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# INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREA CO-MANAGEMENT (IPAC)

## GRANTS COMPLETION REPORT LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT FUND (LDF)

(NOVEMBER 2010 – NOVEMBER 2012)



**November 29, 2012**

This report was produced for review by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). It was prepared by International Resources Group (IRG).

**Cover Photo:**

A Tribal women group in Modhupur National Park at Tangail, receiving 3-months tailoring training by expert master, on the way to their self-employment; one of many successful multi-component grants projects of the IPAC Landscape Development Fund (LDF); the said project have been implemented by the Rasulpur Co-Management Committee, a forest protected area.

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USAID Contract N° EPP-I-00-06-00007-00

Task Order No: EPP-I-01-06-00007-00

November 29, 2012

Submitted to:

USAID/Bangladesh

Submitted By:



International Resources Group (IRG)

With subcontractors:

WWF-USA, dTS, East-West Center

Environmental Law Institute, Epler-Wood International

The WorldFish Center, CNRS, CODEC

BELA, Asiatic M&C, Oasis Transformation, Module Architects, IUB/JU

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# ACRONYMS

ACF	Assistant Conservator of Forests
ADP	Annual Development Plan
AIG	Alternative Income Generation
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
CHT	Chittagong Hill Tracts
CMC	Co-Management Committees and Councils
CMO	Co-Management Organization
COP	Chief of Party
DC	District Commissioner
DCOP	Deputy Chief of Party
DFO	Divisional Forest Officer
DFO	District Fisheries Officer
DoE	Department of Environment
DoF	Department of Fisheries
ECA	Ecologically Critical Area
ECNEC	Executive Committee for National Economic Council
EWC	East-West Center
FD	Forest Department
FRUG	Federation of Resource User Groups
FUG	Forest User's Groups
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GoB	Government of Bangladesh
IPAC	Integrated Protected Area Co-management
IQC	Indefinite Quantity Contract
LOI	Leaders of Influence
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MACH	Management of Aquatic Ecosystems through Community Husbandry
MoEF	Ministry of Environment and Forests
MoFL	Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock
MoL	Ministry of Land
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NRM	Natural Resources Management
NS	Nishorgo Shahayak (Facilitator)
NSP	Nishorgo Support Project
PA	Protected Area
PMARA	Performance Monitoring and Applied Research Associate
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan

PPP	Public Private Partnerships
REDD	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
RIMS	Resource Information and Management System
RMO	Resource Management Organizations
RUG	Resource User Groups
SEALS	Sundarbans Environment and Livelihood Support
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises
SOW	Statement of Work
UCC	Union Conservation Committee
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
VC	Value Chain (of conservation enterprises)
VCC	Village Conservation Committee
VCG	Village Conservation Group

# COVER STORY

The LDF and some other financial supports paved the initial scopes for CMOs to earn and implement their program for conservation of natural resources and so far, IPAC project facilitates channeling these funds to the CMOs. CMOs, through consultation in regular monthly meetings, identify the challenges and prioritize program activities and develop their project proposals as per requirements of the donor. IPAC project here facilitates the CMOs to comply and maintain donor-specific PP submission template and guideline and relevant supporting documents are to be submitted within deadline. Through the reviewing process, GoB Depts. and USAID as the donor may ask to change, revise or add more issues to submit further. As the grassroots and voluntary organization, it is really a challenge to go through with this complex process; and so CMOs' pass the first steps of capacity building, and enter into real field of projects' implementation and financial management.

Based on the grants agreement signing, the CMOs as part of project implementation, go with the series of field level activities like appropriate beneficiary selection, procurement of inputs, organize technical orientation linking GoB extension services, distribution of supports, and continue monitoring in harvesting/production processes, etc. Also, throughout the project period, CMOs comply with donor's terms and conditions, GOB compliances and generally accepted Accounting procedures, monitor budget and work plan, record keeping, meet audit and stakeholders' recommendations, etc. As a result, upon completion of LDF or donor supported projects, the CMOs are really experienced with enormous practical skills and expertise. IPAC continuously seek and invites donor partners for funding these CMOs and different donors like Arannayk Foundation, GIZ, IDLC and others came forward with revolving funds and subsidies.

## IPAC Clusters and Sites

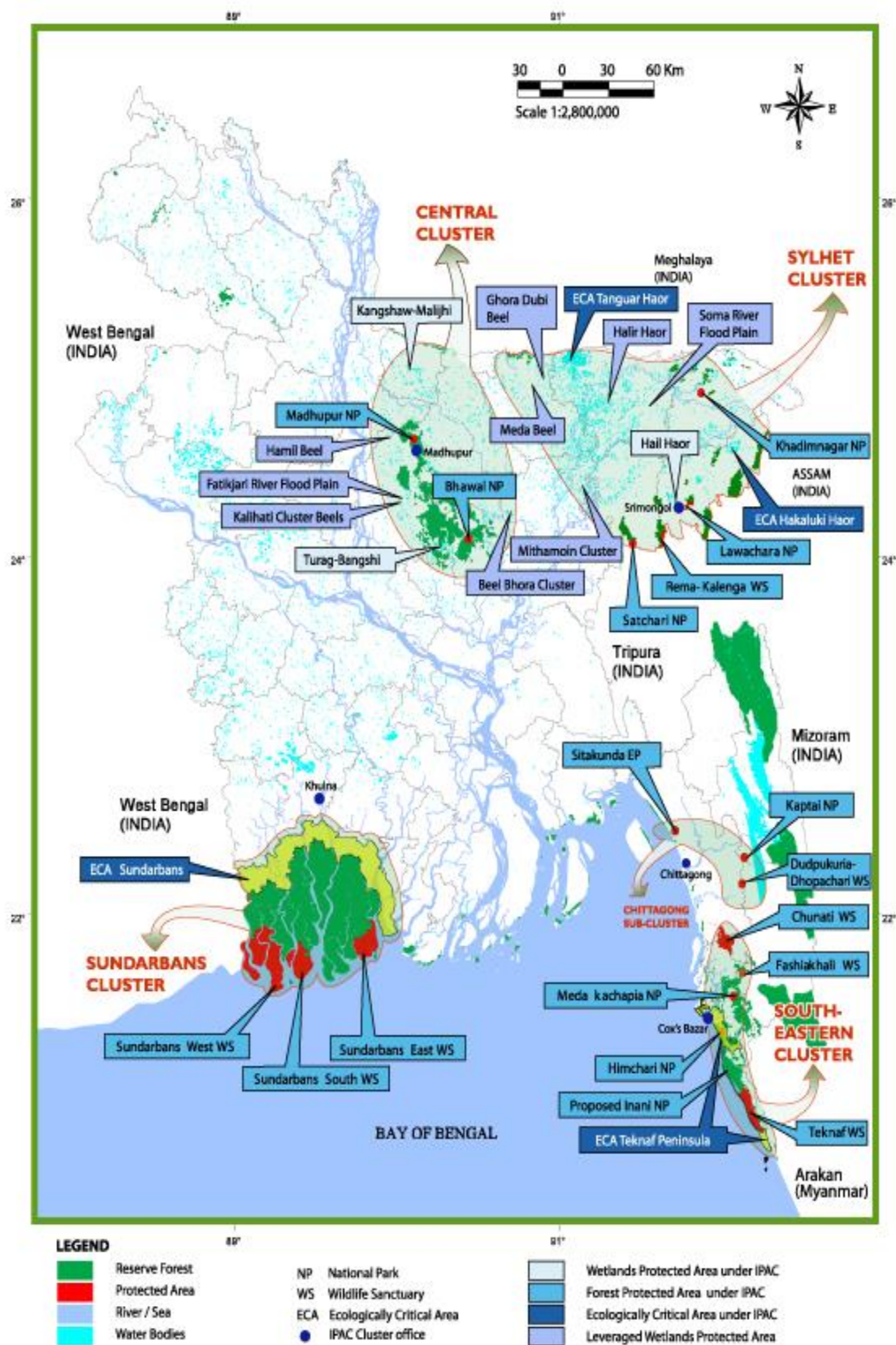


Figure: IPAC project sites



## GoB Partners for IPAC LDF Grants



### Protected Areas where LDF Grants implemented

Cluster	Number of CMOs	Protected Areas
South Eastern Cluster	9 CMCs	Chunati Wildlife Sanctuary, Fasiakhali WS, Medhakachapia National Park, Himchari NP, Inani NP/ECA, Teknaf WS, and Teknaf Peninsula ECA
Sundarbans Cluster	4 CMCs	Sundarbans East Division, West Division, and Sundarbans ECA
Central Cluster	2 CMCs and 9 RMOs	Modhupur NP, Turag-Bongshi River Basin (RB), Kongsha-Malijhee RB, and Bhawal NP
Chittagong & CHT Cluster	4 CMCs	Kaptai NP, Dudpukuria-Dopachari WS, and Sitakunda Eco-Park
Sylhet Cluster	4 CMCs, 8 RMOs and 2 ECA Central CMOs	Lawachara NP, Satchari NP, Rema-Kalenga WS, Khadimnagar NP, Hail Haor, TanguarHaor ECA, and Hakaluki Haor Ecologically Critical Area (ECA)



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

IPAC uses the LDF (Landscape Development Fund) and other donor funds as a tool for financing for improved conservation of Bangladesh's Protected Areas (PAs) throughout the Forest, Wetland and Ecologically Critical Areas through building their institutional and management capacity while providing demonstrable economic benefits to PA dependent communities. The significance of LDF and other such funds include, projects are directly awarded to the CMOs against their conservation-focused project proposals, CMOs implement the project and responsible for reporting and monitoring. In most cases, project activities prioritize strengthening conservation of PA landscapes, habitat improvements and support sustainable livelihood development program to develop adaptive capacity to cope with climate change vulnerability; and target the poor PA dependent communities especially women, ethnic and young to ensure active participation in natural resources conservation and management.

Generally, the CMOs target the following innovative areas as the said project components:

- Plantations in the PA landscape as habitat restoration and Social Forestry program while beneficiaries get 75% share of final harvests;
- Improved drinking water facilities development (e.g. tube-well, dug-well, Pond-sand-filters, etc.)
- Eco-tourism facilities development like small trail bridges, tourism boats, etc.
- A range of Alternative Income Generation activities with innovative ideas and conservation friendly (mushroom cultivation, net fishing in lake, bamboo and other handicrafts, ethnic weaving of souvenir products, poultry/cow fattening, hybrid fruits gardening, small/ferrying business, local transport system, flower and general nursery, etc.)

## IPAC CONTRACT REFERENCE

LDF refers the SECTION C III D Task B, Component 3 –Site Specific Implementation Of Co-Management In Protected Areas under the technical support contract for IPAC was awarded on June 4, 2008 by USAID/Bangladesh through the place indefinite quantity contract (IQC) through task order no. EPP-I-01-06-00007-00. The IPAC contract provides for technical advisory services and other support to be provided over a five year period (2008-2013) to GoB environment, forestry and fisheries agencies responsible for the conservation of wetland and forest protected areas across Bangladesh. In support of the project implementation, IPAC is in a position of providing LDF grants for improved conservation of the Protected Areas (PA) under DPP of the said three Govt. depts.

## LDF PP DEVLEOPMENT PROCESS

As per the USAID approved Competitive Grants Manual for IPAC Landscape Development Fund (LDF), IPAC invited grant applications from the Forest Dept. constituted Co-Management Committees; the Dept. of Fisheries constituted Resource Management Organizations; and the Dept. of Environment constituted ECA Co-Management Committees, for programs on improved biodiversity conservation and to benefit communities through enhanced livelihood opportunities. In doing so, a number of application tools are developed and distributed to CMOs by IPAC Grants management team. To be developed effective and efficient project proposals, IPAC facilitated its continued technical support to all applicant CMOs, series of feedback and inputs are given, until and unless satisfied to be the proposals preferable to Grants Review Committee (GRC).

As part of PP submission, CMOs have to open separate Bank A/C in a scheduled bank; and sign and approve their own Constitution, Financial & Administrative Policy Manual. Also, select pro-poor and PA dependent households and draft beneficiary list according to prescribed guideline.

## **LDF PP REVIEW PROCESS**

IPAC has employed a two-tiered review process beginning with concept papers and finally full technical proposals from the CMOs. To ensure all required issues are incorporated and compliances are maintained through the proposals, IPAC reviewed through the comprehensive checklist and Grants manual prescribed manner. Activities are prepared and sends to all respective GRC members prior to attend GRC meeting.

The Grants Review Committee, consisting of IPAC Project Directors from GoB's Forest Dept., Dept. of Fisheries and Dept. of Environment as well as IRG/IPAC staff (COP and Grants Manager), after detailed review of the grants proposals, have recommended for USAID approval.

All the members of Grants Review Committee formally reviewed and ranked the final proposals by employing the review sheet specifying strategic fit, technical approach, organizational capabilities, gender considerations, and cost effectiveness. The Review Committee has by consensus recommended all the proposals for approval.

In general, IPAC facilitate developing and selecting innovative project activities (may be or may not be replicable in other areas), especially alternative income generating options, fresh water facilities, landscape development facilities, etc. that are best suitable, locally demandable and linked to PA conservation, targeting joint patrol groups and/or poor natural resource dependent communities.

## **APPROVAL AND AWARDS**

The proposals along with synopsis and GRC meeting minutes are sent with IPAC Chief of Party's forwarding letter to USAID for their approval. Small grants are provided to Co-Management Organizations for community-based livelihood improvement for biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation in the landscapes of Protected Areas (PAs).



Based on the approval, IPAC made formal contractual agreements outlining details terms and compliances, signed by COP and CMO's President. The agreement package includes also monthly progress report, monthly financial report, Fund Request, finalized PP and USAID standard and special provisions.

## PROJECTS' IMPLEMENTATION

At the beginning of LDF project, the awarded CMOs share the activities and compliances in their monthly CMO meeting and/or specially called meeting, and finalized the beneficiary list. The CMO requested to IPAC for fund disbursement as per prescribed format. Respective CMOs formed and informed IPAC a Project Implementation Committee (PIC) at local level to ensure timely and smooth implementation of field activities including transparent and efficient procurement of input supports. Also, the PIC performed day to day monitoring of all activities and be accountable to CMOs Office Bearers including the Forest Range Officer as the Member Secretary.

The bank A/C is operated transparently with 3 signatories (President/Vice President, Member Secretary and Treasurer). Each and all the CMOs employed an Accountant-cum-Admin Assistant for maintaining books of accounts (Cash & Ledger book, Cheque register, Vouchers file, etc.) of LDF projects as well as performing other financial and administrative aspects of CMOs. Throughout the implementation of project activities, the CMOs have to ensure all the terms and compliances of USAID/IPAC and their own policies, procedures as well.

IPAC site team is actively involved with CMOs for successful implementation of LDF projects within stipulated timeframe.

## CAPACITY BUILDING OF BENEFICIARIES AND CMOs

Institutional Capacity building is an integrated approach of program implementation and monitoring, organizational and financial management capacity development. Sound and transparent financial management is critical important for the CMOs towards their journey to the expected sustainability.

To support long-term sustainability, IPAC uses the LDF as a tool for the capacity building of Co-Management Organizations (CMO). LDF is granted to CMOs directly and is managed by them.

The targeted beneficiaries are provided spot based orientation and training on their respective conservation linked alternative income generating activities, involving local Govt. expert like Forest Officer, Fisheries Officer, Agriculture Officer, Horticulture Officer and livestock officer. Also, IPAC deployed trained Nishorgo Sahayaks (volunteers) for each Village Conservation Forum (VCF) for day to day supports to beneficiaries for maximize their production level.





To build the financial and organizational capacity building of CMOs with a view to develop their long term financial sustainability, financial management training is urgent as part of broader CMO sustainability efforts. To fulfill this need, IPAC planned and conducted in PY4 (2011) a 2 days Grants and Financial Management Training program for each CMO, at Cluster level. In the fourth quarter of PY4, IPAC handed over to each CMOs a revised and standard Policy Manual on Financial, Procurement, Administration and HR Management in line with Govt. rules and donors compliances. Additionally, IPAC developed a comprehensive grants and financial training manual for CMOs and will be sending copies to CMOs soon.



Also, IPAC have planned in PY5 (2012) for conducting Project proposal writing, climate change adaptation financing, PA entry fee system, and revised Policy orientation.

## **PROGRESS MONITORING AND FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT**

IPAC central and cluster teams monitored the LDF projects with continued and routine follow up and progress tracking and oversight the financial performance and viability. They attended meetings of CMOs, visited project sites, checked and review books of accounts regular basis and provided their recommendations and comments. An approved grant is disbursed in 3 installments; first installment at the time of signing the agreement, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> installment are based on timely accomplishment of activities ensuring the quality. All the CMOs had to have submitted monthly progress and financial reports to IPAC regular basis.

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Over the project period, significant progress was made in facilitating the development of strong LDF proposals, and implementation by the CMOs located at countrywide protected areas. A total of 19 LDF grants supported projects are being implemented, which resulted in active participation in Biodiversity conservation improvement of respective protected areas. Total value of IPAC LDF Grants is equivalent BDT of \$125,000.

With the Grant Review Committee consensus and USAID approval, IPAC awarded LDF Grants to its new eight (8) CMOs of Forest PAs during last March 2011, with the total grants committed BDT 45,65,442 that is in successful implementation up to with Technical facilitation of IPAC team, to be completed on next March 2012. All the said Round 1 projects are under different IPAC clusters countrywide, i. e in the PAs of Himchari National Park, Medhakachapia NP, Fasiakhali Wildlife Sanctuary, Kaptai NP, Sundarbans East WS, and Khadimnagar NP.

Sl		Name of Grantee	Nature of the Project	Grants Approved (BDT)
1	<b>Sylhet Cluster</b>	Khadimnagar National Park Co-Management Committee	Mushroom Cultivation; and Dug Well restoration i. e cleaning, excavation works for drinking water for local villagers	<b>393,782</b>
2	<b>Southeast Cluster</b>	Medhakachapia Co-Management Committee	Livelihood Support e. g local bamboo products (Lai/Toloi), fishing net weaving, materials supply for salt cultivation, Flowers nursery, and Safe Drinking Water for CPG & VCF Members	<b>452,900</b>
3	Do	Fashiakhali Co-Management Committee	Excavation of Pond for Fish Culture aimed to Livelihood Support for Community Patrolling Groups	<b>560,200</b>
4	Do	Himchari Co-Management Committee	Alternative income generation e. g Mushroom cultivation, Grocery shop, Pond fish culture, Rickshaw van, Poultry rearing, Agriculture, Sewing Cow fattening/rearing; Bamboo and cane made product, Mobile hygienic seasonal fruits van and ethnic weaving among participants from CPG & VCF Members	<b>687,000</b>
5	<b>Sundarbans Cluster</b>	Sarankhola Saha-babosthapon Sangathan	Livelihood improvement of the local communities contributing for Sundarbans conservation through pond fish culture, Duck & hen farming, and Vegetable cultivation	<b>900,000</b>
6	Do	Chandpai Saha-babosthapon Sangathan	Providing Passenger Van and support to drinking water of 1800 households by excavating & developing pond sand filter	<b>803,000</b>
7	<b>Chittagong &amp; CHT Cluster</b>	Karnafuly Co-Management Committee	Local Boat and Pond Fish culture to enhance livelihood of CPG members	<b>300,430</b>
8	Do	Kaptai Co-Management Committee	Local Boat and Fish culture (Pond and Net) to enhance livelihood of CPG members	<b>468,130</b>

Under Round 2, IPAC awarded other nine (9) CMOs including Forest, Wetland PAs and ECAs, with the total grants committed BDT 44,66,200 for the period September 11, 2011 to September 10, 2012. The projects have been implementing in the PAs of Dudpukuria-Dopachari WS, Teknaf WS, Aura Baura Beel under Kangsmalijhee river basin, Moduphur NP, Tanguar Haor and Hakaluki Haor.

Protected Area	CMO	Nature of the Project Activities	Approved Grants (BDT)
Tanguar Haor	Tanguar Haor CCC	Livelihoods improvement of dependents based on Swamp Plantation; 10,000 saplings at 10 Hectares Areas with the species Hizol ( <i>Barringtonia acutangula</i> ) and Koroch ( <i>Pongamia pinnata</i> )	477,805
Hakaluki Hair	Akota ECA BBSS	2 (two) Wetland/Fish Sanctuary Management, and Duck Farming activities with the aim to alternative livelihoods development of poor dependents	492,765

Teknaf Wildlife Sanctuary	Teknaf CMC	Scaling Up Livelihoods Support (Hybrid fruits and bamboo seedling raising, playground improvement for rental purpose; and Eco-Rickshaw and Van) and Nursery Development (rose, fruit bearing, medicinal, wood/timber) with 40,000 saplings	498,500
Teknaf Wildlife Sanctuary	Shilkhali CMC	Enhancing Livelihoods Improvement Activities for Forest Dependents (Vegetables business, Dry Fish business, Betel Leaf and Nut business, and Eco-Rickshaw and Van)	499,800
Teknaf Wildlife Sanctuary	Whykong CMC	Strengthening Livelihoods Improvement Options for Landscape Poor People (Pond fish culture, Vegetables business, Fresh Fish business, and Eco-Rickshaw and Van)	498,800
Madhupur National Park	Dokhola CMC	Livelihood Improvement Support for CFW & VCF Members (Poultry rearing, Hare/Rabbit rearing, Grocery shop, Rickshaw/van pulling, Tailoring/sewing, and Tree Nursery/Medicinal Plant development, Pig rearing by Ethnic community, and Hybrid fruits gardening)	499,150
Madhupur National Park	Jaus Rasulpur CMC	Supporting Alternative Livelihood Development Activities to CFW & VCF Members (Poultry rearing, Tailoring/sewing, and Pig rearing by Ethnic community, and Pond Fish Culture)	499,400
Kangsha Malijhee River basins	Aura Baura Beel RMO	Sanctuary Development & Maintenance, Office room and other Livelihood Development activities (for Poultry rearing, Grocery shop, Pond fish culture, Rickshaw/van pulling, Tailoring/sewing, and Vegetable cultivation, and hawking by women)	500,000
Dudpukuria-Dopachari Wildlife Sanctuary	Dudpukuria CMC	Sustainable Livelihoods Improvement Activities for Community Patrol Groups (Pond fish culture with seasonal vegetables cultivation, Hybrid Fruits and Bamboo saplings raising)	499,980

## SUNDARBANS CLUSTER, KHULNA

### Chandpai Soho-babosthapon Songothon

Project title:

Alternative income generation of 30 households by Passenger Van, and ensure drinking water of 1200 households by excavating & developing pond sand filter

Location/Site of the project: Sundarbans, and Dhansagar Union, Mongla Upazila, Bagerhat

Total Approved Grants Budget: BDT 803,000

Grant period: March 8, 2011 to March 7, 2012





Activities of the project:  
The project comprised with 30 HHs for separate Passenger Vans, 1800 HHs for 3 ponds development.

## **Sarankhola Saha-babosthapon Sangathan**

Project title:

Livelihood development of forest dependent people through revolving fund, Livelihood improvement of the communities of Sarankhola contributing for Sundarbans conservation through pond fish culture, Duck & hen farming, and Vegetable cultivation

Location/Site of the project: Southkhali, & Rayenda Union, Sarankhola Upazila, Bagerhat

Total Approved Budget: BDT 900,000

Grant period: March 8, 2011 to March 7, 2012

Activities of the project:

The project involved with 80 HHs for Pond fish culture, 40 HHs for Duck & Hen farming, 20 HHs for Vegetable cultivation.

## **SOUTHEAST CLUSTER, COX'S BAZAR**

### **Fashiakhali Co-Management Committee**

Project title:

Renovation of Pond for Fish Culture Aimed to Livelihood Support for Community Patrolling Groups

Location/Site of the project:

Guiachara under Dulahajara beat, and Maigarnaw Ghoan, Chakaria Upazila, Cox's Bazar

Total Approved Grants Budget: **BDT 560,200**

Grant period: March 8, 2011 to March 7, 2012





Activities of the project:

The project included with 42 CPGs for the Renovation of two Ponds so to make it functional for fish culture.



## Himchari Co-Management Committee

Project title: Alternative Income Generation for Livelihood Support to CPG & VCF Members

Location/Site of the project: Kuniapalong, South Mithachari Union, Ramu Upazila, and Jhlongia Union, Municipality area of Sadar Upazila, Cox's Bazar

Total Approved Grants Budget: BDT **687,000**

Grant period: March 8, 2011 to March 7, 2012



### Activities of the project:

The project included with 30 CPG members for mushroom cultivation, 5 for Grocery and Tourist shop, 5 for Pond fish culture, 10 for rickshaw van, 5 for poultry rearing, 5 for agriculture, 5 for sewing and 10 for cow fattening/rearing. 82 men and women from VCF benefited on bamboo and cane made product development, 3 mobile hygienic seasonal fruits van and 20 ethnic community people are benefited under weaving value chain trade from project directly.



### **Medhakachapia Co-Management Committee**

Project title: Livelihood Support and Safe Drinking Water for CPG & VCF Members

Location/Site of the project: Kutakhali Union, Chakaria Upazila, Cox's Bazar

Total Approved Grants Period: BDT 452,900

Grant period: March 8, 2011 to March 7, 2012



Activities of the project:

The project included with 21 CPGs for salt cultivation, 100 VCFs for bamboo products, 50 VCFs for fishing net weaving, 10 CPGs for Flowers nursery, 800 community people with 200 families for Tube well.

### **Teknaf Co-Management Committee**

Project title: Scaling Up Livelihoods Support and Nursery Development to Ensure Sustainable Biodiversity Conservation

Location/Site of the project: Baroitoli, Karontoli, Domdomia, Jadimora, Mochunee Para, Naya Para, S.Domdomia, Pankhali and Lachuaprang of Teknaf, Cox's Bazar

Amount of Grants Approved (BDT): 498,500

Grant period: September 11, 2011 to September 2012



Activities of the project:

The project identified initially 196 mostly dependent HHs those who have no other option to cope for providing skill and input support for mitigating the situation. It includes Hybrid seedling distribution among CPG members (2 amrapali, 1 Bawfol, and Bamboo sapling); Nursery raising (rose, fruit bearing, medicinal, wood/timber) with 40,000 saplings; Improvement of a playground that will be rented to be used for football matches, fairs, driving training, etc.) at local level; and providing 5 Eco-Rickshaw and 5 Carrier Van that may be pulled by CPG members and/or poor VCF members.

### Shilkhali Co-Management Committee

Project title:

Sustainable Conservation through Enhancing Livelihoods Improvement Activities for Forest Dependents

Location/Site of the project: Jahazpora, Shamlapur, and Chowkiderpara of Shilkhali, Teknaf, Cox's Bazar

Amount of Grants Approved (BDT): 499,800

Grant period: September 11, 2011 to September 2012





Activities of the project:

The project comprised with 122 HHs mostly dependent HHs those who have no other option to cope and it includes providing supports for Vegetables business individually, Dry Fish business in group, Betel Leaf and Nut business in group, and 5 Eco-Rickshaw and 5 Carrier Van that may be pulled by CPG members and/or poor VCF members.

### **Whykong Co-Management Committee**

Project title: Improved Biodiversity Conservation through Strengthening Livelihoods Improvement Options for Landscape Poor People

Location/Site of the project: Daingakhata, Laturikhola, Horikhola, Lombaghona, Komboniapara, Moheshkhaliapara, Amtoli, Unchiprang, Potibonia, Kanjorpara, Korachipara, and Riokong of Whykong, Teknaf, Cox's Bazar

Amount of Grants Approved (BDT): 498,800

Grant period: September 11, 2011 to September 2012



Activities of the project:

The project identified initially 108 mostly dependent HHs those who have no other option to cope for providing skill and input support for mitigating the situation. It includes Hybrid fruits and bamboo seedling distribution; Pond fish culture in 3 groups, Vegetables business individually, and Fresh Fish business in 4 groups; and providing 6 Eco-Rickshaw and 6 Carrier Van that may be pulled by CPG members and/or poor VCF members.

## **CHITTAGONG & CHT CLUSTER, KAPTAI**

### **Kaptai Co-Management Committee**

Project title: Boat and Fish culture (Pond and Net) to enhance livelihood of CPG members

Location/Site of the project: Kaptai Range (on the periphery of the Kaptai National Park), Kaptai, Rangamati (Warga Union, Katai sadar, Bilachari Upazila to Farua Bazar)

Total Approved Grants Period: BDT 468,130

Grant period: March 8, 2011 to March 7, 2012





Activities of the project:

The project included 40 HHs for Two Ponds for fish culture and Fishing Net, and 20 HHs for one eco boat making and operation for 18,000 community people and Tourists yearly.

### **Karnaphuly Co-Management Committee**

Project title: Eco-Boat and Pond Fish culture to enhance livelihood of CPG members

Location/Site of the project: Karnafuly Range (on the periphery of the Kaptai National Park), Kaptai, Rangamati (Chittmorng Union, and Kaptai Sadar Upazila)

Total Approved Grants Period: BDT 300,430

Grant period: March 8, 2011 to March 7, 2012



Activities of the project:

The project included 20 HHs for Two Ponds for fish culture and 20 HHs for one eco boat making and operation for 13,500 Tourists, and 67,500 community people yearly; also 14 HHs engaged in associated works as casual employment. This is particularly Youth focused, and may carry out maximum advantage to local community and tourists as well, and tried to cover a good number of beneficiaries; planned activities are quite innovative, also covered priority components.

### **Dudpukuria Co-Management Committee**

Project title: Improved Conservation of DDWS ensuring Sustainable Livelihoods Improvement Activities for Community Patrol Groups

Location/Site of the project: Dudpukuria and Kamalachari beat under Kkurusia Range (On the periphery of DDWS)

Amount of Grants Approved (BDT): 499,980

Grant period: September 11, 2011 to September 10, 2012

Activities of the project:



The project identified initially 60 (54 CPG members and 4 VCF members) mostly dependent HHs those who have no other option to cope for providing skill and input support for mitigating the situation. It includes supports for Pond fish culture (in 3 groups in 3 ponds of 150 Decimals Each) with seasonal vegetables (papaya, Onions, beans, bottle- gourd and spinach) cultivation in the banks, Hybrid Fruits (600 Amrapali and 300 Guava) and 400 Bamboo saplings distribution to be raised (1300 trees) at household level.

## SYLHET CLUSTER, SREEMONGOL

### Khadimnagar National Park Co-Management Committee

Project title: KNP Mushroom Cultivation and Dug Well Renovation Project

Location/Site of the project: Bahor Colony, Khadimnagar, Sylhet

Amount of Grants Approved (BDT): 393,782

Grant period: March 8, 2011 to September 10, 2012





Activities of the project:

The project consisted of with 40 Households from VCF for Mushroom cultivation through 3 different sheds, and 120 Households for old Dug Well Renovation.

### Akota ECA Babosthapona Bohumukhi Samobay Somiti

Project title: Baiya-Gajua Beel Wetland Sanctuary Management and Duck Farming Project

Location/Site of the project: *Baiya beel and Gajua beel* is located under administrative jurisdiction *Barolekha Upazila* of *Moulvibazar* district, but the common user and potential communities that manages the sanctuary are living in *Niz Gilachara, Ashighar & Judhistipur-Badedenly* village of *Ghilachara* union of *Fenchugonj Upazila* under *Sylhet* district.

Amount of Grants Approved (BDT): 492, 765

Grant period: September 11, 2011 to September 10, 2012



Activities of the project:

The project includes Duck rearing along with two-water body management out of five govt. declared Sanctuaries, with the aim to protect biodiversity of at least two interconnected sanctuary water bodies (*Baiya beel*; *Uttar Gajua Daksmi Gajua beel*) covering 263.20 acre including the deepest perennial parts approximately 07 acres (10% of dry season water state), 200 feet from the periphery. The project also includes skill building and input support to most dependent 20 fishers HHs for duck rearing (1600 Ducks) whose livelihood would be affected due to banning on access and fishing to aid proper sanctuary management

### **Tanguar Haor ECA Central Co-Management Committee**

Project title: Swamp Afforestation Project

Location/Site of the project: *Pati choror Kanda* located in between the *Nowhal beel* and *Patlai River* of the *haor* basin at Lamagaon, Tahirpur, Sunamgonj

Amount of Grants Approved (BDT): 477,805

Grant period: September 11, 2011 to September 10, 2012





#### Activities of the project:

The project provide support to Central Co-management committee and project is directly implemented by the *Dakshin Sreepur* Union Co-management committee with active support of the CCC for expanding swamp forest coverage by establishing plantation of 10,000 saplings at the periphery of Pati Chorer Kanda located in between the *Nomhal beel* and *Patlai* River of the *baor* basin covered 10 ha of land (around 23 acre). Species of plants would be *Hizol* (*Barringtonia acutangula*) and *Koroch* (*Pongamia pinnata*) where *Koroch* are the majority

After 10 years, beneficiaries can start getting cash benefit by selling trimmed/pruned branches with sustainable socio-economic development of 46 acute dependent HHs, each household will be owner of 217 trees and may receive around BDT-15,000/year from rotational pruning (from 05 yearly rotation, in each rotation 43 trees can be pruned) and roughly BDT-5000 from seedling sale. Additionally, 20 HHs will be benefitted from associated employment, and 25 HHs from indirect associated works. Also, a special campaign is organized in 09 neighboring villages to aware, motivate and involve surrounding communities towards successful swamp plantation and its protection

### CENTRAL CLUSTER, MODHUPUR

#### Aura Baura Beel Resources Management Organization

Project title: Sanctuary Development & Maintenance and other Livelihood Development activities for the Sustainability of Aura Baura Beel RMO

Location/Site of the project: Kamaria, G. mominakanda, Bailia, Sonaborkanda, Tatalpur, Protabia, Kandapara, Digharpar villages under the union Bajitkhila and Pakuria of Sherpur Sadar

Amount of Grants Approved (BDT): 999,850

Grant period: September 11, 2011 to September 10, 2012



Activities of the project:

The project comprised with the Office set up, a new Fish Sanctuary establishment, and maintenance of the existing Fish Sanctuary under the RMO. In the fishing season, there are surroundings 200 HHs will be fishing from the said sanctuaries and nearby water bodies. Additionally, the project includes livelihood improvement activities of 125 HHs from Resources User Groups and local poor communities that are solely dependent on the beel for their daily lives.

### **Dokhola Co-Management Committee**

Project title: Livelihood Improvement Support for Selected CFW & VCF Members to ensure the Bio-Diversity Conservation

Location/Site of the project: Pirgacha Bormonpara, Shainamari Moddyapara, Amlitola Missionpara, Aronkhola Memberpara, Chapaid Purbopara, Bhutia Uttarpara, Beduria, Gilagacha, Pirgacha Dokkinpara, Uttar Chunia, Horindhora Pashchimpara, Pirgacha Daborpara, Shainamari Linepara, Shainamari Moddyapara, Pegamari villages of Dokhola range, Modhupur, Tangail

Amount of Grants Approved (BDT): 499,150



Grant period: September 11, 2011 to September 10, 2012



Activities of the project:

The project comprised with the livelihood improvement activities of 131 HHs from selected Community Forest Worker (CFW) and Village Conservation Forum (VCF) members that are solely dependent on the National Park for their daily lives. The components included supports for Poultry rearing (Hen/Duck), Hare (Rabbit) rearing, Grocery shop, Rickshaw/van pulling, Tailoring /sewing & accessories, and Tree Nursery/Medicinal Plant development, Pig rearing by the Ethnic community, and Hybrid fruits gardening in groups.

### **Jaus (Rasulpur) Co-Management Committee**

Project title: Improvement of Bio-Diversity Conservation through Supporting Alternative Livelihood Development Activities to CFW &VCF Members

Location/Site of the project: Gachabari, Jalchatra, Beribaid, Getchua Primary School para, Jangalia, Gaira, Joloi, Telki, Kakraguni, Jalabadha, Sadhupara, Bijoypur, Kathalia, Rajbari, Kamlapur, Pahar paboijan, Horinatola, Sataria, Villages of Rasulpur Range, Madhupur, Tangail

Amount of Grants Approved (BDT): 499,400

Grant period: September 11, 2011 to September 10, 2012





#### Activities of the project:

The project comprised with the livelihood improvement activities of 142 HHs from selected Community Forest Worker (CFW) and Village Conservation Forum (VCF) members that are solely dependent on the National Park for their daily lives. The components included supports for Poultry rearing (Hen/Duck), Tailoring /sewing & accessories, and Pig rearing by the Ethnic community, and Pond Fish Culture in groups.

#### MEDIA EXPOSURE



## PROJECT CLOSEOUT AND INTERNAL AUDIT

IPAC uses standard forms and procedures for grants project closeout in the field include both technical deliverables and closing financial reporting for final settlement. IPAC has given the CMOs sufficient time to complete the closeout formalities. The grants team visited all the projects to verify the submitted results and audited the financial books using a questionnaire as well as the built management capacity as a result of grants supported projects. Finally, IPAC provided the Letter of Appreciation to all CMOs for their successful accomplishment of the grants projects.

## PROJECT'S RESULTS AND OURCOME

### Primary Result of Co-management committees

Through the LDF Program CMO develops and strengthen its capacity in the following areas:

- Project Proposal development, Project Implementation and Monitoring at field level
- Progress and Financial Reporting; Budget monitoring
- GoB compliances like VAT, Taxes
- Organizational and Financial Management; Transparent books of Accounts and in Procurement
- Build ability to abide by Policies, procedures on Procurement, Administrative, HR Management
- Bank A/C operation
- Proper and transparent Books of Accounts
- Preparation and maintenance of Filing, Documents
- Deal field oversights by IPAC, USAID, GoB depts., Donors and International Agencies;

### Conservation Outcome

The major component of the project is community based alternative income generating activities that aims on livelihood improvement which contributes achieving the broader objective of Biodiversity conservation and can adapt the capacity against the Global Climate Change vulnerability, through the sustainable and tangible impacts to the livelihoods of targeted community so it creates their unwillingness to depend on the protected forest and build up conservation mentality. CPGs are participating in joint patrolling with Forest Beet Officers; VCF members are very active in forest and wetland resources conservation; also, they are now advocating local communities regarding effective protection of protected areas, and they are now part of Co-management platforms.

## WAY FORWARD TO SUSTAINABILITY

LDF and donor Grants program is the most responsive tool for building sustained institutional capacity of IPAC CMOs as well as supporting demonstrable economic benefits to PA dependent communities. Conservation financing program builds the capacity for financial management as well as delivery of development benefits to PA-dependent poor, especially women, participating in the co-management platform. Over the period, a range of greater initiatives and efforts has been made to facilitate community based livelihood improvement activities, while also addressing broader IPAC objectives of biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation, also strengthening CMO sustainability. Throughout the implementation of this grants supported projects, CMOs develop and strengthen their capacity in project development, management and implementation, and organizational and financial management which builds their skills and experiences with a view to explore future funding opportunities from other sources. With continued technical support and facilitation, Donor partners are now confident to grant the development projects to the CMOs, which in turn,

expected to result in greater and long term financial sustainability of the Co-Management Organizations, and so they are pro-active in improving biodiversity conservation.

## **LESSON LEARNED**

- ✓ Grants program like LDF is useful for Institutional Capacity Building of grass root level Co-management Organizations as starter
- ✓ Dependent Community benefit and incentives are very important for effective conservation of protected areas
- ✓ Continuation of funding (yearly basis) rather than one shot small grant is more effective for consistent conservation efforts and movement
- ✓ Good working relationship between Govt. depts. at local level and concerned CMOs is key to conservation success
- ✓ Considering the voluntary nature of works by the CMOs members, full time skilled staffing is beneficial to strengthen day to day management of CMOs
- ✓ Govt. is not suitable for time bound project, as they delay in cheque clearance

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE PROJECTS**

- ✓ Small Grants program like LDF should be continued
- ✓ Funding should be consistent in yearly basis, responding appropriate needs of PAs, rather than small fixed amount
- ✓ Full time staff should be employed at CMOs level (1 Program staff, 1 Finance staff)
- ✓ Capacity Building efforts should be strengthen for concerned local level Govt. dept. officials including Beet Officers and Forest Guards
- ✓ Project should advocate policy level and central level so that Govt. dept. official will not transfer frequently
- ✓ Project wise Bank A/C should be opened and maintained in local Private Bank.

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