Partnerships with Coastal Communities in Building Climate Resilient Infrastructures in Bangladesh

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Geographical Location of Bangladesh



Bangladesh – Largest Delta

Area: 147,570 sq. km

Land: 133,910 sq. km.

Population: 150 million (BBS 2011)

River System : 24,000 km

Trans-boundary River: 57 Nos.

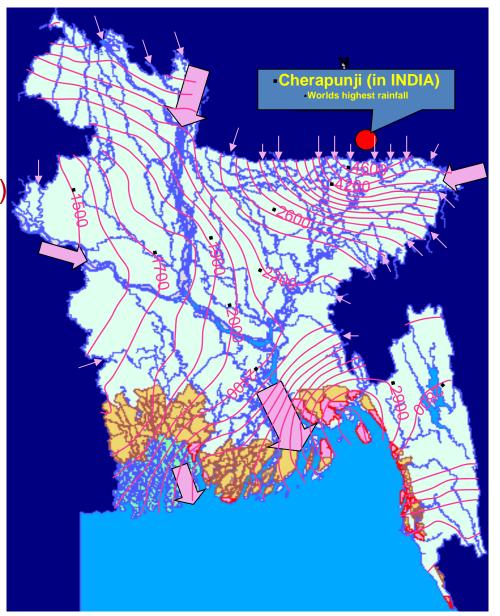
Annual Avg. Rainfall: 2300 mm

Catchment of G-M-B basin:

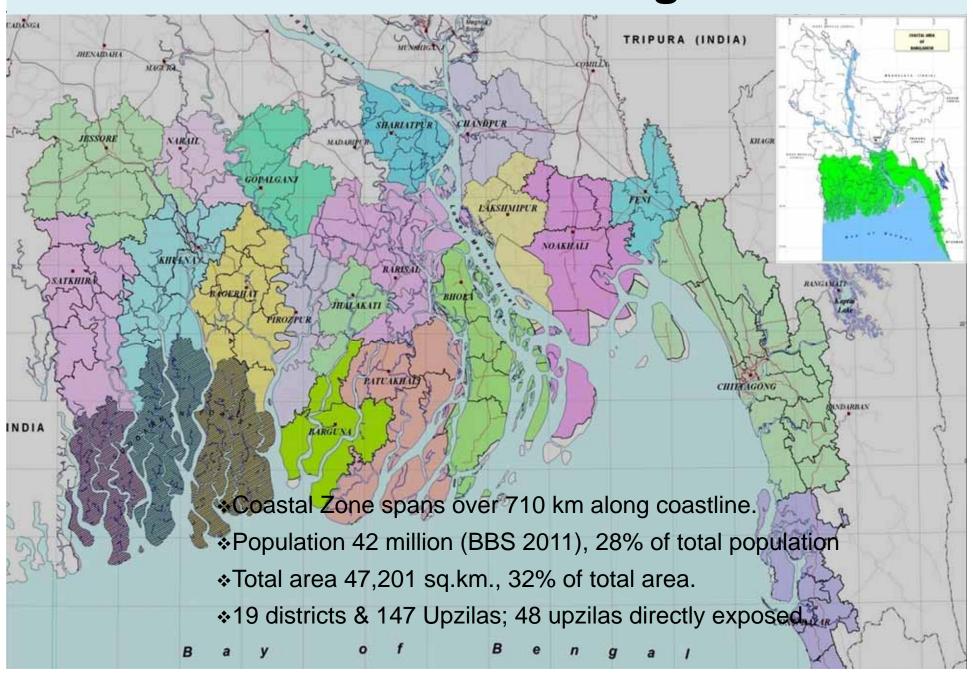
1.72 million sq. km.

 93% catchment area: outside Bangladesh.

 Bangladesh experiences flooding every year and severe every 10 years



Coastal Zone of Bangladesh



Coastal Resources & Opportunities









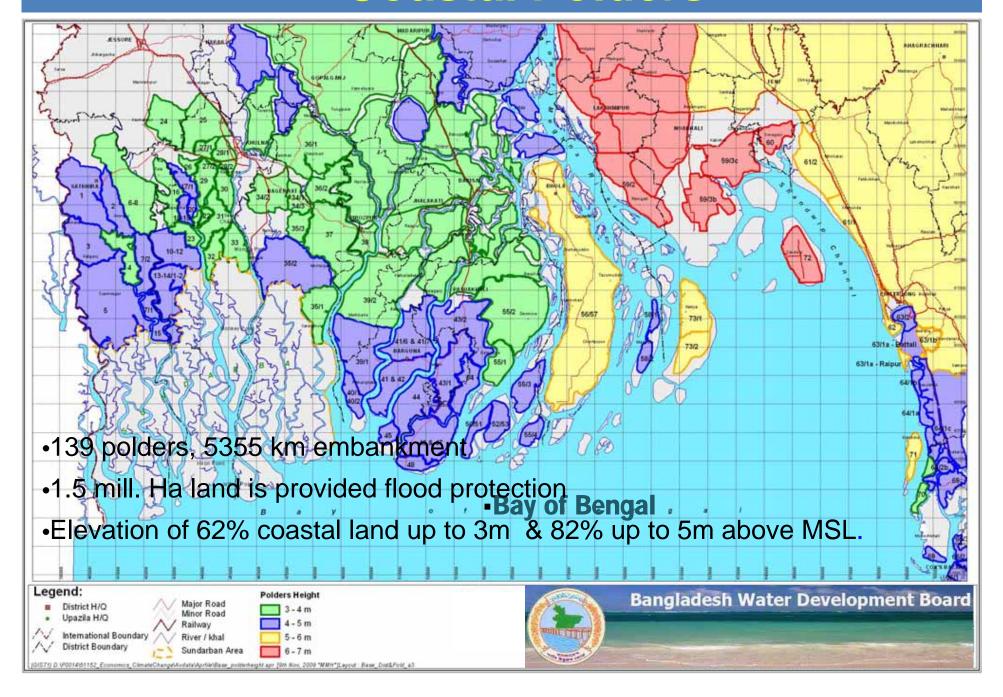








Coastal Polders



Coastal Infrastructures



















Coastal Polders: Present Scenario

- Coastal embankment system brought immense benefits to the people living within the polders.
- ❖ Polders were designed originally to protect against the highest tides, without much attention to storm surges.
- ❖ Recent cyclones brought substantial damage to the embankments and threatened the integrity of the coastal polders.
- ❖ Embankment breaches due to cyclones, siltation of peripheral rivers surrounding the embankment caused the coastal polders to suffer from water logging, leading to important environmental, social and economic degradation.

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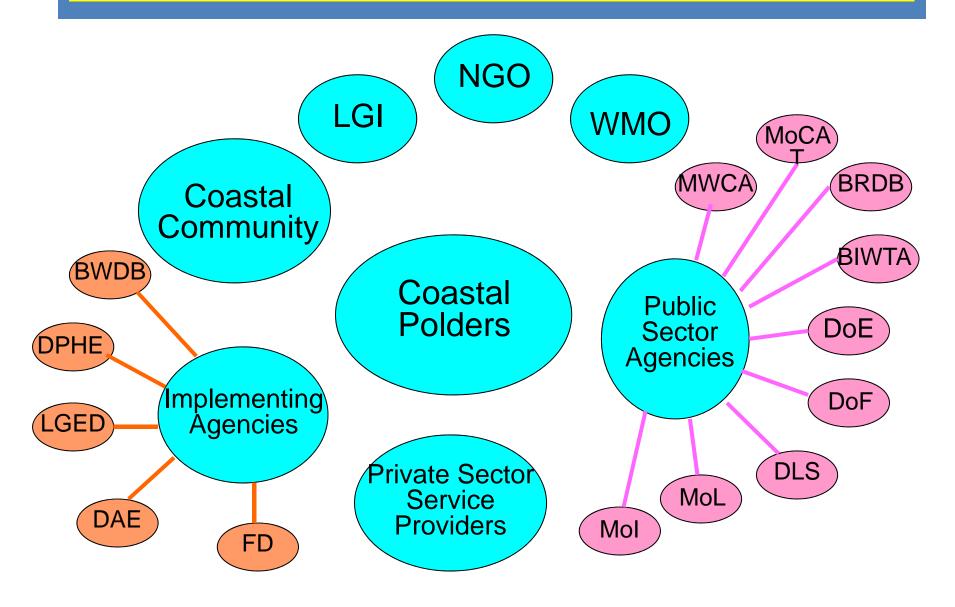
Coastal Polders: Present Scenario

- **Poor maintenance** and inadequate management of the polders contributed to internal drainage congestion and heavy external siltation.
- Soil fertility and good agriculture production declining due to water logging and salinity increases inside the polders.
- **systematic approach** to upgrade embankment against high tides as well as frequent storm surge with appropriate return period.

Coastal Polders: Present Scenario

- the embankment program needs to be integrated with an afforestation program, particularly on the foreshore, in a view to create greenbelts of mangrove and other species.
- Restoration of the embankment system is a much needed catalyst to provide resilience to vulnerable communities and to revitalize the coastal zone's ailing socio-economic engine.
- ❖ Development of Partnership and Participation with coastal communities for better management and operation of infrastructures.

Stakeholders of Coastal Polders



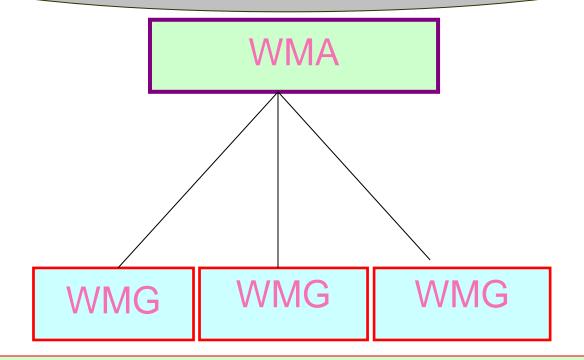
Community involvement - Coastal Development

- Sub-Polder Committee (SPC) in a Part of a polder/ scheme;
- Polder Committee (PC): More than one SPCs form a PC for a Polder/ proposed Polder;
- Local Area Development Committee (LADC) for unprotected area;
- SPC/PC transformed into Water Management Organization (WMO) for Polder/Systems area;
- Consultation/Participation/Partnerships with WMO in all stage of Project Cycle.

Organogram of WMO



Stages of Different Organization



Depends on project/sub-project/scheme size

Major Responsibilities Of WMOs

- Operation & Maintenance Of Sluice
- Preventive/Routine Maintenance of Sluice, Khal, Embankment
 Other Structures
- Removal of Cross Bundh, Fishing Traps, Water Hyacinth/Debris
 & Silt from canal
- Establishment WMO Office
- * Raising Fund For O & M, WMO establishment
- Annual Maintenance Plan With BWDB, LGED & UP
- Liaison & Coordination With All Concerned
- Receive Training
- Solving O & M Problems Through Local Initiatives

Development of Maintenance Plan

Stakeholders involved are:

- **❖** BWDB
- ***** LGED
- LGI (Union Parishad)
- WMO

Types of Maintenance

>Preventive/Routine: WMO/LGI

→Periodic: BWDB, LGED/LGI

Emergency BWDB, LGED/LGI/WMO

Rehabilitation: BWDB, LGED

Gender Balance

- Women are taking part in discussions during all meetings and in activities of WMGs
- Distribution of membership WMG: 45% female
- Distribution of membership WMG Management Committees: 35% female, in important positions like secretary or casher
- Distribution of FF membership: 38% female
- ❖ NGO credit groups and TUGs mainly female
 - Issues
- Male members don't like to see women as chair person, despite their suitability
- Mobility and household duties

Stakeholder Participation – Income Generation Group meeting, Nursery, Cattle Rearer and Homestead Garden









Way Forward

- Coastal community partnership is of utmost priority for sustainable coastal development
- Reengineering of the coastal polders by phases for Sea level rise and storm surge for the safety of life and livelihood of coastal community.
- There are need of new cyclone shelters in the high risk coastal areas specially in the Barisal and Khulna division
- Development of early warning of storm surge inundation forecasting for awareness of coastal community

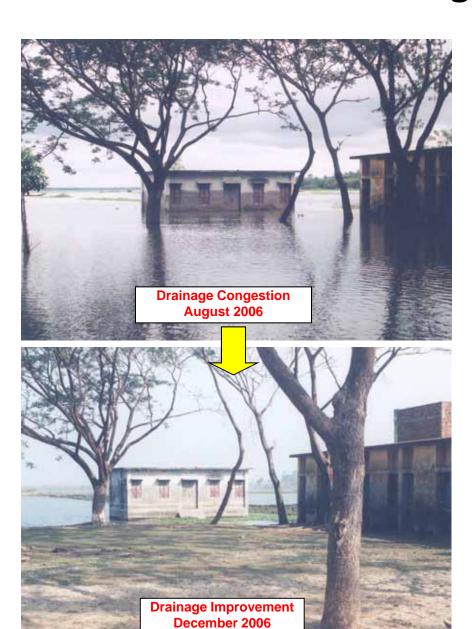




Cyclone Aila - 2009



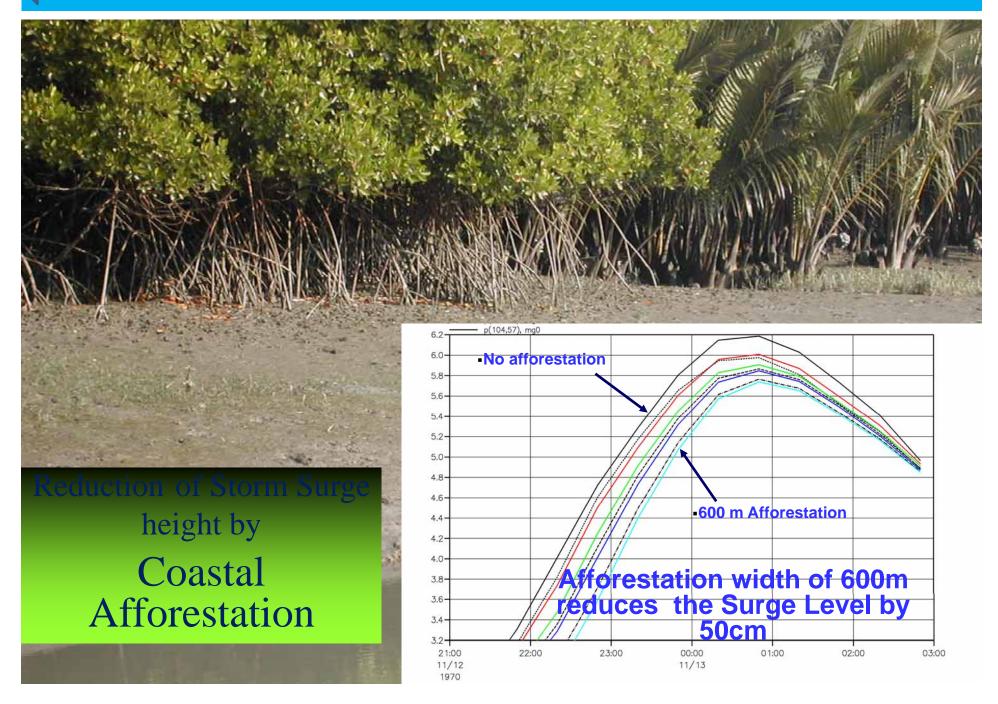
Drainage Problem







Afforestation



Community Participation











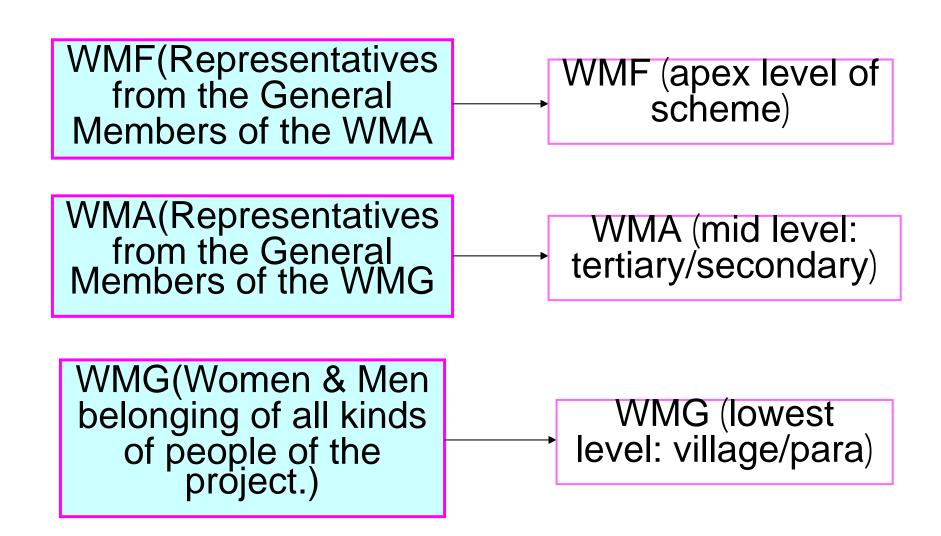








Composition of WMO



Climate Resilient Coastal Polders

Polder No: 32

