Project Objective

- Develop climate-adaptive coastal communities.
- Adopt climate-resilient housing and livelihood technologies to become resilient to climate shock.

Indicative output

- Decreased risk of loss of assets and lives from extreme weather events.
- Livelihood resilience to sea level raise, storm surges and salinity.
- Improved climate planning and implementation by communities and local-level institutions.

Project Period

5 Years (September 2023 to August 2028)

Budget

50 million USD (GCF Grant 43 million USD & PKSF and Co-financier 7 million USD)

Project Area

The project will be implemented in seven coastal districts - Khulna, Bagerhat, Satkhira, Barguna, Patuakhali, Bhola and Cox's Bazar that are particularly vulnerable to sea level rise, salinity intrusion, coastal flooding, cyclones, and storm surges because of their low elevation, ranging from 1-2 meters above average sea level.

Target Group

The project will support around 0.3 million climate-vulnerable coastal people to become climate resilient. The project will also address the specific needs of often excluded people, such as persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, elderly people and widows. RHL will be inclusive in its targeting.

Selection of the project participant under the RHL project

- Those who live in saline-prone coastal vulnerable areas;
- Priority to women-headed households and other disadvantaged groups;
- Poor and ultra-poor households (as defined in the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES 2016) of the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS-2017));
- Per capita daily income is less than USD 1.90 adjusted with PPP as an alternative criterion of HIES's definition of poverty;
- Those who are not receiving any support from other projects or organizations;
- Those who have salinity-affected land particularly away from agricultural land;
- Interested in participation in the project and adoption of the project-promoted technologies and practices; and
- Willing to contribute to the project through loan, cash and in-kind contributions, as necessary.

Major Activities

Climate-resilient Housing

- Homestead plinth raise,
- House reconstruction,
- Sanitary latrines construction, and
- Installation of rainwater harvesting system.

Climate Adaptative Livelihood

- Sustainable development of crab supply chain,
- Goat/sheep rearing at the slatted house,
- Saline-tolerant vegetable cultivation and
- Mangrove tree plantation.

Capacity development of communities and local-level institutions

- Capacity building of Climate Change Adaptation Group (CCAG),
- Capacity building of implementing entity and local institutions,
- Capacity building of beneficiaries and stakeholders, and
- Research capacity enhancement of coastal universities.

The project is expected to achieve the following outcomes/results

- Decreased risk of loss of assets and lives from extreme weather events;
- Livelihood resilience to sea level raise storm surge and salinity;
- Improved climate planning and implementation by communities and local-level institutions.

PALLI KARMA-SAHAYAK FOUNDATION (PKSF)

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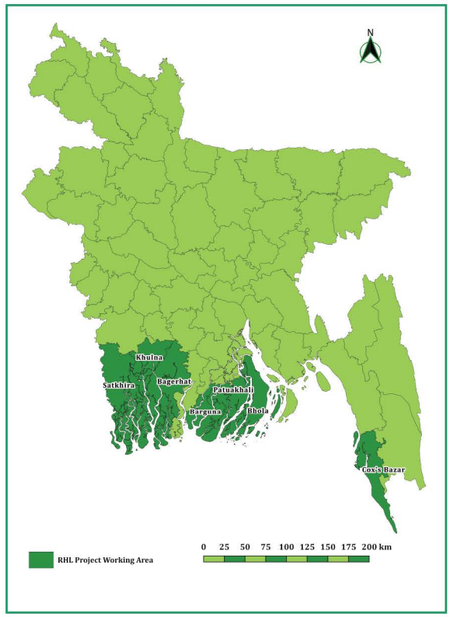
পল্লী কর্ম-সহায়ক ফাউন্ডেশন

GREEN CLIMATE FUND

Resilient Homestead and Livelihood Support to the Vulnerable Coastal People of Bangladesh (RHL) Project

Duration: 5 Years, Work Area: 07 Coastal District,
Target group: Around 0.3 million coastal people,
Budget: 50 million USD



Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF), established by the Government of Bangladesh (GOB), started its journey in 1990. Since then, it has been successfully implementing various pro-poor activities with the assistance of the government and different national/international development partners.

The discourse on climate change is also at the center of development. However, the negative impacts of climate change provide an additional threat that adds to, interacts with, and can reinforce existing risks, placing additional strain on the livelihoods and coping strategies of poor and vulnerable people. Unless concrete and urgent steps are taken to reduce vulnerability and enhance the adaptive capacity of the poor, and unless these actions are mainstreamed into all development strategies for poverty alleviation and sustainable development, it will be difficult to meet some of the SDGs by 2030.

Considering the vulnerability of the poor to the negative impacts of climate change, PKSF established the Environment and Climate Change Unit (ECCU) to facilitate climate-smart interventions to ensure sustainable poverty reduction.

In continuation of this, a new project titled "Resilient Homestead and Livelihood Support to the Vulnerable Coastal People of Bangladesh (RHL)" has been initiated with the financial support of the Green Climate Fund, the largest climate fund established by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

PKSF, the Direct Access Entity (DAE) of GCF is the Executing Entity (EE) for the RHL project and will realize the project through its Partner Organizations as Implementing Entities (IEs).

Background

The geographical location and low elevation of the coastal zone of Bangladesh make it susceptible to disasters, whereas the climate change effects (e.g., sea level rise, salinity intrusion, cyclones, and tidal surges) assert a new depressing effect on the lives and livelihoods in the region.

The nature of vulnerability for coastal people can be defined in three ways.

- *Poor human settlement in low-lying areas:* The coastal poor community builds their houses in low-lying areas that are subject to coastal flooding. Most of the houses are built with mud and goal pata (the leaves of an indigenous coastal plant), which are severely affected by cyclones, storm surges, and high tides. These people have to spend a significant amount of their earnings for repairing houses each year.
- *Climate-sensitive livelihood:* Besides, the coastal communities primarily depend on seasonal subsistence agriculture and agricultural wage labour, which are highly climate-sensitive.
- *Scarcity of safe drinking water:* Safe drinking water is highly vulnerable to sea level rise and salinity in the coastal zone of the country.