

## **Chapter 1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background**

The current document reports on the progress of CDSP II in the period July 1 to December 31, 2001. It is the fifth Progress Report since the start of the CDSP II period on October 1, 1999.

The basis for the activities during the reporting period is formed as far as the contents are concerned by the Inception Report for the 51 months (July 1, 2000 to September 30, 2004) for which a contract was signed between RNE and CDP b.v.. A separate budget for the calendar year 2001 forms the financial point of reference.

To facilitate comparisons this report has the same structure and the same numbering of chapters and paragraphs as the Inception Report (and the previous Progress Report). Chapter 2 gives an outline of the project. Chapter 3 is in many ways the heart of the report since it highlights the progress of activities. Chapter 4 deals with the project organization, Chapter 5 with the resources needed for implementation of the activities, while Chapter 6 focuses on the financial translation of those resources.

### **1.2 Approaches and strategies**

Elements of approach and strategy as described in the Inception Report continued to be applied and followed in the reporting period. *Living conditions of rural poor* were further improved by, among others, installation of tube wells and transfer of land. In the formulation of the plans for the four pilot Unions for local level planning a *participatory approach* was strictly followed. In practice CDSP II indeed follows an *integrated approach*: simultaneous interventions from five agencies in the same project areas, plus a complementary programme of NGOs in the same areas. In order to try to *make other parties interested to start programmes in char areas* meetings were held with two Danida supported projects in Boyer Char (see below in 1.3).

### **1.3 Linkages**

In terms of external linkages, relations beyond the network of parties directly involved with CDSP II as they are described in Chapter 4, nothing happened in the reporting period that was out of the ordinary. Linkages with projects in the CDSP II areas were largely limited to contacts related to the development of Boyer Char, a new project area (see 2.4). This refers in particular to the DPHE-Danida Water Supply and Sanitation Components project and the LGED-Danida RDP 23. With the former project also contacts existed about ground water surveys in coastal areas. On

request of project staff, a consultant of Second CERP visited CDSP to brief staff on the forestry component of CERP.

CDSP consultants continued to attend meetings of the char information sharing network, largely consisting of NGOs and donor agencies that are active in coastal and riverine chars. Contacts existed with DFID on its future programme for riverine chars in the northern parts of Bangladesh. Regular contacts with staff of the Programme Development Office of ICZM (see 3.1.2) were maintained. UNDP consultants were briefed on the project, especially its local government dimension.

The reporting period brought intensive contacts with the Centre for Coastal Management of the University of Newcastle (UK) for the preparation and implementation of the course on ICZM issues (see 5.5).

In the private sector links existed with Development Design Consultants Ltd. (DDC), Bangladesh Engineering and Technological Services Ltd. (BETS) and InfoConsult. These firms were involved in sub-contracted assignments. With EGIS II contacts continued in the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding on joint investigations, especially on land use, and with regard to the regular EGIS support for the GIS unit of CDSP.

Apart from the regular links with BRAC and the five local NGOs involved with the BRAC-CDSP programme, consultants maintained contacts with Concern, an international NGO, in particular regarding Boyer Char.

In the sphere of government, several meetings were held with the Forestry Department on the situation in Boyer Char. Contacts with WARPO continued on ICZM and environmental matters. The IMED Director General paid a short visit to the project for an evaluation of CDSP I works.

Several newly (re)elected Members of Parliament showed their interest in CDSP. Two MPs, from Mirsharai and Sonagazi, participated in a meeting on the border between Chittagong- and Feni District related in the Muhuri area.

## **Chapter 2 PROJECT OUTLINE**

### **2.1 Development objectives and project purposes**

The project objectives and – purposes were not changed. Please see the Inception Report and Progress Report no. 3.

### **2.2 Components, activities and indicators**

The project structure with regard to components and activities was not changed. The text of Inception Report still applies. The Logical Framework (with indicators) can be found in annex 1.

### **2.3 Target groups**

Also for this paragraph reference can be made to the Inception Report.

### **2.4 Project areas**

A major development during the reporting period was in inclusion of Boyer Char in CDSP II as an unprotected area (see 2.j below). The project areas for the third component, concrete interventions at field level, are now:

- 1. Muhuri Accreted Area
- 2. Noakhali mainland with:
  - 2.a. Catchment area of Bamni river (polder 59/3C)
  - 2.b. Char Gangchil-Torabali
  - 2.c. Char Lakshmi
  - 2.d. Polder 59/3B (southeastern side)
  - 2.e. Char Mora Dona
  - 2.f. Char Baggar Dona I (LRP area)
  - 2.g. Char Baggar Dona II (CDSP I area)
  - 2.h. Char Majid (CDSP I area)
  - 2.i. Char Bhatirtek (CDSP I area)
  - 2.j. Boyer Char
- 3. Hatiya/Nijhum Dwip with:
  - 3.a. South Hatiya polder
  - 3.b. Nijhum Dwip / Char Osman
  - 3.c. Nijhum Dwip / Bandartila

The other two components, capacity building of institutions and strengthening the knowledge base are less geographically specific and have, generally speaking, the coastal zone as target area, with an emphasis on the Districts of Chittagong, Feni, Noakhali and Lakshmipur. However, the strengthening of planning capacity at local level (see 3.1.4) and the feasibility study on the catchment area of the Baggar Dona river (see 3.2.2) take place in specific areas.

The addition of Boyer Char means that of the now 14 project areas, six are unprotected (2.b, 2.c, 2.e, 2.j, 3.b and 3.c), six are already protected (2.a, 2.d, 2.f, 2.g, 2.h and 2.i) while two will be protected as part of CDSPII interventions (1 and 3.a). See annex 2 for an overview map. On that map and in the text the numbers in the abovementioned list are used for reference.

## **Chapter 3 ACTIVITIES PER COMPONENT**

### **3.1 Strengthening of institutions**

#### **3.1.1 Introduction**

The completion of the software for computerization of land records, the formation of new WMCs and the formulation of the development plans for the four pilot Unions under the local level planning activity were important achievements in the institutional component of the project.

#### **3.1.2. Establishing an ICZM framework**

A number of interactions between staff of PDO-ICZM and CDSP II took place in which various issues were discussed, among others the course on ICZM in Chennai (see further 5.5) and a paper on CDSP for a forthcoming conference in Bangkok on Coastal Zone Asia Pacific.

Activities from CDSP side included:

- comments on the draft Vision Document and participation in the workshop on that document
- comments on the draft of the “Inventory of Coastal and Estuarine Islands and Char Lands”
- comments on the draft report “Analysis of Projects contributing to the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) process”
- publication of an article on agriculture in coastal areas in the information bulletin Coast News.

The Inter-Ministerial Technical Committee on ICZM did not convene in the reporting period.

#### **3.1.3. Improving land settlement bureaucracy at District - and Upazila level**

The process of production of customized software for the modernization of the land records system was started and completed during the reporting period. InfoConsult developed the software in a participatory manner, involving the end users at various points during the process. Two workshops were held with land settlement related staff from District- and Upazila level. The Project Coordinator CDSP II, Ministry of Land, participated in one of the workshops. In November a two days training was organized for the AC(Land)s and *kanungos* of the six Upazilas in the CDSP II project area.

Computers for introduction of the system were installed in all six AC(Land) offices; four by the Ministry of Land and two from the Technical Assistance budget. Actual

introduction will take place in March 2002, after holding a national workshop on the subject.

Apart from the training on software, no further courses for land settlement staff were held.

#### **3.1.4. Strengthening of planning capacity at District-, Upazila-, and Union level**

In the early part of the reporting period the profiles of the 26 villages in the four pilot Unions of the local level planning activity were completed, published and distributed to all Union Parishad members. The village data were compiled which resulted in four Union data bases that were published and distributed as well.

The move from information collection to planning was made in October. A two step process was followed. First, planning at village level was carried out, followed by the formulation of a plan for the whole Union. Two methods were applied for the village planning. In two Unions (Jahajmara and Char Badam) a form of Participatory Rural Appraisal was used, while in two other Unions (Shaherkhali and Char Darbesh) village committees were formed that were involved in meetings on the village plan. Both methods proved equally effective. The group meetings of the PRA in Char Badam, were attended by at least 50% women, while in Jahajmara separate meetings for women were held in each *mouza*. The village committees consisted between 40% and 60% of women.

In November the work on the Union Plans started. Union Plan workshops were held in each Union. The UP Chairmen and Members and 2-3 representatives of each village participated in the meetings. Apart from the female UP Members, at least one woman from each village participated in the workshops.

#### **3.1.5. Capacity building of NGOs**

Progress on capacity building of NGOs can be found in BRAC's progress report on the BRAC-CDSP programme.

#### **3.1.6. Establishing and strengthening of field level institutions**

##### Local Area Development Committees

The five Local Area Development Committees are all in unprotected areas: Char Gangchil-Torabali, Char Lakshmi, Char Mora Dona, Nijhum Dwip (Bandartila) and Nijhum Dwip (Char Osman). Compared to the previous reporting period, the frequency of meetings were the same, on average two meetings each month, while the attendance increased from 60% to 73%, with a higher attendance rate for women (see table below).

The influence of women in the discussions increased as well, what might have been the result of a training on gender and development for all LADC members (see 5.5). Another result of training was that women's issues were much more discussed in LADC meetings, including the sensitive subject of women oppression. Subjects most frequently discussed were infrastructure (especially site selection of cyclone shelters), supply of drinking water and land settlement.

### **LADC information for July – December, 2001**

| Sl. No | Name of LADC     | Member |        |       | No of meeting held July/Dec '01 | Attendance in % |        |         |
|--------|------------------|--------|--------|-------|---------------------------------|-----------------|--------|---------|
|        |                  | Male   | Female | Total |                                 | Male            | Female | Average |
| 1      | Char Moradona    | 11     | 8      | 19    | 3                               | 54              | 79     | 65      |
| 2      | Char Laxmi       | 13     | 9      | 22    | 2                               | 69              | 72     | 71      |
| 3      | Gangchil-Torabli | 8      | 4      | 12    | 2                               | 81              | 88     | 84      |
| 4      | Bandartila       | 7      | 6      | 13    | 2                               | 50              | 69     | 61      |
| 5      | Nijhum Dwip      | 7      | 6      | 13    | 2                               | 71              | 75     | 73      |

#### Sub Polder- and Polder Committees

Although the land settlement process in the two areas that will be empoldered, Muhuriu and South Hatiya, was not yet progressed to the phase of making allotment sheets, the process of making Sub Polder Committees was started in order to make a beginning with the planning of internal infrastructure.

In Muhuri SPCs were formed in the three (out of six) most populated *mouzas*, while in South Hatiya the process of formation of SPCs in all seven *mouzas* was still going on at the end of 2001. The process of formation is described in the Inception Report. For both areas not only the settlers inside the areas, but also the legal landowners from outsider the area but living in the region were made eligible to be a member of the SPC.

#### Water Management Committees

In August CDSP consultants met with the Task Force that formulated the Guidelines for Participatory Water Management. For the meeting CDSP prepared comments on the Guidelines and highlighted the differences between CDSP practice and the Guidelines. Though the precise authority of the Task Force as well as the outcome of the meeting were not all that clear, the meeting certainly helped in understanding the way of reasoning the Task Force followed while making the Guidelines. It became clear that CDSP practice is following very much the spirit of the Guidelines, while there are some not very significant differences in the implementation.

In the reporting period 11 new Water Management Committees (WMC) were formed. New elections for five already existing Committees (from CDSP I polders) took place, for one (Gangchil) the existing WMC was transformed because it was now serving a larger area, while for another five (new CDSP II areas) elections were held for the first time. In all cases the new CDSP policy of 50% male and 50% female members was followed. The situation at the end of 2001 was as follows:

### WMC information for July – December, 2001

| Sl. No | Name of WMC    | Member |        |       | No of meeting held<br>July/Dec '01 | Attendance in % |        |         |
|--------|----------------|--------|--------|-------|------------------------------------|-----------------|--------|---------|
|        |                | Male   | Female | Total |                                    | Male            | Female | Average |
| 1      | CBD-I          | 9      | 8      | 17    | 2                                  | 100             | 63     | 82      |
| 2      | CBD-II         | 10     | 10     | 20    | 2                                  | 95              | 60     | 78      |
| 3      | CM             | 10     | 10     | 20    | 2                                  | 95              | 45     | 70      |
| 4      | CBT (Nabagram) | 4      | 4      | 8     | 2                                  | 100             | 100    | 100     |
| 5      | CBT (Kalmi)    | 4      | 4      | 8     | 2                                  | 100             | 100    | 100     |
| 6      | CBT (Gangchil) | 9      | 9      | 18    | 2                                  | 89              | 78     | 83      |
| 7      | Bamni          | 11     | 5      | 16    | 5                                  | 78              | 68     | 75      |

The formation of new WMCs, Guidelines for participatory water management, shed for the WMCs, maintenance of sluices and *khals* and location of new structures as culverts, were the most discussed topics in the meetings.

#### Tubewell User Groups

No Tubewell User Groups have received training from the local NGOs participating in the BRAC/CDSP programme.

### **3.2. Accumulation and dissemination of knowledge**

#### **3.2.1. Introduction**

As stated in Progress Report no. 4, the activities in this component have as their primary objective the collection of data or the generation of information and knowledge. The activities are reported upon below in paragraphs 3.2.2. to 3.2.10. It should not be forgotten however, that many of the interventions at field level have a data/information/knowledge dimension as well.

### **3.2.2. Feasibility Study Baggar Dona River catchment area**

At the end of the previous reporting period a meeting was held between BWDB and RNE in presence of representatives of the Feasibility Study consultants (DDC/BETS), SWMC and CDSP consultants in which the process of further decision making was discussed. In July comments on the Draft Final Report were provided by the five implementing government agencies of CDSP II and by CDSP consultants. The Feasibility Study consultants submitted the Final Report in November. RNE and BWDB agreed to field a Joint Appraisal Mission and to invite the five agencies and the Forest Department to take part in the mission. The period for this mission was set at January 24 to February 3, 2002.

### **3.2.3. Feasibility Study Noakhali khal**

Because of its relevance for CDSP's involvement in the drainage of polder 59/3C, CDSP sponsored two workshops in September on the preliminary findings of the South Comilla/North Noakhali Integrated Drainage Project study. This study is funded by the Government of Bangladesh. The workshops took place in Companiganj and Noakhali. In October a meeting was held with representatives from BWDB, EPC (the study consultants), SWMC and CDSP consultants. From the side of the CDSP consultants the position was taken that first the Final Report of the study had to be published and the opinion of BWDB on the recommendations (mainly related to the overall water congestion problem in the study area) had to be known, before any decisions were to be made on further investments in polder 59/3C. At the end of the year the Final Report was not yet published.

### **3.2.4. Study on storage of fresh water**

In August the Technical Report (no. 4) on the survey on the use of fresh water in the three CDSP I polders and one unprotected area, Gangchil-Torabali, was published.

Collection of information for the comprehensive Technical Report on fresh water continued. An internal report was prepared on the possibilities of large community owned fresh water bodies, focusing on Muhuri and South Hatiya. Also the measurements of salinity of ground water in CDSP I areas (see below in 3.2.5) formed a part of the process of collecting data.

### **3.2.5. Water related measurements**

The programme of measurements as described in the previous Progress Report was maintained in the July/December period. In addition, hourly measurements were started at Bhuiyer Hat (downstream part of Baggar Dona river) on request of SWMC to be used in the model made for the Baggar Dona Feasibility study.

In each of four polders (Char Baggar Dona I and II, Char Bhatirtek and Char Majid) salinity was measured from 10 shallow- and 5 deep tubewells in October/November. The same measurements will be repeated in April 2002, at the end of the dry period.

### **3.2.6. Soil related measurements**

Ten samples per char from the three CDSP I polders for analysis of nutrient status of the soil. In August, October and December soil samples to measure salinity from the three CDSP I polders were taken as a part of the monitoring process (see 3.2.9).

As far as the areas taken up under CDSP II, one sample was taken from Nijhum Dwip, Bandartila and Gangchil-Torabali to determine the soil texture. Samples for salinity were taken in October and December in Muhuri, Char Mora Dona and Char Lakshmi.

### **3.2.7. Pilot activities in the area of land- and water engineering**

As reported in Progress Report no. 4, CDSP has suggested to carry out a limited survey programme on *hydro-morphological processes* in coastal waters in front of the CDSP project areas (see Mission Report no. 13). The newly formulated Estuary Development Project would be the proper project to carry out such surveys.

The design for *the low embankment* that will protect a part of Gangchil-Torabali has been completed and the start of the construction early 2002.

No work was undertaken with regard to the *elements in polder design* (including appropriate land levels; design and location of sluices, embankments and outfall channels; shape and size of polders), except for an inventory and time schedule of activities to be undertaken (see Annual Work Plan 2002).

### **3.2.8. Study on potential of coastal agriculture**

The first draft of a Technical Report on the agricultural potential in seven of the new CDSP II project areas was completed in the reporting period. Publication will take place early March, 2002. See also paragraph 3.3.4.

### **3.2.9. Monitoring of developments in the three CDSP I polders**

The monitoring programme of developments in CDSP I polders as set out in the Internal Resource Report of July 2000 continued in the reporting period. The surveys on land settlement were carried out in the November/December period. Monitoring of WMC performance took place throughout the period. The survey of the status and functioning of infrastructure started in the last week of December. Transect surveys and crop cuts for the *aus* crop were taken in August and for the *aman* crop in

November. For soil measurements see 3.2.6. A Technical Report on the results to date will be published in March 2002.

### **3.2.10. Cost benefit analysis**

Except from providing comments on the cost/benefit analysis in the Baggar Dona Feasibility study (see 3.2.2) no activities took place on this subject.

## **3.3. Direct improvement of economic and social situation**

### **3.3.1. Introduction**

This component consists of land settlement (3.3.2); construction of water management related and other infrastructure (3.3.3); and productive development, largely focused on improved agricultural practices (3.3.4). Gender aspects of these three sub-components are highlighted in 3.3.5.

### **3.3.2. Official settlement of households on *khas* land**

Progress with regard to the land settlement process during the July/December 2001 period was as follows for each of the six project areas where CDSP II is engaged in land settlement:

- a. Muhuri Accreted Area (1): all plot-to-plot survey data have been published and hearings started (17% completed); many households have expressed claims on ancestral land while the government records shows these plots are actually *khas* land.
- b. Char Gangchil-Torabali (2.b): all field hearings have been completed and 805 households were subsequently selected for official settlement; of these 805, 126 were female headed households; 250 land settlement cases were started.
- c. Char Mora Dona (2.e): hearings in four *mouzas* completed and in one partly completed (overall completion stands at 81%); in total 931 households (of which 89 female headed) have so far been selected and their land settlement cases will start early 2002.
- d. South Hatiya polder (3.a): Field hearings in six *mouzas* (71% completed) until now resulted in the identification of 912 households (of which 104 female headed); preparation of their land settlement cases have been taken up.
- e. Nijhum Dwip/Char Osman (3.b): the results of the plot-to-plot survey were published; field hearings will start in January
- f. Nijhum Dwip/Bandartila (3.c): same progress as in Char Osman.

The process of handing over the possession of land in the three CDSP I polders from illegal occupiers to people who received a *khatian* but not the land continued, but not as expeditiously as expected. Of the overall 836 handing over cases, 111 were

indeed achieved during the reporting period, bringing the total to 238. Still nearly 600 cases have to be pursued in 2002.

Meetings were held in the Upazila Agricultural Khas Land Management and Settlement Committee and in the similar Committee at District level on the conversion of the collective *khatians* in individual ones in Char Baggar Dona I. Both Committees agreed but the further process was delayed due to change of staff at District- and Upazila level.

At the end of 2001 a total of 40 court cases were pending in different courts of Noakhali and Hatiya related to the settlement activities under CDSP II. Providing the proper responses in these case is time consuming, while the cases causes delay in the land settlement process.

### **3.3.3. Construction of infrastructure**

A large part of the six months of the reporting period was in the monsoon season, hence progress with regard to construction activities could not expected to be much. The late rains prevented an early start of the 2001/2002 construction season, in particular of the earth work. WFP allocations were not yet approved at the end of 2001. Other reasons for delay were the often lower than expected performance of the engaged contractors. It is clear that the implementing agencies should give attention to the procedures for selection of contractors and to contract management, once the work has been awarded to a contractor. Close supervision during construction is an area that certainly could be improved. In three cases delays occurred due to a dispute with Forest Department about the status of the land. Meetings with officials of that department on these issues are ongoing.

The situation of each of the project areas at the end of December is given below. The plan for the whole project period as mentioned in the Inception Report is printed in *italics* while the actual achievement is given in normal font.

#### **a. Muhuri AA (1)**

- BWDB (peripheral): *11.5 km embankment; 2 sluices; 2 irrigation inlets; 4 Km pavement and 5 Km re-sectioning of eastern embankment; foreshore afforestation.* Overall completion of the embankment stands at 75%, of which no work was done in the reporting period; 4 km pavement and 5 km eastern embankment re-sectioning tendered and work order issued.
- BWDB (internal): *41.48 km. khals .* Implementation will start in 2002/03 season.
- LGED: *13.6 km. rural road; 1 bridge; 12 culverts; 10 cyclone shelters; 32 ponds; 8 cluster village complexes (with 864 houses).* Of 3 km of rural road, 59% has been completed up to last reporting period. No progress in this reporting period. The construction of two cyclone shelters is in progress. Over all progress is about 20%, of which 10% was done in reporting period. Schemes for 9.06 km rural road has been submitted to WFP. Estimates for 5 culverts concurred.

- DPHE: 99 tube wells; 864 latrines. Five test tube wells have been installed; the results were unsatisfactory (too high chlorine and iron content). For this reason, 2 more test tube wells of greater depth will be installed in this area.
- b. Bamni catchment area in polder 59/3C (2.a)
- BWDB (internal): 55 km. *khal*; 8.25 km. *sluice approach road*; 3 culverts; 1 bridge; A start was made with 15 km of *khal*, of which 70% was completed at the end of June, 2001. No progress in this reporting period. Over all progress on the approach road (8.25 km) stands at 100%, of which 15 % in the reporting period. Estimates for 3 culverts and 1 bridge have been concurred. Schemes for 31.65 km *khal* submitted to WFP; 10 km major *khal* (Algir *khal*) re-excavation will be taken up after results of feasibility study are known (see 3.2.3).
- c. Char Gangchil-Torabali (2.b):
- LGED (peripheral): 5 km. *low embankment*; 6 km. *rural road*; 9 culverts; 1 cyclone shelter. Work on the road is completed for 80% up to June, 2001. No progress in reporting period. Scheme for 2 km. road re-sectioning submitted to WFP. Work orders for 9 culverts, 1 cyclone shelter and 5 km. low embankment have been issued.
  - DPHE: 62 tube wells; 990 latrines. Two test tube wells have been completed up to June, 2001. Results are satisfactory.
- d. Char Lakshmi (2.c)
- LGED: 7 km. *rural road*; 5 culverts; 3 cyclone shelters. Road has been completed within June, 2001, except a stretch of 300 m in an area disputed by Forest Department. Construction of 2 culverts is in progress. Progress is about 5%. Work order for construction of one cyclone shelter has been issued.
  - DPHE: 53 tube wells; 600 latrines. Three test tube wells have been installed within June, 2001. Results are satisfactory. Eleven consumer DTWs installed.
- e. Polder 59/3B (south east) (2.d)
- BWDB (peripheral): 2 sluices; 7 lift gates. Revised design, cost estimate, tender, work order have been completed. Construction work is in progress. Also estimate for the lift gates in the CERP sluices have been concurred..
  - BWDB (internal): 54 km. *khal*; 15 culvert. Progress is 95% for *khals* and 80% for 11 up to June, 2001. No progress in reporting period. Estimates for 2 culverts concurred. Scheme for 24.20 km. *khal* submitted to WFP.
  - LGED: 5 km. *rural road*; 4 WMC sheds. Rural road has been fully completed within June, 2001. Tender invited for WMC sheds.
- f. Char Mora Dona (2.e)
- LGED: 7 km. *rural road*; 5 culverts; 1 cyclone shelter. The road has been completed within June, 2001. Construction of two cyclone shelters (one more than planned on request of LADC) is ongoing; over all progress 20%, of which 10% during this reporting period. For 3 culverts tender is completed and work

- order has been issued within June, 2001 and tender process for 2 culverts is ongoing.
- DPHE: *83 tube wells; 1,450 latrines.* Three test tube wells have been installed within June, 2001. Results received and are satisfactory for one and unsatisfactory for two. Fourteen consumer DTWs installed.
- g. Char Baggar Dona I (2.f)
- BWDB: *2 box culverts* These 2 culverts, carry over work from 1999/2000, have been completed within June, 2001.
  - LGED: *1 WMC shed.* Tendered.
- h. Char Baggar Dona II (2.g)
- LGED: *repair of 196 c.v. houses; 1 WMC shed.* Repair of 187 houses has been completed; one house was added one and total comes to 197. Repair of remaining 10 stopped for various reasons. WMC shed tendered.
  - DPHE: *repair of 71 tube wells.* Work is ongoing; progress 70%.
- i. Char Majid (2.h)
- BWDB: *1 culvert; 4 Km. Khal; 1 water level gauge with temporary shed.* Work order issued for culvert and estimate concurred for khal.
  - LGED: *repair of 367 c.v. houses; 3 culverts; 1 WMC shed.* 361 houses have been repaired; 6 stopped due to various reasons. Tender invited for culverts and WMC shed
  - DPHE: *repair of 62 tube wells.* Work is in progress.
- j. Char Bhatirtek (2.i)
- LGED: *repair of 215 c.v. houses; 1 culvert; 3 WMC shed.* Repair of 213 houses completed; 2 stopped for several reasons. Tender invited for culvert and WMC sheds.
  - DPHE: *repair of 87 tube wells.* Work is in progress
  - BWDB: *4 Km. khal;* Estimate concurred
- k. South Hatiya (3.a)
- BWDB (peripheral): *20.9 km. embankment; 3 sluices; 4 surface sluices; 1 sluice reshaping.* Overall progress on the embankment is 85%, of which 5% is during this reporting period. Construction of the 3 sluices started and progress is about 5%. Construction of 2 surface sluices started. Progress is also around 5%. Estimate for sluice reshaping has been concurred.
  - BWDB (internal): *22 km. khal; improvement of guesthouse.* Khals will be started in 2002-2003. Construction of the guesthouse is in progress. Progress is about 25%.
  - LGED: *20 km. rural road; carpeting of 1.2 km link road; 13 bridges and culverts; 8 cyclone shelters; 12 ponds; 1 cluster village complex; 1 AC (Land) office; 3 WMC sheds.* Of 5 km road, 45% has been completed within June 2001.

Scheme for 16.80 km. road submitted to WFP. Construction of 2 cyclone shelters is ongoing; progress 20%. Progress on link roads carpeting is 10%. Other works not yet started.

- DPHE: *175 tube wells; 2000 latrines*. Five test tube wells have been installed within June 2001; results are satisfactory.
  
- l. Nijhum Dwip/Char Osman (3.b.)
  - LGED: *12 km. rural road; 7 bridges/culverts; 1 cyclone shelter*. Only 1.25 km of road has been finished within June , 2001. Scheme for 5.4 km. road submitted to WFP. Due to a problem with the Forest Department the work has been stopped. Tender invited for 3 bridge/culverts and 1 cyclone shelter. No other work has been started.
  - DPHE: *59 tube wells; 550 latrines*. Four test tube wells have been completed within June 2001; test results are satisfactory.
  
- m. Nijhum Dwip/Bandartila (3.c)
  - LGED: *10km. rural road; 3 bridges/culverts; 4 cyclone shelters*. Due to an objection from the Forest Department construction of road has been discontinued after 0.75 km. Scheme for 8 km. rural road has been submitted to WFP. Construction of 2 cyclone shelters is in progress. Progress is 10%. Tenders for other 2 cyclone shelters and one culvert have been invited.
  - DPHE: *78 tube wells; 450 latrines*. Two test tube wells are installed within June, 2001. Results received and found satisfactory.

One AC Land office at Sadar Noakhali and one at Companygonj have been planned. Work orders have been issued for both.

### **3.3.4. Productive development**

#### **A. Field crops**

##### **A.1. Baseline information**

As was reported in the previous Progress Report, the baseline information for seven of the project areas was completed and the production of zonation maps was in progress. In the meantime the zonation map for South Hatiya has been completed, while the other six will follow in the first half of 2002.

The identification of the best agricultural technologies (evolving around the most favourable cropping patterns) for each of the zones has been done. After completion of all zonation maps, the extension services in each of the project areas will be geared towards the optimal package for each of the zones in the area concerned.

The draft of a Technical Report on the zonation and on the optimal agricultural technologies has been prepared in the reporting period. Publication of this report will follow in March 2002.

## A.2. Agricultural extension

A step forward in the July/December period was the structuring of the agricultural extension process, in close consultation with DAE and NGOs. In all the seven areas farmers forums now exist, formed with the help of the five local NGOs engaged in the BRAC-CDSP programme. The situation at the end of 2001 was as follows:

| Farmers Forum     |           |             |               |
|-------------------|-----------|-------------|---------------|
|                   | Number    | Male Member | Female Member |
| Muhuri            | 10        | 200         | 50            |
| Gangchil / T. Ali | 2         | 30          | 4             |
| Lakshmi           | 2         | 50          | 5             |
| Mora Dona         | 10        | 190         | 40            |
| South Hatiya      | 10        | 210         | 50            |
| ND / Osman        | 2         | 50          | 10            |
| ND / Bandartila   | 2         | 50          | 10            |
| <b>Total :</b>    | <b>38</b> | <b>780</b>  | <b>169</b>    |
|                   | %         | 82%         | 18%           |

Activities during the reporting period in each of the seven areas are given below:

- a. Muhuri AA (1): 40 demonstration plots with various *aman* varieties; input supply of 170 kg of paddy seeds; 5 meetings of farmers forum and one farmer's training.
- b. Char Gangchil-Torabali (2.b): 13 *aman* demonstration plots; supply of 75 kg rice seeds; distribution of 2 seed bins; storage by farmers of 210 kg *aman* seeds; 2 meetings of farmers forum and one farmers training;
- c. Char Lakshmi (2.c): 20 *aman* demonstration plots; supply of 105 kg of *aman* seeds and of 3 seed bins; storage by farmers of 350 kg rice seeds; 2 meetings of farmers forum and one farmers training
- d. Char Moradona (2.e): 1 test of *aman* variety; 100 *aman* demonstration plots; supply of 630 kg paddy seeds and of 15 seed bins; storage of 840 kg seeds by farmers; 18 meetings of farmers forum and 6 farmers trainings
- e. South Hatiya polder (3.a): 25 *aman* demonstration plots; distribution of 160 kg of *aman* seeds and of 5 seed bins; storage by farmers of 375 kg paddy seeds; 6 farmers forum meetings and 2 farmers training sessions
- f. Nijhum Dwip/Char Osman (3.b): 1 *aman* demonstration plot; supply of 5 kg rice seeds

- g. Bandartila (3.c): 1 *aman* demonstration plot; supply of 5 kg paddy seed; one meeting of farmers forum.

### A.3. Monitoring

See 3.2.6 and 3.2.9.

### A.4. Input supplies

As described in the overview of the activities in the seven areas in A 2 above, a total of 25 seeds bins were distributed and 1,150 kg paddy seeds were stored by farmers. The intention is that these farmers will sell a part of the stored seeds to other farmers in their neighbourhood. No activities were undertaken to stimulate input supply of seeds, fertilizer and pesticides via commercial channels.

### A.5. Social forestry

No social forestry activities took place in the reporting period.

### B. Homestead gardening

As reported in Progress Report no. 4, the responsibility for homestead gardening in CDSP II is with BRAC and the five local NGOs. Reference can be made to the BRAC-CDSP progress reports.

### C. Fisheries

In July a meeting took place between GNAEP and CDSP about the formers activities in char lands and about cooperation between the two projects. GNAEP is interested in the fresh water surveys of CDSP, while cooperation in the field of training of NGO staff, as was done in the past, could be repeated. BRAC and CODEC (NGO involved in GNAEP) were requested to meet and work out the need for training (this however never occurred). As far as the work in the field is concerned, the number of ponds is just too big for GNAEP to have a satisfactory coverage of the chars, including CDSP areas (as reported in Progress Report no. 4).

A planned mission of the expatriate fisheries expert was postponed till January 2002, due to the Eid holidays in December. Th Terms of Reference of this mission includes the issue of aquaculture extension in CDSP areas.

### **3.3.5. Gender aspects in land settlement, infrastructure and agricultural development**

#### **A. Land settlement**

As the information in 3.3.2 reveals, around 15% of the selected landless households to date in Char Gangchil-Torabali were female headed, 9% in Char Mora Dona and 13% in South Hatiya. The baseline surveys of the respective areas give an overall percentage of female headed households of 5%, 7% and 5% respectively. The positive bias in the selection of landless families reflects the principle maintained in the project to treat female headed households as a priority group in the land settlement process.

The list of names of female headed landless households identified during the plot-to-plot survey is still being prepared by the Female Field Coordinators. The list is meant for the local NGOs working in the BRAC-CDSP programme.

The issue of putting the name of the women first in the *khatian* was discussed with the Ministry of Land. Officials confirmed that there is no legal impediment to such a procedure. It will take some time however before the first *khatians* under the CDSP II land settlement will be issued.

The software for the computerization of the land records (see 3.1.3) has been made gender specific wherever that was relevant.

No Women Desks were organized during the reporting period due to a variety of reasons. The most important reasons were the shortage of female staff and the fact that many women's issues, including land settlement related ones, were discussed during the Gender and Development courses for LADC members.

#### **B. Infrastructure**

The text of the previous Progress Reports still applies.

#### **C. Agriculture**

The table on farmers forums in the previous paragraph (3.3.4) shows that 18% of the members are women. This is less than expected. Reasons are probably the reluctance of women to meet in groups together with men. Another constraint is possibly the lack of motivation among NGO staff to select women for the farmers forums. It is expected however that the percentage will increase in the coming year.

## **Chapter 4 PROJECT ORGANIZATION**

### **4.1. Introduction**

The institutional structure of the project organization did not change in the reporting period. Main characteristics are that the project is present at four administrative levels: national, District, Upazila and Union. Project activities as reported upon in chapter 3 take place in four Districts: Chittagong, Feni, Noakhali and Lakshmipur, and in six Upazilas in these Districts: Mirsharai (Chittagong), Sonagazi (Feni), Companiganj, Sadar, Hatiya (Noakhali) and Ramgati (Lakshmipur). The third component (concrete interventions in the field) is spread over 18 Unions. Three more Unions have to be added if the pilot Unions for local level planning are included (Jahajmara, one of the four pilot Unions, is also a part of the South Hatiya polder).

The project is implemented through five government agencies (see 4.2.1), while local government bodies, in particular the Union Parishads (4.2.2.), field level institutions (4.2.3) and NGOs (4.2.4) all have a function in the project.

### **4.2. The parties involved and their responsibilities**

#### **4.2.1. Implementing agencies**

The five governmental implementing agencies involved are: Bangladesh Water Development Board (designated as lead agency), Local Government Engineering Department, Department of Public Health Engineering, Department of Agricultural Extension and Ministry of Land. The Ministry of Water Resources is the sponsoring institution. Each of the implementing agencies have their own Project Proforma.

#### **4.2.2. Local government bodies**

Progress Report no. 4 describes the function of Union Parishads in CDSP. The UPs and especially their Chairmen play a crucial role in nearly all major project activities. It would go too far to give an account of contacts with and involvement of all 21 in the reporting period. Many contacts existed in particular with regard to the development of the Union Plans in the four local level planning pilot Unions (see 3.1.4).

#### **4.2.3. Field level institutions**

Paragraph 3.1.6 report on the field level institutions in the project: the (Sub) Polder Committees, the Local Area Development Committees, the Water Management Committees and Tube well User Groups.

#### **4.2.4. Non Government Organizations**

CDSP consultants attended the coordination meetings of BRAC and the five local NGOs: YPSA (Muhuri), Sagarika (Char Majid, part of Char Mora Dona, Char Lakhsmi), Upoma (Char Baggar Dona II, part of Char Mora Dona), N-RAS (Char Bhatirtek) and DUS (South Hatiya / Nijhum Dwip). During the reporting period two meetings took place (in August and November).

A matter of concern was the employment of NGO staff for the water- and sanitation component (selection of sites for tube wells, collection of contribution of the population, formation of user groups and health education). Due to budgetary issues, the employment was postponed, in some cases hampering the progress of site selection and installation of new tube wells. The problems were solved however and staff could be engaged starting mid October.

A number of meetings were held with NGO staff and DAE on the role of NGOs in the process of agricultural extension for field crops. NGO staff is responsible for the organization of farmer's forums, the primary target groups for extension efforts (see also 3.3.4, A2).

BRAC representatives participated in CDSP coordination mechanisms at District and national level, the PMC and ICC respectively (see 4.3 below).

#### **4.2.5. Team of advisers**

The Inception Report spells out the tasks of the consultants. All these tasks were carried out during the reporting period. Because many months in the period July/December can not be used for construction and much other field work due to the monsoon, relatively much time was spent on consolidation of the progress with regard to infrastructure during the previous period and on the first and second component. See also 5.2.2 on the inputs from consultants.

### **4.3. Coordination Mechanisms**

#### **4.3.1. At District level**

In the reporting period one meeting of the Project Management Committee took place, chaired by the Project Director CDSP II, BWDB. Representatives from District- and sub-District level of the five implementing agencies took part, as well as from the consultants and from BRAC. Main subjects of discussion were the progress of activities, the training programme and the Feasibility Study on the catchment area of the Baggar Dona.

CDSP II was on the agenda of the monthly meetings of the Noakhali District Development Coordination Committee, chaired by the Deputy Commissioner. One or more CDSP consultants attended the meetings. The actual time and attention given to the project varied from meeting to meeting. The Feasibility Study on the development of the Baggar Dona catchment area, with its consequences for Boyer Char, was extensively discussed. In other districts CDSP II is not a separate issue on the agenda of the DDCCs, most probably due to the limited size of the field level interventions in those Districts. In future however, Muhuri has to be on the agenda of the Chittagong DDCC.

#### **4.3.2. At national level**

The Inter-Ministerial Technical Committee for ICZM, also the national steering committee for CDSP II, did not meet during the six months of the reporting period, while the Interagency Coordination Committee (ICC) met once. During that meeting a (too) wide range of issues came to the table, from general progress and the status of the Project Proformas to the clay blanket of the embankment in South Hatiya. Subjects related to the BWDB dominated the deliberations, not in the least because a large contingent of BWDB staff was present in the meeting room. The decision was taken to hold quarterly ICC meetings in future.

The poor record of the coordination mechanisms at national level (but the same can be said of the PMC at District level) should no longer get unnoticed. Horizontal coordination is vital for a multi-agency and multi-sectoral project as CDSP II and of importance in the ICZM perspective. The Ministry of Water Resources, BWDB as lead agency and donors should discuss the subject and should make a conscious effort to instill more discipline in this respect, leading to a higher frequency and indeed to a more multi-sectoral character of the coordination meetings.

#### **4.4. Reports and publications**

Annex 3 gives a list of all the publications during the CDSP II period. During the six months Progress Report no. 4 (January 1 to June 30, 2001) was published, two Mission Reports (no. 14 on agriculture and no. 15 on infrastructure) and one Technical Report (no. 4 on fresh water use in char areas). The Annual Work Plan for 2002 was submitted to and approved by RNE. The Final Report of the Feasibility Study on the development of the catchment area of Baggar Dona river was published by DDC and BETS. SWMC published its Final Report on the modeling part of the Baggar Dona study. The Centre for Coastal Management of the University of Newcastle drafted the ICZM course report.

#### **4.5. Review and evaluation missions**

Preparations started for the Appraisal Mission for the Feasibility Study on the development of the Baggar Dona river, scheduled to take place at the end of January 2002. A Joint Mid-Term Review Mission is planned for later that year.

## **Chapter 5 REQUIRED RESOURCES AND TIME-FRAME**

### **5.1. Introduction**

The resources that were used to implement the project activities as described in Chapter 3 are the subject of the current chapter. The same sequence is followed as in the standard Technical Assistance budget: personnel, investments and equipment, operational support and training. The financial translation of the resources used can be found in Chapter 6. The chapter concludes with a reflection on the time-frame and at factors that impeded the progress.

### **5.2. Personnel**

#### **5.2.1. From the Government of Bangladesh**

If the staff present ultimo December is compared to the staff pattern included in the Project Proformas of each implementing agencies, the conclusion can be drawn that in general and certainly as far as most key functions are concerned, the required staff has been made available. Still there are overall 20 vacancies: BWDB: 7, LGED: none, DPHE: 2, Ministry of Land: 2 and DAE: 9. The Deputy Project Coordinator, Ministry of Land, posted in Noakhali, joined the project in the reporting period.

#### **5.2.2. Team of advisers**

The following mutations occurred in the Bangladeshi team: the new Local Level Planning Adviser joined on August 19, the new Institutional development Adviser on September 1, the Female Field Coordinator for the western and southern part of the project area on August 21 and two data collectors on October 1. The last three functions are additional posts. The complete list of staff at the end of the reporting period can be found in annex 4.

Of the total 184 days the Team Leader was away from the project for 25 days for holidays abroad. The 23 expatriate short term consultancy days were distributed as follows over the various disciplines:

- civil engineering (16)
- agriculture (7)

#### **5.2.3. NGO staff**

No mutations took place in the staff of the NGOs, except for adding staff of local NGOs for water- and sanitation activities (see 4.2.4).

### **5.3. Materials and investments**

### **5.3.1. Materials and equipment**

#### **A. From the side of the Government of Bangladesh**

There is no proper survey available of the goods procured by each of the five implementing agencies within the framework of their respective PPs.

#### **B. From the side of the Government of The Netherlands**

Two motorcycles were procured from Technical Assistance funds. Procurement of a new project vehicle was postponed (till March 2002).

Bangladeshi and Dutch authorities agreed that the procurement of a seagoing vessel under Financial Assistance should be cancelled, mainly due to lack of an adequate operational management plan.

The most important expenditures from Technical Assistance funds for equipment etc. concerned computers for two AC(Land) offices (see 3.1.3), six sets of mobile phones, two sets of GPS units, two conductivity salinity meters, equipment for quality testing of structures and furniture for the extension of the office space for the consultants team (see above). A complete list of project equipment is taken up as annex 5.

### **5.3.2. Project Offices**

The first floor on one of the buildings in Sonapur BWDB compound was completed during the reporting period and is now in use for consultant staff. The construction was paid out of Financial Assistance funds.

Construction of a BWDB guesthouse on Hatiya started. This building is also funded from Financial Assistance.

## **5.4. Operational support**

As reported in earlier Progress Reports all operational costs related to the work of the consultants, such as rent for the liaison office in Dhaka, the running costs of offices, operation and maintenance of equipment, vehicles and speed boats, are paid out of the Technical Assistance budget. In addition costs related to field operations are paid out of the same budget. In the reporting period the most important expenditures under that heading were related land settlement (plot-to-plot survey in Muhuri, cross checking survey in Char Mora Dona, scrutinizing of *khas* land in South Hatiya), local level planning (Union data bases), WMC formation and agricultural extension.

## **5.5. Training**

The following courses and other training events took place during the July/December 2001 period:

- A tailor made Integrated Coastal Zone Management Course at Anna University, Chennai, was organized by the Centre for Coastal Management, University of Newcastle, and the Institute of Ocean Management, Anna University (see also 3.1.2). The 12 participants (all male) in this 12 day course consisted of the five Project Directors/Coordinators of CDSP II, one representative each of the Ministry of Water Resources and the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, three Executive Engineers from the project area (two from BWDB, one from LGED), the Project Coordinator of BRAC-CDSP and the Deputy Team Leader of the consultants team of CDSP II. The course contents covered a wide range of physical, social, economic and institutional aspects of coastal management, culminating in a matrix approach of ICZM issues. Although there were some logistical hitches, the overall evaluation by the participants stood at a score of 70%. In March 2002 a follow-up impact assessment will be held.
- Training on Gender and Development Planning was given five times in a five day course at the BRDB Training Centre in Noakhali. Two courses were held for the UP Members of the four local level planning pilot Unions (56 participants: 44 men and 12 women) and three for the members of the five LADCs (62 participants: 34 men and 28 women). Subjects included concepts of gender and of development, the reason why women's issues are development issues, the multiple roles of women, situation of women in Bangladesh and the national policy on women development. See also 3.1.6.
- Two workshops were held on the preliminary results of the South Comilla/North Noakhali Integrated Drainage Project study (see 3.2.3).

## **5.6. Time-frame**

At the end of 2001, the 33 months of the remaining project period represented 55% of the project time if October 1999 is taken as the start of CDSP II and 65% of the 51 months project period covered by the Inception Report. There is still no compelling reason to assume that the activities as described in the Inception Report can not be completed before October 2004. Although the construction programme shows delays, it is still possible to finish them within the project period, including the additional committed construction works in Boyer Char (as unprotected area). It is obvious however that an all-out effort of the implementing agencies (BWDB, LGED and DPHE) is required to complete all the works in time. The land settlement programme is on course, with the exception of Muhuri. But with more than half of the project period to go, it is feasible to complete the process. Also all institutional development and accumulation of knowledge activities can be completed before October 2004.

## **5.7. Risks**

The same type of risks mentioned in the Inception Report and subsequent Progress Reports applied also July/December 2001 period. The law and order situation continued to be worrying, especially in the time around the parliamentary elections. At times some parts of the project area were made “off limit” due to assumed risks with regard to physical security of project staff. Late rains delayed the start of construction in the 2001/2002 dry season, as well as of *rabi* season agricultural activities.

## **Chapter 6 BUDGET**

## **6.1. Introduction**

The funding of the resources described in the previous chapter will come from three sources: the government of Bangladesh, the government of The Netherlands and the World Food Programme. The Dutch assistance is in the form of Technical Assistance and of Financial Assistance (for investments). Assistance from WFP consists of wheat, essentially for earthwork.

## **6.2. Contribution of the Government of Bangladesh**

At the time of reporting no information was available on the exact expenditures by the five implementing agencies from the budgets taken up in their respective PPs. During an ICC meeting it was decided that the five implementing agencies will provide figures to be included in future Progress Reports.

## **6.3. Financial Assistance funds of the Government of The Netherlands**

In total an amount of Taka 43,633,814 was recommended by the consultants to be reimbursed. The distribution among the agencies was as follows: BWDB Taka 28,268,897, LGED Taka 14,194,438 and DPHE Taka 1,170,479. The total represents an amount of NLG 1,822,267 (Euro 826,909). Actual reimbursements by the Netherlands Investment Bank in the July/December period amounted to NLG 2,768,176 (a part of the aforementioned recommended amounts, plus amounts recommended during the previous reporting period).

## **6.4. Technical Assistance funds of the Government of The Netherlands**

Against an available balance of the annual budget for 2001 of NLG 1,175,354, actual expenditures in the reporting period were NLG 926,160. This left a balance at the end of the year of NLG 249,194 (Euro 113,079). A large part of the positive balance was due to the fact that not all planned short term missions of expatriate consultants were carried out in 2001 and to the fact that procurement of a new project vehicle was postponed.

Except for the 600 code (training and courses), expenditures of the main budget groups stayed within the budget. The expenditures on training exceeded the budget because of the decision to organize a course for CDSP staff from the Government of Bangladesh side on ICZM issues (see also 5.5). Details are given in annex 6.

An external audit of the expenditures of Technical Assistance funds in the period October 1, 2000 to September 30, 2001 was carried out in October.

### **6.5. Contribution in wheat of the World Food Programme**

During the reporting period no wheat was released for earthwork under the WFP contribution to the project.