

# Climate Communique



Since January 2018, the COAST Foundation has been implementing a project in 7 coastal districts of Bangladesh entitled "Climate Justice Resilient Fund-CJRF", which will be continue until September 22. The main objectives of the project are facilitating information and education to strengthen community practice on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Climate Change, and resilience for reducing climate risk affecting factors, Strengthen government practice and expand facilities at the remote and climate-vulnerable areas through networking and advocacy with CSO leadership, ensure economic security by providing and promoting Climate Adaptive Income Generating Techniques (CAIGTs) and input support to coastal communities in reducing income erosion.

## Sack Gardening: Year-round income opportunities of Coastal women

Coastal women are successfully cultivating vegetables using Climate-Adapted Income-Generating Techniques. In the salinity, floods, and tidal surges, prone areas, they are cultivating completely non-toxic vegetables using the sack method to meet their nutritional needs and earn money. This method is becoming more popular in a short time in Bhola and Kutubdia of Cox's Bazar district, a high climate risk area of Bangladesh, as it is profitable to cultivate fallow land next to the house at low cost.

Due to natural disasters caused by climate change, agriculture here is under threat and poverty is on the rise. Using this method, women are cultivating various vegetables in the fallow land near the house and getting success, such as Brinjal, Sweet pumpkin, Gourd, Bean, Basil, Cucurbit, Cucumber, Chili, Snake Gourd, etc.

At present, the women of this area are earning money by cultivating vegetables in the fallow lands near their homes, after fulfilling their family needs she sell vegetables to the local market or neighbor.

Selina Begum of Rajapur Union of Bhola Sadar Upazila said, "I have succeeded in cultivating vegetables in the sack system with the help of the COAST CJRF project. I am cultivating seasonal vegetables in 30 sacks." It is possible to cultivate seasonal vegetables throughout the year. Saltwater, tidal surges, floods do not damage crops. He said that many people have started cultivating vegetables in sacks after seeing the benefits and success at low cost.

## The initiative of Adolescent Center to build awareness for preventing child marriage

Child marriage is a social disorder. Eradication of these problems requires concerted efforts of people from all levels of society. Coastal Adolescent Centers functioning with the technical support of the COAST CJRF Project for raising public awareness at the community level to prevent all forms of violence against women and adolescents in the society, including child marriage. Meetings with the public representatives, neighborhood-based courtyard meetings, and home visit activities are being held regularly at the initiative of



*Selina Begum has cultivated various vegetables in sacks, the vegetable yield has been good with regular care, in addition to meeting family nutritional needs, now she is able to earn money. Rajapur, Bhola Sadar, 26 Jan, 22, Photo: M. Hasan, COAST*

Adolescent Center to create perceptions about family and social responsibility on child marriage, law and regulation and advance life such. Local people's representatives, religious leaders, Qazis, especially parents are being involved in the campaign. Adolescent center teachers and girls feel that there is no alternative to raising public awareness in the family and society to change society or family attitudes.



*Jasmine Akhter, teacher and the girls of the Adolescent Center are going door to door to aware the parents for Prevention of Child Marriage. Ali Akbar Dale, Kutubdia, Cox's Bazar, Photo: Shahadat Hossain, COAST*

The income of the coastal people is declining every year due to various natural disasters, poverty is on the rise, at the same time, the Corona pandemic has led to an increase in child marriages due to unemployment and insecurity of children, which is now putting even more adolescents in coastal areas at greater risk. Eradication of this social disorder requires concerted efforts of people of all levels and professions.

### Inspired by Adolescent Center, Coastal Adolescents are getting involved in IGA

Inspired by the Adolescent Center, adolescents in coastal areas are now engaged in small Income-Generating Activities, now they raise goats as well as cultivate seasonal vegetables on abandoned land around their homes, as it is more profitable at a lower cost. They believe that such activities will help them to increase their economic potential which will increase their dignity and right to express their views in the family and society.

Jannat-Ara-Begum, a student of Madraz Union Adolescent Center in Charfashion Upazila of Bhola district. Her family had to relocate several times due to river erosion. Currently, she lives with her parents on the embankment in 6 no Ward of Madras Union.

Jannat-Ara-Begum was nursing her newly bought goats in front of the house, she said I go to the adolescent center regularly, our teacher advised us to cultivate vegetables if there is open and abandoned space around our house, and also advised to raise goats because the cost of raising goats is less but the profit is more.

Jannat -Ara-Begum also said that my father is a poor fisherman by profession, he goes fishing in the sea, our family income is very low, our family income is very low, at least if I can manage my own expenses then I don't have to depend on family and no one can say anything disrespectful to me. Growing vegetables and buying 2 goats, I have plans to set up a goat farm in the future. I want to be self-reliant, the adolescent center is showing us that way.

Kamrun-Nahar- Begum, a teacher at Madras Adolescent Center, said: "We are encouraging adolescents to engage in small Income-Generating Activities to increase their financial capacity in addition to other teaching activities. About 55% of our adolescents are now involved in such activities. Hopefully, 100 percent of adolescents will be involved in such activities.

### Community-based Campaign to expand Climate Adapted Techniques in the coastal area

In the Climate vulnerable coastal areas of Bangladesh, the CJRF project is implementing promotional activities and initiatives to expand various Climate- Adaptive Income-Generating Techniques at the community level [CAIGT]. The overall economy of these regions are declining alarmingly due to the damage caused by



*Inspired by Adolescent Center, Jannat-Ara-Begum has started goat rearing to increase her income besides cultivating vegetables, Ward 6, Madras, Charfashion, Bhola. Photo: Atiqur Rahman, TO, COAST, Bhola.*

natural disasters caused by climate change. They are facing a socio-economic crisis, the incidence of the disease is increasing, their income is declining, and poor people are drifting towards more and more poverty. Climate Adaptive Income Generating Techniques (CAIGTs), clean water, and health awareness messages have been selected to conduct the campaign.

The main objective of this campaign is to increase community awareness in isolated and climate risk areas and contribute to socio-economic development through practice in practical life. These activities are being implemented through courtyard meetings, with the participation of people from different stages in the affected communities. Flip charts with pictures are being used for the convenience of the campaign.



*Campaign to Expand Climate Adaptive Income Generating Techniques to strengthen economic capacity of climate affected People, 10 Feb, Musapur, Sandip, Photo: Jewel, Field Mobilizer, SDI, Sandip*

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

**M.A. Hasan**

**Program Head, COAST\_CJRF project**

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

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[www.coastbd.net](http://www.coastbd.net)