



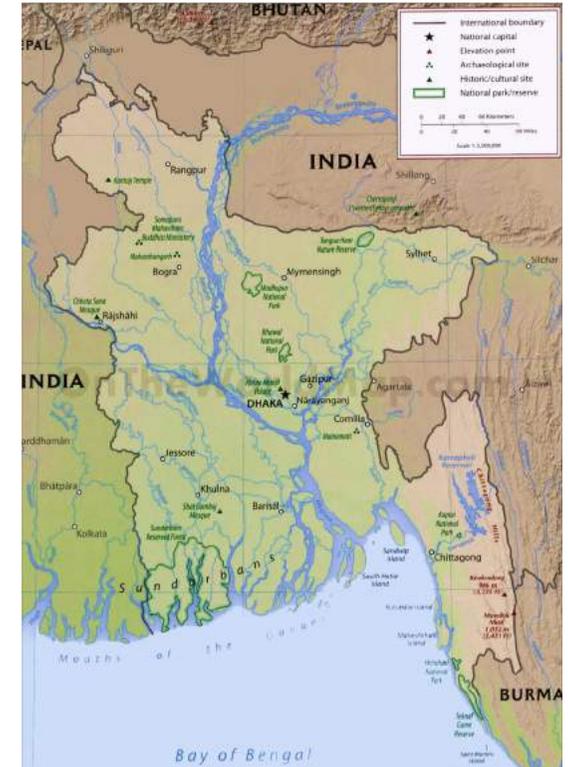
Mudara
Standing with communities

Community Life, Mangrove Woodlands and Livelihoods in Bangladesh

An overview

The Context of the Project - Bangladesh

- Bangladesh is the country with the world's highest population densityⁱ, 1095 people / km²
- Low economic standing and low personal well-being with very low yearly average income per inhabitant on worldwide perspective - 24,3% of the population lives below poverty lineⁱⁱ
- Mostly riverine with delta plain, 580 km coastline, >50% of population lives below sea level or 5 meters above sea level
- The world's country hardest hit by the effects of climate changeⁱⁱⁱ
- Tropical monsoon climate, high temperatures on the one hand, heavy rainfall on the other hand, often-excessive humidity, uneven rainfall patterns, extreme seasonal variations
- Periodically affected by natural disasters, tornados, tropical cyclones^{iv}, prolonged and repeated floods, flash floods, water logging, severe droughts, salinization



Climate change in Bangladesh

- Climatic changes are challenging to predict, therefore it is difficult to act in a timely manner
- A past climate change event caused the deaths of 10.000 people, disaster aftermath estimated to cause devastated homes & destructed livelihoods of 30 million people (20% of entire population)^{iv}
- Climate change in Bangladesh estimated to become the cause for the largest mass migration in human history. In recent years, riverbank erosion yearly displaces 50.000 to 200.000 people. The population of what the Bangladeshi government calls “immediately threatened” exceeds 4.000.000^v

The Problem

Mangrove woodlands are disappearing, but

- they provide communities with essential livelihood services through food supply, product manufacturing and income generation
- they strengthen coastlines and significantly contribute to disaster risk reduction, protection of low-lying areas and shielding of inland areas during storms
- they fight climate change 70% more efficiently than the average forest and they protect bio-diversity through provision of habitats for animal species



Livelihoods are in jeopardy, because

- negative impacts in the sectors agriculture, livestock cultivation, fisheries, forestry and resource harvesting overstrain community members in their efforts to adapt to the changing environment
- many community members rely on single sector activity for income generation, even though single sector livelihoods show high fragilities and sectors are impacted in different ways and at varying times



Communities are exposed to interwoven threats

- Communities experience dramatic disturbances in daily community life on many levels - in their social and economic wellbeing, the environmental resource base, the physical environment, in in-community resources and capacities required to address issues like education, gender-specific discrepancies and health

The Project

Four project activities will provide a direct impact, enhance wellbeing and capacities of communities

- Awareness campaigns on sustainable harvesting and on mangrove's role in disaster risk reduction, climate change mitigation, conservation of bio-diversity, coastline strengthening and food security
- Cooperatives' formation and co-management to counter money launderer's and middle men's destructive practices, to build a community support network and to facilitate raising issues to local authorities
- Livelihood solidification through diversification assessments in the sectors agriculture, livestock cultivation, fisheries and resource harvesting, workshops, trainings and licensing courses with particular view on supporting women
- Mangrove woodland regeneration and planting, community workshops and trainings, material provision

Project outcomes

- Communities show enhanced knowledge and collaboration regarding interdependencies between unsustainable harvesting, the environment, the activities of fellow communities leading to improved social, economic and environmental wellbeing
- Diversified livelihoods secure the base of life, empower women and allow to direct resources to other areas of concern, i.e. schooling, health, etc.
- Mangrove woodlands are expanded

Project summary

Title	COLIWOOD - <u>C</u> ommunity <u>L</u> ife, Mangrove <u>W</u> oodlands and Livelihoods
Target area and persons of concern	Vulnerable coastal districts in Bangladesh: Khulna, Bagerhat, Satkhira (1.500 individuals through 300 families, 6.000 mangrove trees)
Goal	Enhancing social, environmental and economic community wellbeing and strengthening of community capacities on sustainable use of resources
Activities	Awareness campaigns, cooperatives' formation and support, livelihood diversification and mangrove woodland regeneration
Duration and Start	6 months initial project duration; 2 years total project duration Project can start as soon as funding for the first half year has been secured
Organizations	Hudara gGmbH, Rollbergstr. 26, 12053 Berlin, Germany Managing Director: Dr. Lena Schmid, www.hudara.org Centre for Coastal Environmental Conservation (CCEC) House #63, Road #4, Sonadanga R/A, Khulna-9000, Bangladesh Director: Mowdudur Rahman, www.ccec-bd.org
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Please contact us to see how we can work together

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Footnotes

- i. For the sake of completeness and by considering all territories on earth, including the smallest territories on earth with less than 10 Million inhabitants, Monaco, Macao, Singapore, Hong Kong, Gibraltar, Bahrain, Holy See, Maldives and Malta are equal or more densely populated.
- ii. The incomes across countries are adjusted for price differences and currency exchange rates so that the incomes are directly comparable for life in all countries. Data on income for all countries in the world is collected and published by the World bank and the CIA through its yearly publication.
- iii. Bangladesh and India - Most Threatened by Climate Change, Risk Study Finds, Bangladesh and India are the two countries most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change over the next 30 years, according to calculations by the British global risks analysis organization Maplecroft.
- iv. A cyclone is a large-scale air mass, characterized by inward spiraling winds that rotate about a zone of low pressure. Climate change is predicted to increase the frequency of high-intensity storms in selected ocean basins as the difference in temperature between the ocean - the heat source for cyclones - and the storm tops - the cold parts of cyclones - is expanding.
- v. The Unfolding Tragedy of Climate Change in Bangladesh. A three-foot rise in sea level would submerge almost 20 percent of the country and displace more than 30 million people- and the actual rise by 2100 could be significantly more. Robert Glennon is a Regents' Professor at the University of Arizona.