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1. Organisational Details

Name Organisation	Center for Coastal Environmental Conservation (CCEC)
Type of Organisation (Media/CSO)	CSO (Grass Root Level)
Address	Takdir Mohal, House No. 93, Road No. 2, Sonadanga R/A, Khulna-9000, Bangladesh
Email Address	ccec.bangladesh@gmail.com
Website Address	https://www.ccec-bd.org/
Name Contact Person	Name: Md. Mowdudur Rahman Designation: Executive Director Phone: 01730-299507 Email: mowdud.ccec@gmail.com
Year of establishment	1993

OUR MANDATE

As a development-focused grass root level NGO, CCEC is proud to have been a trailblazer in advocating for the interests of riverine and coastal communities, particularly those of living beside Sundarban. Their problems and well-being are at the core of CCEC's goals and the reason for its existence.

Our Vision:

Protection and sustainable management of coastal ecosystems in Bangladesh through local initiatives and grass-roots participation.

Mission

Initiate, identify and aware the environmental problems in order to promote actions for environmental protection strategies, laws and management practices for sustainable use of natural resources empowering indigenous knowledge. Understanding and developing environmental ethics, skills, attitudes and commitment.

2. Project Brief

A. Project Title: Forestation for Future

B. Donor: Plant for the Planet Germany

C. Duration of Project: 1st June 2020 from 31st May' 2023

D. Background of the project

The Sundarbans, which cover an area of over 10,000 square kilometers along the Bay of Bengal and are the world's largest continuous mangrove forest, are getting thinner. Since 1991, the forest has lost around 16 square kilometers of vegetation year as a result of human encroachment and climate change-related factors such as constant sea level rise, saline intrusion, cyclones, floods, erosion of river embankments, and degradation of soil quality. Additionally, as a result of coastline erosion, 71% of the forested coastline is receding by up to 200 meters annually. Every year, forestland covering 350 football fields disappears from the Bangladeshi portion of the Sundarbans. This decline in acreage is causing damage to the Sundarbans ecology. There is a decline in flora and fauna from both inland and aquatic. In the face of numerous challenges, the Sundarbans are becoming weaker. In light of the aforementioned problems, planting trees and creating a green belt are urgently needed to save the coastal ecosystem.

E. Justification of that project

The project is essential due to the interconnected challenges in the Sundarbans. Natural disasters and climate change vulnerability necessitate resilience-building. Socio-political complexities demand democratic processes for inclusive decision-making. Economic vulnerabilities require innovative solutions, like climate-smart agriculture, breaking dependency cycles. The project's holistic approach addresses root causes, fostering sustainability, resilience, and equitable development. Continuous disparaging activities reduce the Sundarbans' carrying capacity, worsened by climate change and anthropogenic actions in the settlement area. Urgently needed

are motivation, awareness, inclusive engagement, nature-based solutions, and democratic decision-making to ensure the ecosystem's health amid expanding settlements in the ECA.

F. Objective of that project

- To educate stakeholders on environmental conservation, form democratic networks, ensure investment in climate-smart agriculture and empowering youth and women for a sustainable and resilient future in the vulnerable coastal areas of Bangladesh.
- The project aims to educate stakeholders on environmental conservation, form democratic networks, execute Sundarban conservation campaigns, ensure investment in climate-smart agriculture, and empowering youth and women for a sustainable and resilient future in areas of Bangladesh.

G. Long term and short term outcome and its performance indicator

Outcome 1: Enhanced environmental literacy and engagement among various stakeholders, leading to informed decision-making, improved conservation practices, and a strengthened sense of shared responsibility for sustainable environmental practices in the vulnerable coastal regions of Bangladesh.

Enhanced environmental literacy, leading to informed decision-making, improved conservation practices, and a strengthened sense of shared responsibility for sustainable environmental practices in the vulnerable coastal regions of Bangladesh

Outcome 2: Established and strengthened networks fostering inclusive democratic processes, ensuring enhanced collaboration, participatory decision-making, and transparent governance in the targeted project area.

Outcome 3: Successful execution of campaigns fostering widespread awareness and active community engagement in Sundarbans conservation, instilling a shared commitment to protect the ecosystem among the mass population in the project area.

Outcome 4: Attainment of 60000 trees to enhance resilience, mitigate climate impacts, and promote ecological well-being in the targeted vulnerable coastal areas.

H. The community's participation in project activities

We obtained consent from the community and local government for this project, which required the government's forest department. We conducted interviews with resource collectors from Sundarban, including those who collect wood, honey, and other items. We also organized workshops, discussion sessions, and training on alternative livelihood activities, and we started fund-revolving ways. Our interventions included as raising environmental awareness among the coastal communities through environmental education, environmental pollution, environmental law, eco-schools Bangladesh, biodiversity conservation, sustainable harvesting training and capacity building of the Sundarban stakeholders, mangrove regeneration & plantation, disaster risk reduction & recovery, climate change adaptation, research, cultural activities and poverty reduction strategies.

I. Democratic Context:

This project aimed to address challenges in Sundarbans-dependent communities by empowering, networking, and motivating. Inclusive participation of women, youth, students, and local leaders ensures a democratic process for environmental decision-making, promoting transparent governance for a resilient and equitable future. Climate-smart agriculture development uplifts the socioeconomic condition, and locally led adaptation mechanisms ensure sustainable approaches tailored to unique challenges. Community engagement during conservation and restoration of trees planted beside the river embankment. The benefits were tripled like to increase the forest area, to protect river bank erosion and to enhance biodiversity reducing Sundarban dependency of the adjacent community. Due to having agreement the local community got the ownership of that extension.

J. How Monitoring and Evaluation was done

The project's success is measured through a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation framework. Key outcome indicators, including increased environmental literacy, informed decision-making, improved conservation practices, and a strengthened sense of shared responsibility. Baseline data were established through pre-project surveys to gauge the initial environmental knowledge and practices of stakeholders. Targets were set based on percentage increases in literacy, adoption of sustainable practices, and community engagement. Monitoring tools such as surveys, attendance records, and community feedback mechanisms are employed to track progress. Project coordinators, in collaboration with educational institutions and community leaders, were responsible for data collection, analysis, and reporting. Regular reviews were assess progress towards targets, facilitating adaptive management and ensuring the project's effectiveness in achieving its outcomes.

K. How Sustainability were ensured:

Ensuring sustainability, the project prioritizes capacity-building for youth and women, equipping them to lead environmental initiatives. Collaborations with local institutions, governmental and non-governmental entities, and youth and women's organizations were fostered enduring impact. Integrating project outcomes into formal education, particularly for youth, and empowering local leaders to continue environmental programs are strengthen sustainability. The project's legacy beyond was secured by community engagement, awareness initiatives, and a culture of responsibility, creating a resilient and enduring impact on environmental conservation.

L. How Gender Considerations were taken place

The project prioritized gender considerations by ensuring equal participation, opportunities, and benefits for women and men. Through targeted capacity-building programs, it empowered women in leadership roles. Inclusive decision-making processes and tailored initiatives address the unique needs of women and promote gender equality. The project created an environment where both women and men actively contribute to and benefit from sustainable development, fostering a more equitable and just society.

M. Results

1. We trained more than 5000 beneficiaries on tree plantation, biodiversity conservation, DRR, leadership building, climate smart agriculture and fund revolving
2. We planted more than 60,000 trees in the project area where the total area were 35 acre of lands
3. We planted in more than 65 plots where trees were 350-1500 trees in each plot depending the size
4. We provided more than 200 HHs cattle and goat and those were utilized as fund revolving approaches and thus in 3 years more than 350 families got supported
5. We formed 50 cooperative groups who share their learning and share their benefits from this project. After completion of project we handed over the resources (Tree, livelihood support) to those groups
6. We trained and aware more than 3000 students and 100 teachers on biodiversity conservation, tree plantation, monitoring and surveillance of Sundarban resource pouching
7. We trained 30 HHs on tree nurseries
8. We have agreement from local community and LGED, Water development board and local government





Fig. Several images associated with this project