

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

Creating Resilient Livelihoods through Ginger Cultivation

In the coastal areas of Bangladesh, high soil salinity makes it difficult to grow regular vegetables, and in many places, there is also a shortage of suitable land. For many families, this means limited income and constant uncertainty about meeting daily needs.

To address this challenge, the RHL project introduced Ginger cultivation in sacks in March 2025. Instead of relying on saline soil, farmers could grow ginger in controlled conditions using sacks, even in small spaces around their homes. A total of 6,188 beneficiaries took part in this initiative. On average, each person used 30 sacks, producing about 1.6 kilograms of ginger per sack. By the end of the cultivation cycle, the total production reached 166,785 kilograms. The harvest was sold during January and February 2026, generating a total income of 35,956,196 BDT.

Each beneficiary earned around 5,877 BDT from this effort. For many families, this income came at a crucial time and helped cover essential household expenses. Beyond the financial benefit, the method also brought confidence. People realized that even with limited land and challenging soil conditions, they could still grow valuable crops.

From hardship to hope: How Ginger Cultivation Changed Razia's Life

“ I never thought my small backyard could change my life. Now I am a confident woman who can support own family and dream bigger for the future. ”



Razia holding freshly harvested ginger

In the vulnerable coastal area of Cox's Bazar Sadar Upazila, Razia Begum once lived a life shaped by poverty, uncertainty, and limited opportunities. Her homestead land lay unused for years, offering no return and little hope. But her life began to change when the RHL project stepped in and turned that idle space into a source of income and dignity.

Through the project, Razia received hands-on training on a climate-smart technique known as ginger cultivation in sacks. She learned practical skills—how to prepare sacks properly, select quality seed rhizomes, use balanced fertilizers, and manage water scientifically in a changing climate. Along with training, she received BDT 2,800 as start-up support, giving her the confidence to begin.

As a woman in a conservative coastal community,



her decision to step into farming was not easy. She faced hesitation and social resistance. But Razia did not step back. Instead, she turned every challenge into determination and every doubt into strength.

With her new knowledge, she cultivated ginger in just 30 sacks within her small homestead yard. The method proved effective, protecting crops from salinity, waterlogging, reducing pest damage, and improving yield. With care and consistency, she harvested 24 kg of quality ginger. From this, she earned BDT 2,520 by selling 14 kg in the local market, bringing steady cash into her household for the first time. The rest supported her family's daily needs, while some was preserved as seed for the next season, showing her growing confidence as a smart farmer.

Today, Razia Begum stands as more than a farmer. She is a source of inspiration for other women in her village, proving that small land, when used wisely, can change a life.

To reduce the climate-induced vulnerability of the most vulnerable coastal communities and to enhance their resilience, PKSf is implementing the RHL project in seven coastal districts in Bangladesh. The adaptation practices include climate-resilient homesteads, saline-resilient livelihood practices, e.g. integrated fruit-fish-fibre (crab farming) farming, slatted houses for goats or sheep rearing, saline-tolerant vegetable cultivation, and storm-resilient tree plantations.

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