

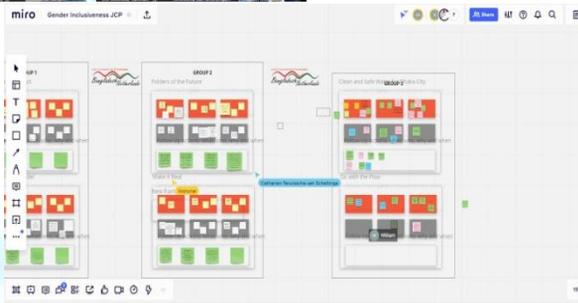
JCP Newsletter December, 2020

This is the 5th Newsletter of the Joint Cooperation Programme Bangladesh – the Netherlands. JCP is an applied research programme, contributing to new knowledge supporting adaptive water management in Bangladesh and the implementation of the Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100



Session on gender inclusiveness in the Joint Cooperation Programme Bangladesh – the Netherlands

An online session on gender inclusiveness in the Joint Cooperation Programme Bangladesh – the Netherlands was held in 12th November, 2020. The participants of the session were from IWM, CEGIS, Deltares & Wageningen University & Research. At first William Oliemans, JCP Programme Manager gave a brief description about Opening and background on Gender Involvement in the JCP.



Then Md. Ashis Mawla, Gender Specialist, CEGIS gave a presentation on Gender Inclusion in JCP. After that all participants divided into groups & participate in a brainstorm session about gender impact & opportunities. Few nice suggestions for actions came from this session that can be taken up in coming periods.

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Upcoming Activities

JCP Polders of the Future sub-project

For the JCP Polders of the Future sub-project, the initial data collection has been done for the case study polder 40/1. In this polder 4 regulators are draining the polder water though currently they are not functioning properly. The 23 Flushing Gates are being used for irrigation purposes.

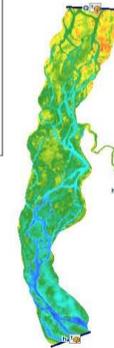
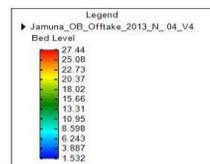
Based upon these data Mathematical modeling work is on progress for determining the water availability, identify the drought and water logged area. Based upon the crop water requirements and suitability of regulator for fish migration, the design of the regulator will be adapted as well as Gate Operation rules.



JCP Sub Project: Old Brahmaputra: Go with the Flow

The offtake of the Old Brahmaputra River, a distributary of the Brahmaputra (Jamuna) River, is facing serious siltation. Both the flow from the main river as well as the maximum diversion ratio show a decreasing trend over the years from 1964 to 2017. During the lean period, this flow diversion is drastically reduced and currently, in dry periods it is totally disconnected. To ensure dry season flow in the Old Brahmaputra along with enhancement of the environmental condition, improvement of the navigation facilities throughout the year, increasing irrigation facilities and fish production, whilst ensuring dry season flow in other connected rivers with Old Brahmaputra (such as the Sitalakha, Jhinai, Bansi, Banar), a better offtake management needs to be implemented. The objective of this project is to assess the morphological characteristics of the Old Brahmaputra off take and to develop suitable off-take management options (structural and non-structural). Furthermore, innovative dredging options will be explored in the river reach to ensure dry season flow in Old Brahmaputra river and its distributaries along with other water usage/ecosystem services in the river are also studied.

JCP team members are building a cutting-edge mathematical model of the Old Brahmaputra river at the offtake of the river, with the objective/goal to create an insight in reduction of siltation at the river mouth and rejuvenation of connectivity with the mother river Jamuna. The figure shows bathymetry of the Brahmaputra (Jamuna) river and its distributary Old Brahmaputra on the left bank of the Jamuna.

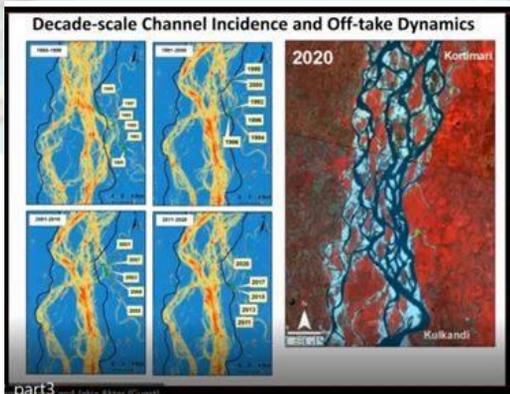


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Knowledge sharing program (KSP) on modelling sustainable offtake management for the research Study “Old Brahmaputra: Go with the Flow”

An online training has been arranged by Joint Cooperation Program (JCP), named “Knowledge sharing program (KSP) on modelling sustainable offtake management for the research Study “Old Brahmaputra: Go with the Flow”. 47 participants are attending the training, which ranges for 4 weeks (2 Nov to 25 Nov, 2020), distributed over a week in 2 days, and 3 hours a day (Microsoft team platform).

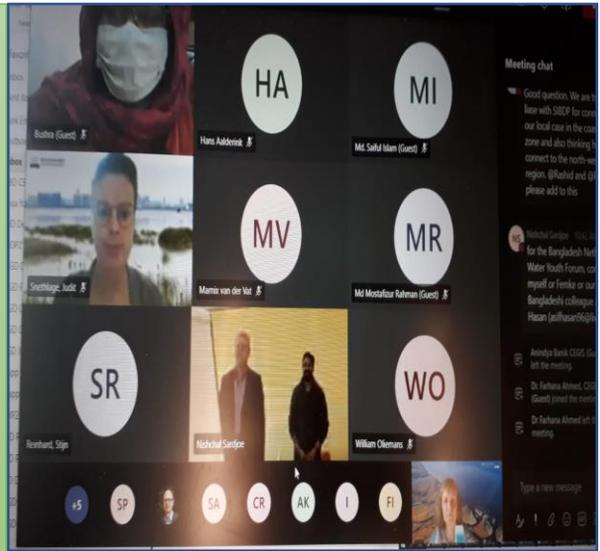
The training content focuses on background of river morphology and its concept, as well as hands on training of Delft3D4 mathematical modelling. Each training day ends with an interactive questionnaire session. This training will help the “Go with the Flow” team to implement project objectives as well as carry on research work with sound knowledge. Participants are from diverse background attending from JCP partner institutes (CEGIS, IWM and Deltares). 11 Participants are female. JCP thrives for gender balance and is working towards that direction.



JCP Annual Meeting in November 2020

On 17 and 18 November 2020 the Annual Meeting of JCP was held online. 23 people attended from all 4 organizations. Sessions included the reporting on 2020, and the planning on 2021. Special attention was paid to private sector involvement and inclusion of gender aspects.

We had an Annual Meeting in February 2020, and then concluded that it was very useful to look back together to 2019, but too late for planning for 2020. The annual plan 2020 actually already needed to be submitted by the end of November to the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and to our management. Therefore, the annual meeting was held in November, and online as travel restrictions did not permit the Dutch partners to come to Bangladesh or vice versa.

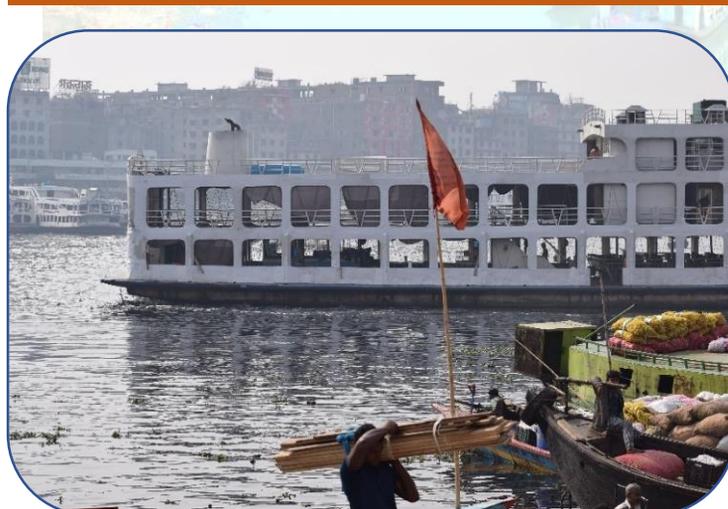


Progress 2020

- * For Information for Impact there is a new test version in the Google Play Store ([Click here](#))
- * Polder of the Future has an inventory of data, liaised with BWDB and further field work is coming up
- * Go with the Flow is working on Delft3D modelling for dynamic off take management with BIWTA
- * Clean and Safe Water in Dhaka City have been collecting further data and organized training.
- * Make it Real will organize shortly a second workshop on the application of SWAP/WOFOST modelling in Bangladesh context
- * Bangladesh Meta Model has made a lot of progress in further developing the model, and also actively liaised with stakeholders and experts on this

Planning 2021:

- * Overall: all sub-projects will be working on sharing with stakeholders the results of their work as it is coming.
- * Information for Impact is working on a business model for the app, and is looking with GED and other users for a good opportunity to launch it
- * Polders of the Future will be working on design options for different gate management



*Go with the Flow will work on improving dry season flow/dredging, and ecosystem services in 2021

- * Clean and safe water in Dhaka city are planning to work with the Youth Network.
- * Make it Real is working on their question about the future water need of future food, and expecting to discuss first estimates regarding an answer for this question with DAE and other stakeholders in 2021.
- * Bangladesh Meta Model, as part of its continuous activities to anchor the process and enhance ownership, will share more about its activities

