



ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT 2017

March - December



by Gender and Water Alliance - Bangladesh
for



contract 3117004

Dhaka, February 2018

Watershed Empowering Citizens Project ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT 2017 Gender and Water Alliance - Bangladesh

1. Project Information

Name organisation	Gender and Water Alliance - Bangladesh
Project name	Watershed Empowering Citizens
Location	Bangladesh, Bhola island, focus on Bhola Sadar
Work Package number	WP-5 Bangladesh
Project number	3117004
Contract period	1 April – 31 December 2017
Reporting period	March – December 2017
Report prepared by	Joke Muylwijk, Khadiza Akter

2. Summary

The main aim of the Watershed programme (2016-2020) is to strengthen capacity of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to advocate and lobby in the interrelated fields of IWRM and WASH to ensure equity and social inclusion, as well as sustainable usage of water resources. It contributes to the Sustainable Development Goal for universal access to water and sanitation services and water security (SDG6) by making the voices of citizens heard and strengthening governance and accountability (Inception report October 2016).

The overall aim is to empower citizens, leaving no one behind.

Gender aspects are at the core of both WASH and IWRM, when aiming for improvement.

Because of lots of experience in the subject and the region, GWA-B (the Gender and Water Alliance – Bangladesh) was asked to be involved in the project to make sure gender, diversity and inclusion of all, will be effectively operationalised in the project. To do so, a plan for 2017 was made, but also GWA was asked to be pro-active, and get active when needed. Therefore, not all work done fits exactly in the budget-items of the Gantt Chart of 2017.

GWA participated in most events, meetings and workshops, but also developed some own activities, especially by activities in Bhola itself, such as coaching, interviews, transect walks, FGDs (Focus Group Discussions) etc. GWA's work is directed at capacity building of two levels CSOs: DORP and the two CSOs in Bhola, which again consist of various NGOs and CBOs. Various changes took place during this first year (9 months), such as more women in the NGO Forum, more attention for women in other coaching, women are listened to a bit more than before, some inclusion

of gender disaggregated information in the Score Cards and a first attempt to include gender in the Budget Analysis.



3. Background and Context

In the Watershed project in Bangladesh, as CSOs DORP and WaterAid had been selected and as location Bhola Sadar, both before GWA became involved. As an island, Bhola is slightly isolated, and even though many forms of water transport are available, women are supposed to stay in and near to their homes. The isolation also is noticed by a total lack of employment for women and young people.

IWRM (integrated Water Resource Management) which includes water for WASH, water for Food Security, water for the Environment, and Climate Change are all issues in which gender relations are important. WASH is and always has been part of IWRM, which is recognised by water managers. WASH professionals are not always aware of the importance of the water sector as a whole, and that the increasing scarcity of water threatens the first priority of water management: that for water and sanitation. It is crucial for WASH policies and practices to be embedded in IWRM, not to end up without any safe water left, being left out of IWRM decision-making fora. Agriculture already takes the bulk of the available fresh water. Gender is also a vital element of IWRM. Already in 1992, when IWRM was initiated and accepted as an approach for water management, one of the seven points of the definition was that women are essential for water management. Women worldwide have more knowledge and interest in the sustainable water management to conserve the environment. Victims of climate change inducted floods and droughts are many more women than men. In relation to WASH, it is especially a fact worldwide, and in Bhola, that women are responsible to get water into the house, for drinking, sanitation and other household uses. Policy and implementation practices are mostly made by men, at all levels. Men often have more interest in water for agriculture, because that is where they get their income from. With these contradicting uses, needs and priorities, between women and men, in a context of increasing scarcity, it is crucial to apply a Gender and IWRM approach for WASH projects.

GWA-B contributes to the Watershed project by capacity building in Gender and Inclusion in WASH in IWRM, including the above-mentioned issues. GWA-B further contributed by taking part in baselines, meetings, workshops, monitoring and reviews, to ascertain the inclusion of all categories of people who are in need of improved water and sanitation facilities. The GWA team has travelled to Bhola, to the chosen unions, to give advice by coaching at the grassroots level related to inclusion and equity.

Bhola Sadar is the upazilla in the North of the island, whilst in all Southern districts the situation of people is worse, the more Southern one gets.

The following issues were stated earlier as important in the context, from a gender perspective. After 9 months we can include some findings, specifically for Bhola Sadar. To compare with other parts of the country, a small survey in different places, would be learningful.

Male out-migration, for working elsewhere, results in more women than men living on the island. To involve women in decision-making is therefore even more crucial than elsewhere, especially when it relates to water.

The most important stakeholders, seen from a gender perspective, are women water users. Till now we did not encounter many women's groups, but some NGOs focussing their work on women are member of the NGO-Forum, formed by DORP, especially for this project.

In the upazilla, in urban places toilets are available, and owned by households. In the more rural areas the situation of sewerage and of toilets is very poor. Women give a low percentage, and men quite a bit higher. When the new definition of sanitary latrine, according to SDGs, was explained, both groups were convinced the percentage is very low, about 20%. The poorer categories have to walk quite far to toilets, especially in the night, this is a problem.

Most women are kept at home strictly, and for fetching water, most have unlimited access to deep tube wells, apart from river nomads and women who live in cluster villages who earlier lost their homes by river erosion. They only are allowed to fetch water from the DTWs once a day, and many of them have to walk quite far in various trips per day. Certain lowest caste groups are not allowed at all.

The ground water is fine, no arsenic or saline contamination, with the exception of at most 2 months. There is plenty of groundwater. This is an advantage resulting from the fact that for irrigation the farmers only use surface water, from rivers. This is very different in most other places of Bangladesh. In Bhola there also is no serious pollution of the water, as far as we were told, although resulting from water-logging, people complain that water from certain DTWs is smelly, and they have their preference for other pumps.

The DTWs are not evenly spread over the area of the two unions. In places of richer families, the density of DTWs is much higher than where the poor women and men live. This is important for the Watershed project, because the risk is large that lobbying and advocacy results in even more DTWs in those places where there are already many. The poor will not benefit of lobbying, if



those

influential people, who influence the implementing agencies, have their way, and are not considering the needs of poor people.

Most important gender and women's issues, which we also found in Bhola are:

- Women's unrecognised, but crucial work
- Women's voice is not heard, they don't take part in making decisions related to water and sanitation and other decisions
- Women's vulnerability because of reproductive duties
- Women's responsibility for safe water and hygiene in the household
- Serious lack of toilets, especially improved toilets
- Overflowing toilets due to water-logging in and after the monsoon

Other women and diversity issues in Bhola:

- River erosion, weak embankments: The women explain how scared they are that they may break and a large area will be swallowed up.
- Poor Sanitation: very faraway toilets to go to in the night, it is scary. When the toilets overflow there are many diseases.
- Not to have an own bari (house), but to have to live on somebody else's land.
- Debts: All are indebted by loans borrowed from NGOs in their name which are, however, handed over to their husbands.
- Unemployment of Youth, and also of women.
- For drinking water the poor, elderly and widows often have to walk far.
- Disabled people have no access to adapted toilets, which is not remarkable, considering the low level of sanitary toilets for all.
- Fisher people and river nomads have no access to schooling, sanitation and protection from tidal waves (every 14 days).

Positive issues: in Bhola people enjoy fresh air, no pollution, fruits and trees, good healthcare, and hilsa¹.



Watermanagement Citizens' Committee in Bhola Sadar supplemented with a number of local women for the occasion of coaching on gender and inclusion

¹ A highly valued Bengali fish, recently given the status of national heritage, by UNESCO.

Opportunities and threats: If gender and inclusion are given enough consideration, the Watershed programme will have important impact at all levels, including the lowest level. Nevertheless, expectations have to be realistic. Bangladesh is a country with a huge population and to ensure clean drinking water and sanitary sanitation for all (by 2030,SDG 6), still is an enormous task. This project will contribute if the poorest people (*leave no one behind*) are really allowed to speak and tell about their problems and their solutions, and if they are listened to by those who are already well-off and influential. Capacity building and L&A is always useful, if the right people are included and addressed, who then can use their new knowledge. If new learning is relevant, it will be used and not forgotten. If gender and diversity is been dealt with in a way that appeals to the officers and the water professionals, then it will be sustainable learning with impact at the grassroots level for a long time.



4. Progress and activities

During the year (10 months) GWA-B was involved in most meetings and activities of the Watershed Programme in Bangladesh. In the first few months the contract was signed, the many documents were read, to familiarize with the Theory of Change, the partners, the objectives, and the CSOs.

For GWA the core question always is: How does this benefit poor women? This question is in agreement with the main objective of the Watershed project which is to achieve equal and sustainable water management. From there we try to see which support DORP, the CSOs in Bhola and also WaterAid need to ensure that women and vulnerable groups in the end will actually benefit. The process of empowerment of the citizens is indirect and has various steps. GWA needs to be involved where necessary, which is in many places and phases of the Watershed project. Gender and Inclusion issues are everywhere, and at the core of the project. In these first four months there is not much visible progress, but a lot has been achieved in making contacts, understanding the priorities, as well as a fundament for further work towards the main objective of the project. GWA staff joins the visit to Bhola by all partners, and even whilst this is a very short visit, a lot of gender relations become clear immediately. As there are: few women are included in the two CSO organisations: NGO Forum and Water Management Citizens' Committee both have some women members, but of these very few dare to speak up in meetings, and even fewer are listened to. So here is a lot of improvement possible.

From GWA it had been asked to be proactive, and not to wait for CSOs to ask our input. This is slightly against our principles, that our work should be demand driven. Those who don't ask us for support will also not listen when we give advice unasked for. Nevertheless, we found ways to be involved in most activities without pushing ourselves.


GWA-B was involved in the Mid Term Workshop and in Coaching and research activities in Bhola. GWA-B has learnt and contributed a lot during the second half of 2017. During the fourth quarter we participated in the international Annual Watershed Partner Learning Meeting and in the Outcome Harvesting Workshops in Dhaka as well as organized a Capacity Building Workshop on Gender and Inclusion for Watershed Partners in Bangladesh (DORP and Wateraid) in Dhaka. We participated also in the Workshop on WASH and IWRM Service Monitoring Tools in November and the Workshop on Data, Evidence for Advocacy in December, both in Dhaka.




4.1. Plan and Progress

OVERVIEW AND STATUS MAIN ACTIVITIES PLANNED DURING 2017, by budget item number		
1.1	Contract for 2017	Made and signed
1.2	Selecting CSOs	Included GWA members of Bhola in coordination with DORP
1.3	Launching event	GWA participated in the Launching Event and wrote a report based on notes taken. This was shared with WaterAid, as supporting document for their report.
2.1	WASH services monitoring tool	Discussed when meeting with DORP and WaterAid. A small workshop to discuss the QIS ladders and also the Organisational Inclusion Assessment Tool is carried out in Q4. The OIAT of DORP is updated till the end of 2017.
2.2.	Training Modules	Discussed in meeting with DORP and WaterAid. GWA is there to provide technical support in terms of gender and inclusion. Till present WaterAid and DORP are not ready to write the manual. More pre-study needs to take place.
2.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capacity Strengthening of targeted CSOs on link WASH-IWRM, sustainable & inclusive WASH services - Field-visit to Bhola, 15-19 Aug 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participated in the WP 5 Team Visit to Bhola for Situation Analysis to contribute from a gender and inclusion perspective. - A field visit was necessary to see the IWRM issues and see how different categories of women and men cope with their problems. At the same time, parts of the days were used for coaching the CSOs about gender, inclusion, vulnerability and IWRM, including WASH. - Coaching Gender, Inclusion and IWRM, of NGO Forum and Influential people of WMCC (6 women, 9 men + DORP 4 men, GWA 3 women, 1 man) - Coaching Gender, Inclusion, IWRM, of remaining members of WMCC (10 women, 12 men, DORP 4 men, GWA 3 women, 1 man) - Focus Group Discussion Women (25 women, some men bypassers were kept at distance; GWA 3 women) - Focus Group Discussion Men (18 men + bypassers, 1 woman Union Member, GWA 3 women, 1 man, DORP 4 men) - Inquiries (2 women, 1 man) - Debriefing Session (4 women, 8 men including DORP staff. Not included GWA 3+1) - Transect walks in villages of the two selected unions - Government Agencies were not present, and a separate workshop will be planned for them.
2.9.	Workshop on Inclusion and Gender, 3 days	The workshop was planned and arranged for December 2017, but other workshops came in between. The Gender and Inclusion workshop is conducted on 2 and 3 January 2018.

3.4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quarterly meeting and review meeting of Field Visit - Meeting with DORP and Ranjan WaterAid (In office DORP) 6 Aug 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GWA contributes to the team meeting after the field visit, 17 May. A Gender strategy is written with findings of the situation in Bhola during the visit. - To discuss the gender aspects of all items of the programme, and prepare for the Midterm Review Workshop, to make sure we have the same understanding about the expecting outcomes, etc. (Present: DORP 3 women, 4 men, Wateraid 1 man, GWA 3 women). DORP gave a presentation about activities done so far. GWA asked to include more women in the WMCC. (NGO Network consists of 4 women, 4 men and WMCC of 4 women and 19 men). <p>Every quarter, a half-day meeting is held with DORP to discuss what is needed from GWA.</p>
4.1	Training and demonstration of CSO on linkages between WASH/ IWRM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GWA applies an IWRM approach, in which WASH of course is one of the uses of water. It also is the entrance of the coaching. Without IWRM gender in WASH cannot be explained sufficiently.
8.3	Prepare evidence for advocacy- Position Paper/Fact Sheet	In 2018
10.3	Roundtable at national level	Few organisations were invited, GWA was not.
17.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bangladesh Team Meeting - Midterm Review Workshop and Preparation of the Annual Plan 2018 21-22 Aug; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GWA participated - GWA was actively participating in the two-day workshop, to ensure understanding for the need to integrate inclusion and gender even better in the project. - The partners were given suggestions to their presentations. Based on their contributions GWA listed a number of activities for 2018, which are clearly needed, and then wrote the Annual Plan 2018 accordingly. - Regrettably not all needed activities can be included in the Annual Plan 2018. - Two versions were prepared. Finalized Annual Plan and budget for 2018 was approved.
17.4	WP Skype meetings, monthly; Annual Review Meetings	GWA joined three Work Package Skype meetings and will be joining the next ones.
17.7	Reporting	Narrative Report Q2, Q3 and Q4; Financial Report Q2, Q3, Q4 and for 2017
17.8	Meetings	GWA organised a meeting with the Bangladesh partners on July 2 nd .
17.8	Strategic Gender Action plan	GWA prepared draft Strategic Action Plan based on the field situation and findings in Bhola.

Workshops and Meetings in 2017, with short description		
	<p>Participation in the international Annual Watershed Partner Learning Meeting (in Nascent Gardenia Hotel) 2-5 October 2017</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learned about 2017 achievements of all Work Packages. • Developed capacities on the five Learning Trajectory (LT) topics and connecting them with the Bangladesh practice. • Used new insights for a final quality improvement of the annual plan for 2018. <p>GWA-B participants have ensured due attention for gender and inclusion in all sessions. Bangladesh could show to be far ahead in the topic of inclusion compared to the other countries. In the closing session with stakeholders from various organisations, including from Bhola, the positive influence of the coaching by GWA became evident. GWA-B participated with 3 (3f)</p>
	<p>Participation in the Outcome Harvesting Workshop (in Nascent Gardenia Hotel) WP5 6-7 October 2017</p>	<p>Gained sufficient knowledge and understanding of outcome harvesting to begin to harvest outcomes, using basic skills and ability to identify and formulate potential outcomes. For GWA-B it is difficult to claim any outcomes, because of the influencing and capacity building in steps. GWA-B participated with 3 (3f)</p>
	<p>Planning Meeting with DORP (In GWA-B's office) 25th October 2017</p>	<p>Discussed about the remaining tasks for 2017, and planned for the further contribution of GWA-B to DORP and Watershed activities in 2017. It was made sure we have the same understanding about the expected outcome statements, sort out important activities that have to be done together with the DORP team. (Update the OIAT, Organisational Inclusion Assessment Tool, Capacity Building Workshop on Gender and Inclusion, Meeting on Gender and Inclusion in the remaining DORP's Plan of 2017 and the 2018 Annual Plan and Integrate Gender and Inclusion in Training modules, manual) Present: DORP 2 (2m); GWA-B 4 (4f).</p>
	<p>Updating of the Organisational Inclusion Assessment Tool (OIAT) of DORP (in GWA-B's office) 5th November 2017</p>	<p>With the support of GWA-B, the OIAT of DORP was prepared during the WASH Alliance workshop in December 2016 in Koitta. After 10 months, it was reviewed with the support of GWA-B to check if gender is sufficiently included in the tool itself and to reflect progress. Present: DORP 1m and GWA-B 1f.</p> 
	<p>Outcome harvesting statements submitted (to Conny and Ayan) 16th November 2017</p>	<p>GWA-B submitted 5 positive outcomes from their work in the Watershed project. N.B. Outcomes are not the activities which are part of the project, but more indirect results.</p>


	<p>Participation in the Workshop on WASH and IWRM Services Monitoring Tools organized by Wateraid (in Hotel Riggs Inn) 30th November 2017</p>	<p>GWA-B knew about the existing tools related to sustainable WASH and IWRM service monitoring, and got insight about how to focus more on sustainability in WASH and IWRM programmes, as well as explored further possibilities to use the tools in case of evidence generation for lobby and advocacy. GWA-B stressed the importance of gender in IWRM.</p>
	<p>Participation in the Workshop on Data/Evidence for Advocacy (DORP's office) 13-14 Dec 2017</p>	<p>GWA-B learned about the importance of Data/Evidence for Advocacy and the way to do good data research, analysis and visualization for effective advocacy. Here again inclusion had to be emphasized by the GWA-B participant.</p> 
<p>2.9</p>	<p>Organized Capacity Building Workshop on Gender and Inclusion for Watershed Partners in Bangladesh- DORP and Wateraid (in GWA-B's office) 2-3 January 2018 (This was planned in 2017, but had to be postponed to the beginning of January. It is still part of 2017).</p>	<p>GWA-B planned for a two-day workshop with DORP and Wateraid to ensure understanding of the need to integrate gender and inclusion even better in the project activities. The contents focused on the Capacity Building that Wateraid does with the CSOs in national level and DORP with the CSOs in Bhola. The main purpose was that DORP will do their coaching totally inclusive and gender sensitive way, which makes the presence of GWA-B in Bhola ultimately less necessary.</p> <p>The direct objectives of the workshop were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The understanding of gender and inclusion, related to IWRM and WASH is strengthened. 2. The capacity to recognise the different categories of people, their different needs and knowledge, and to realise who are missing out, is strengthened. 3. The capacity of DORP and WaterAid staff to include all different people in their work is improved. 4. Specific knowledge on gender and diversity in advocacy work and its application in practice is increased. 5. DORP staff is able to do all their coaching in the selected areas (in this case Bhola) in a gender inclusive way. 6. A draft Gender Action Plan for the watershed project 2018. <p>The partners were given suggestions to their presentations. Based on their contributions GWA listed a number of activities, which are clearly needed, and then prepared the draft Gender Action Plan for DORP in the Watershed Project 2018 accordingly.</p>

	Present DORP: 4 (4m), WaterAid 1 (1f), GWA-B 4 (4f)
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4.2 Planned but not yet implemented

GWA led activities were all implemented, and various more. Some activities in which partners take the lead and GWA can work on after the initial draft has been made, have been postponed to 2018. The most important activity is 2.2. the Training Manual.

4.3. Not planned but nevertheless implemented

<p>Establish linkage with WARPO</p>	 <p>In February GWA-B organised a workshop with WARPO to discuss the contribution from a gender perspective to the operationalising of the Bangladesh Water Act and the National Water Resources Plan, to be completed in June. We invited DORP and other NGOs. The report of the workshop lists interesting IWRM and WASH and Gender issues. The Director moved to a different organisation, so new contacts need to be developed.</p>
<p>WP 5 meeting in Dhaka 23-2-2017</p>	<p>A meeting of the Watershed partners in Bangladesh was held in GWA-B office. Minutes were prepared, comments received, minutes adapted and disseminated.</p>
<p>Meeting to prepare Launching Event 27-3-2017</p>	<p>One meeting was held in GWA-B office with WP5 partners and Sara Ahrari to discuss the Watershed Launching event on 28 March 2017.</p>
<p>Team meeting after field 17.05.2017</p>	<p>After returning from field visit to Bhola, we had a team meeting in Hotel Riggs Inn about feedback of trip and further actions and expectations.</p>

Strategic action plan	The draft strategic action plan was prepared in order to support DORP and Water Aid.
Field visit to Bhola	Only one visit was planned, but two were necessary in 2017. (Expenditures remained within the budgeted amount).
Develop Gender Action Plan	Report of Capacity Building Workshop on Gender and Inclusion for Watershed Partners in Bangladesh: this really belongs to 2017, whilst implemented on 2 and 3 January 2018.

5. Outcomes and Impact

In October 2017 a workshop was held to learn Outcome Harvesting. GWA harvested the following outcome:

#	Positive Outcomes	Significance of the Outcome	Watershed's contribution to the Outcome	Sources
	In 1–2 sentences please specify when did who do what , and where , that potentially or actually represents progress towards environmentally sustainable and equitable governance of WASH and IWRM.	In another 1-2 sentences, please describe why the outcome represents progress towards fulfilling Watershed's theory of change.	Again briefly, describe how and when your organization's Watershed activities or outputs influenced the outcome. What did you do that directly or indirectly, in a small to large way, intentionally or not contributed to the change? (If you know of other Watershed partners who contributed, place their name in parentheses.)	Either name of person, position and organization or document who provided the information and date they did so.

#	Positive Outcomes	Significance of the Outcome	Watershed's contribution to the Outcome	Sources
1.	Since September 2017, the WMCC (the Water Management Citizens' Committee, one of the two CSOs in Bhola) allowed more women as members. Earlier 4 women were members, now 8 women of whom 2 are of marginal groups.	<p>More women in the meetings will enable them to raise their voice and try to be heard.</p> <p>This is far from normal in the Bhola context. To tolerate women in a meeting is a first step. Then to allow them to talk is a second step. And third is to make sure that they are listened to.</p> <p>With a larger percentage of women (now about 30%) it will be easier for them to have enough confidence to speak.</p>	<p>In August 2017, GWA-B encouraged DORP to attempt to include more women in the WMCC.</p> <p>During our coaching session we tried to convince the influential members (male) that they have a lot to learn from (poor) women.</p>	DORP reported that more women are now members.



#	Positive Outcomes	Significance of the Outcome	Watershed's contribution to the Outcome	Sources
2.	On 4 October 2017, Mr. Taher, the Chairman of the Water Management Citizen's Committee (WMCC) in Bhola, told in a plenary session at the Watershed International meeting in Dhaka, that apart from tube-wells he is now and will continue to be lobbying for 100% sanitation on behalf of marginalized groups, in 2 unions, where Watershed is working. Earlier he only talked about tube-wells, which is less urgent.	Mr. Taher did not consider the issue of sanitation before, whilst now he is lobbying for 100% sanitation for marginalized groups. He is an influential person in Bhola, who everybody listens to. He also is the representative of Bhola on Bangladesh Television (BTV). So he asks for attention for sanitation and this could contribute to change. That he mentioned this in the Watershed Partner meeting with so many stakeholders present is important, because he gives a good example and also he can be held accountable.	In August 2017, GWA-B did participatory coaching with CSO members, including Mr. Taher, in Bhola on the topics related to Gender, Inclusion, IWRM and WASH. During that meeting it was clear that the influential men were not yet aware of the importance of sanitation, and the dismissal state of sanitation in Bhola. Only when the other stakeholders, those of NGOs and less influential, and GWA-B after what we saw during the village visits, told how bad the situation is, they got convinced. And Mr. Taher has become an advocate for 100% improved sanitation.	Report of Jeske of the Watershed International Partner meeting 3-5 Oct 2017; All workshop participants have heard him.



Focus Group Discussion
Men in Bhola, August 2017

#	Positive Outcomes	Significance of the Outcome	Watershed's contribution to the Outcome	Sources
3	<p>In August 2017, marginal women (5) and men (8) actively participated in meetings and sessions of the NGO Platform and the Water Management Citizen's Committee in Bhola, by talking about their issues and skills in an appealing way so that they were being listened to.</p> <p>As written above, influential people don't listen to marginal women and men. This situation therefore indicated a change.</p> <p>Marginal women and men talked about the misery of lacking toilets in the presence of influential men.</p> <p>(The actor is the marginalized women and men, who spoke out about taboo subjects, to powerful men, who have earlier not listened to them).</p>	<p>Good decisions about water and sanitation can only be made if opinions and experience of women and marginal people are taken into account. Earlier they did not speak out, and if so they were not listened to.</p> <p>They spoke out for the first time, and because they were encouraged, they gained confidence. First the others still laughed about the poorest women's words, but when the facilitators took them seriously, and showed the importance of their words for IWRM and WASH, also for the society, they had to listen with respect.</p>	<p>In August 2017, the coaching and meetings of CSOs were facilitated by GWA-B. Participants were a mixed group of influential to very poor people. The active participation of poor and marginal women and men was encouraged in a way the more influential members could accept and appreciate, after some time.</p> <p>All were given the same opportunities to talk.</p>	<p>Gender and Inclusion Report of GWA-B, Mr. Taher, Other CSO members, DORP staff who were present.</p>



In Home and School of children with a handicap, in Bhola

#	Positive Outcomes	Significance of the Outcome	Watershed's contribution to the Outcome	Sources
4	<p>In August 2017, the local imam and member of the WMCC Mr. Abdus Sattar, , Bhola told the other CSOs, together in a coaching session of GWA-B that he will advocate to local government and influential people for toilets for the poorest fisher people and river nomads.</p> <p>In October he tells GWA-B that he has been advocating for toilets for the poorest women and men with the Union Parishad.</p>	<p>Till now the poorest women and men who live against the embankment have no access to toilets. So this is a good beginning of improved thinking. Mr. Abdus Sattar is the local Imam in one of the two unions, and he has influence by his position and by being a member of the WMCC.</p>	<p>In August 2017, GWA-B did two coaching sessions] of CSOs in Bhola, in which the need for equal rights in WASH and the urgent need for sanitation for all was discussed. A major issue was the question “who is “all”?” Leaving no one behind, also not the poorest fisher widow and the river nomads who have no house. Not 80%, not 98%, but 100%.</p>	<p>On 25th October 2017 Mr. Abdus Sattar said to GWA-B over phone that he is doing advocacy but no result yet. Each year a budget is developed by the Union Parishad, so to see the results of advocacy for a certain cause, will not be possible before the next year’s budget.</p>
5	<p>In September – October 2017, the Tier 1 CSO DORP shows more awareness about inclusion and gender. The DORP staff also tells us that the members of the CSOs in Bhola have started to talk more about inclusion and gender in relation to WASH.</p>	<p>Changes will start with talking about it.</p>	<p>In August 2017, GWA-B did coaching with the CSO members (Including DORP staffs) in Bhola on gender and inclusion in IWRM.</p>	<p>Zobair Hasan, director, DORP in GWA-B’s office on 25th October 2017.</p>



Children waiting for their mothers to be ready with the Focus Group Discussion, Women.

#	Negative outcomes	Significance of the Outcome	Watershed's contribution to the Outcome	Sources
	In 1–2 sentences please specify when did who do what , and where , that potentially or actually <u>undermines</u> environmentally sustainable and equitable governance of WASH and IWRM.	In another 1-2 sentences, please describe why the outcome is undermines Watershed's theory of change.	Again briefly, describe how and when your organization's Watershed activities or outputs influenced the outcome. What did you do that directly or indirectly, in a small to large way, intentionally or not contributed to the change? (If you know of other Watershed partners who contributed, place their name in parentheses.)	Either name of person, position and organization or document who provided the information and date they did so.
1.	Till now, we do not find any negative outcome from our work.			



Visiting a Hindu family in Bhola. The head of the household is a lawyer.

7. Plan for 2018

Programme for Gender and Inclusion

Watershed Programme, in Bangladesh Led by SIMAVI

Proposed programme of the Gender and Water Alliance in Bangladesh 2018

in Outcome #		Year 2 (2018)		GWA activities		# days	# facilities	total fac.days
outcome 1- CSOs awareness and understanding of Inclusive and Sustainable WASH/IWRM services increased								
2.1	Development of WASH services monitoring tool (including link WASH-IWRM, sustainability, inclusiveness, public WASH/IWRM plan and budget monitoring, tracking investments made in WASH-IWRM, assessing degree of connectedness between WASH-IWRM)	Ensure gender and inclusion is integrated	4	1	4			
2.2	Training modules development for targeted CSOs, including (including link WASH-IWRM, sustainability, inclusiveness, public WASH/IWRM plan and budget monitoring)	Ensure gender and inclusion is integrated and one special Inclusion module	10	2	20			
2.6	Capacity Strengthening of targeted CSOs using developed tools on link WASH-IWRM, sustainable & inclusive WASH services, public WASH/IWRM plan and budget monitoring, L&A, including WASH and IWRM laws and regulation, networking, engaging with stakeholders, etc	Follow-up of Organisational Inclusion Assessment Tool with DORP, 1 day workshop	3	3	9			
2.7	Coaching of the targeted CSOs to apply the knowledge gained	Follow-up training and coaching of CSOs in Bhola about: a. Gender, water and SDGs b. WASH in schools, including MHM c. Rights of all citizens: govt rules, laws, policies and inclusion d. Gender Budgetting	10	2	20			
2.9	Follow up workshop on Inclusion and gender	Follow-up Inclusion and Gender in IWRM and WASH: practical approaches and recommendations	5	3	15			
Outcome 2-CSOs engage with other stakeholders in discussions related to WASH/IWRM								
3.4	Quarterly CSO and stakeholders coordination and engagement meeting at national level	GWA-B participates	2	2	4			
Outcome 3- CSOs have increased capacity to do L&A for Inclusive/ Sustainable WASH services for all								

	4.3	Water Management Citizen Committee Meeting issue based (Inclusion, WASH, IWRM, Budget tracking)	GWA takes part	2	2	4
	4.5	NGO Network meeting (Inclusion, WASH, IWRM, Budget tracking)	GWA takes part	2	2	4
Outcome 4-CSOs have capacity to advocate for enforcement of WASH/IWRM rules & Regulation						
	5.1	Prepare a brief of WASH/IWRM rules & regulation as booklet /flyer	Fact sheet or Policy brief on inclusion in sustainable WASH and IWRM.	6	2	12
	5.3	Leaflet/Flyer print for Lobby and Advocacy	Onepager on Gender and Inclusion in WASH for Lobby and Advocacy (based on 5.1.)	3	2	6
Outcome 5- CSOs facilitate monitoring public plan & budget for WASH/IWRM at upazila level & downwards						
	6.1	Attend monthly meetings at Upazila/district administration	Other meetings	4	2	8
Outcome 6- CSOs track/ Monitor Sustainability/ Inclusiveness of WASH/IWRM Services						
	7.1	Prepare Budget Monitoring Tools: IWRM & WASH				
	7.2	Consultation meeting with WASH/ IWRM service providers				
	7.3	Lobby and advocacy meeting with WASH/IWRM providers				
Outcome 7- CSOs generate evidence from monitoring activities (i.e. on public budget, Sustainability and Inclusiveness of WASH services, linkages between IWRM, enforcement of rules and regulations)						
	8.5	Data research, Data training, & technical support	Inquiries in other unions in Bhola Sadar	4	3	12
	8.6	Support partners and CSOs to use data and information effectively for stakeholder engagement in WASH and IWRM	Training or Coaching Collecting and processing Gender Disaggregated Data	5	2	10
Outcome 10-CSOs hold Service providers/ authorities accountable at upazila level						
	9.5	Organize sharing and learning meetings with stakeholders: DPHE, LGED, BWDB, DAE	Coaching meetings regarding Inclusion and Gender in IWRM in Bhola, 2* 1 daY OR 3* half day	5	2	10
Outcome 12- Increased awareness of duty bearers (i.e. BWDB, DPHE, LGIs officials) on inclusive sustainable WASH/IWRM						
Outcome 13- Mechanism is in place to link citizens who are often excluded to public and private service providers & other duty bearers						
Outcome 14-Consensus reached on roles and responsibilities among WASH/IWRM different service providers, authorities and other stakeholders						
Outcome 15- Upazilla level standing committee is strengthened/ functional & represents all the right holders including those who are often excluded						
Outcome 17- More public resources are available at union and higher levels for inclusive/Sustainable WASH & IWRM						
Outcome 19-Increased Media coverage sensitive to WASH links with IWRM and Inclusive/ Sustainable services						
Outcome 22: CSOs and other stakeholders at national level develop recommendation on basic service level standards						

PMEL						
17.1	Baseline					
17.2	Participation in the learning / training workshop at different level (linking and learning)					
17.3	Midterm- Review meeting		2	1	2	
17.4	Annual review meeting		2	1	2	
17.5	Logistics of Training/orientation to role out PMEL workpackage (Outcome Harvesting, QIS ladder etc)					
17.6	Annual audit					
17.7	Attend to International conferences					
17.8	Monitoring and reporting	Further reporting	7	2	14	
17.9	Communication					
Sub total						
18.1	Administration 5%					
Year 1	Total days					156

Mr. Taher, the Chairperson of the WMCC in Bhola, speaks at the opening of the Coaching workshop.



7. Highlights and opportunities

- The Launching Event was very successful.
- For GWA to prepare, capacitate and support DORP in their work to build capacity of the CSOs in Bhola, it is needed to have seen the situation in Bhola, and spoken to representatives of various categories of people, including vulnerable groups. There for a longer field visit was needed. This was done from 15 – 19 August, which is actually 3 full days. This time was used to do: two Coaching Sessions on Gender, Inclusion and WRM, One Debriefing Session, Two Focus Group Discussions in villages in the 2 unions. Transact walks were done, talking with whoever we met on the way. This was an interesting learning and teaching event. The water of the Meghna became high and wild, which illustrated the main problem in Bhola: the threat to lose land by river erosion. The report we wrote about the trip has all the details and also Inquiries with some women, which are open Interviews.
- A further highlight is the Mid Term Review Meeting and Workshop for the Annual Plan 2018. It was useful and pleasant to have all partners working on WP5 together, and discuss systematically the activities done, the achievements and the obstacles.
- Highlights were the active participation in the various level workshops, so that attention for gender and inclusion was ensured in WP5.
- Although it was not listed in the reported activities, to ensure the activities of Watershed project more inclusive, a Gender Action Plan has been drafted in the Capacity Building Workshop on Gender and Inclusion for Watershed Partners in Bangladesh (by GWA for DORP and Wateraid).
- Towards the end of the year the influential members of the CSOs in Bhola say that they are including the interests of poor people more. Actual evidence will be visible later.

8. Challenges

- It remains a challenge to ask attention for gender and inclusion, even for a project in which this is the core objective. For example: disabled people are disabled men and disabled women, each of them with different problems. And fishers are also men and women, each with their own tasks and needs. In diversity gender still should take a first position. The representatives in the CSOs need to be at least 30% women, by law. It is also not yet seen that the few women who are present are encouraged to give their opinion.
- There is a contradiction in this inclusive lobby and advocacy: on the one hand it is strategically promising to involve VIPs, influential people, but on the other hand they are all men, and are not inclined to listen to poor women and men. At the end of the year, it is noticed that the influential people have started to lobby in the interest of the poor categories. Real outcome takes much longer.
- GWA-B prefers a demand driven approach, meaning that we wait till we are asked for our inputs, but it is clear that a more pro-active approach is needed. All organisations involved need more learning related to inclusion. For not all it is understood that

inclusion deals with different people, rather than with different ecosystems or water qualities.

- A challenge was to find dates suitable for all, for the Gender and Inclusion workshop for DORP and WaterAid. Ultimately it was postponed to 2 and 3 January 2018, but we still count this activity for 2017.
- A second challenge related to the Gender and Inclusion workshop for DORP and WaterAid was that the number of participants was very low. We invited DORP and WaterAid to make use of the opportunity by sending more of their staff to the workshop. Their busy schedule has limited the participation.
- The most challenging task of GWA-B is the indirect capacity building, coaching and training, especially for gender and inclusion subjects. The CSOs in Bhola are not the easiest to coach or train on subjects as inclusion. Hierarchy is very strict in the culture and behaviour of both the influential people and the more vulnerable groups. It is a challenge to make the first group listen to the latter group and also to make the latter group speak out in the presence of the first group. For GWA this is less difficult than for DORP staff because they have a longer history with them and need to be part of the WMCC. For GWA it is our topic, so we are expected to talk about these subjects. Now GWA, with the experience of the field visit, has to coach and guide DORP to be inclusive in an effective and acceptable way. It is this indirect coaching, which is difficult, and the actual impact that poor women and vulnerable groups will get better and more water and safer sanitation, is hard to foresee. This is the core of the project, and the steps are many from GWA-B to DORP to the WMCC and the NGO Forum to the BDWD and DPHE local officials, to the BDWD and DPHE higher level official, to the decision-makers at Ministerial level. On the one hand this is our profession, but usually the learning has to bridge one or two steps, and in this case many. This is a challenge of the whole Watershed project, but on gender and inclusion I is always difficult.
- If men would be responsible for water and hygiene in the households instead of women, there would be piped water systems everywhere, as there should be, and SDG 6 would not exist.
- There is a great need for CB on gender and inclusion and on the importance of gender dynamics within IWRM and WASH. Even though the collaboration with partners is fine, there is need to address them more pro-actively.
- CSOs in Bhola need to learn to listen and include marginalized women and men. This process has to be enabled, encouraged and rewarded, because it does not come by telling them one or two times.
- Tools are meant to save time and make the actual work easier. Too many and/or too complicated tools risk to pass by that purpose.
- In Q4 we learnt to harvest outcomes, and also in this the indirect capacity building appears the biggest challenge.
- Therefore it was rewarding to notice the CSOs in Bhola, and their secretary, who has learnt to listen more to poor groups and advocate for their interests.

9. Finances

In 2017 GWA has overspent by 10%. The reason is that various more activities were done, workshops were participated in, which was not foreseen. The planned activities were nearly all implemented, and mostly at the level of the budget. The Financial Report has been handed in on 2 March.

10. Issues, listed in the contract, Annex 2

- **How do you measure the progress in capacity of targeted CSOs (DORP and their local CSOs)? How do you see the changes in their lobby and advocacy efforts for Sustainable and Inclusive WASH?**

GWA is not directly mandated to judge the level of capacity for L&A for sustainable WASH. We are mandated to assess the level of capacity for inclusive WASH. The capacity for inclusiveness in their L&A we see increasing, but there is no other way to measure is than in the actual results. GWA helps the CSOs to increase their capacity and encourages them to apply that knowledge. Then the duty bearers need to adapt their different budgets, for which the cycle has a year timespan. So even after 9 months it is still impossible to assess the actual result.

Even if the capacity has increased noticeably, what it did, in the end the L&A still may not be successful, and no poor women and men get more safe water and improved sanitation. This depends on more factors than the quality of the L&A alone.
- **How do you see DORP's Inclusion Action Plan unfolding and what has been your role in it.**

DORP has an Organisational Inclusion Assessment Tool. Under guidance of GWA it was filled in in December 2016. In November 2017 it is updated by DORP and GWA. Some of the issues for which there are ladders, were improved. A few wordings have been adapted.
- **How do you experience working with other Watershed Work Package members? What is your expectation from them in the following period?**

The cooperation is fine. At first GWA was not often asked for our opinion and contribution, but this is slowly improving.
- **What opportunities exist for scaling up your intervention? How do you plan to use these opportunities?**

There is no end to what can be done from a gender perspective and the opportunities are many. But as usual this depends on the budget, which is getting more and more limited, not just in the Watershed programme.
- **How do you link Watershed activities with GWA's other similar programmes in particular your collaboration with WARPO.**
 - The collaboration with WARPO entailed the integration of gender and diversity in the Water Policy's operationalisation in the Water Rules. This work was done in a participatory way by GWA, involving many other organisations. By now the Water Rules are completed. The director of WARPO left for a different organisation, so our communication has to find a different route.
 - Our EU-funded programme Women2030 is monitoring SDGs (5, 6, and 13) and building capacity of CSOs. The advocacy part is very important in this project too, and dissemination of findings by CSOs (GWA members). Some resources which we

developed, especially related to capacity building can be utilised in the Watershed project too.

– **Recommendation for improving inclusion and gender in Watershed Bangladesh programme.**

Even though CB workshops seem to be considered as not very effective, real inclusion can take place if mind-sets of people, whoever is involved, is changed towards more independent thinking. Whatever can be done and however it is called, that is all well, as long as it makes people, men and women of all levels, think for themselves with an open mind. That is a long process, and there is no shortcut apart from listening to women and men of all categories, hearing and seeing them in their own surroundings.

It is important that GWA is invited to join in events, so that if nobody else raises the issue of unequal power relation, GWA will do so. It is also not so automatic that participants in events (workshops and other occasions) realise that the work we all do should benefit poor women and men, girls and boys, differently challenged women and men, elderly, and other vulnerable groups. The attention is sometimes too much for tools and frameworks, in which not all real people and real contexts can be fitted.

11. Reports:

- Plan GWA Watershed 2017
- Bhola report Visit 2, Coaching and Inquiries
- Debriefing Note of Bhola visit
- Strategic Action Plan
- Quarterly reports 2, 3 and 4.
- Half-yearly report July 2017
- Outcome harvesting

