, knowledge bases and information, generated from these projects, will be the common properties of WARPO and BWDB.

For rational management and wise use of Bangladesh's water resources, continuous development, update, maintenance and dissemination of NWRD is necessary. WARPO seeks reciprocal data sharing and inter-agency co-operation by signing MoU with all relevant organizations.

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Twinning Mission -XIX Visited Water Resources Planning Organization (WARPO)

The Dutch Twinning Mission -XIX visited Bangladesh from 4-13 March 2008. During their stay in Bangladesh, WARPO hold two-days discussion session with the mission members on 4 & 11 March 2008. The Mission had a meeting with the Taskforce members of WARPO at 1:30 PM., on 4 March 2008 in WARPO Conference Room about RETA workshop contents and other related issues. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Md. Shahjahan, Director & Taskforce Coordinator, WARPO. RETA team members were present in this discussion meeting. Mr. GM Akram Hossain, RETA Consultant at the request of Mr. Md. Hasan Parvez, PSO (Engg.) and RETA Project Coordinator made a brief power point presentation on the content of RETA workshop.

On 11 March 2008, Twinning Mission members met Mr. M. Inamul Haque, Director General, WARPO at 9:30 a.m.

D.G briefed the TM members about the overall progress of WARPO in connection with ODP action plan, Status of BWDB Project clearing, MIS related activities of M & E section; revising WARPO 1992 Act., Impact of Indian River Link Project (IRLP), WMIP project, HRD and recruitment issue of WARPO DG shared experiences of his the visit in Netherlands during November (5-9), 2007. After briefing with D.G, mission members participated in overall routine presentation of WARPO Taskforce Coordinator in WARPO Conference room from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. TM members made few observations on the progress of taskforce activities in view of TM-17 & 18 and New Twinning Arrangement (2008-2009). They suggested to set milestones in view of ODP and non-ODP action plan activities which are targeted to be completed by new twinning arrangement tenure (2008-2009).

RETA workshop presentation started at 11:30 a.m followed by overall WARPO presentation and it was presided over by Director General WARPO. Well come address was made by Mr. Md. Hasan Parvez, Project Coordinator, WARPO. Main presentation was made by Mr. M Muklesuzzaman, Policy and Institutional Advisor, RETA project. Workshop was attended by Mr. Md. Mannan Talukdar, Joint Chief, Mrs Ayesha Begum, Deputy Chief MoWR, Mr. Md. Mukbul Hossain, Additional Chief Engineer, Mr. Md. Azaharul Islam, Superintending Engineers, BWDB, RETA Team members and all the TM Taskforce members of WARPO. Pre-wrap up session with TM-XIX was held on 13 March 2008, at 9:00 O'clock in WARPO conference room. A wrap-up meeting with TM-XIX was held in the Ministry of Water Resources, chaired by Dr. Md. Ayub Miah, Secretary, MoWR on 13 March, 2008.



Dutch Mission members, WARPO officials and other participants one seen in the picture

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