

Member's Annual Report 2005

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Director, Planning-1, BWDB, Dhaka.

1. About the organization

(1) Name of the organization

Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB)

(2) Purpose and roles of your organization

a) Historical background of the organization

Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) started its operation in 1959 as the water wing of the erstwhile East Pakistan Water and Power Development Authority. As the principal agency of the government for managing water resources of the country, it was given the responsibility of accomplishing the tasks of executing flood control, drainage and irrigation projects to boost up productivity in agriculture and fisheries. After the independence of Bangladesh, the authority was restructured in 1972 into two different organizations to deal with water and power separately. BWDB was created under the Bangladesh Water and Power Development Boards Order 1972 (P.O. No. 59 of 1972) as a fully autonomous organization. The reform program and structural adjustment process were undertaken by the GoB for transformation of BWDB is the enactment of the BWDB Act, 2000 that requires the BWDB's functions be guided by the National Water Policy (NWPo) and National Water Management Plan (NWMP). Top management of BWDB is now vested in a policy and oversight Governing Council (GC) with thirteen Members headed by the Minister, Ministry of Water Resources.

b) Purpose and role of the organization

Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) is engaged in the water resources development and management in Bangladesh since 1959 (as EPWAPDA). So far BWDB has completed 684 investment projects and 38 nos. of Study projects. Through these projects BWDB has created the basic safe-environment for development of all other sectoral activities and has made major contribution towards autarky in food grain production. It has also rendered services for rural employment generation in large scale, communication, housing, sanitation and water supply; and livestock, fisheries, forestry, de-salinization, land reclamation, overall socio-economic development of the country including women development and environmental conservation etc. Above all BWDB projects have direct positive impact on poverty alleviation and suitable environment.

(3) Outline of the organization

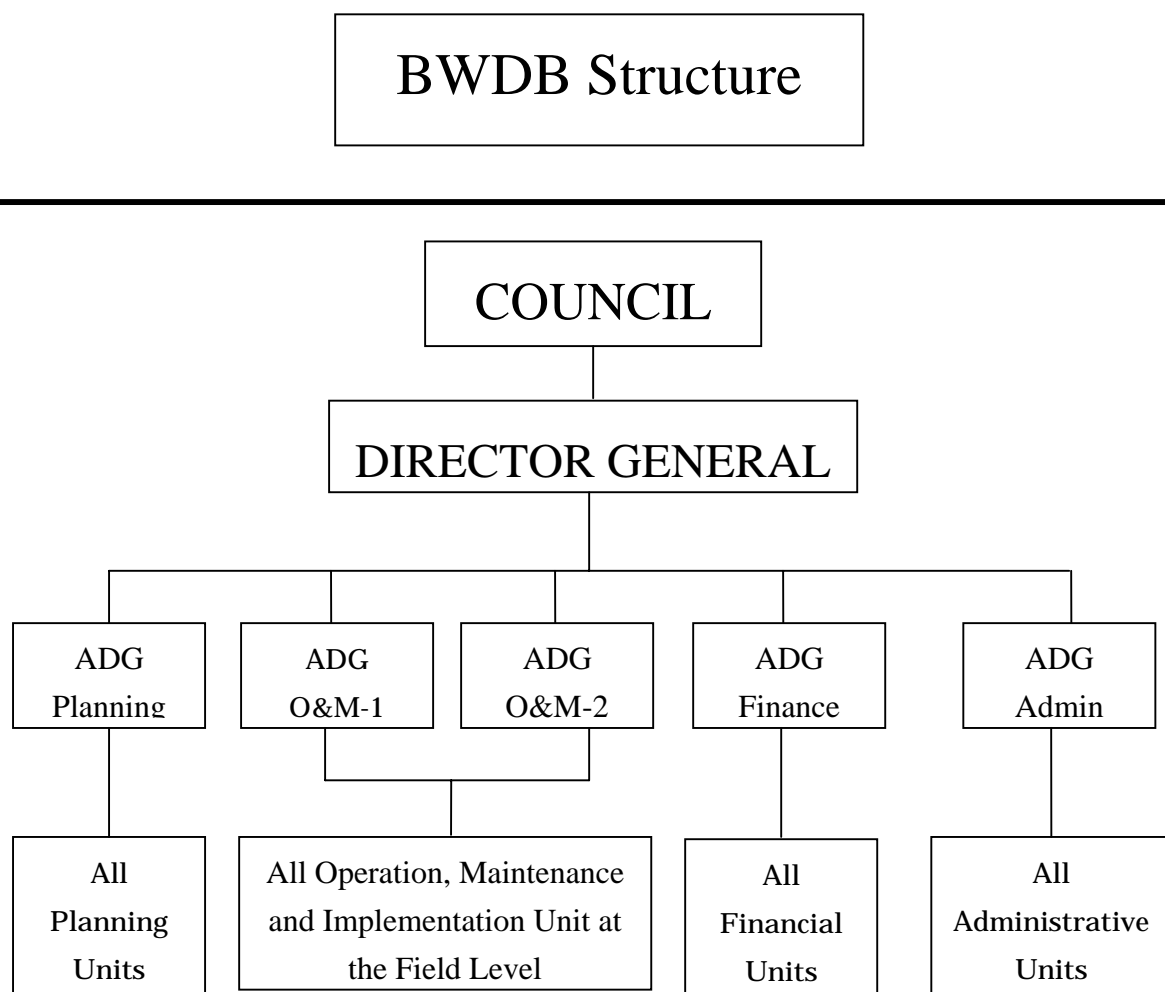
1) Number of staff

The BWDB reforms sought to cater the staff strength to cope with the future strategy and action plan of the Board. In this context, it may be mentioned that in 1998, staff strength of more than 18000 as of 1995 in the Board has been brought down to permanent staff strength of 8860 (excluding the manpower of Dredger and Mechanical Engineering Directorate). However, the present staff position is around 11000. Within 2011 it will be reduced to permanent staff strength of 8860 according to the decision of the board.

2) Amount of the annual budget

Amount of annual budget for the year 2005 of Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) was TK. 11,156.5 million (US\$159.38 million)

3) Organizational chart



4) Ongoing projects:

The number of ongoing projects of BWDB is 55. Among them no. 50 are investment projects, no. 4 are technical assistance projects and no.1 is project under revenue budget.

Salient feature of some of the ongoing projects:

i) Teesta Barrage project phase-II

The main objective of the implementation of Teesta Barrage Project (TBP), Phase-I was to increase agricultural production through supplementary gravity irrigation in the project area. On completion the TBP has made a revolution in agriculture through irrigation, flood protection and drainage improvement by allowing intensive agricultural practices from shifting single to double or triple cropping, scientific cultivation of HYV and crop diversification instead of local varieties and secured crop harvesting. To derive left out benefit, Government of Bangladesh (GOB) has decided to implement the Teesta Barrage project phase-II and accordingly 227 crore taka has been allocated for the implementation of the unit I of phase II. The project is located in the northern part of Bangladesh. The TBP phase-II project has been planned for implementation of irrigation, flood control and drainage facilities for a command area of 5,95,750 ha. in which 4,28,594 ha area are irrigable. Major Project components of the project are construction of secondary and tertiary canal, construction of sluice, culverts and different drainage structures.

Benefits from the Project

The proposed project when implemented will play a vital role in full filling the National and Sectoral objectives. Due to the project, cropping intensity will increase from 116.15% to 214.93%. Annual incremental paddy of 1.621 million mt. and wheat of 0.043 mt. will be produced. The value of increased crop production of paddy and wheat are around Tk.136, 19.60 million (US\$ 234.82 million) and Tk. 375.44 million (US\$ 6.47 million) respectively. During execution period 40.85 million person days will be required. After completion of the project 1.24 million person days will be required for O&M of the project and annual incremental farm labour requirement will be 32.20 million man-days. Employment opportunities of women will also be created due to the project in agro base industries expanded agricultural activities and in routine maintenance works.

ii) Feasibility Study for New Projects under BWDB

It has been decided by the Planning Commission of Government of Bangladesh to carry out feasibility study for some important water resources projects before going for implementation by Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB).

Accordingly as decided a study project comprising 18 sub projects has been taken as a study project to be completed within the period 2005-2006 and 2006-2007.

Some important information about the project is as below.

1.	Project Title	: Feasibility Study for New Projects under BWDB		
2.	i) Sponsoring Ministry	: Ministry of Water Resources		
	ii) Executing Agency	: Bangladesh Water Development Board.		
3.	Execution Period:			
	i) Commencement	: 2004-2005		
	ii) Completion	: 2006-2007		
4.	Manner of Implementation:			
	a) Modality of carrying out the study/survey	: By engaging the local consulting firms and Individual consultants under the supervision of BWDB.		
	b) Financed by	: Government of Bangladesh		
5.	Estimated Cost (In lakh Taka): Total	Taka	FE	CD/VAT
	4563.69	4493.69	70.00	-

iii) Integrated planning for sustainable water management (IPSWAM)

Integrated planning for sustainable water management (IPSWAM) in Bangladesh was started in the year 2003 and will be completed in the year 2008. Funded by the Government of Netherlands, its main objective was to improve the institutional system of BWDB and to impose the national water policy and participatory water management system among the people of the south and south-western zone of the country. The total cost of the project is about 120 million dollars of which about 89 million US\$ will be born by the Government of Netherlands. The main objective of IPSWAM is to strengthen the capability of the organizations in the water sector so that they can perform their activities according to the guidelines of participatory water management and national water policy.

The specific goals of the project are:

- To make sure the participation of the people in all phases of the project.
- To establish sustainable water management in all phases of the project by the participation of the people.
- And to increase the management capability of the people of BWDB.

iv) Land Reclamation Project

In 1978 the Govt. of Bangladesh had taken up Land Reclamation Project (LRP) under the cooperation of Govt. of Netherlands. The aim of the project was to address the problems of floods, erosion and accretion of the eastern deltaic area and to find out suitable remedy to combat the problems in order to reclaim land and to develop the chars. This project comprises two projects namely:

- i) Char Development and Settlement Project (Land based); and
- ii) Meghna Estuary Study (Water based).

Char Development and Settlement Project (CDSP)

CDSP started its journey in 1994. In the meantime phase-1 and phase-II of the project is completed and CDSP-III is on progress will be continued up to June 2009. All activities of CDSP in its different phases concentrated mainly in the greater Noakhali district and small part in Muhuri Accreted Area in Chittagong district. The project in all its phase is mostly supported by Dutch grant.

Main Concept of the Char Development and Settlement Project:

- Settlement and distribution of Khash lands to the landless.
- Integrated Development of reclaimed land identified as khash lands where settlement given to the landless.
- Poverty alleviation through improvement of livelihood of the Char dwellers.
- Contribution to ICZM Frame work as a model.

(5) Big events in 2005

i) Feasibility study and detailed Engineering for Ganges Barrage Project

Bangladesh is located in the delta of the three great rivers, the Ganges, the Brahmaputra and the Meghna. The Ganges Dependent Area (GDA) in south-western region of Bangladesh constitutes about 37 percent of the total area of the country. About one-third of the population of the country lives in this area.

The Ganges is the only source of fresh surface water for a vast area in the greater districts of Rajshahi, Pabna, Kushtia, Jessore, Khulna, Faridpur and Barisal. Therefore, it is imperative to construct a barrage across the river Ganges for utilization of its water resources for the overall development of this area.

The Ganges Barrage has the vital importance in respect of navigation, fishery, forestry, and above all environmental protection and safe guarding bio-diversity in addition to irrigation in the south-western region of the country. Attaining self-sufficiency in food production through maximizing yield from the land is the key for development. Therefore, the Ganges Barrage Project must be set at its proper location considering all points in view i.e. physical, functional, economical, environmental etc. in order to maximize benefit.

Key points of the project:

1. Project Title : Feasibility Study and Detailed Engineering for Ganges Barrage
2. i) Sponsoring Ministry : Ministry of Water Resources
ii) Executing Agency : Bangladesh Water Development Board.
3. Execution Period:
i) Commencement : 2004-2005
ii) Completion : 2007-2008
4. Manner of Implementation:
i) Modality of carrying out the study/survey : By engaging International and local consulting firm under the supervision of BWDB.
ii) Financed by : Government of Bangladesh.
5. Estimated cost (In Lakh Taka) : Total Taka CD/VAT
1,176.85 1,176.85 -

ii) Construction of Administrative Building named “PANI BHABAN”

Bangladesh Water Development Board has taken a decision to construct a 24-storied building named “Pani Bhaban” on its own land at 72, Green Road, Dhaka-1215 with a view that all offices of Bangladesh Water Development Board and those under the Ministry of Water Resources shall be shifted to its own building and thereby saves a huge amount of rent every year. The Building shall be constructed on 600,000 sft areas having usable area of approx. 340,000 sft for office space. The main component of the building/structure plans are, 500 seat multipurpose auditorium, commercial center, rest house & residential building, central mosque, internal roads/walk ways, circulation, parking area, services building, water reservoir, security guard rooms, landscaping/arboretum etc. The project will be funded from revenue budget of Government of Bangladesh.

2. About NARBO activity

(1) Activities of BWDB implemented in 2005 as the member

Since becoming a member of NARBO, BWDB has been associated with various activities of NARBO. Recently the Chief Planning of BWDB has taken part in the 2nd NARBO General Meeting held in Indonesia. Bangladesh Water Development Board has been according continues effort through Joint Rivers Commission, Bangladesh to discuss related matter with the co-riparian countries for formation of the River Basin Organization (RBO) for the betterment of the people of the region.

(2)The contact person and organization’s web-site

1) The name of the contact person and contact number (including e-mail address)

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Bangladesh.

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E-mail: azizul5502@yahoo.com

: azizul550220@yahoo.com.sg

2) Your organization’s web-site URL (English and local language)

www.bwdb.gov.bd

(3) Resolutions and expectations for NARBO activities

1) BWDB resolutions

BWDB resolutions are as follows:

- i) Water resources management and development in Bangladesh is a very difficult task because of its unique geographical setting and the huge temporal variation in the river flow. About 93% of the catchment area of the rivers flowing through Bangladesh lies outside the country. Withdrawal of water in the upper catchment areas worsens the situation even more. The country suffers severe water stress during the dry season. BWDB expects that NARBO can play a vital role to minimize the transboundary river basin dispute that would ultimately help Bangladesh to develop an effective water resources management and basin wise development of the transboundary rivers passing through Bangladesh to the sea.
- ii) Expansion of NARBO scope of activity as river basin development organization.
- iii) Increase the number of NARBO member to act as an effective international water sector Organization.

2) Expectations for NARBO activities

NARBO activities can help in:

- Cooperation in Strengthening the Capacity building of BWDB in implementing IWRM and improving water management and allocation through - training courses, workshops, scholarship programs.
- Strengthen the capacity and effectiveness of RBOs for the promotion of IWRM and improvement of water related issues of water sector agencies and knowledge partner organizations.
- Providing information and lessons learnt on IWRM from different NARBO organizations.
- Sharing and technology transfer through - the NARBO web site, publications, electronic newsletters, and media.
- Co-operation for improved management of water resources in the transboundary river basins of Bangladesh.
- Offering more and effective training and scholarship programme in the forthcoming years.

(4) Accessibility to the NARBO web-site (<http://www.narbo.jp>)

1) Whether you can access to the NARBO web-site

Yes.

2) Whether you can access to the ADB's web-site (<http://www.adb.org/>) and the ADBI's web-site (<http://www.adbi.org/>)

Yes.

3) Who can accesses NARBO web-site usually

i) Office of the Chief Planning, BWDB, Dhaka.

ii) Directorate of Planning-1, BWDB, Dhaka.

4) The way of the access (Dial up or others)

Broad Band