

Project Proposal
for
LDF-Landscape Development Program

(IPAC Small Grant Program)
Contract No. 388-C-00-03-0050-00

Submitted to:



নিসর্গ নেটওয়ার্ক

Integrated Protected Area Co-Management Project-IPAC
House # 68, Road # 1, Block 1, Banani, Dhaka 1213, Bangladesh

Submitted by:
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Chandpai, Mongla, Bagerhat
Bangladesh

1. Title:

Alternative income generation of 30 house holds by passenger Vhan and ensure drinking water of 1800 house hold by excavating & developing pond sand filter.

2. Executive Summary

A Co-Management Council and a Co-management Committee (CMC) was formed under the Integrated Protected Area Co-Management (IPAC) Project for reciprocated management (co-management) of Sundarbans East Wildlife Sanctuary through involving different stakeholders as per the Government Order issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forest. The overall objective of IPAC is to conserve the Sundarbans in and out by subsequent a co-management approach. This LDF project will contribute in achieving the broader objective by establishing enrichment system of income generation for a specific people.

The major field activities will include identification house holds (preferably amongst the members of CPGs/VCF) passenger vhan which are going to deliver by CMC through LDF. The driver of passenger vhan selected from VCF members will be responsible for the maintenance of vhan driver will carry passengers and maintain it as his own property. The vhan drivers will carry passenger and earn money and reduce pressure on Sundarbans. As well as CMC will prepare three ponds sand filter in remote area where drinking water scarcity is prominent.

As far as the capacity of the CMC is concerned it has an office is going to be set up with a few weeks and also with an Accountant-cum-Administrative Assistant. A separate Bank account is opened at Krishi Bank Mongla Branch and the account no, A/C: 451. Moreover, key members of CMC are potential in implementing LDF supported development projects. Some of them have hold graduate degrees. In conclusion we would like to say that the proposed initiative will create a boulevard for CMC for biodiversity conservation of Sundarbans. This project was described in CMC meeting held on 30 October, 2010 and anonymously approved.

2. Logical Framework: Logical framework of proposed activity.

4. Justification/Background

a. Background

Natural forests in Bangladesh are under constant pressure and have already been significantly degraded and fragmented. In an estimate, forest cover in the country has already been reduced by more than 50% since 1970. This situation is threatening the value of these forests as habitat for biodiversity and for provision of vital environmental situations. If this trend continues, it will soon result in a serious ecological catastrophe and a declining spiral of production and productivity irreversibly detrimental to the livelihood of people living in and around the forest, biodiversity dependent on them. Therefore, there is an urgent need to reduce or reverse the detrimental impact on forest biodiversity and maintain resource sustainability through improved management and creating alternate livelihood opportunities for people dependent on forest resources.

Responding to the need to address to forest conservation and related opportunity creation, the US government and government of Bangladesh signed a Strategic Objective Grant Agreement to improve management of open water and tropical forest resources. The agreement sets target for improving forest management.

Forest Department (FD) has worked with USAID develop a project called Integrated Protected Area Co-management (IPAC) with the activity purpose: (i) Support the further development of the natural resources sector and the conservation of biological diversity; (ii) Develop a protected area strategy that applies to all ecologically and economically significant areas, including freshwater and forest ecosystems; (iii) Build technical capacity for protected areas co-management; (iv) Expand the geographic area under co-management to ensure the long-term success of the model and to extend socio-economic benefits to surrounding communities; (v) Address climate change mitigation and adaptation issues.

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IPAC will embark upon the strategic goal of scaling up natural resource co-management at the policy and operational level by achieving recognition, acceptance and integration of this approach by the GOB into its management tactics. The overall IPAC objective is to promote and institutionalize and integrated protected area co-management system for sustainable natural resources management and biodiversity conservation that results in responsible, equitable economic growth and good environmental governance.

b. The Resource Base:

The Sundarbans is the largest single block of tidal halophytic mangrove forest in the world. The forest lies at the feet of the Ganges and is spread across areas of Bangladesh and West Bengal, India, forming the seaward fringe of the delta. The total area of Sundarbans forest is 10,000 sq. km of which 6,017 sq. km (almost 60%) is in Bangladesh managed by the Forest Department (FD).

Sundarbans Reserve Forest (SRF) is a vital source of livelihood for thousands of people (whether rich or poor) living next to the SRF including those living in adjoining & distant places. From times thousands of people are involved in harvesting /collecting various resources from SRF for their livelihoods. Major resources that are officially allowed to collect/harvest include varieties of non-timber forest products (NTFP) and fishes.

In the Landscape Zone there are 214 villages inhabiting some 518,065 people in 107,157 households within five kilometer periphery of SRF under six Upazilas of Sarankhola, Morrelgonj, Mongla, Dacope, Koyra and Shyamnagar. The area is susceptible to natural calamities; poor infrastructure, transportation and drinking water facilities; people are poor with low education rate. The livelihood opportunities in the landscape zone are limited in the landscape area and about 60% of households are dependent on the SRF resources for their livelihoods.

c. The Context:

Chandpai Co-Management Committee (CMC) was formed for collaborative management of Natural Resource Management of Sundarbans under IPAC Project through Forest, Fisheries and Environment Department funded by USAID. The CMC has been working for improve resource management, increase livelihood status through productivity and encourage more effective community awareness and involvement the stakeholders for biodiversity conservation. The major goal of the CMC is to prepare local communities to take responsibility for the long-term management of the resources and to reduce dependency of natural resource uses.

In response to the above problem the CMC has decided to initiate a project which is consistent with the objective of IPAC. Passenger vhan as income generating activities will be arranged for the selected VCFs to create alternative income for resource users groups and to reduce their dependency on Sundarbans and availability of drinking water for 1800 households. The total process will be done and monitored by CMC of Chandpai.

d. Organization Profile:

Name of the Organization	: Chandpai Sahababosthapon Sangathan
Contact Person	: Md. Abul Kalam Fakir, Chairman, Chandpai CMC
Address	: Chandpai forest office, Chandpai, Mongla, Bagerhat.
Registration Number [Social welfare]	: N/A
Bank A/C Number	: A/C: 451, Krishi Bank, Mongla Branch, Mongla, Bagerhat
Last Audit Period	: N/A

e. Project Site:

The project Upazila is Mongla under the district of Bagerhat. There are 29 villages selected for the IPAC project. 33 Village Conservation Forum are formed among 29 villages by the participation of

forest dependent peoples. One People's Forum also formed containing two members from each VCFs and this is the second tier of CMOs. Co-Management Council and Committee are formed involving different stakeholders including People's Forum members and this is the third tier. The Co-Management Committee is functioning well for the conservation of Sundarbans as well as the development of socioeconomic status of those 29 villagers who are already enlisted as a forest dependent people.

Among the 29 villages CMC will select 7 VCFs for selection of 30 house holds. In case of income generation CMC will prepare 30 passenger vhan and will distribute among 30 house holds of 7 VCFs. 4 house holds from each 5 VCFs and 5 from each 2 VCFs will drive it and earn money for their family instead of forest resource destruction. Finally CMC will develop three ponds under different two Unions (Sundarbans & Dhansagar) for drinking water.

f. Capacity of CMC:

The CMC is going to set up an office within a few weeks at Chandpai where the Chairman and other CMC member can be regularly attend office and deliberate on relevant issues. Just now they are working the types of activities as IPAC site office at Boddomari is going on. The recruitment of an Accountant-cum-Administrative Officer is on process. The Chairman, Vice chairman, Member Secretary, and treasurer have adequate experience in project implementation.

The CMC has a good experience to work with local community. In this current IPAC year they work for economic benefit for their VCF members through fish culture. Also they work for pure drinking water supply by repairing 6 PSFs in their working area, they organizes different days observation, awareness program etc through IPAC.

Name of Works	2009-2010
Pond fish culture by the VCF members through IPAC support	242 HHs and the cost was 1,21,000/-
Pond Sand Filter repair for pure drinking water	42,000/-
Art competition organize	4,000/-
Two Awareness campaign in presence of local MP on poison fishing, Dear posing, Tiger hunting etc.	20,000/-
Plantation of a school ground	1,000/-

The CMC has developed relevant policies like personnel, travel, financial policy and inventory control system for maintaining transparency of different activities.

5. Description of the Proposed Project:

The Chandpai range area is the periphery area of Sundarbans and the roads are moderately developed. If one wants to see the Sundarbans by riding Vhan it is possible. So CMC will make 30 passenger vhan and will distribute to 30 HHs for carrying passenger as their income generation. In tourism season they will carry tourists and in off season they will carry general passenger and by this way they will survive.

There are some areas where drinking water scarcity is prominent and maximum people taking water directly from ponds and became sick by water related disease. So Chandpai CMC will develop three ponds under Sundarbans and Dhansagar unions through re-excavation and PSF setup.

a. Objectives:

- ⇒ To create employment generation of 30 HHs who are dependent on forest resources
- ⇒ To reduce biotic pressure in and around Sundarbans
- ⇒ To make sustainable income generation for CMC
- ⇒ To create sustainable drinking water reservoir

b. Final Results/out comes:

⇒ A total of 30 HHs will be involved in passenger vhan as an income generating activities and they will provide service for the tourist and their family demand will be meet up, so they will not create pressure on Sundarbans resources.

⇒ This will create a good reputation in landscape about the activities of CMC.

⇒ The project will meet the subsistence demand of the stakeholders and others in the long run and decrease the dependency on forests.

⇒ Awareness on forestry and conservation issues will rise among the people of landscape through continuous reinforcement of messages.

⇒ The message of biodiversity conservation will be reinforced to the participants.

⇒ A sustainable income source for Co-Management Committee

c. Methodology:

- Participatory approach will be followed in selection of the HHs members for passenger vhan. The adjacent VCFs of Sundarban may be considered.
- 30 house holds of respective VCFs will receive 30 passenger vhan and drive in Chandpai Range area for earning money. Tourist and general passenger will ride and the earning by this way, he will use for his family purpose. In receiving time of vhan the HHs would be signed some conditions and according to the condition he will be bound to do this. At the end of every month he will have to pay back 200 (two hundred) taka to CMC up to 2 (two) years and this money will be collected by AAO of CMC.
- Account and Administrative Officer of CMC will look after the financial system.
- In this way CMC will generate its fund and cover others VCFs members.
- All the CMC members will play overall roles and responsibilities for the management of vhan owner's problems and subsequently one by one will observe the total system.
- After develop three ponds for drinking water reservoir CMC will look after the ponds for drinking water and maintain all the related works if required through its own fund.

d. Activities:

- ***Vhan:***

30 persons from 7 VCFs will be involved in vhan driving and they will depend on its income and they will not involve with forest destruction.

- ***Three ponds excavation and develop drinking water facilitation:***

Three ponds will be excavated in two Unions area. Around 1800 HH will take drinking water from the VCFs. The maintenance and management of three ponds will be ensured by the CMC through its fund which will be earned from vhan.

e. Evaluation:

It will include monitoring, reporting and finally evaluation based on the project activities:

Monitoring:

Monitoring will include:

- Participatory monitoring tools will be developed and CMC president, secretary and others responsible members will be involved in this process of monitoring.
- The Site Account Officer, AAO, SF will be involved in selection process of HHs and allocation of duties.

- Monthly, quarterly and completion reporting will be introduced by the CMC in due time through AAO and the results and findings of that reports will be shared with CMC at CMC monthly meeting, PF meeting etc.
- Collect market information and update to the CMC for maximum benefit through tour package by AAO and IPAC field staffs.
- Updates to list of activities.
- Updates to the plan and schedule, to reflect actual progress.

Activities	Focus
Continuously monitor progress	Each FO will provide weekly report of progress to SF/SC and AAO will provide to CMC members in relation vhan driver income status, problem of driving vhan etc.
Conduct Team reviews	Weekly coordination meeting to review status of the work, risks, measures taken, etc.
Conduct Formal Progress reviews	Done on a monthly basis with senior management and CMC meeting through CMC meeting and IPAC Cluster Coordination meeting

Reporting:

- AAO and FO will prepare monthly progress report of HHs income and submit FO to site coordinator and AAO to CMC.
- Site Coordinator/Site Facilitator will submit quarterly report to Cluster.
- Cluster team will submit it to IPAC central office.

Evaluation:

- A baseline survey of HHs will be conducted at the beginning of the project. The baseline survey will include the economic status of the HHs and the dependency on forest. Changes in the baseline will be used to evaluate the project in relation to Landscape Development.
- A mid - term evaluation may be performed to see the track of the project and take corrective measures.

An end line survey after completion of the project will be done by CMC to measure the qualitative and quantitative achievement of the project

Benefit sharing:

Participants - 30 participants receive all their income through vhan drive their vhan except 200/- per month up to 2 years

CMC 6000/- per month from 30 vhan owner up to 2 years

6. Work plan:

Gantt chart:

SL. No.	Components	Year-I (Project Year 2010 - 2011)											
		Q-1			Q-2			Q-3			Q-4		
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
01.	Vhan preparation/purchase												

02	Ponds excavate and PSF setup												
03.	VCF selection, VCF members selection, baseline survey and digitize												
04.	Monitoring, follow up, provide technical support if necessary												

7. Sustainable Plan:

- All effort will be given to make the project sustainable, after the end of the project period the following stakeholder play the following rule for its sustainability.
- The income/benefit will be distributed among the others VCFs members proportionately for the improvement of their livelihood, so it will create sustainable income source of CMC. On the other hand 30 vhan will reduce the 30 HH dependency on forest and CMC will earn 6000/- per month from 30 vhan owner. So the HH will depend on earning from vhan.
- If this work would be result oriented then CMC members will be satisfied and their involvement would be gear up for some thing to do for others VCF. Then CMC will be a real or sustainable organization for all the people of that landscape.
- The AAO will care take all the activities and he will involve the respective CMC members for the sustainable measurement of the project.

8. Budget:

SI	Budget Line Item (Broader/Sub)	Quantity (Unit)	Unit Cost	Total Grant Amount	CMC Contribution	Total project budget
1	Project management cost					
	Staff salary(Beneficiary selection, monitoring, follow up, market linkage, installment collection etc)	12	3,500		42,000	42,000
	Logistics (Khata, Pen etc	12	500	6,000		6,000
	Transport cost	12	750	9,000		9,000
	Photocopy, telephone	12	500	6,000		6,000
	Auditing cost of LDF	1	5,000	5,000		5,000
	Sub total			26,000	42,000	68,000
						-
2	Van					-
	Van purchase cost (Complete wooden body vhan)	30	12,000	334,000	26,000	360,000
	Sub total			334,000	26,000	360,000

						-
3	Pond excavation and PSF setup					-
	Pond excavation (basket, Spade, Labor)	3	90,000	248,000	22,000	270,000
	PSF setup (Sand, Cement, Iron Rod, Bricks, Labor)	3	65,000	195,000		195,000
	Sub total			443,000	22,000	465,000
						-
	Total amount (1+2+3)			803,000	90,000	893,000

Inword: Eight Lac Ninety Three Thousand only

9. Declaration

I the under signed Md. Abul Kalam Fakir, President, Chandpai Sahababosthapon Sangathan is requesting financial assistance from LDF grants components for the implementation of the proposed activity related to Integrated Protected Area Co-management Project and Sustainability of CMC, certify that all the information in the grant application file is exact and correct.

SIGNATURE:

DATE: