



## Launching Workshop of Delta Alliance Bangladesh Wing Bangladesh Held

### *Joint Perspective of Knowledge Institutions Called upon to Address Delta Problems*

Institute of Water Modelling and Partners of Delta Alliance Bangladesh Wing (DABW) organized the Launching Workshop of the Delta Alliance Bangladesh Wing on 25 October 2011 at BRAC Centre INN, Mohakhali, Dhaka. Delta Alliance Bangladesh is a wing of international knowledge driven network organization with the mission of improving the resilience of the world's deltas.

Mr. Ramesh Chandra Sen MP, Honb'le Minister for Water Resources, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Mr. Mesbah ul Alam, Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Dr. M Aslam Alam, Secretary, Disaster Management and Relief Division, Ministry of Food and Disaster Management was present as Special Guests while Mr. Md. Habibur Rahman, Director General, Bangladesh Water Development Board and Mr Martin Bos, First Secretary, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands were present as Guest of honour. A video message from the President of Delta Alliance International on the occasion of this launching was presented. The workshop was chaired by Quamrun Nahar Khanam, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources.

Prof. Dr. M. Monowar Hossain, Coordinator, Delta Alliance Bangladesh Wing and Executive Director, IWM gave welcome address and presented on the overview of Delta Alliance. In his presentation, Dr. Hossain presented the need and benefit of Delta Alliance to meet the challenges in the changing climate. He emphasized the integration of knowledge across disciplines, sectors, and regions for improving the overall resiliency of delta regions. He also informed about the identified programmes of Delta Alliance Bangladesh Wing.

The workshop informed that the Delta Alliance Bangladesh Wing would strive to coordinate and stimulate the development of innovative solutions and the dissemination of existing and emerging knowledge, capacity building on delta issues; undertake collaborative research, stimulate the cooperation across sectors and disciplines and therefore be a link between K2K and B2B; strengthen the opportunities for sharing and developing knowledge with other deltas in the region, increase international recognition of delta as specifically vulnerable areas and of the urgent need for international action towards adaptation measures.

Delta Alliance is an international knowledge-driven network organization with the mission of improving the resilience of the world's deltas. It brings people together who live and work in deltas. They can benefit from each other's experience and expertise and as such contribute to an increased resilience of



*Chief Guest Mr Ramesh Chandra Sen MP, Minister for Water Resources attends the programme*



*Prof. Dr. M. Monowar Hossain, Executive Director, IWM presents on the overview of the Delta*



*Mr Ramesh Chandra Sen MP, Water Resources Minister officially launches the website of Delta Alliance Bangladesh Wing*



*A video message from the President, Delta Alliance International was presented in the workshop.*

their delta region.

The mission of Delta Alliance is to improve the resilience of deltas worldwide by generating jointly more integrated and effective knowledge, sharing knowledge, reduce unnecessary overlap, identifying knowledge gaps and action research.

Delta Alliance Bangladesh Wing (DABW) has the potential to bring many parties together and support a joint perspective for addressing issues of importance in Bangladesh and other deltas. The workshop informed that DABW has already started its activities in collaboration with other deltas. In his address of the Chief Guest called upon the relevant organizations to put their heads together and share knowledge and information, undertake research programmes. He also stressed on the climate change issues that are the common delta problems and devise solutions for increased resilience.

A panel of designated discussants discussed and suggested the way outs for sustainable solutions of the water-related problems and identified the scopes for putting heads together to strengthen the Delta Alliance Bangladesh Wing. Discussants also suggest that DABW can undertake a project to compile the inventory of existing researches and to identify gaps on research and additional research required. Participants also emphasized to integrate social and biophysical knowledge for the resilient of deltas. Experts, scientist, officials from the relevant ministries, development partners, representatives from different government and non-government organizations attended the workshop.



*Quamrun Nahar Khanam, Adnl. Secretary addresses as the Chairperson.*



*A lively discussion took place after the presentation and discussion by the designated discussants.*