



COAST is implementing the project titled "Climate Justice Resilience Fund-CJRF" for adapting climate change impact in the coastal areas of Bangladesh. The project is being implemented in 7 coastal districts from January 2018 to Sept 2022. COAST is doing advocacy by networking with local partners on several coastal protection issues, raising awareness of women and adolescents through educational programs on community radio as well as providing and promoting climate-adaptive income-generating techniques in the affected community.

## Sustainable vegetable production and success of Montaz Begum in vegetable cultivation by bed system



Photo: Many people have been motivated to cultivate vegetable by bed system observing the success of Montaz Begum. Photo courtesy: COAST

Montaz Begum is a resident of Ward No. 1 of Ali Akbar Deil Union in Kutubdia Upazila. Montaz Begum's husband Manzur Alam is a farmer. They have 1 son and 3 daughters. They sell the crops produced in the field to meet the household expenses and the nutritional demand of the family. They take land from others for cultivation as an annual contract. Montaz Begum herself used to cultivate vegetables in the land with her husband beside household chores but due to the low lying area, the land was sometimes flooded with tidal water and crops were damaged. As a result, they have had to face financial losses many times. Montaz Begum took part in the COAST-CJRF Project's Climate Adaptive Income Generation Technology Campaign and learned about vegetable cultivation in bed from community extension workers. Montaz Begum's learning from the campaign and on the advice of the technical officer, she prepared a high bed by mixing soil dung and organic manure on her land and started cultivating vegetables again. She sows radish seeds and chilli seeds in the bed. Provides regular irrigation and other care. In a few weeks, the radish is grown up to be sold in the market. Mumtaz Begum said, "By cultivating vegetables in this way, I have sold radishes worth of BDT- 8000 and green chillies worth BDT-5000." I hope to sell more vegetables in the future. Bed cultivation in waterlogged and low lying areas is a sustainable method of growing vegetables all year round without any loss to the crop due to tidal surge, waterlogging or flood."

## After sewing training, Mila Begum is now self-reliant adolescent



Photo: Mila Begum is working at her home and wants to train other girls to be self-reliant like her. Photo courtesy: COAST

Mila Begum is a resident of Ward 8 of Char Manika Union in Char Fashion Upazila. Her father is a fisherman. They are three sisters and one brother. She is the eldest in the family. Despite her keen desire due to poverty, stopped studying after class 9. Considering family poverty, she started to look for employment. In 2020, Mila received sewing training from the COAST CJRF project. After four months of training, she requested her father to buy her a sewing machine. But her father could not afford to buy a machine for BDT- 5000. Seeing keen interest, her mother, Jamila Akhtar, bought a sewing machine on a simple loan from the COAST Microfinance Program. At first, she started doing her chores and later she got some work around the village with the help of her friends. A few days later, she got a work order from a garment factory in South Aicha Bazaar through another friend. As the quality of work was good, now she is getting orders every month from there. From home, she is currently earning BDT- 15000-20000 per month. In addition, she is meeting the family expenses with her income and also the study expenses of her brothers and sisters. My wish is to buy a few more sewing machines to create employment opportunities for other girls in the village like me and I will also have extra income.

All colleagues of CJRF Project have helped to prepare this publication. For details information please contact;

**Md. Abul Hasan**

**Program Head, CJRF project**

**Contact: 01708120333, hasan@coastbd.net**