

SITE VISIT 4

**SALINITY AND CYCLONE
VULNERABLE AREA OF
SHYAMNAGAR AREA UNDER
SATKHIRA DISTRICT OF
BANGLADESH**

VISIT SHRIMP FARMING AREA AT BAGERHAT DISTRICT

- Communities were once rice farmers
- Due to cyclone and sea level rise this big area now turned into shrimp farming.
- Shrimp farming is expensive and the community migrated to other areas for their livelihoods.
- This land is leased to big investors for shrimp farming
- Conclusion: Positive and negative outcomes of climate change impacts

Meeting at Caritas Regional Office

The participants were informed about the activities of Caritas in the area which included disaster management , gender programme , renewable energy technologies, efficient chula woodstoves, rain water harvesting technologies

Conclusion: NGOs can serve as a knowledge base for vulnerability and adaptation issues

Environment child schooling programme at Mothurapur village

- Environmental issues including climate change and disaster management is part of the elementary school curriculum
- As the area is vulnerable to climate extremes (cyclone and saline water intrusion), long term capacity building starts the youth.

Sand Filter

- The main environmental problem at the Mathurapur village is the fresh water scarcity
- The source of fresh water is the purification of pond water using the sand filter
- Conclusion: The role of Caritas as an external agent in providing technology for improving living standards of the community, therefore strengthening adaptive capacity.

River bank protection through Mangrove planting

- Mangrove trees have been planted along the river bank to stop erosion and salt water intrusion
- As part of the benefits of afforestation the community:
 1. Protect the fresh water supply from salt water
 2. Harvest mangrove for firewood
 3. Generate income from the sale of mangrove trees
 4. Have created a carbon sink

Flood proof houses and Improved cooking stove

- Communities are using Chula stoves and making portable ones for flooding time
- This community has built houses on upper ground for coping with floods
- Conclusion: The community has developed its own adaptive capacity to cope with floods

Integrated agriculture (rice and shrimp farming)

- Due to reduced precipitation in the area the community have adopted improved water management techniques by open canals for tapping and storage of water
- The storage of water has facilitated the integration of shrimp farming and rice cultivation within the same space of land
- Conclusion: Climate variability has induced innovative water management options

Drama as awareness tool

- The community performed drama sensitizing people about the climate variability and environmental protection
- Conclusion: the community demonstrated high level of understanding of social and environmental issues associated with climate disasters