

# Reframing and Rethinking of Flood Forecasting in the GBM Basin

A Collaborative Partnership between Bangladesh and USA

BWDB Conference Room  
8 August 2017  
9:00AM-1:30PM



The Institute of Water Modeling (IWM) and Tufts University School of Engineering and Water Diplomacy Program will host a Flood Forecasting Seminar on August 08 in Dhaka, Bangladesh (Venue: BWDB Conference Room, Time: 9:00 AM-1:15 PM)

A short (3-5 days) to mid-range (7-10 days) flood forecasting lead-time is desired to increase the flood response and preparedness in flood prone regions across the world. The major limitation of providing short to mid-range flood forecasting is mainly associated with the uncertainty in precipitation forecasts data and complexity of distributed hydrologic modeling.

This seminar will show the utility of a modeling framework with requisite simplicity – to paraphrase Einstein ‘simple, but not simpler’ – that identifies key variables and processes and develop ways to track their evolution and performance. Findings suggest that models with requisite simplicity – relying on flow persistence, aggregated upstream rainfall and travel time – can provide reliable flood forecasts comparable to relatively more complicated methods for up to 10-days lead-time for the Ganges, Brahmaputra, and upper Meghna gaging locations inside Bangladesh.

We have tested and validated the model with historical data. We plan to use 2017 Flood Season as a real-time test case and develop a Global Flood Forecasting Platform for several major rivers of the world. We look forward to your participation and feedback to make this more effective and operational.

# Program of Events

- 9:00 Registration
- 9:30 Welcome speech  
Md. Sohel Masud, Director, Flood Management Division, IWM
- 9:40 Flood Forecasting in Bangladesh: Current Status  
Md. Saiful Hossain, Superintending Engineer  
Processing and Flood Forecasting Circle (PFFC), BWDB
- 10:00 A New Look at Flood Forecasting for Large Rivers  
Shafiqul Islam, Tufts University
- 10:25 A Requisitely Simple Flood Forecasting Model for the GBM Basins  
Wahid Palash, PhD Candidate, Tufts University
- 11:00 Tea Break
- 11:20 Gaps in Floodplain Community Flood Forecasts: A GBM Experience  
Dr. Mashfigus Salehin, Professor and Director, IWFM, BUET
- 11:40 Current Status and Challenge in the Disaster Management of Bangladesh and DDM's expectation from flood forecast  
Presentation from Department of Disaster Management
- 12:00 Group Discussion  
A Global Flood Forecasting Platform: How to move forward?
- 12:45 Chief Guest Md. Mahfuzur Rahman  
Director General, BWDB
- 1:00 Closing Remarks: Prof. Dr. M. Monowar Hossain  
Executive Director, IWM
- 1:15 Lunch and conversation continues

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