

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, funded by the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The project is constructing 3,000 climate-resilient homesteads for low-income families. Each homestead includes a concrete house built on a raised plinth, a rainwater harvesting system (RWHS), a sanitary latrine, solar electricity, and an improved cookstove. These facilities are designed to strengthen the families' capacity to adapt to climate change and improve their living conditions. 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.

Advisors:
Md. Fazlul Kader
Managing Director (CEO), PKSF
Dr. AKM Nuruzzaman
Senior General Manager, PKSF

Editorial Panel:
Md. Abu Nashir Khan
Md. Shamim Iftekhar

Contact:
Project Management Unit (PMU),
RHL Project, PKSF

PALLI KARMA-SAHAYAK FOUNDATION (PKSF)

PKSF Bhaban-1, Plot: E-4/B,
Agargaon Administrative Area,
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh
Tel: +88-02-222218331-33
Fax: +88-02-222218341
E-mail: pksf@pksf.org.bd
Website: www.pksf.org.bd
Facebook: www.facebook.com/pksf.org

PKSF

GREEN CLIMATE FUND

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

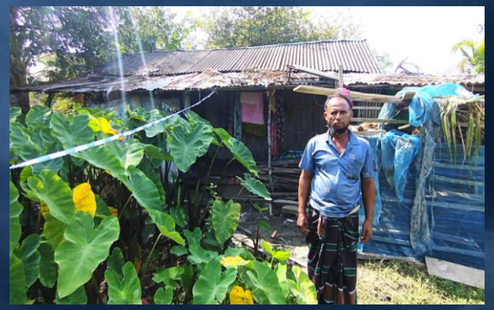


RHL's Resilient Houses Become Neighbors Oasis

Every year during the monsoon season in Bangladesh, homes in coastal areas are damaged by storms and heavy rainfall, and submerged by floodwaters. During natural disasters, many families are unable to move to safer places due to the lack of nearby government cyclone shelters and various social and cultural challenges. To address these risks to the lives and assets of coastal communities, the RHL project is constructing 3,000 disaster-resilient homesteads. Construction of 1,800 houses has already been completed under the project, and beneficiary families are now living safely in these homes. Built 4 to 5 feet above the last against five year average flood level, these houses remain protected during storms and heavy rainfall, while tidal surges and floodwaters cannot enter the homes. As a result, the residents are protected during disasters, while their neighboring families can also take shelter there when needed.

In July 2026, heavy rainfall and resulting water flows submerged many homes, putting families at increased risk from the disaster. During this period, many coastal families were seen taking shelter in disaster-resilient houses constructed under the RHL Project.

Aiyub Dhali: Finding Safety During Disaster



Aiyub Dhali at his disaster-vulnerable home

> *Our house is weak, and with my limited income, I cannot afford to make it stronger. When heavy rain flooded our courtyard and water entered our house in July, I was very worried about my wife and children. We did not know where to go to stay safe. Thankfully, Anjuara Apa's house remained above the water, and we could take shelter there. I realized then how important a strong, climate-resilient house is, especially for families like ours who cannot afford to build one themselves.*

For Md. Aiyub Dhali, a resident of Koyra Upazila in coastal Khulna, heavy rainfall brings constant anxiety. He lives with his wife, Peru Begum, and their two children in a fragile house that offers limited protection against extreme weather. With a modest income, he cannot afford to strengthen his home, leaving his family vulnerable to flooding and waterlogging.



In July 2026, heavy rainfall affected Koyra and other parts of Bangladesh. Water inundated Aiyub's courtyard and entered his house, raising concerns about his family's safety and the protection of their belongings. With few alternatives, he sought refuge in the nearby climate-resilient home of Anjuara Khatun, constructed with support from the RHL project. Another neighbor, Jahangir Hossain, also took shelter there with his wife. The families found a safer place to stay and protect their essential belongings from potential water damage.

A Home That Shelters Beyond Its Walls



Anjuara Khatun, at her resilient homestead

> *Before receiving support from the RHL project, we used to worry whenever there was heavy rain. We were afraid that water might enter our house and damage our belongings. Now, our house is much safer. During the heavy rainfall in July 2026, our home remained above the water, while some of our neighbors' houses were affected. When they came to take shelter with us, I felt really happy that our house could help them too. It was built for my family, but during that difficult time, it also became a safe place for our neighbors.*

Anjuara, a homemaker, lives with her husband, Md. Billal Hossain, a van driver, and two other family members on five decimals of land. Before moving into her climate-resilient homestead in May 2026, her family also faced uncertainty during heavy rainfall.

During the heavy rainfall in July 2026, Anjuara's raised-plinth homestead remained above the floodwater, while several neighboring courtyards were inundated. Her home provided temporary refuge to six neighbors, including Aiyub Dhali and his family, as well as Jahangir and his wife.

The experiences of Aiyub and Anjuara demonstrate how a climate-resilient home can protect its residents and provide temporary shelter to neighbors during emergencies. In coastal communities where access to designated cyclone shelters may be limited, such homes can offer an additional layer of protection during heavy rainfall and localized flooding. This experience highlights the potential of resilient housing to strengthen community preparedness and extend protection beyond individual households.

Neighboring families seek refuge in a beneficiary's resilient home before heavy rain in July 2026