

Advocacy

Local Initiative

Adaptation



COAST is implementing the project titled "Climate Justice Resilience Fund" 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, e.g. Sustainable coastal embankment & internally displaced management, improving livelihood of Climate Vulnerable fishermen and coastal afforestation, etc. Community awareness and educational programs are being continuously broadcasted through 8 Coastal Community Radios to raise awareness through providing information and education to women and adolescents. Initiatives have been taken to provide and expand Climate Adaptive Income Generating Techniques in the affected communities.

Civil Society demand own long term financing strategy to fight future climate change

Civil society organizations (CSOs) has treated the recent CoP-26 (global climate conference) outcome as frustrated for our country as MVC [Most Vulnerable Country] as there have no significant decision to finance for the MVCs especially for adaptation activities and to face loss and damage due to climate change. Observing the situation, the CSOs has demanded to government to develop country owned long term financial strategies to support climate change actions in future. They have made this demand from a virtual seminar titled "CoP 26 outcome and our future perspective as MVCs" which was held on 22 November at 11.00 am.

The virtual seminar is organized by COAST foundation, An Organization for Socio-Economic Development (AOSED), BIPNET-CCBD (Bangladesh Indigenous Peoples' Network on Climate Change), Centre for Participatory Research & Development (CPRD) Coastal Development Partnership (CDP), Coastal Livelihood and Environmental Action Network (CLEAN) and Equity and Justice Working Group, Bangladesh (EquityBD).

Barrister Shamim Haider Patowary MP has participate as Special Guest. The seminar moderated by Mostafa Kamal Akand of EquityBD. Among others Dr. Ainun Nishat-Emeritus Professor (BRAC University) and Lead climate negotiator of BD, Dr. Mostafa Saroar-Professor Khulna University of Engineering & Technology, Md. Sharif Jamil-General Secretary of BAPA (Bangladesh Paribesh Anolon), Mr. Quamrul Islam Chowdhury, climate change negotiator and Ex. Secretary of National Press Club, Mr. Mrinal Kanti Tripura of BIPNET-CCBD, Md. Jahangir Hossen Masum of CDP, Mr. Shamim Arefin of AoSED-Khulna, Mr. Emranul Hoque-climate change advocate, Mr. Kawser Rahaman of Janakhanta spoke at the event. Syed Aminul Hoque from EquityBD presented the key notes in the seminar.

Speaking as the special guest, Barrister Shamim Haider Patwari MP said, that the cop 26 outcome is somehow disappointed as because the decisions aggregately has dismantled the CBDR (Common but Differentiate Responsibilities) principle of Paris Agreement, denied the loss & damage with displacement issues and moving towards a business model instead survival of MVCs and save the earth from global warming.



Civil Society' representatives demanded that the government formulate a long-term financial strategy, focusing on its own financing to face with the impact of climate change in the future. Online Seminar, 22 November 2022

Fisher's group formation to increase accessibility of climate vulnerable fishermen in gov't social safety services.

Fisherman registration is required to receive any humanitarian assistance from the government, but, many marginal fishermen in the coastal areas are being deprived of various government benefits due to a lack of registration. Notable reasons behind not having registration are staying in the city in search of alternative income during the registration process, going fishing in the sea,



Regular meetings are being held with the fisher's group for building capacity to advocacy with local government agencies. 19 November 2021, Photo-Shahidul Islam, CJRF, Baraghop, Kutubdia, Cox's Bazar.

etc. The marginalized fishing community has cited reasons for various irregularities, including partisan behavior.

Sea-going fishing trawlers do not have adequate safety equipment, under the pressure of moneylenders, they have to go fishing in the sea during disasters, they have to stay in the deep sea, but most of the trawlers do not have life jackets and safety buoys. Without safety equipment, fishermen are working at the risk of their lives. The COAST CJRF project has formed small marginal fisher groups under its working area. Regular meetings are being held with them and efforts are being provided for increasing their capacity to advocacy with local government agencies to increase their accessibility to government social safety services.

They will interact with the local government institutions to prepare an annual calendar based on the time of delivery of various services, prepare a list of actual fishermen but not registered and submit it to the local government, Union Council, Upazila council and government fisheries department. They will be prepared a list of fishermen and will inform the concerned government department, who leave the fishing ghats during the disaster and stay deep-sea at that time. They will identify risky fishing boats/trawlers that do not have adequate maritime safety equipment and prepare a list and submit it to the Upazila Fisheries Department for taking effective action.

Campaigns for expanding Climate Adaptation Techniques

The COAST CJRF project is implementing promotional activities and initiatives to expand various Climate- Adaptive Income-Generating Techniques at the community level in the climate-vulnerable coastal areas of Bangladesh. The overall economy of this region is declining at an alarming rate due to the damage caused by natural disasters caused by climate change.

They are facing a socio-economic crisis, the disease is increasing and their physical performance is declining as a result their income is decreasing. The main objective of this campaign is to raise awareness at the community level in isolated and climate-vulnerable areas and to contribute to socio-economic development through practical life practice



Campaign activities to expand Climate Adaptive Techniques to improve the socio-economic conditions of the community people in the climate-vulnerable areas, 21 Nov 21, Rahmatpur Photo: Sampad Chakraborty, SDI, Sandeep.

Through such campaigns, women and adolescents, in particular, are gaining knowledge about safe drinking water, use of hygienic sanitation, Climate-Adaptive Income Generating farming methods such as- Rangpur model, vegetable cultivation in the sack gardening, Triple F model (integrated method) and goat rearing in the scaffolding system.



Rashida Begum has planted different types of vegetables in 32 sacks on the fallow land at the back of the house. 6th Ward, Manika Union, Char Fashion, Bhola, Photo: Atiqur Rahman, TO, COAST, CJRF Project.

Rashida Begum succeeds in cultivating vegetables in sacks methods on waterlogged land

Using the sack method, poor and vulnerable women in the coastal areas are now able to cultivate vegetables easily and cheaply in the waterlogged lands of the coastal areas. This method has now become very popular among the poor women in the coastal areas as it provides additional income opportunities to meet the nutritional needs of the family.

Rashida Begum, a resident of Ward 6, Manika Union, Char Fashion Upazila, Bhola district, has planted different types of vegetables in 32 sacks at the back of her house Such as gourd, sweet pumpkin, bean, lady's finger etc. The yield has also been quite good with regular care.

Asked about this, she said, "Our lands here are low and waterlogged with rain and tidal water. These lands are of no use. Again, crops planted in rain or flood waters are ruined." "She further said that the major advantage of cultivating vegetables in this method is that it can be cultivated in waterlogged and saline lands, there is no loss of crop in tidal water, space is required and cost is less. I have seen many people now start farming in this way. Rashida Begum said that despite meeting their demand, they are selling vegetables in the local market for at least BDT. 100-150 per day, about BDT. 4-4500 per month.

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