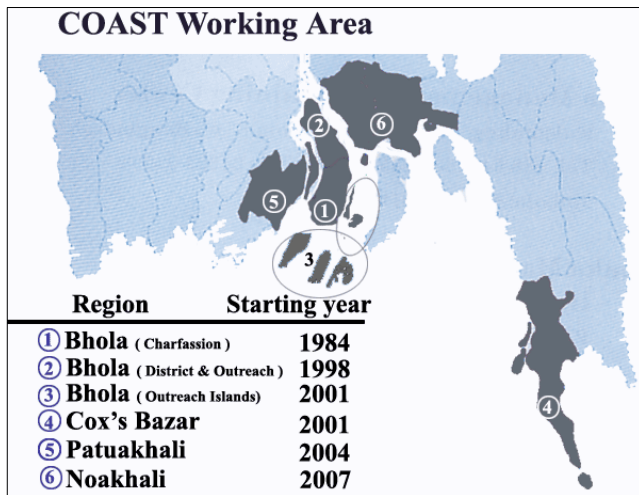


Subject: Project concepts on cyclone Aila emergency rehabilitation in outreach islands of Bhola district, COAST capacity building for sustainable response in disaster and advocacy for justice for pro poor climate adaptation.

Summary

COAST is an NGO registered with government operating since 1998 inheriting a project of an



INGO was working at remote southern Bhola of Bangladesh since 1984. At present the organization covering around 90 thousand beneficiary poor families in the coastal districts of Bhola, Coxsbazar, Noakhali and Patuakhali. COAST maintain a standard of governance and accountability framework, all updated information in this regard are available in www.coastbd.org. COAST has also initiated advocacy and networking in national and international level through Equity and Justice Working Group Bangladesh (EquityBD) details are available www.equitybd.org. COAST is networking member of CIVICUS, ADRRN, INAFI and Executive Committee member of HAP I. It is in the process of developing accountability frame work in view of HAP I principles for certification. COAST has the partnership with PKSF, MJF (a DFID fund for human rights and governance), SF Norway and CARE – USAID, The Asia Foundation and WFP for different projects.

Cyclone Aila has hit Southern Bhola especially the remote islands on 26th May, COAST with its stand by but limited capacity has responded with emergency relief operation especially, supplying food packet to 1250 families for next five days, saline water cleaning and road repair through cash for work. This has done in coordination with government to avoid duplication in remote chars /sandbar small islands of Dhalchar, Charkukrimukri, Charpatila and Charnizam.

Now COAST is presenting the project concept note consist of three parts, **part 1 cyclone Aila emergency rehabilitation in outreach islands of Bhola district; part 2 COAST capacity building for sustainable response in disaster and ; part 3 advocacy for climate justice advocacy for pro poor adaptation .** We are circulating this concept note, to draw attention of the donors / partners, detail project can be prepared based on interest and also amount of money available. One donor / partner can show interest for any part or any activity of a part, with any amount. **We feel may be we can work with any amount of money, accordingly we will design priority activities / project.**

Cyclone Aila impact and immediate relief operation



The Path way of Cyclone *Aila*

Along with other parts of the country, cyclone Aila also hits Charkukrimukri, Chapatila, Dhalchar, Charnizam and Monpura and the coastal unions of main lands especially

in the unions of upazila Charfassion, Tazimuddin and Daulatkhan of Bhola districts on 26th May with wind speed of 80 to 100 Kph



Map of cyclone impact in different chars and islands in Bhola district.

(kilometer per hour) and tidal surge of 8 to 10 ft high. This has caused total 18 deaths, 28, 667 no of house fully and 80, 351 no of houses partly damaged, standing crops especially rice and chilies which are worth of 100-120 million taka (In BDT) fully damaged. The difference of this Aila impact with SIDR (November 2007) is that, Aila has happened during day time so there was low rate of death, but the inundation was high than the SIDR as because during Aila it was the time of high tide. So inundation by saline water was high although the wind speed was not as strong like SIDR.

During pre cyclone period COAST helped local administration for bringing people from small islands to main land. Immediately after the cyclone COAST relief team reached Dhal char and Charnizam on 27th May, distributed 600 packet of dry food in Dhalchar and 250 in Charnizam, later on 28th and 29th May such packets has been distributed in Char patila (150 packet) and in coastal unions of Madras (300 packet) in the upazila Charfassion. In each pack there are rice, oil, pulse, potato, flatten rice,

molasses, salt, candle light, etc so that a family can at least continue for four days. Executive Director himself reached the island of Dhalchar and stayed night there on 28th May. From 29th May the COAST relief team started cash for work in the island to drain out the saline water from land and ponds, repair roads and also provided pumping of saline water from the common using ponds. This work will be continued for more few days. All these have done from COAST own fund, spending around taka 600,000 (in US \$ 10,000) and in coordination with local government administration so that there should not be any duplication. Report especially photos of cyclone impacts, relief operation, including media coverage could be seen in this link www.coastbd.org

Primary concepts for long term programs: immediate rehabilitation, organizational capacity and climate adaptation advocacy

COAST has realized that there should be three level of work in this relation, the course of actions are (i) long term rehabilitation work in Dhalchar, Charkukrimukri, Charpatila and Charnizam, as these are the remotest chars /sandbars islands, where hardly government facilities are available and any one willing to go, COAST has long time involvement and establishment there, (ii) development of COAST sustainable capacity to response disaster for remote coastal areas so that there will always be a stand by people centered organization. This is imperative now as the climate change impacts are



This is COAST office cum cyclone shelter in Dhalchar which is inundated by tidal surge of cyclone Aila. People are taking shelter by boat.

getting acute and cyclone frequency and intensity

in the coastal area has increased, and (iii) Promoting advocacy for climate adaptation justice for coastal poor in Bangladesh, this is fundamental need to sensitize national level policy makers to give proper attention for long



Staffs are making packet the relief materials in COAST office

term planning as there are hardly any understanding on the dynamics of paradigm shift after the IPCC reports.

Project concept 1: Immediate rehabilitations in remote chars / sandbars islands of Bhola district.

Due to remoteness and communication difficulties (reaching those small islands is only possible by county boat journey, where sea is rough almost all the period), hardly any government and non government agencies goes in these islands of Dhalchar, Charpatila, Charkukrimukri and Charnizam. But COAST has the program and establishment since 1991, mostly inheriting from ActionAid project. First, there is a need of cash for work to clean the environment, and to repair / construct the necessary roads. Second activities we are contemplating to promote homestead gardening for nutrition supply especially targeting mother and child and massive plantation of Neem tree and Napier grass, so that there will less mosquito and more grass / fodder for livestock. Thirdly, there should be repairing of some very important infrastructure of roads, culvert and schools especially in Dhal char, which was done just aftermath of 1991 cyclone. Such activities should also be done in at least in Charpatila, Charkukrimukri and Charnizam too. In fourth there should be more installation of tube well, it

should be noted that 50 % of the previous tube well has gone out of order, it should be noted that these are arsenic free area, and there should also be excavation of ponds especially common pond to increase the stock of surface water. Finally, we are expecting that COAST will provide housing and livelihood restoration loan from its own micro finance program; it is pursuing its partner PKSf (an autonomous whole sale lending body in Bangladesh) in this regard.

Project concept 2: Strengthening sustainable disaster mitigation capacity of COAST to stand by in responding to coastal areas of Bhola, Coxsbazar, Patuakhali and Noakhali.

COAST has developed a disaster mitigation fund worth of 45,000 US\$ (one US \$ = 60 BDT) with regular contribution from its micro finance income since 2002, but this fund already has spend around 18,000 US\$ due to the immediate relief operation in response to cyclone SIDR and AILA, now it is reduced to the amount of 27,000 US\$. It is most important the pre cyclone 48 hours and post cyclone first seven days, COAST do like to conduct this immediate operation (pre 24 hrs and post seven days) with this own fund, as getting donors and outsiders in relief and rehabilitation that takes time. Now we are contemplating to increase the fund with more innovative ideas and external civil society participation. Apart from this the organization has following capacity aspects in this regard (i) two rescue boats in both Bhola and Coxsbazar,



COAST Staff are distributing relief in Dhalchar

but more is needed (ii) in all the chars and islands it has own office with residential facilities for staff, but mostly these are not as brick built, so

which is not safe for cyclone (iii) in nearby mainland where the supply line is crucial, it has offices to facilitate including in district and upazila headquarters with standby generator and internet facilities, but there are no storing system, there are only one pick up transportation vehicle in Bhola, (iv) trained paramedics are available in most of the chars and islands, but they are few, health program running with micro finance income support but these are very limited, (v) it has huge local staff who are experienced in emergency operation, but they are not trained, apart from these in locality volunteers are needed, and (vi) the organization believes in capacity building of local government and



Villagers repairing the damage road through cash for work under rehabilitation program of COAST

communities. All together COAST believes for sustainable organizational capacity building integrated to capacity building of local government and communities, so that in long run for immediate operation (pre 48 hours and post 7 days), there is no need of external help.

Project concept 3 : Advocacy for justice in pro poor climate adaptation for coastal poor in Bangladesh.

Cyclone frequency and intensity has increased in last few years, during monsoon (April to September) there are a lot of tidal surge effects the livelihood of 19 coastal districts. Aftermath of cyclone SIDR (November 2007) government received around \$ 400 millions although the damage was of \$ 1.7 billions, but there are hardly any tangible impacts, allegation of wrong prioritization and corruption is widespread, government allocation of \$ 50 million for climate adaptation in the budget 2008-09 have been fully unutilized. So there should be strong civil society voice from coastal area reflecting paradigm shift in the problems and thereby responses too. This is a fundamental need as to save the coastal lands for food security and coastal people in coastal area, other wise according to the World Bank projection there will be 30 million climate refugees who will tend to take refuge in urban area especially in Dhaka, which will create more problem of the country. So, there should be pro poor advocacy especially in national level that (i) systematic collection of experiences from coastal area, (ii) providing policy options to the national policy makers, (iii) building alliances of coastal civil society to keep policy pressure, monitoring of aid effectiveness and (vi) linking toward international advocacy. All these will be done in collaboration with Equity and Justice Working Group Bangladesh (www.equitybd.org), the group is quite active in this regard both in international and national level, where COAST is active part.

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