

BANGLADESH WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD



PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT: IMED-04/2003 (Revised)

Name of the Project: **Feasibility Study for re-excavation of small and medium khals, beels in the country.**

PROJECT PERIOD: SEPTEMBER 2018 TO JUNE 2020.

**Office of the Project Director
(Monitoring Circle, FFW, BWDB)
149 Ansar Chamber (11th floor)
Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000.**

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Planning
Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Department.
PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT: IMED 04/2003 (REVISED)

A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

01. Name of Project : Feasibility Study for re-excavation of small and medium khals, beels in the country.

**02. Administrative Ministry/
Division** : Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR)

03. Executing Agency : Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB)

04. Location of the Project : All over Bangladesh.

05. Object of the Project :

The main objectives of the study are to restoration of small and medium khals, beels for mitigation of flood and water logging problem, to provide irrigation facilities, to enhance water retention capacity and to augment dry season flow through re-excavation.

The explicit objectives of the study are:

- To assess the present situation of livelihood, fisheries resources, ecosystem (land/aquatic) as well as the current water utilization of small and medium khals, beels.
- To plan for restoration of dry season water availability to conserve wetland sanctuaries and protecting surrounding watersheds.
- To develop planning and design of effective re-excavation of small and medium khals, beels.
- To select suitable location for disposal of excavated earth with proper management plan.
- To assess social and environmental impact.
- To assess impact on agriculture and ecosystem (aquatic/land).

06. Estimated Cost:

(In Lakh Taka)

	Original	Latest Revised
a) Total	498.00	-
b) Taka	498.00	-
c) Foreign Currency	-	-
d) Project Aid	-	-
e) RPA	-	-

07. Date of Approval :

PFS	PP
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a) Original : 17-10-2018 -

b) Latest Revised : - -

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08. Implementation period:

	Date of Commencement	Date of Completion
a) Original	September, 2018	December, 2019
b) Latest Revised	September, 2018	June, 2020
c) Actual	September, 2018	June, 2020

09. Financial Agreement (source wise):**9.1 Status of Loan / Grant:****a) Foreign Financing:**

Source(s)	Currency as per Agreement	Amount in US\$ (Million)	Nature (Loan/ Grant Supplier's credit)	Date of Agreement	Date of Effectiveness	Date of Closing	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

.....N. A.

b) GOB:

(In Lakh Taka)

Total Amount	Loan	Grant	Cash Foreign Exchange
1	2	3	4
498.00	-	498.00	-

9.2 Utilization of Project Aid: (Source wise)

(In Million)

	Total Amount		Actual Expenditure		Unutilized Amount	
	In US \$	In Local Currency	IN US \$	In Local Currency	In US \$	In Local Currency
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

.....N/A.

9.3 Reimbursable Project Aid (RPA)

(In Lakh Taka)

RPA Amount		Amount Spent	Amount claimed	Amount Reimbursed	Remarks.
As Per DPP	As per Agreement				
1	2	3	4	5	6

.....N/A.

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B. IMPLEMENTATION POSITION

01. Implementation Period:

Implementation Period as per DPP		Actual Implementation Period	Time Over Run (% of Original Implementation Period)	Remarks
Original	Latest Revised			
1	2	3	4	5
September 2018 to December 2019	September 2018 to June 2020	September 2018 to June 2020	37.50%	This project consists of 2 type of works- Survey & Study. The survey work nearly achieved its target in stipulated time. But the study works lagged due to delay in awarding the contract to the consultancy firm. The consultancy firm got 7 months to implement the works as per contract. But the breakout of global pandemic COVID-19 disease in Bangladesh has halted the progress. Also, according to Rules & Regulations of Development Projects by Planning Commission of Bangladesh, there were not any scope of time extension beyond June 2020 for this project. Thus, the project was declared complete with just 70% progress. If another at least 4 months time extension were granted, remaining works could have been completed.

02. Cost of the Project:

(In Lakh Taka)

Description	Estimated Cost		Actual Expenditure	Cost Over-run (% of original cost)	Remarks
	Original	Latest Revised			
1	2	3	4	5	6
Total	498.00	-	282.335	-	Didn't overrun as the project is declared completed with 70% progress.
Taka	498.00	-	282.335	-	
PA	-	-	-	-	

03. Project Personnel:

Project work has been implemented by the existing manpower of BWDB (Manpower of 70 nos. BWDB O&M/WD Division offices all over Bangladesh and Project Director's office).

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Sanctioned strength as per PP	Manpower employed during execution	Status of the existing Manpower			Manpower Employed	
		Manpower requirement for O&M as per PP	existing Manpower for O&M	Others	Male	Female
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Officer(s)						
Staff(s)						
Total						

04. Training of project Personnel (Foreign/Local): No Provision of training in this Project.

Field of Training /Study tour/work shop/ Seminar etc.	Provision as per PP		Actual		Remarks.
	Number of Person	Man- months	Number of Person	Man months	
1	2	3	4	5	6

a) ForeignNil

b) LocalNil

05. Component wise Progress (As per Latest approved DPP):

(In Lakh Taka)

Items of work (As per PP)	Unit	Target (as per PP)		Actual Progress		Reasons for deviation (±)
		Financial	Physical (Quantity)	Financial	Physical (Quantity)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A) Revenue component:						
Consultancy (Code-3257101)	man-month	143.72	28 man-month	12.08	3 man-month	** mentioned beneath the table.
Survey (Code-3257104)	1 item	350.00	1 item	268.80	1 item (95.67%)	
Entertainment (Code-3211106)	1 item	1.28	1 item	0.00	1 item (0.00%)	
Honorarium (Code-3111332)	1 item	3.00	1 item	1.455	1 item (56.01%)	Did not required.
Sub Total (A):		498.00	100.00%	282.335	70.00%	
B) Capital Component:						
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Sub Total (B):	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total (A+B):		498.00	100.00%	282.335	70.00%	

** The project is divided into two major components e.g. (a) Conducting field survey of selected (by DWRDMC) existing small and medium khals, beels in the country for restoration/ revitalization and the acquired data's will be used for the preparation of a DPP and (b) feasibility study for re-excavation of small and medium khals, beels in the country.

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Implementation of the survey work nearly achieved its target, but the consultancy service for feasibility study was lagging too much due to lengthy and time consuming QCBS process according to PPR-2008. So, 1st time extension was allowed by the MoWR vide memorandum no. 42.00.0000.039.14.011.18-393 Date: 18-11-2019 AD. The duration of the project was extended from September 2018 to June 2020 without any increase in cost.

But the total project work was hampered greatly from March 2020 onward due to Covid pandemic situation prevailing across the country. On that ground, 2nd time extension of the project was applied from BWDB to MoWR for another six months from July 2020 to December 2020 considered as Force Majeure. But according to letter from MoWR vide memorandum no. 42.00.0000.039.14.011.18-177 Date: 29-06-2020 AD that there was no scope of 2nd time extension for a study project (Annexure-1). So the project was declared complete with 70% overall progress.

06. Information Regarding Project Director(s):

Name & Designation with pay scale.	Full time	Part time	Responsible for more than one Project	Date of		Remarks.
				Joining	Transfer	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
MR. Rezaul Mustafa Ashafuddula Superintending Engineer 50000-71200	Full	-	Yes	07/08/2017	till date	

07. Procurement of Transport (in nos.): No provision of transport procurement in this project.

Type of Transport	Number as per DPP	Procured with date	Transferred to Transport Pool with date	Transferred to O&M with date	Condemned /damaged with date	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Car						
Jeep						
Minibus						
Bus						
Pick-up						
Truck						
Motorcycle						
By-Cycle						
Speed Boat						
Speed Boat						
Launch						
Other with name						

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08. Procurement of Goods, Works and Consultancy Service.

08.1. Goods & Works of the Project costing above Tk. 200.00 lakh and Consultancy above Tk. 100.00 lakh.

Description of procurement (goods/work/consultancy) as per Bid document	Tender/Bid/Proposal Cost (in lakh Taka)		Tender/Bid/Proposal		Date of completion of works /services and supply of goods.	
	As per DPP	Contract value	Invitation date	Contract signing/ LC opening date	As per contract	Actual
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Feasibility Study for re-excavation of small and medium khals, beels in the country (Package No-01/2018-19).	143.72	122.46	24/01/19	19/11/19	18/06/20	18/06/20

08.2. Use of Project Consultant (s) (Foreign / Local):

Name of the field	Approved man month		Actual man month utilized	Remarks
	As per PP	As per contract.		
1	2	3	4	5
a) Foreign:				
	-	-	-	-
b) Local:				
Feasibility Study for re-excavation of small and medium khals, beels in the country (Package No-01/2018-19).	28	28	3 (10%)	Due to the prevailing covid situation, the consultancy service has been greatly hampered.

09. Construction / Erection / Installation Tools & Equipment:

Description of items	Quantity (As per DPP)	Quantity procured with date	Transferred to O&M with date	Deposed off as per rule with date	Balance	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

.....N / A.

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C. FINANCIAL AND PHYSICAL PROGRAMME:

1. (a) Original and revised schedule as per DPP.

(In Lakh Taka)

Financial year	Financial Provision & Physical target as per original DPP				Financial Provision & Physical target as per latest revised DPP			
	Total	Taka	PA	Physical %	Total	Taka	PA.	Physical %
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2018-19	277.00	277.00	-	60.00%	-	-	-	-
2019-20	221.00	221.00	-	40.00%	-	-	-	-
Total	498.00	498.00	-	100.00%	-	-	-	-

1. (b) Revised ADP allocation and progress:

(In Lakh Taka)

Financial year	Revised Allocation & Target				Taka released	Expenditure & physical progress.			
	Total	Taka	P.A.	Physical %		Total	Taka	P. A.	Physical %
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2018-19	277.00	277.00	-	46.86%	277.00	230.995	230.995	-	46.86%
2019-20	264.00	264.00	-	53.14%	241.59	51.34	51.34	-	23.14%
Total	541.00	541.00	-	100%	518.59	282.335	282.335	-	70%

** Budget allocation & fund release summation across 2 FY being greater than PFS value is credited to approximately Tk 46.00 Lakh remaining unspent in project's first FY.

D. ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT:

Objective as per DPP	Actual achievement	Reasons for shortfall, if any.
(a) To assess the present situation of livelihood, fisheries resources, ecosystem (land/aquatic) as well as the current water utilization of small and medium khals, beels.	The project is divided into two major components e.g. (a) Conducting field survey of selected (by DWRDMC) existing small and medium khals, beels in the country for restoration/ revitalization and the acquired data's will be used for the preparation of a DPP and (b) feasibility study for re-excavation of small and medium khals, beels in the country. These 2	The study part of the project couldn't be completed due to global pandemic

Objective as per DPP	Actual achievement	Reasons for shortfall, if any.
<p>(b) To plan for restoration of dry season water availability to conserve wetland sanctuaries and protecting surrounding watersheds.</p> <p>(c) To develop planning and design of effective re-excavation of small and medium khals, beels.</p> <p>(d) To select suitable location for disposal of excavated earth with proper management plan.</p> <p>(e) To assess social and environmental impact.</p> <p>(f) To assess impact on agriculture and ecosystem (aquatic/land).</p>	<p>components cover all the objectives of the project.</p> <p>Implementation of the survey work nearly achieved its target, but the consultancy service for feasibility study was lagging too much due to lengthy and time consuming QCBS process according to PPR-2008. So, 1st time extension was allowed by the MoWR. The duration of the project was extended from September 2018 to June 2020 without any increase in cost.</p> <p>But the total project work was hampered greatly from March 2020 onward due to Covid pandemic situation prevailing across the country. On that ground, 2nd time extension of the project was applied from BWDB to MoWR for another six months from July 2020 to December 2020 considered as Force Majeure. But according to letter from MoWR, there was no scope of 2nd time extension for a study. So the project was declared complete with 70% overall progress.</p> <p>Although the project was forcefully completed, most of the objectives have been achieved. A new DPP has been formulated from surveyed information & the DPP has been processed for approval.</p>	<p>COVID-19 disease breakout in Bangladesh.</p>

E. BENEEFIT ANALYSIS:

01. Annual Out-put:

Not applicable for this study project.

Items of out-put	Unit	Estimated quantity expected at full capacity	Actual quantity of out-puts during the 1 st year of operation at full capacity (or during real production for newly completed project)
1	2	3	4
a)			
b)			
c)			
d)			

02. Cost / Benefit: Not Applicable

Item	Estimated	Actual
(1) Benefit cost of the project		
(i) Financial		
(ii) Economic		
(2) Internal rate of return		
(i) Financial		
(ii) Economic		

(3) Please give reason for shortfall, if any, between the estimated and actual benefit:
Not Applicable

F. MONITORING AND AUDITING.**01. Monitoring:**

Name & Designation of the inspecting official	Date of inspection	Identified Problems	Recommendations
1	2	3	4
(a) Ministry / Agency:			
Rezaul Mustafa Ashafuddula PD & Superintending Engineer, Monitoring Circle, FFW, BWDB, Dhaka.	Several times	Not found	
(b) IMED:			
(c) Others (Please specify):			

02. Auditing during and after Implementation:

2.1. Internal Audit: Not conducted.

Period of Audit	Date of submission of Audit Report.	Major findings/ objections	Whether objection resolved or not.
1	2	3	4
-	-	-	-

2.2. External Audit: Yet to be conducted.

Audit Period	Date of submission of Audit Report.	Major findings/objections	Whether objection resolved or not.
1	2	3	4
-	-	-	-

G. DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

1. General Observations/Remarks of the Project on:

1.1 Background

Bangladesh maintains a large volume of water by its different channels like rivers and streams, freshwater lakes and marshes, haors, baors, beels, jheels, water storage reservoirs, fishponds, flooded cultivated fields and estuarine systems with extensive mangrove swamps. The haors, baors, khals, beels and jheels are of fluvial origin and are commonly identified as freshwater wetlands. The freshwater wetlands are large surface water bodies that accumulate surface runoff through internal drainage channels. In Bangladesh, there are thousands of khals and beels of different sizes. The life and livelihood in Bangladesh largely depends on the freshwater wetlands. The freshwater wetlands support an important role in the ecology, economy and livelihood of the country as it contains and carries significant amount of water connecting with river channel. In spite of being valuable, the water retention capacity of the wetlands has been reduced over the time by increased sedimentation, reduced river flows, loss of natural connection between the floodplains and rivers, encroachment to wetlands and consequently increased pollution etc. Besides, most of the khals and beels have shrunk considerably in recent decades through anthropogenic action and no longer retain sufficient amount of water. Moreover, in many areas owing to decreasing dry season surface water, groundwater table has dropped beyond the range of shallow hand pump which is increasing the stress on groundwater and hindering irrigation facilities.

Honorable Prime Minister, People's Republic of Bangladesh directed to restore water bodies through capital and maintenance dredging to improve water retention capacity, mitigation of flood and ensuring dry season flow for the development of the country. Following the honorable Prime Minister direction, Bangladesh Water development Board has already taken initiatives to restore major rivers of the country. However, the freshwater wetlands are also silted up mainly through anthropogenic action and need to be restored. Hence it is essential to re-excavate khals, beels for restoration. In the process, the khals, beels and depression will have the opportunity to serve their retained dry season water for household use, creating supporting environment to fish and other aquatic life and supplying irrigation water. With this, the economic potential of the country will increase and will help to reduce poverty and make the country prosperous in many ways.

In view of above, the study has been taken up for restoration of small and medium khals, beels to improve water retention capacity, providing irrigation facilities, preserving natural habitats of fishes and other aquatic life thereby improving socio-economic and environmental condition of the country.



1.2 Justification/Adequacy

The main objectives of the study are to restoration of small and medium khals, beels for mitigation of flood and water logging problem, to provide irrigation facilities, to enhance water retention capacity and to augment dry season flow through re-excavation.

It is essential to re-excavate khals, beels for restoration which will be the source of freshwater. In the process, the khals, beels and depression will have the opportunity to serve their retained dry season water for household use, improvement of drainage facilities, creating supporting environment to wildlife, fish and fish breeding places, birds sanctuary and other aquatic life and supplying irrigation water. With this, the economic potential of the country will increase and will help to reduce poverty and make the country prosperous in many ways.

1.3 Objectives

The main objectives of the study are to restoration of small and medium khals, beels for mitigation of flood and water logging problem, to provide irrigation facilities, to enhance water retention capacity and to augment dry season flow through re-excavation.

The explicit objectives of the study are:

- To assess the present situation of livelihood, fisheries resources, ecosystem (land/aquatic) as well as the current water utilization of small and medium khals, beels.
- To plan for restoration of dry season water availability to conserve wetland sanctuaries and protecting surrounding watersheds.
- To develop planning and design of effective re-excavation of small and medium khals, beels.
- To select suitable location for disposal of excavated earth with proper management plan.
- To assess social and environmental impact.
- To assess impact on agriculture and ecosystem (aquatic/land).

Scope of Works according to the Objectives

The activities and the scope of work for the assignments are as follows (but not limited to):

- Identification of existing khals, beels all over Bangladesh.
- Prioritization of khals, beels considering potential benefits in terms of social, environmental, agriculture, fisheries, ecosystem (aquatic/land), water demand etc.
- Ranking of khals, beels based on importance.
- Providing the list of important khals, beels with ranking to BWDB.
- Collection and review of available data, bathymetry charts and reports/information on wetland from different government organizations.
- Assessment of the need of re-excavating small and medium khals, beels;

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- Assessment of technical viability, economic feasibility, social acceptance and environmentally friendly for restoration of small and medium khals, beels;
- Carrying out bathymetric survey, discharge and water level observations (performed by BWDB officials where necessary).
- Determination of storage capacity.
- Planning and designing of effective re-excavating alignment considering all interlink channels if necessary.
- Assessment of water demand for multipurpose use considering present and future need.
- Preparation of excavated earth management plan and possibility of land development.
- Quantification of benefits and linking up these benefits with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) and national goal.
- Assessment of improvement of drainage facilities from the project.
- Identification of important ecosystem (land/aquatic) and conservation/restoring of those ecosystems.
- Conducting social impact assessment highlighting the social institutions (e.g. religious places, school, graveyard etc.) which need to be handled carefully during re-excavation.
- Assess the potential impacts on the social, environment, ecosystem and agriculture and development options for conserving those systems.
- Evaluating sustainable livelihood approach for poverty reduction.
- Identification and conservation/restoration of wildlife, fish breeding places within wetland and floodplain and bird's habitat, and facilitating favorable environment for birds sanctuary including migratory birds;
- Development of monitoring plan for quality control of the excavation and its performance.
- Costing and economic analysis.
- Identification and detailed design of components for preparation of DPP.
- Reports and documentation.

1.4 Project revision with reasons

This project did not need revision. But it was sanctioned a no cost 6 months' time extension for vivid reasons mentioned in time-overrun section. A much need second time no cost 6 months' time extension proposal as force majeure to covid-19 pandemic was not granted.

2. Rationale of the project in respect of Concept, Design, Location and Timing:

The small rivers, khals, beels & wetlands were identified / selected / determined by the District Water Resources Development and Management Committee which is formed from Cabinet Division of Bangladesh. Upon that selection, those rivers, khals, beels & wetlands were surveyed. Consultant

provision under this project was for analytical output from the survey data in compliance with BDP2100. The outputs were supposed to play fundamental part in concept & design on investment project.

Expected output of the Study

- Baseline information on water level, water flow and sedimentation of small and medium khals, beels.
- Total number of khals, beels based on importance.
- List of important khals, beels with ranking.
- Detailed design of re-excavation.
- Quantification of the volume of excavation.
- Excavated/dredged earth management plan.
- Quantification of increased water retention capacity and possible land development.
- Dissemination of monitoring and other results to all stakeholders through interaction meetings and workshops;
- Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) report with Environment Management Plan and Monitoring Plan;
- Impacts on the social, environment, ecosystem (aquatic/land) and agriculture, fisheries and options for conserving those systems.
- Costing and Economic analysis.
- Quantified benefits and linking up with sustainable development and national goals.
- Components required for DPP.
- Hard and Soft copies (along with CD) of all reports, data, cross-sections etc.

3. Brief description on planning and financing of the project and its applicability.

◆ Project Identification:

The project is located all over Bangladesh. Main component of this project are survey work and consultancy service. BWDB has taken this project as part of Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100. In BDP2100 investment plan, there is a program called “Revitalization of khals all over the country”. Under this program, BWDB has planned to take phase-wise investment project for implementation. This feasibility study project was mainly taken for investment project DPP preparation works.

◆ Project Preparation:

To do survey work of small rivers, khals and water bodies and consultancy service, PFS was furnished in September 2018.

◆ Appraisal:

The PFS review meeting and DPEC meeting were held on 12/08/2018 and 18/09/2018 at Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR) respectively. As per decision of both meetings, the PFS was corrected and sent to the Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR) for approval.

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- ◆ **Credit Negotiation:** Not Applicable.
- ◆ **Credit Agreement:** Not Applicable.
- ◆ **Credit Effectiveness:** Not Applicable.

- ◆ **Loan Disbursement:** Not Applicable.
- ◆ **Loan Conditionality:** Not Applicable.

◆ **Project Approval:**

The Project was approved by Honorable Minister, MoWR on 17/10/2018.

- ◆ **Others (if any):** Nil.

4. Analysis of the Post-Implementation situation and result of the project:

4.1 Whether the beneficiaries of the project have clear knowledge about the Target/ Objectives of the project- N/A

4.2 Programme for use of created-facilities of the project- N/A

4.3 O & M programme of the project. – N/A

4.4 Impact of the project -

4.4.1 Direct- N/A

4.4.2. Indirect- N/A

4.5 Transfer of Technology and Institutional Building through the project- N/A

4.6 Employment generation through the project.

Skilled/unskilled workers were employed during survey period.

4.7 Possibility of Self-employment- N/A

4.8 Possibility of women-employment opportunity- N/A

4.9 Women's participation in development- N/A

4.10 Probable Impact on Socio-Economic activity- N/A

4.11 Impact on environment- N/A

4.12 Sustainability of the project

The survey data being used to prepare phase-wise DPP of re-excavation of small rivers, khals, beels & wetlands to make that project's impact sustainable.

4.13 Contribution to poverty alleviation/reduction- N/A

4.14 Opinion of the public representatives, local elite, local administration, teachers, religious leaders, women's representatives etc.

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Opinions & recommendations were prioritized for selection of small rivers, khals, beels & wetlands for survey.

4.15 Contribution of Micro-credit programmes and Comments on overlapping with any NGO activities- N/A

05. Problems encountered during Implementation (with duration & steps taken to remove those)

Project Management	:	N/A.
Project Director	:	N/A.
Land Acquisition	:	N/A.
Procurement	:	N/A.
Consultancy	:	Due to the existing corona situation, the work of survey under 70 district level BWDB office and consulting organizations has been hampered.
Contractor	:	N/A.
Manpower	:	N/A.
Law & Order	:	N/A.
Natural calamity	:	Due to the existing corona situation, the work of survey under 70 nos. field level BWDB office and consulting organizations has been hampered. As a result, it wasn't possible to complete the ancillary works including the necessary consultancy services of the project within the project period. In this case, following PPR-2008, the work must have to be considered as Force Majeure. But in that consideration, time extension wasn't granted to complete remaining works.
Project financing, allocation and release	:	N/A.
Design formulation/approval	:	N/A.
Project aid disbursement and re-imbursement	:	N/A.
Mission of the development partners.	:	N/A.
Time & Cost Over-run	:	Mentioned in designate section on Part-B of this report.
Project Supervision/Inspection	:	N/A.
Delay in Decision	:	N/A.
Transport	:	N/A.
Training	:	N/A.
Approval	:	N/A.
Others	:	N/A.

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06. Remarks & Recommendations of the Project Director:

The main objectives of the study are to restoration of small and medium khals, beels for mitigation of flood and water logging problem, to provide irrigation facilities, to enhance water retention capacity and to augment dry season flow through re-excavation.

It is essential to re-excavate khals, beels for restoration which will be the source of freshwater. In the process, the khals, beels and depression will have the opportunity to serve their retained dry season water for household use, improvement of drainage facilities, creating supporting environment to wildlife, fish and fish breeding places, birds sanctuary and other aquatic life and supplying irrigation water. With this, the economic potential of the country will increase and will help to reduce poverty and make the country prosperous in many ways.

As water is a cross cutting resource, its use is broad-based. Water is a resource on the one hand and a mainstay of livelihoods on the other. So, the goal is not confined within the water sector alone, it extends deep into the livelihoods functions of water (e.g. agriculture, fisheries, health, land reclamation, environment etc. including disasters and climate change). All of these have direct or indirect implications for poverty reduction.

In view of above, the study has been taken up for restoration of small and medium khals, beels to improve water retention capacity, providing irrigation facilities, preserving natural habitats of fishes and other aquatic life thereby improving socio-economic and environmental condition of the country.

212 nos. small rivers, 2004 nos. khals and 99 nos. water bodies (total = 2315 nos) have been surveyed on an emergency basis under this PFS by BWDB's district level 70 Executive Engineer's office, with a total length of 13843.289 km. for the proposed project titled "Re-excavation of small rivers, khals and water bodies in 64 districts (Phase II)" through feasibility inputs from the consultant as well as identified / selected / determined by the District Water Resources Development and Management Committee.

Detailed data is also collected on the total number of small rivers, khals and water bodies, number of re-excavations, sources, fallow lands, length, average width, average depth and the (estimated) physical, social and environmental benefits of re-excavation.

Based on the received data/information from division offices & consultant, the DPP named "Re-excavation of small rivers, khals and water bodies in 64 districts (Phase II)" has been framed and submitted to the MoWR. It may be mentioned that the project evaluation committee meeting of this project "Re-excavation of small rivers, khals and water bodies in 64 districts (Phase II)" was held on 02/02/2020 at the Ministry of Water Resources.

The total project work of this PFS has hampered greatly from March 20 onward due to Corona pandemic situation prevailing across the country. As a result, the project was declared complete with



70% overall progress. Although physical progress of the project is 70%, but the objectives of the project has been almost achieved. Similar nature project can be taken in future for identification of important ecosystem (land/aquatic) and conservation/restoring of those ecosystems of Bangladesh to fulfil the target of BDP-2100.

Date: 20-09-2020

Ashafuddula
20/09/2020

(Rezaul Mustafa Ashafuddula)

Project Director
Feasibility Study for re-excavation of
small and medium khals, beels in the
country Project,
BWDB, Dhaka.

07. Remarks/ Comments of Agency Head.

Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100 is the first 100 years investment master plan of Bangladesh. In BDP2100 investment plan, there is a programme named "Revitalization of Khals all over the country". According to that an investment project is already being implemented by BWDB. This PFS has been taken up as a support for DPP formulation of the 2nd phase of the investment project. That DPP has already been processed for approval. Thus the PFS has fulfilled its purpose.

Date.....

[Signature]
Signature and Seal

21.09.2020
(A. M. Aminul Haque)
Director General
BWDB, Dhaka.

08. Remarks/ Comments of the officer in-charge of the Ministry / Division.

Date.....

Signature and Seal.

বিষয়: "Feasibility Study for re-excavation of small and medium khals, beels
— in the country" শীর্ষক প্রকল্পের ওপর ০৪-০৬-২০২০ তারিখে অনুষ্ঠিতব্য স্টিয়ারিং কমিটির ১ম সভার
কার্যবিবরণী।

২৬ জুন, ২০২০

- [illegible]

