

# BDP-2100 for Integrated, Holistic and Adaptive Development

Workshop on Implementation of Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100: River System and Estuaries based Hotspots  
08 February 2024 || Conference Room, DC Office, Bhola



*Speakers in the Workshop: Bangladesh Delta Plan-2100 is not a matter of imposition, it works in a bottom-up approach, BDP-2100 will be multi-sectoral, salient feature of delta planning is that it is indigenous planning, i.e., planning incorporating indigenous knowledge, Photo: COAST*

## 1. Introduction and Key-objective of this workshop:

A day-long consultation workshop on “Implementation of Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100: River System and Estuaries based hotspots” was held on 08 February 2024, at Deputy Commissioner's Conference [DC] Room, Bhola, organized by Support to Implementation of Bangladesh Delta Plan-2100 [SIBDP]. The workshop mainly divided into three courses of actions. 1). Inaugural session where invited guests spoke, 2). Technical session where some presentations are delivered related with BDP and its overview, Investments projects and 3). Conducted group exercise with participants to generate some new ideas on the future projects under Delta Plan.

In group-based exercise, there are five groups have proposed a total of 13 projects under the five thematic areas- a) Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), b. Environment & Ecosystem Conservation, c. Water Supply and Sanitation d. Water for Agriculture, e. Flood Risk Managements, considering the local context on the BDP 2100 implementation program roadmap.

## 2. Key-participants of this workshop:

Dr. Md. Kawsar Ahmed, Hon'ble Member (Secretary), General Economic Department [GED] was the chief guest at the workshop presided by Mr. Arifuzzaman, Deputy Commissioner and District Magistrate, Bhola. The special guests were Mr. Md. Khorshed Alam, Project Director (Joint Secretary), SIBDP 2100 Project, Mr. Manash Mitra,

Joint Head (Joint Secretary), Delta Wing, GED. Apart selected government officials from different coastal districts, professor & academician have participated and spoke. Only the COAST Foundation has invited and participated as an NGO & CSO representative in this workshop.

## 3. COAST's Participation:

A total of three participants from the organization have participated. They enriched the group discussions with their effective participation and valuable feedback in three of the five groups. Syed Aminul Hoque, Director-ME&IA, Group-1 (Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)), Rashida Begum, RTL, Bhola, Group-3 (Environment & Ecosystem Conservation), and Md. Hasan, Head-MEAL & Documentation, Group- 4 (Water for Agriculture) participates. Syed Aminul Hoque presented their group work presentation on behalf of their group.

## 4. Inaugural Session:

In the speech as chief guest Dr. Md. Kawsar Ahmed said, BDP-2100 has been developed with focus on the climate change, such plans were first developed by Russia after the Russian Revolution and China, Malaysia and some other countries followed Russia and prepared their 50 years plan. We have 100-year delta plan, we translate it into the perspective plan, five-year plan and simultaneously we translate it into annual development plan for financing and implementation. About 25% of the total population lives in

our coastal areas, they are fighting with climate change. They need economic, social & political development.

In the speech as Special Guest **Mr. Md. Khorshed Alam** said, the salient feature of delta planning is indigenous approach planning and implementation. The plan is incorporating local knowledge. So, your opinion is very important, what kind of problems are there, what kind of projects can be taken up, how much investment can be made, this event is held today to discuss all the issues.

In the speech as chair **Mr. Arifuzzaman** opined the Bhola district is vulnerable following characterized the hotspots described in the delta plan-2100. Among this one hotspot is the “Coastal Region” and another one is the “River & Estuaries”. Bhola has abundant submerged char, the livelihood of the people here is fatally affected by climate change.

### 5. Technical Session:

Three Power Point were presented in the technical session, in which Mr. Md. Khorshed Alam, Project Director (Joint Secretary), SIBDP has presented on “Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100 and its Overview”, Mr. Md. Mafidul Islam, Additional Secretary (Retd.) and Ex-Chief, GED, presented on “Planning of BDP 2100: Project and Investment” and Ms. Jakia Akter, Senior Specialist, CEGIS, has presented on “BDP 2100 MRS [Major River System] Basin Implementation Program”.

Through these presentations, participants were able to clearly understand about implementation BDP-2100 program strategies for Major River Systems [MRS] and estuaries, Features of BDP 2100, Adaptive Delta Management Approach in BDP 2100, Vision, Mission and Goals of BDP 2100, challenges and opportunities of major river system and estuary like- river network system, Potential source of water, provide save and cheap mode of transportation & navigation for business and recreation, protocol route, Blue Economy [Fisheries,



Shipping, Ship building, Transportation, Ecotourism], Inland River ports, sea ports, sediment management, Land reclamation, Delta building [Horizontal/vertical], pro delta building for stability, etc.

### 7. Group Work and presentation based on 5 Thematic Issues:

Issue-based group works were conducted on the roadmap for the BDP 2100 Implementation Programs. Participants were divided into five groups based on five thematic issues and each group discussed among themselves and developed one or more project proposals. Then it was presented by the group leaders and everyone have opportunity to give their opinion there. The proposed projects were prepared describing specific sections like Problems, Solutions, Project Name, Project Area, Project Activities, Delta Aligned Goals, Time Frame, Lead/Co-Lead Ministry/Agency & Estimated Budget, etc.

#### 7.1: Group-1 (Disaster Risk Reduction-DRR)

Considering the problems of River and Estuaries like siltation & sedimentation and navigation, reduction in upstream flow, salinity intrusion and fish migration changes, this group has proposed to take a long-term Project titled “Ensure Upstream Flow in the River and Estuary through Offtake Augmentation and Strategic Sediment management” at the Goari Basin, Arial Khan River & all offtakes in south-western rivers.

They claim that such projects will help of water flow augmentation and eliminate navigational lock. The major activities under this project will be dredging, sediment management nationally and contribute diplomatic role on transboundary issues. This project will be jointly implemented by MoWR, BWDB, BIWTA. MoFA and aligned with Delta's Goal 2: Ensure water security and efficiency of water usages, Goal 3: Ensure Sustainable integrated river systems and Estuary management and Goal 4: Conserve and preserve wetland and ecosystem and promote their wise use.

#### 7.2: Group-2 (Water Supply and Sanitation)

The members of Group-2 proposed 4 projects, the details of which are given below-

**Proposed Project-1:** Considering the barriers/problems on canal and weak ponds this group has proposed 3–5-year long Project titled “Improvement of Ponds and Canal Across Country Project” for removing barriers and protecting canals and ponds at the coastal area.

**Proposed Project-2:** They proposed 3–5-year long Project titled “Salinity Management Project” to tackle the salinity intrusion problem by establishing effective embankments, strengthening associated institutions, building water treatment plants, rainwater harvesting, increasing surface water by digging new ponds, wastewater management, and creating mass awareness.

**Proposed Project-3:** Considering the scarcity of pure drinking water and solve this problem this group has proposed 3–5-year-long project titled “Women Involvement in Water Management and Sanitation Project” by arranging training and awareness about water management and sanitation and providing socio-economic input support.

**Proposed Project-4:** By considering the lack of adequate drainage system infrastructure, development of an unplanned drainage system and lack of public awareness about drainage usage/maintenance they have proposed project title “Upgrading Drainage System Project”. To solve this problem, they recommend the establishment of durable and sustainable drainage systems, and the involvement of local communities to create public awareness for periodic maintenance of drainage systems.

### 7.3 Group-3 (Environment and Ecosystem Conservation)

The members of Group-3 proposed 4 projects, the details of which are given below-

**Proposed Project-1:** Considering the continued river & marine pollution, this group has proposed 3–5-year long Project titled “Conservation of River and Marine Biodiversity through Reduction or Mitigation of Pollution” For reduction/mitigation of plastic pollution, industrial, ghost fishing & other pollution through



awareness building, campaign, and law implementation at the coastal and riverine areas. Major activities under this project will be impact assessment, training, mass campaign, law implementation, monitoring, alternative materials. This project will be jointly implemented by MoFL, MoE, MoPa, MoA, MoLaw and aligned with Delta's Goal 4.

**Proposed Project-2:** They proposed 3–5-year long Project titled “Mitigation/Adaptation of Salinity Intrusion through Developing of Salinity Culture Technology Fish & Agricultural Species” to address the salinity intrusion problem through the blue carbon sequestration and salinity tolerant technology development at the coastal and riverine areas. Major activities under this project will be demonstration of salinity tolerant culture technology, training, field day etc. This project will be jointly implemented by MoFL, MoE, MoA and aligned with Delta's Goal 4.

**Proposed Project-3:** Due to Buffalo grazing land scarcity they have proposed for building controlled area for grazing and made *Mujib Kella* for their living during cyclone under the project title “Sustainable Livestock Development in Char/Outreach Areas to Conserve Buffalo” at the detached char/isolated area. Demonstration of salinity tolerant culture technology, training, field day etc. Major activities under this project will be developed controlled grazing area and building *Mujib Kella*, project will be jointly implemented by MoFL, MoE, MoA and aligned with Delta's Goal 4.

**Proposed Project-4:** Considering the various blockage of River channel, this group has proposed 3–5-year long Project titled “Restoration of Natural Ecosystem of coastal Rivers” For maintaining continuous river flow at the coastal and riverine areas. Major activities under this project will be widening of sluice gates like river widening, silt management etc. This project will be jointly implemented by LGED, BWDB, MoFL, MoFECC, MoA and is in line with Delta's Goal-4.

### 7.4 Group-4 (Water for Agriculture)

This group identified several problems considering the local context- scarcity of suitable water in the dry season, reduced drainage capacity of water channel, uncertain rainfall, increasing salinity in the dry season, water logging, decreasing the production of freshwater culture fish, etc. They have proposed to identify the suitable water connectivity the fresh water source to

the agricultural crop land, improve drainage system and introducing the salinity tolerant variety under the 5 yearlong “Development of Irrigation & Drainage System in Aspects of the Increasing of Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock Production Project” at Bhola and Patuakhali.

Major activities under this project will be suitable water source (Tetulia, Payera), mapping of the water channel of Tetulia and Paira river, new canal development to the fresh water river for agricultural crop land, excavation of canal for improve drainage system, saline tolerant crop variety demonstration implementation and training and public awareness. This project will be jointly implemented by BADC, Agriculture, Fishery & livestock dept., and aligned with Delta's Goals 1,2 & 3.

### 7.5 Group-5 (Flood Risk Managements)

The members of Group-5 proposed 3 projects, the details of which are given below-

**Proposed Project-1:** Due to frequent and severe floods they have proposed construction of embankments at Bhola-Chadpur and Barisal under the “River Bank Improvement Program and Poldering System Project”. Major activities under this project will be flood control embankment, river bank protection works, construction of regulators etc. This project will be implemented by WDB and aligned with Delta's Goals 1 and 2.

**Proposed Project-2:** They proposed dredging, bank protection at Bhola-Chadpur and Barisal under “Sustainable and Integrated Approach for River Stabilization for the Ganges-Meghna River Basin Project” due to sedimentation and reduction in water carrying capacity of river system. Major activities under this project will be dredging, bank protection works, and re-excavation of existing water bodies. The project will be jointly implemented by WB and WTO and is in line with Delta's Goals 1 and 2.

**Proposed Project-3:** Due to insufficient flood information they have proposed to establish data acquisition and monitoring system under “Satellite Based Rainfall and Water Level Monitoring for Flood Prediction Project” at Bhola-Chadpur and Barisal. Major activities under this project will be data acquisition & model development, and distribution. This project will be jointly implemented by WDB and SPARSO and is in line with Delta's Goals 1 and 2.

### 8. Overall Learning from this workshop:

- It is essential to relate the project area with the BDP 2100 Hotspot area and describe the problem statement of the project in light of the Hotspot issues and challenges.
- It is required to establish clear linkage of the project with BDP 2100 goals, strategies, sub-strategies, approaches, etc.
- Bangladesh Delta Plan (BDP) 2100 is a Holistic and integrated multisectoral Plan, considering many themes and sectors, individual strategies as well as integrated ones for the whole country considering the needs of all water-related sectors.
- BDP 2100 Strongly focuses on Climate Change issues and the Adaptive Delta Management (ADM) approach and pursues the following principles: Living with Nature; Nature-based Solution (NbS); Ecosystem-based Approach (EbA) and Low Impact Development (LID)
- BDP 2100 focuses on investments for achieving its goal that should be robust and flexible (adaptive) under certain changing conditions of (1) Climate Change including future water conditions based on transboundary water development and (2) socio-economic development and related land use changes

### 9. Closing session:

In the closing speech Md. Khorshed Alam Project Director (Joint Secretary), SBDP 2100 Project, thanked all the participants present, he said, we will contact team-based focal again later, this plan is not a matter of imposition, it works in a bottom-up approach, BDP-2100 will be multi-sectoral. He thanked everyone and announced the end of the workshop.

