Roundtable discussion

Industrial Rainwater Harvesting

A Sustainable Approach to Water Management



Contents

Acronyms	i
Preface	1
Executive summary	1
Overview	2
Inaugural speech	3
Keynote speech 1	3
Keynote speech 2	4
Panel discussion and open dialogue	5
Recommendations	11
Appendices	
Concept Note	12
Press Release	15
Presentation on Industrial RWH	16
Media News Links	17
Publication	18
News Clips	19
Programme Schedule	
Invitation Card	
Particinants List	21



Acronyms RWH Rainwater Harvesting

BNBC Bangladesh National Building Code

RMG Ready-Made Garment

SDGs Sustainable Development Goals

ITN International Training Network

BUET Bangladesh University of Engineering

and Technology

BAYLA Bangladesh Apparel Youth Leaders Association

BGMEA Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers

and Exporters Association

USGBC US Green Building Council

ASHRAE American Society of Heating,

Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers

WASH Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

NGO Non-governmental Organisation



Preface This report is based on a roundtable titled "Industrial Rainwater Harvesting – A Sustainable Approach to Water Management", which was jointly organised by WaterAid and BGMEA at The Westin Dhaka on February 15, 2022.

> The programme's objective was to start a dialogue on the business cases for sustainable water management in industries, with a focus on RWH. The discussion explored potential opportunities, challenges, and solutions to setting up RWH systems in industries, including RMG factories, and how this can help mitigate the looming water crisis.

Executive Summary

The industrial sector of Bangladesh, including RMG factories, relies heavily on high water consumption. This is not only resulting in depleting groundwater levels but is also affecting the surface water quality.

Moreover, the adverse impacts of climate change have accelerated the rapidly deteriorating situation. One of the most viable solutions to this problem can be RWH - a simple technique that can be implemented at a low cost – as Bangladesh is privileged to have a large amount of rainfall during the monsoon, ranging between 150cm and 350cm per month in different areas. Some factories have already adopted this solution. There is now a need to generate and disseminate knowledge of RWH prospects to ensure environmental sustainability and development of Bangladesh, which are highly influenced by the availability and quality of water.



Overview

As a water-intensive sector, the growth and sustainability of the RMG sector as well as its substantial contribution to Bangladesh's economic and human development is highly dependent on how it manages its water risks.

The expected growth of this sector will intensify competing water uses with domestic and agricultural water use and will also exacerbate the current gap between water supply and demand.

The industry's reliance on groundwater means there will be higher costs of water abstraction, either from deeper pumping or from securing freshwater from other sources due to higher scarcity. RWH can be an efficient and vital technology as an alternate solution to this problem.





Inaugural speech

By Partha Hefaz Shaikh, Director, Policy & Advocacy, WaterAid, Bangladesh

Keynote Speech 1

Md Tahmidul Islam, Technical Advisor, WASH, WaterAid, Bangladesh

We trained over 300 professionals Urban RWH between 2010 and 2020. They created the RAiN Forum, which works with RWH and natural resources.

Md Tahmidul Islam, Technical Advisor, WASH, WaterAid Bangladesh WaterAid is an international NGO with operations in 28 countries around the world. We mainly work in 3 areas – clean water, decent toilet, and hygiene. We are working to ensure these 3 facilities for everyone everywhere. We have been working in Bangladesh since 1986. We work 18 districts with our partners.

WaterAid Bangladesh started working on RWH in 2010 with the aim to raise awareness of water scarcity among policymakers, stakeholders, and the mass people. We contributed to updating the Bangladesh National Building Code (BNBC) in 2006. We introduced the biennial rain day celebration, which was held virtually in recent years due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

We also arranged rain conventions in alternate years to broaden the knowledge of academicians and practitioners. We opened rain centres at some academic institutions for teachers and students to help them with research on RWH.

We created a manual to provide guidelines for households and industries interested in installing RWH. We also started capacity building initiatives in 2010 to mitigate skill gaps. We trained two batches of RWH professionals this year.

In 2018, we assessed that an industry has 65,000 square feet of roof area on average where rainwater could be harvested. We then set up some demonstration plants at some factories, including Fakir Fashion, Next Accessories, Epic Garments, and Metro Knitting.

We trained over 300 professionals between 2010 and 2020. They created the RAiN Forum, which works with RWH and natural resources.



Keynote Speech 2

Md Ashraful Alum, Secretary, RAiN Forum A Water Resources Group forecast based on 2014 data says the RMG industry will grow massively till 2030, causing water demand to rise by 70%. We can make huge investments in the water sector and reduce the cost of industrial water treatment. Estimates say up to \$9 billion could be saved till 2030 by using water-efficient technology.

Amid the pandemic, we analysed the potential of RWH in 65 factories. Of them, 40 factories had a catchment area of 2,000-8,000 square metres, 12 had less than 2,000 square metres and 13 had over 8,000 square metres.

In 34 factories, rainwater potential is less than 10,000 cubic metres while it is 10,000-30,000 cubic metres in 15 factories and more than 30,000 cubic metres in 16 factories.



We can make huge investments in the water sector and reduce the cost of industrial water treatment.

Md Ashraful Alum Secretary, RAiN Forum

Panel discussion and open dialogue





Professor Dr Tanvir Ahmed, Director, ITN-BUET

Our country is blessed to have a lot of rainfall in the monsoon, with some places seeing 5,000 millimetres of rainfall. A large portion of this rainwater gets mixed with groundwater.

Unlike households, industries have large catchment areas, including roof areas. Most of the water used in industries comes from groundwater, and salt has to be removed from it before using it. But the benefit of rainwater is it has no salt and needs little treatment.

Around 6-25% of the annual water usage in industries comes from catchment areas. However, storing this rainwater is the key challenge as a large storage area is needed. Other challenges are awareness and capacity building.

Construction developers and consultants have to learn how to install the RWH in industries so that they can provide this service to the industries. A water audit is also very important in industries. It will help industry owners figure out the proportion of the processed water coming from the RWH.

Md Fazlul Haque, Deputy Executive Director, Sajida Foundation

When we talked to RMG factory owners about RWH, they were interested in investing in it, but they did not know how to do that.

Garment workers' awareness is also very important. During our sessions with them, they wanted to know in detail the importance of the RWH. We set up hygiene management systems, including handwashing facilities, in factories. Workers were very pleased to know that their employers were doing all this for their betterment.

We need to think about technological interventions needed in ensuring efficiency in different aspects of water usage.

Md Fazlul Haque, Deputy Executive Director, Sajida Foundation



We enthusiastically welcomed the RWH. Initially, we implemented a catchment area of 1 lakh square feet and are utilising another 1 lakh square feet. We are building 10 more facilities where RWH and solar systems could be utilised.

I would urge stakeholders to build a strong platform. They need to build strong collaborations with all our factories for

technology transfer, awareness building, and also to keep their business running.

In 2020, Fakir Fashion got 10 million litres of water in catchment areas, which was 22 million litres in 2022. We are researching ways to store the water without any expense. This is very important for dyeing factories.

I would request for establishing a platform where all stakeholders can collaborate on making RMG and textile factories more sustainable. If we want to conserve groundwater then it is essential for the retailers, suppliers, and factories to share technology with each other, build awareness and focus on their R&D efforts.

Atiqul Islam Corporate GM – Admin, HR & Compliance, Metro Knitting and Dyeing

Factory owners must be committed to implementing the RWH. We perhaps have the largest catchment area at present. We meet 20% of our demand for water from rainwater.

At present, our total catchment area is 80,390 square metres. In 2020, we harvested 21,495 cubic metres of rainwater, which was 1.6% of our total processed water. The following year, it increased to 29,259 cubic metres, which was 1.74% of our total processed water.

There are challenges, including textile dust, rooftop issues, and plumbing. But if the commitment is there, implementing the RWH is possible. We need to prepare for the forthcoming challenges and change our thoughts.

Arif Shahriyer Senior Manager, Sustainability, Epic Group

When we released our 2020 sustainability report, we were committed to reducing our water usage by 40% by 2023. In June 2021, we started the RWH. We built a reservoir of 1 lakh square feet. We are using the whole water from there as processed water.

In 2021, we stored 3,000 cubic metres of water and used it as processed water. Our target this year is to store 15,000 cubic metres.

We now get 1% of our processed water from the RWH. There were some initial problems. We earlier had to treat the water but do not have to do that now.



Tanzida Islam Program Manager, Environment H&M

By the end of 2022, 50% of our company's local apparel sourcing factories are expected to build RWH infrastructure. Till last year, 45 per cent of H&M's 105 sourcing factories in Bangladesh had built RWH systems, saving 0.2 million cubic metres of rainwater.

Md Mahbubur Rahman Senior Program Manager, Environment and Climate Change Embassy of Sweden



The Swedish government highly prioritises water resource management in its own country. As per the Sweden-Bangladesh development strategy, Sweden is contributing to areas of water resource and environment management as well as climate change in Bangladesh.

Everyone should contribute to mitigating water scarcity and the impacts of climate change. I believe Swedish businesses will offer assistance, including technological, in this regard. I believe we in the future can make Bangladesh's RMG and textile sector more sustainable, developed, and acceptable to the global communities.



Shamima Akhter Head of Corporate Affairs, Unilever Bangladesh

We introduced the RWH in our Kalurghat factory in 2013. We only use it for groundwater recharging. The biggest challenge is storing and repurposing rainwater in our factory, which started in 1965 and is thus very old.

We are figuring out ways to work with government and private institutes to change their facilities, capture more rainwater, and increase Bangladesh's water reserve programme.

We cover 21% of our water usage from rainwater, but our goal is to make it 79%. We will look into partnering with organisations like WaterAid and find opportunities to utilise other rooftops and convert those into the RWH.

Kazy Mohammad Iqbal Hossain South Asia Regional Sustainability Manager, Lindex HK

Rainwater depletion and seasonal water variability are two of our biggest concerns. We created a roadmap to 2025. We aim to meet at least 10% of the demand for water in our factory from rainwater during the monsoon.

We have started a project jointly with WaterAid. We will start implementing it on a large scale from next year and also have plans to allocate a budget for this. Our plan is to start the RWH in 10 more factories by the next three years.

If we cannot use rainwater for industrial purposes, we can at least collect it for recharging groundwater. That will bring down the plumbing cost or groundwater reserve investment.

Md Masud Hassan Director of WatSan and Technology, Village Education Resource Centre

We introduced the RWH in our office in 2013. We kept it simple. We got financial support from WaterAid and technical support from the ITN.

We had 3,300 square feet of rooftop space. We collected rainwater from there, kept it somewhere, and filtered it.

During the monsoon, we used the water for washing while the overflowed water was used for groundwater recharging. In a year, we recharged 1 lakh litres of groundwater. The maintenance cost was very low, around Tk 8,000-10,000 a year.

In the rainy season, harvested rainwater can be used for gardening, toilet flushing, and floor and car washing. The biggest contribution of rainwater harvesting goes to groundwater recharging.

Mohammad Zobair Hasan DED, DORP and SWA South Asia CSO Representative



We need to further increase awareness of the RWH. We need to include others, such as the private sector, the civil society, the media, and other platforms, in the initiative.

Things are up to date at the policy level. Now we need to strengthen the multi-stakeholder engagement so that we all can work together.

Abil Bin Amin Bangladesh Country Manager Ethical Trading Initiative

We can play a role in sharing the knowledge of the RWH with more brands and other countries as well. It is good to know that factories in Bangladesh are interested in adopting the RWH voluntarily without any regulatory pressure. We can take steps to scale up this process.

Rafee Mahmood Vice President, BAYLA and Director of Mahmud Group



There is a rooftop catchment area of 4 lakh square feet in one of our factories. In another factory, we have 1.2 lakh square feet. Each factory is designed to store 5,000 cubic metres of rainwater. We use this water for auxiliary purposes, such as toilet, firefighting, and gardening, and also some other purposes, such as in boilers.

A huge amount of water is used in denim factories. So, we are still dependent on groundwater. But using rainwater for auxiliary purposes has helped us save a lot in terms of water consumption. It is good to know that lots of our factories have adopted the RWH. We have been able to change our industry dynamism towards other such initiatives.

Abrar Hossain Sayem President, BAYLA

The water crisis will worsen in the next decade. BAYLA can play a good role in educating factory owners interested in adopting the RWH about how to do it and what are the challenges and benefits.

In terms of sustainability and rainwater use, there are good scopes for branding Bangladesh because RMG is the top exporting industry in the country. Our mission could be this – the highest exporting industry is saving the highest amount of water. It could help us brand Bangladesh in the same way as having the highest number of green factories.

BAYLA can also help them in this regard.



It is essential to promote rainwater harvesting among the youth so that they can become youth advocates for this sustainable practice.

Sakib Ahmed Senior Vice President, BAYLA



We need to raise more awareness as many factory owners do not know how the RWH can help us with sustainability. BAYLA as an association of young leaders has many responsibilities towards environmental sustainability.

The devastating results of the previous environmental damage will be felt by us when we will become seniors or our next generation. Thus, BAYLA can play an important role and has opportunities to work with BGMEA and other organisations.

Hasin Jahan Country Director, WaterAid



A rainwater harvesting plant would cost around 65 lakh taka for a typical factory. In comparison to the exorbitant cost of building an apparel factory, this sum is insignificant. Dhaka WASA has declared that it will increase commercial water prices by

40 percent soon. BEPZA also charges high price for water. If factories shift to using rainwater for meeting their water needs, it will help them significantly reduce costs over time. At the same time, it will contribute towards improving the environment in the country.

To address the issue of depleting groundwater level, rainwater should be everyone's business. Industries having ample space on the rooftop can be easily used for rainwater harvesting, and they can, thus, demonstrate sustainable solution towards solving the growing water needs for the businesses.

The groundwater level in Dhaka is declining by 1-3 metres every year. Water is getting saline in coastal belts. We will face a water crisis at some point.

RMG factories contribute to SDG 6 and SDG 13, and there should be a mechanism that will reflect this contribution, and the Bangladesh government should take it into account. If the RWH infrastructure is built in factories while designing, the cost will be low while factory owners will also get various loan facilities for building green infrastructure.

If the BGMEA forms a sustainable water management cell, that can carry out a water audit of the 185 green factories. Besides, we can hand over the findings of the feasibility studies of 65 factories to it.

The cell can then ask these factory owners to take the next steps in installing the RWH system. It can also think about how to incentivise the existing 185 green buildings and the new ones.

WaterAid and RAiN Forum can offer technical assistance, including designing RWH systems in industries. We can also offer basic training courses to young professionals, including those working in the field of water and others, to help them understand RWH benefits.

Faruque Hassan President, BGMEA



Bangladesh's RMG sector has made remarkable strides in environmental sustainability, securing the leading position with the highest number of green garment factories in the world. This sector is putting consistent efforts in that direction.

Bangladesh has 157 green RMG factories certified by the USGBC. Of them, 47 are Platinum- and 96 are Gold-rated. 40 out of the top 100 global factories are in Bangladesh while around 500 more are waiting to be certified.

These green factories are equipped with all eco-friendly features that reduce carbon emission by around 40% and minimise water consumption by 40-50% compared to conventional buildings. They ensure thermal comfort of workers and state-of-the-art hygiene, use daylight, have RWH, and maintain indoor air quality as per

the ASHRAE standard that maximises workers' physical and mental health as well as productivity.

Rainwater is considered green water. This context and the potential rainwater storage during monsoon have driven innovation in the apparel industry. We now see a lot of RMG manufacturing units prioritising rainwater during development. BGMEA as a progressive association has shifted their perspective on sustainable water resource management and is actively encouraging factories to adopt RWH. The sustainable water management cell will be formed at the new BGMEA building in Uttara.

Bangladesh is blessed with monsoon rain, and rainwater is considered as green water. The potential of rainwater storage during the monsoon period has driven innovation in the apparel industry. We are actively encouraging factories to adopt rainwater harvesting and have seen RMG manufacturing units prioritising rainwater.

The potential of rainwater storage during the monsoon period has driven innovation in the apparel industry.

Faruque Hassan President, BGMEA

Key Recommendations

- Establish Sustainable Water Management Cell at BGMEA. It will be a platform for stakeholders to collaborate on improving sustainability of RMG and textile factories. Initiate following activities:
- Commission feasibility studies and encourage factories to adopt rainwater harvesting facilities understanding the cost, benefits, and payback period.
- Share technical know-how through providing training on rainwater harvesting and demonstrating the benefits to factory owners
- Raise awareness about the benefits of rainwater harvesting by celebrating rain day for mass people and rain convention for practitioners
- Engage young entrepreneurs and buyers in the promotion of rainwater harvesting



Appendices:

WaterAid and BGMEA presents Valuing Water and Climate Change – Rainwater Harvesting in Focus

Concept note

Water and Climate Change global perspective

Climate change is being felt primarily through water. The worsening climate crisis is the water crisis. Extreme and unpredictable weather is having an increasingly disastrous effect on people's lives, particularly through its impact on access to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) services—which is critical to human health. Droughts and floods impact water quality and quantity which affect and destroy water and sanitation infrastructure, and therefore hinder good hygiene practices. Diseases spread more easily and worker productivity drops.

For business, this poses a dire and growing threat to the health of its people, its resilience, and its sustainability. Businesses struggle to survive without a reliable supply of clean water and health of community. Private sectors that manage their physical water and WASH risks will be more resilient to climate change than their competitors. There is growing action needed from businesses on climate change. There are four possible risk areas that require attention:

I. Physical water risk: More than 40% of the global population is projected to be living in areas of severe water stress by 2050. Physical access to water, as well as issues such as declining water quality, will exacerbate the challenges of water

availability for business needs as well as for sustainable WASH services for workforces.

- Financial risk: The II. **International Labour Organization** (ILO) estimates that with a temperature rise of only 1.5°C global productivity losses equivalent to 80 million full-time jobs could occur in 2030. This is due to the projected impacts of 'heat stress' on workers' occupational health, and therefore productivity, resulting from climate change. This breakdown in the supply chain is equivalent to global financial losses of US \$2,400 billion and the negative impacts on a worker productivity can also be linked to WASH provision and working conditions. At the macroeconomic level, for every US \$1 invested in WASH, an estimated US \$4.30 is generated through increased productivity.
- III. Reputational risk: Responsible businesses with a good public profile are more likely to access finance and ensure future resilience. Responsible water management and providing adequate access to WASH for workers and the surrounding communities will not only be beneficial for the health and dignity of workers, but also for stakeholder relations, supply chain resilience and maintenance of a company's 'social license' to operate. Businesses with a

good reputation can reap sales benefits and increase staff loyalty. With increasing consumer pressure and shift towards socially conscious brands – 66% of global consumers are willing to pay more for brands committed to social impact.

IV. Regulatory risk: Water and sanitation are UN-mandated human rights, and it is part of a company's responsibility to respect these rights. Corporate policies which incorporate WASH can drive compliance with national or regional government policy or regulation on WASH and other sustainable development issues. CEO commitments and endorsements

can also be very powerful.

Access to WASH services is not only fundamental to sustainable development, but also a critical adaptation strategy for communities and businesses to cope with the effects of climate change. Despite this importance, WASH services, and the critical role they play as part of climate adaptation, are often overlooked, and are not yet well recognized by governments, businesses, and even technical experts.

Bringing vitality to Water usage in Businesses Adopting Valuing Water as an integral part of policymaking and investment decisions that would help Bangladesh towards a sustainable water management and long-term economic growth.

The heavy reliance of the industrial sector on high water consumption leads to depleting groundwater levels and affecting surface water quality especially in and around Dhaka and other cities in Bangladesh leaving a pressure on the environment.

The adverse impact of climate change has accelerated the already rapidly deteriorating situation. Currently, the country is facing more challenges around water security than ever before due to increasing demand by the growing population as well as climate impact, inappropriate land use, and waste management. The rapid growth of the industrial hubs in Dhaka and other cities in Bangladesh is also imposing substantial pressures on the environment since most of the industries, especially the textile and leather industries are heavily reliant on high water consumption. 13

Bangladesh is privileged by the huge quantity of rainfall almost throughout the country during the monsoon, generally varying between 150 cm and 350 cm per month, that usually lasts from May to October with occasional rainfall in November. This could reduce the dependency on groundwater, alleviate the demand on the upper aquifers and supplement the ground water source at least for six months. As a result, among all alternative water sources, rainwater harvesting- a simple and low-cost technique that needs minimum specific expertise or knowledge and is adaptable to a wide variety of conditions could be promoted with innovative technologies and policies as the most potential solution to the pressing condition of water security in Bangladesh.

As a water-intensive sector, the growth, and the sustainability of the RMG sector as well as its substantial contribution to Bangladesh's economic and human development is highly dependent on how it manages its water risks. The

expected growth of the RMG sector will intensify competing water uses with domestic and agricultural water use and will exacerbate the current gap between water supply and demand and declining water quality. The industry's reliance on groundwater means there will be higher costs of water abstraction, either from deeper pumping or from securing freshwater from other sources due to higher scarcity.

Projected Water Related Costs for the Textile Sector to Year 2030 by WRG2030 for continuous use of groundwater is \$19.5 including OPEX and CAPEX. It is quite evident that falling groundwater tables combined with the projected increased water abstraction rates are likely to threaten industrial production. In this context, rainwater harvesting can play as an efficient and vital technology as an alternate solution to address the problem. There is a need to generate knowledge and dissemination on rainwater uptake prospects to ensure sustainability of the environment, enhance social and economic growth, and development of Bangladesh which is highly influenced by the availability and quality of water.

As a result, Rainwater Harvesting is a water saving as well as an alternate source of ground water that is feasible, practical, and environmentally vital for the people, profit and the plant.

Aim of the roundtable

The overall aim of this roundtable is to bring together leaders, businesses, sustainable development experts, think tanks, rainwater harvesting advocates will initiate policy dialogues for locally inspired and globally recognized solutions.

I. Collective effort and action in making rainwater harvesting an organisational priority through raising awareness across business II. Increased finance to improve and implement policies and making the business go green.

Participants

International Brands and
Development Partners | corporates
| FIs | National business firms |
Energy sector | Supply chain | WASH
& Climate sector
Academia | Media | Development
experts | Climate scientist |
Economist

- III. Driving action within the business in collaboration with civil society and governments to improve provision of adequate WASH facilities through improvement in infrastructure and technology, capacity building and, improved regulations all in alignment with green methods.
- IV. Learn from each other share good examples to scale up water and environmental cases.

Modality

The envisioned series will be held in The Westin

With a keynote from WaterAid and Rain Forum team. Followed by experiences if businesses representatives of their respective sectors showcasing examples that their own businesses follow to promote sustainable and environmentally friendly practices in their business models i.e., RRRR, sustainable supply chain models to highlight some few.

This is a joint initiative taken by WaterAid and BGMEA to tackle and uplift the importance of Rainwater Harvesting towards an environment friendly business initiative.

Rainwater - a sustainable untapped resource for businesses

Press release

DHAKA, 15 February 2022 - In recent times, the country' ready-made garment factories and textile industries are leading in implementing green policies by introducing rainwater harvesting systems. Their sustainable approach to water management in business practices, is creating much needed positive impacts in the environment, speakers said at a roundtable in Dhaka.

The high volume of water used in industry is an environmental concern because of their dependency on groundwater and it is time to act in ways that protects the long-term sustainability of water supply needed for businesses to grow, said speakers.

The roundtable titled 'Industrial Rainwater Harvesting- A Sustainable Approach to Water Management,' organised jointly by WaterAid and Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) was held at The Westin Dhaka on February 15, 2022 in the capital.

The programme aimed to initiate dialogue on the business case for industrial sustainable water management focusing on rainwater harvesting system. The discussion explored potential opportunities, challenges, and solutions for sustainable supply chains and environmental impacts, as well as sharing examples of rainwater harvesting practices in garment factories.

Mr Faruque Hassan, President, BGMEA, was

present at the event as the Chief Guest.

Ms Hasin Jahan, Country Director, WaterAid, graced the occasion as the Guest of Honor. Partha Hefaz Shaikh, Director, Policy & Advocacy, WaterAid, chaired the event and delivered the welcome note. Abrar Hossain Sayem, President, Bangladesh Apparel Youth Leaders Association – BAYLA was present among the guests.

Faruque Hassan, President, BGMEA, said, "BGMEA as a progressive association has shifted their perspective on sustainable water resource management and actively encouraging factories to adopt rainwater harvesting system. Industries need to emphasis on rainwater and help to reduce extraction and dependency of ground water.

Hasin Jahan, Country Director of WaterAid said, Hasin Jahan, Country Director of WaterAid said, "To solve the impending water crisis that is depleting the groundwater, harvesting rainwater should be everyone's business. Industries having ample space on the rooftop can be easily used for rainwater harvesting and demonstrate sustainable solution towards solving the growing water needs for the businesses.

Thanks to BGMEA for demonstrating an unique example to help protect our scare water resources by encouraging the factory owners for adopting rainwater harvesting.

Presentation on RWH System





WaterAid is committed to working with businesses entities and private sector to fast-track efforts towards water security and environment"

Abrar Hossain Sayem, President, Bangladesh Apparel Youth Leaders Association – BAYLA, "Many smart industries put their footprint in the sustainability and water saving process. The industries are adopting rainwater harvesting to reduce the dependency on groundwater to tackle future catastrophes. The young people are the potentials drivers for the economic and social progress of the country. So, it is essential to promote RWH among the youth so that they can become

youth advocates for RWH and make a positive impact to reduce water crises in the future.

Apart from the guests, development partners, national business firms, and supply chain stakeholders, representatives from media and academia participated in the event.

The roundtable discussion came to an end with handing of BGMEA's sustainability report to Hasin Jahan and the distribution of certificates among rainwater harvesting professionals who were trained as part of WaterAid and ITN-BUET collaboration.

Media coverage and news links:

Sl. Date	Media	Link
1. 16-Jan-22	The Daily Star Online	Link
2. 16-Jan-22	The Daily Star Online	Link
3. 16-Jan-22	The Financial Express Online	Link
4. 16-Jan-22	The Business Standard Online	Link
5. 16-Jan-22	Daily Sun Online	Link
6. 16-Jan-22	Dhaka Tribune Online	Link
7. 16-Jan-22	Banglatribune.com	Link
8. 16-Jan-22	Businesspostbd.com	Link
9. 16-Jan-22	Dhakapost.com	Link
10 16-Jan-22	Swadesh Pratidin Online	Link
11.16-Jan-22	Bhorer kagoj Online	Link
12.16-Jan-22	Bonik Barta Online	Link
13.16-Jan-22	Bssnews.net	Link
14.16-Jan-22	Samakal Online	Link
15.16-Jan-22	Inqilab Online	Link
16.16-Jan-22	Daily Industry Online	Link
17.16-Jan-22	Channel24.tv	Link
18.16-Jan-22	Channel I online	Link
19.16-Jan-22	Bangladeshglobal.com	Link

Publications

Industrial Rainwater Harvesting - A Sustainable Approach to Water Management

BGMEA and WaterAid organised a roundtable titled 'Industrial Rainwater Harvesting - A Sustainable Approach to Water Management' on February 15, 2022. Here we publish a summary of the discussion.

Link:

https://www.thedailystar.net/round-tables/news/industrial-rainwat er-harvesting-sustainable-approach-water-management-2970881





Ⅲ ☑WaterAid

Industrial Rainwater Harvesting - A Sustainable **Approach to Water Management**

 $BGMEA\ and\ WaterAid\ organised\ a\ roundtable\ titled\ 'Industrial\ Rainwater\ Harvesting-A\ Sustainable\ Approach\ to\ Water\ Management'$ on February 15, 2022. Here we publish a summary of the discussion.







water then it is essential for the s, suppliers, and factories to chnology with each other, build ess and focus on their R&D effor

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

→ establish Sustainable Water Management Cell at BGMEA. It will be a platform for stakeholders to collaborate on improving sustainability of RMG and textile factories. Initiate following activities:

encourage factories to adopt rainwater harvesting facilities understanding the cost, benefits, and payback period.

O Share technical know-how through

O Raise awareness about the benefits of rainwater harvesting by celebrating rain day for mass people and rain convention for practitioners

O Engage young entrepreneurs and buyer in the promotion of rainwater harvesting ➤ International buyers should incentivis factories to adopt rainwater harvesting facilities.











THE BUSINESS STANDARD

Harvesting rainwater can meet RMG's 60% water demand: Study



Business Post

SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT

Harvesting rainwater the key

Staff Correspondent

Speakers at a discussion on Tuesday understored the need for reducing dependency on groundwater and urged the businesses to adopt nationater has vesting system to ensure a sussistantial to the staff of the

The Westin Dhaka on Tuesday, read a press release.

The programme aimed to initiate dialogue on the business case for industrial sustainable water management focusing on rainwater harvesting system. The discussion explored potential proportunities, challenges, and solutions for austainable supply chains and tions for austainable supply chains and reading examples of rates, as well as other great control of the control of t



Industries having ample space on the rooftop can be easily used for rainwater harvesting and demonstrate sustainable solution growing water needs for the businesses

tives from media and academia parti-janted in the event.

The roundtable discussion came an end with handling of BOMEA's such airnability report to Hasin Jahan an the distribution of certificates amor ainwater harvesting professionals where trained as part of WaterAld ar ITN-BUET collaboration.

ыкъцк

16-Feb-22 Page:12 Size:12 col*inch Circulation: 271000

শিল্পের জন্য বৃষ্টির পানি

সমকাল প্রতিবেদক

শিল্পকারখানার জন্য বেশি পরিমাণে ভূগর্ভস্থ পানির ব্যবহার পরিবেশের জন্য অতান্ত উদ্বেগজনক। তাই শিল্প খাতে নির্বিঘ্নে পানি সরবরাহ নিশ্চিত করতে বৃষ্টির পানি অত্যন্ত প্রয়োজন। পানির জন্য টেকসই ব্যবস্থা হতে পারে রেইন ওয়াটার হারভেঙ্কিং বা বৃষ্টির পানি মজত রাখা।

ওয়াটারএইড বাংলাদেশ এবং তৈরি পোশাক খাতের সংগঠন বিজিএমইএর যৌথ উদ্যোগে গতকাল রাজধানীর ওয়েষ্টিন হোটেলে "শিল্প খাতে বৃষ্টির পানি সংগ্রহ ও সংরক্ষণ- পানি ব্যবস্থাপনায় টেকসই পদক্ষেপ' শীর্ষক এক গোলটেবিল বৈঠকে এসব কথা বলেন বক্তারা।

পলিসি ওয়াটারএইডের আডভোকেসি 8 ডিরেক্টর পার্থ হেফাজ শেখরের সভাপতিৰে অনুষ্ঠানে প্রধান অতিথি ছিলেন বিজিএমইএর সভাপতি ফারুক হাসান। বিশেষ অতিথি ছিলেন ওয়াটারএইডের কান্টি ডিরেক্টর হাসিন জাহান।

হাসিন জাহান বলেন, শিল্পকারখানাওলো ভূগর্ভস্থ পানির ওপর নির্ভরশীল। শক্ষার বিষয় হলো, ঢাকায় প্রতি বছর ভূগর্ভের পানির স্তর এক থেকে তিন মিটার পর্যন্ত নেমে যাচ্ছে। তবে তেজগাঁও, মিরপরসহাজয়েকটি এলাকায় পানির স্তর বেশি নিচে নেমে গেছে। উপকলীয় এলাকায় পানির লবণাক্ততা বেভে যাচ্ছে। লবণাক্ততা মাটির ভেতরের দিকে প্রবেশ করছে। এসব চিত্রই বলে নেয়, পানির স্বল্পতা তৈরি হচ্ছে। তাই এখনই পানি সরবরাহ নিয়ে সচেতন হওয়া জরুরি।

ফারুক হাসান বলেন, প্রগতিশীল সংগঠন হিসেবে বিজিএমইএ টেকসই পানি ব্যবস্থাপনার বিষয়ে নিজেদের দৃষ্টিভঙ্গিতে পরিবর্তন নিয়ে এসেছে। বৃষ্টির পানি সংগ্রহ ও সংরক্ষণের ব্যাপারে কারখানাগুলোকে উৎসাহ দেওয়া হচ্ছে। তবে এ বিষয়ে শিল্প খাতকে সহায়তা করতে হবে।

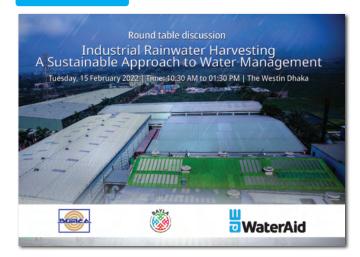
Event: Roundtable discussion

Industrial Rainwater Harvesting- A sustainable approach to water management

Date: Tuesday, 15 February 2022

Time: 10.30 am to 1.30 pm Venue: The Westin Dhaka

Invitation card



Dear Sir/Madam,

WaterAid and Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers & Exporters Association (BGMEA) cordially invite you at the roundtable titled "Industrial Rainwater Harvesting – A Sustainable Approach to Water Management" on Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 10:30 AM at The Westin Dhaka, Ballroom, Gulshan 2.

The programme aims to initiate a dialogue on the business case for industrial sustainable water management focusing on rainwater harvesting system. It will explore opportunities, challenges, and solutions for sustainable supply chains and environmental impacts as well as sharing examples of rainwater harvesting practices in garments factories.

Mr. Faruque Hassan, President, BGMEA has given his kind consent to be present as the Chief Guest. Ms. Hasin Jahan, Country Director, WaterAld will be present as the Guest of Honour. All Covid-19 health protocols will be maintained during the programme.

We look forward to your presence in hopes to create meaningful dialogues that will help reach everyone, everywhere with clean water by 2030.

Sincerely, WaterAid and BGMEA

shadmamalik@wateraid.org | +880 174 387 3740

PROGRAMME FLOW:

10:30 AM Registration 11:00 AM Welcome Note by: Mr. Partha Hefaz Shaikh, Director, Policy & Advocacy, WaterAid Presentation by:

Md. Tahmidul Islam, Technical Advisor-WASH, WaterAid

Md. Ashraful Alum, Secretary, RAIN Forum Video Presentation of BGMEA 11:30 AM Open Discussion and O&A Session: Highlighting RWH Success Stories in RMG Industry
 Managing Water Resources for a Sustainable Future in RMG Industry
 Recommendations and Way Forward 12:30 PM narks by the Guest of Honour Ms. Hasin Jahan, Country Director, WaterAid Remarks by the Chief Guest 12:45 PM Mr. Faruque Hassan, President, BGMEA Handing Over BGMEA's Sustainability Report to 01.00 PM Ms. Hasin Jahan, Country Director, WaterAid Certificate Giving Ceremony to RWH Professionals by:

• Mr. Faruque Hassan, President, BGMEA

• Ms. Hasin Jahan, Country Director, WaterAid

• Professor Dr. Tanvir Ahmed, Director, ITN BUET 01:05 PM 01:30 PM Lunch

Event programme flow

Roundtable discussion Industrial Rainwater Harvesting A Sustainable Approach to Water Management Tuesday, 15 February 2022 | The Westin Dhaka PROGRAMME FLOW: 10.30 AM Registration Welcome Note by: Mr Partha Hefaz Shaikh Director, Policy & Advocacy, WaterAid Presentation by: · Md. Tahmidul Islam, Technical Advisor-WASH, WaterAid Md. Ashraful Alum, Secretary, RAiN Forum Video Presentation of BGMEA 11.20 AM 11.30 AM Open Discussion and Q&A Session: Highlighting RWH Success Stories in RMG Industry Managing Water Resources for a Sustainable Future in RMG Industry Recommendations and Way Forward 12.30 PM Remarks by the Guest of Honour Ms Hasin Jahan, Country Director, WaterAid 12.45 PM Remarks by the Chief Guest Mr Faruque Hassan, President, BGMEA 01.00 PM Handing Over BGMEA's Sustainability Report to Ms Hasin Jahan, Country Director, WaterAid Certificate Giving Ceremony to RWH Professionals by: 01.05 PM Mr Faruque Hassan, President, BGMEA Ms Hasin Jahan, Country Director, WaterAid · Professor Dr. Tanvir Ahmed, Director, ITN BUET 01.30 PM Lunch WaterAid

Participants List:

Faruque Hassan

President BGMEA

Abrar Hossain Sayem

President BAYLA

Hasin Jahan

Country Director WaterAid

Sakib Ahmed

Senior Vice President BAYLA

Md Mahbubur Rahman,

Senior Program Manager, Environment and Climate Change, Embassy of Sweden

Rafee Mahmood

Vice President BAYLA

Maher Abdullah Al

CEO & Head of Business Fakir Fashion Limited

Hasin Arman Ayon

Treasurer BAYLA

Professor Dr. Tanvir Ahmed

Director ITN-BUET

Shamima Akhter

Head Of Corporate Affairs Unilever Bangladesh Ltd

Kazy Mohammad Igbal Hossain

South Asia Regional Sustainability Manager Lindex HK Ltd.

Tanzida Islam

H&M

Mohammad Monower Hossain

Head Sustainability BGMEA

Nusrat Jahan Chowdhury

H&M

Md. Nur Bahad

Senior Manager (Sustainability)
Metro Knitting and Dyeing Mills Limited

Md Masud Hassan

Director- WatSan and Techonology, Village Education Resource Centre (VERC)

Md. Fazlul Haque

Deputy Executive Director Sajida Foundation

Mohammad Zobair Hasan

DED, DORP and SWA South Asia CSO Representative

Khandekar Imam

GM, HR, Team Group 4AYARN

Arif Shahriyer

Senior Manager, Sustainability Epic Group

Mohammed Al Tauhidul Islam

Assistant General Manañger -Sustainability Dept of Envoy Textles Limited

Mohammed Zahidullah

Chief Of Sustainability DBL Group

Abu Aslam

Senior Programs Manager, Water.org Bangladesh

AtiquI Islam

Corporate GM- Admin, HR & Compliance, Metro Kniting and Dyeing Mills Limited

Chaminda Jayaweera

SQ Group







