

JCP Newsletter November, 2022

This is the 11th 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



Delta Knowledge Days

The Joint Cooperation Programme Bangladesh – The Netherlands (JCP) started in November 2018, funded by the Embassy of the Kingdom of The Netherlands (EKN) in Bangladesh. It is jointly conducted by Bangladeshi and Dutch institutes IWM, CEGIS, Deltares and WUR. The knowledge developed as part of JCP is used to support the implementation of the Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100 (BDP2100). For sharing of knowledge and dissemination of project outputs, the conference "Delta Knowledge Days (DKD)" was organized 17-18 September 2022 in Dhaka.



The report on DKD2022 is available on <https://jcpbd.nl/research-publications/reports/>

Shortly We will upload the detailed report of the subprojects. To keep posted follow our Facebook page. For easy reference you may scan the QR code to go directly to our Facebook page





The objective of the Delta Knowledge Days is to share knowledge and insights. Almost 300 participants took part in this 2-day conference. People from high-level policy makers, like government officials, Ministry people attend the conference. There are also academicians from different Universities, researchers, students attend the conference. The conference was to create platforms for sharing, and it was done in an inclusive manner. Practitioners, scientists and policy makers that can contribute, but were not necessarily part of the JCP set-up, were explicitly also invited to join. There were 8 parallel sessions and 5 training/ demonstration sessions held during the conference. Various types of topics were discussed during these sessions as- Bangladesh Metamodel, morphological challenges for adaptive river management, information services for decision support in uncertainty, agriculture and water management, agricultural transformation, coastal and polder design for future, building with nature, water quality.



Conclusions And recommendations:

Conclusion 1: Knowledge is an important part of the Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100 and other plans. New questions for applied research are coming up all the time.

Conclusion 2: Innovation requires new types of collaboration and new knowledge. Invest and explore actively, with all stakeholders.

Recommendation 1: Organize Delta Knowledge Days every 2 years, with both knowledge providers and users

Recommendation 2: Create a Knowledge Agenda on Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100 related topics, based on practical needs of knowledge clients and linked to the updating and implementation of the BDP2100

Recommendation 3: Organize research as a 'side-by-side' process with implementation. Ensure that the question for the research has an 'owner', and the answer links to implementation.

Recommendation 4: Formulate an applied research programme as part of each of the larger scale implementation programmes

Recommendation 5: Funding for academic research, higher studies and short courses should be considered linked to BDP2100.

Recommendation 6: Develop professional capacity building and training programmes focusing on Delta knowledge for government, research institutes, academicians, NGOs, and private sector.

Message from Directors and Key note Speaker



In the Closing session the directors of the 4 partner organizations and the key note speaker gave their impression:

Malik Fida A Khan, ED of CEGIS stated the importance of knowledge in the validation of the National Adaptation Plan (NAP), in which about 52% of the budget is for MoWR, like in BDP2100 also 80%. Further he indicated that the good bonding between IWM and CEGIS is providing quality knowledge to the country, and he likes to continue that.

Toon Segeren, Director of Deltares stated that challenges are ahead. Partners worldwide are to work together

Md. Zahirul Haque Khan, ED of IWM stated that JCP brought the 4 institutes together. 'We need more knowledge and knowledge for various work areas'. He welcomes continued cooperation.

Arjan Budding, Programme Manager Water of Wageningen University and Research stated the importance of integrating knowledge and working together to achieve impact of the knowledge produced.

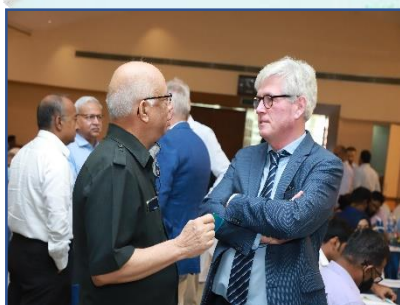
Prof Saleemul Huq, Director of ICCCAD stated the need to be going forward. Climate change makes things worse. The Netherlands and Bangladesh as delta countries are ahead and can go help others as knowledge hub.



Speech of the Chief Guest

Mr Kabir bin Anwar, Sr Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources

Mr Kabir bin Anwar, Sr Secretary of the Ministry of Water Resources stressed in his speech that we need to work alongside with nature for resilient infrastructure. Water quality, with the ground water level going down rapidly, need to be addressed and should not be neglected. 'It should not happen that we only use 8% of all the river water, we may use another 10%. The point is, where to store it.' Internal water management inside the polders, with half of the sluice gates not functioning, need to be addressed. 'For how you can solve things in deltas, you may wish to go to the Netherlands. And if you want to see resilience, you look at Bangladesh'. Both countries are close to each other.



Netherlands Exposure Visit 2022

The knowledge developed as part of JCP is used to support the implementation of the Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100 (BDP2100). For sharing of knowledge and dissemination of project outputs, an exposure visit and a metamodel training was organized in the Netherlands. The study visit took place from October 1-15, 2022. Different sub-project teams from CEGIS, IWM, DAE, DOE participated in the training and exposure visit. The goals of the study visit were:

1. Exchange and learn from experience in delta management in Bangladesh and the Netherlands (water, food, environment, infrastructure, governance)
2. Work together on joint products of the research projects
3. Promote contacts to undertake joint research

The team engaged with experts on topics related to advances of different sectors like global data and monitoring techniques, ecological modelling, sustainable dredging, the future of delta management, intensive greenhouse agriculture. The team also participated in a visit to port of Rotterdam (Maasvlakte2), Water Authority Rivierenland, Tomatoworld.



Agenda:

- 14-16 February, 2023, PSTU Climate Smart Agriculture Conference
- 19-20 February, 2023, The 6th International Conference (6th UIU-ICSD 2023) on Sustainable Development at UIU campus, Dhaka.
- International Perspectives on Water Resources and the Environment (IPWE) conference will be held during 4-6 January, 2023 in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

This Newsletter is prepared in the context of the Joint Cooperation Programme Bangladesh – the Netherlands, supported by Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Bangladesh, CEGIS, IWM, WUR and Deltares. As the JCP Programme will be completed by 30 November 2022, this will be the last newsletter. We thank you for your interest. Please note - Bangladesh Delta Bulletin – mail for subscriptions and contributions to deltabulletin@gmail.com