



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

BANGLADESH

INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREA CO-MANAGEMENT (IPAC)

A Summary Report on
Work Planning Session
With Department of Environment
on Co-Management of
Protected Areas

September 22, 2008

This report is made possible by the support of the American People through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The Contents of this report are the sole responsibility of International Resources Group (IRG) and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.

Integrated Protected Area Co-Management (IPAC)

A Summary Report on Work Planning Session With Department of Environment on Co-Management of Protected Areas

Venue: Conference Room, Paribesh Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207

September 22, 2008

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

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

Submitted to :

USAID/Bangladesh

Submitted By :

International Resources Group (IRG)

With subcontractors:

WWF-USA, dTS, East-West Center

Environmental Law Institute, Epler-Wood International

World Fish Center, CIPD, RDRS, CODEC

BELA, Asiatic M&C, Oasis Transformation

Module Architects, IUB/JU



International Resources Group

1211 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 700

Washington, DC 20036

202-289-0100 Fax 202-289-7601

www.irglttd.com

Table of Content

Table of Content	1
1. Introduction	2
2. Objectives & Program Schedule.....	2
3. The Participants	2
4. Workshop Events.....	3
4.1 Inauguration	3
4.2 Presentations; Responses; Questions & Answers	3
4.3 Discussion of DoE Plans and Proposals related to IPAC Goals and Objectives Overall comments and suggestions for IPAC:	5
4.4 Recommendations concerning collaboration between CWBMP and IPAC:	5
4.5 Closing	6
Annex- 1: Program Schedule	7
Annex- 2: List of Participants	8
Annex – 3: Collaborative Governance of Wetlands and Forest Protected Areas (PAs) in Bangladesh.....	9
Annex – 4: Management of Aquatic Ecosystems through Community Husbandry (MACH) Project...	15
Annex – 5: Presentation on Nishorgo Support Project (Accomplishments, lessons learned and remaining challenges).....	29
Annex – 6: Presentation on Integrated Protected Area Co-Management.....	59
Annex – 7: Feed back from DOE on the basis of Workshop minutes.....	69

1. Introduction

Integrated Protected Area Co-Management (IPAC) Project is committed to develop a visible, recognizable national and integrated system of co-managed Protected Areas (PA) covering more than 367,500 hectares directly benefiting over two and a half million population at least four major new protected areas and an expanded array of more than 50 PAs, including forests, wetlands and ecologically critical areas by September 30, 2013.

The IPAC project just has begun in June 2008 and now the essential job is to consult with each of the concerned Government of Bangladesh (GoB) departments viz. Forest Department (FD); Department of Fisheries (DoF); and Department of Environment (DoE) for their understanding about the project and get inputs to achieve the aforesaid purpose.

This is the third 'Brain Storming/Work Planning Session of FD & IPAC in Co-Management of Protected Areas' after DoF's planning workshop.

A half-day workshop was organized at conference hall, Paribesh Bhaban, DOE on 22 September 2008.

2. Objectives & Program Schedule

The objectives of workshop were:

- a. to familiarize DOE staff with the scope and major components of IPAC
- b. to obtain inputs from DOE staff on key aspects to be taken into account in the work planning and implementation of IPAC
- c. to assist in compiling information needed for the DPP for IPAC

The agenda items covered during the sessions were presentations on:

- update of DOE's Coastal and Wetland Biodiversity Management Project (CWBMP), and lessons learnt about Ecologically Critical Areas;
- Accomplishment, lessons learned and remaining challenges from Nishorgo Support Project and Management of Aquatic Ecosystem through Community Husbandry project;
- context, scope and summary of statement of work for IPAC;
- review of DOE plans and priorities related to IPAC project support in the context of DPP preparation (Detail workshop schedule in Annex – 1)

3. The Participants

The workshop was attended by 31 participants of which 20 from DoE including Director General (DG), four Directors, six Deputy Directors, Program Coordinator, National Project Director & Project Manager of CWBMP; Director, Economic Growth Office, and Team Leader, Environment Team both from USAID Bangladesh; senior professionals from development partner organizations viz. Ex-National Coordinator, MACH; Chief of Party, IPAC; Deputy Chief of Party, NSP; Training & Grants Coordinator, NSP were attended (Annex – 3).

Information packets containing documentation on all the presentations and background materials on IPAC were distributed among the participants. Earlier, the draft Technical Project Proforma (TPP) for IPAC was submitted to DOE for wider circulation.

4. Workshop Events

4.1 Inauguration

The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. Khandoker Rashedul Huq, Director General, Department of Environment (DOE); and chaired by Dr. M. Reazuddin, Director (Technical), DOE. USAID/Dhaka was represented by Ms. Anne Williams, Director, USAID/Bangladesh Economic Growth Office; and Dr. Azharul Mazumder, USAID Environment Team Leader. Mr. Bob Winterbottom, Chief of Party, IPAC was attended as leader of his team.

After a welcome address by Dr. M. Reazuddin, Ms. Anne Williams was requested to speak about USAID's objectives related to IPAC. She acknowledged the assistance rendered by DOE in the development of IPAC concepts and community involvement in natural resources management. Stakeholders' involvement in biodiversity conservation was strongly advocated by her.

The DG, DOE inaugurated the workshop as Chief Guest. He extended his warm welcome to USAID supported IPAC project and team. He requested IPAC team to consider important lessons learnt during the implementation of Coastal Wetland Biodiversity Management Project (CWBMP). He noted that some incomplete or unfinished works remain under CWBMP and that could now be included as IPAC activities, since more time is needed to make the ECA program sustainable. An important suggestion made by the DG related to incremental activities to be taken under IPAC to further strengthen 4 ECAs that are included under CWBMP and could increase the effectiveness of the protection and participatory management of declared ECAs. This will help achieve important roles that designated ECAs are expected to perform in protecting critical environmental functions and resources. This also will help augment the important role that Protected Areas (PA) can play in addressing climate change mitigation and adaptation issues currently faced by Bangladesh.

4.2 Presentations; Responses; Questions & Answers

The following topics were presented as per revised program schedule (Annex – 1):

- Dr. Azharul Mazumder presented an overview of the wetlands and forests Protected Areas (PAs) that were covered by the USAID supported MACH and Nishorgo Support Project (NSP) and outlined how these activities will now be scaled up under IPAC. He noted that 90% of the natural forests of Bangladesh have been lost, and that only 1.4% of the country has been set aside in Protected Areas, which means that Bangladesh has the second lowest percentage of land in PA in the world. However, Bangladesh still has the 3rd largest area of freshwater fisheries in the world (after China and India), and is still a hot spot for fisheries biodiversity. But the MACH project has extended co-management to only 25,000 ha out of more than 2.8 million ha of wetlands in Bangladesh. He illustrated the country's rural poverty and forests degradation scenario in which both the projects have addressed issues related to economic growth, environmental governance and social justice. The interface of land, water and people was explained through a diagram that captured important linkages. Finally power shifts taking place locally through co-management organizations were discussed by analyzing the nature,

power and wealth framework of USAID. IPAC will capitalize on lessons learned from MACH and Nishorgo and apply them in scaling up successful co-management activities and also focus on the development of a strategic framework and action plan for an integrated PA system to be established throughout the country (Annex – 3).

- Mr. Mahbub Alam, Project Manager made an excellent presentation on CWBMP being implemented in 4 (Teknaf Peninsula, Hkaluki Haor, St. Martin Island and Sonadia Island) of the total of 8 gazetted ECAs, with the following objectives :
 - to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of the project ECAs, and
 - to support efforts of DOE to institutionalize the concept of ECA management

The NPD, CWBMP joined in the presentation by explaining as to how Village Community Groups (VCGs) are linked to three gazetted ECA management committees functioning at Union Parishad, Upzila and District levels. He also informed that the CWBMP is considering inclusion of endowment fund provision as has been the case under MACH.

- Two video movies on MACH and NSP were played for the audience.
- Mr. S. N. Chowdhury, ex-National Coordinator for the MACH project then presented an overview of MACH. This was followed by a question-answer session in which the participants emphasized a unified approach for PA management (Annex – 4).

The workshop Chairman noted that MACH provided a good model for community based management of common property resources such as leased wetlands.

- Dr. Ram A. Sharma, Deputy Chief of Party for NSP, then made a presentation on NSP that was followed by discussions. (See Annex - 5 and additional details posted on www.nishorgo.org)

Participants commented on the need to develop more eco-tourist facilities, particularly in Lawachara National Park.

- A final presentation was made by Mr. Bob Winterbottom, Chief of Party, IPAC by focusing on the statement of work, main project components, geographical coverage, main stakeholders and the implementation partners of IPAC project. IPAC objectives were explained in detail along with overall expected results to be achieved during the project implementation. Winterbottom also reviewed the specific results to be achieved under all the three main project components. Finally IPAC Work Plan Priorities were discussed. In sum, IPAC provides an opportunity to adjust, refine and integrate co-management strategies for PAs, including those pilot sites developed to date with the assistance of MACH, Nishorgo and CWBMP, so as to address gaps and to support the scaling up of these proven approaches. IPAC can serve to reinforce the effectiveness of local level management of ECAs and integrate these PAs into management planning for a larger landscape, including other PA such as wetlands and protected forests. IPAC could also help to reinforce the awareness raising and communications activities of CWBMP and contribute to further capacity building for DOE, local NGOs and other partners engaged in the management of ECAs (Annex – 6).

The Chairman of the Workshop opened the floor for lively discussions following the presentation made by IPAC, COP. Almost all the participants actively participated in

the discussions and made the following important suggestions to be taken on board in subsequent IPAC planning and implementation:

4.3 Discussion of DoE Plans and Proposals related to IPAC Goals and Objectives Overall comments and suggestions for IPAC:

1. Participants appreciated the IPAC Project concepts and recommended to make all efforts to make IPAC as a co-management demonstration project that can be a guide for future natural resources management in Bangladesh. In particular, IPAC presents an opportunity to strengthen the protection and management of ECAs as one category of PA in Bangladesh through the integration of ECAs into a national PA system and network of co-managed wetland, forest and coastal sites.
2. As IPAC will be dealing with many ministries it should be possible to take effective steps for coordination of ECAs with wetland and forest PAs at landscape level.
3. Climate change issues need to be dealt with under IPAC and so due interactions should be held with CDM cell of DOE.
4. The DG, DOE should be included in the notification to be issued by the MOEF for steering committee for IPAC implementation.
5. Relevant international conventions and protocols such as CBD (Convention on Biological Biodiversity) and Kyoto Protocol should be referred to while implementing IPAC.
6. Legal issues regarding integrated PA management should be harmonized by reviewing relevant acts and rules.

4.4 Recommendations concerning collaboration between CWBMP and IPAC:

1. Several participants noted the need to avoid duplication of project activities in the ECAs that are covered under both CWBMP and IPAC. It was agreed that IPAC team will sit with the NPD, CWBMP for holding discussions and identifying complementary activities that will have synergetic effects but also to identify key activities that need to be continued after CWBMP ends. It was also agreed that the proposed communication activities under IPAC should be aligned with CWBMP ongoing communication activities.
2. Participatory Management Plans for the 4 ECAs have been developed under CWBMP and they should be referred to IPAC team.
3. Existing Union Parishad, Upzila and Zila ECA Management Committees should be linked with com-management organizations functioning in the area.

Suggestions concerning site selection for IPAC:

1. Some participants suggested including Gulshan-Baridhara Lake ECA under IPAC.
2. St. Martin Island was suggested to be included under IPAC. It was pointed that instituting relevant government policy is required for the management of the island.
3. Efforts should be taken under IPAC to declare more areas as ECA. Sundarbans World Heritage Guidelines be considered while managing Sundarbans ECA.

Both the COP and DCOP addressed some of the above-mentioned issues by explaining the scope of IPAC. It was informed that the IPAC project period is 5 years with a total budget of nearly USD 15 million. In addition, funds from other sources including SEALS project of European Commission and climate change projects will be leveraged. It was emphasized that DOE as lead Government agency will play an important during the project implementation. Important lessons learned from similar projects including CWBMP will be taken on board while implementing IPAC.

The final selection of IPAC sites will depend on:

1. Government priorities, taking into account the relative importance of proposed sites with respect to biodiversity conservation values and the extent of natural resource-based livelihoods
2. Proximity to the five targeted “Clusters” where IPAC field staff will be based (see map distributed at workshop), and available resources (including leveraged funding)
3. Suitability of a proposed site for co-management and likely success of such an approach, taking into account community level interests and landscape level linkages and opportunities.

4.5 Closing

Finally the Chairman concluded the session and thanked all the participants for making their valuable suggestions.

NB: Please see the Annex – 7 for further recommendations provided by the DOE on the basis of draft workshop minutes.

Annex- 1: Program Schedule

DOE-IPAC Brainstorming and Planning Workshop
Department of Environment, Paribesh Bhaban, Conference Room
22 September, 2008

Purpose and Objectives:

- a. to familiarize DOE staff with scope and major components of IPAC
- b. to obtain inputs from DOE staff on key aspects to be taken into account in the work planning and implementation of IPAC
- c. to assist in compiling information needed for the DPP for IPAC

Agenda:

09:30 am - 9:45 am	Welcome by Director (Technical)
09:45 am - 10:00 am	Inauguration by Director General, DOE
10:00 am - 10:15 am	Context and scope of IPAC by USAID Representative
10:15 am - 10:30 am	Summary presentation on Coastal and Wetland Biodiversity Management Project (CWBMP), and lessons learnt about Ecologically Critical Areas (ECA)
10:30 am - 11:00 am	Video Documentary on MACH and NSP
11:00 am - 11:15 am	Summary presentation on MACH (accomplishments, lessons learned and remaining challenges)
11:15 am - 11:30 am	Summary presentation on Nishorgo Support Project (Accomplishments, lessons learned and remaining challenges)
11:30 pm - 12:00 pm	Summary of statement of work for IPAC IRG/IPAC project team
12:00 - 1:30 pm	Review of DOE priorities and plans for Integrated Protected Area co-management
1:30 pm	Closing

Annex- 2: List of Participants

Integrated Protected Area Management (IPAC)

Brain Storming & Planning Workshop of DoE & IPAC in Co-Management of Protected Areas/Ecologically Critical Areas

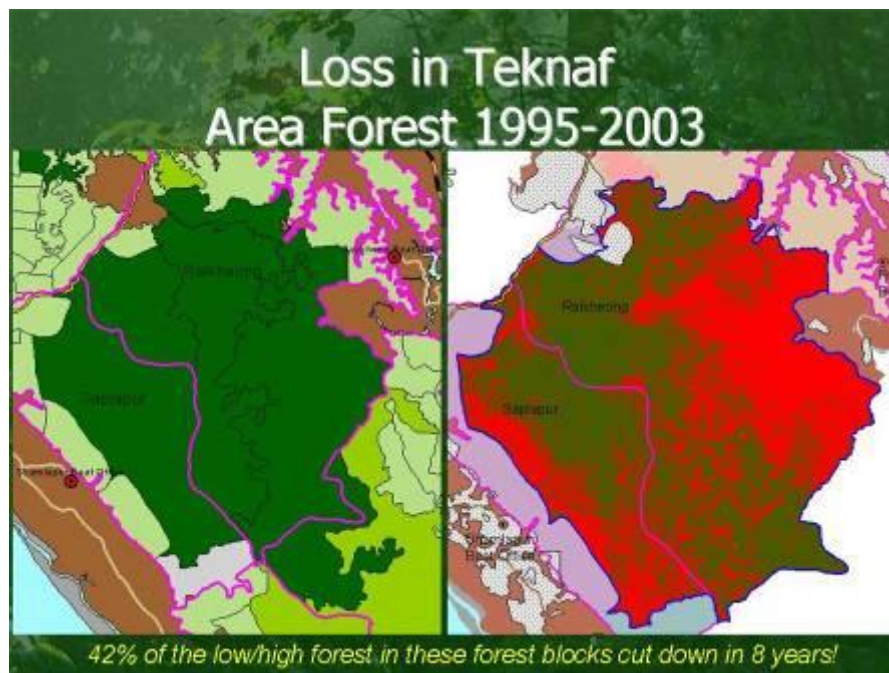
Venue: Conference Room, Paribesh Bhaban, Department of Environment
Agargaon, Dhaka - 1207

September 22, 2008

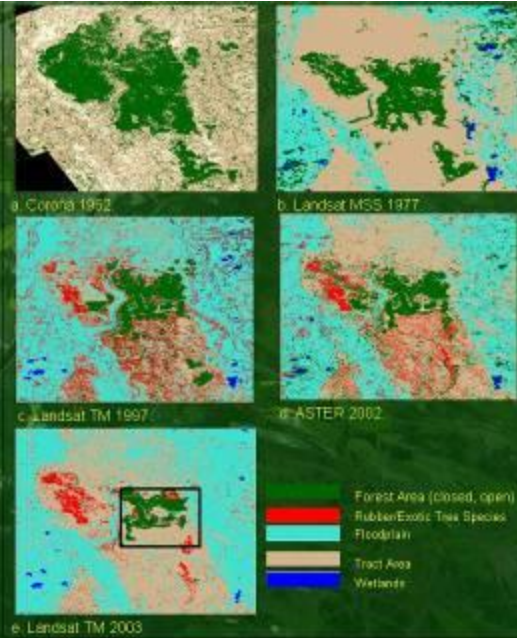
(Not according to seniority)

Sl.	Name	Designation	Address
01	Roksana Karim	Intern (NSP)	Lalmatia, Dhaka
02	Md. Abu Sumon	M&E Specialist	CWBMP,DOE, Dhaka
03	Md. Mahbubur Rahman	Project Manager	CWBMP,DOE, Dhaka
04	Md. Jafar Siddique	National Project Director	CWBMP,DOE, Dhaka
05	Ram Sharma	Deputy Chief of Party	NSP, Dhaka
06	Bob Winterbottom	Chief of Party, IPAC	IPAC, Dhaka
07	Anne Williams	Director, Economic Growth Office/USAID	US Embassy, Dhaka
08	Mahmood Hasan Khan	Deputy Director (Research)	DOE, Dhaka
09	Md. Amirul Islam Khan	Research Officer	DOE, Dhaka
10	Abdullah Z. Ahmad	UNV-CO	CWBMP/UNDP, DOE, Dhaka
11	Afrin Akhter	Program Coordinator	DOE, Dhaka
12	Kazi M.A. Hashem	Trg. & Grants Coordinator	NSP, Dhaka
13	S.N. Chowdhury	Ex. National Coordinator	MACH, Dhaka
14	Md. Shahjahan	Director (Technical)	DOE, Dhaka
15	Azharul H. Mazumder	Team Leader	USAID, Dhaka
16	Mosharaf Hossain	Director (Administration)	DOE, Dhaka
17	Khandoker. M. Fazlul Hoque	Accounts Officer	DOE, Dhaka
18	Md. Saifullah Talukder	Research Officer	DOE, Dhaka
19	Md. Billal Hosain	Deputy Director	DOE, Dhaka
20	Md. Abul Kalam Azad	Analyst	DOE, Dhaka
21	Mostafa Kamal Farooque	Deputy Director (NRM)	DOE, Dhaka
22	Md. Khaled Hasan	Assistant Director(Admin, AC)	DOE, Dhaka
23	Mohammed Shiblee	Deputy Director & ECAMO (AC)	DOE, Dhaka
24	Md. Ziaul Haque	Deputy Director	DOE, Dhaka
25	Md. Hasan Hasibur Rahman	Research Officer	DOE, Dhaka
26	Nur Alam	Research Officer	DOE, Dhaka
27	AKM Rafiqul Islam	Assistant Director & ECAMO	DOE, Dhaka
28	Khandoker Rashedul Huq	Director General	DOE, Dhaka
29	Md. Sohrab Ali	Deputy Director (E)	DOE, Dhaka
30	M. Solaiman Haider		
31	M. Reazuddin	Director, Technical	DOE, Dhaka

Annex – 3: Collaborative Governance of Wetlands and Forest Protected Areas (PAs) in Bangladesh



Modhupur National Park (1962-2003)



Conservation in a Mega "Cold Spot" for Forest Biodiversity

- 90% forest cover lost
- Deforestation rate 3.3%, 8,000 ha per year
- PA constitutes 1.4% of surface area – 2nd lowest in the world



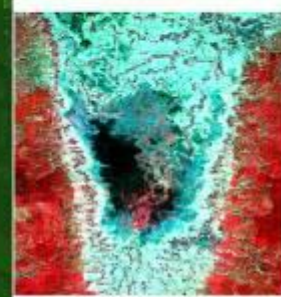
Freshwater Wetlands: "Unknown" Mega "Hot Spot" for Biodiversity



- 3rd largest freshwater fishery in the world
- >200 species

Freshwater Wetlands

- Freshwater fish consumption fell by 38% among poor
- 50% wetland lost; open water fish that used to supply 80% of the animal protein consumed supply less than 60%.
- Price increases of fish have occurred at an annual rate of 2.8%

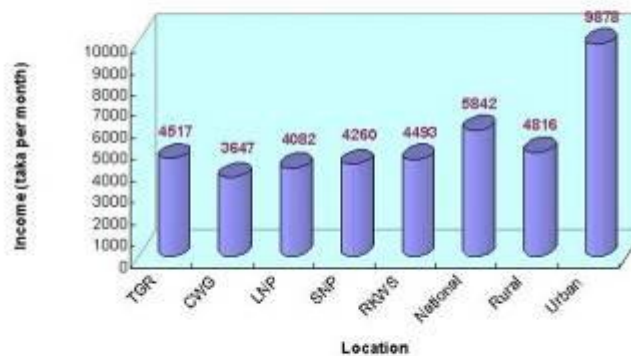


- 40% of Bangladesh's freshwater fish species as threatened with national extinction.
- Increasing number of species threatened with local extinctions; in 2002 Earth Trends Country Profiles listed 68 threatened species.

Conservation/Poverty Nexus

- **Economic Growth is Rapid**
 - Average 6% GDP growth over the last five years
- **But rural poverty is acute; mainly rural, mainly among NR dependent population**
 - Rural headcount poverty is 53%; 37% in urban areas.
- **77% of rural HH are at break even or deficit status.**
 - 18% comprise the hardcore poor who are always in deficit.
- **Poverty is acute mainly among natural resource dependent and landless communities.**

NR Dependents are the Poorest



Average income per month per household by location

Poor People Depends on the Natural Capital

- **Fishing Households: 60-80%**
- **Household Aquatic Vegetation**
 - Food 60%+
 - Fodder 33%
- **Other Wetland Products (Medicines, Fuel, Roofing)**
- **Estimated 80% of rural poor take advantage**



What We Do

- **Promote interaction between resources and users**
- **Take environment as an entry to good governance**
- **Biodiversity conservation as a survival strategy for the poor**



• **Co-management Approach**

- **Linking core development concerns in a single process**
- **Instilling a multi-stakeholder approach, taking the poor as central to implementation**
 - **Power shift**

USAID Activities

- Management of Aquatic Ecosystems through Community Husbandry (MACH)
- Nishorgo Support Project (Co-management of Tropical Forest Resources in Bangladesh)
- Integrated Protected Area Co-management (IPAC)
- TFCA implementation: Arannayk (Bangladesh Tropical Forest Conservation) Foundation



Specific Results 5 Years

- Formal policy recognition of a PA system
- National integrated PA co-management strategy and action plan
- 370,00 hectares of wetland and forest
- 50 protected areas
- 2,500,000 beneficiaries
- Pragmatic conservation financing mechanisms to mainstream conservation financing in favor of co-management
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation

Annex – 4: Management of Aquatic Ecosystems through Community Husbandry (MACH) Project

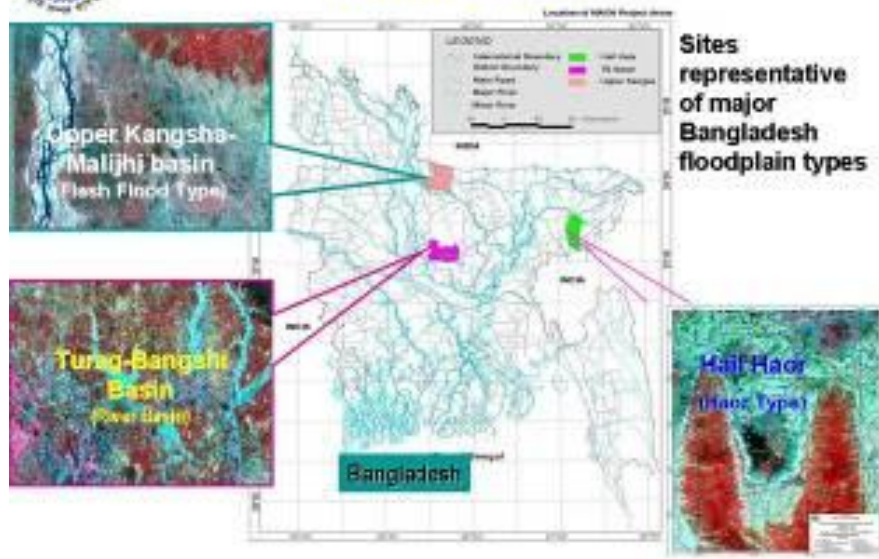


Scale and Significance of Bangladesh Wetlands

- Bangladesh has one of the largest freshwater wetland resource in the world
- Bangladesh comprised of regularly inundated floodplains of 2.8 mill ha (excluding beel & rivers)
- About 40% of total fish production come from inland capture fishery
- 1970s 6.3 mill. ha of mostly seasonal wetland now about 2.8 mill. ha.
- Poor get most benefits from wetlands



MACH Sites



MACH Team





MACH INITIATIVES



Key MACH ACTIVITIES

- Apprise community, policy makers & local govt. on project
- Environmental Awareness
- Wetland Co-Management: RMOs & UFCs
- Community Development : RUGs/ FRUGs
- Habitat Restoration
- Policy Issues
- Wetland pollution abatement initiatives
- Monitoring (fish, GIS, hydrology, communities, credit)
- Administration



UNDERSTANDING OF THE SYSTEM

- Biophysical characterization of the site (wetlands and watershed)
- Know the people and how the system operates
- Know the choices of people/user communities
- Identify key stakeholders having interests and influence

Methods and approaches:

- Reconnaissance field/social survey
- Village census / household survey
- Land use survey
- Village meetings and focus group discussions
- Observation and monitoring

Planning: Participatory Action Plan Development (PAPD)



Planning: Planning Sessions

Problem census

Cause-effect analysis by problems

Workout possible solutions / interventions

Stakeholders analysis

Impact analysis of interventions

Consensus on management interventions

Action plan for implementation

Formation of RMOs: Village Selection

Resource Management Organization (RMO)

RRA

People:

- fishing in the water-body
- having land around the water-body
- collecting other resources from beel/khal
- using water for irrigation
- living within the MACH working boundary

Inception workshop

RMO

PAPD

Observation

UP suggestion

Consultation

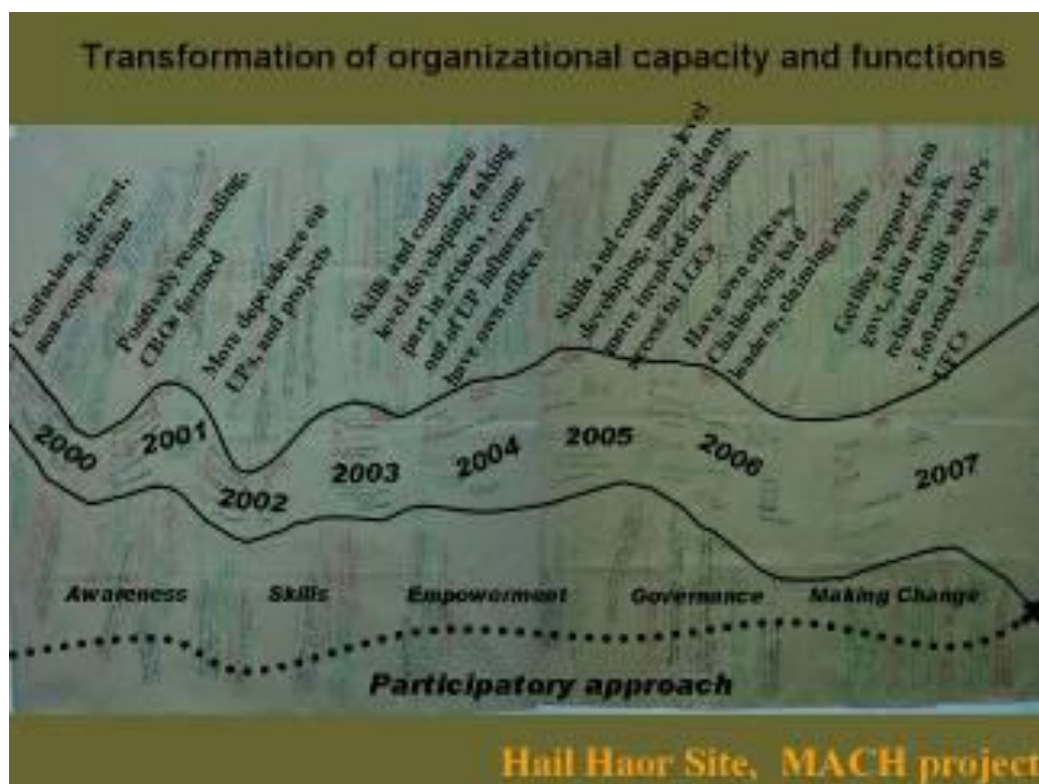
Formation of RMOs: formation Process



Key role of RMO's: Resource Management

- Wetland management decisions and implementation of interventions
- Establishing wetland sanctuaries
- Habitat rehabilitation including watershed
- Formation of sub-committees for activities
- Re-introduction of threatened fish and other fauna & flora
- Developing and enforcing conservation norms and systems
- Maintaining close linkage with UFC
- Monitoring





Key Good Practices of RMOs

- Establishment and management of sanctuaries
- Periodic ban on fishing (breeding season)
- Stop use of destructive gears for fishing
- Conflict resolution at the community level
- Re-introduction and conservation of threatened species
- Habitat restoration through re-excavation and plantation
- Institutional linkages with UP, UZ and wider forum
- Awareness building on wetlands/fisheries management
- Inclusion of women members in RMOs (20%+)
- Contour plantation of pineapple in the hill slopes

Acquired key skills & sustainability

Organizational aspects

- Performing organizational activities
- Having fund flow and financial activities
- Maintaining transparent financial management
- Maintaining rapport and linkages with others

Technical aspects

- understand wetland management problems and issues
- skills in making consensual NRM intervention plan
- capable of implementing NRM interventions
- capable of monitoring changes due to NR interventions
- able to generate community awareness/conflict mgt.

Acquired key skills & sustainability

Governance aspects

- Practicing pro-poor NRM and benefit sharing
- Ensuring access to wetlands by the poor and fishers
- Showing accountability and transparency
- Having wider acceptance among the communities
- Practicing participatory decision making

Community Development *and* Alternative Income Generation *for* Poor & Fishers

COMMUNITY DEVELOPEMNT & FORMATION OF RUG & FRUGS

Resource Users Group (RUG)

•Purpose of RUG Formation: Reduction of excess fishing pressure & enhancement of supplemental income of poor.

Formation:

• Use of baseline households survey data for selecting RUG members

•Selection of RUG members: Poor fishers and other poor dependents on resources within criteria

•Gender equitability in RUG members: Ensure participation of women in resource management & community activities (more than 33% RUGs are women)

• Participation of RUG members in resource management: More than 60% of RMO members are RUG members.

❖ Community Development

- a. Familiarize project objectives
- b. Group Formation
- c. Group Training (Group development, leadership, Accounts)
- d. Education & healthcare

❖ Alternative Income Generation

- a. Skill Training
- b. Demonstration
- c. Credit support



Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Fisheries

- Restore fishery productivity to benefit poor fishing communities having secure access:
 - excavation,
 - sanctuaries,
 - fishing rules (e.g. closed season, ban on dewatering).
- Link livelihood support for fishers with improved resource management.
- Provide skill training and micro-credit for non-fishery enterprises.
- DOF should partner with relevant organisations to support this.

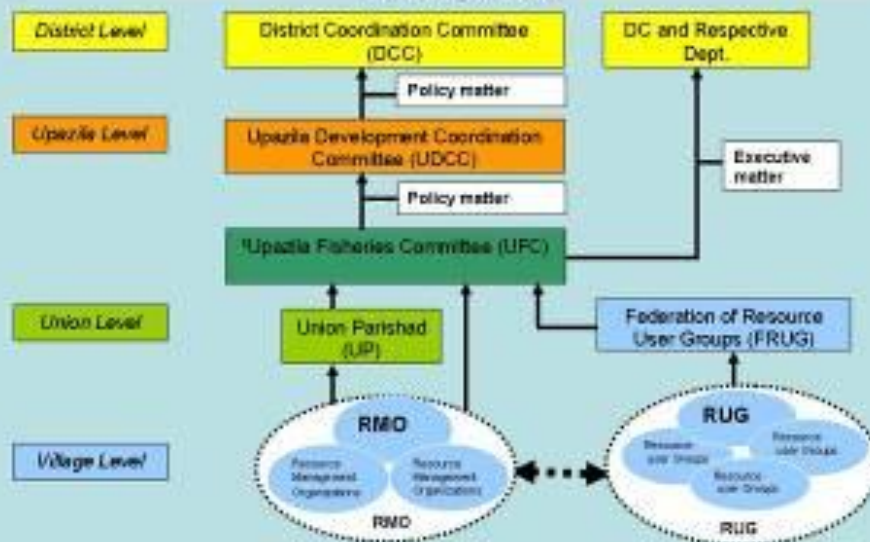


Impact of AIGA & Micro-credit

- Fishing pressure reduced by 20-30 % (0.94 hours/fisher/day)
- 10 % fishers left fishing
- 66 % supplemental income increased
- Small scale entrepreneurship developed



Community-Based Co-Management of Natural Resources: An Institutional Framework (MACH)





Major MACH Achievements

- **Fish Production (Food Security)**
44- 247% increase in production
- **Consumption (Food Security)**
– Fish consumption increase 27-72%
- **Enhanced Biodiversity (fish, birds, swamp & riparian trees & plants)**
- **Reduced Poverty (improved income to poor families through AIGA)**
- **Policy (improved governance)**
 - 8 Permanent Sanctuaries established
 - Inland Capture Fisheries Strategies has been adopted

Lessons Learned

1. **Sanctuaries** plus community restricted fishing and management can result in increased yields and diversity of fish from wetlands



2. **Restoration of critical dry season habitat** important and can lead to significant impact in the yield of much larger area

3. **Wetlands are valuable.** Poor major beneficiaries of common property wetland resources.



Lessons Learned

4. **Re-introduction of lost or threatened species of fish** into their old habitat can result in successful re-establishment when coupled with sanctuaries and improved management



5. **Co-management:** For community-based management of wetland resources a strong link with local govt. committee is needed linking Upazila, UP, and CBO through Co-management



6. **Alternative income generation** can lead fishers to other trades and businesses reducing their individual effort in fishing.



Sustainability and policy change

- Independent FRUGs with own Revolving Funds
- **RMOs strengthened, resource access, good governance**
- Institutional linkages - co-management through UFC
- **Endowment Fund Created for continuing resource management in a sustainable manner**
- A 24 months follow up plan in execution
- **DoF Inland Capture Fisheries Strategy incorporating key elements of MACH approach (UFC, sanctuaries, AIGA, endowment)**

Scaling up Community Based Co-management for Fisheries Resources

- Provide a legal framework for recognising and reserving CBO management of jalmohals and other wetlands endorsed by UFCs.
- Develop national guidelines for equitable and transparent CBOs that are adapted to local situations.
- Develop quality CBOs in priority Upazilas.
- Provide grants to qualified CBOs for works to conserve and restore their fisheries.
- AIGA for reduction of fishing pressure
- Participation of women in NRM initiatives

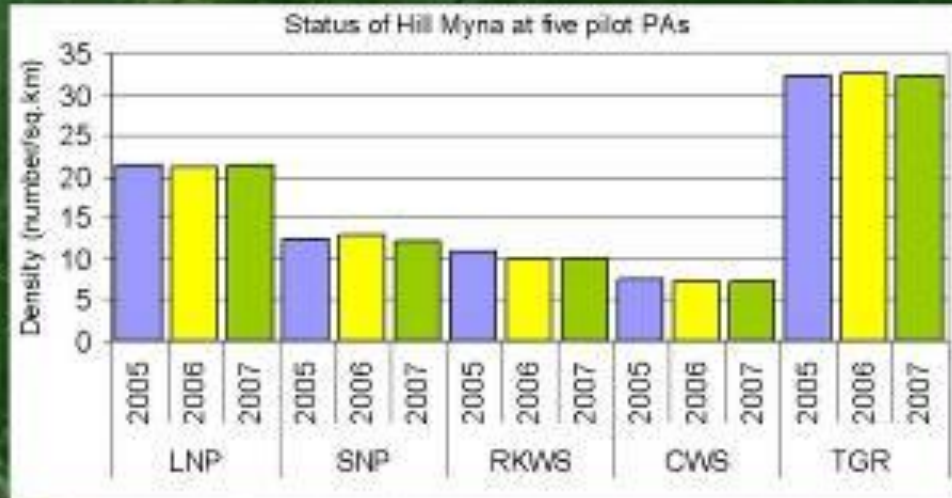
Challenges

- Re-occupation of wetlands of CBOs by power structure of the society
- Conflict with other users of the wetlands
- Conflict within the CBOs if generates
- Continued support of UFCs to CBOs
- Positive response of community people in the protection of sanctuaries and resources
- Encroachment in fringe area of wetlands by influential people
- Misuse of RLF fund of FRUGs by the influential members
- Continuity of administrative support from local govt. for the management and protection of wetland resources.
- Waterbody leasing policy of the government

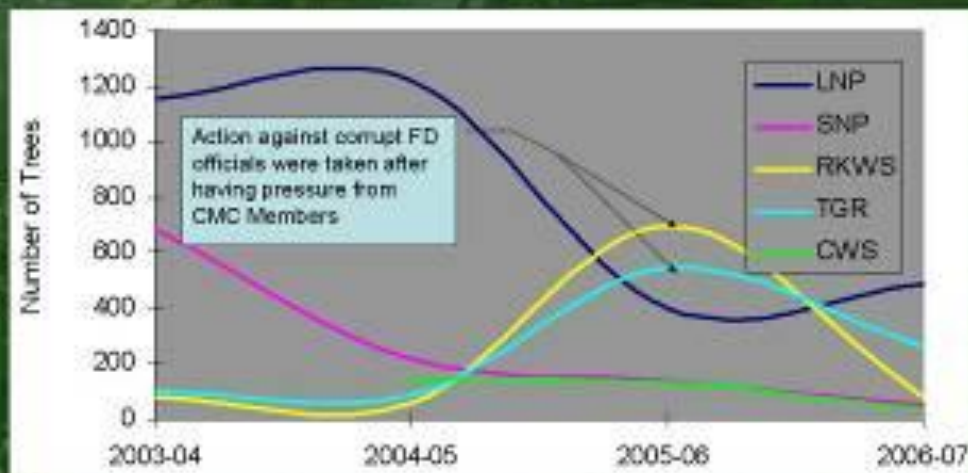
**Annex – 5: Presentation on Nishorgo Support Project
(Accomplishments, lessons learned and remaining challenges)**



Bird Indicators Show Forest Improvement



Forest Impact: Change in Illegal Logging Patterns





We have seen Nishorgo's impact
on biodiversity,

But how was it achieved?

6 Objectives of Nishorgo SP

- #1: Develop a functional model for formalized co-management of PAs
- #2: Create AIG opportunities for key local stakeholders associated with pilot co-managed PAs
- #3: Develop policies conducive to improved PA management and build constituencies
- #4: Strengthen the institutional systems and capacity of the Forest Department and key stakeholders
- #5: Build or reinforce the infrastructure within PAs that will enable better management
- #6: Design and implement a program of habitat management and restoration for pilot PAs.

NSP Objective #1

- Develop a functional model for formalized collaborative management of protected areas.



Power Shift: Co-Management Committees

All Eight Councils & Committees
Now Recognized



Power Shift: Formal Rights Under Management Plans

- Management Plans -- allow Committees to "share benefits" from Protected Areas
- Also, "An Annual Development Plan (ADP) and budget must be executed."



Objective #1: Co-Management Model *Progress*

- All eight CMCs prepare "Annual Development Plan (ADP)" against Govt-approved Management Plans (for 1st time)
- FD working with CMCs to ensure financing against these ADP
- Federations of poor have been formed at all sites & are now represented on all CMCs
- FD transparently sharing resource information with CMCs
- CMCs from across the country networking through exchange visits

NSP Objective #2

- Create alternative income generation opportunities for key local stakeholders around Protected Areas



Growth in Visitor Numbers

Lawachara NP

- 400 visitors February 05
- 2750 visitors February 06
- 6739 visitors February 07

Satchari NP

- 2300 visitors Jan+Feb 07

Teknaf GR (Mochoni)

- 4510 visitors Jan+Feb 07



Objective 2 of 6: Create Alternative Income Opportunities

- 1) Group formation & empowerment of targeted poor households
- 2) Targeted priority AIG support to community patrol members
- 3) Broad-based support to homesteads in the landscape
- 4) Expansion of conservation enterprises
- 5) Social forestry as key to sustained income alternatives
- 6) Landscape Development Fund (LDF) for community-directed contributions by the Committees

Conservation Enterprises: Eco-Guides

74 trained young
Eco-Guides

Earning income at
4 of 5 sites



Conservation Enterprises: Nishorgo Eco-Cottage Network

*Nishorgo Nirob Eco-
Cottage at Lawachara
National Park*



Conservation Enterprises: High Quality Ethnic Gift Enterprise



*Stall of
"Tripura
Gift
Collection"
at
Radisson
Hotel*

Conservation Enterprises: High Quality Ethnic Gift Enterprise



Training on Quality and Design at Satchari National Park

Conservation Enterprises: High Quality Ethnic Gift Enterprise



*Samples of the
Tripura Ethnic Gift
Collection*

*from
www.nishorgo.org*

Conservation Enterprises: Elephant Ride as Enterprise



Conservation Enterprises: Eco-Rickshaws

137 Eco-
Rickshaws

Earning income @
Tk 3000 per month



Conservation Enterprises: Sales from Visitor Kiosk



Conservation Enterprises: Sales from Visitor Kiosk

- Now includes 30+ products for sale by Committees
- 1,69,320 Taka sales from 3 PAs since Jan '07
- New products being added
- All profits to the Committee



Broad-based Homestead Support

2491 households
using efficient
stoves



Broad-based Homestead Support

- 2,14,105 tree seedlings planted for timber and fuel wood
- Training in improved *bamboo species* targeted for homestead expansion
- 934 Households started bamboo production



Landscape Development Fund (grants to CMCs)



Through June 2007, 80 lakh LDF grants
Another 44 lakh this year

Landscape Development Fund (grants to CMCs)



Grant for improved village access to Dolubari Village

Group Formation & Empowerment



- 356 groups formed
- 8,016 members
- 50% women
- 50,000 beneficiaries, including family members

Group-based Income Generation

- 178 nurseries
- 2524 vegetable gardens
- 112 chicken rearing
- 426 milch cows & beef fattening
- 11 goat fattening
- 66 pig rearing
- 127 glossary shops
- 151 fish culture and trading
- 302 other AIGs





Group-based Income Generation

*Glossary shop
at Satchuri*

Group-based Income Generation: Nurseries

- Benefits women primarily
- Provides fuelwood/timber tree source for homesteads
- Provides trees to the FD and private market
- 30,00,000 tree seedlings sold so far
- 178 nurseries
- 67,44,242 Taka earned



Targeted Support to Community-FD Patrols



Joint FD-community patrols at Lawachara

Targeted Support to Community-FD Patrols

36 Community Patrol
Groups

1145 Patrollers

43% with financial
benefit already

2 women patrol groups



NSP Objective #3



- Improve policy framework conducive to improved protected area management and
- Build constituencies to further these policy goals.



Logo development

Launch in February
2004





Nishorgo Vision 2010

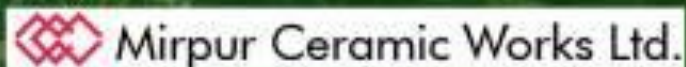
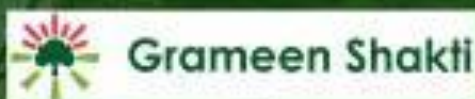
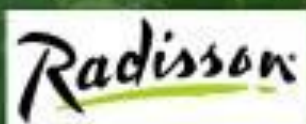
- 4 new Protected Areas added

- Wildlife Division expanded

Forest Staff 'Code of Conduct'



Public-Private Partnership: Corporate Partners



Recent Progress

- Entry Fee Sharing Modalities submitted by Finance Ministry to AG, Bangladesh
- Entry fee collection under process
- DPP revised and re-submitted
- Observations made on ECA Rules (as relevant to PA management)
- Technical preparation of voluntary carbon offset project for Chunati is completed

Bangladesh Scouts

*Educational Scout hike
at Teknaf*



*Scouts assisting on
weekends at Lawachara*

Constituency-building: Bangladesh Scouts

- Northern hike 2005
- Southern hike 2005
- Southern hike 2006
- COMDECA – 3,500 Scouts
- Wide television coverage
- 55 newspaper articles



Building a Conservation Constituency

Tripura cultural
dance used for
communication





Urban Youth Outreach Program

- Explore Bangladesh program financed by Banglalink and conducted at 16 leading universities
- Targeting youth aged 10-15 at leading Dhaka schools
- Five schools already completed 1.5 hour program



NSP Objective #4



- Strengthen the institutional systems and capacity of the Forest Department and key stakeholders.

Institutional Capacity: Forest Department Staff

- ✓ Nature Tourism Micro-Plan Development Training



Institutional Capacity: Forest Department Staff

- ✓ Capacity building in applied research –
“WriteShop” conducted with East West
Center of USA



Institutional Capacity: Forest Department Staff

- ✓ Visit by senior FD staff to four co-management sites in Indonesia



Institutional Capacity: Community Patrol Groups

- ✓ Patrol groups receive training on use of new community patrol guidelines



Training & Capacity Building

- Other Training Courses completed on:
 - Co-management
 - Eco-Guides & tour guiding
 - Bird monitoring & identification of forest impact
 - Replication of native forest species
 - "Good governance" empowerment
 - Forest management plans, and more...

NSP Objective #5



- Build or reinforce the infrastructure within Protected Areas and create improved visitor services

Park Office & ACF Residence



Winning Design of Architectural Competition for Visitor Center



Trails, Walkways & Bridges



Interpretive Signboards & Information

Type	LNP	SNP	RKWS	OVS	TGR	Total
Welcome Signboard	1	1	1	1	1	5
Trail Signboard	3	3	3	3	6	18
Basic Info Signboard	1	1	1	1	1	5
PA Name Signboard	2	2	2	2	2	10
Visitor Facility Signboard	1	1				2
Dos & Don't Signboard	1	1	1	1	1	5
Total	9	9	8	8	11	45

Interpretive Signboards & Information



Interpretive Signboards & Information



Restoration of 1928 Lawachara Beat Officer Quarters for Committee



Restoration of 1934 Teknaf Guest House for Committee



NSP Objective #6

- Implement a habitat management program for pilot protected areas.



Objective #6 Habitat Restoration *Progress*

- 355 hectares planted this year in social forestry buffer plantations
- 505 hectares of enrichment plantation
- 100 hectares of special fruit tree plantation
- 58 hectare of Assisted Natural Regeneration
- 65 hectare of Teak Coppice management

Annex – 6: Presentation on Integrated Protected Area Co-Management



Briefing on IPAC **Integrated Protected Area Co-Management**

Brainstorming and Planning Workshop
Department of Environment
22 September 2008, Dhaka



IPAC – What is it?

- Integrated Protected Area Co-Management Project
- Funded by USAID/Bangladesh – Environmental Program, for five years (5 June 2008 – 4 June 2013)
- Implemented through MOFL and MOEF with technical assistance from IRG and partners
 - Dept of Environment
 - Forest Dept
 - Dept of Fisheries
 - Local Government
 - Community Based Organizations in 5 Clusters

Building on Experiences with Collaborative Management of Natural Resources

- Much experience gained; many lessons learned with community based, participatory NRM
- Opportunity to build on experience in managing ecologically critical areas and ICZM
- Clear demonstration of the benefits of multi-stakeholder, landscape level, co-management approach to protect forests (Nishorgo) and wetlands (MACH)
- Co-management model applied in 5 national parks, sanctuaries, game reserves co-managed by Forest Dept and in 3 flood plains / water bodies managed with local stakeholders

IPAC Objectives and Areas of Concentration

- Designed to contribute to sustained, broad based Economic Growth through
 - Continued support to sustain successes in biodiversity conservation and A/G achieved at ECA, Nishorgo and MACH pilot sites
 - Expanded support for development of an *integrated strategy* and *coherent national program* to support co-management, environmental governance and mitigation and adaptation to Climate Change
 - Increased emphasis on *training* and building institutional capacity
 - Targeted assistance to *scale up co-management* through a pro-poor landscape based participatory approach, in keeping with Environmental Conservation Act (1995), Forest Policy (1994), National Strategy for Accelerated Poverty Reduction, Inland Capture Fisheries Strategy and DOF Road Map

Purpose of IPAC



1. Support further development of natural resources management and conservation of biological diversity
2. Develop an Integrated Protected Area Strategy that applies to significant wetlands, forest ecosystems and ecologically critical areas
3. Build technical capacity for PA co-management
4. Expand the area under co-management and ensure long term success in extend benefits to communities
5. Address climate change mitigation and adaptation

Expected Results - Overall



- *Strengthening of stakeholders* engaged in sustainable natural resource management and enhanced biodiversity conservation – to assist in the preservation of Bangladesh's natural capital while promoting equitable economic growth and stronger environmental governance systems
- *Empowerment of poor resource user groups* and capacity building to enable their central role in participatory, multi-stakeholder, transparent approach to resource management and benefit sharing

Expected Results - Overall

- Widespread adoption of co-management approach with local communities, local government bodies and technical departments assuming joint responsibility for sustainable use and conservation of aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems



Specific Results over five years

- Formal policy recognition of a PA system and approval of a national integrated PA co-management strategy and action plan devolving authority to communities
- Institutionalization of co-management as the accepted approach for PA management and biodiversity conservation
- Implementation of approved IPAC strategy establishing sustainable, productive, resilient PA
 - Sustained co-management of existing project sites
 - Increased number of hectares under co-management
- Pragmatic conservation financing mechanisms developed and approved by GOB to mainstream conservation financing in favor of co-management implementation

Specific Results over five years (continued)

- Successful implementation of conservation financing mechanisms and demonstration of sustainability of conservation partnerships
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation through improved land use and adaptation of communities
- Communication Strategy and Action Plan in support of IPAC designed and implemented, and targeted outreach activities carried out
- Community based NRM organizations involved in IPAC are sustainable, transparent, pro-poor, equitable
 - AIG activities involving targeted beneficiary groups implemented

Specific Results over five years (continued)

- Cadre of professionals trained in PA management and co-management within GOB institutions and community organizations
 - Needs for institutional capacity assessed and training plan developed
 - Development of a foundation course on integrated PA management
 - Strengthened capacity of existing training centers
 - Training programs at the community level conducted
 - Development at community level of a pool of trained extension agents
- Development and demonstration of ecological restoration plans to rehabilitate degraded critical ecosystems through co-management
- Public-private sector alliances for PA co-management established and successfully operating
 - Business plans for community-based eco-tourism developed

Targeted Locations for Site Specific Implementation

- *Sylhet*: Tanguar Haor, Hail Haor, Hakaluki Haor, Lawachara, Rema-Kalenga, Satchari, Khadimnagar
- *Chittagong Hill Tracts*: Pablaikhali, Kaptai
- *Southeastern*: Teknaf, Chunati, Inani, Himchari, Medha Kachapia, Fasiakhali, St Martin's
- *Central*: Kangsan-Malijhee watershed, Turag-Bangshi, Madhupur, Bhawal
- *Sundarbans*: Sundarbans Wildlife Sanctuaries and ECA

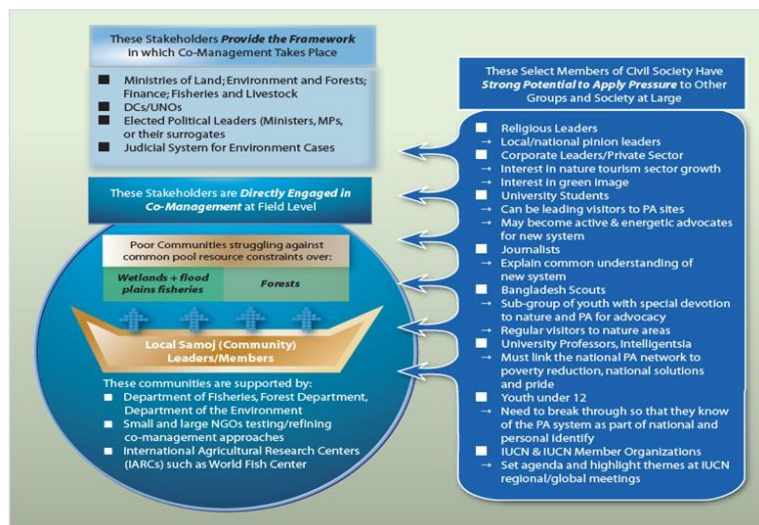
Proposed IPAC Project Sites



IPAC Team / Implementing Partners

- IRG with WWF, East West Center, Epler Wood Int'l, dTS, ELI
- World Fish Center – Bangladesh
- Adivasi Unnayan Kendra /Center for Indigenous Peoples Development - CIPD
- Rangpur Dinajpur Rural Services - RDRS
- Community Development Center - CODEC
- Asiatic Marketing and Communications, Ltd.
- Oasis Transformation Ltd.
- Independent University of Bangladesh/Jahangirnagar University
- Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association - BELA
- Module Architects
- Arannayk Foundation, Bangladesh Scouts, BRACNet and other strategic partners

IPAC Stakeholders

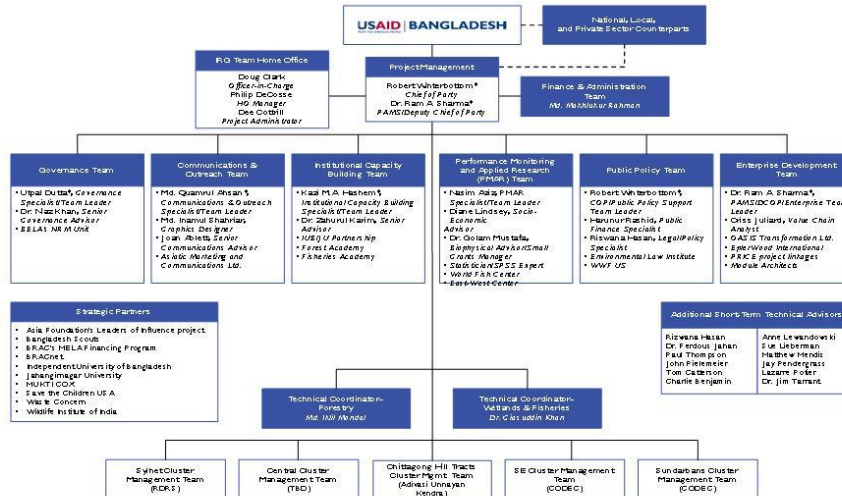




USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



IPAC Team Organizational Structure



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Work Plan Components and Tasks

1. Development of Coherent IPAC Strategy
 - Constituency Building
 - Strategy Development
 - Partnership Building for Sustainable Financing
 - Outreach
2. Building Stakeholder and Institutional Capacity
 - Training
 - Local support services
3. Site-Specific Implementation
 - Selection of demonstration sites
 - Alternative income generation and financing
 - Outreach
4. Cross-Cutting Approaches – gender and youth perspective

IPAC Work Plan Priorities - 1

- Organize working group to develop IPAC strategy
- Facilitate and mobilize widespread support for national IPAC program
 - Engage national leadership, local government, civil society
 - Promote synergy and collaboration with other programs/projects (EC-Sundarbans, others)
- Build on lessons learned from CVBMP, Nishorgo, MACH and other co-management initiatives
 - Scale up from 45,000 ha to more than 350,000 ha



IPAC Work Plan Priorities - 2



- Work with existing community based organizations and established entities – and replicate in other areas
 - UFC, RMO, FRUG
 - CMC, CPG, FUG, others
- Emphasis on communication, training, social mobilization, environmental governance, partnerships and linking conservation and improved community well-being

Desired inputs from brainstorming / planning session

- Suggestions for site specific implementation of IPAC: forests and wildlife habitat areas of greatest ecological and economic significance
- Opportunities to integrate ECAs in national network of protected areas and to scale up co-management
- Training needs to implement IPAC; priorities for institutional capacity development
- Ideas for IPAC communication strategy
- Suggested priorities for first annual work plan for IPAC
- Inputs from DOE for DPP under preparation

Annex – 7: Feed back from DOE on the basis of Workshop minutes

Preliminary suggestions for initiating effective coordination with IPAC

IPAC has the following three core components;

- Development of integrated strategy for co-management of protected areas
- Building institutional capacity
- Site specific implementation

The suggestions provided below by CWBMP are accordingly formatted and compiled to serve these three components.

Development of integrated strategy for co-management of protected areas

- Institutional cooperation between DOE (including CWBMP) and DOF (including IPAC) is essential to develop such integrated strategy. In this regard, it is recommended that to include the ECAs which are not covered by CWBMP to IPAC sites, especially because the remaining 4 ECAs are lying within the national priority and are located in proximity of IPAC clusters. CWBMP is already working in 4 ECAs and the remaining 4 ECAs can be included to the specific cluster as follows;

No.	ECA	IPAC cluster	Remarks
1	Tanguar haor	Sylhet	Already included according to IPAC documents
2	Gulshan Baridhara lake	Central cluster	Recommendation no.10 – Sept 22 meeting
3	Marzat Baor	Central Sunderbans or	According to ecosystems and site specific category
4	Sunderbans ECA	Sunderbans	Already included according to IPAC documents

- *Speaking same language* is also an important factor for the development of integrated strategy, currently DOE and DOF are randomly using different nomenclature, definitions and categories to describe the protected areas. CWBMP is strongly recommending the adoption of national and harmonized system for PA and ECA management i.e. harmonized format, structure and definitions for management plans, zoning schemes and rules and regulations. Inclusion of ECA as one of the PA categories is also recommended in this regard. (recommendation no.1& 8 – Sept. 22 meeting)
- Involvement of DOE in the development of strategic framework and action plan for IPAC is important and of special priority as stated in the cover letter of Mr. Bob Winterbottom (cover letter – Sept. 22 meeting).
- DG, DOE will be a member of steering committee of IPAC, and DOE would nominate a senior staff as a focal point with IPAC, in order to increase effective coordination between both organizations (recommendation no. 4, Sept. 22 meeting)

Building institutional capacity

- Involvement of DOE and CWBMP in the planning and programming of training and other capacity building activities supported by IPAC is strongly encouraged as mentioned in the cover letter of Mr. Bob Winterbottom (cover letter – Sept 22 meeting).
- Design and implement regular field visits to both ECAs and PAs to increase interactions and raise awareness among governmental staff of both DOE and DOF
- Considering the creation of a permanent governmental body at the national level to be responsible for the management of ECAs and PAs after IPAC as a part of the exit strategy.
- Support the capacity building of local communities and Village Conservation Groups (VCGs) through training and educational programs and improve livelihood conditions of those communities through AIG endeavors.

Site specific implementation

- Full coordination with existing DOE setup in the site level is expected and required in order to avoid redundancy of efforts and resources. This coordination can be established in compliance with the cluster settings of IPAC by nominating site focal points from DOE as follows;

No.	IPAC cluster	DOE site focal points
1	Sylhet	CWBMP – Hakaluki Haor ECA Management Officer (ECAMO)
2	Central cluster	Dhaka DOE divisional office – to be nominated
3	South-Eastern	CWBMP – Cox's Bazar ECA Management Officer (ECAMO)
4	Sunderbans	Khulna DoE divisional office – to be nominated
5	Chittagong hill tracts	Chittagong DOE divisional office – to be nominated

- IPAC is to build on the existing setup and achievements in different sites and clusters; for instance existing management plans and zoning should be considered while designing or developing project's interventions. Additionally, ECAs committees and Village Conservation Groups (VCG's) should be strengthened and also utilized whenever appropriate. (recommendation no.9 – sept 22 meeting)
- Undertake detailed planning and organization at the cluster level of support to designated ECAs sites as suggested by Mr. Bob Winterbottom (cover letter – Sept 22 meeting).
- Highlight the role of PA and ECAs in adaptation for climate change and in enhancement of site resilience to natural disasters
- Regular meeting with site level focal points and ECAs committees and members is encouraged to enhance field level coordination (recommendation no.7 – Sept 22 meeting)
- Develop relevant site co-management mechanism between CWBMP and IPAC to ensure site level coordination