



# Proceedings of the Inception Workshop on **‘Equitable and Sustainable WASH Services in Bangladesh Delta Plan Hotspots’** Project

BRAC WASH Programme

February 2023

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# Background

BRAC has signed a contribution agreement with the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands for implementing the project “Equitable and Sustainable WASH Services in Bangladesh Delta Plan Hotspots 2022–2026” having debuted in November, 2022. The project has incorporated innovative approaches and strategies to reach about 1.0 million population with access to safe water and sanitation in communities and schools in the climate-vulnerable hard-to-reach areas. The overarching goal of the project is to promote and deliver safe water and sanitation services by increasing access to finance (repayable finance and grants), strengthening local institutions, introducing (climate-resilient) technologies and service delivery models including more sustainable operation & maintenance mechanisms in four climate hotspots of Bangladesh. As the implementation partner of the project, BRAC and IRC Netherlands (knowledge partner of

the project) organized an inception workshop on January 25, 2023 with the participation of sectoral stakeholders in BRAC Center. Eminent professionals and experts of the WASH sector including key national-level stakeholders from government departments, external support agencies, UN agencies, I/NGOs, the private sector and academia participated in this workshop.

The overall purpose of this workshop was to share the project objectives, key implementation approaches and interventions, geographical focus and target beneficiaries with the sectoral stakeholders and receive feedback / suggestions to effectively contribute to achieving the SDG 6 targets.

The workshop was divided into two parts- 1) Inaugural session and 2) Panel discussion. In the inaugural session, there was also

a segment on the launching of the WASH book titled ‘Nirapod Pani, Poyonishkashon O Porichhonnotae BRAC-er Obhijatra Ekti Shomaj Rupantoror Golpo’.

## The specific objectives of the workshop were as follows:

- To share objectives, key implementation approaches and interventions considering the equitable and sustainable WASH services;
- To share the geographical focus and target beneficiaries of the project in Bangladesh Delta Plan climate vulnerable hotspots;
- To find out the areas of common interest for promoting equitable and sustainable WASH services in hard-to-reach areas with government agencies, development partners and private sectors.

# Inaugural Session of the Inception Workshop on the **‘Equitable and Sustainable WASH Services in Bangladesh Delta Plan Hotspots’** project



*Md. Akramul Islam, Senior Director, BRAC giving his opening remarks*

The workshop set off with opening remarks from Dr. Md. Akramul Islam, Senior Director, HCMP, CDP, IDP and WASH, BRAC, who provided an outline of the project, explained different mechanisms, expressed gratitude to fellow practitioners in the arena and explained the new locations of the project. His introductory words were followed by a joint presentation by Md. Zillur Rahman, Programme Head, WASH and Ingeborg Krukkert, Lead, new initiatives, IRC, covering the following aspects: project context and challenges, lessons learned, specific needs, project overview,



*Md. Zillur Rahman, Programme Head, WASH, BRAC*

goal and objectives, project locations, key outcomes, pathways to achieve outcomes.

Praising Bangladesh for reaching milestones on the road to achieving the MDGs linked to WASH, Rokeya Ahmed, World Bank WASH Specialist, recommended that the focus now transitions from simply providing access to WASH services to enhancing the quality of these services.

Renovating WASH infrastructure, according to her, is crucial for maintaining and improving service quality, but can be difficult



*Ingeborg Krukkert, Lead, New Initiatives, IRC (right) presenting on the project*

and expensive, and more so for developing countries like Bangladesh that may lack the financial resources and technical expertise to carry out large-scale renovations. Therefore, exploring innovative and cost-effective solutions is a must for addressing this challenge. She highlighted a shortage of funding for CSOs and NGOs working in the WASH sector in Bangladesh. This is a common problem in many countries, and it can stunt the capacity of these organizations to conduct their important actions. Addressing this funding gap is also imperative for ensuring that these organizations



*Rokeya Ahmed, WASH Specialist, World Bank speaking at the event*



*Khairul Islam, Regional Director, WaterAid South Asia*



*AHM Khalequr Rahman, Executive Engineer, DPHE speaking at the event*

are equipped with the resources they need to continue providing critical WASH services to communities in need.

She also referred to a new project launched by The World Bank and the Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE), aimed at improving WASH services in rural areas of Bangladesh. This project will focus on capacity development, including training programs for WASH professionals and community members, and the deployment of innovative technologies to improve WASH service delivery. The project is expected to help Bangladesh continue progressing towards its WASH goals.

Khairul Islam, Regional Director, WaterAid South Asia recalled that Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his 2015 Bangladesh tour visited DPHE and inquired about how we achieved open defecation-free nation status. Back then, calculating open defecation-free status was difficult. BRAC was one of the leading organizations along with UNICEF and WaterAid to achieve this glory in Bangladesh. However, he further mentioned that hardcore poor people are still lagging. Therefore, in this new project by BRAC, coverage of 45 upazilas may not be enough, and still, many hardcore poor people will possibly be left out.

So, he suggested that some grant provision should be there which needs to be linked to LGD. He also emphasized on the importance of running water and mentioned that in Bangladesh, only 15% of the population is under piped water supply, which is much below the expected level. In India, it is heavily subsidized, and in Nepal, there are bankable projects, led by local committees. It is pleasing to note that BRAC Bank will invest in this project, and more financial

institutes should come forward to invest in such projects. AHM Khalequr Rahman, Executive Engineer, DPHE shed light on multiple projects run by DPHE with special contextual elements and remarked that the rural WASH is the largest initiative. DPHE will incorporate the learnings of this kind of project.

The guest of honor of the event, Ambassador H.E. Anne Van Leeuwen observed that WASH is an indispensable component of life. Water and sanitation are our companions from the moment we open our eyes in the morning to the time we hit the bed at night. Therefore, these issues are of utmost importance. There are challenges such as climate change, pollution, and environmental degradation. The Netherlands Govt. is supporting Bangladesh Govt. in formulating

and executing the delta plan. Some aspects of the delta plan are exorbitantly costly as it entails dams and engineering mega-construction projects. However, in the case of WASH, it is relatively cheap, and SMEs can be better integrated here. In his opinion, two words of this project, Equitable and Sustainable, must be taken into account. Sustainability relates to equitability. He congratulated BRAC on being one of the first participants from Bangladesh to agree to join the UN-Water Conference 2023.

The chairperson of the event, Asif Saleh, Executive Director, BRAC remarked that while progress has been made in Bangladesh, there are still millions of ultra-poor people who lack basic access to services. He noted that water scarcity is becoming a major issue and that marginalized communities are most affected by crises such as climate change and COVID-19. BRAC is working to identify and address the needs of the most vulnerable communities in partnership with the government and the private sector. Saleh thanked the Netherlands government for their focus on WASH services and their partnership in addressing water scarcity. He emphasized the importance of working together to create resilient cities that can



*Ambassador H.E. Anne Van Leeuwen*



*Asif Saleh, Executive Director, BRAC speaking at the event*



*Md Khairul Islam, Additional secretary, Water Supply Wing, LGD, Ministry of LGRD and Cooperatives speaking at the event*

support migrant populations. Saleh called for a renewed focus on the SDGs now as the COVID-19 crisis is beginning to subside.

Lastly, the chief guest of the event Md Khairul Islam, Additional secretary, Water Supply Wing, LGD, Ministry of LGRD and Cooperatives stressed the importance of basic needs such as food, clothing, employment, and access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene for the development of Bangladesh. He discussed the progress made towards these goals, particularly in the areas of water supply and sanitation. He also reiterated Bangladesh's goal to become a developed, green, and clean delta by 2041, and talked about various national strategies and guidelines introduced to achieve

this goal. He also acknowledged the contribution of development partners, especially EKN, and organizations.

Noting the focus on coping with the challenges regarding fighting climate change and protecting the environment, he concluded by congratulating BRAC on its significant contribution to this field and the launch of the book.

Following the speech of BRAC Executive Director Asif Saleh, a short video documentary by BRAC titled 'Ground Zero of the Climate Crisis' was also played, showcasing the critical effects on the water situation due to climate change impacts in the coastal region of the country.

The speeches segued into the unveiling of the WASH book,

written by Md. Akramul Islam and Milan Kanti Barua, former adviser of the Communicable Diseases and WASH Programme, BRAC. This book depicts the background of safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), the existing situation, the importance of equality between men and women, innovations such as forming the Village Wash Committee (VWC), school wash committee, and student brigade, the participation of women and important community influencers such as imams in raising community awareness. Although the book outlines the history of WASH in Bangladesh, it is basically a reference guideline on the technical and non-technical aspects of the WASH programme and how it transformed our society.



*Book launching by the Chief Guest, Guest of Honor, Special Guests and Chairperson of the event*

# Panel discussion of the Inception Workshop on **‘Equitable and Sustainable WASH Services in Bangladesh Delta Plan Hotspots’** project

In this segment, a panel discussion took place where the following guests were present as panelists-

- Folkert G. J de Jager, First Secretary, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
- Riad Mahmud, Country Director, Max Foundation
- Hasin Jahan, Country Director, WaterAid, Bangladesh
- SMA Rashid, Executive Director, NGO Forum for Public Health
- Mohammad Monirul Alam, WASH Specialist, UNICEF
- Syed Abdul Momen, DMD and Head SME, BRAC Bank
- Mohammad Yakub Hossain, Director (Planning, Research and Offsite Monitoring Department), Microcredit Regulatory Authority
- Sheikh Md. Moniruzzaman, Director General (Additional Secretary), NGO Affairs Bureau, Prime Minister’s Office

S. M. Monjur Rashid, Programme Head, Advocacy for Social

Change, BRAC, moderated the discussion. Each panelist was posed one question relevant to his or her area of expertise.

Folkert de Jager, First Secretary, the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, was asked “Why does the embassy find it relevant to fund a project like this? Where do they see the need?” In his response, he stated that while Bangladesh is faring well in terms of WASH SDG target numbers, the component of sustainability is missing. To ensure sustainability, the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands works with NGOs and wants to work with organisations that will work sustainably and effectively. For instance, BRAC will be here like DPHE or MRA. Another priority is to support the private sector because even though the government is striving at its best, there is a bleak picture outside Dhaka. The private sector can make a difference here. Aqua for All conducted a study on the WASH market in Bangladesh. Such studies reveal

the market scenario. Also, financial literacy must be enhanced. As entrepreneurs are not accustomed to banking transactions, some initiatives such as involvement with BRAC bank are important. He also remarked that although groundwater is a primary source of water for many communities in Bangladesh, the long-term solution lies in piped water systems. However, the choice to transition from groundwater to piped water is a political decision that involves considering factors such as feasibility, cost-effectiveness, and the long-term benefits for the population. Financing for such transitions can be blended, combining public investments, development assistance, and innovative financing mechanisms to ensure affordability and sustainability.

Asked “What elements of the service chain require strengthening to increase access to safely managed water and sanitation services in climate hotspots?”, Riad Imam Mahmud, Country

Director, Max Foundation, said that quality, quantity, equality, financing, and cost are all critical in WASH. The demand for new services and technology must be institutionalized. But, the institutional private sector has not made any remarkable progress in WASH. Banks and financial institutions must make investments. Research is also important; institutions should place a greater emphasis on technology. He also mentioned that microplastics in water are a new problem. He discussed Max Tapwater, a sister company to the Max Foundation that works to develop mini-piped water grids.

Hasin Jahan, Country Director, WaterAid, Bangladesh, replied to the query, "Considering climate change and its associated impacts on water and sanitation services, how are government policies contributing to realizing universal access to these services?". She suggested that the budget of this new WASH project is not sufficient considering the gap in the sector. Therefore, she stressed on learning from others where the focus should be on horizontal learning rather than re-inventing. She also mentioned that a pro-poor strategy is paramount and should be prioritized in this project.

Asked "Do water and sanitation entrepreneurs have adequate capacity to adapt the technology for climate hotspots?", SMA Rashid, Executive Director, NGO Forum for Public Health, remarked that the challenges are different in different ecological zones and climate hotspots. There is a huge need for capacity building for private entrepreneurs. Technology, finance, operation and maintenance are vital. Context-specific technological and programmatic solutions should be implemented so that even after the phasing out of the project, community users can continue

the operations and maintenance. The majority of the WASH entrepreneurs developed by the NGO Forum for Public Health are women, which is noteworthy. But, it is difficult for the private sector to address the need of making universal coverage with safely managed sanitation. Technological innovation is particularly important in this aspect. As it is a WASH programme, it is becoming more and more challenging. Urbanization makes the whole issue even more critical. Then, there are pocket areas with ethnic minorities that are more difficult to deal with. Even though there are numerous solutions, they don't fit for all. So, we need to invest more in order to find appropriate solutions.

Mohammad Monirul Alam, WASH Specialist, UNICEF, was asked "Besides implementing the pro-poor strategy, what else could the local government do to ensure that people in their jurisdiction have access to safe water and sanitation?". He suggested that the Pro-poor strategy helped hard-core poor people to access sanitation. Earlier, the poor lacked access to water, because it required cost sharing, so the one who could share the cost was enjoying the privilege of subsidized infrastructure. Often we see sanitation as self-supplied. So, we should check if the government can provide an interest subsidy for sanitation. We need to understand that an investment in WASH is an investment in health. Thus, we need to see how PKSF and other organizations can provide interest subsidies. Saline, arsenic and iron make it a complicated issue. In all the school surveyed in Khulna, 15% don't have water. The rainwater system doesn't serve the full year. RO is a solution but costly in nature.

He further said that one of the key challenges in rural areas is the implementation of piped water

schemes. In India, there is a strong political commitment towards rural piped water supply. Their government has recognized the importance of providing reliable and safe water access to rural communities and has initiated programmes and policies to address this issue. In Bangladesh, we will have to identify ways to increase the coverage of the piped water network in rural areas. He also raised the issue of Faecal Sludge Management. If not adequately managed, it can severely contaminate surface water sources, posing serious health risks to communities relying on surface water for drinking water, sanitation, and other domestic purposes. It is essential to implement proper sanitation systems, such as safe fecal sludge management practices, to prevent surface water pollution and protect public health.

Asked "Do you see MSMEs and SMEs (water and sanitation entrepreneurs) as your future clients? Is there anything else banks could do to speed up this process?", Syed Abdul Momen, DMD and Head SME, BRAC Bank, observed that it is a recent phenomenon that bankers are invited in the WASH community. The video played by BRAC in the event indicates the marginalised people bear the brunt first. Banks do eye for their profit, but inclusivity is in our DNA, and we work with MFIS. We can help wash entrepreneurs with our agent banking system. In a challenging geographical context, agents can work there. It's not merely water and sanitation entrepreneurs; rather, financing the value chain is vital. This project will catalyze our growth as we will directly finance WASH entrepreneurs through this initiative. Without financing, it will be built, operated and will be forsaken, but with financing support, it will be built, operated and sustained.



Md. Yakub Hossain, Director (Planning, Research and Offsite Monitoring Department), Microcredit Regulatory Authority, was asked “At this moment, how easy is it for households to get access to finance (regulatory, finance)?”. He remarked that MFIs have a strong network in Bangladesh. BRAC alone contributes one-fourth of the MFI sector. Other MFIs can also contribute to this situation. A total of 738 MFIs are operating in the country. They have access and penetrations and can spend up to 20% of their profit on development work. They spent BDT 700 crore mainly on health. So, from the micro-credit regulatory authority side, all support will be provided. This is national-target-integrated in all government plans. SDG 6 is inseparably linked with the first 5 goals. A whopping 70% of the MSMEs of the country are clients of these MFIs. He also observed that in order to support the implementation of WASH initiatives, the option to provide subsidized loans should be explored.

Digital solutions such as an app for marginalised communities which was launched by MRA are

examples of solutions that can give quick and appropriate information to disadvantaged people. Efforts are also underway to explore subsidized interest rates and micro-insurance for poor people. Institutions such as the Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority (IDRA) are actively engaged in this process. By offering loans with reduced interest rates, it becomes more accessible for individuals and communities to invest in WASH infrastructure and services. This was already tried and tested during the Covid19 crisis and can be reinitiated. This new project can help formulate new regulations and guidelines that promote sustainable WASH practices.

He mentioned that organisations like BRAC reached 90 million households in collaboration with Guardian Insurance. This achievement demonstrates the potential of micro-insurance schemes to provide financial protection and support to vulnerable populations, contributing to their overall well-being. He concluded by thanking the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and BRAC.

Sheikh Md. Moniruzzaman, Director General (Additional Secretary), NGO Affairs Bureau, Prime Minister’s Office commented that we have been working for a long in WASH, which culminated in significant improvements. However, water is still not available in many areas. Girls have a hard time when it comes to sanitation. Bangladesh will be a smart country in 2041, therefore, we must think about how we can fulfill the need before that timeline. So, merely providing latrines will not suffice, rather we require hygienic, good-quality latrines. In schools, there is one tube well for 500 kids. The scenario is even grimmer in primary schools. For girls and boys, there should be separate arrangements. Although Bangladesh Government has all sorts of allocation and structure, this is where NGOs come into play to support the government mechanism which is often marked with inaction. Therefore, he urged NGOs to carry on with their initiatives and also he is eager to see how NGOs can make a difference.

Following the panelists’ expert opinions, moderator S. M. Monjur Rashid, Programme Head,



Panel discussion of Inception Workshop on ‘Equitable and Sustainable WASH Services in Bangladesh Delta Plan Hotspots’ project

Advocacy for Social Change, BRAC, coordinated the Q&A session. Some thought-provoking questions received in this segment are-

- Piped water supply is a record low in Bangladesh, how can we convert that?
- Can we consider a subsidized loan product for people in hard geographies?
- Migration is high in these climate-vulnerable areas, the matter should be given its due importance.
- Considering Waste management, the land constraint is important in the context of Bangladesh. How can we tackle it?
- We need some sort of integration, how many water resources do we have and how much can we consume, and how reliable or updated data can we have in Bangladesh?
- Other than financial resources, how can the water entrepreneurs be coached?
- Water contamination is critical in various parts of Bangladesh, how can this be addressed?

The discussion ended with closing remarks by Md. Akramul Islam, Senior Director, HCMP, CDP, IDP and WASH, BRAC, who mentioned that through collective efforts from the government and development sector, Bangladesh has ensured WASH coverage; however, there is a long way to go to ensure safety and awareness. He also vowed a concerted effort to incorporate the suggestions received in the event, which are also within existing capabilities and resources. For the suggestions that require further consideration, he promised for ensuring a continued engagement in discussions and exploring potential implementation options. He expressed his heartiest gratitude to workshop participants from government departments (DPHE, LGED), external support agencies, UN agencies, I/NGOs, the private sector and academia for attending the workshop and sharing their insights, constructive suggestions, valuable support and kind cooperation in achieving SDG 6 in the WASH sector.

## Afternoon Technical session



The kick-off event gave its way to a learning and sharing session. The project is looking for innovative technologies, and service models suitable for adoption/ adaptation in the climate hotspots. The learning and sharing event was designed to have a snapshot of innovative technologies and service models being operated in Bangladesh. Moderated by Zillur Rahman and Ingeborg Krukkert, the session had a guiding presentation from Erick Baetings on the role of different stakeholders in WASH service models. Later, several private sector and civil society organisations like Practical Action, Bhumijo, Water.org, Nazava filters, Offgridbox, WSUP, Max Foundation, SNV and BRAC showcased their innovations. The knowledge and innovations are documented and will be utilised in different parts of the project.

# Way Forward

The inaugural session and panel discussion including the open Q&A segment brought forth several key takeaways in the areas of WASH policy/strategy issues, WASH innovative approaches, technological aspects, WASH financing, and coordination and collaboration. These issues are summarized below-

## WASH policy/strategy issues

- While good policies exist, their implementation and prioritization need improvement. This can be achieved by enhancing policy enforcement, strengthening coordination among stakeholders, and reinforcing governance mechanisms. Recognizing the unique challenges faced by marginalized communities in delta areas is crucial for creating an inclusive and sustainable WASH agenda.
- In the face of climate change, incorporating adaptation and resilience strategies in WASH policies is particularly important. This entails considering the potential impacts of climate change on

water resources and designing infrastructure and management systems that can withstand and adapt to these changes. By adopting climate-resilient approaches, WASH systems can continue to function effectively even in the face of evolving climatic conditions.

## WASH Innovative Approaches

- For the sustainability and long-term functionality of WASH infrastructure, innovative WASH approaches must be adopted and delivered. Integrating water resource management with the overall WASH agenda is crucial, particularly the need for reliable and up-to-date data on water resources is essential to plan in a sustainable manner.
- In the context of CDSP areas, Bangladesh can explore the implementation of central water schemes, which can provide piped water to communities, mitigating the risks associated with groundwater depletion and contamination. By adopting centralized approaches, Bangladesh can promote equitable access to safe and reliable water sources for its population

- Waste management in areas with land constraints demands the adoption of innovative practices for activities associated with recycling, composting and waste treatment systems.

## Technological Aspects and Capacity Building

- Technological innovations will play a critical role in addressing water and sanitation challenges and achieving SDG 6. Water treatment technologies are essential for ensuring the provision of safe drinking water. Through water treatment technologies and innovative sanitation options, communities can have access to clean water sources and improved sanitation facilities, thereby contributing to sustainable development.
- In Bangladesh, the groundwater level is receding every year. Groundwater monitoring initiatives are being undertaken in collaboration with organizations such as the Institute of Water Modeling (IWM) and Dutch research organizations. These efforts will have to be continued to assess

and manage the groundwater resources, ensuring their sustainability and availability for various uses, including drinking water supply.

- It is important to prioritize the adoption and implementation of appropriate technologies based on the specific needs, resources, and contexts of each delta plan hotspot to maximize their effectiveness and impact.
- Water entrepreneurs require coaching and mentorship beyond financial support to develop their skills and knowledge. Capacity-building initiatives, training programs, and knowledge-sharing platforms can contribute to the growth and sustainability of water entrepreneurship ventures.

### WASH financing

- Public sector financing in WASH sector by Government of Bangladesh in collaboration with non-governmental organizations such as BRAC for developing and improving WASH infrastructure, service delivery, and capacity building has been instrumental in eradicating issues such as open defecation from Bangladesh.
- To ensure safe water and sanitation for all by 2030, it is important to continue the momentum of the WASH sector financing by the GoB as well as the development assistance from international donor agencies, financing institutes and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). By providing financial

support for WASH projects, these funds will bridge the funding gap and enable the implementation of essential infrastructure and services. Bangladesh has scheme called green financing. Such financing scheme should be put into good use for WASH Service coverage.

- By combining public sector investment, development assistance and innovative financing models in the form of loans and grants, it will be possible to secure the necessary funding to improve WASH infrastructure, enhance service delivery, and achieve universal access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities.
- For effective utilization of WASH financing, financial literacy should be made accessible for all MSMEs and SMEs.
- Sanitation in rural areas is very much self-supplied which can be challenging for people living in poverty. While the Pro-poor strategy has subsidy provision for the hard-core poor only, government could subsidise the interest of microcredit for sanitation services for other poor households
- BRAC has played a substantial role in promoting micro-insurance for vulnerable communities in Bangladesh. This could also be included in WASH projects for entrepreneurs and households
- WASH projects can explore the green financing schemes of the Bangladesh Bank to mobilise finance for water and sanitation services

### Coordination and collaboration

- Project-based financing is not adequate for solving water and sanitation-related challenges in Bangladesh. By working together, governments, civil society organizations, private sector entities and communities can enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of WASH interventions, ensuring that solutions are context-specific and responsive to local needs.
- Knowledge sharing amongst these stakeholders have significant relevance to advancing WASH practices and promoting innovation. Facilitating the exchange of best practices, lessons learned, and innovations among WASH practitioners and researchers will enable the adoption of evidence-based approaches.

# Conclusion

In brief, it was evident from the speeches delivered at the event that speakers share a consensus on addressing the key issues surrounding WASH policies and strategies through a comprehensive and multi-dimensional approach. By addressing accessibility, sustainability, integration, climate change adaptation, and technological innovation, it is possible to make significant strides towards achieving universal access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities, ultimately contributing to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 6.

Equitable and Sustainable WASH Services in Bangladesh Delta plan Hotspots project is an important component for making this vision a reality in Bangladesh and should be instrumental in delivering equitable and sustainable WASH services to climate vulnerable population in the country.

## Annex 1: Schedule of the Workshop

Date: 25th January, 2023, Venue: BRAC Center, Mohakhali, Dhaka

Time	Activity	Details
09:00 am	Registration and guests take their seats	
<b>Inaugural session</b>		
10:00 am	Welcome speech and BRAC's journey with EKN in WASH Sector	Md. Akramul Islam, Senior Director, CD, WASH, IDP and HCMP, BRAC
10:05 am	Introduction to the new WASH project contributed by EKN: Equitable and Sustainable WASH services in BDP Hotspots	Md. Zillur Rahman, Programme Head, WASH, BRAC Ingeborg Krukkert, Lead New Initiatives, IRC
10:25 am	Speech by the Special Guest	Rokeya Ahmed, WASH Specialist, World Bank
10:30 am	Speech by the Special Guest	Md. Khairul Islam, Regional Director, WaterAid, South Asia
10:35 am	Speech by the Special Guest	AHM Khalequr Rahman, Executive Engineer, Research and Development, Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE)
10:40 am	Speech by the Guest of Honour	H. E. Anne Van Leeuwen, Ambassador, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
10:45 am	Speech by the Chief Guest	Md. Khairul Islam, Additional Secretary, Water Supply Wing, Local Government Division, Ministry of LGRD&C
10:50 am	Ground zero of the climate crisis	
10:55 am	Speech by the Chair	Asif Saleh, Executive Director, BRAC
11:05 am	Unveiling the book “নিরাপদ পানি, পয়ঃনিষ্কাশন ও পরিচ্ছন্নতায় ব্যাকের অভিযাত্রা: একটি সমাজ রূপান্তরের গল্প” (BRAC's Journey Towards Safe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene: Transformation of a Society)	
11:15 am -	Tea break	
<b>Plenary session</b>		
11:45 am	Panel discussion: Equitable and Sustainable WASH Services in Bangladesh & Question and Answer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Folkert G. J de Jager, First Secretary, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands</li> <li>Hasin Jahan, Country Director, WaterAid, Bangladesh</li> <li>Riad Mahmud, Country Director, Max Foundation</li> <li>SMA Rashid, Executive Director, NGO Forum for Public Health</li> <li>Mohammad Yakub Hossain, Director (Planning, Research and Offsite Monitoring Department), Microcredit Regulatory Authority</li> <li>Syed Abdul Momen, DMD and Head SME, BRAC Bank</li> <li>Mohammad Monirul Alam, WASH Specialist, UNICEF</li> <li>Sheikh Md. Moniruzzaman, Director General (Additional Secretary), NGO Affairs Bureau, Prime Minister's Office</li> </ul>

Time	Activity	Details
	Session moderated by	S. M. Monjur Rashid, Programme Head, Advocacy for Social Change, BRAC
12:55 pm	Closing remarks	Md. Akramul Islam, Senior Director, CD, WASH, IDP and HCMP, BRAC
01:00 pm - 02:00 pm	Lunch	

Afternoon learning and sharing session		
02:30-03:50	Session moderated by Md. Zillur Rahman, Programme Head, WASH, BRAC Ingeborg Krukkert, Lead New Initiatives, IRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guiding presentation by Erick Baetings, Senior Sanitation Expert, IRC</li> <li>• Short presentation on innovation from</li> <li>• Uttam Kumar Saha, Practical Action</li> <li>• Masudul Islam, Bhumijo</li> <li>• Abu Aslam, Water.org</li> <li>• Abu Taleb Biswas, BRAC</li> <li>• Lieselotte Heederik, Nazava Filters</li> <li>• Bas Berendas, Offgridbox</li> <li>• Nazmul Huda, WSUP</li> <li>• Hafizur Rahman, Max Foundation</li> <li>• Tanvir Ahmed, SNV</li> </ul>
03.50-04:00	Closing remarks	Md. Akramul Islam, Senior Director, CD, WASH, IDP and HCMP, BRAC

## Annex 2: Participant List of the Workshop

SL No.	Name	Designation	Organization
1	A.F Ahammed Gazi	Manager, WASH	BRAC
2	A.H.M Khalequr Rahman	Executive Engineer, Research and Development	Department of Public Health and Engineering
3	Abu Aslam	Portfolio Lead	Water.org
4	Abu Hasnat Chowdhury	Director	ASA
5	Afrida Nazibah	Manager, Knowledge Management	BRAC
6	Ahidul Islam Kazal	Head of Programme, Microfinanace	Max Foundation
7	Albericus Khalko	Programme Manager, IP	BRAC
8	Alok Majumder	Country Coordinator	Simavi
9	Alta Hossain	Reporter	Daily Jajjaidin
10	ANM Golam Kibria	Lead, Communications	BRAC
11	Anne van Leeuwen	Ambassador	Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands
12	Areefa M. Sinha	Programme Coordinator, Advocacy for Social Change	BRAC
13	Ashit Baran Das	Associate Director, Finance and Accounts	BRAC
14	Asif Saleh	Executive Director	BRAC
15	Bas Berends	Chief Partnership Officer	OffGrid Box
16	Bithun Mazid	Programme Manager, IDP	BRAC
17	Bonna Romana	Senior Officer, IDP	BRAC
18	Chandra Chakma	Manager, HCMP	BRAC
19	Chirstlee Doris	Research Fellow	Stamford University
20	Digbijoy Dey	Bangladesh Country Coordinator	IRC
21	Dr Dibalok Singha	Executive Director	Dustho Shasthyo Kendra (DSK)
22	Dr. Jesmin Sultana	Assistant Scientist	icddr,b
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24	Dr. Saifur Reja		BRAC
25	Dr. Sharmin Ahmed	Specialist, Quality Assurance	BRAC
26	Dr. Shayla Islam	Head, Communicable Disease Programme	BRAC
27	Dr. Shibly Sadik	Senior Policy Advisor	Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands
28	Dr. Tasmiah Selim	Senior Manager	BRAC
29	Dr. Zohora Akhter	CDP (TB)	BRAC
30	Ekramul Kabir	Manager, Communications	BRAC
31	Eric Baetings	Senior sanitation specialist	IRC
32	Fahima Amzad Chowdhury	Program Manager, WASH	BRAC
33	Fahmida Akhter Chowdhury	Deputy Manager, WASH	BRAC
34	Farhana Akhter Jue	M&E Specialist	BRAC
35	Farishtey Ifreet Muanka	Senior Sector Specialist, WASH	BRAC
36	Fateema Kawsar June	Deputy Manager, WASH	BRAC
37	Firoz Hasan	Manager, Senior Director's Office	BRAC
38	Folkert G.J. de Jager	First Secretary Water Management & Food Security	Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands
39	Hafizur Rahman	Data Analysis and Research Specialist	Max Foundation



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42	Imamul Azam Shahi	Programme Head, Urban Development Programme	BRAC
43	Ingeborg Krukkert	Lead New Initiatives	IRC
44	Ismat Ara Pervin	Senior Specialist	Institute of Water Modelling (IWM)
45	Jakaria Tuhin	Business Development Officer	Water & Sanitation for the Urban Poor (WSUP)
46	Jannat Adib Chowdhury	Senior Manager, WASH	BRAC
47	Joseph Halder	Director	SKS
48	K.M. Khaleduzzaman	Manager, M&E, WASH	BRAC
49	Kamal Hossain	Manager, BEP	BRAC
50	Kamruzzaman	Programme Manager, IDP	BRAC
51	Keka Adhikary		SNV
52	Khadiza Ahmed	Programme Manager, WASH	BRAC
53	Khaleda Akhter	Manager, IDP	BRAC
54	Khondoker Golam Tawhid	Programme Head, DRMP	BRAC
55	Lisa Heederik	Founder	Nazava Filter
56	Mafruza Khan	Director, GRP	BRAC
57	Maniruzzaman Khan	Programme Head, Climate Change Programme	BRAC
58	Masuda Hossain	Head of Regulatory Affairs	Edotco
59	Md Akramul Islam	Senior Director, Communicable Diseases and WASH	BRAC
60	Md. Abu Hanif	Senior Programme Manager, IDP	BRAC
61	Md. Abu Taleb Biswas	Programme Manager, WASH	BRAC
62	Md. Amin Khan	DC	DORP
63	Md. Hafizur Rahman		BRAC
64	Md. Khairul Islam	Additional Secretary, Water Supply, LGD	Ministry of LGRD&C
65	Md. Masud Hassan	Deputy Executive Director	VERC
66	Md. Moklesur Rahman	NDC, Director (Project 2)	NGOAB
67	Md. Nazmul Hafiz	Business Development Specialist	Water & Sanitation for the Urban Poor (WSUP)
68	Md. Shahid Ullah	Head of Operations	BRAC
69	Md. Shahjahan Ali	Manager, Integrated Development Programme	BRAC
70	Md. Tanvir Ahamed Chowdhury	Sanitation Business Advisor	SNV
71	Md. Yakub Hossain	Director, Planning, Research and Offsite Monitoring	Micro-credit Regulatory Authority
72	Md. Ziaul Arefin	Deputy Manager	BRAC
73	Md. Zillur Rahman	Programme Head, WASH	BRAC
74	Mehedi Hasan	Manager, Technical, WASH	BRAC
75	Milan Kanti Barua	Ex. Official	BRAC
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77	Mohammad Monirul Alam	WASH Specialist	UNICEF
78	Monisha Aninidita	Junior EIA Consultant	Institute of Water Modelling (IWM)
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83	Nourin Rahman	Manager, Advocacy for Social Change	BRAC
84	Pathan Sohag	Reporter	Desh Rupantor
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86	Priscilla Raj	Senior Manager, Communications	BRAC
87	Pritiza Paramita	Partnership Analyst, Advocacy for Social Change	BRAC
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89	Rabea Siddiky	Manager, Budget	BRAC
90	Rakib Uddin	Manager	Reckitt
91	Rashed Chowdhury	Head of Development Accounts	BRAC
92	Riad Imam Mahmud	Country Director	Max Foundation
93	Rokeya Ahmed	Water & Sanitation Specialist	World Bank
94	Romano Radjkoemar	Resident Project Manager	VEI
95	Ruksana Hoque	Manager, M&E	BRAC
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100	Saleha Khatun	WASH Cluster Coordinator	UNICEF
101	Sanjan Kumar Barua	Public Health Engineer	Oxfam Bangladesh
102	Sarwar Alam Chowdhury	Legal Executive	Edotco
103	Sazidur Rahman	Head, MEAL	BRAC
104	Shahidur Rahman	Director, MEAL	BRAC
105	Shahriar Rahman	Head of Sustainability	BRAC Bank
106	Shamima Jannat	Senior Manager, HR	BRAC
107	Shanji Mony	Manager, Advocacy for Social Change	BRAC
108	Sheikh Md. Moniruzzaman	Director General (Addl.Sec)	NGOAB
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113	Sohana Reza Urmi	Deputy Manager, WASH	BRAC
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115	Syeda Sitwat Shahed	Consultant	World Bank
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