

Bangladesh Water Integrity Network (BAWIN)

Strategic Plan (2021-2025)

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Strategic Plan of BAWIN at a Glance (2021-2025)

Vision & Mission

BAWIN envisages that the Water Management Practices in Bangladesh promote equitable and sustained access of all to water for life and livelihood. The Network commits to harmonizing member's efforts in the improvement of the performance of the water sector in Bangladesh with the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and participation (TAP) in management practices. Its research-based campaign, advocacy, and capacity-building initiatives encourage and enable the sector institutions to adopt frameworks and tools of Water Integrity.

Programmatic Direction

The goal of the program is to ensure the rights of the people, especially of the poor and the vulnerable groups, to have access to safe water for life and livelihood. The specific objectives are to: i) influence changes in the public policy process that promotes integrity in the water sector in Bangladesh; ii) strengthen the capacities of the local government institutions, Water utilities and other public/autonomous water service providers in managing Water Integrity issues; and iii) promote local initiatives facilitating improved quality of services in the water sector, with attention on the aspects of accessibility and inclusiveness. The thematic priorities of the program includes WASH, Sanitation, Urban Water Management, Waste Management, Irrigation, Climate Change, Social Accountability, Local Governance, Civic Engagement, and Gender.

Strategic Direction

BAWIN will continue with its existing model of operation, i.e., operating without any separate legal identity, being hosted by a member NGO that extends essential administrative supports to it, mostly on a voluntary basis. The Strategic Objectives for the reference period are to i) reduce dependency on a single source of finance; ii) become more relevant to the members; iii) strengthen the brand image of BAWIN; and iv) enhance Governance and Management efficiency of BAWIN

Strategies

For Strategic Objective 1: i) Formation of BAWIN Consortium; ii) Facilitate the establishment of donors consortium; iii) Tap resources from both institutional donors and corporate bodies; iii) Encourage cost-sharing by the members; and iv) Initiate revenue generation.

For Strategic Objective 2: i) Involve members in working groups on research, advocacy, campaign, and capacity building; ii) Extend capacity building services to the existing members, who have limited/no expertise on Water Integrity /Integrity Management (IM) tools; and iii) Replace the inactive members by new members with higher commitment and expertise

For Strategic Objective 3: i) Develop a clear and common understanding among all the internal and external stakeholders of the demarcation between the identity and role of BAWIN and those of its members; ii) Establish and promote a digital knowledge hub on Water Integrity; iii) Determine an appropriate brand image for BAWIN and promote through mass media, social media, and interactive events.

For Strategic Objective 4: i) Allocate the appropriate number of dedicated staff for BAWIN secretariat; and ii) Establish internal systems of recruitment & management of members, decision making, M&E, and feedback handling

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Acronyms

BAWIN	Bangladesh Water Integrity Network
CWASA	Chittagong Water Supply & Sewerage Authority
DWASA	Dhaka Water Supply & Sewerage Authority
IM	Integrity Management
IWRM	Integrated Water Resource Management
KWASA	Khulna Water Supply & Sewerage Authority
LGIs	Local Government Institutions
MoLGRD&C	Minister of the Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives
MoWR	Ministry of Water Resources
NIS	National Integrity Strategy
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
TI	Transparency International
TIB	Transparency International Bangladesh
WIN	Water Integrity Network



1. An introduction to BAWIN and its Journey

BAWIN is a multi-stakeholder network of organizations, institutions, and individuals from the civil society in Bangladesh, who are committed to promoting integrity practices among the water sector institutions. The network has no legal identity and is hosted by a member NGO that extends essential administrative supports to it, mostly on a voluntary basis. BAWIN acts mainly as an umbrella body of its members at national and sub-national levels and is focused on research, advocacy, and campaign on the issues of integrity in water management.

The journey started in 2009 with inspiration and thematic support from WIN and assistance from Transparency International (TI). Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) volunteered to host the secretariat of the network from 2009 to mid-2017, until the NGO Forum for Public Health took over that responsibility. In between 2009 and 2013, with technical support from WIN, BAWIN was trying to take its shape almost as a program within TIB with a focus on the issue of corruption in the management of water services.

Thematic Focus for 2021-2025

- WASH
- Sanitation
- Urban Water Management
- Waste Management
- Irrigation
- Climate Change
- Social Accountability

Vision:

Water Management Practices in Bangladesh promote equitable and sustained access of all to water for life and livelihood.

Mission:

We commit to harmonizing member's efforts in the improvement of the performance of the water sector in Bangladesh with the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and participation in management practices. Our research-based campaign, advocacy, and capacity-building initiatives encourage and enable the sector institutions to adopt frameworks and tools of Water Integrity.

Under a five-country program financed by the Directorate General for Development Cooperation (DGIS), WIN supported the operation of BAWIN from 2014 to early 2017. The fund enabled BAWIN to continue its existence and to undertake some key activities related to Water Integrity, and establish an integrity analysis of the sector in the country. One of those introduced the Integrity Management (IM) tools to Khulna Water Supply & Sewerage Authority (KWSA), for the first time in the country.

In early 2017, TI-B conducted a study for BAWIN titled 'Use and Effectiveness of Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs) in the Garments Industry of Bangladesh: a Water Sector Integrity Perspective' with the financial support of WIN. The report was published in June

¹ i.e., Amitabha Bhattacharjee as the Team Leader and Syeda Shahida Sultana as the Associate Consultant

2017 and explored the integrity concerns around the implementation of laws to protect water bodies from industrial pollution. In November 2017, WIN also started financing a project titled 'Integrity in school WASH' under the umbrella of BAWIN. DORP, a member of BAWIN, implemented the project in two (2) hard-to-reach Upazilas under Bhola and Laxmipur districts. The intervention strategy and implantation process followed on Transparency Accountability and Participation (TAP) parameters to establish an appropriate approach to integrate the issues of education,

WASH, gender, and budget.

The success of the pilot initiative of BAWIN with KWASA encouraged NGO Forum to initiate designing of an IM project with the Chittagong Water Supply & Sewerage Authority (CWASA) in 2017. WIN financed that project also in 2017-2018 under the umbrella of BAWIN. Impact of the IM project with KWASA and CWASA encouraged the BAWIN members to continue with both KWASA and CWASA in 2019-2020, where RWASA also joined later and adopted the IM tools.

In 2018, 2019 and 2020 BAWIN managed to encourage the CWASA, KWASA, and RWASA respectively to develop their road maps for reducing their integrity risks and improving performances. The period of the road map of KWASA was 2019 and 2020. The period was 2020 and 2021 for both KWASA and RWASA.

BAWIN strengthen its efforts for policy advocacy at the national level since 2019, where mass media houses played a noteworthy supportive role. The major events held in 2019 and 2020 on the issues around WASH Governance and Integrity for Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) successfully involved key institutional actors like the honorable Minister of the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives (MoLGRD&C) and the Managing Directors of the KWASA, CWASA, and Dhaka Water Supply & Sewerage Authority (DWASA).

Programmatic Direction for 2021-2025

Goal:

To ensure the rights of the people, especially of the poor and the vulnerable groups, to have access to safe water for life and livelihood

Objectives:

- To influence changes in the public policy process that promotes integrity in the water sector in Bangladesh
- To strengthen the capacities of the local government institutions, Water utilities and other public/autonomous water service providers in managing Water Integrity issues.
- To promote local initiatives facilitating improved quality of services in the water sector, with attention on the aspects of accessibility and inclusiveness.

2. An overview of the context

Water is a fundamental resource for sustainable development. It is essential for eradicating poverty, securing food and energy for a rapidly growing population, and maintaining life-sustaining ecosystems for future generations. In spite of some commendable progress, the water sector in Bangladesh is still facing multifaceted challenges with water shortage and quality of water. Reduced flow of

trans boundary river water, over-extraction of groundwater and inefficient irrigation practices are the main reasons for the shortage of water, while rapid population growth and climate change impacts are already present as critical concerns. Salinity intrusion, arsenic contamination, poor management of fecal sludge and industrial waste, and excessive use of agrochemicals are the main reasons for water pollution in Bangladesh.

A sustainable response to the existing situation can be to facilitate improvement in the governance of the water sector in responding to the interests of vulnerable/excluded groups, which requires: i) establishment of a stronger linkage and coordination between the corresponding sub/sectors in line with the principles and strategies of Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM); ii) facilitate improved performance of water utilities and regulatory bodies, to ensure equitable distribution of social, economic, and environmental costs and benefits of water management projects among the stakeholders; and iii) enhancement of the collective abilities of the citizens to assert their rights to water and fulfill their corresponding responsibilities at the same time.

The major obstacles for IWRM practices in Bangladesh are lying within lack of coordination with co-riparian countries; lack of clarification in legal documents on IWRM tools (for creation of enabling environment, setting institutional roles, and establishment of management instruments) and absence of harmonization of regulatory documents; limited integration between the core water management organizations and the existing drawbacks within those and their organizational structures; and lack of information and awareness among the staff of water-related departments, technocrats/bureaucrats and political leaders on the importance of IWRM.

It has been evident that proper valuation of water as well as its enhanced protection depends on the practice of integrity at all levels. The importance of water and good governance has been

recognized in the preparation of the SDGs, as well as in numerous declarations and conventions. Water Integrity exemplifies the transformative shifts identified by the high-level panel, by incorporating a global partnership for the equitable, sustainable, and accountable management of water resources and the services these provide to all societies.

The National Integrity Strategy (NIS) along with some other regulatory instruments of the GoB have widened the scope for promotion of integrity issues in management of water resources in Bangladesh. As water is essential for human survival, socio-economic development of the country, and preservation of its natural environment, it is the policy of the GoB that all necessary means and measures be taken to manage the water resources of the country in a comprehensive, integrated, and equitable manner. It might be noted that the work of BAWIN aligns with the NIS. Under the 8th 5-year plan, NIS is being extended to the local institutions. This gives an immense opportunity to take integrity-related approaches and tools to the local level and BAWIN can be an important vehicle for that.

However, till to date, the country has been suffering from an array of water problems and disasters, both natural and manmade—the latter caused by lack of good governance, corruption, and dysfunctional institutional arrangements. Over the years, the sector has become susceptible to corruption because of the monopolized structure and absence of accountability in decision-making. Corruption diverts resources that could be used to improve water and other services, especially for poor people.

3. Critical Issues and strategic Directions for 2021 to 2025

BAWIN will continue with its existing model of operation, i.e., operating without any separate legal identity, being hosted by a member NGO that extends essential administrative supports to it, mostly on a voluntary basis. Considering this modality, the major critical issues (all of which are

closely interconnected) to BAWIN for the reference period are finance, member ownership, brand image, and performance of the secretariat. A brief portrayal of the corresponding challenges and strategies to overcome are presented below against each of the four issues identified.

3.1. Finance

There exists a range of valid issues for BAWIN to expand evidence-based advocacy, sensitize the citizens on the importance of Water Integrity and their rights to demand that, capacity building of the Local

Government Institutions (LGIs) to tackling the issue of integrity in water services and facilitate adaptation of IM tools by the water utilities. Apart from a number of funding agencies and intermediary organizations the private sector entities are also becoming interested to invest on the governance and management of water resources. However, to date, WIN is the single source of limited financing to BAWIN and there is a possibility of decrease in that funding. In such case, BAWIN will face enormous difficulties as even the current fund flow is very poor to support the mission of BAWIN.

The main challenges regarding the performance of BAWIN to secure adequate finance to its mission and works are embedded with the absence of fundraising initiatives from any sources other than WIN, lack of quality human resources to pay fundraising efforts for BAWIN and limited availability (to convince the potential financiers) of evidence in favor of the need for BAWIN's work and/or expertise of the network. Within the reference period BAWIN will target to diversify its source of finance.

Apart from approaching grant funding, steps will be taken to generate revenue by expanding services to the members, and to encouraging members for cost-sharing. For grants, targeted initiatives will be taken to tap both traditional funding and CSR fund. A consortium will be formed by the members to design the program, raise fund and manage the program collectively under the umbrella of BAWIN. Essential initiatives will also be taken to provide the consortium with research-based information in designing and managing the program.

3.2. Member Ownership

Success of a network like BAWIN largely depends on the extent to which the members find it important to them and own it. The existing level of ownership of the members on BAWIN, in general, is not yet at the expected level. The level of enthusiasm, spontaneity, and participation of the members in the activities of the network varies greatly, and only a small portion of them are found as active. There are three reasons for the present trend. Firstly, the

existing focus, coverage, and scale of operation are inadequate for BAWIN to become important/beneficial to all of its members. Secondly, a portion of the member organizations are not having the mandate/works on the issue of governance/integrity in water services, though, they are somehow connected to the other aspects of WASH. Lastly, the existing operational practices of the secretariat is not enough to meet member's expectation regarding the frequency of meeting and/or information sharing.

Under the given reality, becoming relevant to the interests of the members will be a strategic priority to BAWIN. For that, it will adopt a four-prong strategy. Firstly, all the members with interest and expertise will be supported in accessing to fund and taking part in the program of BAWIN under a consortium. Secondly, the existing members with potentials will be encouraged to make their best contribution to the network through the diverse strings of actions, i.e., research, advocacy, campaign, and capacity building. Separate working groups will be developed in this regard. Thirdly, the existing members with limited, or, no expertise on the issues of Water Integrity and/or application of IM tools, will be offered by the secretariat with capacity building services. Lastly, the inactive members will be replaced by new members with higher commitment and expertise to promote BAWIN's mission.

3.3. Brand Image

Over the past years, the name of BAWIN has become a bit familiar to the entities within the water sector. However, the brand image is yet to be developed to support resource mobilization, advocacy, and campaign initiatives. There are some major challenges in this regard. Firstly, the existing practices of BAWIN for accumulation, documentation, and sharing evidence in favor of its achievement are not yet at a satisfactory level. As a result, there is not much to build a strong brand image of BAWIN. Secondly, lack of clarity between the identity, role, and jurisdiction of BAWIN and those of its member organizations often restricts the members from promoting the network cordially. Thirdly, BAWIN does not have a presence in social media, or on the web. Lastly, in absence of any specific strategic direction regarding visibility, the name and logo of BAWIN often have to compete with those of the

hosting member. Naturally, the latter gets the higher priority to the audience.

In responding to the situation, BAWIN will develop a clear and common understanding among all the internal and external stakeholders of the demarcation between the identity and role of BAWIN and those of its members; establish and promote a digital knowledge hub on Water Integrity to become more important to the concern stakeholders; determine an appropriate brand image for BAWIN based on evident information regarding the relevance of BAWIN and the effects of its works; undertake planned initiatives for making best utilization of mass media and social media in promoting the mission and works of BAWIN; and will increase the frequency of holding interactive events with the target audience using the name and logo of BAWIN.

3.4. Performance of the Secretariat

Improvement in performance of BAWIN to manage the governance, administrative and operational affairs is one of the most important strategic priorities in the reference period. Major challenges in this regard are associated with scarcity of dedicated staff and absence of essential structure, protocols, and/or systems. In strengthening the secretariat, adequate attention will be given on engagement of full time official/s for the secretariat and on the establishment of systems/protocols for selection and review of membership, making of operational and administrative decisions, tracking and guiding of program performance and responding to accountability demands.

4. Strategic Objectives and Actions

4.1. Strategic Objectives

SN	Indicator of Success	Baseline (2020) Status	Target				
			2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Strategic Objective 1: To reduce dependency on a single source of finance							
1	The highest Proportion (%) of the total annual fund of BAWIN supplied from a single channel/source	100%	100	85	75	65	50
2	Proportion (%) of the total funding to BAWIN at the year financed by Bi/multilateral funding source(s)	0%	0	5	10	15	15
3	Proportion (%) of the total funding to BAWIN at the year financed by INGO(s)	100%	100	85	80	65	65
4	Proportion (%) of the total funding to BAWIN at the year financed by National Foundation(s)	0%	0	2	2	4	4
5	Proportion (%) of the total funding to BAWIN at the year financed by GoB	0%	0	2	2	4	4
6	Proportion (%) of the total funding to BAWIN at the year financed by CSR fund	0%	0	2	2	4	4
7	Proportion (%) of the total annual expenditure of BAWIN for the year shared by the member organizations as cost-sharing	0%	0	2	2	4	4
8	Proportion (%) of the total annual expenditure of BAWIN for the year covered by the revenue generated	0%	0	2	2	4	4

Strategic Objective 2: To become more relevant to the members

SN	Indicator of Success	Baseline (2020) Status	Target				
			2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
9	Proportion (%) of the existing organizational members, who have been supported in strengthening competence of respective staff members on the use of IM tools.	5%	50%	50%			
10	Proportion (%) of the existing organizational members, who have been supported in designing and/or delivering small innovative Water Integrity projects.	5%	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%
11	Proportion (%) of the organizational members, who have been supported in accessing small grants for Water Integrity projects	5%	10%	20%	25%	30%	40%
12	Proportion (%) of the individual members, who have been supported in utilizing their expertise, professionally, on Water Integrity issues	15%	15%	30%	50%	65%	80%

Strategic Objective 3: To strengthen the brand image of BAWIN

13	Number of reports broadcasted in the year in TV Channel/s on the works of BAWIN	0	0	1	1	2	2
14	Number of reports published in the year in national dailies on the works of BAWIN	1	1	2	2	3	3
15	Number of international events held in the year, where an official was invited to represent BAWIN	1	1	2	2	2	2
16	Number of national events held in the year, where an official was invited to represent BAWIN	1	1	2	2	2	2
17	Number of sub-national events held in the year, where an official was invited to represent BAWIN	1	1	2	2	2	2
18	Number of occasions appeared in the year, when an official was invited and joined to represent BAWIN at an event organized by the MoLGRD&C, or, by any of its line departments	1	1	2	2	2	2
19	Number of occasions appeared in the year, when an official was invited and joined to represent BAWIN at an event organized by the Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR), or, by any of its line departments	0	0	1	1	1	1
20	Number of occasions appeared in the year, when an official was invited and joined to represent BAWIN at an event organized by the NIS Implementation Committee	0					

SN	Indicator of Success	Baseline (2020) Status	Target				
			2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
21	Number of occasions appeared in the year, when an official was invited and joined to represent BAWIN at an event organized by a member of the donor's consortium formed to promote Water Integrity	N/A	0	1	1	1	1
22	Number of WASAs/respective authorities in urban areas, who have expressed their interest in the year to work with BAWIN for adaptation of IM Tools	0	0	2	2	3	3

Strategic Objective 4: To enhance Governance and Management efficiency of BAWIN

23	No. of Steering Committee Meetings held in the year as per the respective statutory protocols (in relation to invitation, management, documentation & dissemination and follow up)	2	3	3	3	3	3
24	No. of General Meetings held in the year as per the respective statutory protocols (in relation to invitation, management, documentation & dissemination and follow up)	2	2	2	2	2	2
25	The average No. of members participated in the Steering Committee Meetings held in the year.	7	8	8	8	8	8
26	The average No. of members participated in the General Meetings held in the year.	15	20	25	25	25	25
27	Number of full time staff dedicated to serve the secretariat	0	0	1	1	1	1

4.2. Strategic Action

SN	Strategic Actions	Output Indicator/s	Target				
			2021	2022	2023	2024	2025

Learning & Knowledge Management

1	Conduct a study on reflection of the issue of integrity in the regulatory instruments of Bangladesh on the management of water.	Number of reports including policy brief published and shared among all stakeholders		1			
2	Conduct an exploratory research on the scope of capacity building of LGs in tackling Water Integrity issues. (WASA, Municipality, local government)			1			

SN	Strategic Actions	Output Indicator/s	Target				
			2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
3	Conduct a survey and publish annual reports on the state of Water Integrity in Bangladesh with attention on all the segments of water users, i.e., agriculture, domestic and industrial (e.g., Food, Textile, Transport, Construction, Paper, and Leather)	Number of reports published and shared among all stakeholders	0	1	1	1	1
4	Conduct a study to assess the effects and impacts of BAWIN on the Water sector.	Number of reports published and shared among all stakeholders	0	0	0	1	0
5	Establish an e-library (web based) on Water Integrity	Number of library is in operation	1	1	1	1	1
6	Mapping (as part of water week celebration) of the good practices by the member organizations in promoting Water Integrity.	Number of virtual workshop		1	1	1	1
		Number of reports produced		1	1	1	1
Capacity Strengthening							
7	Design and offer service packages for the member organizations against competitive fees, based on analysis of their priorities.	Number of reports produced on priorities of the member organizations	0	1	0	0	0
8	Develop a core team of experts among the interested officials of the member organizations or individuals, who will be able to use the IM tools efficiently.	Number of persons trained and nurtured	12	5	5	0	0
9	Profile and categorize the members under the working groups of Fund Raising, Research, Advocacy, Campaign and Capacity Building based on their expertise and experience	Number of working groups formed and/or made functional during the year	5	5	5	5	5
10	Develop a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for managing the Governance, Management, Administrative and operational affairs of BAWIN	Number of documents	1	0	0	0	0
11	Formulation of strategies and plan of BAWIN for Strategic Communication and Networking	Number of strategy paper	0	1	0	0	0

SN	Strategic Actions	Output Indicator/s	Target				
			2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
12	Establish an appropriate and structured mechanism (IT based) for soliciting and responding to member's feedback, periodically, on the performance of BAWIN in helping them to focus their work on Water Integrity issues	Frequency of feedback collection	1	2	2	2	2
13	Establish an appropriate framework and tools for MEAL of BAWIN that ensures engagement of all key stake holders including the public/autonomous bodies and funding agencies.	Number of system in place	0	0	1	1	1
14	Formation of a three members committee (comprising of the chair person, head of the host member and a senior member of Steering Committee) to look after the membership issue	No. of committee is in place	1	1	1	1	1
15	Set and enforce criteria for obtaining/retaining membership of BAWIN	Proportion (%) of the existing members screened in the year	100	100	100	100	100
16	Arrange renewal of membership	Number of list of the members approved by the assigned membership committee	1	1	1	1	1
Fund Raising							
17	Form a consortium by organizing the interested BAWIN members and support it in exploring joint funding and implementing project/s on Water Integrity issues under the umbrella of BAWIN.	Number of consortium developed	1				
		No. of program design/proposal developed		2	1	1	1
18	Mapping of the potential financiers of all categories (i.e., by/multilateral, intermediary organizations, public sector departments and corporate sector) and their interests to invest on Water Integrity	Number of reports published and shared among the members	0	1	0	0	0
19	Facilitate the establishment of a consortium of donors having an interest in Water Integrity issues.	Number of consortium	0	0	1	0	0

SN	Strategic Actions	Output Indicator/s	Target				
			2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
20	Conduct annual budget workshops to determine the line items and volume of the costs for the next year to be shared by the member organizations	Number of workshops	1	1	1	1	1
Promotion							
21	Set functional website, Facebook Page, Twitter and, YouTube Channel of BAWIN	Number of months in the year, when at least 2 new web posts appeared on the official website of BAWIN	4	12	12	12	12
		Number of months in the year, when at least 4 new FB posts appeared on the official FB page of BAWIN	4	12	12	12	12
		Number of months in the year, when at least 4 new posts appeared on the official Twitter of BAWIN	4	12	12	12	12
		Number of months in the year, when at least 2 new contents appeared on the official You Tube Channel of BAWIN	0	6	8	10	12
22	Form and strengthen a journalist's forum at the national level on Water Integrity issues	Number of Forum	0	1	0	0	0
		Number of media houses, representative of whom has been active in the forum	0	10	15	20	25
23	Conduct dialogues with new WASAs/ Authorities on the issue of Water Integrity and the benefits of the IM Tools	Number of new WASAs/Authorities covered	0	2	2	3	3
24	Prepare status update of BAWIN and share them with the members on a monthly, quarterly, and annual basis	Number of monthly status reports produced and shared in the year	3	12	12	12	12
		Number of quarterly status reports produced and shared in the year	0	4	4	4	4
		Number of quarterly status reports produced and shared in the year	1	1	1	1	1

Annex



The potential issues and points for BAWIN to advocate

A. The Potential Issues of Advocacy

1. Harmonization/adjustments in the water-related regulatory instruments in line with the NIS
2. Establishment of a better intra-ministry coordination mechanism to support the application of the NIS
3. Adaptation (and maintenance) of basic service standards for inclusive/sustainable water services, with attention on the lagging regions and the needs of the vulnerable/excluded groups
4. Facilitation of cooperative efforts by the co-riparian countries
5. Creation of enabling environment for implementation of participatory management approach to water sector projects/programs
6. Rolling out strategy implementation, including equitable allocation of required resources at all level, for inclusive and sustainable management of water resources and delivery of water services for all

B. The most important public agencies

Water Resources Planning Organization (WARPO) and Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) under the MoWR; and Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE), Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), Water Supply and Sewerage Authorities (WASAs) and Local Government Institution (LGIs) under the Ministry of Local Government, MoLGRD&C are the most important public agencies for BAWIN to do Lobbying and Advocacy. For the purpose, the network has the scope to ally with the NGOs, Community Based Organizations (CBOs), Networks/Platforms, Mass Media, Development Partners (DPs) and Knowledge and Research Organizations.

C. Relevant Regulatory Instruments

The NIS of the GoB is the single most important policy document for BAWIN. The next set is of those guiding water management. Although there are a number of legal documents present related to water resources management in Bangladesh, twenty-seven major water related laws/legislations/policies can be considered by BAWIN. Among these legal documents there are nine acts, four policies, six strategies, two plans, four ordinances, one treaty and one rule.

Ten (10) legal documents are implemented by the (MoWR):

1. The Canals Act, 1864
2. The Bangladesh Irrigation Water Rate Ordinance, 1983
3. River Research Act, 1990
4. Ganges Water Sharing Treaty, 1996
5. National Policy for Safe Water Supply & Sanitation, 1998
6. National Water Policy, 1999
7. National Water Management Plan, 2001
8. Coastal Zone Policy, 2005
9. Coastal Development Strategy, 2006
10. Bangladesh Water Act, 2013

Eight (8) by the MoLGRD&C:

1. Water Supply and Sewerage Authority Act, 1996
2. National Policy for Arsenic Mitigation and Implementation Plan, 2004
3. Pro-poor strategy for Water and Sanitation Sector in Bangladesh, 2005
4. National Strategy for Water and Sanitation Hard to Reach Areas of Bangladesh, 2012
5. Sector Development Plan (FY 2011-2025) for Water Supply and Sanitation Sector in Bangladesh, 2011
6. National Cost Sharing Strategy for Water Supply
7. National Strategy for Water Supply and Sanitation, 2014
8. National Hygiene Promotion Strategy for Water Supply and Sanitation in Bangladesh, 2012

Four (4) by the Ministry of Environment and Forest:

1. Bangladesh Wildlife (Preservation) (Amendment) Act, 1974
2. The Bangladesh Environment Conservation Act, 1995
3. The Environment Conservation Rules, 1997
4. The Environment Court Act, 2000)

Two (2) by the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock:

1. The Protection and Conservation of Fish Act, 1982
2. Marine Fisheries Ordinance, 1983

Two (2) by the Ministry of Shipping:

1. The Inland Water Transport Authority Ordinance, 1958
2. Territorial Waters and Maritime Zones Act, 1974

One (1) by the Ministry of Agriculture:

1. The Groundwater Management Ordinance, 1985

A list of the Funding Agencies and Intermediary Organizations having an interest on water sector

A. Funding Agencies

Since liberation of the country in 1971, a number of bi/multi-lateral funding agencies have supported the country in promotion and management of water resources and/or WASH services. Till to date, many of them have their focus on these areas. A non-comprehensive list of such entities may include:

1. Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)
2. Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA)
3. Department for International Development (DFID)
4. Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands (EKN)
5. European Union
6. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
7. Japan International Cooperation Agency(JICA)
8. Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
9. Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)
10. United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
11. United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)
12. USAID
13. World Health Organization (WHO)
14. World Bank-Water and Sanitation Program (WB-WSP)

The WB, the ADB and numerous bilateral development agencies, notably the EKN, DANIDA, JICA, DFID and Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) have been active for many years in financing water development projects with technical assistance and capacity building. UNDP and other United Nations agencies especially UNICEF, are active in support of water sector programmes and rural development.

B. International NGOs (INGOs):

1. ActionAid Bangladesh (AAB)
2. Concern Universal
3. Gender and Water Alliance (GWA)
4. Free Press Unlimited
5. GiZ
6. Helvetas
7. ICCO
8. Max Foundation
9. Netherlands Development Organization (SNV)
10. Oxfam
11. Plan International Bangladesh
12. Practical Action
13. Simavi
14. Solidaridad

15. WASH Alliance International (WAI)
16. Water & Sanitation for the Urban Poor (WSUP)
17. Wateraid Bangladesh
18. Water.org
19. Water & Life
20. WIN
21. World Vision

C. National Organizations/Agencies

1. Bangladesh Climate Change Trust Fund
2. Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF)





This document is the outcome of an exercise of strategic planning of the Bangladesh Water Integrity Network (BAWIN) for the period of 2021-2025. A team of two consultants¹ from Harmony Trust facilitated the process between December 2020 and March 2021. Key Informant Interview (KII), Survey, Consultation, Workshop, and Desk Research were applied in the collection, triangulation, and analysis of the information used in this document. The members of BAWIN, the Executive Director of host organization (NGO Forum), and the respective coordinator of the Water Integrity Network (WIN) took part in the process.



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