

## DG WARPO Visits Netherlands



DG WARPO, DG BWDB, Secretary MoWR, Joint Secretary, MoWR are seen at a presentation in the Hague

Engr. M. Inamul Haque, Director General, WARPO visited The Netherlands from 5 to 9 November, 2007, for attending the Twinning Committee Meeting in the Hague. Mr. Syed Mohammad Zobaer, Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources lead the Bangladesh delegation in the Meeting. Mr. H. S. Mozaddad Faruque Director General, BWDB, Mr. Mahbulul Alam, Joint Secretary Ministry of Water Resources, were also present in the Meeting.

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## Workshop on Ecosystem Service and Poverty Alleviation in South Asia (ESPASSA)

A Workshop on Ecosystem Service and Poverty Alleviation in South Asia (ESPASSA) was held on 17 December 2007, at BRAC centre Inn, Dhaka. The workshop was jointly organized by the Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC) and IUCN Bangladesh. There were three sessions, named, 1) Situation Analysis in Bangladesh, 2) Knowledge and Trends on Ecosystem Services and Drivers, 3) Poverty and Ecosystem Service Linkage in Bangladesh. Mr. M. Inamul Haque, Director General of WARPO presented a paper on Inland Water. In his presentation, he expressed the need for reversing the present trend of exploiting water resources in industry and domestic purposes without treatment of the effluents, to avoid future catastrophe. He stressed for people's awareness of their rights & their strong pressure. He opined that quality control of the streams, conservation of resources, and creation of wildlife sanctuary can lead to better future. The Director General of WARPO also gave importance to uphold basic and historical rights of the co-riparian people within a state, and between states of international rivers. He emphasized the need for a Water Use Act to enforce government policy in Water Sector. Dr. Ainun Nishat, Country Representative, IUCN Bangladesh suggested to make a balance between the pressures of increasing population and the efforts to protect the ecosystem. Mr. M. Asaduzamman, Research Director, BIDS, Mr. Philip Gain, Director, Society for Human and Environment Development, and Mr. Junaid Kabir Choudhury, Former Conservator of Forests were the lead discussants on Agro- ecosystems, Coastal Forests Hills and Uplands respectively. Dr. Moushumi Chaudhury, Senior Research Fellow, Professor Dr. A.K. Enamul Haque, Dr. Atiur Rahman, were also discussants in the workshop.



DG WARPO Mr. M. Inamul Haque, Dr. Ainun Nishat, Country Representative, IUCN Bangladesh & others

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## WARPO Participated in International Training Program on Sector Wide Approach on Water Sector

A three-day long International Training program was held in Westin Hotel Dhaka during 12-14 November 2007 on Supporting Sector Programmes on the Water Sector of Bangladesh. Thirty seven participants from different Government Organizations, Developments Partners and NGOs attended the training program. The program was organized



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Top Government Officials are in Senior Level Session

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## Senior Officials attended Water Management Training Course in Hague-Netherlands: 3 - 19 November, 2007

Water Management Training course for the senior officials of Planning Commission, MoWR, WARPO and BWDB was organized by the Royal Dutch Embassy in Dhaka, Bangladesh in cooperation with the Rijkswaterstaat/National Institute for Coastal and Marine Management in ISS Campus of Hague, Netherlands. The training program, were attended by sixteen senior officials of BWDB, WARPO, Planning Commission and MoWR from 3-19 November, 2007. Mr. Md. Shahjahan, Director and Mr. Hasan Parvez, PSO (Eng.) From WARPO participated in this training course.



*Group Photograph of participants in ISS Campus Hague-Netherlands along with Course Coordinator*

During this training course Twinning Committee members, Director General, BWDB and WARPO, Joint Secretary Ministry of Water Resources headed by Mr. Syed Mohammad Zobaer, Secretary, MoWR, Bangladesh visited Netherlands for attending routine Twinning Committee Meeting with the Director General, Rijkswaterstaat, Hague, Netherlands and they stayed there 5-9 November, 2007. GoN-GoB "Twinning Committee" members finalized the draft New Twinning Arrangement (2008-2009) in the meeting, which was held on 7 November 2007 at the office of the Director General, Rijkswaterstaat, Hague. The New Twinning Arrangement is going to be signed in March 2008 in between the "Ministry of Water Resources of Bangladesh" and "The Ministry of Transport, Public-works & Water Management of The Netherlands." in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The meeting also discussed about bi-lateral water management issue in view of achieving Millennium Development Goal(MDG).

The objective of this Senior Official's "Water Management Training" course particularly part-2: "Changing Management and Management Change", was to focus on Organization, Governance, HRD, Leadership (for change) in public body such as BWDB & WARPO and in addition to other issues such as service orientation, empowerment, stakeholder influence, gender, water utilities and inter-institutional cooperation. The training course was mix of classroom-based (8 days) learning, training and teaching. Four daylong field visits were also included. Some of these visits, were organized by Dutch Water Board focusing the issues of decentralization versus merging, governance and stakeholders influence.

## Seminar On Sustainable Water Resources Management for Development In The Asia Pacific Region held At Spain, October, 22-30, 2007



*Mr. Md. Alauddin, Additional Director General, BWDB, Mr. Md. Abdul Mannan Talukder, Joint Chief, MoWR and Dr. Nilufa Islam, Principal Scientific officer of WARPO with all other participants seen in the picture*

The Spanish Agency for International Cooperation (AECI), self-governing body attached to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation through the State Secretariat for International Cooperation, organized a Seminar on "Sustainable Water Resources Management for Development in The Asia Pacific Region", for professionals responsible for Water Resources Management in Asian countries (Bangladesh, Cambodia, The Philippines, Indonesia, East Timor, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam ).

The programme has been organized by TRAGSA at Zaragoza and Madrid in Spain, from 22 to 30 October, 2007, which was intended for the participants having background as decision makers, planners, specialists, academician from public and

private organizations responsible for drawing up and planning policies related to water resources and familiarity with Integrated Management of Water Resources, specially those in which water is the main factor to produce ( agriculture and related sectors) or to satisfy the essential needs, or water as an environmental risk.

A total of 25 participants representing 7 countries including Bangladesh, Cambodia, The Philippines, Indonesia, East Timor, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam attended the seminar. From Bangladesh Mr. Md. Alauddin, Additional Director General, BWDB, Mr. Md. Abdul Mannan Talukder, Joint Chief, MoWR and Dr. Nilufa Islam, Principal Scientific officer of WARPO participated the 9 days programme. The seminar ended with an evaluation and suggestion for future actions to be taken by developing countries to promote human rights, and also to foster an equitable and participatory sustainable development.

## WARPO professional participated in the course: Legal Framework for Water Resources Management

Mr. Saiful Alam, Principal Scientific Officer of WARPO recently attended “Legal Framework of Water resources Management”, a course held in Sydney, Australia between 22 September to 2 October 2007 to learn experiences in other countries. The course was organized by International Development law Organization (IDLO) and funded by Australian Aid (AusAid). The objective of the course was to increase awareness about the legal regulating and policy aspects for water resources management among the Asia Pacific Regional countries.

About 27 participants from Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Srilanka, China, Lao-PDR, Cambodia, Vietnam, Thailand, Mangolia attended the seminar. The course has been very useful in the context of the ongoing activity taken up by WARPO to draft the Bangladesh Water Use Act.



Mr. Saiful Alam PSO(Water Resources), WARPO with other participants

## Implementation of National Water Policy (NWPo): Bangladesh Water Use Act

Water is central to the way of life in Bangladesh. Over time immemorial, the society, the economy and ecosystem of Bangladesh has evolved around the water resources in the country. In the recent time the availability of water both in quantity and quality is challenged by unregulated withdrawal, uncontrolled pollution within the country as well as in the upstream. Bringing water resources to the benefit of natural life and larger population with accountability and transparency a stronger legislation and regulatory framework is required. To modernize the existing laws in Bangladesh in this regard WARPO has undertaken to draft the first Bangladesh Water Use Act within the framework of Regional Technical Assistance for South Asia (RETA), an ADB sponsored project. The Act will give effect of National Water Policy through new rules and regulation in the utilization, appropriation of water resources within the framework of an Integrated Water Resources Management in the country.

## Impact of Proposed Indian River Linking Project

The first Steering Committee meeting of the project “Impact Assessment of Proposed Indian River Linking Project for Inter Basin water Transfer” being implemented by Water Resources Planning Organization was held on 19 August 2007. The meeting was chaired by Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources. The meeting reviewed the Terms of Reference of the consultants. The project started on 25 March 2007 and expected to be complete by September 2008.

## DG WARPO Visits Netherlands (from page 1)

The Twinning Committee members of the Government of Netherlands and the Government of Bangladesh finalized the draft Twinning Arrangement for 2008-2009, in the meeting held on 7 November 2007. The meeting also discussed about water management issues in Netherlands vis-a-vis Bangladesh for greater cooperation in management. The Bangladesh Delegation also visited the Rotterdam Port and the Delta Works Projects in the Zeeland, Netherlands.



DG WARPO visits a lighthouse in Zeeland



Members of the Twinning Committee in the Hague

## ToT Course on Integrated Water Resources Management

A six day long Training of Trainers course on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) was held now 9 to 14 December 2007 at CEGIS. The course was organized by WARPO and CEGIS in cooperation with Bangladesh Water Partnership (BWP). A total of 19 trainees from 15 different organizations attended the course. Two officials (Mr. Md. Masud Alam, SO and Mr. A.K.M. Khusrul Amin, SO) from Water Resources Planning Organization (WARPO) attended the Training Programme. Mr. Quamrul Islam Siddique, President, Bangladesh Water Partnership (BWP) was the chief guest at the Opening Ceremony. Mr. Giasuddin Ahmed Choudhury, Executive Director, CEGIS was the special guest of the session. The Session was chaired by Mr. Mohammad Inamul Haque, Director General WARPO.



*Mr. Mohammad Inamul Haque, DG WARPO, Mr. Giasuddin Ahmed Choudhury, ED, CEGIS and Others are seen in the ToT course on IWRM*

The goal of the ToT was to develop a group of trainers in IWRM from public and the private sectors who would impart training on IWRM in Bangladesh

The objective of the ToT on IWRM was to enable the participants to organize and conduct training course on IWRM.

The ToT course on IWRM comprised of the following sessions:

- Training setting
- Introduction to IWRM
- Collaborative management of the common water resources is the key to a better future for South Asia
- Water Resources Management in Bangladesh
- Water resources system
- Role of Mathematical Modeling as a Tool for IWRM
- Sectoral demands, resource assessment and water allocation

- Water Supply And Sanitation In Integrated Water Resources
- Tools and management instrument of IWRM
- Institutional, Policy and Legislative framework
- Gender perspectives in IWRM
- IWRM Planning Cycle
- Case study on IWRM in Khulna-Jessore Drainage Rehabilitation Project

Basic IWRM Principles and Trends are:

- Demand-driven /responsive
- Demand management
- Water as an economic, social and environmental good
- Integrated approach to water management
- Governments role from provider to facilitator-participatory and transparent governance
- Stakeholder participation and civic partnership

There was a field visit to Compartmental Pilot Project (CPP) in Tangail District at the last day of the Training Programme.

## Research Grants on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)

IWRM is a process, which promotes the coordinated development and management of water, land and related resources, in order to maximize the resultant economic and social welfare in an equitable manner without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystem. Exploitation and utilization of water resources changes the original physical system and have an impact on ecology. Careful management can avoid problem in over exploitation of resources, habitat destruction, degradation of environmental quality, growing pressure on natural system and so forth. IWRM has been practiced in water sector projects. Sagorkhali-Borobeela Drainage Project and Khulna-Jessore Drainage Rehabilitation Project are successful intervention of IWRM. Therefore IWRM related projects could be taken for better management. However, the International Foundation for Science (IFS) supports developing country (social and natural) scientists' research relevant to the IWRM. IFS support is primarily financial and in the form of research grants. Applicants must be citizens of a developing country and carry out their research in a developing country. Applications are welcome on a year-round basis. More information is available on the internet at [www.ifs.se](http://www.ifs.se).

## United Nations Climate Change Conference, Bali, Indonesia, 2007

The BALI - UN Conference on Climate Change held in, 3 to 14 December, 2007 hosted by the Government of Indonesia, took place at the Bali International Convention Centre. More than 10,000 participants over 180 countries including 28 representatives of Bangladesh together with observers from intergovernmental and non governmental organizations and the media attended the conference. The two week period conference included the sessions of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UNFCCC, its subsidiary bodies as well as the Meeting of the Parties (MOP) to the Kyoto Protocol. The conference ended with a ministerial declaration in the last week.

The conference concluded with the adoption of the Bali roadmap, which chalk-out the strategy for a new negotiating process to be concluded by 2009 that will ultimately lead to a post-2012 international agreement on climate change. Within the Road Map ground-breaking decisions were taken which include the launch of the Adaptation Fund as well as decisions on technology transfer and on reducing emissions from deforestation. It is expected that the implementation of these decisions will play key role in maintaining a secure environment free from climate risk.

## Seminar Programme by WARPO Professionals

In the last 4 months of 2007 WARPO professionals have performed 4 presentations in the conference room of WARPO. Presentations are mainly held on the topic related to water management and planning, current development issues, professional training in home and abroad etc. The schedule of the presentations during this period of Newsletter is given below:

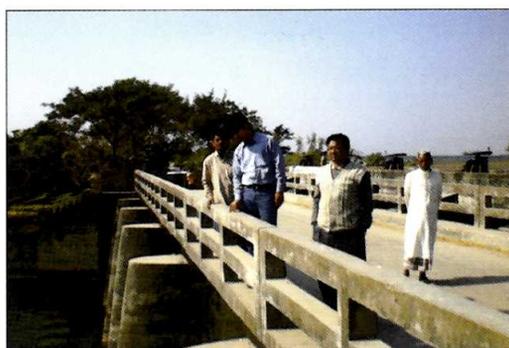
Sl no.	Name & Designation	Topic	Date
1	M. Inamul Haque Director General	• Flood Management In Bangladesh	20 August 2007
		• Inland Water and Emerging Issues	27 December 2007
2	Nahid Sultana SO (Soil)	Strategic Transport Plan (STP) for Dhaka City	18 November 2007
3	Dr.Nilufa Islam, PSO (Env., forest & Fisheries)	Seminar on Sustainable Water Resources Management for Development in the Asia Pacific Region, Spain, October 22-30, 2007	3 December 2007



Mr. M. Inamul Haque, DG, WARPO (left) and Nahid Sultana, SO (Soil) (Right) delivering their presentation on the Seminar Program of WARPO

## National Water Management Plan (NWMP) Implementation: Rangpur & Nilphamari

WARPO started monitoring of National Water Management Plan (NWMP) implementation and verify the proposed projects for Clearing House. Syed Abu Shoaib, Scientific Officer (Surface Water) and Nahid Sultana, Scientific Officer (Soil) visited Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) and Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) office of Rangpur and Nilphamari Districts recently. Mr. Jahirul Islam, Superintending Engineer and Mr. Akmal Hossain, Exclusive Engineer, BWDB, Rangpur facilitated and discussed about their implementation status of different projects as per NWMP and showed their interest on checklist of Clearing House for water sector projects. WARPO officials visited different project sites of BWDB and discussed with the stakeholders. They also discussed with Eng. Rezaul Karim of LGED, Rangpur about overall implementation of NWMP and the procedure of Clearing House.

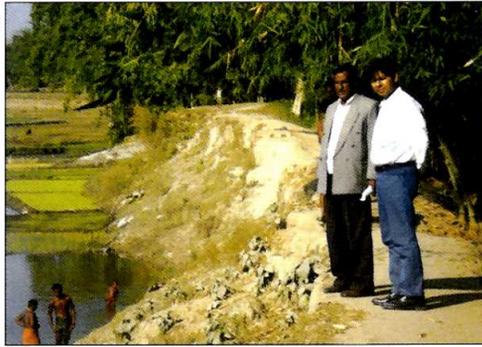


Project site visit by Syed Abu Shoaib, SO, WARPO with BWDB, Rangpur staff (left) and talking with Stakeholders of that area (right)

Cont'd overleaf

Cont'd ----- **National Water Management Plan (NWMP) Implementation**

At Nilphamari, Mr. Salauddin Ahmed, Exclusive Engineer of LGED gave a brief on the project implementation of his area and appreciated WARPO's role for implementation of monitoring of NWMP & Clearing House. Sub-Divisional Engineer, BWDB, Nilphamari gave a brief description on their project under implementation and proposed project. Later they took the WARPO officials in the Buri-Teesta Irrigation Project sites and river bank protection of the proposed projects area.



*Proposed Project site visit with BWDB staff, Nilphamari (left) and Discussion with LGED officers of Nilphamari (right)*

The last visit was at Teesta Barrage Irrigation Project of BWDB in Dalia of Nilphamary. Mr. Atiqur Rahman, Exclusive Engineer, BWDB, Dalia gave a brief on the ongoing and proposed projects of his area. He gave importance on the operation and maintenance of the Teesta Barrage Irrigation Project for the benefit of command area of the project. He explained the justification of the proposed projects of Dalia to the WARPO officials and guide them to visit the entire area.

## **RETA Supporting IWRM (Bangladesh) Project**

RETA Supporting IWRM (Bangladesh) Project has been started on 01 August, 2007 with the financial assistance of the Netherlands Government through Asian Development Bank (ADB) and will be completed on 31 January, 2009. ADB is the executing agency and WARPO is the implementing agency. Total Project Cost is Taka 19.31 million of which Project Aid is Taka 14.745 million and GoB contribution is Taka 4.565 million.

The overall objective of the project is to facilitate and strengthen effective implementation process of IWRM as outlined in the policy, plan, and programs while meeting the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD).

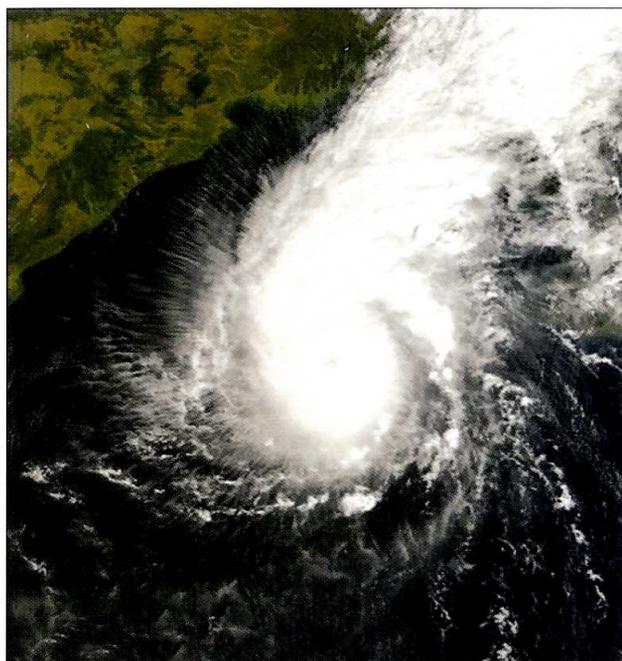
The specific outputs and the activities include:

- (i) A clearly defined Work plan stipulating action agendas and approaches of the project endorsed by the National Water Resources Council (NWRC) (or its Executive Committee);
- (ii) Outputs of individual action agendas, which include:
  - (a) Review of NWPO implementation and an action plan for its improvement and enhanced implementation;
  - (b) Annual operational review report of NWMP and an action plan to accelerate its implementation covering the burning issue of prioritization of the "proposed projects";
  - (c) Monitorable water-poverty indicators combining NWMP and PRS established within effective analytical framework, to be incorporated into regular policy, plan, and program review;
  - (d) Advancement (finalization) in the preparation of the draft The Bangladesh Water Use Act;
  - (e) Finalization of the Organizational Development Plan (ODP) of WARPO and launching of its initial implementation with possible facilitation by the Dutch Twinning Mission;
  - (f) Review of BWDB institutional reforms and action plan for enhanced effectiveness;
  - (g) Outputs for any other agendas as endorsed by the Government;
  - (f) Comprehensive sector road map laying out short to medium-term policy and institutional actions and priority investments; and
- (iii) Synthetic biannual reports submitted to NWRC/ECNWRC stipulating activities of the reporting period and proposed actions for the immediate and medium-term future, to be prepared as samples for future operation of the NWRC.

Inception Report of the Project has been completed and sent to Ministry of Water Resources for endorsement of NWRC/ECNWRC. Review and identification of laps and gaps of NWPO, NWMP, Draft Bangladesh Water Use Act and Review of Data System and recommendations (WARPO & BWDB) is on-going.

## Cyclone SIDR, 2007

The coastal region bordering the Bay of Bengal suffer the worst because most of the tropical cyclones have genesis over the Bay of Bengal and strike the coast of Bangladesh. About one-tenth of the global cyclones forming in different regions of the tropics occur



in the Bay of Bengal. About one-sixth of tropical storms generated in the Bay of Bengal usually hit the Bangladesh coast. The main factors contributing to disastrous surges in the Bay of Bengal, especially Bangladesh are shallow coastal water, convergence of the Bay, high astronomical tides, thickly populated low lying islands and complex coastline and number of inlets including one of the worlds largest river system Ganga Brahmaputra-Meghna.

The Cyclone SIDR 2007 hit Bangladesh on the evening of 15 November. The SIDR hit offshore islands approximately at 6:30 PM and made land fall across the Barisal Coast at 9:00 PM local time during ebbtide. The SIDR affected 15 districts with 6 other districts partly affected. Wind speeds reached up to 240km/hr (JTWC) and 250 km/hr for 1 minute (cyclone sidr- wikipedia, the free encyclopedia). The cyclone had a diameter of about 500 kilometres with a wall of clouds about 200 kilometres tall. More than 3000 (about 4000) deaths have been officially confirmed by 25 November, 2007 and about 6.85 million people were badly affected by the SIDR (DBM/CDMP). The genesis of the SIDR was at southeast of the Andaman Islands on 9 November, 2007. It formed as tropical cyclone on 11 November, 2007. Cyclone warning started from 12 November, 2007. Coordination among different organizations like WARPO, BMD, DMB/CDMP, FFWC, BWDB, CEGIS, IWM and NGOs is required to reduce the damages of Cyclones to a great extent. Education and awareness of local people of coastal region are also needed for appropriate and timely response to storm warnings. It is most important to have provision of separate place and toilet for men and women, safe place for their cattle in the Cyclone Shelters. So that they feel encouraged to take refuge during the storm. The National Water Management Plan (NWMP) have one cluster "Disasters Management" while includes three programs such as DM001: Cyclone Shelters and Killas, DM002: Bari-level Cyclone Shelters, DM003: Flood Proofing in the Char lands and Haor Basin. These programs need to be implemented by related line agencies in order to reduce vulnerabilities of Cyclones.



## WARPO Participated in International Training Program (from page 1)

by the Ministry of Water Resources in collaboration with the Royal Netherlands Embassy at Dhaka. The inaugural session was addressed by Hon'ble Advisor of Ministry of Water Resources and Health & Family Welfare Major General A.S.M. Matiur Rahman (Retd.)

The objective of the training program was to familiarize the water sector organizations about the sector wide approach for implementing programs instead of isolated initiatives.

Resource persons from Planning Commission, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Education, BIDS and CEGIS including the expatriate trainers conducted the training. Dr. Taufiq Elahi Choudury, former Secretary to The Government, shared experience of Health Sector Approach.

The outcome of training program was presented before the senior level session on 15th November 2007 where top government officials were present.

Mr. Md. Arzel Hossain Khan, Director (Planning) and Mr. G J N Murshed, Principal Scientific Officer (Economics) attended the training program.

## Editorial

Over the last century, there have been significant rise in water-related disasters; affecting increasing number of people, with loss of life and livelihoods, and impeding development of Bangladesh.

Recent conference held in Bali highlighted global warming, as a threat to human advancement and make all UN targets to lessen poverty unattainable. During last year Bangladesh was affected by two floods and a severe cyclone called SIDR. To save Bangladesh from the ferocious claw of global warming, we need to incorporate global warming issues (climate change) in the governments plans and policies.

Coastal Zone Policy of Bangladesh 2005 included climate change issues and mentioned institutional strengthening for enhancing capacity of the implementing agencies. It mentioned of upgrading technology and generation of better data for more accurate long-term prediction of risk related to climate change.

It is realized that to face any calamity, strong coordination needed between related organizations and their line ministries. According to the Coastal Zone Policy, we have started a Program Co-ordination Unit (PCU) within WARPO, which will provide technical support to the lead agency in discharging their coordination functions. Participatory and integrated planning process at the local level will be promoted, with linkages to PCU and sector agencies at the national level.

To implement coastal zone policy and its strategy to face future risk of climate change in Bangladesh, WARPO needs cooperation from all agencies operating in the coastal zone.

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## Twinning Mission XVIII at WARPO

Twinning Mission (TM) XVIII visited Bangladesh from 25 November to 6 December 2007. During their stay they met with Director General, WARPO on 27 November 2007 and discussed about Organizational Development Programme (ODP) process and WARPO strategy, Ownership of change process, RETA including updating of NWMP and Preparation of Water Use Act, WMIP issues etc. The

Director (Technical) and Task Force Coordinator, WARPO assisted the DG in the discussion. After the meeting with the DG two discussion sessions were held between the TM and WARPO Task Force members. The morning session started with an overall presentation on ODP made by Mr. Md. Shahjahan, Director, Technical & Coordinator, WARPO Task Force. A series of brief presentations were made on NWRD, HRD, Clearing House, Monitoring & Evaluation and RETA by Mr. Md. Siddiqur Rahman, PSO (IT), Mr. Md. Alamgir, SSO (Forest), Mr. Syed Abu Shoaib, SO, Mr. Md. Akhtaruzzaman, SO and Mr. Md. Hasan Parvez, PSO (Engineering) respectively

during the morning and the afternoon sessions. Finally Mr. Saiful Alam, PSO (WR) talked about the updating of NWMP and exchanged views with the TM. The TM members made several observations on the presentations and put some important suggestion for further improvement.

The TM met again with the WARPO Task Force (TF) on 4 December 2007. The TM members continued their discussion on some of the important issues that were presented on 27 December, 2007. Then a presentation was made by the TM on XVIII Report for wrap-up meeting. The TM XIII Report was modified in the light of observations made by the TF. A wrap-up meeting with the TM-XVIII was held in the Ministry of Water Resources under the chairmanship of the Secretary, MoWR on 5 December 2007.



*Presentation & Meeting between twinning mission and WARPO professionals*

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