Climate News

September 2021



CFTM (Climate Finance Transparency Mechanism) is an issue based project. It is funded by British Council targeting to build up a mechanism for the best utilization of the fund related to climate change in a transparent and accountable way. COAST Trust is implementing this project in 12 upazilas under 3 coastal districts (Bhola, Cox's Bazar and Patuakhali) of Bangladesh.

CSOs and expert have demanded for a legal frame for Civil Society engagement in development project implementation

On 29 September 2021, in a Parliament], CSOs (Civil Society demanded for a legal frame for development project that government top down of civil society engagement. That's would hardly be achieved through and implementation paradigm. The of COAST Foundation, CSRL Livelihood].

Mr. Asheq Ullah Rafiq MP Cox's Guest. Seminar is moderated by



29 Sep, 2021, Pc: Abul Hasan

seminar, MPs [Member of the Organization) and expert have Civil Society engagement in implementation. They also opined planning strategy in fact a hinder why sustainable development our existing development planning seminar is organized by a network [Center for Sustainable Rural

Bazar-2 has participated as Chief Mr. Rezaul Karim Chowdhury

from COAST and Ziaul Hoque Mukta of CSRL, where Mrs. Sayeda Rubina Akter, MP, Women Seat 28, Gloria Jharna Sarker, MP, Women Seat 30 participated as special guest. Dr. Rezaul Houge Management Director –BCCT, (Bangladesh Climate Change Trust], Mrs. Shakila Yasmin, Assistant -Director (Planning), Bangladesh Climate Change Trust, Gerry Fox, Team Leader, PROKAS, British Council, Md. Shamsuddoha, Chief Executive, CPRD, Md. Masum, CDP, Md. Bazlur Rahaman, BNNRC, Mr. Nikhil Chandra Vadra, Coastal Protection Movement, Mr. Aminur Rasul Babul have participated and spoke. The key note presented by Syed Aminul Hoque from COAST.

Commitment of Govt. non-government departments, public representatives and civil society to tackle climate risk

The social concept of climate risk analysis of Veduria Union, local government (Union Parishad) climate adaptation plan, annual budget presentation and exchange of views meeting was held in the conference room of Bhola Deputy Commissioner on 22 September 2021 at 11 am. Mr. Md. Tawfiq E-Lahi Chowdhury, Deputy Commissioner, Bhola was present as the Chief Guest in the meeting. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Rajib Ahmed, Deputy Director, Local Government, Bhola. Special guests were Mr. Sujit Hawlader, Additional Deputy Commissioner (Overall) Additional District Magistrate, Additional Deputy Commissioner (Revenue, Education and ICT, Bhola) and Upazila Chairman Mr. Mosharraf Hossain, Vice Chairman Md. Yunus Mia and Bhola Sado Upazila Executive Officer Mr. Md. Mizanur Rahman. Bhola district government officials, media workers, members of the Climate Forum were present. The meeting was conducted by Assistant



Director Mosammat Rashida Begum. Mr. Zahidul Islam, Chief Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Coast Foundation, Dhaka, presented the keynote address at the workshop. The chief guest Md. Tawfiq-e-Lahi Chowdhury, all including the Deputy Commissioner stressed on the need for all public and private sectors, public representatives, civil society representatives and the people to work in a coordinated manner to tackle the Bhola climate threat and pledged to work from their respective positions.

The Climate Forum has eliminated inconsistencies in the canal excavation program



On 19 March 2019, the canal excavation program project in Jainkathi Union of Patuakhali Sadar Upazila was socially inspected by the Climate Forum. In the social audit, the Climate Forum leaders saw that the canal was supposed to be built on khas land but it was being built on public land. After learning about the matter, the members of the Climate Forum contacted the Executive Engineer of the Water Development Board Md. Hasanuzzaman and stopped the work from that day. Subsequently, the Climate Forum held a lobby meeting with the Executive Engineer on 26 April 2019 to carry out the work as per the rules. They recommend digging canals with special land instead of digging canals on public property. After finding out about the matter, the executive engineer inspected it and redesigned it so that the canal would not be dug with human space but with special space. Then after 1 month new work started there and it was done on khas land. This saves the

place of the locals and they cultivate their own land.

Replanting of damaged tree saplings of the project at the initiative of Climate Forum

On 13 July 2020, on the initiative of Upazila Climate Forum Patuakhali, the Forest Department Patuakhali inspected the Jhangdharhadhansab Airatbang: Dhahaf Kharabsharjardarf (Jhatangkh) project. The members of the Climate Forum saw in the social audit that there is 3 km. About 1,500 tree saplings have died on the road and several trees have no fences. The members of the District Climate Forum held a lobby meeting with the Divisional Forest Officer on 19 July 2020 with their recommendations and quickly recommended for replanting of dead and damaged tree saplings. He confirmed at the lobby meeting that 1500 saplings would be planted by the forest department soon. On 14 September 2020, a re-planting program was held under the leadership of Range Officer Moniruzzaman. There, 1500 saplings were replanted and fences were erected. At present there is a forest on both sides of the 3 km road which has benefited the local people.



visible forest on both sides of the road, 18.06.21, Photo: Pintu

Drinking water has been ensured to 28 families of Hnila Union



The women are taking water from the jug, 12-8-2021

On 29 December 2020, Farida Begum, Panel Chairman, Forum Members and Project Officers of Hnila Union conducted a social audit of "Disaster Resistant Housing" project implemented in Maulvi Bazar, Ward 2, Hnila Union, Teknaf Upazila. As part of the social audit, it held community meetings with local community leaders and beneficiaries and toured the entire project area. There are two important observations in the project, which are: 1. Lack of latrines and potable water facilities for the beneficiaries. On January 1, 2021, the audit committee lobbied with the Upazila Public Health Officer. The Public Health Officer inspected the project before completing the work and promised to use latrines and potable water there. When he went to see the status of the project on 22 April 2021, he noticed that the promise of the Upazila Public Health Officer has been implemented. The 28 families have access to latrines and water regularly.

The embankment repair work started with the joint efforts of the forum and the community.

The Kaiser Para embankment collapsed, around 6,000 dams and houses unoccupied every year, about 500 acres of cultivable land unsuitable for agriculture. To get rid of this situation, in 2019 climate forum conducted social audit, follow-up audit, lobby meeting and human chain with the local community. On June 22, 2021, a lobby meeting was held with the sub-divisional engineer of Bandarban Water Development Board, where the engineer, in response to everyone's demands, said that the embankment will be 6 feet as per the demand of the community which is now 3 feet and the project will be completed by December 2021. At present the work of embankment is 45 percent completed.



The women are taking water from the jug, 12-8-2021