# Water Indicators

| Indicator | Value | Description | Source |
|---|---|---|---|
| Overall Basin Risk (score) | 3.10 | Overall Basin Risk (score) | |
| Overall Basin Risk (rank) | 23 | Overall Basin Risk (rank) | |
| Physical risk (score) | 3.01 | Physical risk (score) | |
| Physical risk (rank) | 48 | Physical risk (rank) | |
| Regulatory risk (score) | 2.66 | Regulatory risk (score) | |
| Regulatory risk (rank) | 122 | Regulatory risk (rank) | |
| Reputation risk (score) | 3.80 | Reputation risk (score) | |
| Reputation risk (rank) | 5 | Reputation risk (rank) | |
| 1. Quantity - Scarcity (score) | 2.46 | 1. Quantity - Scarcity (score) | |
| 1. Quantity - Scarcity (rank) | 68 | 1. Quantity - Scarcity (rank) | |
| 2. Quantity - Flooding (score) | 4.86 | 2. Quantity - Flooding (score) | |
| 2. Quantity - Flooding (rank) | 5 | 2. Quantity - Flooding (rank) | |
| 3. Quality (score) | 3.47 | 3. Quality (score) | |
| 3. Quality (rank) | 54 | 3. Quality (rank) | |
| 4. Ecosystem Service Status (score) | 1.74 | 4. Ecosystem Service Status (score) | |
| 4. Ecosystem Service Status (rank) | 154 | 4. Ecosystem Service Status (rank) | |
| 5. Enabling Environment (Policy & Laws) (score) | 2.00 | 5. Enabling Environment (Policy & Laws) (score) | |
| 5. Enabling Environment (Policy & Laws) (rank) | 131 | 5. Enabling Environment (Policy & Laws) (rank) | |
| 6. Institutions and Governance (score) | 3.50 | 6. Institutions and Governance (score) | |
| 6. Institutions and Governance (rank) | 49 | 6. Institutions and Governance (rank) | |
| 7. Management Instruments (score) | 2.25 | 7. Management Instruments (score) | |
| 7. Management Instruments (rank) | 136 | 7. Management Instruments (rank) | |
| 8 - Infrastructure & Finance (score) | 3.00 | 8 - Infrastructure & Finance (score) | |
| 8 - Infrastructure & Finance (rank) | 65 | 8 - Infrastructure & Finance (rank) | |
| 9. Cultural Diversity (score) | 1.00 | 9. Cultural importance (score) | |
| 9. Cultural Diversity (rank) | 126 | 9. Cultural importance (rank) | |
| 10. Biodiversity Importance (score) | 3.59 | 10. Biodiversity importance (score) | |

## Country Overview - Bangladesh

| Indicator | Value | Description | Source |
|---|---|---|---|
| 10. Biodiversity Importance (rank) | 78 | 10. Biodiversity importance (rank) | |
| 11. Media Scrutiny (score) | 4.55 | 11. Media Scrutiny (score) | |
| 11. Media Scrutiny (rank) | 3 | 11. Media Scrutiny (rank) | |
| 12. Conflict (score) | 4.30 | 12. Conflict (score) | |
| 12. Conflict (rank) | 2 | 12. Conflict (rank) | |
| 1.0 - Aridity (score) | 1.03 | The aridity risk indicator is based on the Global Aridity Index (Global-Aridity) and Global Potential Evapo-Transpiration (Global-PET) Geospatial data sets by Trabucco and Zomer (2009). These data sets provide information about the potential availability of water in regions with low water demand, thus they are used in the Water Risk Filter 5.0 to better account for deserts and other arid areas in the risk assessment. | Trabucco, A., & Zomer, R. J. (2009). Global potential evapo-transpiration (Global-PET) and global aridity index (Global-Aridity) geo-database. CGIAR consortium for spatial information. |
| 1.0 - Aridity (rank) | 113 | The aridity risk indicator is based on the Global Aridity Index (Global-Aridity) and Global Potential Evapo-Transpiration (Global-PET) Geospatial data sets by Trabucco and Zomer (2009). These data sets provide information about the potential availability of water in regions with low water demand, thus they are used in the Water Risk Filter 5.0 to better account for deserts and other arid areas in the risk assessment. | Trabucco, A., & Zomer, R. J. (2009). Global potential evapo-transpiration (Global-PET) and global aridity index (Global-Aridity) geo-database. CGIAR consortium for spatial information. |
| 1.1 - Water Depletion (score) | 2.15 | The water depletion risk indicator is based on annual average monthly net water depletion from Brauman et al. (2016). Their analysis is based on model outputs from the newest version of the integrated water resources model WaterGAP3 which measures water depletion as the ratio of water consumption-to-availability. | Brauman, K. A., Richter, B. D., Postel, S., Malsy, M., & Flörke, M. (2016). Water depletion: An improved metric for incorporating seasonal and dry-year water scarcity into water risk assessments. Elem Sci Anth, 4. |
| 1.1 - Water Depletion (rank) | 77 | The water depletion risk indicator is based on annual average monthly net water depletion from Brauman et al. (2016). Their analysis is based on model outputs from the newest version of the integrated water resources model WaterGAP3 which measures water depletion as the ratio of water consumption-to-availability. | Brauman, K. A., Richter, B. D., Postel, S., Malsy, M., & Flörke, M. (2016). Water depletion: An improved metric for incorporating seasonal and dry-year water scarcity into water risk assessments. Elem Sci Anth, 4. |
| 1.2 - Baseline Water Stress (score) | 1.20 | World Resources Institute's Baseline Water Stress measures the ratio of total annual water withdrawals to total available annual renewable supply, accounting for upstream consumptive use. A higher percentage indicates more competition among users. | Hofste, R., Kuzma, S., Walker, S., ... & Sutanudjaja, E.H. (2019). Aqueduct 3.0: Updated decision relevant global water risk indicators. Technical note. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute. |

## Country Overview – Bangladesh

| Indicator | Value | Description | Source |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1.2 - Baseline Water Stress (rank) | 133 | World Resources Institute's Baseline Water Stress measures the ratio of total annual water withdrawals to total available annual renewable supply, accounting for upstream consumptive use. A higher percentage indicates more competition among users. | Hofste, R., Kuzma, S., Walker, S., ... & Sutanudjaja, E.H. (2019). Aqueduct 3.0: Updated decision relevant global water risk indicators. Technical note. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute. |
| 1.3 - Blue Water Scarcity (score) | 3.33 | The blue water scarcity risk indicator is based on Mekonnen and Hoekstra (2016) global assessment of blue water scarcity on a monthly basis and at high spatial resolution (grid cells of 30 × 30 arc min resolution). Blue water scarcity is calculated as the ratio of the blue water footprint in a grid cell to the total blue water availability in the cell. The time period analyzed in this study ranges from 1996 to 2005. | Mekonnen, M. M., & Hoekstra, A. Y. (2016). Four billion people facing severe water scarcity. Science advances, 2(2), e1500323. |
| 1.3 - Blue Water Scarcity (rank) | 60 | The blue water scarcity risk indicator is based on Mekonnen and Hoekstra (2016) global assessment of blue water scarcity on a monthly basis and at high spatial resolution (grid cells of 30 × 30 arc min resolution). Blue water scarcity is calculated as the ratio of the blue water footprint in a grid cell to the total blue water availability in the cell. The time period analyzed in this study ranges from 1996 to 2005. | Mekonnen, M. M., & Hoekstra, A. Y. (2016). Four billion people facing severe water scarcity. Science advances, 2(2), e1500323. |
| 1.4 - Projected Change in Water Discharge (by ~2050) (score) | 1.00 | This risk indicator is based on multi-model simulation that applies both global climate and hydrological models from the Inter-Sectoral Impact Model Intercomparison Project (ISIMIP). To estimate the change at 2°C of global warming above 1980-2010 levels, simulated annual water discharge was averaged over a 31-year period with 2°C mean warming. Results are expressed in terms of relative change (%) in probability between present day (1980-2010) conditions and 2°C scenarios by 2050. | Schewe, J., Heinke, J., Gerten, D., Haddeland, I., Arnell, N. W., Clark, D. B., ... & Gosling, S. N. (2014). Multimodel assessment of water scarcity under climate change. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 111(9), 3245-3250. |
| 1.4 - Projected Change in Water Discharge (by ~2050) (rank) | 170 | This risk indicator is based on multi-model simulation that applies both global climate and hydrological models from the Inter-Sectoral Impact Model Intercomparison Project (ISIMIP). To estimate the change at 2°C of global warming above 1980-2010 levels, simulated annual water discharge was averaged over a 31-year period with 2°C mean warming. Results are expressed in terms of relative change (%) in probability between present day (1980-2010) conditions and 2°C scenarios by 2050. | Schewe, J., Heinke, J., Gerten, D., Haddeland, I., Arnell, N. W., Clark, D. B., ... & Gosling, S. N. (2014). Multimodel assessment of water scarcity under climate change. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 111(9), 3245-3250. |

# Water Risk Filter

| Indicator | Value | Description | Source |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1.5 - Drought Frequency Probability (score) | 4.16 | This risk indicator is based on the Standardized Precipitation and Evaporation Index (SPEI). Vicente-Serrano et al. (2010) developed this multi-scalar drought index applying both precipitation and temperature data to detect, monitor and analyze different drought types and impacts in the context of global warming. The mathematical calculations used for SPEI are similar to the Standard Precipitation Index (SPI), but it has the advantage to include the role of evapotranspiration. | Vicente-Serrano, S. M., Beguería, S., & López-Moreno, J. I. (2010). A multiscalar drought index sensitive to global warming: the standardized precipitation evapotranspiration index. Journal of climate, 23(7), 1696-1718. |
| 1.5 - Drought Frequency Probability (rank) | 30 | This risk indicator is based on the Standardized Precipitation and Evaporation Index (SPEI). Vicente-Serrano et al. (2010) developed this multi-scalar drought index applying both precipitation and temperature data to detect, monitor and analyze different drought types and impacts in the context of global warming. The mathematical calculations used for SPEI are similar to the Standard Precipitation Index (SPI), but it has the advantage to include the role of evapotranspiration. | Vicente-Serrano, S. M., Beguería, S., & López-Moreno, J. I. (2010). A multiscalar drought index sensitive to global warming: the standardized precipitation evapotranspiration index. Journal of climate, 23(7), 1696-1718. |
| 1.6 - Projected Change in Drought Occurrence (by ~2050) (score) | 2.69 | This risk indicator is based on multi-model simulation that applies both global climate and drought models from the Inter-Sectoral Impact Model Intercomparison Project (ISIMIP) . A drought threshold for pre-industrial conditions was calculated based on time-series averages. Results are expressed in terms of relative change (%) in probability between pre-industrial and 2°C scenarios. | Frieler, K., Lange, S., Piontek, F., Reyer, C. P., Schewe, J., Warszawski, L., ... & Geiger, T. (2017). Assessing the impacts of 1.5 C global warming–simulation protocol of the Inter-Sectoral Impact Model Intercomparison Project (ISIMIP2b). Geoscientific Model Development. |
| 1.6 - Projected Change in Drought Occurrence (by ~2050) (rank) | 184 | This risk indicator is based on multi-model simulation that applies both global climate and drought models from the Inter-Sectoral Impact Model Intercomparison Project (ISIMIP) . A drought threshold for pre-industrial conditions was calculated based on time-series averages. Results are expressed in terms of relative change (%) in probability between pre-industrial and 2°C scenarios. | Frieler, K., Lange, S., Piontek, F., Reyer, C. P., Schewe, J., Warszawski, L., ... & Geiger, T. (2017). Assessing the impacts of 1.5 C global warming–simulation protocol of the Inter-Sectoral Impact Model Intercomparison Project (ISIMIP2b). Geoscientific Model Development. |
| 2.1 - Estimated Flood Occurrence (score) | 4.99 | This risk indicator is based on the recurrence of floods within the 34-year time frame period of 1985 to 2019. The occurrence of floods within a given location was estimated using data from Flood Observatory, University of Colorado. The Flood Observatory use data derived from a wide variety of news, governmental, instrumental, and remote sensing source. | Brakenridge, G. R. (2019). Global active archive of large flood events. Dartmouth Flood Observatory, University of Colorado. |
| 2.1 - Estimated Flood Occurrence (rank) | 7 | This risk indicator is based on the recurrence of floods within the 34-year time frame period of 1985 to 2019. The occurrence of floods within a given location was estimated using data from Flood Observatory, University of Colorado. The Flood Observatory use data derived from a wide variety of news, governmental, instrumental, and remote sensing source. | Brakenridge, G. R. (2019). Global active archive of large flood events. Dartmouth Flood Observatory, University of Colorado. |

# Water Risk Filter

| Indicator | Value | Description | Source |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2.2 - Projected Change in Flood Occurrence (by ~2050) (score) | 2.34 | This risk indicator is based on multi-model simulation that applies both global climate and drought models from the Inter-Sectoral Impact Model Intercomparison Project (ISIMIP). The magnitude of the flood event was defined based on 100-year return period for pre-industrial conditions. Results are expressed in terms of change (%) in probability between pre-industrial and 2°C scenarios. | Frieler, K., Lange, S., Piontek, F., Reyer, C. P., Schewe, J., Warszawski, L., ... & Geiger, T. (2017). Assessing the impacts of 1.5 C global warming–simulation protocol of the Inter-Sectoral Impact Model Intercomparison Project (ISIMIP2b). Geoscientific Model Development. |
| 2.2 - Projected Change in Flood Occurrence (by ~2050) (rank) | 92 | This risk indicator is based on multi-model simulation that applies both global climate and drought models from the Inter-Sectoral Impact Model Intercomparison Project (ISIMIP). The magnitude of the flood event was defined based on 100-year return period for pre-industrial conditions. Results are expressed in terms of change (%) in probability between pre-industrial and 2°C scenarios. | Frieler, K., Lange, S., Piontek, F., Reyer, C. P., Schewe, J., Warszawski, L., ... & Geiger, T. (2017). Assessing the impacts of 1.5 C global warming–simulation protocol of the Inter-Sectoral Impact Model Intercomparison Project (ISIMIP2b). Geoscientific Model Development. |
| 3.1 - Surface Water Contamination Index (score) | 3.47 | The underlying data for this risk indicator is based on a broad suite of pollutants with well-documented direct or indirect negative effects on water security for both humans and freshwater biodiversity, compiled by Vörösmarty et al. (2010). The negative effects are specific to individual pollutants, ranging from impacts mediated by eutrophication such as algal blooms and oxygen depletion (e.g., caused by phosphorus and organic loading) to direct toxic effects (e.g., caused by pesticides, mercury).<br><br>The overall Surface Water Contamination Index is calculated based on a range of key pollutants with different weightings according to the level of their negative effects on water security for both humans and freshwater biodiversity: soil salinization (8%), nitrogen ( 12%) and phosphorus (P, 13%) loading, mercury deposition (5%), pesticide loading (10%), sediment loading (17%), organic loading (as Biological Oxygen Demand, BOD; 15%), potential acidification (9%), and thermal alteration (11%). | Vörösmarty, C. J., McIntyre, P. B., Gessner, M. O., Dudgeon, D., Prusevich, A., Green, P., ... & Davies, P. M. (2010). Global threats to human water security and river biodiversity. Nature, 467(7315), 555. |

# Water Risk Filter

| Indicator | Value | Description | Source |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3.1 - Surface Water Contamination Index (rank) | 54 | The underlying data for this risk indicator is based on a broad suite of pollutants with well-documented direct or indirect negative effects on water security for both humans and freshwater biodiversity, compiled by Vörösmarty et al. (2010). The negative effects are specific to individual pollutants, ranging from impacts mediated by eutrophication such as algal blooms and oxygen depletion (e.g., caused by phosphorus and organic loading) to direct toxic effects (e.g., caused by pesticides, mercury).<br><br>The overall Surface Water Contamination Index is calculated based on a range of key pollutants with different weightings according to the level of their negative effects on water security for both humans and freshwater biodiversity: soil salinization (8%), nitrogen ( 12%) and phosphorus (P, 13%) loading, mercury deposition (5%), pesticide loading (10%), sediment loading (17%), organic loading (as Biological Oxygen Demand, BOD; 15%), potential acidification (9%), and thermal alteration (11%). | Vörösmarty, C. J., McIntyre, P. B., Gessner, M. O., Dudgeon, D., Prusevich, A., Green, P., ... & Davies, P. M. (2010). Global threats to human water security and river biodiversity. Nature, 467(7315), 555. |
| 4.1 - Fragmentation Status of Rivers (score) | 1.74 | This risk indicator is based on the data set by Grill et al. (2019) mapping the world's free-flowing rivers. Grill et al. (2019) compiled a geometric network of the global river system and associated attributes, such as hydro-geometric properties, as well as pressure indicators to calculate an integrated connectivity status index (CSI). While only rivers with high levels of connectivity in their entire length are classified as free-flowing, rivers of CSI < 95% are considered as fragmented at a certain degree. | Grill, G., Lehner, B., Thieme, M., Geenen, B., Tickner, D., Antonelli, F., ... & Macedo, H. E. (2019). Mapping the world's free-flowing rivers. Nature, 569(7755), 215. |
| 4.1 - Fragmentation Status of Rivers (rank) | 145 | This risk indicator is based on the data set by Grill et al. (2019) mapping the world's free-flowing rivers. Grill et al. (2019) compiled a geometric network of the global river system and associated attributes, such as hydro-geometric properties, as well as pressure indicators to calculate an integrated connectivity status index (CSI). While only rivers with high levels of connectivity in their entire length are classified as free-flowing, rivers of CSI < 95% are considered as fragmented at a certain degree. | Grill, G., Lehner, B., Thieme, M., Geenen, B., Tickner, D., Antonelli, F., ... & Macedo, H. E. (2019). Mapping the world's free-flowing rivers. Nature, 569(7755), 215. |
| 4.2 - Catchment Ecosystem Services Degradation Level (tree cover loss) (score) | 1.71 | For this risk indicator, tree cover loss was applied as a proxy to represent catchment ecosystem services degradation since forests play an important role in terms of water regulation, supply and pollution control.<br>The forest cover data is based on Hansen et al.'s global Landsat data at a 30-meter spatial resolution to characterize forest cover and change. The authors defined trees as vegetation taller than 5 meters in height, and forest cover loss as a stand-replacement disturbance, or a change from a forest to non-forest state, during the period 2000 – 2018. | Hansen, M. C., Potapov, P. V., Moore, R., Hancher, M., Turubanova, S. A. A., Tyukavina, A., ... & Kommareddy, A. (2013). High-resolution global maps of 21st-century forest cover change. science, 342(6160), 850-853. |

# Water Risk Filter

## Country Overview - Bangladesh

| Indicator | Value | Description | Source |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4.2 - Catchment Ecosystem Services Degradation Level (tree cover loss) (rank) | 108 | For this risk indicator, tree cover loss was applied as a proxy to represent catchment ecosystem services degradation since forests play an important role in terms of water regulation, supply and pollution control.<br>The forest cover data is based on Hansen et al.'s global Landsat data at a 30-meter spatial resolution to characterize forest cover and change. The authors defined trees as vegetation taller than 5 meters in height, and forest cover loss as a stand-replacement disturbance, or a change from a forest to non-forest state, during the period 2000 – 2018. | Hansen, M. C., Potapov, P. V., Moore, R., Hancher, M., Turubanova, S. A. A., Tyukavina, A., … & Kommareddy, A. (2013). High-resolution global maps of 21st-century forest cover change. science, 342(6160), 850-853. |
| 4.3 - Projected Impacts on Freshwater Biodiversity (score) | 1.97 | The study by Tedesco et al. (2013) to project changes [% increase or decrease] in extinction rate by ~2090 of freshwater fish due to water availability loss from climate change is used as a proxy to estimate the projected impacts on freshwater biodiversity. | Tedesco, P. A., Oberdorff, T., Cornu, J. F., Beauchard, O., Brosse, S., Dürr, H. H., … & Hugueny, B. (2013). A scenario for impacts of water availability loss due to climate change on riverine fish extinction rates. Journal of Applied Ecology, 50(5), 1105-1115. |
| 4.3 - Projected Impacts on Freshwater Biodiversity (rank) | 154 | The study by Tedesco et al. (2013) to project changes [% increase or decrease] in extinction rate by ~2090 of freshwater fish due to water availability loss from climate change is used as a proxy to estimate the projected impacts on freshwater biodiversity. | Tedesco, P. A., Oberdorff, T., Cornu, J. F., Beauchard, O., Brosse, S., Dürr, H. H., … & Hugueny, B. (2013). A scenario for impacts of water availability loss due to climate change on riverine fish extinction rates. Journal of Applied Ecology, 50(5), 1105-1115. |
| 5.1 - Freshwater Policy Status (SDG 6.5.1) (score) | 2.00 | This risk indicator is based on SDG 6.5.1. Degree of IWRM Implementation "National Water Resources Policy" indicator, which corresponds to one of the three national level indicators under the Enabling Environment category. | UN Environment (2018). Progress on integrated water resources management. Global baseline for SDG 6 Indicator 6.5.1: degree of IWRM implementation. |
| 5.1 - Freshwater Policy Status (SDG 6.5.1) (rank) | 111 | This risk indicator is based on SDG 6.5.1. Degree of IWRM Implementation "National Water Resources Policy" indicator, which corresponds to one of the three national level indicators under the Enabling Environment category. | UN Environment (2018). Progress on integrated water resources management. Global baseline for SDG 6 Indicator 6.5.1: degree of IWRM implementation. |
| 5.2 - Freshwater Law Status (SDG 6.5.1) (score) | 2.00 | This risk indicator is based on SDG 6.5.1. Degree of IWRM Implementation "National Water Resources Law(s)" indicator, which corresponds to one of the three national level indicators under the Enabling Environment category.<br><br>For SDG 6.5.1, enabling environment depicts the conditions that help to support the implementation of IWRM, which includes legal and strategic planning tools for IWRM. | UN Environment (2018). Progress on integrated water resources management. Global baseline for SDG 6 Indicator 6.5.1: degree of IWRM implementation. |

# Water Risk Filter

| Indicator | Value | Description | Source |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5.2 - Freshwater Law Status (SDG 6.5.1) (rank) | 112 | This risk indicator is based on SDG 6.5.1. Degree of IWRM Implementation "National Water Resources Law(s)" indicator, which corresponds to one of the three national level indicators under the Enabling Environment category.<br><br>For SDG 6.5.1, enabling environment depicts the conditions that help to support the implementation of IWRM, which includes legal and strategic planning tools for IWRM. | UN Environment (2018). Progress on integrated water resources management. Global baseline for SDG 6 Indicator 6.5.1: degree of IWRM implementation. |
| 5.3 - Implementation Status of Water Management Plans (SDG 6.5.1) (score) | 2.00 | This risk indicator is based on SDG 6.5.1. Degree of IWRM Implementation "National IWRM plans" indicator, which corresponds to one of the three national level indicators under the Enabling Environment category.<br><br>For SDG 6.5.1, enabling environment depicts the conditions that help to support the implementation of IWRM, which includes legal and strategic planning tools for IWRM. | UN Environment (2018). Progress on integrated water resources management. Global baseline for SDG 6 Indicator 6.5.1: degree of IWRM implementation. |
| 5.3 - Implementation Status of Water Management Plans (SDG 6.5.1) (rank) | 127 | This risk indicator is based on SDG 6.5.1. Degree of IWRM Implementation "National IWRM plans" indicator, which corresponds to one of the three national level indicators under the Enabling Environment category.<br><br>For SDG 6.5.1, enabling environment depicts the conditions that help to support the implementation of IWRM, which includes legal and strategic planning tools for IWRM. | UN Environment (2018). Progress on integrated water resources management. Global baseline for SDG 6 Indicator 6.5.1: degree of IWRM implementation. |
| 6.1 - Corruption Perceptions Index (score) | 4.00 | This risk Indicator is based on the latest Transparency International's data: the Corruption Perceptions Index 2018. This index aggregates data from a number of different sources that provide perceptions of business people and country experts on the level of corruption in the public sector. | Transparency International (2019). Corruption Perceptions Index 2018. Berlin: Transparency International. |
| 6.1 - Corruption Perceptions Index (rank) | 28 | This risk Indicator is based on the latest Transparency International's data: the Corruption Perceptions Index 2018. This index aggregates data from a number of different sources that provide perceptions of business people and country experts on the level of corruption in the public sector. | Transparency International (2019). Corruption Perceptions Index 2018. Berlin: Transparency International. |
| 6.2 - Freedom in the World Index (score) | 3.00 | This risk indicator is based on Freedom House (2019), an annual global report on political rights and civil liberties, composed of numerical ratings and descriptive texts for each country and a select group of territories. The 2019 edition involved more than 100 analysts and more than 30 advisers with global, regional, and issue-based expertise to covers developments in 195 countries and 14 territories from January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2018. | Freedom House (2019). Freedom in the world 2019. Washington, DC: Freedom House. |

# Water Risk Filter

| Indicator | Value | Description | Source |
|---|---|---|---|
| 6.2 - Freedom in the World Index (rank) | 62 | This risk indicator is based on Freedom House (2019), an annual global report on political rights and civil liberties, composed of numerical ratings and descriptive texts for each country and a select group of territories. The 2019 edition involved more than 100 analysts and more than 30 advisers with global, regional, and issue-based expertise to covers developments in 195 countries and 14 territories from January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2018. | Freedom House (2019). Freedom in the world 2019. Washington, DC: Freedom House. |
| 6.3 - Business Participation in Water Management (SDG 6.5.1) (score) | 3.00 | This risk indicator is based on SDG 6.5.1. Degree of IWRM Implementation "Business Participation in Water Resources Development, Management and Use" indicator, which corresponds to one of the six national level indicators under the Institutions and Participation category. | UN Environment (2018). Progress on integrated water resources management. Global baseline for SDG 6 Indicator 6.5.1: degree of IWRM implementation. |
| 6.3 - Business Participation in Water Management (SDG 6.5.1) (rank) | 53 | This risk indicator is based on SDG 6.5.1. Degree of IWRM Implementation "Business Participation in Water Resources Development, Management and Use" indicator, which corresponds to one of the six national level indicators under the Institutions and Participation category. | UN Environment (2018). Progress on integrated water resources management. Global baseline for SDG 6 Indicator 6.5.1: degree of IWRM implementation. |
| 7.1 - Management Instruments for Water Management (SDG 6.5.1) (score) | 2.00 | This risk indicator is based on SDG 6.5.1. Degree of IWRM Implementation "Sustainable and efficient water use management" indicator, which corresponds to one of the five national level indicators under the Management Instruments category.<br><br>For SDG 6.5.1, management instruments refer to the tools and activities that enable decision-makers and users to make rational and informed choices between alternative actions. | UN Environment (2018). Progress on integrated water resources management. Global baseline for SDG 6 Indicator 6.5.1: degree of IWRM implementation. |
| 7.1 - Management Instruments for Water Management (SDG 6.5.1) (rank) | 117 | This risk indicator is based on SDG 6.5.1. Degree of IWRM Implementation "Sustainable and efficient water use management" indicator, which corresponds to one of the five national level indicators under the Management Instruments category.<br><br>For SDG 6.5.1, management instruments refer to the tools and activities that enable decision-makers and users to make rational and informed choices between alternative actions. | UN Environment (2018). Progress on integrated water resources management. Global baseline for SDG 6 Indicator 6.5.1: degree of IWRM implementation. |

# Water Risk Filter

| Indicator | Value | Description | Source |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7.2 - Groundwater Monitoring Data Availability and Management (score) | 3.00 | This risk indicator is based on the data set by UN IGRAC (2019) to determine the level of availability of groundwater monitoring data at country level as groundwater management decisions rely strongly on data availability. The level of groundwater monitoring data availability for groundwater management is determined according to a combination of three criteria developed by WWF and IGRAC: 1) Status of country groundwater monitoring programme, 2) groundwater data availability for NGOs and 3) Public access to processed groundwater monitoring data. | UN IGRAC (2019). Global Groundwater Monitoring Network GGMN Portal. UN International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC). |
| 7.2 - Groundwater Monitoring Data Availability and Management (rank) | 38 | This risk indicator is based on the data set by UN IGRAC (2019) to determine the level of availability of groundwater monitoring data at country level as groundwater management decisions rely strongly on data availability. The level of groundwater monitoring data availability for groundwater management is determined according to a combination of three criteria developed by WWF and IGRAC: 1) Status of country groundwater monitoring programme, 2) groundwater data availability for NGOs and 3) Public access to processed groundwater monitoring data. | UN IGRAC (2019). Global Groundwater Monitoring Network GGMN Portal. UN International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC). |
| 7.3 - Density of Runoff Monitoring Stations (score) | 2.66 | The density of monitoring stations for water quantity was applied as proxy to develop this risk indicator. The Global Runoff Data Base was used to estimate the number of monitoring stations per 1000km2 of the main river system (data base access date: May 2018). | BfG (2019). Global Runoff Data Base. German Federal Institute of Hydrology (BfG). |
| 7.3 - Density of Runoff Monitoring Stations (rank) | 135 | The density of monitoring stations for water quantity was applied as proxy to develop this risk indicator. The Global Runoff Data Base was used to estimate the number of monitoring stations per 1000km2 of the main river system (data base access date: May 2018). | BfG (2019). Global Runoff Data Base. German Federal Institute of Hydrology (BfG). |
| 8.1 - Access to Safe Drinking Water (score) | 1.00 | This risk indicator is based on the Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (UNICEF/WHO) 2019 data. It provides estimates on the use of water, sanitation and hygiene by country for the period 2000-2017. | WHO & UNICEF (2019). Estimates on the use of water, sanitation and hygiene by country (2000-2017). Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene. |
| 8.1 - Access to Safe Drinking Water (rank) | 98 | This risk indicator is based on the Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (UNICEF/WHO) 2019 data. It provides estimates on the use of water, sanitation and hygiene by country for the period 2000-2017. | WHO & UNICEF (2019). Estimates on the use of water, sanitation and hygiene by country (2000-2017). Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene. |
| 8.2 - Access to Sanitation (score) | 5.00 | This risk indicator is based on the Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (UNICEF/WHO) 2019 data. It provides estimates on the use of water, sanitation and hygiene by country for the period 2000-2017. | WHO & UNICEF (2019). Estimates on the use of water, sanitation and hygiene by country (2000-2017). Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene. |

# Water Risk Filter

| Indicator | Value | Description | Source |
|---|---|---|---|
| 8.2 - Access to Sanitation (rank) | 12 | This risk indicator is based on the Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (UNICEF/WHO) 2019 data. It provides estimates on the use of water, sanitation and hygiene by country for the period 2000-2017. | WHO & UNICEF (2019). Estimates on the use of water, sanitation and hygiene by country (2000-2017). Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene. |
| 8.3 - Financing for Water Resource Development and Management (SDG 6.5.1) (score) | 3.00 | This risk indicator is based on the average 'Financing' score of UN SDG 6.5.1. Degree of IWRM Implementation database. UN SDG 6.5.1 database contains a category on financing which assesses different aspects related to budgeting and financing made available and used for water resources development and management from various sources. | UN Environment (2018). Progress on integrated water resources management. Global baseline for SDG 6 Indicator 6.5.1: degree of IWRM implementation. |
| 8.3 - Financing for Water Resource Development and Management (SDG 6.5.1) (rank) | 74 | This risk indicator is based on the average 'Financing' score of UN SDG 6.5.1. Degree of IWRM Implementation database. UN SDG 6.5.1 database contains a category on financing which assesses different aspects related to budgeting and financing made available and used for water resources development and management from various sources. | UN Environment (2018). Progress on integrated water resources management. Global baseline for SDG 6 Indicator 6.5.1: degree of IWRM implementation. |
| 9.1 - Cultural Diversity (score) | 1.00 | Water is a social and cultural good. The cultural diversity risk indicator was included in order to acknowledge that businesses face reputational risk due to the importance of freshwater for indigenous and traditional people in their daily life, religion and culture. This risk indicator is based on Oviedo and Larsen (2000) data set, which mapped the world's ethnolinguistic groups onto the WWF map of the world's ecoregions. This cross-mapping showed for the very first time the significant overlap that exists between the global geographic distribution of biodiversity and that of linguistic diversity. | Oviedo, G., Maffi, L., & Larsen, P. B. (2000). Indigenous and traditional peoples of the world and ecoregion conservation: An integrated approach to conserving the world's biological and cultural diversity. Gland: WWF (World Wide Fund for Nature) International. |
| 9.1 - Cultural Diversity (rank) | 126 | Water is a social and cultural good. The cultural diversity risk indicator was included in order to acknowledge that businesses face reputational risk due to the importance of freshwater for indigenous and traditional people in their daily life, religion and culture. This risk indicator is based on Oviedo and Larsen (2000) data set, which mapped the world's ethnolinguistic groups onto the WWF map of the world's ecoregions. This cross-mapping showed for the very first time the significant overlap that exists between the global geographic distribution of biodiversity and that of linguistic diversity. | Oviedo, G., Maffi, L., & Larsen, P. B. (2000). Indigenous and traditional peoples of the world and ecoregion conservation: An integrated approach to conserving the world's biological and cultural diversity. Gland: WWF (World Wide Fund for Nature) International. |
| 10.1 - Freshwater Endemism (score) | 2.17 | The underlying data set for this risk indicator comes from the Freshwater Ecoregions of the World (FEOW) 2015 data developed by WWF and TNC. Companies operating in basins with higher number of endemic fish species are exposed to higher reputational risks. | WWF & TNC (2015). Freshwater Ecoregions of the World. |

# Water Risk Filter

| Indicator | Value | Description | Source |
|---|---|---|---|
| 10.1 - Freshwater Endemism (rank) | 168 | The underlying data set for this risk indicator comes from the Freshwater Ecoregions of the World (FEOW) 2015 data developed by WWF and TNC. Companies operating in basins with higher number of endemic fish species are exposed to higher reputational risks. | WWF & TNC (2015). Freshwater Ecoregions of the World. |
| 10.2 - Freshwater Biodiversity Richness (score) | 5.00 | The underlying data set for this risk indicator comes from the Freshwater Ecoregions of the World (FEOW) 2015 data developed by WWF and TNC. Count of fish species is used as a representation of freshwater biodiversity richness. Companies operating in basins with higher number of fish species are exposed to higher reputational risks. | WWF & TNC (2015). Freshwater Ecoregions of the World. |
| 10.2 - Freshwater Biodiversity Richness (rank) | 2 | The underlying data set for this risk indicator comes from the Freshwater Ecoregions of the World (FEOW) 2015 data developed by WWF and TNC. Count of fish species is used as a representation of freshwater biodiversity richness. Companies operating in basins with higher number of fish species are exposed to higher reputational risks. | WWF & TNC (2015). Freshwater Ecoregions of the World. |
| 11.1 - National Media Coverage (score) | 5.00 | This risk indicator is based on joint qualitative research by WWF and Tecnoma (Typsa Group). It indicates how aware local residents typically are of water-related issues due to national media coverage. The status of the river basin (e.g., scarcity and pollution) is taken into account, as well as the importance of water for livelihoods (e.g., food and shelter). | WWF & Tecnoma (TYPSA Group) |
| 11.1 - National Media Coverage (rank) | 2 | This risk indicator is based on joint qualitative research by WWF and Tecnoma (Typsa Group). It indicates how aware local residents typically are of water-related issues due to national media coverage. The status of the river basin (e.g., scarcity and pollution) is taken into account, as well as the importance of water for livelihoods (e.g., food and shelter). | WWF & Tecnoma (TYPSA Group) |
| 11.2 - Global Media Coverage (score) | 4.00 | This risk indicator is based on joint qualitative research by WWF and Tecnoma (Typsa Group). It indicates how aware people are of water-related issues due to global media coverage. Familiarity to and media coverage of the region and regional water-related disasters are taken into account. | WWF & Tecnoma (TYPSA Group) |
| 11.2 - Global Media Coverage (rank) | 10 | This risk indicator is based on joint qualitative research by WWF and Tecnoma (Typsa Group). It indicates how aware people are of water-related issues due to global media coverage. Familiarity to and media coverage of the region and regional water-related disasters are taken into account. | WWF & Tecnoma (TYPSA Group) |

# Water Risk Filter

| Indicator | Value | Description | Source |
|---|---|---|---|
| 12.1 - Conflict News Events (RepRisk) (score) | 4.00 | This risk indicator is based on 2018 data collected by RepRisk on counts and registers of documented negative incidents, criticism and controversies that can affect a company's reputational risk. These negative news events are labelled per country and industry class. | RepRisk & WWF (2019). Due diligence database on ESG and business conduct risks. RepRisk. |
| 12.1 - Conflict News Events (RepRisk) (rank) | 12 | This risk indicator is based on 2018 data collected by RepRisk on counts and registers of documented negative incidents, criticism and controversies that can affect a company's reputational risk. These negative news events are labelled per country and industry class. | RepRisk & WWF (2019). Due diligence database on ESG and business conduct risks. RepRisk. |
| 12.2 - Hydro-political Risk (score) | 4.59 | This risk indicator is based on the assessment of hydro-political risk by Farinosi et al. (2018). More specifically, it is based on the results of spatial modelling by Farinosi et al. (2018) that determined the main parameters affecting water cross-border conflicts and calculated the likelihood of hydro-political issues. | Farinosi, F., Giupponi, C., Reynaud, A., Ceccherini, G., Carmona-Moreno, C., De Roo, A., ... & Bidoglio, G. (2018). An innovative approach to the assessment of hydro-political risk: A spatially explicit, data driven indicator of hydro-political issues. Global environmental change, 52, 286-313. |
| 12.2 - Hydro-political Risk (rank) | 4 | This risk indicator is based on the assessment of hydro-political risk by Farinosi et al. (2018). More specifically, it is based on the results of spatial modelling by Farinosi et al. (2018) that determined the main parameters affecting water cross-border conflicts and calculated the likelihood of hydro-political issues. | Farinosi, F., Giupponi, C., Reynaud, A., Ceccherini, G., Carmona-Moreno, C., De Roo, A., ... & Bidoglio, G. (2018). An innovative approach to the assessment of hydro-political risk: A spatially explicit, data driven indicator of hydro-political issues. Global environmental change, 52, 286-313. |
| Population, total (#) | 162951560 | Population, total | The World Bank 2018, Data , hompage accessed 20/04/2018 |
| GDP (current US$) | 221415162446 | GDP (current US$) | The World Bank 2018, Data , hompage accessed 20/04/2018 |
| EPI 2018 score (0-100) | 29.56 | Environmental Performance Index | |
| WGI -Voice and Accountability (0-100) | 10.48 | Water Governance Indicator | Kaufmann, Daniel and Kraay, Aart and Mastruzzi, Massimo, The Worldwide Governance Indicators: Methodology and Analytical Issues (September 2010). World Bank Policy Research Working Paper No. 5430. Available at SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=1682132 |

# Water Risk Filter

| Indicator | Value | Description | Source |
|---|---|---|---|
| WGI -Political stability no violence (0-100) | 31.03 | Water Governance Indicator | Kaufmann, Daniel and Kraay, Aart and Mastruzzi, Massimo, The Worldwide Governance Indicators: Methodology and Analytical Issues (September 2010). World Bank Policy Research Working Paper No. 5430. Available at SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=1682132 |
| WGI - Government Effectiveness (0-100) | 25.48 | Water Governance Indicator | Kaufmann, Daniel and Kraay, Aart and Mastruzzi, Massimo, The Worldwide Governance Indicators: Methodology and Analytical Issues (September 2010). World Bank Policy Research Working Paper No. 5430. Available at SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=1682132 |
| WGI - Regulatory Quality (0-100) | 22.12 | Water Governance Indicator | Kaufmann, Daniel and Kraay, Aart and Mastruzzi, Massimo, The Worldwide Governance Indicators: Methodology and Analytical Issues (September 2010). World Bank Policy Research Working Paper No. 5430. Available at SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=1682132 |
| WGI - Rule of Law (0-100) | 30.77 | Water Governance Indicator | Kaufmann, Daniel and Kraay, Aart and Mastruzzi, Massimo, The Worldwide Governance Indicators: Methodology and Analytical Issues (September 2010). World Bank Policy Research Working Paper No. 5430. Available at SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=1682132 |
| WGI - Control of Corruption (0-100) | 21.15 | Water Governance Indicator | Kaufmann, Daniel and Kraay, Aart and Mastruzzi, Massimo, The Worldwide Governance Indicators: Methodology and Analytical Issues (September 2010). World Bank Policy Research Working Paper No. 5430. Available at SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=1682132 |

## Country Overview - Bangladesh

| Indicator | Value | Description | Source |
|---|---|---|---|
| WRI BWS all industries (0-5) | 0.65 | WRI Baseline Water Stress (BWS) | Gassert, F., P. Reig, T. Luo, and A. Maddocks. 2013. "Aqueduct country and river basin rankings: a weighted aggregation of spatially distinct hydrological indicators." Working paper. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute, December 2013. Available online at http://wri.org/publication/aqueduct-country-river-basin-rankings. |
| WRI BWS Ranking (1=very high) | 125 | WRI Baseline Water Stress (BWS) | Gassert, F., P. Reig, T. Luo, and A. Maddocks. 2013. "Aqueduct country and river basin rankings: a weighted aggregation of spatially distinct hydrological indicators." Working paper. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute, December 2013. Available online at http://wri.org/publication/aqueduct-country-river-basin-rankings. |
| Baseline Water Stress (BWS) - 2020 BAU (1=very high) | 137 | WRI country ranking | Luo, T., R. Young, and P. Reig. 2015. "Aqueduct projected water stress rankings." Technical note. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute, August 215. Available online at http://www.wri.org/publication/aqueduct-projected-water-stress-country-rankings. |
| Baseline Water Stress (BWS) - 2020 Optimistic (increasing rank describes lower risk) | 137 | WRI country ranking | Luo, T., R. Young, and P. Reig. 2015. "Aqueduct projected water stress rankings." Technical note. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute, August 215. Available online at http://www.wri.org/publication/aqueduct-projected-water-stress-country-rankings. |
| Baseline Water Stress (BWS) - 2020 Pessimistic (increasing rank describes lower risk) | 136 | WRI country ranking | Luo, T., R. Young, and P. Reig. 2015. "Aqueduct projected water stress rankings." Technical note. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute, August 215. Available online at http://www.wri.org/publication/aqueduct-projected-water-stress-country-rankings. |

# Water Risk Filter

| Indicator | Value | Description | Source |
|---|---|---|---|
| Baseline Water Stress (BWS) - 2030 BAU (increasing rank describes lower risk) | 136 | WRI country ranking | Luo, T., R. Young, and P. Reig. 2015. "Aqueduct projected water stress rankings." Technical note. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute, August 215. Available online at http://www.wri.org/publication/aqueduct-projected-water-stress-country-rankings. |
| Baseline Water Stress (BWS) - 2030 Optimistic (increasing rank describes lower risk) | 136 | WRI country ranking | Luo, T., R. Young, and P. Reig. 2015. "Aqueduct projected water stress rankings." Technical note. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute, August 215. Available online at http://www.wri.org/publication/aqueduct-projected-water-stress-country-rankings. |
| Baseline Water Stress (BWS) - 2030 Pessimistic (increasing rank describes lower risk) | 136 | WRI country ranking | Luo, T., R. Young, and P. Reig. 2015. "Aqueduct projected water stress rankings." Technical note. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute, August 215. Available online at http://www.wri.org/publication/aqueduct-projected-water-stress-country-rankings. |
| Baseline Water Stress (BWS) - 2040 BAU (increasing rank describes lower risk) | 139 | WRI country ranking | Luo, T., R. Young, and P. Reig. 2015. "Aqueduct projected water stress rankings." Technical note. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute, August 215. Available online at http://www.wri.org/publication/aqueduct-projected-water-stress-country-rankings. |
| Baseline Water Stress (BWS) - 2040 Optimistic (increasing rank describes lower risk) | 138 | WRI country ranking | Luo, T., R. Young, and P. Reig. 2015. "Aqueduct projected water stress rankings." Technical note. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute, August 215. Available online at http://www.wri.org/publication/aqueduct-projected-water-stress-country-rankings. |
| Baseline Water Stress (BWS) - 2040 Pessimistic (increasing rank describes lower risk) | 137 | WRI country ranking | Luo, T., R. Young, and P. Reig. 2015. "Aqueduct projected water stress rankings." Technical note. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute, August 215. Available online at http://www.wri.org/publication/aqueduct-projected-water-stress-country-rankings. |

# Water Risk Filter

| Indicator | Value | Description | Source |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total water footprint of national consumption (m3/a/cap) | 768.61 | WFN Water Footprint Data | Mekonnen, M.M. and Hoekstra, A.Y. (2011) National water footprint accounts: The green, blue and grey water footprint of production and consumption, Value of Water Research Report Series No. 50, UNESCO-IHE, Delft, the Netherlands.http://www.waterfootprint.org/Reports/Report50-NationalWaterFootprints-Vol1.pdf |
| Ratio external / total water footprint (%) | 17.38 | WFN Water Footprint Data | Mekonnen, M.M. and Hoekstra, A.Y. (2011) National water footprint accounts: The green, blue and grey water footprint of production and consumption, Value of Water Research Report Series No. 50, UNESCO-IHE, Delft, the Netherlands.http://www.waterfootprint.org/Reports/Report50-NationalWaterFootprints-Vol1.pdf |
| Area equipped for full control irrigation: total (1000 ha) | 5050.00 | Aquastat - Irrigation | FAO. 2016. AQUASTAT website. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Website accessed on 2018/04/13 |
| Area equipped for irrigation: total (1000 ha) | 5050.00 | Aquastat - Irrigation | FAO. 2016. AQUASTAT website. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Website accessed on 2018/04/13 |
| % of the area equipped for irrigation actually irrigated (%) | 88.32 | Aquastat - Irrigation | FAO. 2016. AQUASTAT website. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Website accessed on 2018/04/13 |
| Electricity production from hydroelectric sources (% of total) | 1.05 | World Development Indicators | The World Bank 2018, Data , hompage accessed 20/04/2018 |
| Total internal renewable water resources (IRWR) (10^9 m3/year) | 105.00 | Aquastat - Water Ressources | FAO. 2016. AQUASTAT website. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Website accessed on 2018/04/13 |
| Total internal renewable water resources (IRWR) (10^9 m3/year) | 1122.00 | Aquastat - Water Ressources | FAO. 2016. AQUASTAT website. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Website accessed on 2018/04/13 |
| Water resources: total external renewable (10^9 m3/year) | 105.00 | Aquastat - Water Ressources | FAO. 2016. AQUASTAT website. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Website accessed on 2018/04/13 |

# Water Risk Filter

| Indicator | Value | Description | Source |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total renewable water resources (10^9 m3/year) | 1227.00 | Aquastat - Water Ressources | FAO. 2016. AQUASTAT website. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Website accessed on 2018/04/13 |
| Dependency ratio (%) | 91.44 | Aquastat - Water Ressources | FAO. 2016. AQUASTAT website. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Website accessed on 2018/04/13 |
| Total renewable water resources per capita (m3/inhab/year) | 7621.00 | Aquastat - Water Ressources | FAO. 2016. AQUASTAT website. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Website accessed on 2018/04/13 |
| World happiness [0-8] | 4.50 | WorldHappinessReport.org | World Happiness Report, homepage accessed 20/04/2018 |

# Country Aspects

## 1. PHYSICAL ASPECTS

### 1.1. WATER RESOURCES

#### 1.1.1. WATER RESOURCES

The Meghna River flows southwest, draining eastern Bangladesh and the hills of Assam, Tripura and Meghalay in India to join the Padma river at Chandpur. The Meghna then flows south for 160km and discharges into the Bay of Bengal.

The combined discharge of the three main rivers is among the highest in the world. Peak discharges are of the order of 100,000m3/s in the Brahmaputra, 75,000m3/s in the Ganges, 20,000m3/s in the upper Meghna and 160,000m3/s in the lower Meghna.

There are 230 rivers criss-crossing the country, most of which are either tributaries or distributaries to the GBM river systems. The total length of the river courses is approximately 24,000km and the total catchment area of the GBM is about 1.75 million km2, of which only 7 per cent lies within Bangladesh. There are 57 trans-boundary rivers in the country, of which 54 are shared with India and the remaining 3 originate in Myanmar.

On average, almost 1,106km3 of water crosses the borders of Bangladesh annually, of which 85 per cent is between June and October. Around 54 per cent (599km3) is contributed by the Brahmaputra, 31 per cent (344km3) by the Ganges and nearly 15 per cent (163km3) by the tributaries of the Meghna and other minor rivers.

Because of the great disparity between the monsoon floods and the low flow during the dry season, the manageable surface water resources are considered as 80 per cent of the dependable flow in March. Surface water resources are used extensively for dry season irrigation, mainly for Boro rice using low-lift pumps (LLPs) and traditional devices.

The availability of groundwater resources in Bangladesh is determined by the properties of the groundwater storage reservoir and the volume of annual recharge. Key factors that determine groundwater availability include the capacity of the country's aquifers to store water and the extent of economic withdrawal of groundwater for irrigation, domestic and industrial needs. The sources of recharge are rainfall, flooding, and stream flow in rivers. The quaternary alluvium of Bangladesh constitutes a huge aquifer with reasonably good transmission and storage properties. Heavy rainfall and inundation during the monsoon help the aquifers to be substantially recharged annually.

A regional groundwater recharge assessment was undertaken in 1987 by Master Plan Organization (MPO) under the National Water Plan (NWP) of the Ministry of Water Resources. MPO updated the groundwater resources assessment during the NWP Phase–II in 1991, and the average annual available groundwater recharge for the country was estimated at 21km3.

The internal renewable water resources are estimated at 105km3 per year. The overlap being considered negligible, this includes 84km3 of surface water produced internally as stream flows from rainfall and about 21km3 of groundwater resources produced within the country. Part of the groundwater comes from the infiltration of surface water with an external origin. Since annual cross-border river flows and entering groundwater are estimated to be 1,105.64km3, the total renewable water resources are estimated at 1,210.64 km3.

In 2007 there was only one multi-purpose dam, located at Kaptai in Rangamati Hill district. The total capacity of this dam is 20.3km3. In addition, there are three barrages constructed across the Teesta, Tangon and Manu rivers, which are used as diversion structures for irrigation purposes only.

In 1995, the installed capacity of all the country's power plants was about 2,907MW, of which about 230MW was hydroelectric.

### 1.1.2. WATER USE

In 2008, the total water withdrawal was estimated at about 35.87 km3, of which about 31.50km3 (88 per cent) was for agriculture, 3.60km3 (10 per cent) for municipalities and 0.77km3 (2 per cent) for industries.

Approximately 28.48km3, or 79 per cent of the total water withdrawal, comes from groundwater and 7.39km3, or 21 per cent, from surface water.

Only about 15km³ annually, or about one per cent of total water resources, is withdrawn for human use. Of the total withdrawal, 86 per cent is for agriculture, 12 per cent for domestic water supply and 2 per cent for industry. Out of the total consumptive use of water (withdrawals minus return flows), 73 per cent is used for agricultural purposes and 20 per cent for evaporation in forests, water bodies, charland, and urban and rural environments, leaving 7 per cent for water supply and sanitation. Although population growth has slowed to less than two per cent per year, it is predicted that Bangladesh's total population will increase from 129 million people in 2000 to 181 million by 2025 and 224 million by 2050, accompanied by an increased demand for water.

### 1.2. WATER QUALITY, ECOSYSTEMS AND HUMAN HEALTH

Many people are landless and forced to live on and cultivate flood-prone land. Other major environmental problems include: waterborne diseases prevalent in surface water; water pollution, especially of fishing areas, resulting from the use of commercial pesticides; ground water contamination by naturally occurring arsenic; intermittent water shortages because of falling water tables in the northern and central parts of the country; soil degradation and erosion; deforestation; and severe overpopulation.

Due to the limited availability of surface water during the dry season, groundwater has become an increasingly important source of water for irrigation, municipal and industrial purposes. A number

of adverse effects have been observed due to over-exploitation of groundwater, such as the lowering of water tables, reductions in dry season flows of rivers and streams, groundwater pollution, the intrusion of saline water in coastal areas, ecological imbalance and possible land subsidence. There has been evidence of permanent depletion of groundwater levels in some locations, particularly in the Dhaka metropolitan area, where the average annual decline in the water level is about 3m, and in the northwest region of the country.

The area salinized by irrigation was estimated at 1,000km2 in 1993.

Irrigation water quality has deteriorated in some locations due to pollution with agrochemicals, industrial waste and other sources. Arsenic contamination of groundwater, particularly HTW and water from STWs, has been reported in 59 out of 64 districts of the country in many government and donor agency documents. Arsenic concentration has been found to be at its highest level within the upper 50m of aquifers in most regions of the country (Water Aid, 2000). In many places, the concentration of iron and arsenic in irrigation water has gone beyond the limit of the safe water quality standards of Bangladesh and the WHO. A number of diseases and health problems, including arsenicosis, blindness and physical disability, occur due to arsenic toxicity to human body.

In some parts of the country, particularly the Barind Tracts within the northwest region, there are already symptoms of deterioration in the natural hydrological regime, effects on soils and the growth of agricultural crops resulting from poor water quality, and health hazards and effects on flora and fauna due to the decline in groundwater levels. Careful consideration should therefore be given to these environmental issues in order to harness the beneficial uses of irrigation water composed of both surface water and groundwater resources.

## 2. GOVERNANCE ASPECTS

### 2.1. WATER INSTITUTIONS

In Bangladesh, public-sector involvement in irrigation water management (IWM) is shared among three ministries. Minor irrigation and small-scale surface irrigation schemes lie within the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives (LG&RD), respectively. Large-scale irrigation schemes, including FCD projects, are the responsibility of the Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR).

The MoA is mainly concerned with agricultural policy development, planning and monitoring. Project delivery is the responsibility of its various agencies, the most important being the Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC). In the past, the BADC was directly involved in supplying inputs to minor irrigation and looked after the O&M of all sorts of equipment. However, it has now withdrawn from all commercial operations relating to minor irrigation, leaving them to the private sector. The Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) provides information to farmers on crops, agronomic practices and the use of on-farm water management and agricultural machinery. The Barind Multipurpose Development Authority (BMDA) under the MoA is also responsible for water resource management in the agricultural

development of the Barind Tracts region.

The Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) under the MoLG&RD implemented Small Scale Water Resources Development (SSWRD) projects Phase I and II by constructing 26 rubber dams in small and medium-sized rivers in different parts of the country. The LGED was also responsible for participatory management of these projects through the formulation of Water Management Cooperative Associations (WMCAs) for each project. Recently, the Bangladesh Rural Development Academy (RDA) under the MoLG&RD began implementing Multi-purpose Low-Cost DTW Projects in different parts of the country with a view to achieving optimum utilization of water resources for irrigation, fisheries, livestock rearing, nurseries, and domestic and other uses. These multiple uses bring significant benefits for people's livelihoods, especially those in poor households.

Under the MoWR, the Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) is responsible for the planning, implementation and operation of medium- and large-scale surface water irrigation schemes and FC and FCD projects. The Water Resources Planning Organization (WARPO) under the same ministry has a mandate to ensure coordination of all relevant ministries through the National Water Council and to plan all aspects of water resources development, including large-scale and minor irrigation, navigation, fisheries and domestic water supplies.

### 2.2. WATER MANAGEMENT

Water Management (WM) is considered as the planned development, distribution and use of water resources, in accordance with predetermined objectives with respect to both quantity and quality of water. WM deals with the integration of all activities aimed at a systematic control of the inter-relationship between water and society with the main purpose of decreasing damage caused by water on the one hand and, on the other, exploiting it in a technically and economically viable way. WM is now the central issue in combating the increasing pressure on available water resources.

Agriculture is the greatest consumer of water resources, accounting for approximately 88 percent of all fresh water withdrawn. Modern high-yield and diversified crop production systems can be sustained only with proper utilization of irrigation water and management at the farm level.

Though there has been a significant increase in irrigated agriculture in the country over the last decade, most of the minor and major irrigation systems have shown poor field performances due to lack of technical know-how and poor on-farm water management (OFWM) practices. The Government has recognized the importance of introducing appropriate WM techniques and technologies at farm level as a means of supporting food security, employment and the elimination of poverty through the intensification and diversification of agricultural production. In view of this, the MoA has undertaken various development projects for improving the efficiency and overall performance of irrigation systems through better OFWM practices. Some investment projects were initiated by the Government; others were financed by donor agencies under the Technical Assistance (TA) programme.

The participation of women in WM activities has not been encouraged, though their participation in other agricultural practices – such as post-harvest processing, home gardening, and the rearing

of livestock and poultry – is widespread in many villages. In some places, however, treadle pumps for irrigation are operated by women; moreover, indigenous and tribal women are involved in collecting water for domestic purposes and irrigating homestead gardens.

## 2.3. WATER POLICY AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK

In Bangladesh, no policy or act related to irrigation or water management has yet been formulated. In response to the rapid growth of minor irrigation through the use of DTW and STW during the 1980s, the MoA enacted the Groundwater Management Ordinance in 1985 controlling the spacing of irrigation equipment. But this Ordinance was suspended in 1987 with a view to the expansion of minor irrigation (mainly STW irrigation) to the private sector. Due to this suspension of space requirements for irrigation equipment, optimum utilization of groundwater resources has been impeded. However, in recent years, Government policies such as the MoA's 1999 National Agriculture Policy (NAP), the MoWR's 199 National Water Policy (NWPo) and the MoWR's 2001 National Water Management Plan (NWMP) have to some extent addressed minor irrigation and water management issues.

Minor irrigation has largely been the domain of private sector agriculture, where it has resulted in a significant increase in crop production, and there has been rapid expansion in the use of irrigated agriculture. With this in mind, the Government placed special emphasis on minor irrigation development in the 1999 NAP. In relation to irrigation water management, the mandate of the NWPo is to focus on increasing efficiency through drainage water recycling, rotational irrigation, water-conserving cropping patterns and the conjunctive use of both surface water and groundwater, non-point pollution of water systems by fertilizer and pesticides, and equity and social justice. The NWMP, formulated by the MoWR in 2001, is mandated to address the overall water resources management issues of Bangladesh and provide direction for short-, medium- and long-term action plans. In the NWMP, emphasis has been placed on the expansion of private STW irrigation in the slow-growth regions, and issues related to arsenic pollution and salinity – especially in the coastal areas – are to be addressed.

## 3. GEOPOLITICAL ASPECTS

India controls the flow of the Ganges through a dam completed in 1974 at Farraka, 18km from the border with Bangladesh. This dam was a source of tension between the two countries, with Bangladesh asserting that the dam held back too much water during the dry season and released too much during monsoon rains.

A treaty was signed in December 1996 under which Bangladesh is ensured a fair share of the flow reaching the dam during the dry season. Similar agreements for other transboundary rivers are yet to be made.

## 4. RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL ASPECTS

In most religious traditions, water is central to physical and spiritual life, symbolizing purification, rebirth, and fertility. This concept continues to play a significant role in modern water-related attitudes and actions. Hindus believe that bathing in the waters of a holy river, such as the Brahmaputra in Bangladesh and the Ganges in India, will cleanse one's life of past sins.