

**Sustainable
Livelihood Options
can save the Fishers
and Hilsa**

www.coastbd.net

**Platform for Consultation on Hilsa
Conservation and Livelihood, Organized by
IWA, Kathmandu, Nepal
March 27-28, 2017**



About COAST

- Coastal based NGO (www.coastbd.net) in Bangladesh
- Recertified by HAP I up to 2018
- Special Consultative Status of UN ECOSOC
- Main interventions:
 - Micro Finance through integration with Right Based Approach (RBA)
 - Disaster Management keeping mind in humanitarian accountability
 - Adolescents Empowerment with Livelihood Training
 - Coastal Integrated Technology Transfer Program:
 - Livestock, Fisheries and Agriculture
 - People's Organization
 - Climate Change Adaptation
 - Advocacy Networks



Development Partners

DFID,
EU,
Government of Bangladesh,
IFAD,
Manusher Janna Foundation,
MAXWELL STAMP PLC,
PKSF,
Stromme Foundation,
UKAid,

UNICEF,
USAID,
WFP and
WorldFish,

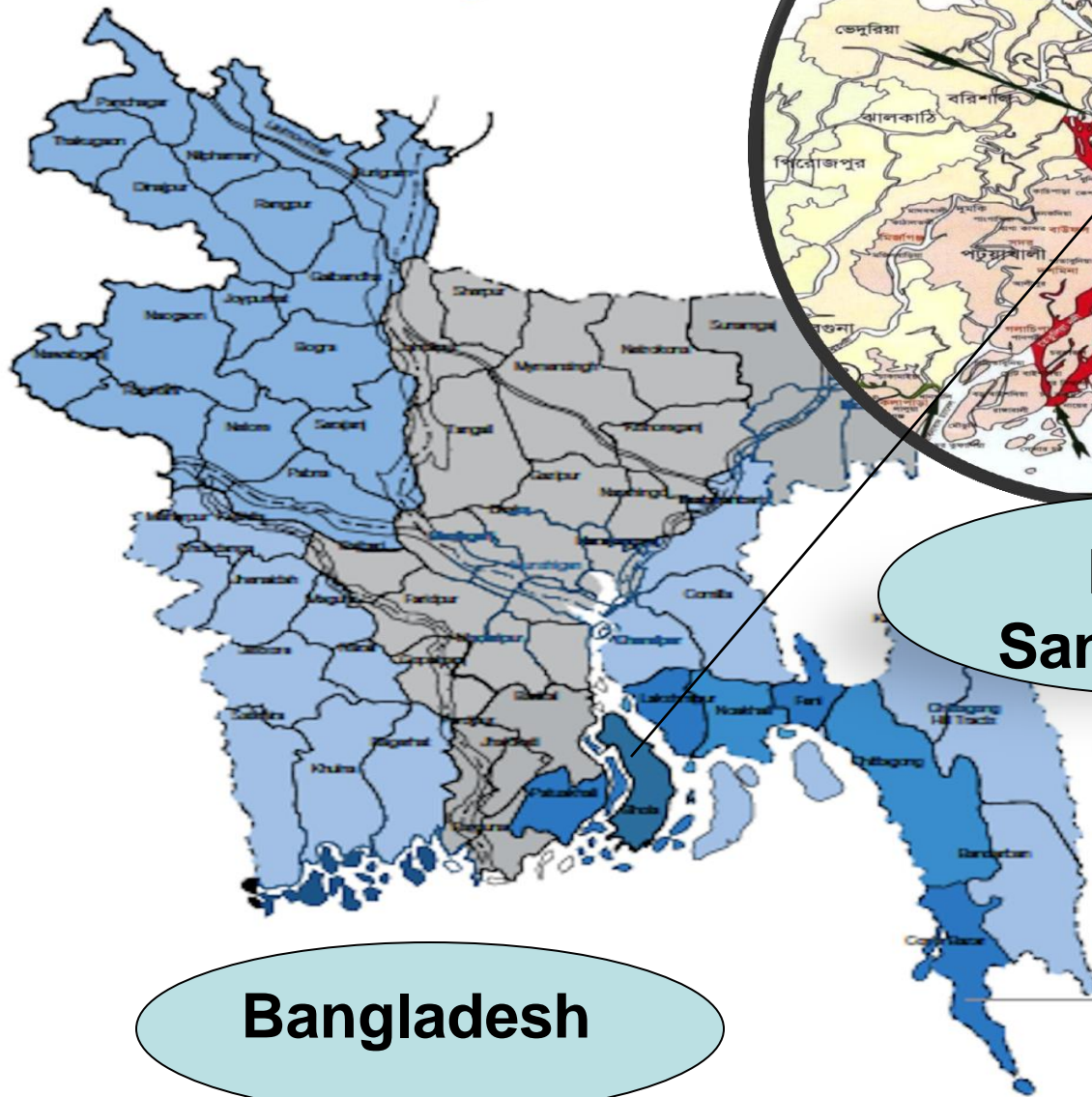


COAST believes

- COAST practices the Right Based Approach equally mentioned in UDHR
- Rights of TRANSPARANCY and PARTICIPATION also from member participants
- Serious to accept and handling any complaints within the framework of the policy to ensure ACCOUNTABILITY in all levels.



COAST Working areas



**Bhola
Sanctuaries**

Bangladesh

Problems facing by the coastal fishers

1. Fishing hampered due to frequent cyclones
2. Affected by the piracy
3. Less price by the middlemen and political influences
4. No hilsa processing facilities
5. Legal issues
6. Less scope to access to the formal credit system
7. No alternative income sources



COAST Interventions to the hilsa fishers

1. Working in Lower Meghna and Tentulia Sanctuaries

2. COAST is working with hilsa fishers and hilsa conservation since 1997

3. Engaged with ECOFISH project in 2015 funded by USAID and supported by WorldFish

4. Alternative Income Generating Activities

5. Co-Management process by forming Hilsa Conservation Group, Hilsa Ghat Group



Major Learnings

1. Fishers and stakeholders are united to preserve the hilsa through co-management

2. Fishers respect the fishing laws and they are not to catch in “**No Take Zone**”

3. Illegal gears using decreased

4. Compensation system adopted



Major Learnings

5. Alternative income increased

6. Savings mentality of fisher women increased

7. Abstained from catching juvenile and brood hilsa fish

8. Weather updates and awareness messages through Radio Meghna
www.radiomeghna.net



Challenges faced

1. Less interest of local government institutions to adopt co-management
2. Hilsa price and landing centres controlled by elite people

3. Establishment of pro-fishers policies
4. No survey the resources in the Bay of Bengal
5. Trans-boundary policy dialogue between Bangladesh, India and Myanmar



Challenges faced

7. Fake fishers are getting fisher ID cards

8. The boats are not equipped with safety measures.

9. Boat are not registered

10. Fishers can not be brought out from the informal credit sources;



Thanks to all



www.coastbd.net