



Advocacy



Local Initiatives



Resilient

COAST Trust is implementing a project titled "Climate Justice Resilient Fund-CJRF" for adapting to climate change in the coastal areas of Bangladesh from January 1, 2018, to December 1, 2020. Through the project, COAST Trust is cooperating with local partner organizations to form a formal alliance on climate change and climate migrant issues, and also promoting awareness and educational programs through community and Amateur Radio to raise youth, women and children as well as providing Climate Adaptive Income Generating Technology for the poor. The project is being implemented in seven coastal districts of Bangladesh.

### Engagement of local government and adequate budget for embankment management are the preconditions to protect the coastal people



**Photo: Respected civil society participating in the webinar titled "National Budget 2020-21: "Embankments and Protection of Coastal People" Date: 13/06/2020**

NGO-based initiatives COAST Trust and Campaign for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods jointly organized a virtual seminar titled "National Budget 2020-2021: Embankment and Protection of Coastal Population" on 13 June 2020. Speakers during a virtual seminar urged the government to protect coastal people by providing budgetary allocation for embankment under the local government. The participants demanded that the government allocates at least Tk. 12,000 core per year only for embankment construction. The seminar was chaired by Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad, Chairman of PKSF and moderated by Rezaul Karim Chowdhury, Executive Director, Coast Trust. Saber Hossain Chowdhury, Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate was the Chief Guest and Akhtaruzzaman Babu, Member of Parliament for Khulna was the Special Guest. Speakers said, "Local government should be given mandate and budget for embankment construction and maintenance while Water Development Board has to provide design, monitoring and technical support. Army personnel should be deployed immediately to reconstruct the embankment in worst-affected areas, especially after cyclone Amphan". Presenting a keynote paper, Arif Dewan of COAST said despite the destruction by cyclone Amphan, the government hardly allocated incremental finance for the embankment to save coastal people and their crops.

### Community radios broadcasting programs on COVID-19 prevention



**Photo: Radio Krishi broadcasting awareness program on COVID-19, Photo credit: BNNRC Date: 08/04/2020**

COAST Trust's CJRF project along with the coordination of BNNRC has been broadcasting coronavirus prevention education in line with the National Preparedness and Response Plan for COVID-19 through 8 community radios in the coastal areas of Bangladesh. Presently, community radio stations are broadcasting awareness-raising programs on prevention of coronavirus education for the rural people for animating CSOs, government, health service providers and communities for reinforcing collective action, keeping community people's daily life normal and livelihood functional and mobilize further cooperation among government, CSOs, local markets, and communities' response. The formats of the COVID-19 programs are- news, public service announcements (PSA), radio spots, radio talks, magazines, drama, jingles, interviews of local administrations and health officials and expert opinions, etc. And the contents are- what is a coronavirus, how to contain, symptoms of the patients, advice for the patients, precautionary steps for preventing contamination, what is institutional quarantine, home quarantine, service providers, and service providing agencies and service delivery points, the role of community people and hotline service information of government. Key observations are in the community radio broadcasting areas; the panic among the community people has been reducing gradually and people are taking precautionary measures to prevent contamination of coronavirus. The audience is making phone calls and sending SMS during live broadcasting to share their queries. Besides, the COVID – 19 focal are

communicating with the local Corona Prevention Committees for reinforcing information and instructions. The awareness campaign will continue until the situation returns to normalcy.

### Nasima fulfils the family demand of nutrition by sack gardening



**Photo: Nasima Begum is working in her vegetable garden**  
**Photo credit: Atikur Rahaman, TO, CJRF Date: 08/03/2020**

Nasima Begum, is a 17 years old girl, lives in the Char Zahir Uddin along with her parents. Her family consists of 8 members. Her father is a day laborer and mother is a housewife. Through her father's income, it is very difficult to bear the family expenditure. Due to economic insolvency, she was not able to continue her study after class 5. Later she came to know about the CJRF adolescent club on 17 February 2019. Then he got the membership of the club. After that, she learned some development activities and got special training on agriculture and livestock rearing. Finally, she started sack gardening beside her house. At first, Nasima Begum stored soil and cow dung in 15 old sacks and planted gourd seedlings. As a result, she could meet the nutritional needs of the family and sold about 120 gourds in the local market and earned BDT. 4800. And then from the profit, she bought 5 more sacks and started gardening along with the previous 15. At present, she is expecting more profit. She said that she does not go to the market to sell the gourd, she can sell from home now as people are already heard her success story. Many of her neighbours are being inspired by her. Nasima is self-reliant now and contributes to her family. Sack gardening becomes popular day by day in the coastal areas where salinity and waterlogging are very much acute.

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### Applying Rangpur model on abandoned land Razia succeeds in chilli cultivation



**Photo: Razia Bagum in her own vegetable garden,**  
**Photo credit: Chandan Kanti Datta, TO, CJRF Date: 05/03/2020**

Kutubdia is an island under the district of Cox's Bazar. Its lands are fertile but the salinity rate is quite high. That's why it is not possible to produce the expected amount of crops here. Razia Begum, a housewife, lives in this small island. Her family consists of 7 members and her husband is a day laborer. They lead a very miserable life. She came to learn about COAST CJRF activities with local people and communicated with the CJRF Project Technical Officer Chandan Kranti. After hearing everything, TO visited Razia's house and adjacent areas and decided to give her the Rangpur Model. She was given financial support and technical inputs for the implementation of Rangpur Model. She was given 8 beds for cultivation. Razia started chilli cultivation in those beds. She used to take care of the beds and got support from TO. After that, the production was very fantastic. Now the beds are full of chillis. She sells the chilli's BDT. 150-200 daily. As a result, she can improve her financial condition. She is quite happy and urges others to take the Rangpur model. Indeed, she is now a successful, self-reliant woman.

#### Activities, Target and Achievement of CJRF –April 2020

Sl.	Activities	Target	Achievement
1	Salinity monitoring on PPT	02	02
2	Project monthly meeting	01	01
3	National level seminar to protect coastal embankment	01	00
4	Partners meeting	01	00
5	Baseline survey & beneficiary selection	109	94

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