

## Co-benefits, equity, and financial viability for upscaling solar irrigation in Bangladesh

*Solar Irrigation for Agriculture Resilience in South Asia (SoLAR -SA) Project*

Date: Thursday, 10th February 2022; Venue: Zoom (Virtual)

Time: 11:00 am – 1 pm BST/ 10:30 am to 12:30 am IST (2 hours)

Irrigation in Bangladesh is primarily dependent on imported diesel which hinders economic and environmental outcomes at the national and farmers' level. Solar irrigation provides an opportunity to replace diesel pumps in off-grid areas with a cleaner energy alternative. To date, more than 2000 solar irrigation pumps have been set up in Bangladesh, with different government and private organisations involved in popularizing this technology across the country. Most of them have ambitious targets for scaling up SIPs in the coming decade. At this crucial juncture it becomes important to understand the benefits as well as co-benefits from solar irrigation in Bangladesh, the equity in terms of groundwater access it provides through different models and the financial viability envisioned. How the different models for SIP promotion in the country are currently working and what should be the way forward? This webinar will welcome experts and diverse stakeholders throwing light on the different aspects of the solar irrigation sector in Bangladesh to foster co-learning and move forward toward the upscaling of solar irrigation in the country.

### PROGRAM AGENDA

TIME (BANGLADESH STANDARD TIME)	AGENDA	PEOPLE
11:00 am – 11:10 am	Welcome Remarks and Introduction	Dr. Aditi Mukherji, <i>Principal Researcher, IWMI</i>
11:10 am – 11:25 am	Climate adaptation co-benefits of solar irrigation in Bangladesh <i>(12 min presentation + 3 min Q&amp;A)</i>	Dr. Syed Mahbubur Rahman, <i>Associate Professor, BRAC University</i>
11:25 am – 11:40 am	Achieving equitable SIP access in Bangladesh: lessons from the field <i>(12 min presentation + 3 min Q&amp;A)</i>	Dr. Marie-Charlotte Buisson, <i>Senior Researcher, IWMI</i>
11:40 am – 11:55 am	Findings from SIP experience in India, Nepal and Pakistan <i>(12 min presentation + 3 min Q&amp;A)</i>	Dr. Aditi Mukherji, <i>Principal Researcher, IWMI</i>

11:55 am – 12:15 pm	Case Study integrating aquaculture with SIP (3 min)	Mr. Faridul Haque, <i>Programme Director, SHEL</i>
	Case Study integrating poultry farming with SIP (3 min)	Mr. Monjur Ahmed, <i>Managing Director, KHM Ltd.</i>
	Grid integration of solar irrigation systems (10 min)	Mr. Raquib Ul Mesbah, <i>Assistant Manager, IDCOL</i>
	4 min Q&A	
12:15 pm – 12:50 pm	Solarizing irrigation sector in BD: Many paths to success <i>Panel discussion on alternative models of promoting solar irrigation in Bangladesh</i>	Tanuja Bhattacharjee, <i>Energy Specialist, World Bank</i>
	Moderated by Mr. Archisman Mitra	Nazirul Islam, <i>Executive Engineer, BMDA</i>  A B M Zahid Hossain, <i>Senior Scientific Officer, BRRI</i>  Mohammad Ayub Hossain, <i>Principal Scientific Officer, BARI</i>
12:50 pm – 13:00 pm	Closing remarks	Dr. Aditi Mukherji
<b>End of Event</b>		

### Zoom Details:

Join Zoom Meeting

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