

**Appendix-9:**  
**Report on LGI and Women Stakeholders Training**  
**& Consultation Workshop**

**Kaliganj, Satkhira**



**Date:** 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022

**Venue:** Upazila Hall Room, Kaliganj, Satkhira

**Organized by:** Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS)

**Supported by:** IDRC, Canada

## **Background:**

The SAKTEE is a multi-institutional and collaborative research project for 3 years (May 2019 to April 2022) in Bangladesh. Coordinated by BCAS, the project is being implemented by Department of Women's Affairs (DWA) of the Government of Bangladesh, International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) and the University of Manitoba (UoM), Canada. Supported by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada the project aims to improve understanding of the dynamics of the complex set of factors that aggravate differentiated climate change and disaster impacts and vulnerability. The project also aims to fill identified knowledge gaps in the areas of gender responsive adaptation to climate change, DRR and empowerment of women for enhancing social resilience. The focus is to understand deeply the effects of climate change on women and impoverished populations in the most vulnerable regions i.e., coastal region and Haor (wetland) basin in Bangladesh. The project has a consistent focus on empowerment of women, youth, students and disadvantaged families through enhancing their knowledge, adaptive capacity, income-generation activities and skills for climate resilient-alternative livelihoods of the poor and socially disadvantaged groups in the two climate affected regions. In doing so, the feminist research and participatory action research approaches are applied to all components of the project. Action research on adaptation technology selection and demonstration in water and agriculture, exploratory research by the university students, capacity building of the poor women, disadvantaged groups, youths and students as well as the women stakeholders were the key areas of focused interventions of the project in year-2.

The project had a good start in the year1, but encountered some problems in field implementation from the last quarter of the first year (March 2020) and throughout the project year2 (May 2020 to April 2021) due to the wide spread impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic and frequent lockdown situations in Bangladesh. However, the project team at BCAS and the partners developed a contingency plan (which was adjusted in the changed situation) in consultation with Program management at the IDRC and made all sincere efforts to carry out the activities at different levels with communities and actors. This annual technical report describes the planned activities, approach and methods, progress of implementation of the action research project, limitations, barriers and the key learning of the project team.

## **The Objectives:**

The key objectives of this project are as follows:

- **Explore and understand** the interrelationships of various environmental, socioeconomic, political and cultural factors and climate change that may exacerbate social and gender inequity
- **Scale-up innovative, locally tested adaptation technologies** to address worsening climate change impacts, particularly on water and agriculture, through promoting multi-level institutional coordination and integration
- **Support to empower women**, students and poverty-stricken disadvantaged households in the climate-vulnerable regions; and
- **Engage and inform policy and decision makers** about transformative climate change adaptation technologies and the potential for their integration with social and gender equity programs.

## **Technical Session & Discussion:**

The session held in the Upazila Hall room of Kaliganj, Satkhira with the general introduction of the participants on the 26<sup>th</sup> of April 2022. Mr. Monowarul Islam coordinated the workshop and mentions the training purpose and gives a brief lecture on the daylong matters. He said who is most affected by climate change, adding that women, children, and people with disabilities are the most vulnerable groups. Among them, the poorest and most vulnerable ones are the victims. People are suffering due to a lack of capacity and resilience. A combined research methodology was done in some areas where the main focus of this research is women and how they will be helped. He also mentions the problems related to Climate Change and how we can overcome and make use of them, as well as the finding related to these matters that will be discussed and identified in this workshop.

Later, Dr. Atiq Rahman says that we are lucky that we can now connect electronically. He says, that it is not easy to bring all the local governments together in one place, but it is good to know that they are being able to join virtually and physically. He Strongly says that Excessive energy consumption is the main cause of climate change. In this training, the discussion will be about the poor and vulnerable and which technology will be used and will be helpful to be shared with everyone. Moreover, he also declares that Mr. Monowarul Islam will talk about today's matters and policies as a lot of seminars were already conducted previously and it is a great pleasure that a lot of women and children are being able to connect electronically.

Following the previous speech was the speech of the Director General-DWA Ms. Farida Parveen, where she introduces herself and says how natural disasters become a common outcome and circumstance, what the Bangladesh government did for the benefit of women, and how women are helped in this process. She also mentioned how training is given regarding Climate Change to overcome those disasters. Women's role in Bangladesh was given great interest and their position is the 7<sup>th</sup> position internationally. She also says that in the CSW New York meeting, the decisions and things that Bangladesh will be doing were discussed on that meeting. A country paper was published on vulnerable women and a GCA project is also there where training is given on the matters related to their survival as well as survival through this Climate Change. Women are involved in a lot of activities now a day and DWA has been involved in developing women's financial and economic rights. Politically women are in the 7<sup>th</sup> position worldwide and are has been in the first position 7 times simultaneously on the gender Index in South Asia.

Meanwhile, among the speech of the guests, one of them gives a brief speech and ask the participants about their ideas regarding Climate Change and what they will be able to learn from this training. The idea of Climate Change are still unknown by the stakeholders and hence they are ought to achieve a certain knowledge in this day long workshop.

## **Technical Session:**

The first technical session was conducted by Dr. Dwijen Mallick on “*The Effects, Damage and Gender-Sensitive Adaptation of Climate Change in perspective of Bangladesh*” virtually in zoom. He at first thanked everyone and the guests for their valuable words and speech. He then started his session by mentioning a few of the important things and said that he will be elaborating on those matters throughout his presentation. He mentioned Climate Change and its current Trends and Impacts (according to IPCC). Later, he mentioned the Bangladesh perspective regarding Climate Change on women and lastly, the technologies for Climate Change and who are making them that are benefiting the agriculture and water sectors. He explained the key messages of IPCC and its six reports which were printed so far and he also mentioned that these reports were written by the 400-500 scientists of the world. There are three volumes in these reports (AR-6) and one of the key messages is “Climate Change is widespread, rapid and intensified and its impact is across the world”. He says, in between the next 30-40 years all the ice will melt in the Himalayas and so more floods will occur and heavy rain will be seen in South Asia. Also, in 50 years all this water is finished and so, we need to start with the processes for adaptation as soon as possible so that we can help ourselves and others. The level of  $CO_2$  has also increased in the air and a relationship is being formed between the rise in temperature and carbon emission which is a great matter of concern. Moreover, a lot of problems will and are already occurring due to Climate Change and these climatic extremes will become our new normal shortly if we do not start improving the current state. He also says that the most affected by these effects will be human health and later the various factors of Climate Change and its effects in the perspective of Bangladesh were discussed along with some of the challenges and solutions in terms of women and children ended this part of his session.

The next session was conducted by Mr. Monowarul Islam on “The Requirements and Priorities of the Gender Sensitive Climate Change Adaptation Technologies (CCAT) for the Coastal Areas of Bangladesh”. He said that the most vulnerable among women are the marginalized people and we have to work a lot for solving these matters and issues regarding Climate Change factors that are affecting the people of an area. However, all the work is done and planned suitably for women and we will be used to help these vulnerable societies with the help of the stakeholders.

After the end of the two technical sessions, there was an open discussion where the participants gave their valuable comments regarding their learning through the training and shared their knowledge in this session. One of the participants said that Techniques include farm ponds, pitcher irrigation, two-tiered mulch (দ্বিস্তরবিশিষ্ট মালচ), vegetables and fruits cultivation by planting polybag saplings, and cultivation by sowing or changing the time of planting etc. gave them promising opportunity to cultivate vegetables and fruits and high-value crops around their house and ponds and all others Saline land. Also, a few salt-tolerant varieties (Sweet potato, sweet pumpkin, Snake gourd, shrimp, cucumber, melon, and watermelon) have been developed to enrich the economy and fulfill the nutrition needs. As for the next participant, it was acknowledged that a lot of changes (The area of Saline land, Natural disasters, etc. Increasing) are occurring due to climate change, which affects the cultivation and harvest of crops, so more and more saline tolerant varieties require and harvesting should be done with modern and advanced technologies. He also said that it is very important to achieve these outcomes within the range so that it is more beneficial for the farmers. The last participant was an NGO member who said that at first, it is very necessary to understand the difference between weather and climate and the disasters that are being caused due to the transformation. There are two types of disaster, natural and anthropogenic and it is crucial to understand the consequences based on the livelihood of the coastal

areas. It is very important to understand how people are being affected by climate change and will have to acknowledge the everyday situations to bring a remedy to the unwanted circumstances.



***Open Discussion Session***

After the end of the open discussion, there was a group discussion, where participants are divided into three independent groups Government Employee Group (GO Group), NGO Employee group (NGO Group), and Female Union Member group. All of them mentioned their activities, service, and how they can provide service to people to get a better life. Also, they suggest the way to get those services. They have conducted group work on issues and challenges for development and dissemination of appropriate CCAT to the poor women and socially disadvantaged sections of the society.



কলিকাতা মহানগরী GO-গ্রুপ

- ১। কৃষি উপাদানে নারীদের উদ্বুদ্ধকরণে হাত কাশলে প্রসিদ্ধন দৌড় থাকি (DAE)
- ২। উর্জন খেঁচকের মাধ্যমে নারীদের কৃষিকাজে সচেতনতা বৃদ্ধি কর। (DAE)
- ৩। গ্রুপ ডেভেলপ কৃষি প্রসিদ্ধনে কম পক্ষে নারীকে ৩০% অংশ গ্রহন নিশ্চিত কর। (DAE)
- ৪। সুদৃঢ় প্রান্তিক কৃষানীদের প্রাচীনতা, অর্থ প্রেরণ আর্জনে ব্যবহার্যী সঙ্গী, সীমিত জালায় নিয়ন্ত্রণে, তরমুজ জাচ অংশ গ্রহন নিশ্চিত করি। (DAE)
- ৫। 1 PM কৃষক মাঠ ক্লাসে নারীকে ২৫% অংশ গ্রহন অর্থাৎ পারিবেশ বাস্তব ও নিবাসিত মাঠ গ্রহণের প্রসিদ্ধন দৌড় থাকি। (DAE)
- ৬। শিক্ষায় অংশ গ্রহন ও জ্ঞানের আর্জনীতে সঙ্গী-জাচ-দুই উদ্বুদ্ধ অর্থাৎ হাত কাশলে (দমাগে ২৫) (EDU)

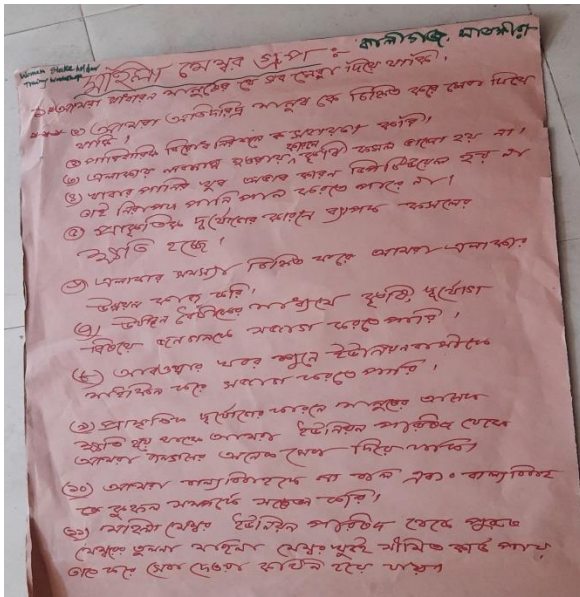


কলিকাতা মহানগরী NGO গ্রুপ Women Stakeholder Training Workshop 26 April 2022

সুজ্ঞান পানি :-

- \* স্বাস্থ্য পানি সংরক্ষণের জন্য পানির ট্যাংক এর ব্যবস্থা করা।
- \* পি.এস.এস. এর ব্যবস্থা করা।
- \* রেইন ওয়াটার হারেস্টিং এর ব্যবস্থা করা।
- \* উন্নতমানের প্রকৌশলীর মাধ্যমে যোগাযোগ করিয়ে দেওয়ার ব্যবস্থা করা।
- \* বিভিন্ন NGO যারা WASH নিয়ে কাজ করে তাদের মাধ্যমে যোগাযোগ করিয়ে দেওয়া।
- \* সংশ্লিষ্ট বিভিন্ন NGO এর কাছ থেকে ধানের ব্যবস্থা করে দেওয়া।





*Group work and Presentation*

After the end of the group discussion session, the DD-DWA talks about how to overcome Climate Change and its effects and how all the GOs and NGOs are working together to help all the vulnerable populations which consist of mostly women and children. He also said that we have to learn the adaptation processes and it is necessary to implement them as per the requirement.

At the end of the day, the UNO says that due to climate change there is and rapid change in the amount of saline land, the amount of saline land is constantly increasing. But this land is now being brought under cultivation. If all the saline lands can be brought under cultivation, then there will be a revolution in the agriculture of the country. The government has taken a 10-year master plan for the development of agriculture in the south. In the plan taken in 2014, the priority sectors have been identified as crops, fisheries and livestock, nutrition, water resources management, development of drainage management, agri-trade, agricultural credit, and increasing the skills of manpower associated with the agricultural sector, etc.

At the end of the UNO’s speech, Mr. Monowarul Islam concludes it by giving a brief speech about Satkhira and that it is one of the climate hot-spot zones for all the disasters that occur. Their ecological, geographical, and environmental context is different. It has more negative impacts than positive ones due to climate change and so, a joint effort is required for all the participants present from different sectors can work together to make a good change in make the situation more favorable. He also said that if we can use the abilities we consist of, only then we will be able to be a safe population from all the disasters of climate change. As a result, today’s workshop is regarding the use of our knowledge at the field level and building a link between each other while it is considered to be an integrated process to work together.