

IWMI researchers meet officials at BMDA and ADB in Dhaka for knowledge sharing

IWMI researchers Dr. Aditi Mukherji and Mr. Archisman Mitra met Asian Development Bank (ADB) officials - Nazmun Nahar, Senior Project Officer (Energy); Mashiur Rahman, *Associate Project Analyst*; and Nasheeba Selim, *Senior Social Development Specialist (Gender)* - in Dhaka on 25th July 2022. In the meeting, ideas around possible ways to make solar irrigation programs more gender, equity, and social inclusion (GESI) responsive in BD were discussed. IWMI researchers shared the SoLAR project's findings from Nepal. IWMI and ADB also exchanged ideas on how both teams' work can be more integrated and ways to work more closely together on solar irrigation in Bangladesh. IWMI researchers also shared their research reports on solar irrigation pumps (SIPs) in Bangladesh to contribute to the SIP roadmap ADB is preparing for Bangladesh.

Later the IWMI team met Mr. Shibbir Ahmed, Executive Engineer, Barind Multipurpose Development Authority (BMDA). They shared the SoLAR situation analysis report, the draft baseline report, and research highlights to provide insights into the BMDA's development plan for solarizing their electricity-operated irrigation pumps in Bangladesh.